

THE JAMBAR

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Thursday, April 28, 2022



FEDERAL FRENZY RETURNS



Photo by Samantha Smith / The Jambar

Hunny, a rock band from Newsbury Park, California, headlined Federal Frenzy.

Penguin Productions hosts live music event

By Samantha Smith
The Jambar

For the first time since 2019, Federal Frenzy returned to downtown Youngstown on April 23. Featuring a multitude of musical acts, food trucks and local vendors, the free event hosted some big-ticket names such as Hunny, The Labra Brothers and more.

Jordan Record, events lead for Penguin Productions and senior communications major, shared

how long the organization has hosted Federal Frenzy and how she felt about having an event in-person again.

"This is our eighth annual Federal Frenzy, counting the two years that we went online," she said. "I believe 2015 was the first Federal Frenzy, and we're just excited to bring it back in person this year."

Record detailed what preparation was like leading

Frenzy, Page 8

4 YSU professors retire

By Christopher Gillett
The Jambar

Four Youngstown State University professors are retiring this semester. They have been at the university for many years and have been involved in the local community.

Thomas Leary, professor of applied history, has taught at YSU since fall 1999. During his time in graduate school, he became interested in seeing the historical sites he learned about, such as old textile mills in New England. This led to him focusing on museum work and curation.

At YSU, he built a relationship between the university and the Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor, unofficially known as the Steel Museum. His work in public history attracted students interested in the field and in public history development.

"I'd like to think that my legacy is going to continue a little bit in retirement. I hope to be able to keep the relationship that we've developed here with the Steel Museum as a kind of resident consultant," he said.

He expressed his worry over the future of the applied history program after his retirement. With the recent budget cuts, he worries the university might neglect the program.

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Retirement

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“I don’t know the extent to which YSU was going to continue investing in the faculty line or lines that are necessary to sustain that program. I hope they are. I think it’s a unique opportunity, that to some extent has been underpublicized,” he said. “In terms of YSU’s history department, [it] gives people a reason – not only for those who come from Youngstown, but those who come from other areas – to have a unique educational experience here.”

After he leaves YSU, he hopes to continue working in the YHCIL helping with research and exhibitions.

John Sarkissian, professor of classical studies and foreign language specializing in ancient Greek, Latin and ancient history, is also retiring. He has been teaching for around 40 years and has been at YSU since fall 1988. Michigan State University fostered his interest in the subject.

Alongside mentoring students, he also served as the chair of the department of world languages when it existed.

“In addition to my teaching here, I did have those [17] years as chair of the department [of world languages]. Probably the most satisfying thing for me was building the department,” he said.

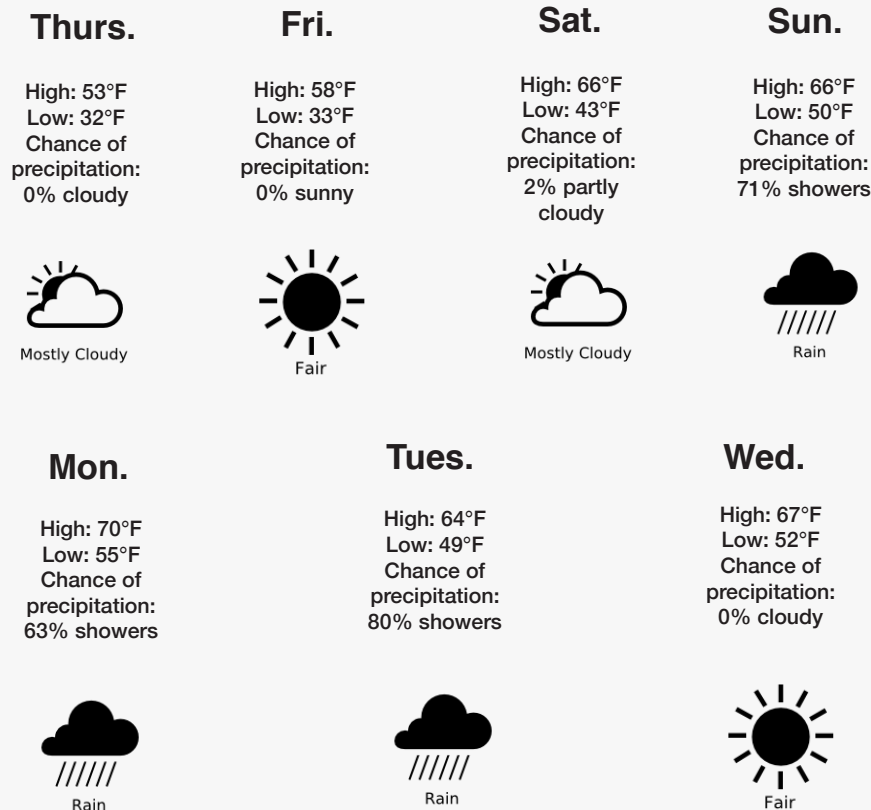
Mary LaVine is a professor and the program coordinator of health and physical education. She has been teaching for

44 years, 10 of which were at YSU.

She is also the president-elect at the Ohio Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance and has been heavily involved in the local and statewide health and physical education community for much of her career. She went into what she enjoyed about YSU and her legacy.

“I’ve met a lot of great colleagues that I’ve worked with, and I’ve had some pretty amazing students,” she said. “From my program’s standpoint, all these students that I’ve been able to have across my time and knowing that they have all gotten jobs out in the teaching world has been huge to me.”

7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST



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Photo by Michael Jurus / The Jambar

Graduation will take place at Stambaugh Stadium at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 7.

Penguins move on from YSU

By Michael Jurus
The Jambar

For some seniors here at Youngstown State University, the close of this semester will be the beginning of bigger and better things. With graduation approaching, seniors are preparing for the ceremony and reflecting on their time during college.

Senior Taylor Parrish is graduating with a bachelor's degree in industrial and systems engineering. Graduation can be an emotional day for many, but Parrish said she is excited about commencement approaching.

"I feel a sense of relief and excitement as graduation is approaching. Our class has been through several challenges with COVID being the biggest setback, so to be able to hold a ceremony and move on to the next chapter of our lives is a breath of fresh air," Parrish said.

Senior Cassidy Lyons, who is graduating with a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering, said it will be difficult to be away from the friends she has made.

"I will miss seeing some of my friends from college. I will also miss the college atmosphere and having some free time that goes along with it. I will also miss working at my on-campus job in Kilcawley Center at The Cove," Lyons said.

From her time in college, Parrish will fondly recall a number of things, including living with her two best friends.

"I am going to miss a number of things about college

including my Campus Rec job ... the women's club soccer team and my engineering family. What I am going to miss the most is living with my two best friends," Parrish said. "I truly don't know what I am going to do without seeing them every day. Shoutout to Gina Morrison and Lauren Kaminski."

But — with the knowledge they have acquired during their time in college — they will be moving on to new experiences once starting their careers. Parrish said she will be working full time, utilizing her degree.

"After graduation, I will be working full time as a systems engineer with RoviSys, which is a control system integrator and product development company," Parrish said.

Lyons said she is excited to start her new job at Cleveland-Cliffs, where she can put her degree to use.

"I am excited to begin the next journey of my adult life. I'm very happy and grateful that I was able to get my education and now continue on with my career," she said.

Not only are seniors excited for the ceremony, but administrators are as well. Jackie LeViseur, the director of university events, is coordinating the ceremony. LeViseur said her favorite part of graduation ceremonies is the atmosphere.

"The joy and energy of the day [is my favorite part]. Our graduates are so happy and their family and friends are full of pride," LeViseur said.

According to ysu.edu, YSU commencement will host speakers such as the 2022 macebearer Mary Yacovone;

president of Redex Industries Inc. William Kennedy Jr.; and this year's student speaker Kathryn Kimes. The website also gives more information on each of the speakers.

Yacovone graduated from YSU with both an associate and bachelor's degree in science in respiratory care. In 1980, she began working at YSU as an adjunct faculty member and clinical instructor for the respiratory care program. She earned a master's degree in education at Kent State University, and is a chairperson for the department of health professions.

Kennedy graduated from YSU in 1985 with a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering and will also receive an honorary doctor of science degree at the ceremony. He is now the president of Redex Industries Inc; the manufacturer of Udderly Smooth Creams and Moisturizers, and he serves on the board for the CASTLO community in Struthers.

Kimes, a member of YSU's Sokolov Honors College, is graduating with a bachelor's degree in music education. She has been involved in multiple organizations where she has held officer positions such as YSU Saxophone Society, YSU Jazz Society and the YSU Catholic Student Association. She has played in YSU's Jazz ensemble, Wind Ensemble, Voices of YSU and saxophone quartets. Kimes plans to be a music educator.

The ceremony will be held at the Stambaugh Stadium at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 7. LeViseur said there are about 1,600 students registered to graduate this semester.

Building a more natural campus

By Henry Shorr
The Jambar

During an academic senate meeting April 6, Youngstown State University's design committee proposed and unanimously passed a plan to get the campus certified as a wildlife habitat.

The National Wildlife Federation's Campus Wild program aims to return campus spaces to what they resembled before colleges were there. According to its website, "Campus green spaces can provide homes and havens for wildlife. Wild species, which face many challenges from urban sprawl and climate change, need ample space that will be well protected and maintained to ensure they can survive and thrive."

David Mizejewski, naturalist and media spokesperson for the NWF, said this program is aimed at protecting and reducing our footprint on local wilderness. He explained that the wildlife habitat certification project is a part of a larger program called Garden for Wildlife.

"Plants are the foundation of wildlife habitat. Not just any plants — it's specifically the native plants that wildlife co-evolved with over hundreds of thousands, or even millions of years, and their life cycles are in tune with each other," Mizejewski said. "The whole concept behind Garden for Wildlife — that we're trying to encourage people to do — is plant more of these native plants in our backyard gardens, at our workplaces [and] at our places of education."

Assistant professor Jonathan Farris spoke on behalf of the design committee on what steps the university would need to take. He explained that YSU would need to cut down on mechanical lawn mowing — as the mow-

ers used now are all gas-powered. According to Farris, another way to reduce mowing needs is landscaping with clover, loam and beds of native perennials.

According to Mizejewski, these are the steps the school should be taking for the NWF to certify YSU. He said there are four core elements that make a wildlife habitat successful: Food, water, cover and resources to reproduce and raise young.

"Your plants are going to do the bulk of the work in providing those habitat elements. Pretty much, native plants are going to provide natural sources of food for wildlife," Mizejewski said. "Native plants also are going to support the animals lower on the food chain like insects, you know, insects are important wildlife in and of themselves that deserve to exist."

These insects provide a significant source of nutrition for native wildlife. For example, according to Mizejewski, 96% of terrestrial birds feed their young caterpillars, and the American bird population is down 3 billion in the last 50 years.

Farris also spoke about the need to continue removing invasive species from campus, a process that has already started. These include certain trees, weeds and other plants, but they also include animals like stray cats that kill native species.

Mizejewski expressed that, while the number of stray cats on campus would not impede YSU's ability to get certified, tackling that project would be a helpful step in the conservation of native species, which is the ultimate goal of the program. Youngstown has already been taking the steps he suggested, including spay-and-neuter projects and adoption programs.

During the meeting, Susan Clutter, associate profes-

sor of chemical and biological sciences, asked about the potential for student involvement in this process. Farris told her that the committee really wants to leave a lot of the planning open-ended right now; however, he sees plenty of opportunity for that in the future.

"I think we want to leave room to be open to all sorts of ... educational usages of these processes," Farris said. "I can assure you, in our discussions of the digital app that we would definitely be using students to help generate the content for that."

Mizejewski offered some ideas as to how to get people involved in the conservation process.

"Planting days or cleanups on campus, invasive weed removal — that engages the campus volunteer community. I think that's one thing that sets apart campuses from, like, your typical private properties," he said.

Mizejewski explained that while the certification process is not intense, it is still a meaningful and impactful effort that has a massive benefit for the local community.

"This is ... kind of a local level of conservation action. You know that old saying, 'Think globally but act locally.' This whole concept of Garden for Wildlife is the epitome of that," he said. "When the campus community comes together and plants a pollinator garden, you're probably, sometimes even within that same day, going to see the impact on wildlife, and that I just find to be really powerful and meaningful."

For more information on these habitats, specifically campus wildlife habitats, check out "The Campus Wild" on the NWF's website.



YSU is branching out to be a certified national wildlife habitat.

Photo by Henry Shorr / The Jambar

‘Historic trails’ hits bump in the road

By Christopher Gillett
The Jambar

Recently, the development of historic trails in the Mahoning Valley has been held back due to court litigation from some property owners. Jacob Harver, a Youngstown State University American studies graduate student, is doing his final project on potential new historic trails that can be developed.

Recently, property owners have fought against the acquisition of the land for the trail. According to WFMJ, the owners argue that since the property has been in their family for three generations, there should not be a trail created from it. Alongside winning in court, they have also received support from local and state politicians, including Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine.

Harver does not deal with the property owners directly and is not on the Mill Creek MetroParks board – who the property owners are fighting in court – but his proj-

ect involves arguing for the completion of the trail.

Part of Harver’s project is to document the history of transportation in the Valley. The objecting owners’ property runs on what was once a rail line along the potential trail from Lisbon, Ohio, in the south all the way to Ashtabula, Ohio, in the north. Their property is just north of Lisbon. He argued hiking trails have historically benefited communities, and any objections did not hold ground.

“Around Kent, Ohio, the Portage County Hike and Bike trail, between Ravenna [Ohio] and Kent, I was doing some research, there on the formation of the trail there in the late 90s and you had property owners objecting to it and in the end everyone loves the trail now,” he said.

According to Cornell Law School, “Eminent domain refers to the power of the government to take private property and convert it to public use.”

Often when the federal, state or local governments

need private property for an infrastructure project they enact eminent domain.

The government is supposed to provide fair compensation to the property owner for the loss of their property. Eminent domain has been employed throughout American history for many different projects. It is also very controversial, and this is not the first time someone has objected to its use.

Harver argued that the representatives backing the property owners were hypocritical.

“The problem is that they’re really politicizing the process, too. So you get a representative like [Alessandro] Cutrona, a Republican who is all for eminent domain when it comes to [Donald] Trump’s border wall, but not when it comes to transportation,” he said.

This will be Harver’s last project before he graduates this semester, and his research will be displayed in Maag Library starting April 28.



Local trails in the Valley become center of discussion.

Photo courtesy of Preston Bosley

VITA program to stay at YSU

By C. Aileen Blaine
The Jambar

Though Youngstown State University continues the process of downsizing the number of computer labs available on campus, the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program will remain.

Raymond Shaffer, director for the master of accountancy program, has been involved with the VITA program at YSU for roughly 30 years, since the days of paper-and-pencil tax forms.

“Back then ... everything was done by hand — forms and everything. It was a small program, but it was effective,” Shaffer said. “Over the years, it’s transitioned.”

Now, the tax preparers enter codes using software on computers located in the Williamson Hall computer labs. Clos-

ing these labs means the volunteers will have to use loaned laptops since personal devices aren’t permitted for clients’ tax preparation.

In the university’s efforts to cut costs, the original number of computer labs is being reduced by two-thirds, from over 100 to just over 30. The location of the labs on campus can be found through the IT services website.

The program’s impacts reach beyond the community alone. It also provides hands-on experience for the student volunteers and the option to earn internship credits toward their degrees. The volunteers complete more than 30 hours of training and must pass IRS certifications.

“We want to make sure that students get what they need and that other programs — like the VITA program — still have facilities and are still able to func-

tion,” Shaffer said. “The program’s such a great service to the community and to the students.”

YSU isn’t the only place offering free income tax assistance. United Way of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley also provide tax preparation services through the VITA program.

A common theme of the misunderstandings and whispered rumors has been broken communication between university administrators and the faculty within the colleges. According to Shaffer, some students and faculty were unsure of whether the VITA program would remain on campus.

“I think there’s a lot of miscommunication, and that’s usually the case,” Shaffer said. “[The university] is trying to downsize the labs, and it comes down to costs.”

Initially, there were concerns that

closing labs would limit how many community members could use the VITA program’s services. As the university’s location is the only one able to provide services for international students, Shaffer said it’s crucial the program remains readily available to students on campus.

“In some of our better years, we’ve served over 600 people,” Shaffer said. “It’s a great learning experience for the students. They get hands-on learning and can say they get to work with real people and real tax returns.”

Until further notice, the program is expected to look much the same when the taxman comes next year.

“I don’t think there should be any major changes or effects on the program,” Shaffer said. “We should be able to function and carry on in a fairly normal way.”

Guins Against Cancer raises over \$30k for research

By Shianna Gibbons
Jambar contributor

Guins Against Cancer raised \$33,468.57 for its annual Relay for Life event and first in-person event since COVID-19.

Daniel Yoder, a junior majoring in information technology and event lead for Guins Against Cancer, said he was excited about the in-person event hosted April 23.

“This year is the work of three years because we haven’t had a real in-person event since 2019,” Yoder said. “We can finally celebrate our survivors the way we’ve wanted to the last couple of years.”

Yoder said Relay for Life is a way of celebrating all those affected by cancer.

“The event is what we make it to be,” Yoder said. “To honor those who are currently surviving cancer, going through treatment, in remission or for whoever we’ve lost in our lives to cancer.”

Nonprofits have experienced difficulty in fundraising with the economic downturn COVID-19 created, but Yoder said he is proud of the amount raised before and during the event.

“Our event is one of the most impressive in our region because we’ve raised [over \$33,000],” Yoder said. “I’m proud of our leadership teams and participants.”

Yoder said Guins Against Cancer is in partnership with the American Cancer Society.

“Any money we raise here goes directly to the American Cancer Society for research, treatment and more for cancer patients and survivors,” Yoder said.

Katlyn Helt, a junior majoring in business administration and committee chair of Guins Against Cancer, said there were a few activities planned throughout the day.

“We have yoga, Zoomba, a food eating competition, rec games and small contests throughout the day,” she said.

Helt said she got involved with Relay for Life because her life has been affected by cancer.

“Two of my grandparents are survivors. Back in 2015, I lost my grandfather, and since my grandfather passed away, I have [been more involved],” Helt said.

The monetary goal of the organization was \$71,850, which Yoder said was a dollar for every cancer diagnosis in Ohio in 2020.

Ben Dalrymple, YSU alumnus and cancer survivor, said he’d been involved with Relay for Life his whole life.

“I was diagnosed with cancer when I was 2 years old, so I was involved with relays when I was a kid,” Dalrymple said. “When I came to YSU, I got more involved with event leadership, so I try to come back whenever I can.”

Dalrymple also had a team at the Relay for Life event called Laps on Laps. The team finished third out of 18 teams, raising a total of \$3,479.

“This year, I’m team captain [of] a group of my family and friends that I could convince to come out and raise money for cancer research,” Dalrymple said. “It’s a great day, and we’re selling snow cones to raise some more money for today.”

Hayley Lowe, a junior majoring in nursing and logistics committee chair, said she has a few ideas to get more involvement and participation in the upcoming years.

“I want to make our social media more personal. Add more faces to [our page] and show off the different involvement,” Lowe said. “More unique fundraisers could also help.”

For more information on Guins Against Cancer, follow its Instagram @ysuguinsagaincancer.

Gliding around Youngstown on the Penguin Shuttle

By McCartney Walsh
Jambar contributor

Youngstown State University strives to make students' lives easier by providing free transportation on and off campus.

The Penguin Shuttle runs during the day from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. The shuttle can take students anywhere from the dorms to apartments to classes in a timely fashion, according to Daniel O'Connell, director of Support Services.

"The buses are designed to help people who have to get completely across campus for something," O'Connell said. "Most people take the shuttle from the dorms, and they tend to take the shuttles up to the athletic facilities, the dining hall, things like that."

YSU provides three Penguin Shuttles through a grant with the Western Reserve Transit Authority.

"They do so many grants for the local busing," O'Connell said. "They really understand the cutting edge of where we can go and what we can do with it."

Two of the shuttles run clockwise on 15-minute loops, known as the Red Loops, and one runs counterclockwise on a 30-minute loop, known as the White Loop. According to O'Connell, the bus' schedules are different

from a typical city bus.

"The city buses will wait if they get to a stop early," O'Connell said. "But ours are more of a headwind, where we will go when we get there and then make adjustments when we get to Kilcawley."

According to Penguin Shuttle driver Vicki Agler, YSU also offers the Williamson Express, which travels from the different parking lots along Rayen Avenue to the Williamson College of Business Administration.

"The Williamson Express is the green bus," Agler said. "That one travels on 10-minute loops. It goes up and down Rayen Avenue and comes up Lincoln Avenue, too."

A lot of students aren't aware of the stops the shuttle makes, according to Agler, resulting in them not taking advantage of the bus' resources. This is why she said she's always willing to pick up students wherever on campus, even if they are not at a marked bus stop.

"Just because I'm driving doesn't mean I won't stop," Agler said. "If you put your hand up, I'll pull over and pick you up."

The Midnight Express is another shuttle YSU has that begins at 11 p.m. and takes students safely from campus into downtown on the weekends.

"We run the shuttle on loops until 1 o'clock, and then

at 1 o'clock we're just down there to bring people home," O'Connell said. "So, when we're taking you home, if you're a block off the route, we'll actually drop you right at the front of your place just as a courtesy."

When compared to other YSU shuttles, the Midnight Express usually carries the most riders since downtown is farther from campus, according to Jacob Aromando, a sophomore integrated language arts education major.

"I usually take the one from the dorms to downtown," Aromando said. "It's convenient because it cuts out a lot of walking."

YSU also provides free transportation for students to Walmart in Liberty on Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings, departing from Kilcawley Center.

"That really helps international students as well, and any student without a vehicle," O'Connell said.

The YSU shuttles are a great, free resource that positively impacts student's lives and schedules, according to Agler.

"It's free, it gets you where you need to go, it's convenient — especially in the winter and when it's raining," Agler said. "It's a no-brainer."

The shuttle schedule can be found through the YSU Parking Services' website.

Daytime shuttle bus information

Morning Express: 6:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Stops include: Lyden and Cafaro Houses, M90 Lot and Kilcawley Center

Red Loop: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Stops include: Lyden and Cafaro Houses, M90 Lot, Christman Dining Hall, Kilcawley Center, M2 Lot, The Courtyard Service Road, between Cafaro Hall and Ward-Beecher Hall on Lincoln Avenue, Elm Street, Rayen Avenue, M60 Deck and F80 Stadium Lot

White Loop: 8:30 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Stops include: Kilcawley Center, Christman Dining Hall, M90 Flats, Lyden and Cafaro Dorms, F80 Lot, Lincoln Avenue, Elm Street, Ward-Beecher Hall and The Courtyard Service Road

Williamson Express Shuttle: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Stops include: M32 Lot, M30 Deck off Walnut Street, The Courtyard Apartments and The Williamson College of Business

Frenzy

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Record detailed what preparation was like leading up to the big event.

“It’s a lot of sticky notes, it’s a lot of different colors, and we just put a sticky note for every week from whenever we start [planning] it. So November, December, leading up to the week after the event and just everything that needs done for each team,” she said.

Hunny, a band from Los Angeles, headlined Federal Frenzy this year. Jake Goldstein, guitarist for Hunny, explained what he thought about the event upon first hearing about it.

“It’s cool that there’s a community gathering of this size here. Like, it’s really cool that there’s multiple stages, vendors — stuff like that is important. It’s import-

ant to have arts, culture and community. I feel like not enough places do it,” he said.

Having never been to Youngstown, Goldstein added why he and the group were excited to perform that night.

“We’ve been to Ohio many times, but never seen Youngstown, so we’re really excited to see what it’s like and meet all the people and have some fun playing the outdoor stage,” he said.

The event had three stages for all musical performances: Penguin Productions Main Stage, the Summit Stage and the Bouncing Back Stage. Artists including Black Wolf and The Thief, Candace Campana, the Shootouts and JD Eicher played the Summit Stage.

The Band Hannah, Lexi Kays, Shelby Olive, The Super Bass, The Smokey Honey Bluesband, Riley Burke, Matt Jackson and Chanelle Kazadi played the Bouncing

Back Stage.

The YSU Contemporary Ensemble, Where’s Winona Now?, Fifth and Aurora, Spirit of the Bear, The Labra Brothers and Hunny played the Penguin Productions Main Stage.

Along with the musical aspect of the event, multiple vendors and food trucks were there. Food trucks included One Hot Cookie, the Alternative Food Truck and the Big Green Food Truck. The local vendors had their own spot during the event called the Vendors Market.

Activities for the public provided at Federal Frenzy included Penguin Prize Pong Toss, Paint a Penguin, canvas painting and keychain making.

For more information on Penguin Productions and its future events, visit its website.



Matt Jackson performs on the Bouncing Back stage.



Hunny Jason Yarger plays his music on the main stage.

Photos by Samantha Smith / The Jambar

Small band to make big city debut

By John Ostapowicz
The Jambar

The Stage of Dreams is a local heavy metal band near the Youngstown area. Lead singer Daniel Butch, along with drummer Shaun McConnell, lead guitarists Dion Pomponio and Darren Stalnecker, and bass guitarist Chris Marriotti put together an untraditional metal band.

The Stage of Dreams competed in the Wacken Metal Battle USA and has come farther than any other local band by winning the semi-final round in January and the Akron regional final March 26.

The band will play the Viper Room on the Sunset Strip in Los Angeles May 7 to compete in the national final of the com-

petition and to represent Ohio.

If The Stage of Dreams wins in Los Angeles, it will travel to Wacken, Germany, to represent the United States in the Metal Battle at Wacken Open Air. The festival is known as the world's largest outdoor metal festival, with 29 other represented countries.

Butch has sung in primarily cover bands such as Haymaker and Edward Be Thy Name, but with the success of The Stage of Dreams, it is now his main focus.

"I've got to focus on what I really want to do and I couldn't because half of my life was spent doing covers," Butch said.

Butch hopes this will be the big break for the band as many record labels, booking agents and managers will be in attendance. Popular bands such as Slipknot,

Judas Priest, Rammstein and many more will also make an appearance.

The band is unique as it has plans for five different phases that combine different music genres into a new sound. Phase one is a combination of hard rock, blues and a hint of metal, and it features original members, rhythm and lead guitarist Don Conti and bass guitarist Jerry Dunagan.

In this phase, the band's two Extended play's, "CONTRA" and "FLICTION," were originally meant to be a full-length album but were released separately.

The band is currently in phase two, which is influenced by traditional metal bands like Iron Maiden, Judas Priest and Metallica. It wasn't until this phase that Pomponio, Stalnecker and Marriotti were featured in the band's music,

switching to a completely different line up.

"FROM THE SHADOWS THEY STRIKE" is the newest EP from the band, which features four newly released tracks. "DragonFly," which was released Oct. 22, 2021, is the band's most popular song with 12,836 streams on Spotify.

Phase three is Butch's master plan for the band, which is a full-scale heavy metal rock opera. It features a written script, costumes, set pieces and 12 new songs.

Butch is currently working on the sets in his garage with the help of band members, friends and family.

"I've started building the production for The Stage of Dreams live show in my garage, building platforms, painting all the backdrops, and it all takes time," Butch said.

Luke Bryan concert to come downtown "Raised Up Right" tour will take place July 16

By Jessica Stamp
The Jambar

Luke Bryan's "Raised Up Right" tour is heading to Downtown Youngstown with Riley Green and Mitchell Tenpenny opening the event. The country music star was set to perform in 2020 but the performance was pushed back due to the pandemic.

Phoebe Breckenridge, director of marketing for JAC Live Management Group and JAC production company, said concerts used to be held at the Youngstown State University's Stambaugh Stadium but decided to change the location to Wean Park due to the large amount of space it offers.

"[Wean Park] best utilizes the new space. ... It'll just be a little bit easier on us and a huge event for the city," Breck-

enridge said.

The concert expects to bring in about 200,000 people.

Breckenridge said the Luke Bryan concert will impact the YSU community by bringing people to Downtown Youngstown to support local businesses.

"This event brings a lot of people Downtown...it gets all of [local] businesses down here full," Breckenridge said.

According to the Youngstown Live website, parking options include the downtown parking facilities and the YSU campus parking lots. If needed, the shuttle bus is available for transportation use.

Ticket prices start at \$48.50 and are only available on the TicketMaster website.

For more information about the event, call 330-333-2049.

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Benjamin Pickard conducts YSU Wind Ensemble.

Photo by Sydney Stalneckner / The Jambar

School of music ends semester on high note

By **Victoria Olayiwola**
The Jambar

Dana School of Music at Youngstown State University hosted a series of events like the YSU Wind Ensemble and the Dana Symphony Orchestra where there were presentations of folk music by YSU students that dates back to over a century ago.

The school provides opportunities like these events for students to express their artistic talents and also to serve as a stepping stone to becoming performers or teachers.

Michael Butler, director of bands at YSU, detailed why events such as these are beneficial to students.

“The events offer the students the op-

portunity to perform together and collaborate with their peers rather than as an individual setting. Both of these settings have its positive traits, but having to work in a collaborative performance is a very important aspect to grow as a musician. These performances are great for community outreach and building relationships with the local community,” he said.

The YSU Wind Ensemble and Dana Symphony Orchestra provide hands-on experience beyond the classroom. Joseph Carucci, professor at Dana, said the students are exposed to important repertoire for each ensemble and rehearsal techniques.

These concerts happen throughout the entire year and there are no less

than a hundred performances yearly, both on and off campus. The mission is to bring high-quality art to the greater Youngstown area.

Folk music is the most common genre played at the YSU Wind Ensemble and the Dana Symphony Orchestra. Butler spoke about why folk music is predominant in what they perform.

“Music from the repertoire for the wind band, which has been dated back to about 100-120 years, is included. Nevertheless, we are also trying to perform new boundaries like new literature because it is important that students engage in varieties of music to grow as a musician and have the exposure as future teachers,” he said.

The students performed folk mu-

sic from composers such as William Schuman, Frank Kelley, Aaron Copland, Victor Herbert and Francois Borne. Eric Whitacre’s “Goodnight Moon” with the faculty vocalist Misook Yun was also performed.

A great variety of songs from these composers were performed by the students who major or minor in music, and also other majors at YSU. The concerts also featured Kayla Gilmore, senior flutist and winner of the 2021-2022 Dana School of Music young artist.

The final concerts of the spring semester were April 25 and 26 at the Stambaugh Auditorium and were free to children and YSU students. For more information on the Dana School of Music, visit its website.

The arts to take over Wean Park

By **Elizabeth Coss**
The Jambar

The Summer Festival of the Arts will be returning in July to Wean Park with collaboration between Youngstown State University and the city of Youngstown. The festival combines a juried art show with the performing, theatrical and visual arts and will also showcase non-profit vendors.

Lori Factor, director of community engagement and events for the Cliffe College of Creative Arts, said the two-day event allows nonprofits to get their names out there.

“We have about 20 different nonprofits that deal with the arts. They will set up shop in a tent, and they can put their schedules out, they can do a performance within

their booth, they can do giveaways,” Factor said. “Mostly, it’s information giving so people can come and learn about all the different art organizations out there.”

The festival is also partnering with many local organizations and companies, according to Factor.

“We will partner with St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, they will have their summer fest that same weekend,” Factor said. “We’ll reach out to the [public] library and the historical society and the Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor and OH WOW! — all of those are a part of the art.”

Artists who enter in the juried art contest of the festival can be awarded cash prizes based on their work in several categories. Best of Show, Best Individual Piece and Best in each of the three major categories — 2D, 3D and Fine

Arts — will be judged by Susan Russo, former chair of the art department, and Angela DiLucia, assistant director of the McDonough Museum of Art.

Musical acts have yet to be announced, but Factor said a variety of well-known and beloved acts are expected.

“You can absolutely be sure that there is a total melding of acts that are all types of different music or different types of theater, whether it’s choral singing or some groups you would absolutely know,” Factor said.

The event will take place from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. July 10. The festival is free and open to all.

For those interested in participating in the juried part of the festival, visit ysu.edu/sfa and fill out the artist application form.

Letter to the Editor

Dear YSU and Youngstown Community,

Thank you. It is, personally, a very meaningful honor to receive the Harry M. Meshel Legacy Award.

It was an even greater honor to get to know the man himself. More than the name on a building, or classroom at the Steel Museum, Sen. Harry Meshel embodied Youngstown's spirit and exemplified public service.

There is one thing beyond a doubt, that if Sen. Meshel was still with us today, he would be mad as hell at the direction the administration has taken YSU in the past year. He fought for the university, and the critical inter-

section where academic integrity emboldens the community. He would enthusiastically cheer for the sports teams, but knew the university's core purpose.

Programs like the NEOMFA, professors like Dr. Jacob Labendz, and schools like Dana – Sen. Meshel loved jazz! – have a reach beyond the classroom and have a huge impact in our community.

It is wrong and shameful how these cuts have unfolded, and the hollow lie of the “budget” while funding increases to nonessential areas like athletics and real estate. If budget cuts are necessary, I recommend be-

ginning with the over half a million dollars a year paid to President Tressel and Provost Smith.

Thank you again for this meaningful award, the plaque will be displayed with the jazz pictures Sen. Meshel presented to me at the Lemon Grove. His are big shoes that can never be filled, but he will always be an inspiration to fight for the university and community in Youngstown.

Jacob Harver

The Jambar Editorial Senior Goodbyes

Dear Jambar readers,

The end of the semester has rolled around again, and with it several graduates are ready to receive their diplomas at Stambaugh Stadium on May 7. The Jambar newspaper has three graduates pushing forward into the realm of professionalism and adulthood. Each has presented a goodbye here.

Sydney Stalnecker, Editor-in-Chief:

It's been a pleasure to edit, design and write for The Jambar these past two years. I joined The Jambar in fall 2020 to make new friends and learn more about Youngstown State University's campus. Without a doubt I can say I joined at the right time. Nothing beats getting the opportunity to work with like-minded individuals as passionate and dedicated to reading and writing as I have found myself to be. Many professors in the journalism department emphasize The Jambar's ability to provide students with professional skills which will (hopefully) allow them to succeed in the workforce, but I've never prioritized that. When I became Editor-in-Chief, of course I had a strong emphasis on providing factual news content for the community, but I wanted to create an environment that allowed The Jambar staff the opportunity to have fun and become connected. I think those opportunities have been lacking during the COVID-19 ridden semesters.

One thing The Jambar has taught me is that everyone has a story to tell. People light up with excitement during interviews when talking about an event or project they're passionate about, and that is the highlight of my job. The Jambar's approximately 500 word articles capture the lives of individuals on campus today, and

these stories will be available years from now for future students to read. The events are important, but they wouldn't be possible without the people willing to make them happen.

I sincerely hope everyone who has picked up a copy of The Jambar or read it online has enjoyed what we've been producing. We've all been working very hard, and I'm so proud of everyone on staff who has dedicated their time to helping us produce the best content we can. For those of you returning next fall, keep an eye out for Jambars overseen by future Editor-in-Chief Elizabeth “Betty” Coss, who I'm sure will continue to produce the hard-hitting and lighthearted content this campus needs.

Again, it's been a pleasure and I wouldn't have wanted to spend the last two years working with anyone but the Family.

C. Aileen Blaine, Student Life Editor:

In my two years at The Jambar, I couldn't be more grateful for the plethora of opportunities this experience has provided me. I've been able to grow not only as a student and emerging journalist, but I've also been able to come out of my shell in a safe and encouraging setting.

From a technical standpoint, I've had the opportunity to find my writing's voice, to fine-tune my interviewing and interpersonal communication skills. I've learned how to use equipment and how to “get creative” with my work. I've also learned how dastardly the Associated Press Stylebook can be, and I will miss bantering with head copy editor Laurel Stone about comma placements and capitalizations.

I've made so many friends in my time here, and even

more memories. While it's no secret that Wednesday production days are grueling, laborious and often stressful, they're also the days when I feel closest to the Family. We've tackled many problems — from printer and internet mishaps to missing content — with nervous laughter and humor instead of tears or anger. Never before have I had such the privilege to be surrounded by so many loveable, resilient, smart and kind people. I'm worried I've been spoiled too much, too soon by the comradery present in our tiny newsroom.

I wish the very best for the remaining members of the Family. You're all so bright and have so much to offer this community. Keep on a-waddling!

Laurel Stone, Head Copy Editor:

When Jambar advisor Mary Beth Earnhardt first tried to recruit me as a member of The Jambar team, I was reluctant to join, but it ended up being one of the best decisions I have ever made.

I've never felt more at home with people who understand me than I have at The Jambar office with my editorial team. At the end of long — and admittedly sometimes tedious — production days, when we have spent hours upon hours reading, we often joke that together we have only one brain cell, and it takes turns bouncing between us.

We have reached a level of familiarity with each other that even when the things that come out of our mouths may not make sense to others, it is easily understood by members of The Family.

It has been my privilege to work alongside such talented and amazing people, and I wish the next generation of The Jambar staff the same level of companionship that I was fortunate enough to have.

The Jambar Column

Whipping up some creativity

As a self-proclaimed artistic individual, I'm constantly on the prowl for new creative outlets to sink my teeth into. Prior to the pandemic lockdowns I'd dabbled in culinary endeavors, but during the bleak, cold days of April 2020, I learned that baking goodies checks all the boxes for what makes me happy. Baking is a hands-on way to exercise my adventurous side, and it's a constant learning experience that also brings others joy. I've even managed to understand a little chemistry along the way!

There's something to be said about the way such run-of-the-mill ingredients as flour, sugar and eggs can come together to make countless gastronomical creations. Like any other form of art, baking is a way to take what others may perceive to be mundane and turn it into something that spans culture, class,



C. Aileen Blaine

of a can or box — have spanned at least four generations of my family, and they're still a hit today.

I hope these recipes bring you and your loved ones as much joy as they have me. Happy baking!

ethnicity or religion. Food can be a powerful language in its own right.

I'd like to share some of my favorite recipes, taken from my very own collection of butter-stained notecards. Some of these recipes — though likely procured from the side

Flourless Peanut Butter Cookies

- 1 cup peanut butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- (optional) 1 cup baking chips or nuts

Mix peanut butter, sugar and egg together until smooth and fluffy. Add baking powder. Bake at 375°F for 7–10 minutes.

Snickerdoodle cookies

- 1 cup butter
- 1 ½ cups sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 2 ¾ cups flour
- 2 teaspoons cream of tartar
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- (optional) Cinnamon and sugar mixture for rolling

Mix butter and sugar together until light and fluffy, add egg. Combine sift-

ed dry ingredients with wet. Roll dough into small balls, cover in cinnamon and sugar mixture. Bake at 375°F for 8–10 minutes.

Chocolate Cake

- ⅔ cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- ⅔ cup butter
- 1 ⅔ cups sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 ½ cups coffee
- 3 eggs
- 2 cups flour
- 1 ½ teaspoons baking soda
- ¼ teaspoon baking powder

Mix together wet ingredients until smooth and fluffy. Add sifted dry ingredients, stir until just combined. Bake in a greased 9-by-13-inch pan at 350°F for 25 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean. Cool before adding a frosting of your choice.

THE JAMBAR POLICY

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

EDITORIAL POLICY

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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

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Tennis teams clash against Vikings

By John Ostapowicz
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University women's tennis team fought hard against Cleveland State University on April 23, but came up short 5-2.

Despite the loss, Youngstown State was able to earn the doubles point by winning matches at No. 2 and No. 3 doubles.

Freshman Elisa Rigazio was able to win at No. 4 to put the Penguins up by 2.

Rigazio has been a pivotal difference maker for the team coming in as a freshman from Lyon, France. She has set a 6-4 singles record highlighted by a three set victory over Duquesne University and went 6-5 in doubles matches.

She has been striving to do better and will achieve that next season with her freshman year already under her belt.

"I'm doing what I have to and I know that I have to get better," Rigazio said.

The loss allowed the Vikings to earn the Horizon League regular-season title winner over the Penguins. However, losing the title does not affect the team, as it will travel to Ann Arbor, Michigan, to play in the Horizon League Championships tournament April 30.

The women's tennis team finished 11-9 for the season and 5-1 in league play, with the additions of freshmen; Julia Marko, Lili Minich and Rigazio.

In the 2020-2021 season, Youngstown State was 16-10 overall and 8-2 in the Horizon League with the help of seniors Lucia Zagar and Tamara Teufl.

In men's tennis, the outcome against Cleveland State was different as the team brought down the Vikings 5-2 on April 23. Youngstown State claimed the outright Horizon League title with the victory.

In singles play, Youngstown State won matches at No.1, No. 3, No. 4 and No. 6.

At No. 1, junior Laurentiu Mandocescu picked up a 6-0, 6-3 win over Viking sophomore Maxime Marschal-Hay. At No. 3, freshman Clement Mainguy won

7-6, 6-3 over junior Kade Mindry.

At No. 4, freshman Nathan Favier went to work by defeating sophomore Juande-Dios Abboud by a score of 6-4, 6-2. Junior Will Everett stepped in to beat sophomore Austin Staiger 6-0, 6-4 to end the day.

The men's team has earned a bye heading into the Horizon League Championships and will play in the tournament at 11 a.m. April 30.

The bye is well-needed, as the team has played non-stop with few breaks throughout the season.

"It's the end of the season and we have played a lot of matches every weekend, and we are very tired," Favier said.

The Penguins finished the season 13-8 overall and 8-0 in conference play and compared to last year's 12-9 record and 5-3 in the conference.

Mandocescu was awarded for his dominance this season with his fifth Horizon League's Singles Player of the Week on April 26. He was also named Academic All-Horizon League along with David Alvarez.



YSU tennis teams faced Cleveland State University to finish its regular season.

Photo courtesy of Robert Hayes

FROM YSU PENGUINS TO PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

NFL draft ties to Youngstown

By Kyle Ferraro
Jambar contributor

Youngstown State University has had a handful of successful players who have been selected during the NFL draft. One notable draft pick was Paul McFadden, who was drafted out of YSU and went on to have a favorable NFL career.

The NFL draft is an event that gives teams the possibility to change the future of their franchises. The organizations roll the dice on players from many colleges, big and small.

McFadden, who was a place kicker at YSU, was drafted in the 12th round — 312th overall — of the 1984 draft by the Philadelphia Eagles.

McFadden recalled where he was on draft day in 1984.

“I was in my apartment on Pennsylvania Avenue. It was very late in the day because I went in the very last round,” McFadden said.

McFadden got calls throughout the day from the Eagles, who let the kicker know that he was on the organization’s radar.

“I got the call and [the Philadelphia Eagles] said they were up next, and they were picking me,” McFadden said.

He went on to play six seasons in the NFL the majority being with the Eagles and stops with the New York Giants and the Atlanta Falcons to round out his career. In 1984, he was named the NFC Rookie of the Year and was the Eagles Co-MVP in 1984-85.

After his retirement from the NFL, McFadden returned to YSU to serve as president of the YSU Foun-

ation.

The YSU Foundation is an independent, nonprofit corporation that pursues, manages and distributes resources to support scholarships and student initiatives. The foundation also focuses on the growth and development of YSU.

“I love YSU. With two years to go in my [NFL] career, a reporter asked me what I wanted to do after I was done,” McFadden said. “I said, ‘I love my alma mater.’ I wanted to come back to YSU. I didn’t know what role, but I knew I wanted to be back.”

The NFL draft is currently being held at the heart of the Las Vegas strip and will conclude April 30.

“We got ice!”: Pitching freezes baseball bats in league play

By Kyle Wills
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University baseball team capped off its 10-game homestand with a doubleheader sweep of Oakland University on April 22.

In game one of the twin bill, junior Matt Brosky gave the bullpen the game off as he pitched a seven-inning complete game, allowing one run and striking out seven in the 2-1 victory. This outing also marked his second-straight tossing seven frames.

Offensively, the Penguins received a pop in their lineup with the return of senior outfielder Dominick Bucko as he put the team on the board with an RBI base hit in the second inning. The Golden Grizzlies tied the game in the fourth inning, but junior infielder Braeden O’Shaughnessy put the Penguins ahead with an RBI hit down the right field line.

Head coach Dan Bertolini said having Bucko back in the lineup has brought

more stability to the team.

“It’s huge for us. Just a mature guy with a lot of experience in our lineup. It gives everyone around him a lot of confidence too. Anytime we can get him in the ballgame, it makes us a better team,” Bertolini said.

Youngstown State carried that success into game two, when it once again topped Oakland by a score of 2-1.

Senior Travis Perry pitched his way into the sixth, tossing 5 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings while allowing one run. Senior Chad Coles closed the sixth frame before junior Casey Mashalwitz set down the Golden Grizzlies in the seventh and eighth. Junior Nathan Ball closed the game in the ninth to earn his eighth save of the season.

Bertolini said the team played great, all-around baseball in both games.

“That’s two great wins. Two 2-1 ballgames. I thought we played great defense, pitching was outstanding, got some timely hitting. Really a recipe for success. I’m

glad we came out on the good side,” Bertolini said.

With an off-day April 23, the club played again two days later in Wisconsin for a doubleheader against the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

In game one, Youngstown State received six strong innings from Coles, in which he gave up two runs while striking out five.

Braeden O’Shaughnessy continued his scorching 2022 season with a perfect 4-for-4 at the plate while senior infielder Steven D’Eusanio hit 2-for-5 while driving in two runs. Junior outfielder Andre Good and sophomore infielder Seth Lucero also had multi-hit games.

In the nightcap, the Penguins struggled to field the ball as six errors led to six unearned runs. However, Milwaukee couldn’t swing and miss with 15 hits as a team in the 17-4 defeat.

Freshman Lane Rhodes made the start, allowing eight runs with three earned in 2 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings. Through the remaining five

frames, Penguins’ pitching gave up nine runs.

Bucko continued his success since returning to the lineup with a 2-for-2 performance with a double and an RBI. D’Eusanio also hit well again versus the Panthers, hitting 2-for-5 while scoring three runs.

The baseball team traveled to New York on April 26 to take on Niagara University, where the men fell to the Purple Eagles by a score of 3-1. Sophomore Nick Perez made the start on the mound, pitching 5 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings and allowing two runs while striking out seven.

However, the bats were silent as the Penguins only mustered four hits in the game.

The baseball team will be in Horizon League play April 29-May 1 when it travels to Wright State University to take on the Raiders before making the trip to Ann Arbor to face the University of Michigan on May 3.

PENGUINS ON A ROLL



Photo by Kyle Wills / The Jambar

The YSU softball team wins five games in a row.

Softball slides on 5-game win streak

By Cameron Stubbs
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University softball team recently was on a roll as it produced a five-game win streak. The win streak started in the second game versus Cleveland State University.

The Penguins dropped the first game versus the Vikings 2-1 as sophomore Sophie Howell pitched well in the loss, giving up only three hits.

Game two was highlighted by fifth-year pitcher Elle Buffenbarger, who struck out four batters in the 3-2 complete game performance.

Junior Megan Turner's two-run homer in the third inning helped secure the win for the Penguins.

The Penguins then returned home for a three-game series against the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay.

Game one was a shootout as the Penguins edged out

the win 9-8 with six 'Guins tallying an RBI, led by junior Avrey Schumacher with 3 RBIs.

Game two was a 5-2 win that saw four different Penguins knock in RBIs while Buffenbarger picked up her first save of the season.

Game three was a much different story as the only run in the entire game came from fifth-year Yazmine Romero in the fourth inning.

Buffenbarger picked up her 17th win of the season while also eclipsing the 700 career-strikeout mark, the most ever in Penguin history.

Fifth-year Nikki Saibene also set a milestone as she tied the RBI record at 130 for the Penguins.

Saibene commented on the milestone she set for the team.

"It feels great," Saibene said. "It's definitely a really good personal accomplishment that I'm very excited to have. I wouldn't be able to do it without my team —

without the runners getting on, I wouldn't be able to hit them in."

Next, the Penguins faced off against Oakland University in a doubleheader on Tuesday.

The Penguins fell in both games 1-0 and 3-1.

Game one was a one-hit performance from the Penguins, as sophomore Sydney Payne came through with the single hit. Sophomore Sophie Howell gained the loss even though she pitched well, allowing one run on eight hits.

Game two was much of the same as the Penguins could only muster up three hits. The only RBI came from freshman Bree Kohler in the second inning.

The Penguins will start a three-game series versus Purdue University Fort Wayne on April 29. Follow along on ysusports.com for updates on the series.