

THE STUDENT VOICE OF YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY SINCE



# THE JAMBAR

## RUST CITY CHURCH BRINGS A WORSHIP SERVICE TO YSU

Photo by *Lydia Tarleton/The Jambar*

### AMANDA JOERNDT

The statement, “Forget Religion, Find God and Move Towards a New Possible,” is used to represent the Rust City Church. The church currently has three campuses, but a new addition was added to Youngstown State University for students to attend.

According to Brad Tarleton, campus pastor, the name of Rust City Church represents the historical aspects within Youngstown.

“One of the reasons that our name is Rust City is because we believe that God has placed us in this area to bring a new possible to the Rust Belt,” he said. “Youngstown is the heart of the Rust Belt, and YSU is the heart of Youngstown.”

Tarleton said Rust City Church was designed for people to feel welcome walking into a new church setting.

“We typically put churches in places where they feel like they don’t belong, so that people who feel like they don’t belong in a traditional church can feel more comfortable to come,” he

said.

Tarleton and some church members, mainly YSU students, started going dorm to dorm at the beginning of the semester passing out free Chick-fil-A sandwiches while informing students about the services that were going to be taking place called the Preview Experience.

This allowed them to promote the services while building new relationships with the student body.

With plans underway for a weekly service starting in fall 2019, the Preview Experience services for this semester will be held on the last Wednesday of every month at 8 p.m. in the auditorium of Debartolo Hall.

Tarleton said the laid-back atmosphere allows all students to feel invited to the service without feeling any pressure to fit in.

“Service is one hour long and includes worship, an opportunity to get prayer if you want it and a quick, but inspiring message,” he said. “It’s a chance for students to experience God, his love for them and the plan that he has for their lives.”

Tarleton said this is the first step for Rust City Church to build connections with the students and help them grow through their journey at YSU.

“Our heart is to continue to see more and more lives changed at YSU. When a student’s life changes, they are then able to help change the lives of others around them,” he said. “We hope that we can be a blessing and build a positive community on campus for years to come.”

Madison Landgraff, a sophomore exercise science major, has been a member of Rust City Church for almost two years.

Landgraff is the captain of the auditorium team and welcomes students as they walk through the doors, helping to ease any anxiety newcomers may have.

She said being a member of the Rust City Church helped her transition with being a student at YSU and hopes the services will help other students as well.

“As a student, you come to college and you’re looking for a lot of things, but you don’t realize

where these things are going to come from and where to turn to when you need something,” she said. “The vibe of Rust City and the friendliness touched me in a different way than anything has before, and I hope it can do that for them, too.”

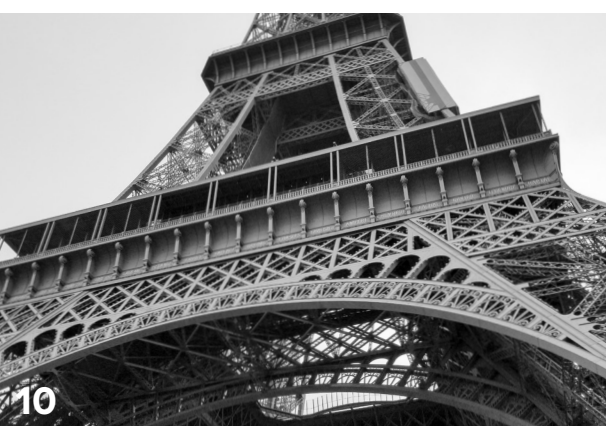
Debra Fabian, a senior integrated language arts education major, is a part of the auditorium team as well and said first Preview Experience was very successful.

“I was sitting towards the back of the auditorium, and I got to see the people in front of me experiencing it and that was really neat,” she said. “People were in tears because of how powerful and moving the message was.”

She said she hopes the Rust City YSU church campus will continue to grow over the years and hope more students will attend each semester.

“We want to help as many people connect with God as possible. There’s about 200 seats in the auditorium and we want to have all 200 seats filled,” she said. “We would love to have so many people wanting to be apart of it that we need to have more than one service.”

# FEATURES



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

### NEWS

- 3 The Memory of Barbara Krauss
- 4 Social Media Brown Bag Series
- 5 Need for Digital Humanities
- 6 Cosplay Deputy Sheriff
- 7 History Column / Work and Education

### ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT / OPINION

- 8 Mario's Movies
- 9 Alfred Leslie / "Dear Youngstown"
- 10 Spring Break Alternatives

### OPINION

- 13 Editorial

### SPORTS

- 14 Men's Swimming and Women's Lacrosse
- 15 Track and Field / Softball
- 16 Men's and Women's Basketball

## JAMBAR STAFF

### EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Morgan Petronelli

### MANAGING EDITOR

Rachel Gobep

### NEWS EDITOR

Alyssa Weston

### REPORTERS

Amanda Joerndt

John Stran

Courtney Hibler

Frances Clause

### CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

Tanner Mondok

### PHOTOGRAPHERS

Tyler Rothbauer

J. Harvard Feldhouse

Robert Hayes

### SPORTS EDITOR

Brian Yauger

### SPORTS REPORTERS

Dominic Joseph

Joshua Fitch

Robert Hayes

### ADS MANAGER

Mary Dota

### HEAD DESIGN EDITOR

Lydia Tarleton

### ASSISTANT DESIGNER

Anastasia Truby

### VIDEO JOURNALIST

Miles Garrett

DJ Davis

### ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Marah Morrison

### ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT REPORTERS

Mario Ricciardi

Victoria Remley

Brianna Gleghorn

### COLUMNIST

Brian Brennan

### HEAD COPY EDITOR

Samantha Welch

### ASSISTANT COPY EDITOR

Robin Stears

### SOCIAL MEDIA CURATOR

Brent Bigelow

### WEB MANAGER

Brady Sklenar

### ASSISTANT WEB MANAGER

Ryan Peplowski

### BUSINESS MANAGER

Mary Dota (mfdota@ysu.edu)

## CONTACT US



thejambar@gmail.com



330.941.1991



330.941.2322

### ADVERTISING



thejambarad@gmail.com



330.941.1990



THEJAMBARYSU



JAMBARVIDEO



THEJAMBAR



Left photo of Barbara Krauss courtesy of WYSU, Right photo by John Stran/The Jambar

# SIGNING OFF: THE MEMORY OF BARBARA KRAUSS

**JOHN STRAN**

Barbara Krauss served as the voice of Youngstown for many years as host of Morning Edition and Weekday Morning Classical Music for WYSU-FM 88.5 radio for three decades.

Krauss unexpectedly passed away on Feb. 15 and will be missed by not only friends and family, but an entire community who listened to her voice daily and felt they truly knew her.

Born in Youngstown, Krauss stayed in the area for college attending the Youngstown State University Dana School of Music earning a bachelor's degree in music education.

Emily Karr, a senior music recording major, worked with Krauss and credited Krauss' background in music with what made her an outstanding announcer.

Gary Sexton, director of broadcasting at WYSU, said Krauss started at the radio station in 1975 as a student worker.

He said Krauss worked on and off at the station for a while to raise her two children, but accepted a full-time position at

WYSU in 1987.

Sexton met Krauss in 1987 when he moved to Youngstown and remembers the first time he met her.

"She was very vibrant, enthusiastic and loved classical music," he said. "I could tell she was so good at what she did, and I was impressed."

Sexton worked on air with Krauss during different fund drives where they developed a chemistry, which would involve a lot of friendly banter. He said every time he would poke fun at Krauss, she was always able to come right back with a good joke.

Her friendly demeanor seemed to catch the attention of many of those she worked with, as well as those who may have never met her yet listened to her everyday and felt a connection to her welcoming voice.

"Barbara always showed how much she cared about and appreciated her coworkers," Karr said. "There isn't any specific advice she gave me, but she influenced me to lead life with a more positive and loving outlook."

Isaac Hraga, a senior music recording major, briefly worked

with Krauss and remembers when the two bonded over food after he stole her cookies at work.

"I found some mysterious cookies, which weren't mine, but I decided to try one and I ended up eating the whole bag," Hraga said. "The next day I went around looking for the owner, so I could apologize and get the name of the cookies so I could replace them. They ended up being Barb's, and when I apologized she lit up and seemed overjoyed that she had fed me, even indirectly. We then had a talk out our love for cooking for others."

Her impact on her audience was made evident when WYSU created a Facebook post remembering Krauss, resulting in numerous comments from people saying, in essence, they never met her, but they still feel like they lost a friend.

Sexton said she was on the air so much that he could not think of something her audience wouldn't know about her and emphasized that Krauss was the same person both on and off the air.

Karr, Sexton and Hraga agreed that overall, they will miss Krauss' presence and kind-hearted personality.



## SOCIAL MEDIA BROWN BAG SERIES: LEARN THE ESSENTIALS

Photo by **Tanner Mondok/The Jambar**

### COURTNEY HIBLER

Youngstown State University students and faculty can learn tips and tricks for managing social media in a new Social Media Brown Bag series, where attendees are encouraged to bring a lunch and learn from local social media experts.

Most recently, on March 5, the Social Media Brown Bag series focused on Twitter.

These free events were started by Adam Earnhardt, chair of the Department of Communication, and he encourages members of the YSU community to join the series and learn more how social media works, highlighting a different platform each event.

“[The communication department gets] a lot of questions from people in the community about how to set things up on a social media platform,” he said. “[The communication department] thought [they] could help them on an individual basis or with an intern.”

By bringing community members together who experience the same frustrations and concerns about social media, Earnhardt hopes to build a support network.

Kati Hartwig, coordinator of social media and digital marketing, was the guest speaker at the event on March 5 and

taught attendees how to use Twitter and its features.

Some features included how to construct a tweet, schedule a tweet, start a live video, using hashtags, viewing analytics, adding photos, how to search for a GIF and more.

“I love Twitter,” Hartwig said. “My friends don’t necessarily understand Twitter, and teaching others how to utilize their skills in social media is gratifying.”

To get those in attendance involved, Hartwig started the hashtag #YSUBBL. It stands for YSU Brown Bag Lunch, and was provided as an example to show everyone how a hashtag works on Twitter.

In Hartwig’s opinion, these events are extremely helpful when people seek help to learn how to better their skills in social media.

Rahim Hython, a junior linguistics major, said he doesn’t use Twitter as much as Facebook because he doesn’t understand how it works.

“This information session helped me understand everything a bit better,” he said. “I’ll need to dive into it more on my own, but now that I’ve received a learning head start, I feel more confident.”

In his opinion, students and faculty who don’t utilize social media shouldn’t be afraid to attend or feel embarrassed because

there are many others who face the same troubles.

Hartwig, who has a hand in managing YSU’s twitter account, said YSU joins the fun on Twitter by interacting with their followers and posting what they’re accomplishing on campus.

She encourages students and faculty to follow the YSU Twitter account, @youngstownstate, to keep up-to-date with the campus community.

“We always want to promote what our students are doing on campus,” she said. “We like to have fun and let them know we’re listening.”

Earnhardt said a large number of people have shown up to the Social Media Brown Bag events, and he hopes to see this audience continue to grow while targeting student groups on campus.

“I’m interested to see who shows up for our Snapchat information session,” he said. “Traditional college age students are using Snapchat, and we want to give them strategies on how to market their programs.”

Future Social Media Brown Bag events, including information on Facebook Live and Snapchat, will be held on March 26 and April 30 in Kilcawley Center’s Ohio Room from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

### NEWS BRIEF

#### PANEL DISCUSSION ON MASS SHOOTINGS TO TAKE PLACE IN APRIL

A discussion titled, “Survival and Moving Forward,” featuring individuals associated with mass shootings including Sandy Hook Elementary School, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and Columbine High School will take place at 7 p.m. on April 11 in the Stambaugh Auditorium.

Panelists include:

- Sue Klebold, mother of Dylan Klebold, one of the perpetrators of the Columbine High School shooting in 1999.
- Fred Guttenberg, father of Jaime Guttenberg, who was killed Feb. 14, 2018, when a gunman entered Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.
- Kaitlin Roig-DeBellis, former teacher at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, site of a mass shooting in 2012.

- Angel Colon, survivor of the mass shooting at the Pulse Nightclub in Orlando, Florida, in 2016.

- Susan Bro, mother of Heather Heyer, who was killed by a white supremacist in Charlottesville, Virginia, in 2017.

This event is part of the Centofanti Symposium at Youngstown State University, which is sponsored by the James and Coralie Centofanti Charitable Foundation.

The event is free, but tickets are required for admission. Tickets are available at the Stambaugh box office or online at [www.stambaughauditorium.com](http://www.stambaughauditorium.com).

For more information, contact Jackie Levisieur at 330-941-2136 or [jmlevisieur@ysu.edu](mailto:jmlevisieur@ysu.edu).



Photos by *Frances Clause/The Jambar*

# THE RISING NEED FOR DIGITAL HUMANITIES

## FRANCES CLAUSE

Digital Humanities projects have added creativity, collaboration and value to a society immersed in technology. A new DH organization at Youngstown State University aims to assist students with their own innovative ideas.

Digital Humanities integrates computer technology into scholarly activities to create projects that are more than long texts and papers. Multimedia, metadata and dynamic environments are three of many DH components that can be incorporated into research and projects.

Diana Palardy, a Spanish professor and coordinator of the DH working group at YSU, believes DH has become increasingly relevant and necessary on campus.

“Knowledge about ways that students in

the humanities could utilize digital tools to meaningfully enhance their academic projects could be a helpful way for them to showcase their talent and their versatility when they go on the job market,” she said.

“For example, a history student that knows how to use Omeka to create a digital exhibit could demonstrate their skills in both critical thinking and technology,” she added.

Palardy’s involvement with DH began when she became interested in exploring new types of research projects that could take her beyond her conventional modes of analysis.

“For years, I have been engaged in traditional literary analysis, and I believe that is a valuable endeavor,” she said. “As I have started to see other types of projects involving various forms of technology, I see how other modes of analysis are possible and that is exciting to me.”

Julie Johnson, a sophomore individualized curriculum linguistics major, is inspired by DH

and its ability to connect students, professors and advisers.

“Many students are very introverted or struggle with strictly face-to-face learning in a traditional sense,” she said. “The Digital Humanities are giving students, graduates and people who want to do individual work away from higher education an outlet for their creative ideas that go above standardized testing.”

Johnson is confident DH can begin to provide the creative platforms many students need in order to succeed in school.

“Learning in the classroom is something many students struggle with, and learning how to be a flexible and innovative teacher is difficult but nowhere near impossible,” she said.

Johnson’s ideas for the student DH organization include finding out what students want and the tools that would assist different types of learners.

Mackenzie Mettillie, a sophomore middle childhood education major, used DH tools to create his own online portfolio in an education technology course.

“This was a class project that I started last year, but I decided to continue with it as I started making a lot of connections with employers that could lead to jobs in the future,” he said.

Mettillie said one of the biggest takeaways from his project was how to make strong connections with other educators.

“I was able to share [the portfolio] with school districts and teachers from all over the country,” he said. “I hope to share how I went about creating this with the Digital Humanities group and show them the benefits.”

For more information or to get involved with the student DH organization, contact the group’s advisers, Rachel Faerber-Ovaska at [rofaeberovaska@ysu.edu](mailto:rofaeberovaska@ysu.edu) and Linda Strom at [lstrom@ysu.edu](mailto:lstrom@ysu.edu).

## NEWS BRIEF

### WOMEN RETIREES OF YSU TO OFFER SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship committee of the Women Retirees of Youngstown State University is accepting applications through April 1.

The scholarship is awarded to a full-time, junior female student who maintains a minimum 3.0 grade point average. The recipient must be a U.S. citizen and be enrolled in a degree-seeking

program.

Application forms may be printed from the website or picked up at the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships located on the second floor of Meshel Hall at YSU.

Information about the scholarship is available at [www.ysu.edu/finaid/scholarships](http://www.ysu.edu/finaid/scholarships).



Left photo courtesy of Marilyn Lee, Right photo by Tanner Mondok/The Jambar

# COSPLAYING DEPUTY SHERIFF: LOCAL HERO BY DAY AND NIGHT

**ALYSSA WESTON**

Michael Wilson, a 19-year veteran deputy sheriff for the Mahoning County Sheriff's Office, is an international cosplayer known as "Knightmage."

"I always hate saying this, but I'm probably right in the top five to 10 male cosplayers in the world," he said. "I'm very proud of that and sometimes I feel like I don't deserve it."

He began his love for costuming in 2011, when he made a Green Lantern costume for Halloween.

The costume was such a hit that he received an inquiry to wear it to Relay For Life. From there, he began to dress up as Green Lantern, Batman, Captain America and Spiderman for different charity events and hospital visits.

Wilson said at the time, he didn't know about cosplaying, but was introduced to conventions in 2012.

"As soon as I stepped on the floor [of his first convention], I was blown away. I felt like I was with my people," he said.

Since his first convention, Wilson has

traveled the world going to conventions, made over 150 costumes and gained over 23,000 likes on Facebook.

Wilson uses 50 percent of the proceeds he makes from selling signed prints of himself at conventions to benefit different charities.

"I just try and find a local charity ... and raise money. I give all my prints and autographs away for free and then ask for donations," he said.

When it comes to characters, Wilson said nothing is off-limits.

"[My costumes] range from comics, to anime to TV movies and cartoons. I like to show that it doesn't really matter — your age, sex, whatever it is. You can be whoever you want," he said.

Wilson also budgets all of his costumes and said if he can't make a costume for \$250 or less, it's not worth it.

"Unless I'm making it for a costume contest or for a company, then it's not worth it for me to put all those hours and money into it," he said.

In 2014, Wilson was awarded the Presidential Volunteers Award from President Barack Obama and the White House.

He has had acting roles on several Hollywood

comic book movie productions including an alternate for the 2006 reality show "Who Wants To Be A Superhero?" hosted by Stan Lee, "Flash Fall" by Together Brother Productions and YouTube series "Man at Arms: Reforged."

In addition to his acting roles, Wilson has created costumes for World Wrestling Entertainment superstars, is a spokesmodel for the independent comic companies Shot In The Dark Comics and Transgenesis Comics and is a spokesperson for FX latex product, Zombie-Skin.

Marilyn Lee, vice president of Putting Downs First, met Wilson roughly seven years ago when he dressed up as Batman for a Down Syndrome walk.

Since then, Wilson has formed a friendship with both Lee and her 11-year-old son with Down Syndrome, Dylan.

Wilson has raised money for Putting Downs First a few times, most recently at the Cleveland ConCoction event March 1 through 3.

According to Lee, Putting Downs First has never asked Wilson to raise money for their organization, instead he raises the money on his own terms. She said she didn't know he was

raising money at Cleveland ConCoction until he tagged the organization on a Facebook post.

"He chooses a lot of different charities around wherever he's doing a comic con tour or event," Lee said. "We don't ask him to [raise money]. He does this for us out of the kindness of his heart."

In the future, Wilson looks forward to the cosplay community growing and continuing to take advantage of advances in technology such as 3D printing to create elaborate costumes.

For Wilson, cosplaying brings on a wide range of positive, inspiring and motivating emotions.

"When [I] make a costume and [I] look at it, [I] take photographs of it, [I] see [myself] and [I] say to [myself], 'Wow, I can't believe I made that.' It's a very proud emotion," he said. "Seeing people react to [my] costume, that's a different type of emotion, like seeing a grown 40-something-year-old man totally lose it because [I'm] dressed as their favorite character, or [I] did such a good job and they love it so much."

# COMMUNISTS ON CAMPUS

**BRIAN BRENNAN**

Over the years, politicians, activists and officeholders of many stripes have descended upon Youngstown State University. The two major political parties have been well represented with their platforms loyally endorsed by student organizations of similar outlook.

Occasionally, someone with unusual views emerges from the mist, providing welcome relief from the routine fulminations of the Democrats and Republicans. Sometimes, even the Communists have put in an appearance.

In 1972, Gus Hall came to YSU as the Communist Party USA's candidate for president of the United States.

The Mahoning Valley was familiar territory to Hall; in the 1930s, he was a founding member of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee and participated in the Little Steel Strike in

1937. The actions of Hall and others led to the unionization of the steel mills.

Hall was a dedicated Marxist-Leninist, with the CPUSA accepting Moscow's strict party line — and money. Nevertheless, Hall had to canvass for votes like any other American political candidate.

During his visit to Youngstown, Hall spoke out against an American foreign policy that led to wars like that in Vietnam. He also recommended making all acts of racism a federal offense, promoted social security and demanded job protections. In the end, none of this mattered; Richard Nixon was re-elected in a record landslide victory.

In 1987, Hall once again spoke at YSU, filling the DeBartolo Hall auditorium to capacity. He condemned the Reagan Administration and its lack of action regarding Youngstown's closed steel mills and economic decline.

Off campus, few paid attention. Soon thereafter, the already-low relevance of the CPUSA waned even further as Soviet Communism declined and died with the end of the Cold War. Today, the CPUSA endorses Democratic Party candidates.

Probably more interesting was the Revolutionary Communist Party. The RCP was founded by Bob Avakian, a 1960s radical who had links to the Black Panthers, the Students for a Democratic Society and the Free Speech Movement.

Unlike Hall, Avakian took his cues from Chinese communism and the works of Chairman Mao Zedong.

While Avakian never visited YSU, he was well-represented by the RCP's youth wing, the May Day Group. Having been previously expelled from campus, the May Day Group tried again to present their case in March 1980.

The audience erupted in anger and a scuffle broke out, with an RCP informational brochure being set alight. A second disturbance occurred a week later when two May Day members were accosted while selling RCP publications without a permit.

A year later, the RCP was back, with one woman sporting a black T-shirt bearing the message, "I was born in a sewer called capitalism. Now, I'm living for revolution." While the audience generally disapproved of the RCP's presence, there was no violence on this occasion. The RCP still exists with Bob Avakian remaining at the helm.

Communism is fairly well ignored today; however, socialism — which is not the same thing as communism — is staging a comeback. In addition, a local Green is running for president. Variety, even in political discourse, remains the spice of life.

# WORK AND EDUCATION

**NATHANAEL HAWTHORNE  
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR**

Youngstown State University has many opportunities for students. From club sports to Greek life to opportunities within specific majors, YSU seems to run the gamut when it comes to student success. But what about students who want to earn money while earning their degree?

YSU has many on-campus job opportunities for students, from the Andrews Recreation & Wellness Center, to various offices like Graphic Services, to the on-campus restaurants.

"The bigger employers on campus are campus recreation and the Center for Student Progress. Parking services and athletics hires quite a few people, as well," Melodie Provencher, an administrative assistant for the Division of Student Success, said.

The best way to get employed on campus is by going to YSU's website and searching for job listings, each displayed with its own

qualifications regarding the job. However, YSU also has standards for student employees.

"You have to be a student in good standing, with a GPA of 2.0 as an undergrad student and 3.0 for a graduate student," Provencher said. "During the spring and fall semesters you have to be carrying at least six credit hours. You don't have to take summer classes, but you have to have a commitment to the university for the spring and fall."

While each department does its own hiring and advertising for jobs available, many job opportunities that students receive come from word of mouth from friends or associates who already have a job on campus. Dan Raver, a sophomore marketing sales major, has been working on campus for a year and a half with student security, a job he heard about from his father.

"He told me about someone in the police station he knew had openings and another employee let me know about it too," Raver said.

Student security works hand-in-hand with the YSU police department. They have an office

in the Chestnut Room, as well as an office in the police station itself. While they don't handle some of the serious events that happen on campus, they have a decent amount of responsibilities.

They are in charge of transporting students with disabilities from class to class or to their living areas, as well as locking buildings after the end of the work day, among other things. The most difficult part of the job is transporting students in inclement weather during the winter.

"Specifically for my job, when it gets cold outside you need to be well prepared. The weather is a pretty big issue. Having a lot of people who need our services at once makes it difficult because it's hard to get people from point A to point B all at the same time," Raver said. "You have to find a way to work it in that you get all those people. It's up to us to work as efficiently as possible".

The students who work on campus have a positive attitude towards being employed for the university.

Thomas Almasy, a sophomore business advertising and public relations major has been working on campus for two years as a YSU Penguin Icebreaker.

"I like working on campus as it helps me still be able to be involved on campus, and having the weekends off is a plus too," Almasy said.

"I love it. It's really nice to talk to students and faculty and get to know people," Raver said. "Our work staff is very friendly and easygoing so it's nice to kind of have a second family like that."

Students who seek employment on campus should utilize online resources as well as online job postings.

"The best time to look for a job is the late spring after midterms," Provencher said. "But look to get a job for the fall — that is the time period where departments will be thinking of the fall because students will be graduating in the spring. They don't hire over the summer but they'll be thinking about the fall."

## NEWS BRIEF

### WICK PRIMARY CARE TO OPEN IN MID-MARCH

Wick Primary Care will have its grand opening celebration on March 18 with a ribbon cutting and blessing at 2 p.m.

A physician and nurse practitioner will be on site daily, and walk-ins are welcome for acute needs such as cough, sore throat, cold, sinus infections, ear aches and more.

A behavioral health specialist will also be on staff for Youngstown State University students by appointment.

Additionally, MyChart, an online program, will allow patients to view medical records, message their care team and schedule appointments by creating their own account.

Students with insurance will be able to avoid an additional copay, and students without insurance will now have a resource.

Wick Primary Care will be open Monday and Wednesday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

# MARIO'S MOVIES: 4 WORTHWHILE BEHIND-THE-SCENES FACTS ABOUT 'THE BOONDOCK SAINTS'

**MARIO RICCIARDI**

Happy St. Patrick's Day month everybody! Like most of you, I am not the least bit Irish. In fact, I am 100 percent Italian (no I don't need 23andMe to fact check that), and the only green I own has Green Lantern symbols on it.

When it comes to authentically celebrating St. Patrick's Day, my situation only gives me two real options. Eat a bowl of Lucky Charms cereal while listening to Gordon Lightfoot, or watch "The Boondock Saints." Since we shop exclusively at Aldi's and the closest they stock to Lucky Charms is Toasted Marshmallows, I, by default, have to participate in viewing "The Boondock Saints."

Fed up with crime overruling the streets of Boston, Irish Catholic brothers Connor and Murphy MacManus receive a vision from beyond calling them to take up arms. In their own style of vigilante justice, the pair aggressively takes on the Russian mafia. As the brothers seek out bigger and bigger targets, they are put on the radar of the eccentric yet cunning FBI Agent, Paul Smecker, played by the brilliant Willem Dafoe.

Say what you will about "The Boondock Saints." It's got a

low-ish budget, doesn't always make complete sense and has no real place in today's culturally aware society. That said, it's also a fairly entertaining cult film, like a B-movie-Tarantino-knockoff featuring the likes of, again, a brilliant Willem Dafoe.

The film undeniably celebrates being Irish in its own irrelevant way and it has sneakily become a tradition to be watched in honor of St. Patrick's Day festivities. That said, the making of the film was so terribly interesting that, it can overshadow the actual film.

So out of appreciation for March's best holiday, here is an awkward amount of facts (four) about the awkward making of "The Boondock Saints."

1. Harvey Weinstein Bought Writer/Director Troy Duffy a Bar for the Rights: Duffy only wanted to work with producers who went above and beyond. In order to buy the rights to the script, Weinstein not only promised the writer/director at least \$300,000 for the script, the right to direct the film and a \$15 million production budget, he also purchased the bar Duffy worked at and gifted it to him.
2. Duffy Lost Ewan McGregor's Involvement over a Bar Fight: The director flew to New York City to meet with

McGregor to offer him a lead role. Duffy allegedly ended up getting into a drunken argument about the death penalty with McGregor causing the actor to pass on getting involved.

3. Blockbuster Video Saved the Movie: Due to the amount of violence in the film it received a release in only five theaters for only one week. Blockbuster Video then purchased the exclusive rights to rent out the film based on its famously troubled production. Word of mouth from within the rental circuit is what led to the film's popular cult status.
4. The Writer/Director's Ego Was His Own Worst Enemy: Duffy, who had never made a movie before "The Boondock Saints," not only ruined opportunities to work with Brad Pitt, Keanu Reeves and Ethan Hawke, he also caused Weinstein to back out of their production deal. Additionally, Duffy's ego led to his band, who was set to score the picture, breaking up in the middle of production. The film ended up going to a different company for a \$6 million budget and Duffy lost all the rights to his film.



A Center for Contemporary Ideas, Art, Education, and Community

McDonough Museum of Art  
YSU's Center for Contemporary Art

## OPEN PROJECTOR NIGHT

Wednesday | April 10 | 5:30pm

McDonough Auditorium

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY



Cliffe College of Creative Arts & Communication

## CALL FOR ENTRIES

Share your video and film work at this open mic style event!

All skill levels are welcome. Video and film clips must be 10 minutes in length or less and can be a finished piece or a work in progress.

Entries are first come, first served until we reach a 60-minute program.

This event is free and open to the public.

Even if you are not a filmmaker please come to experience the awesomeness of this versatile medium.

Youngstown State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, disability, age, religion or veteran/military status in its programs or activities.

Acceptable file formats are MP4, MOV or a link to a host site (YouTube, Vimeo, Google Drive, Dropbox). All submissions will be pre-screened for offensive content.

We cannot guarantee that your work will be shown. Email submissions to: [caberlinski@ysu.edu](mailto:caberlinski@ysu.edu)





Photos by J. Harvard Feldhouse/The Jambar

# IS ALFRED LESLIE REAL LIFE OR FANTASY?

**VICTORIA REMLEY**

“Alfred Leslie and the Tradition of American Realism” at the Butler Institute of American Art presented Leslie’s work with technology and art in a way unseen before. His newest collection at the Butler presented a twist to American Realism paintings.

Leslie, a 90-year-old artist, combined painted portraits with technology to create a new style of artwork. He came to Youngstown to see the exhibit and thought it was beautifully installed. He could not say enough about it.

Marianne Nissen, of Warren, Ohio, said the show was unique and the concept of Leslie’s collection was unusual, and Leslie’s collection gave portraits a different face.

“It’s a totally different way and technique of showing portraits,” she said. “You know, doing portraits is ancient. It’s in all art periods and this is pretty unique.”

Nissan said by going through Leslie’s work, viewers could figure out who he meant to portray in each painting. She thought Leslie’s paintings were just what he thought fantasy fiction should look like.

Leslie’s use of fantasy figures in his work was unique for the time he created the paintings. Fantasy figures are quickly created, brightly colored paintings with lavish costumes painted on the muse.

Susan Rowley, a docent from Trumbull County, said “Alfred Leslie and the Tradition of American Realism” reinforced what she knew about Leslie. She said the Butler possesses many pieces by Leslie, but his art in “Alfred Leslie and the Tradition of American Realism” collection involved a whole new technology.

“To me, that is such a big transition that it’s just amazing to see the process of how he’s grown as an artist,” she said. “It’s very inspiring because I would never take on this technology at 90. I

have a hard time with Photoshop and all that stuff as it is.”

People at the lecture got to marvel at a Leslie painting in person. Bringing a Leslie painting to the Trumbull Branch of the Butler was significant because unless people are in a big city, they cannot see a Leslie painting.

Cynthia Foust, a docent-in-training from Youngstown, came to the lecture to hear Leslie talk and to make friends with the other docents.

“I’m a little nervous about it. I’m used to talking about nature, not art, which is a little different. It is fact based instead of ‘wow what do you see,’ which is exciting,” she said.

Louis Zona, director of The Butler Institute of American Art, was immensely impressed by the collection of Leslie’s paintings.

“While he’s known for his what we call new realist paintings, these are a combination of paintings and digital technology,” he said. “At 90 some years old, that’s pretty amazing.”

## CAPTURING YOUNGSTOWN THROUGH POETRY

**BRIANNA GLEGHORN**

Lovers of art and poetry gathered to hear Karen Schubert read poems from her new book, “Dear Youngstown” at A&C Studios on Feb. 28 where drinks and cookies were provided.

Schubert is also a co-director of Lit Youngstown, a nonprofit literary arts organization, and teaches composition at Youngstown State University.

In her career, she has won the William Dickey Memorial Broadside prize, an Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Award and residencies at the Vermont Studio Center and Headlands Center for the Arts.

The “Dear Youngstown” author wrote her poems with no intention of publishing them together. It wasn’t until after she wrote them she realized they all connected.

“Instead of sitting down and writing a collection, it kind of worked the other way around,” Schubert said. “I had a lot of pieces about my experience in Youngstown and thought they all went together.”

The book is 48 pages of poems including “Ella Fitzgerald Marries Ray Brown,” “Dec. 10, 1947,” “Sculpture Near Bliss Hall,” “I Miss You,” “Chicken in Every Pot” and a poem about

her grandson named “Autumn with Parker.”

The reading finished with “Letter to Youngstown,” a poem that shows the diversity and culture of Youngstown and Youngstown State University. She describes buildings and traits of the city that only residents would understand.

Timothy Gaewsky was the cover artist for the book, and Schubert said if she sees an artist she likes, she asks if she can use his or her art for covers of books.

“I like to work with both artists and poets and bring them together,” she said.

The collection of poems was published by NightBallet Press with Dianne Borsenik as editor, publisher and a poet herself.

The event began with Borsenik reading excerpts from her collection of poems called “Raga” for “What Comes Next.”

Along with the readings, art from the students of Dragana Crnjak, an associate professor of art, were hung on the walls for attendees to view. Julie Papadimas, a member of the audience, said she enjoyed the event and the poet.

“[Schubert] is a very talented writer and the reading was wonderful,” she said. “She did a great job describing all that the city has gone through over the years. [Schubert] is an inspiration to us all.”



Photo by Tanner Mondok/The Jambar

# BROADENING HORIZONS OVER SPRING BREAK

**MARAH J. MORRISON**

Opportunities are at the fingertips of Youngstown State University students who want exposure to new worlds and to expand their knowledge in their field of study over spring break.

YSU programs will be visiting a variety of countries this year, including Greece, Belize and Mexico.

Ann Gardner, an assistant director in the International Programs Office, said the office has a record number of students going abroad.

Gardner said approximately 108 YSU students will be traveling abroad with around 18 faculty members and about six volunteers, and these students have signed up for different field courses that involves traveling overseas.

“They’re going to be attending lectures. They’re going to be doing site visits. They’re going to be visiting cultural and historic sites,” she said. “There’s a group going to Belize [to study] marine ecology and they’re going to be snorkeling basically every day.”

Gardner said the biggest group of all, who are exercise science majors, is going to be traveling to Greece to study the history of sports medicine and the Olympics.

She said it’s one thing to sit in the classroom and learn about a topic, but it’s another to enter the field and actually see these sites, the businesses or the patients firsthand for themselves, which gives students the ability to have hands-on, real-world knowledge.

“They usually see a major cultural and historic site in the country and learn about the culture, the religion, the history and the language of the country,” she said. “It broadens their cross-cultural perspectives, so they have a better understanding of how other people in the world live.”

Gardner said she doesn’t like to call these trips, but either calls them programs or field courses because she doesn’t want them to seem like a beach vacation. She said the students might have some downtime, but they are there to learn, visit sites and do field research.

“The nurses are doing service learning, so they’re helping Hispanic patients,” she said. “They’re learning the difficulties [faced] when [the] patient doesn’t speak the same language. That’s a very transferable skill.”

Gardner said the students are learning valuable skills that will help them in the rest of their careers and it’s very hands-on.

Jeff Dick, chair and professor in the Geological and Environmental Sciences Department at, said this is his 27th year of doing the field course. Alongside Diana Alexander, a faculty co-leader, and YSU students, they will be traveling to San Salvador in the Bahamas.

Dick said there has been a tremendous amount of student interest in this particular course, and this year, he is taking 17 students. In the past, he has taken as many as 35.

“We’re actually doing detailed mapping of the different segments of the shoreline so that we can, in the future, go back and look at this data and see how the shorelines changed,” he said. “It’s a primitive island so there’s no development on it.”

Dick said the cultural experience is more of a lasting experience for the students involved, and they will be 200 miles off of the shore of Florida, but the whole social experience, working and engaging with people who have a completely different lifestyle is a big learning experience.

“In their setting, these natives of the Bahamas are very grateful, work very hard and are satisfied with what they have in life, and it’s really good for students to see,” he said. “I think all too often our youngsters really don’t appreciate what they’ve got until they experience what it’s like in other places.”

Max Grubb, a lecturer in the Department of Communication, is taking a group of students to France this year over spring break, and said the students will get exposure to a different culture and society.

“They’re going to get a chance to get exposed to the different political, economic, social and cultural system,” he said. “In that sense, they’re going to recognize that things can be done differently.”

Grubb said the students are going to be exposed to a different media in regards to how the media performs in France, and the students get exposed to a whole different society and they come back with a different outlook on their own country.

“Usually on the second day of the trip, I’ll have one or two students turn to me and say, ‘Why aren’t we doing this in our country,’” he said. “If I could take every student at the university and get them out of the country for just a little bit, [I’d] feel like I’ve [gotten] a good sense of accomplishment.”

R.J. Markowitz, a coordinator in Adventure Recreation at the Andrews Rec Center, said he put together a spring break “staycation” this year for students, and it is a series of three different outdoor trips that are day trips.

“They’re all less than \$60,” he said. “We will be doing a hiking trip to McConnells Mill State Park, a paintball trip and we’re also doing a trip to a ninja warrior gym in Cleveland.”

Markowitz said he thinks the students go on these trips for a multitude of reasons, and students look to them to plan out a good trip for them without much hassle.

“Students come on these trips for a little bit of camaraderie,” he said. “I see a lot of friendships blossom out of our trips and see people hanging out afterwards. Folks that are interested in these types of activities tend to stick together.”

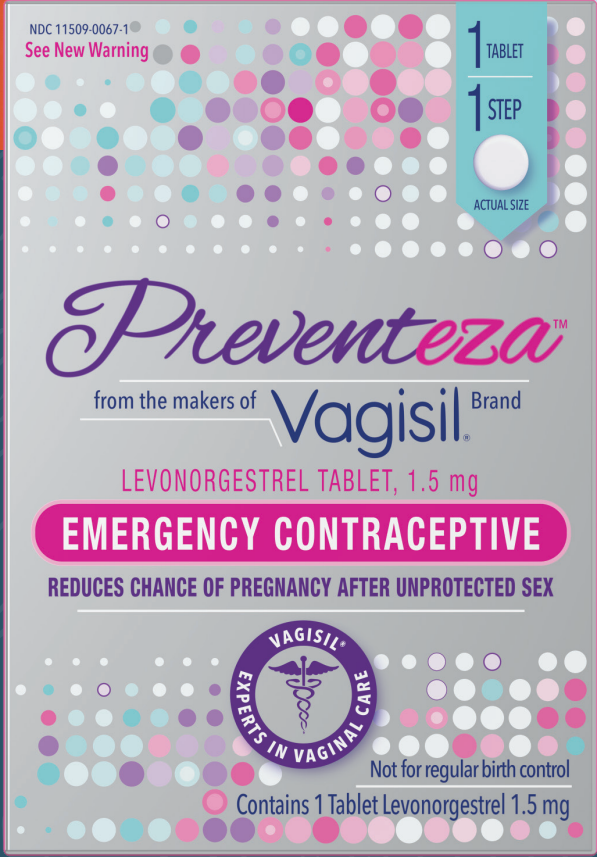
To sign up for the rec center day trips go to [store.reccenter.yzu.edu](http://store.reccenter.yzu.edu).



Photo courtesy of **Max Grubb**



# When Preventeza™ Emergency Contraceptive is your plan a, you don't need a plan b.



1-in-2 women may need to use emergency contraception. And when that time comes, Preventeza™ Emergency Contraceptive from the makers of Vagisil® is here to help you take control. Use as directed within 72 hours of unprotected sex or birth control failure to help prevent pregnancy before it starts.

On shelves at your local  
For more information visit [Preventeza.com](http://Preventeza.com)



Not for regular birth control.

**CLASSIFIEDS****HOUSING****CHRIS HAS HOUSES!**

Nice all-inclusive homes with individual leases. For your group of four or more, from \$475 each. Call Chris: 330-743-7368

**ALL PARTIES WELCOME**

CT Rentals has nice, city licensed, all-inclusive houses and apartments. Now leasing for tenancy. Our package includes: All appliances plus over 90 channels of cable TV broadband internet with WiFi and ADT Security. All private bedrooms with individual leases and all utilities, maintenance and grounds keeping included from \$475.00 a month per person. Call Chris 330-743-7368

**FOR RENT ONE BEDROOM APT.**

795 sq. feet. \$650 per month. Utilities included. Six miles from YSU campus. Right off Market St. Contact me at amazingjoy2@gmail.com

**HELP WANTED****HELP WANTED**

All Star Driving School — Hiring full time or part time. Great opportunity for college students looking for job to fit around school schedule. Must be 21. Will train no experience necessary. Call or email 330-726-3377, info@allstardriving.net for further info.

**OTHER****NEED BIRTH CONTROL, PAP SMEAR, STD TEST? PREGNANT?**

Dr. Hill, 1350 Fifth Ave., near YSU campus, all insurances, walk-ins. Mon-Sat - 330-746-7007, askthedoctor@aivhealth.com, answered confidentially.

**FILE TAXES ON YOUR OWN FOR FREE**

Visit [www.myfreetaxes.com](http://www.myfreetaxes.com). Questions contact Trina Benson at United Way 330-746-8494.

**YOUR AD  
HERE**

**CONTACT MFDOTA@YSU.EDU**

**THE JAMBAR IS  
NOW  
HIRING**

YSU STUDENT MEDIA IS  
ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS  
FOR THE **EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
OF THE JAMBAR AND ITS  
AFFILIATED PUBLICATIONS.

**APPLICATION  
DEADLINE IS  
MARCH 9, 2019**

To be eligible for an editorial board position, a student must be in good academic standing and enrolled in at least 12 semester hours each semester for the academic year position and three semester hours for the summer positions

# THE JAMBAR

## — EDITORIAL —

### COMING TOGETHER: YOUNGSTOWN

On March 6, General Motors Co. Lordstown employees reported to work for what was believed to be the last time. In November of 2018, GM announced its plans to stop the production of the Chevrolet Cruze by this month and placed the plant on an “unallocated” standing. The loss of 1,256 private-sector jobs and an additional loss of 1,607 jobs due to the shutdown has hurt many workers and their families, forcing some to relocate, go to school for skilled trades and ultimately look for work elsewhere.

“It’s a very gut-wrenching, sad day for our members as they shoot in those last screws, hang those last tires and secure those last fasteners on the Chevy Cruze,” David Green, president of United Autoworkers Local 1112, said, according to The Business

Journal. “It’s very difficult to wake up and not go to work after doing so for a couple decades or longer. It’s a terrible feeling.”

This is not the first time Youngstown has had a major blow to its jobs and economy. On Sept. 19, 1977, which has come to be known as Black Monday, Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co.’s 10,000 workers were permanently laid off. Since then, Youngstown has been known as a dying area, but the pride, loyalty and unity of Youngstown residents and leaders is still very much alive and remains as the driving force behind Youngstown’s revitalization and thriving culture.

Hard times in Youngstown have come and gone throughout the years, and the community has always pulled together for the good of the city and its people. Church services, rallies and help from local businesses are a common sight in times of hardship, and it is no different this time around.

On Monday evening, Cortland Trinity Baptist Church Monday held a prayer service for GM employees. The Eastwood Mall complex gave out \$25 gift cards to all GM employees as a small token of gratitude. Lordstown teachers, staff and community members gathered in front of Lordstown High School, wearing blue and driving GM cars and trucks in support of GM Lordstown workers.

In times that matter most, Youngstown has always come together, put our differences aside and helped our own to put each other back on our feet. Although Youngstown is no longer the booming epicenter of steel mills and industry, it has a community of people fighting to keep the area alive through different communities and culture, such as art, heritage, education and so much more. While Youngstown can be less-than-perfect, our unity, resilience and loyalty to our home town

## CATCH OUR PODCASTS ON ROOKERY RADIO!

THE JAMBAR STAFF PRESENTS



FRIDAY 2-3 P.M.

THE JAMBAR STAFF PRESENTS



MONDAY 1-2 P.M.

THE JAMBAR STAFF PRESENTS



MONDAY 2-3 P.M.

# YSU TO ADD MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING AND WOMEN'S LACROSSE

**BRANDON TERLECKY**  
**JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR**

Youngstown State University will be adding a men's swimming and diving program that is set to get underway in the fall, along with women's lacrosse in 2020.

YSU has not witnessed a men's swimming and diving team since 1984 and is looking to bring light to the sport as a whole. This will be another Division I sport offered by the YSU Athletic Department.

Trevor Parks, Director of Athletics Communications, said he thinks this will

not only be better for the sports to receive recognition, but to push both programs to become better.

"We always believed if you have a men's and women's program, you will naturally become better as a whole. It's that support factor that comes into play," Parks said.

The men's swimming and diving team will have a 20-25 man roster that is set to begin this fall. Executive Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Ron Strollo, told the Tribune Chronicle he is ecstatic to be able to acquire talent in Ohio to attend YSU and attempt the reach their athletic and academic achievements.

"We're excited about this new opportunity

to recruit high school students from Ohio, the region and internationally to pursue their academic and athletic goals at Youngstown State in both sports," Strollo said. "Our swimming facility is one of the best in the area and we look forward to showcasing it with both our men's and women's programs."

The men's swimming and diving program returning to YSU just makes sense. The locker rooms are built for 200 students and only 20-25 students are putting it to use. The facility itself is immaculate and always being renovated.

"High school students are always using this facility. There is so much time in the day for it to be used, it just logical to have something

there and putting this beautiful pool to use," Parks said.

Women's lacrosse is set to take place at Farmers National Bank Field located at the Covelli Sports Complex and like the swimming and diving team, the roster size will be around 20-25.

The men's swimming and diving program will be the seventh Horizon League Conference team. These universities include: University of Oakland, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay and University of Illinois at Chicago.

**United Way**  
**SUCCESS**  
**AFTER 6**



## NOW HIRING!



**THE UNITED WAY OF YOUNGSTOWN AND THE MAHONING VALLEY NEEDS YOU!**

Help children achieve success in and out of the classroom by being a Success After 6 Champion

- Work the Afterschool program 3pm-7pm Monday - Friday. No Weekends!
- **Make \$12 an hour**
- School setting experience
- Work with kids in Kindergarten to 4th grade Youngstown, Girard, Liberty, or Campbell
- **Scholarship opportunities available**
- Great Resume Builder. Professional Development opportunities.

Visit: [www.ymvunitedway.org/job-opportunities](http://www.ymvunitedway.org/job-opportunities)

Or email: [aklingensmith@ymvunitedway.org](mailto:aklingensmith@ymvunitedway.org)

# ZALLOW AND ELLIOTT FLY TO BIRMINGHAM

**ROBERT HAYES**

Two more Penguins will be continuing their indoor track and field season as Chad Zallow and Jaliyah Elliott both qualified for the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships on March 8 and 9 in Birmingham, Alabama.

Elliott will compete in the 60-meter dash, and Zallow will take part in the 60-meter hurdle. They both placed in the top 16 in the NCAA for their respective events and will be going up against runners from Power Five conference schools, including the University of Florida, the University of Oregon, the University of Iowa, University of Texas at Austin and North Carolina State University.

Youngstown State University track and field coach Brian Gorby said he is happy for the two Penguins.

"I'm excited beyond belief, it never gets old," Gorby said. "Trying to get to a NCAA Indoor Championships, I know how hard it is."

"Credit goes to these kids, credit goes to Coach [David] Townsend," Gorby added.

This is the fourth straight season that Zallow has qualified for the indoor NCAA meet, but Elliott becomes the first female track athlete in YSU history to qualify for the indoor NCAA meet.

Gorby has seen Elliott grow this season.

"She's beat some professional runners at Clemson and beat some big-time runners at Penn State," he said. "But to make it into the top 16 is just the hardest thing to do from our perspective."

Zallow has been busy this season too, as he competed and beat several professional runners at the prestigious Millrose Games earlier in the year. He owns several YSU track records.

Both Elliott and Zallow are coming off of a Horizon League Championship victory.

Elliott qualified with a time of 7.25 seconds, and Zallow with a time of 7.66 seconds.

Gorby said he believes facing tough competition is key to his program's success

"We use our meets to get 40-50 teams at the Division III, Division II, and Division I level to compete," Gorby said. "Outdoor we're going to be going to Texas, Miami and Kentucky."

He also sees the track program at YSU being a potential national powerhouse.

"[Zallow and Elliot have] taken us to basically a 'Power Five' level," Gorby said. "If these two can score in the top two or three, they could literally put YSU up in the top-25 in the nation," Gorby said.

The NCAA Indoor Track and Field Indoor Championships will be broadcasted March 8 and 9 on ESPN3 beginning at 6:30 p.m.



Photo by **Robert Hayes/The Jambar**

# SOFTBALL AIMS TO IMPROVE ON ROAD TRIP

**DOM JOSEPH**

The 2019 campaign for the Youngstown State University softball team is well underway. The team has spent their opening stretch touring the Carolinas in preparation of their home and looming conference schedule.

Unfortunately for the Penguins, they are 0-7 to start the season; however, they have taken on Division I powerhouses including East Carolina University, Miami University, the University of South Carolina and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

There are three seniors on this year's squad: Dani Dadig, Lexi Zappitelli and Paige Geanangel. Dadig, an outfielder, has scored one run so far in the early season. Her batting average last season was .167, with a .286 on-base percentage.

Zappitelli, also an outfielder, has four hits and one run scored to her name so far this year. She had a blistering 2018 season, belting two home runs to go along with 52 hits, 30 runs scored, 22 RBI and a .413 batting average, which was ranked 36th best in the entire county.

Geanangel, a pitcher, has had a rough go to 2019. In seven games, she has recorded four strikeouts with 5.1 innings pitched. However, her career at YSU is a noteworthy one. She has 182 strikeouts to her name, with 34 total wins. She has a career ERA

of 3.93, and has logged 381 innings pitched.

There are many returning starters to the lineup for 2019. Sophomore Elle Buffenbarger will share time pitching with Geanangel. In her freshman year, Buffenbarger had a staggering 182 strikeouts to go along with ten wins. Her current ERA is at 7.16, a number that will drop as the home schedule begins.

Another returning sophomore is Yazmine Romero, who had a strong freshman season, batting .393. She currently sits at .286, with six hits and two runs scored.

Junior Maddi Lusk will return seeking to have another strong year in the batter's box. She has two home runs, three hits and two RBI to start off 2019, to go along with three runs scored. Lusk batted .315 last season, hitting four homers and 35 RBI.

Sophomore Nikki Saibene enters 2019 coming off a six-home-run freshman year. Saibene batted .216 with 23 RBI, 30 hits and a .283 on-base percentage.

The road trip is not over yet for the softball team, as a notable upcoming matchup is with the North Carolina State Wolfpack. The home schedule begins on March 20, as the team will host a two day series against the Kent State University Golden Flashes.

Their first conference matchup will come right after this series, as the team will host the Oakland University Golden Grizzlies for a three game series. Following this series, the team will host the University of Akron for a two-game series.



Photo courtesy of **YSU Sports Information**

Photos by *Brian Yauger/The Jambar*

# MARCH: THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR

**BRIAN YAUGER**

If you haven't checked your calendar lately, you can probably feel it in the air. Despite the frigid temperatures and snow on the ground, you can just tell that it's March.

March. You know, the time for Shamrock Shakes, green beer and most importantly, basketball — namely the NCAA Tournament.

With the success of Youngstown State University's basketball programs this season, basketball has gotten even more exciting.

The men's team finished their season with a losing record, but finished the season on a heater, winning six of their last nine games to end the year with a 12-19 record and 8-10 in the Horizon League.

The young Penguins team showed tons of growth over the season and is 100 percent a different team than the team that took the court in November. The starting five for the Penguins was typically composed of three freshmen and two sophomores.

Darius Quisenberry, Jelani Simmons and Donel Cathcart III are the three freshmen and Garrett Covington and Naz Bohannon are the two sophomores.

The emergence of Quisenberry as a star in the making has been great to watch. He is averaging 13.9 points per game and in conference play averaged 16.3 points per game. Quisenberry was also just awarded conference honors, being named to the All-Horizon League second team.

His determination has guided him to this success, but as in the story I wrote in February, his hunger continues, no matter what.

"That's very big for me and my spirits, but I can't be satisfied because we're still in fifth place, and I want to be able to host a game here for our fans," Quisenberry said after winning his third straight Horizon League Freshman of the Week award. "I want to get the fourth or third spot in the Horizon League as a team."

Covington was also given conference honors being named to the All-Defensive team.

With such a young lineup and steady improvements at the end of the regular season, it's safe to say that this team is going to be a threat for years to come.

"Youngstown is starting to turn into a basketball town now," Quisenberry said after winning their sixth straight game against the University of Illinois-Chicago.

As for the women's team, they've done incredibly.

The Penguins finished third in the Horizon League posting a

21-8 overall record and 15-3 in the conference.

They've beaten every team in the Horizon League at least once, they've had six of the 17 Horizon League Player of the Week nominations — double what any other team has been awarded — and three players were awarded All-Horizon League honors, Sarah Cash and Chelsea Olson on the second team and Mary Dunn on first team.

Senior Alison Smolinski has ended her Penguin regular season career with a bang, breaking records and setting milestones like it was nothing.

The resurgence of Dunn as a two-way threat, McKenah Peters turning into a defensive stalwart — and let's be honest, she was robbed for the All-Defensive Horizon League Team — Melinda Trimmer turning into a stellar point guard and Amara Chikwe recovering from last season's injury issues and coming back strong.

All that they accomplished was with a roster nine players deep. The feelings surrounding this time of year were summarized perfectly by women's basketball coach John Barnes.

"It's a great time to be a basketball fan around here," Barnes said after last month's huge victory over Green Bay.

Couldn't have said it better if I tried.