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Photos by TANNER MONDOK/THE JAMBAR

# RUINED RECYCLABLES ON CAMPUS

NAMI NAGAOKA

Recycling bins across Youngstown State University's campus have become contaminated by leftover food and beverages being thrown in the bins.

During last year's RecycleMania competition, YSU received first place in Ohio based on their recycling effort and 23rd place in the national 2017 competition.

The competition challenges post-secondary institutions across the United States and Canada to reduce, reuse and recycle the most on-campus waste.

According to RecycleMania, the 2018 competition will begin Sunday. It will be YSU's 14th year as a participant.

Dan Kuzma, a manager of YSU's recycling programs, said the results of the competition are a result of the students', faculty members' and staff's awareness of recycling at YSU. He said he believes the program will continue to grow.

"It's exciting that our efforts are being recognized without actually having talk to each and every individual," he said.

Kuzma said people dispose of full beverage containers in recycling bins, which is an issue.

"That ruins our paper products that were mixed in. It forces us to throw [recyclable products] away," he said. "It would be nice if they empty those [beverage or ice] into the sink."

Kuzma said this wastes an estimate of up to 100 pounds of recyclables weekly.

He said he assumed solving this issue would increase recyclable product about 800 pounds a week.

James Joo, a sophomore computer science major from South Korea, said he has been less careful with recycling than he was before he came to the U.S.

He said South Koreans must pay a fee if they do not recycle.

He said there are different recycling bins for glass, paper, cans, electronics and plastics in South Korea.

He currently lives at the University Edge, and he said he stopped caring about recycling since there are no recycling bins at his apartment.

Joo said everyone has a general education of recycling in schools in South Korea.

"Someone needs to remind people about the pollution and other effects," Joo said.

Bryan Martinez, a senior electrical engineering major, said he has been recycling as a habit since he was around 15 years old.

"I try to keep plastics, cardboard boxes and cans together. [YSU recycling bins] are easy and convenient," Martinez said.

He said he always has his own container for water, but buys iced coffee.

Joo said he drinks almost all of the coffee, then throws it away into a recycling bin, but never thought he was ruining some recyclable products by recycling coffee cups with ice in it.

"It should be mandatory that everyone recycles," he said.



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# YOUNGSTOWN HOPEFUL TO RECEIVE FEDERAL GRANT

**CAMERON GODWIN**

City delegates traveled to Washington D.C. in hope of receiving a federal grant to renovate streets in downtown Youngstown and Youngstown State University's campus.

YSU President Jim Tressel said the federal TIGER grant stands for Transportation Infrastructure Generating Economic Recovery.

Along with Tressel, Youngstown Mayor Jamael Tito Brown and Jim Kinnick, executive director of Eastgate Regional Council of Governments, were part of the delegation.

The proposed Youngstown Smar2t Network Project will renovate Fifth, Rayen and Park Avenues and Front and Commerce Streets, according to the Eastgate Regional Council of Governments propos-

al.

Tressel said the project will connect Strategic, Medical, Manufacturing, Academic, Residential, Recreational, Technology, and Employment centers downtown, which constitute the Smar2t acronym.

All delegates were part of promoting the Youngstown's application for \$10.2 million in federal funding, Tressel said.

"The federal government puts money aside to generate economic recovery specifically in public transportation," Tressel said.

According to the proposal, if the federal grant is awarded, project partners will match \$10.2 million bringing the total capital cost of improvements to \$20.4 million.

Tressel said the project will consist of reduced lanes in both directions on Fifth, Rayen and Park Avenues and Front and Commerce Streets. He said there is no

longer a need for wide roads because Youngstown is no longer a transport area.

"It is a residential, art, educational, infrastructure area," Tressel said. "We don't have 175,000 people coming to the city to work."

Tressel said students will be able to walk, drive or take the shuttle to their destinations in the city.

Kinnick said the new project is similar to the Wick and Lincoln Avenues projects, according to Eastgate's first blueprints.

The project will include crosswalks, landscaping, new street lighting and medians.

A bike share program and bike lanes that will connect to Mill Creek Park are also part of the proposal.

Kinnick said he hopes to collaborate with the Western Reserve Transit Authority to install bus stops on the renovated roads.

The city will also install a right-hand

turning lane into the M-60 parking deck on Fifth and Lincoln to help improve traffic flow.

Tressel said he hopes to have shuttle services to transport the public from Mercy Health to downtown to YSU.

Brown said the project will help Youngstown financially and improve the quality of life and safety in the city.

"It will create jobs and will give citizens the access to go to businesses," Brown said.

Brown said sewer lines on Fifth Avenue will be repaired whether Youngstown receives the grant or not.

Kinnick said the project has been in the works for one year, but construction will take seven years.

"Last year, we were one of 350 submissions, but were not chosen as a project receiving the grant," Kinnick said. "This year, we are hopeful."





Photo by MARAH MORRISON/THE JAMBAR

# CAMPUS CURRENCY UNCLEAR

LAURA MCDONOUGH  
AND JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR IAN FRANTZ

Youngstown State University offers students multiple ways to purchase food, including cash, credit/debit card or campus currency. The use of campus currency like Pete's Points or Flex Dollars leaves students confused about how to use them.

Pete's Points and Flex Dollars can only be used for food or food items. They are part of YSU's meal plan, which is available for purchase at various levels. For example, the 12 BRONZE plan includes 350 Flex Dollars and 150 Pete's Points and allows for 12 meal swipes a week at the Christman Dining Commons.

Plans are typically used by students who live on campus, but they are available to everyone. It includes a newly added meal plan, specifically for faculty and staff.

Meal swipes reset every week, but do not roll over, so any swipes left on the card for the previous week will be lost.

Flex Dollars purchase food items at all locations managed by Chartwells, YSU's dining service. They roll over from fall to spring if the student still has a meal plan, but balances at the end of spring semester will disappear.

Pete's Points function the same as Flex Dollars but can also be used at some off-campus locations such as the new Barnes & Noble Café, Charlie Staples Bar-B-Que and Cocca's Pizza.

Michael Cardwell, assistant director for Retail Operations in Kilcawley Center, said Pete's Points were de-

signed to help supplement the meal plan, because Chartwells locations are not always open during nights, breaks or weekends.

Cardwell said the residence halls give a survey every year to ask which businesses students think should accept Pete's Points. He said many places are willing to participate, but others such as One Hot Cookie, Taco Bell and Main Moon are not.

"We've asked Taco Bell multiple times, and it's just not something they're interested in because they get the business either way," Cardwell said.

Other local businesses, such as Charlie Staples Bar-B-Que, were excited to participate, he said.

Places that agree to participate must rent special equipment to read a YSU student ID, so Cardwell said it isn't free for a business to join.

Cardwell said students should know about the availability of the GET app by CBORD, which he compared to a banking app.

The GET app allows students to follow their financial accounts for any campus currency, including letting students see what they're spending and add more Pete's Points or Flex dollars. Cardwell said the currency is available immediately and a feature to ask parents for funds is included.

Ian Tanner, associate director of Residence Life, said he thinks the app will help parents trace their children's finances.

Another addition is the inclusion of a meal plan specifically for faculty and staff.

The benefit of Pete's Points and Flex Dollars, even for

commuter students, is having to carry only one card, Cardwell said.

He said with the new lounges on campus, people are spending more time at YSU, which he said is a better experience.

The Christman Dining Commons could be stereotyped as school food, but Cardwell said that's not the case.

"I've gone there a lot and I think the food is quality," Cardwell said. "They have half-off Thursdays and takeout pizza too."

Jack Clark, a freshman astronomy and physics major, said he thinks Pete's Points is a good part of his meal plan.

One flaw he noticed was difficulty checking his balance because it wasn't on the YSU app.

While resident students may better understand how to use their campus currency, some commuter students who have earned Pete's Points don't know how to use them.

Alisha Dodge, a sophomore computer science major, said she earned 100 Pete's Points for helping another student. She said it wasn't explained to her where the points were accepted, but she was glad to have them.

"It was awesome. I got free food and I really needed that, because I'm a broke college kid," Dodge said.

A new branch of Pete's Treats will open Monday in the Kilcawley Center Annex.

For more information on what locations are available, how to get a meal plan, add to an existing plan and more, visit <https://www.dineoncampus.com/ysu> and Times-2Dine.



# FIRST HUMAN TRAFFICKING CLASS OFFERED AT YSU

RACHEL GOBEP

The first human trafficking class is being offered at Youngstown State University this semester.

Susan Laird, instructor in the department of sociology, anthropology and gerontology and manager of the Northeast Ohio Coalition Against Human Trafficking (NEOCAHT), said she is able to combine her two passions by teaching the class.

"There are not a lot of universities in Ohio that offer this, so it's almost surreal to me," she said.

Laird said most students in the class want to learn about the "dark side of human trafficking" and what it is really like.

She said there are human trafficking victims on YSU's campus who have met and talked with her.

"We have victims right under our noses ... There are traffickers that troll this area," Laird said.

Human trafficking is defined as the illegal trade of a person for forced labor or commercial sex, with many of the victims being minors.

"This is not just prostitution. This is the second-largest criminal activity, second only to the drug trade," Laird said.

According to NEOCAHT, human trafficking is "a form of modern-day slavery."

Ohio is ranked fourth in human trafficking cases reported by state, as cited in the National Human Trafficking Hotline 2017 statistics.

Polaris, a non-profit organization that tracks human trafficking, reported the city of Youngstown as seventh in Ohio for reported calls in 2016.

Dimitra Symbolik, a senior psychology and sociology major and NEOCAHT volunteer, is currently enrolled in the human trafficking class. She said she is interested

to learn more about the topic.

"We think of it as happening somewhere else, but just learning about it, it's a real problem and it's here," Symbolik said.

Matt O'Mansky, professor and chair in the department of sociology, anthropology and gerontology, said human trafficking is an important topic to discuss and learn about.

He said he is happy that Laird will educate students through the class.

"It's something that people are not really aware of in most cases," he said.

O'Mansky said he knew human trafficking existed in Youngstown, but not the scale of it.

Laird's role in NEOCAHT is to perform presentations and raise awareness through education.

"If I can get someone to look at a situation that they come upon in their community a little bit differently, then I have a chance of that person making a call to local law enforcement [about possible human trafficking,]" she said.

Laird said there are three ways a person can combat human trafficking in the community: educating, saying something if you see a red flag and volunteering.

Laird said domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking information should be provided to freshmen when they begin their academic career at YSU.

She said she wants students to learn how to protect themselves.

O'Mansky said the human trafficking class is currently being offered as an upper division sociology course, but he hopes it will become a general education class in the future.

# YSU PROFESSORS REACT TO TRUMP'S SOLAR PANEL TARIFF

MORGAN PETRONELLI

The U.S. renewable energy industry took a big hit on Jan. 22 when President Donald Trump imposed a 30 percent tariff on imported solar panels, mainly targeting panels manufactured in China and shipped from overseas.

Over 80 percent of the solar panel supply is not manufactured in the U.S., subsequently causing a controversy over the loss of panel installation jobs in the states versus taking economic steps to slow down China's production in the industry.

Youngstown State University professors discussed Trump's decision to impose the tariff.

Jeffrey Dick, chairman of the geological and environmental sciences department, said the economic move might cause solar panel installers to be uncomfortable for a period, but is overall a wise move on the U.S. government's part.

"It is a knee-jerk reaction of the pundits who claim it is Trump's desire to harm green energy," Dick said. "To the contrary, it will help green industry in the long run, while at the same time increasing high-paying skilled labor jobs."

He said China has "unfair trade policies," which makes it complicated for U.S.-based companies to compete.

"It is about time our government fought back," Dick said.

Despite Dick's hope for the U.S. solar panel industry after the addition of the tariff, another professor said he doesn't buy what the executive branch is feeding to the public.

Alan Jacobs, geological and environmental sciences professor, said the new solar tariff is "counterproductive" because it leads to Americans paying more for the imported panels and running the risk of initiating a trade war with China that could lead to the same tariffs being

imposed.

"To protect our solar panel manufacturers and prevent retaliatory tariffs on our exported goods, our government should provide subsidies to our solar panel manufacturers instead. After all, we give breaks to oil companies and farmers," Jacobs said.

He also said the decrease in the purchase of solar panels could lead to an increase in the use of fossil fuels to produce electrical power instead of utilizing costly, yet renewable energy like solar power.

"Our finite fossil fuel reserves should be used in the chemical industries, rather than burning them and producing air pollution and climate change. By this action, does the White House really intend to promote the use of solar energy or jobs in the solar industry? I doubt it," Jacobs said.

While YSU's environmental science department is divided about the issue, Todd Porter, chair of the economic department, said he sees the ups and downs of the solar panel tariff debacle.

"What [Trump is] hoping for with the tariff is to try and protect [U.S.] manufacturers of solar panels, but some of the consequences of that are: number one, consumers are going to get hurt, and number two, you may have jobs kind of downstream that are going to be affected as well," Porter said.

He said despite Trump's economic ambitions to slow down globalization abroad, people who install solar panels and those who work in the solar power industry are going to be affected by the tariff, which leads to expected concern from those individuals.

"Unless there is really strong evidence that you need to protect an industry to allow it to mature ... [people] are kind of skeptical that these kinds of trade barriers are going to be beneficial overall to the economy," Porter said.

## NEWS BRIEF

### PRE-LAW SCHOLARSHIP

Applications are being accepted for the Judge Sidney Rigelhaupt and Bert Rigelhaupt Pre-Law Scholarship. All of the funds for the scholarship are provided by the Judge Sidney and Bert Rigelhaupt Scholarship Fund, which is managed and administered by the Farmers Trust Company. This is a full scholarship for YSU students in all majors who intend to go to law school. Eligibility is limited to residents of Mahoning and Trumbull County in Ohio with a financial need. It is a renewable scholarship for

underclassmen.

Applications are due Feb. 12. Printable applications for the scholarship are available on the YSU Financial Aid/Scholarship web page or can be obtained in the Department of Politics & International Affairs, 419 DeBartolo Hall.

Bring completed applications to the department, fax to 330-941-3439 or mail to the following:

Dr. Paul Sracic  
Youngstown State University  
Department of Politics & International Affairs  
Rigelhaupt Pre-Law Center  
One University Plaza  
Youngstown, OH 44555

## 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 GPA. The recipient must be a U.S. citizen and enrolled in a degree-seeking program.

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





Photo Courtesy of PAUL MCFADDEN

# BUILDING A FOUNDATION

**MELISSA TUROSİK**

The Youngstown State University Foundation builds endowments for scholarships benefitting many students.

Heather Chunn, vice president of the YSU foundation, said the foundation was created in 1966 and is separate from the university.

“Our mission is to raise money to help support the students at YSU, so we raise funds that are either for direct impact to colleges or departments or to create an endowment. Those funds are invested and we’re able to reward from them over time,” Chunn said.

Tiffanie Thomas, scholarship coordina-

tor at the foundation, said an endowment is an invested fund.

Thomas said once a scholarship is endowed it generates its own money and programmatic endowments are designed to support programs on campus.

“A lot of times the colleges have those to help with a guest speaker to come or starting new activities for students,” Thomas said.

Thomas said the scholarships are based on what the donor wishes to give.

Chunn said four development officers raise funds for the foundation.

“We have an annual giving coordinator who oversees our phone-a-thon [which engages] students and student organizations to raise money,” Chunn said.

The phone-a-thon will be held Feb. 12.

Chunn said the annual giving coordinator also sends out the annual solicitation tool to alumnus and donors asking them to continue their support for the university.

She said to establish an endowment, a minimum base of \$10,000 is required.

Chunn said scholarship selections for the upcoming year will be made at the end of February and in the beginning of March. She said students will be notified by the beginning of April.

Thomas said online applications have resulted in a large jump in students enrolling for scholarships with the YSU Foundation

Chunn said students should also check

within their college to see if additional scholarships that are not on the online application are available.

Chunn said the foundation has over 1,300 individual scholarships available to students.

Paul McFadden, president of the YSU foundation, said he focuses a lot on the external fundraising of the foundation.

McFadden said December is a strong month for the foundation to receive donations.

“People make their gifts at the end of the year, and I wish this was a typical month, but we’re off to a great month this year,” McFadden said.

Chunn said the original 14 scholarships founded in 1966 are still available today.



## THE FRIEND ZONE: LESS INNOCUOUS THAN IT SEEMS?

ELIZABETH LEHMAN

According to the “Cambridge Advanced Learner’s Dictionary & Thesaurus,” the friend zone is described as “the state of being friends with someone when you would prefer a romantic or sexual relationship with them.”

It can also be used as a verb: “to make someone understand that you want to be their friend, but not to have a romantic or sexual relationship with them.”

Nate Woodruff of Garfield Heights, Ohio said he believes people often end up in the friend zone as a result of not clearly communicating the nature of their interest.

Woodruff said men might avoid communicating their romantic interest initially to avoid coming off as too aggressive, but it can backfire.

He said he sees three options for a person who finds himself in the friend zone.

“Either continue on with this woman as a friend because he is a mature human being and can put aside his original desire for more while continuing to try and find his mate; [or] he could cut the friendship off and move on; or he could continue on disguised as a friend in hopes that someday the girl will come around and

feel more than just friendship feelings,” Woodruff said.

Amanda Fehlbaum, assistant professor in sociology, anthropology and gerontology, said friend zoning is a concept that is inherently misogynistic.

“It assumes that women are meant to be possessed and that men just need to do this and if they’ve done that and she still won’t go out with him, then, well, screw her,” Fehlbaum said.

Fehlbaum said many times when men claim they have been friend zoned, there is frustration that they have done all the right things, but to no avail.

“It’s not supposed to be like that,” she said. “You’re supposed to do that because she’s a person and you’re a person, but instead, [it’s] just seeming to objectify her.”

Cryshanna Jackson Leftwich, associate professor for politics and international relations, said when a person says they have been friend zoned, they are not really a friend at all.

“You want to be with me and you thought that because you were nice to me that we should have hooked up,” Jackson Leftwich said. “I think that people in general every day should just be nice to me because that’s just what people should do. But I’m not going to sleep with everybody that’s nice to me because that’s ridicu-

lous.”

Fehlbaum said that, yes, being friend zoned is something that happens to women, too, but she is not sure the reaction is the same as that of a man.

“I just don’t know that they react in the same way as men do to not getting to be in a relationship with someone they want to be in a relationship with,” Fehlbaum said.

Shelley Blundell, assistant professor of communication said the concept of friend zoning is tied closely to the issue of consent.

She said the whole concept of the friend zone is that a person believes their needs exceed the other person’s needs.

“If I believe I have the power in this interaction and I feel like you’ve put me in the friend zone and I want more than the friend zone, I might be going to put undue pressure on you and persist and try and pull you out of this weird place that you’ve put me in,” Blundell said. “Or I’m going to become incredibly toxic and hostile and aggressive toward you and make you rue the day that you ever put me in the friend zone.”

Blundell said people should remove friend zone from their vocabularies.

“It is diminishing to anyone’s agency to intonate negatively that because they are not interested in you that there is

something wrong with them, which is the whole concept behind the friend zone,” Blundell said.

Based on her past work with a domestic violence project, Blundell said she thinks the friend zone concept is problematic. She said she has talked to people in stalking situations where rejecting someone’s romantic overtures was where it all began.

“They had an interaction with the person, that person wanted more from them romantically than they were prepared to give them, that person developed an unhealthy obsession and either was incredibly aggressive toward them and made their lives very difficult, being very threatening [and] harassing, or became incredibly persistent, which sometimes escalated into sexual violence,” Blundell said.

Blundell said the friend zone and its negative connotation comes down to being an issue of entitlement and control.

“Maybe the friend zone is less about people being upset that a potential romantic interest does not return their interest, but more so in who we are as people and what we believe that we are entitled to, and if we believe we’re not [getting it], that we should be allowed to have control over other people and the way that they interact with us,” Blundell said.

## THE VALUE OF CRYPTOCURRENCY

DAVID FORD

Bitcoin is a virtual currency or “cryptocurrency” controlled by a network of users. Since the coin isn’t financially backed by banks or the federal government, it can become volatile.

“What is Bitcoin,” an article written by Brian Martucci of Moneycrashers.com, explained Bitcoins’ relatively odd birth, shrouded in mystery.

“The first public record of Bitcoin dates back to October 2008, when a pseudonymous person or organization dubbed Satoshi Nakamoto published a white paper with technical outlines for a new, decentralized cryptocurrency,” Martucci said.

When Bitcoin first started, each coin’s overall worth was extremely low. During the first few years of this virtual currency, much of it was used to facilitate illegal activity.

Martucci said the purchase of illegal drugs through the infamous Silk Road was a major purpose of early Bitcoin use.

Michael Baker, a Youngstown State University business student, said he first learned about Bitcoin in 2011 from his family, but held off their investments until the company solidified its legitimacy.

“I learned about Bitcoin around 2011 when discussing the dark web with my brother and cousin,” Baker said. “When I first learned about Bitcoin, it was more so used for illegal means and because I had no real use for it, I

didn’t invest.”

Baker’s cousin convinced him to invest small amounts of cash with Bitcoin, which eventually doubled and tripled.

“I really started to invest once I realized the opportunity ahead. I had planned to invest in something because I wanted to start thinking about my financial future after college,” Baker said. “I chose Bitcoin because it was and still is in a very early stage and because of this I saw the potential.”

Baker said Bitcoin is very much still in its developmental stage, which means it’s susceptible to massive value swings.

“I do think Bitcoin will be beneficial because of the technology involved with it,” Baker said. “However, with that being said, there are a lot of other project coins that have the potential to make more of an impact on the cryptocurrency world and even some that could make a real world impact.”

Despite his success, Baker cautioned prospective investors.

“If you want to invest in cryptocurrency, you must be very careful because the money could be gone before you know it,” Baker said.

Tod Porter, chair of the economics department, said an individual’s current financial situation dictates investment activity.

“People who invest in stocks should view these investments as long-term plans, for retirement and so forth,” Porter said.

According to Porter, the younger someone starts in-

vesting, the better off they’ll be; however, he cautioned to research trends and the legitimacy of a company beforehand.

Hunter Miller, a YSU business and finance student, said Bitcoin acts as though a bubble burst will be the inevitable outcome.

“I’m against investing in Bitcoin, because yeah, the returns are great right now, but when the bubble bursts, it’ll be worth absolutely nothing,” he said.

Miller said he is against investing money in Bitcoin, but said thousands of people are currently “mining it as we speak.”

Miller compared Bitcoin to currency used by YSU.

“It’s basically like using Pete’s Points,” Miller said. “Sure, there’s a monetary backing behind it, but you can only use it in like six places. So, unless the places expand to 12, then 24, it’s not really an applicable financial tool.”

Huaiyu Peter Chen, an associate professor of finance, recommended YSU students to invest in diversified low-cost index funds, if investing interests them.

On the other hand, Chen said investing is a strong word when referring to the virtual currency market.

“Putting money in virtual currency is gambling and speculation, not investing,” Chen said.

Chen said he believes the stock market is a much more viable investment opportunity because the economy will continue to grow.

“For YSU students, they should use a dollar average strategy to invest in a well-diversified low-cost index fund based on their risk tolerance,” Chen said.



# CANDACE CAMPANA'S NEWEST SINGLE: PINK INK

MARAH J. MORRISON

Youngstown State University alumnus Candace Campana released her song "Pink Ink" worldwide in December. The song was written to give hope, strength and courage to people and their families dealing with cancer.

Campana worked in admissions at YSU from 2015 to last October and she is currently working in engineering. A question and answer was conducted to cover more about her newest single "Pink Ink" and her music career.

**Q:** How did you get into the music industry?

**A:** I've always had the music bug. I've always wanted to perform, I've always wanted to be on stage. I just always wanted it for some reason. It was in me, and I used to try out for plays and stuff when I was really young. The first play I was ever cast, in I was three. I've always loved everything about performing [which] drove me to pursue it.

**Q:** What thoughts ran through your mind when "Pink Ink" was released worldwide?

**A:** It makes me feel so proud of myself. That's a song I wrote myself on my front porch in Struthers, Ohio. For

somebody to think that it's good enough to record, release and sell – to me it was everything. That's something that came from me from start to finish, so it wasn't like it was someone else's composition that I just happened to do the vocals for. Everything in it came from me, and for somebody to think it's worth it, really says something to yourself as a songwriter.

**Q:** Where did the idea of "Pink Ink" come from?

**A:** It's actually kind of funny because YSU helped. I was a student worker and my boss had given us all pens to do our work with, and mine was pink. The first thing that came to mind was a love letter written in pink ink or something like that, and I was like, I don't want to blend in and make another love song. I kind of did a twisted love song. It's a love and hope, but it's not in the traditional form.

**Q:** How did you want to move people who listen to this song? What was your main goal?

**A:** I wanted to make people feel more empowered. Anybody who has any tattoo for cancer, any bond with the disease, any parent that they have suffering from it, any sibling. Just a way to show them you can help without having to be in the situation. You can be in the situation with them just by showing them that you want them

to have strength, so to me, I wanted people who do have associations with this terrible disease to know that there is hope. I wanted people to know that I'm listening, I hear the stories and it drove me to write something like this.

**Q:** How do you think someone overcomes cancer?

**A:** It could be through music. They could listen to songs that help them relate, or say they lost a loved one from cancer, they could hear this song. A lot of people do get tattoos to honor people they've lost or people that are currently fighting. To me, either way, you could hear something that makes you think of it and think, "Wow, I was through that too," or in remembrance, get something as permanent as a tattoo and say, "I did this for you."

**Q:** Do you have any plans and motivations in the near future with where you would like to go as a musician?

**A:** "Pink Ink" is just one form of cancer. I thought about diving into the other colors. The green, the purple, the other people who need help too, because not everyone suffers from breast cancer. I've been thinking of writing different variations of the same idea. I'd love to dive in and help more people. I want to thank God for giving me the idea and for helping me pursue it, and make it into something that is official.



Photo Courtesy of ANDREW BASTION



# HELP NEEDED

## THE MYSTERIOUSLY UNSOLVABLE DISAPPEARANCE OF ARTHUR WESTON

Week 2/8

Hello again, fellow detectives. For those just joining, I am Quinn Weston, newly appointed amateur sleuth and nephew to the missing Arthur Weston. This case is an eight-part series full of riddles and mysteries to discover what happened to my eccentric Uncle Arthur. If you missed the last issue and would like to help, stop by the Jambar office in Kilcawley Center. Completed tasks and clues should be sent to the Jambar after the eighth and final clue is revealed. Further instructions to follow. Successful entrants will have their name entered into a drawing for \$150. I desperately need your help.

When I was younger, my mom would take me to Uncle Arthur's regularly. He mostly worked from home in Ohio then, so it was no issue spending time with us. His job as a senior level accountant allowed him to do so. My mom and my uncle were always close. My mom's father passed away when she was 12 years old, so Arthur took in her and her two siblings to raise them. He liked to live a very impromptu life. That kind of lifestyle led him on many adventures. Consequently, that managed to shape him into the greatest storyteller I have ever known.

I received a new letter in the mail last evening. It is in two parts. As the last note said, part one appears to be text hiding a word and part two is a location or object to be found on campus. The text is one of Arthur's stories. Slightly incoherent, but I know there is a secret within. As for the riddle, be sure to bundle up, friends.

Small towns can have big stories. Swellsville once sucked down the American Dream for breakfast and spat out combustible

sediment by dinner. In left-brained terms, Swellsville was the living photograph of a town, circa 1950, and it thrived off of coal mining. One clear night a star fell from the sky forming a mighty crater. In it was a man named Waappayu. He carried a paintbrush in one hand, a can of paint in the other. When the reluctant townspeople asked his business, he responded, "I am here to witness." He then walked up a hill facing the town, produced a canvas the size of a large farm animal, and began to paint. The townspeople were suspicious of Waappayu because he did not look like them. He had long dark hair, reddish skin, and was seven feet tall. They called him mean things. They did not like how he observed the town but wouldn't set foot in it. Waappayu kept to himself, painting away, never leaving his post. Townspeople gathered to watch him paint, but as time passed, altercations with boozed-up weekenders ensued. His mere presence angered them. One of the more audacious drunkards tried lighting Waappayu on fire, but caught his canvas instead. Waappayu was so angered by this that he threw the man to the ground. A fight broke out and Waappayu's powers to control lightning were revealed! Waappayu held his own, but in the end a group of strong men threw a TV at him, killing him. Vide killed the Waappayu star. They hid his body, but they could not hide the darkness of that day. Swellsville eventually collapsed in on itself. 7

Some like the first M but I prefer M two.

Stand up here to see Apollo's might.

But looking out instead, I leave the water behind. 5

QUINN WESTON



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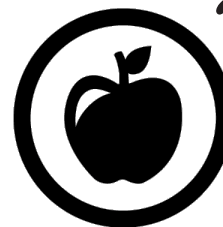
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# A MONTH FILLED WITH CULTURE

**JOHN STRAN**

To honor the tradition of Black History Month, an exhibition will be held throughout February at the Judith Rae Solomon Gallery in Bliss Hall at Youngstown State University detailing the history of African-American culture.

Malcolm Mobutu Smith, a clay artist, will show off his skill and give an artist lecture at the McDonough Museum on Feb. 15. Smith is an associate professor of ceramic art at Indiana University and has studied at many colleges. He has been working with ceramics since he was 14 years old.

At his artist lecture, Smith said he will talk about his path as an artist along with his influences and motivations. He said while showcasing his artwork in various states, there hasn't been much change in how people perceive his work, but there is change in how people perceive him as an artist.

Youngstown State University ceramics professor, Mis-

sy McCormick, selected Smith for the event and is letting him do a workshop in one of her classes. She said she chose Smith because of his popularity within ceramics and graphic graffiti. She also wanted someone from out of state to bring a different perspective.

The coordinator of these events, art professor Samuel Adu-Poku, said the African-American History Month Art Exhibition is a signature program for the Department of Art and African Studies Program at YSU, and it is highly important for the community to support it.

Adu-Poku said African-American artists have often struggled to gain acceptance and recognition from mainstream art museums and galleries to showcase their talents and expertise.

"The African-American History Exhibition has been a low-barrier access point for minorities, and is a critical opportunity not only for minority communities, but also for students and the general community to be exposed to diverse art genres and perspectives from Mahoning Valley and beyond," Adu-Poku said.

Adu-Poku said African-American history has had

a resounding effect on every form of art. From cuisine to dance and song, the influence is still being felt today through clothing, contemporary music, hairstyles and language.

Adu-Poku said he believes the historic culture of African-Americans is properly celebrated within YSU thanks to the African-American program on campus, which organizes different cultural events throughout the month. He said advertising for events to attract a wider audience could be improved.

Holding events to celebrate the distinctive African-American artistry is important to Smith, but he said he also feels too much of it may encourage isolation of the culture. He said he thinks these events are necessary foreground for the community to show people of color are present in every human enterprise, especially the arts.

"The downside of an event like this is the potential to engender a compartmentalizing sense of what in reality is an ever-present consequence in all realms of American experience for each and every one of us," Smith said.



*Photo Courtesy of MALCOM MOBUTO SMITH*



# A JAMBAR

## EDITORIAL:

### THE ARGUMENT AGAINST CHIEF WAHOO

The Cleveland Indians will no longer bear the familiar Chief Wahoo logo on their uniforms beginning in the 2019 season, per an announcement by Major League Baseball and Commissioner Rob Manfred on Monday.

Chief Wahoo has been a staple of the Cleveland Indians since 1947 and is held dear to some, but the removal of this insensitive mascot is long overdue. His appearance has been altered over the years, but the conveyed message remains the same.

Cleveland Indians owner Paul Dolan said in a statement that he is “ultimately in agreement with Commissioner Manfred’s desire to remove the logo.”

Manfred said in the announcement that the Chief Wa-

hoo logo is “no longer appropriate for on-field use” and the MLB “is committed to building a culture of diversity and inclusion throughout the game.”

Some Indians fans are arguing that society is becoming too politically correct and “soft” but this is not the case. Those who are worried about losing their beloved mascot are missing the big picture.

The truth is that the voices of those who stood against Chief Wahoo, and other mascots for that matter, simply were not heard. Native Americans have been protesting and speaking against this logo for decades, but were left unnoticed.

According to an article by the Associated Press, Cleve-

land has been moving away from Chief Wahoo in recent years — introducing the “C” on ball caps and removing stadium signs with the logo on it.

This shows a movement towards inclusiveness and understanding — frankly, it is more important to protect the marginalized than support a logo that has always been racist. But simply removing the logo is just getting to the surface of the issue and does not mean that there will be a societal change.

Although Chief Wahoo will cease to exist on uniforms next year, the familiar big-toothed and red-faced logo will continue to be displayed by fans across Cleveland and the United States.

# BRANCHING OUT INTO NON-MAJORS

SAMANTHA ALLAN

The rush to graduate is a frequent part of the college experience. How many classes do I need? How long will it take to be considered upper division? When will I graduate? If these questions have popped up in your head on a number of occasions, you are definitely not alone.

Throughout my years as a Youngstown State University student, I was frequently worried about how many class hours I would need to graduate as soon as possible. I followed the strict expectations down to the wire and never even looked outside of the yellow sheet of requirements.

In the last year, this attitude has changed in the best possible way. A cou-

ple semesters ago, I found myself one hour under the classification of full-time student. Desperate to meet the requirements on time, I glanced through the list of non-major classes and looked for any openings.

Not wanting to lose my financial aid, I signed up for a random exercise class that looked interesting. Enrolling in Boxing 1 was the best decision I could have made for myself. The class opened up the doors to meet people of many different majors, relieve some stress from a busy week and also get a great workout in the process.

Many different types of YSU classes are available to learn a new skill or relieve the stress of a hectic life. Art, writing, exercise and many other classes are a great outlet and provide some surprising benefits. Stanford University explains that “... more

than anything else these choices – how you acquire disciplinary breadth, how you decide to challenge yourself outside of your comfort zone, which independent avenues of inquiry you choose to pursue – make your academic career uniquely yours” (“Why Should I Take Classes Outside of My Expected Major”).

The message here is pretty clear. Choosing to take outside classes can provide some new perspective and a sense of control over the looming class list that lies in front of you. Since that exercise class, I have tried a non-major art class and yoga. Each of these classes allowed me to meet some great students and professors I would not have met otherwise.

An extra couple hours per week can open up the opportunity to learn a new skill and find a hobby that may never have

been available before. At the conclusion of each of these classes, I felt happy to have time each week without the imminent threat of tests and essays. The learning was still present, but it was a different type of education.

Graduating on time is important, and the learning process is the most important part of obtaining a degree. However, I fully support the idea of briefly stepping out of your comfort zone. One extra credit hour will not be a critical hit to your schedule and will offer up the promise of new experience.

So many clubs and classes are available to teach something you may not have even considered. Why not step off the list, just a bit, and take that class you have always wondered about? I guarantee some great memories are waiting within it.

# LECTURER DISCUSSES POLISH-JEWISH RELATIONS

A lecture titled "Jews and Jewishness in Post-Communist Poland" sponsored by Youngstown State University's Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies was held at the Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor on Monday.

Annamaria Orla-Bukowska, a professor at Jagiellonian University in Poland, provided insight to the audience about Polish-Jewish relations and reflected on the transformations in the country since the Holocaust.

Orla-Bukowska was born in the United States, but has lived in Poland since 1985.



Photo by RACHEL GOBEP/THE JAMBAR

## YSU'S PRODUCTION TAKES THE STAGE

**JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR  
ALYSSA WESTON**

Youngstown State University theater students landed a gig at The Region II Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.

The theater department attended KCACTF Jan. 16 through Jan. 20 at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. The festival allows college students with an interest in theater to take classes, workshops, attend auditions and perform shows.

YSU's production, "Dead Man's Cell Phone," was one of the seven shows chosen out of over 400 in the region to perform at the festival.

This was the first time a KCACTF respondent chose a YSU production to perform at the festival.

Angelique Tanner, a senior musical theater major, said in her opinion, "Dead Man's Cell Phone" performed amazingly at the festival.

"There is something about doing a show in front of an audience of peers who share the same love of theater that we do. I heard nothing but great things from people that were in the audience and I'm so thankful to have been even the slightest part of this production," she said.

Tanner said YSU students should consider getting in-

involved in the festival next year.

"I would tell students to seize every opportunity you can. There are classes for just about everything. It's not just for actors. You can learn a lot from seeing a different school's production," she said.

Students attending the festival have opportunities for auditions and workshops that they normally wouldn't have at their university and a chance to break barriers.

Sarah Dubos, a sophomore theater studies major, said this year was her first time stage managing a show at YSU.

"It was an awesome to be able to experience moving a show to a new location and to a new audience because that isn't something that many students get the opportunity to do," she said.

Makenzie Moorman, a junior musical theater major, said she experienced loading a show into a new space the night before a performance, which is something professional shows on tour do on a regular basis.

Lexi Denney, a freshman musical theater major, said she accomplished personal growth in her dancing skills.

"I took workshops to better round myself as a performer, such as Broadway Boot Camp, acting the intimate scene and Droznin Actorbatics," Denney said.

Ciara Rosario, a sophomore musical theater major,

said KCACTF was an opportunity for her to step outside her comfort zone.

"I'm a little nervous about meeting new people, so that was another personal hurdle that I feel like I was able to overcome," she said.

Katherine Garlick, an instructor in the theater department, was part of the YSU faculty that attended KCACTF to help transport the props, sets and costumes from the original production.

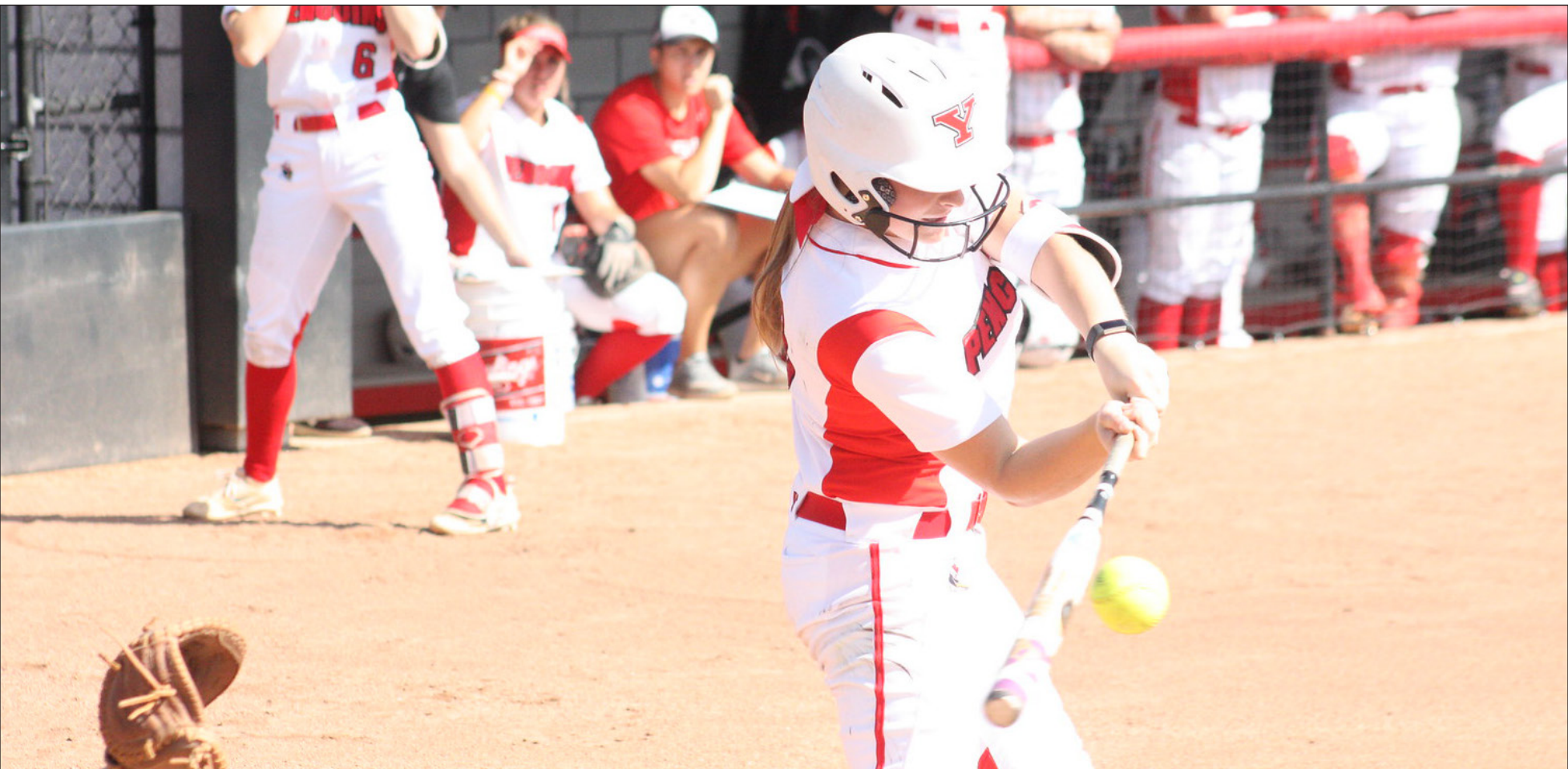
Garlick also presented a workshop focusing on rendering techniques and media for design students.

"All of the production elements had to be packed and transported 100 miles, and loaded into a new theater within a limited window of hours. I helped direct and supervise a team of students to successfully get the technical elements of the show in place," she said.

Garlick said the festival is an opportunity for students to get a broader perspective on theater, get involved in new work, compete in design and technical areas and audition for scholarship opportunities.

Some YSU students received recognition for their outstanding achievements, including Rosie Bresson who was a finalist in the Musical Theatre Initiative and Miles Garrett who received a certificate of merit for his projection designs for "Dead Man's Cell Phone."





Maddi Lusk (#10) drives the ball in an exhibition game during the fall against Gannon University.

Photo Courtesy of YSU SPORTS INFORMATION

## YSU SOFTBALL PICKED SECOND IN THE *HORIZON LEAGUE PRESEASON COACHES POLL*

**MARC WEEMS**

The Youngstown State University softball team has been picked to finish second in the Horizon League in a preseason poll of the league's head coaches, according to a Horizon League press release on Wednesday.

The University of Illinois-Chicago, the 2017 regular season and tournament champion, was picked to win the league with 81 total points followed by the Penguins with 71. Wright State University and the University of Detroit Mercy were picked third and fourth with 59 and 54 points, respectively.

Oakland University came in fifth with 41 points, while Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis and Northern Kentucky University ranked sixth and

seventh with 35 and 31 points, respectively.

Rounding out the preseason standings were the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay in eighth with 19 points and Cleveland State University in ninth with 14 points.

The Penguins finished last season with an overall record of 31-28 and finished second in the Horizon League with a school-best 17-7 mark. Fourteen Youngstown State letter-winners and seven starters returned from last year's squad that advanced to the Horizon League Championship game.

YSU also returns six seniors from last year.

Leading the Penguins in 2018 are a pair of All-Horizon League outfielders in seniors Hannah Lucas and Cali Mikovich.

Lucas earned First-Team All-Horizon League honors after leading the team

with a .339 overall batting average and a .416 average in league play. Lucas had 18 multi-hit games. She also finished the year with 20 stolen bases and scored 41 runs.

Mikovich, a two-time all-league performer, ranks in the top 10 in seven different career statistical categories and was named second-team all-league and all-tournament team last season.

Infielder/Pitcher Maddi Lusk returns after being the 2017 Co-Freshman of the Year. Lusk finished with 17 wins last season with a 2.75 ERA. Pitcher Paige Geanangel lead the Penguins' pitching staff as she had four complete games. She had 17 wins as a freshman in 2016.

Senior four-year starter Stevie Taylor also returns for the Penguins after starting in all 58 games as the ultimate utility player. She scored 17 runs and drove in 16

runs.

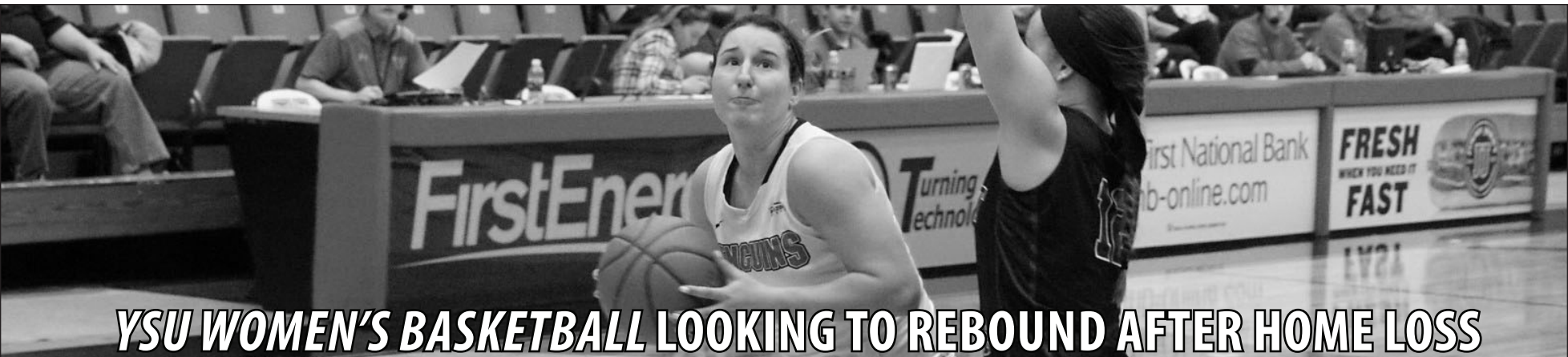
Head Coach Brian Campbell needs 14 victories to earn the 500th of his career and just seven more wins to become YSU all-time winningest coach.

Youngstown State opens the 2018 season against Hampton on Feb. 9 at 10 a.m. at the Gardner-Webb Tournament in Boiling Springs, N.C.

2018 Horizon League Preseason Coaches Poll

1. UIC, (9 first-place votes), 81 points
2. Youngstown State, 71
3. Wright State, 59
4. Detroit Mercy, 54
5. Oakland, 41
6. IUPUI, 35
7. Northern Kentucky, 31
8. Green Bay, 19
9. Cleveland State, 14





## YSU WOMEN'S BASKETBALL LOOKING TO REBOUND AFTER HOME LOSS

YSU Women's Basketball - Nikki Arbanas (#4) drives to the basket on Mackenzie Taylor (#12) in a game on Jan. 27.

**MARC WEEMS**

After a tough loss to Wright State University last Thursday, the Youngstown State University women's basketball team is looking to rebound.

WSU got out to a 48-30 lead in the third quarter over YSU but the Penguins fought back to take the lead with 3:45 left in the fourth quarter at 56-54. YSU would lose 69-59 since it didn't have enough energy to finish the comeback.

YSU (8-13, 4-6 Horizon League) is still trying to find consistency late in the schedule. Hopefully the calendar change to February will help the Penguins. That won't help with four-straight road games.

"Northern Kentucky is a tough team. They find ways to keep games close and to get wins over good teams," YSU head coach John Barnes said. "Obviously, they beat Green Bay and took Wright State to overtime. I thought they've played really well this year. NKU came out swinging and I thought our girls handled that well."

NKU got up 21-9 with about three minutes left in the first quarter before YSU came back. The Penguins won 54-51 behind Chelsea Olson's 16 points.

"We are excited for the next part of the season. We

just have to approach every game the same regardless of who's in or who's out," YSU shooting guard Nikki Arbanas said. "We have it in the back of our mind about teams that we have close losses to. Like the Wright State game, we knew that we improved and we hope to see them again in the playoffs."

Now YSU has to look toward its next four games, which are all on the road and five of its eight games in February on the road.

It faces Oakland University tonight at 7 p.m. in Oakland. YSU lost to Oakland, 58-48, at home as the Penguins got outrebounded 45-30 which was a big reason for the loss.

"I think toughness, playing really smart and limiting mistakes. Obviously rebounding has been a key for us all year. We did a much better job against Wright State the second time," Barnes said about keys to getting wins in the month of February.

YSU will continue to make strides as it plays three teams that are just above or below it in the Horizon League standings. YSU currently sits in sixth at 4-6.

It then faces the University of Detroit Mercy (1-19, 1-8) who YSU defeated, 76-59, at home behind Arbanas' 17 points.

Arbanas credits Olson with the team's boost of ener-

gy during the year. Olson has now won Horizon League Freshman of the Week in back-to-back weeks.

"She has definitely brought a huge spark to our team and that's honestly just what we needed. She's gotten a lot better on defense and has become more aggressive on the offensive end," Arbanas said about Olson's improved production.

In the last two weeks, Olson is averaging 16.3 points per game, 5.3 rebounds and 1.8 assists on 47.2 percent shooting while playing 32.3 minutes per game.

After Detroit Mercy and Oakland, YSU faces Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (16-5, 8-2) who is currently in second place in the Horizon League. YSU lost to IUPUI, 65-43, at home with a poor shooting performance.

The last game of the four-game trip is the University of Illinois-Chicago (7-14, 0-10). YSU beat it 76-63 at home. UIC is the last team in the conference at 0-10.

"We have to make sure we are physical and keep a body on other players at all times," Barnes said. "There are times that we don't box out and we need to fix that. We need to fix those things up. We are playing for a seed in the tournament. That will be important."

YSU has a chance to make its way into the top half of the standings with this road trip.

## PRESS BOX PERSPECTIVE: SUPER BOWL XXXIX REMATCH

**SETH RIVELLO**

Take a look back to 2005 when the New England Patriots faced the Philadelphia Eagles in the Super Bowl. New England was a seven-point favorite. In 2018, Philadelphia is again an underdog, something the team isn't afraid to embrace.

For both teams, a lot has changed. Philly no longer has Donovan McNabb under center or Brian Dawkins roaming the field at safety. The Patriots no longer have Super Bowl MVP Deion Branch at receiver or Tedy Bruschi handling the defense at linebacker. They do have one guy left from 13 years ago: Tom Brady.

This will be 40-year-old Tom Brady's eighth Super Bowl appearance, second against the Eagles. It wasn't that bumpy of a road to get to Minnesota either. As usual, he only had to play in two playoff games, the divisional round and the AFC

championship game. In the divisional round, the Patriots went up against the lowest seeded Tennessee Titans. The Patriots got a 35-14 blowout win as Brady completed 35-of-53 passes, 11 caught by Danny Amendola, and three touchdowns.

In the AFC championship game, the Patriots struggled as a whole against the Jacksonville Jaguars. The Jags' defensive line applied pressure to Brady early and often to make him squeamish in the pocket. The Jags dominated until the fourth quarter where Brady strives. Again with no help from the run, Brady was forced to throw. Amendola was again his main target who caught two touchdowns. A 24-20 win over Jacksonville pushed New England into another Super Bowl.

In the NFC divisional round, Philadelphia sloppily took down the 2017 Super Bowl runner-up, Atlanta Falcons. Applying pressure and hitting reigning MVP Matt Ryan 11 times with three sacks,

slowed its explosive offense to nothing. In the NFC championship, Nick Foles picked apart the number one defense in the NFL, the Minnesota Vikings. A 38-7 blowout, Foles finished with 352 yards passing and three touchdowns and he's supposed to be a backup. Philly plays strong defense and doesn't let the opposing defense touch their quarterback.

Philly has a very appealing offense with Jay Ajayi and LeGarrette Blount handling the backfield. Alshon Jeffery, Torrey Smith, and speedy Nelson Agholor lined up at receiver and a compliment with Zach Ertz at tight end. This is Nick Foles' first Super Bowl and I'm sure his mind will be racing. If he controls himself, handles the clock and limits turnovers, he can be a champion.

The defense is also stacked. With the Patriots non-existent run game, all the focus goes onto Tom Brady. Arguably the best interior lineman, Fletcher Cox, should

be able to rip through this offensive line followed by Brandon Graham, Chris Long and rookie Derek Barnett. Jalen Mills will be able to match Brandin Cooks on the outside which leaves a couple options for Brady: Chris Hogan, slightly concussed Rob Gronkowski and Amendola. Amendola always gets targets in the biggest games and seems uncontrollable.

Give Foles a clean pocket and play keep-away. Make Brady and the offense work to get the ball down field, never lay off and keep your foot on the gas. One thing Bill Belichick loves to see is when teams form a lead and sit on the ball then the Patriots always climb back in and build momentum.

In the fourth quarter, keep the ball out of Brady's hands. Use Ajayi and Blount to gash for first downs and use the run to open up the offense for a Foles deep ball. No way this is a blowout, but if Philly plays right, this could be a 14-point win.





Garrett Covington (#32) tries to get past Dikembe Dixon (#10) in a game on Jan. 18.

Photo Courtesy of YSU SPORTS INFORMATION

## YOUNGSTOWN STATE FOCUS ON HOME AFTER TOUGH ROAD STRETCH

**CHRIS MCBRIDE**

Home seems to be where the heart is for the Youngstown State University Men's basketball team, having dropped two straight. When not playing at home with the friendly rims of Beeghly Center, the Penguins bear a 1-12 record on the road.

YSU (6-17, 4-6 Horizon League) capped off a two-game road trip losing to the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay (10-15, 5-7 HL) this past Saturday and University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (12-13, 5-7 HL) last Thursday, Jan. 25. Two tough but important conference tests for this young Penguins team.

"Honestly, we haven't really figured it out," senior Cameron Morse said. YSU's road struggles have led to a discussion of identity for the young team. "At home, we know who we are. On the road, we're still trying to find ways to get it done."

The first time YSU faced Milwaukee earlier in the year, they traded leads in what was a thrilling 72-63 victory for the Penguins. The second time around, YSU was limited to just 31.7 percent shooting en route to a 66-55 loss against a Milwaukee team that shot 55.6 percent.

A pair of freshman led the way for YSU as Garrett Covington scored 15 points while Naz Bohannon had 13 points with six rebounds and four steals. Covington

played a major role in keeping the Penguins in striking distance before a scoring run by UWM sealed the game.

The Panthers offense led by Jeremiah Bell and Bryce Nze scored 17 points each. Bell and Nze were instrumental in combating any comeback bids for YSU playing effectively on both sides of the ball.

A seemingly determined YSU team came out shooting to open the second half. YSU went on an 8-0 to tie the game at 42-42. The teams traded jabs but ultimately a 14-0 scoring run with about a minute left bolstered the Panthers to an win.

After Milwaukee, the team went to Green Bay where the road struggles continued for YSU. It fell to the Phoenix 85-67. Once again, this Penguins team struggled to find their rhythm shooting under 40 percent for their second consecutive game.

Khalil Small was the catalyst for a Phoenix offense that saw four players scoring in double figures with his 27 points. Small also added four assists and three steals to complete an all-around game. Other contributors included Kameron Hankerson with 12 points and David Jesperson and Sandy Cohen III with 11 each for the Phoenix.

For YSU, the lone double-figure scorer was Morse who contributed 17 points. Morse at one point helped trim the Phoenix lead to ten in the second half before the three point shooting of Green Bay widened the lead to as high as 20 towards the end of regulation.

Turnover woes for YSU saw the Phoenix converting 17

turnovers into 19 points. That along with streaky 3-point shooting prevailed in the end as Green Bay picked up an important conference victory.

The road ahead on the upcoming homestand bears two of the Horizon League's best, No. 2 Northern Kentucky University and Horizon League-leading Wright State University.

NKU (15-7, 8-2 HL) is coming off a convincing 72-44 win over Detroit Mercy. NKU held it to just 27.9 percent shooting. Some deadly accuracy from the 3-point line also boasted the big win heading into their game against YSU.

If history is any indication of the present then YSU has good odds against NKU. The series advantage trends towards YSU with a 10-5 advantage in the all-time series. When playing at home, the Penguins are 7-1 against the Norse.

"We feel confident coming in playing those guys, the last three years we beat them here," Morse said. "We already know what they're gonna do, we know their returners so we feel confident we can win that game."

Stepping onto the court this week will be a new look Penguins team compared to the Norse team that stopped their Horizon League Championship bid last year.

YSU looks to find its footing at home as they welcome NKU, Thursday Feb. 1 with tip-off set for 7 p.m. in Beeghly Center.