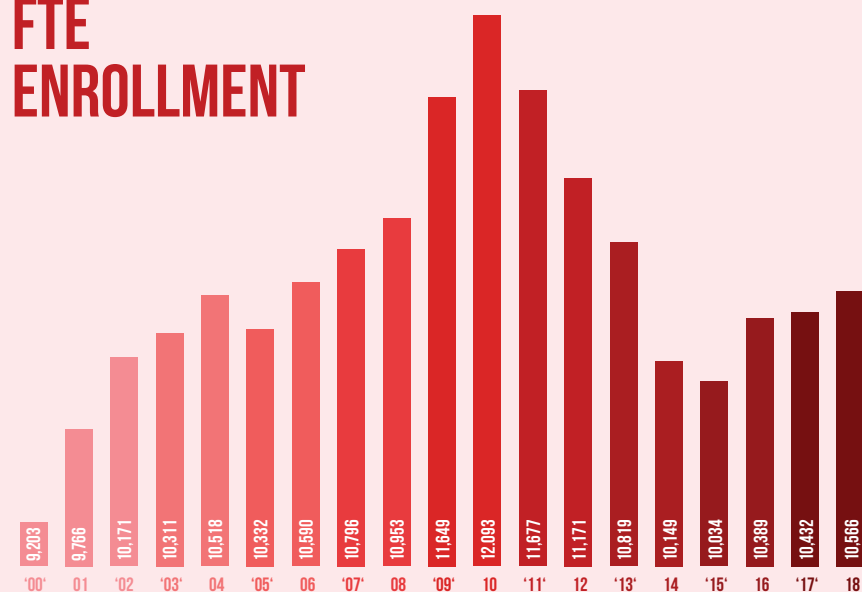


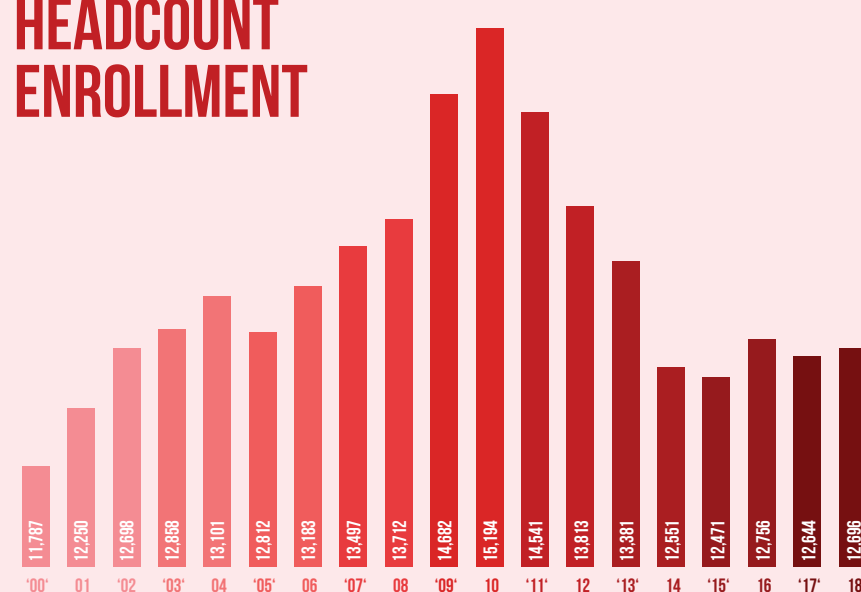
THE STUDENT VOICE OF YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY SINCE 1931

# THE JAMBAR

## FTE ENROLLMENT



## HEADCOUNT ENROLLMENT

Graphics by *Lydia Tarleton/The Jambar*

# WHO MAKES UP THE YSU STUDENT BODY?

## JOHN STRAN

Youngstown State University's student enrollment for spring 2019 has increased since spring 2018 with a total of 11,900 students and has been steadily growing for the last seven semesters.

Becky Geltz, senior institutional research reporter at YSU, said the university counts any student taking 15 credit hours or more as a full-time equivalent student, and that it may take several part-time students to equal one full-time student when counting semester credit hours.

Gary Swegan, associate vice president for enrollment planning and management, said the recent increase of full-time equivalent students proves YSU is attracting more and better students.

"Before, we had four different students taking one class each for three credit hours, which adds up to 12 hours and now we have one student taking 15 credits," he said.

YSU receives subsidies from the state based on full-time equivalent numbers and whether or

not students are passing their classes. Subsidies from the state used to be given to YSU based on headcount. This process of how YSU receives funding was put into effect when the college began selective admissions in fall 2014.

Due to this, students with high GPAs and state test scores are more profitable to YSU, but students who are more likely to graduate college are more expensive to attract.

"As we've had more and more students who do better in high school take us up on our offer, it has cost us more scholarship dollars," Swegan said. "Our percentage we're spending on scholarships has gone up; right now were okay, but we don't want it to go up anymore."

"You have to serve a wide array of students otherwise you'll go broke," he added.

### Where Students Are From

A list of the top 20 local feeder high schools from fall 2014-2018 shows local high schools with larger student bodies such as Austintown Fitch and Boardman, have the most students come to YSU with over 100 students from each school every fall semester for the last four years.

Some of the closest high schools to YSU such

as Chaney High School and East High School, are not on the list. For fall 2018, these two schools together sent 26 students to YSU.

Geltz said this may be because these schools having a small student body, and mergers in their school systems may have impacted their enrollment.

Even with these 20 feeder high schools bringing substantial amounts of students to YSU in the last four years, YSU's headcount is not like it once was.

In fall of 2010, YSU's student enrollment was 15,194. Swegan said YSU may no longer be focused on reaching that high of a head count any time soon, but he would personally like to see the enrollment number reach 13,000.

### International Replacement

In the midst of a decreasing number of local high school students attending YSU, there is an increasing number of international students.

According to the YSU preliminary enrollment summary, there are approximately 456 international students enrolled for the spring 2019 semester, an increase of 139 students from the spring 2017 semester.

Nathan Myers, associate provost of international and global initiatives, said he believes the number of international students on campus will continue to increase because of the decrease in local students.

"In the 18-25 age demographic, Northeast Ohio is a negative population growth state; demographers predict that we will be graduating fewer and fewer local students," he said. "As the local population continues to decline, I expect that a greater focus will be placed on international enrollment."

Myers said most YSU international students in spring 2019 are from Saudi Arabia with a total of 127 students.

For Myers, the increase in international students brings more than just an increase in student enrollment.

"Interacting and living in a community with people who are different from us challenges and clarifies our own beliefs," he said. "In some ways, the growing international student body at Youngstown State allows any U.S. student who wishes to engage with a global perspective right here on campus."

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# ANTHONY NAKLEY: FROM STUDENT SLUMP TO SUCCESS

Photo by *Tanner Mondok/The Jambar*

## ALYSSA WESTON

Every student at Youngstown State University has unique goals and ambitions during their time as a Penguin. For junior finance major Anthony Nakley, his success in his college career can be attributed to finding his voice through student groups and campus involvement.

Nakley is involved in 14 clubs and organizations including being vice president of the International Business Organization, treasurer of Beta Alpha Psi and trustee for the Honors College. Nakley said he wasn't always motivated to make his mark on campus.

"Freshman year thought I was too cool. [I thought] I have my high school friends and I already know about YSU. [I didn't] really look at YSU as something special. [It was] just another part of life," he said.

Nakley soon realized that was the wrong way to view his college experience.

"There was something missing. During sophomore and junior year I started to get involved," he said.

The Lowellville, Ohio, native said he was familiar with being involved and found enjoyment in "having his hands in

everything."

By being involved in his community, Nakley said it allows him to learn many different skills and touch the lives of multiple people.

Recently, Nakley won first place in a Williamson College of Business Administration case competition and was awarded a prize of \$500 for Beta Gamma Sigma.

Nakley said it was his first time competing, and he entered the competition as a learning experience.

"I thought it was a good way to spend a Saturday," he said.

Halfway through the competition, judges gave tips to competitors that scared Nakley and his partner, and made them change their approach.

"Everything we planned wasn't going in the right direction, so in that last hour we went with a more simplistic approach," he said. "Compared to the other competitors who focused on mostly numbers, quantities and price points, we mainly focused on selling an idea."

The big picture idea gained Nakley and his partner high marks with the judges.

Nakley attributed his success to his confident attitude, his friends and family and his ability to think outside the box.

"What I think helps me to be successful [is that] I'm not

planning everything in my life on one contingent," he said. "I try to involve myself with so much because just doing a little here doing a little is going to make a big impact."

Nicole Kent-Strollo, director of student outreach and support, assists students with the Career Closet where Nakley volunteers.

Kent-Strollo said her first interaction with Nakley was when the Honors College was recruiting volunteers for the Career Closet.

"One of the really cool emails I got back was from Anthony," she said. "He mentioned that his grandfather was a tailor and explained the whole purpose of the Career Closet of putting your best foot forward and dressing for the part which was instilled in him at a young age. It was important for him to help others with that."

Although Kent-Strollo oversees the Career Closet, she said Nakley mostly runs it and has taken it on himself.

"He's done amazing things [at the Career Closet]," she said.

Through observation, Kent-Strollo said Nakley has a supportive family who has instilled a great work ethic in him.

"He respects [his parents] greatly and he wants to make them proud. He's just very kind and has a lot of integrity," she said. "I think that [work ethic, kindness and integrity] starts at a very young age. That's just him."





Photo courtesy of **Graphic Services**

# ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR YSU'S GUINATHON

## FRANCES CLAUSE

Forty-two teams with the goal of saving children's lives from childhood illness participated in Guinathon's eight-hour dance marathon in Kilcawley Center Feb. 16.

Guinathon's yearlong movement ended strongly when \$57,474.31 was revealed as the total amount raised for the cause, exceeding last year's amount by \$12,400.37. All proceeds benefit Akron Children's Hospital Mahoning Valley to fund new programs, equipment and uphold the promise that no child is turned away for any reason, according to Guinathon's website.

Francine Hazy, public relations manager for Guinathon and junior psychology major, said Guinathon's executive and committee team was busy all year preparing for the main event.

"It was challenging to juggle all of the responsibilities both within our individual roles for Guinathon and classes, work schedules, other student organizations and so on," she said. "When we see how important [Guinathon] is for children and families right here in our community, we know that the hard work is worth it."

Rachell Rottman, team captain for First Year Student Services

and a junior biology major, said watching the fundraising reveal was an emotional experience.

"It was so amazing to see what can be accomplished in a year," she said. "The dancers were told it was our number because we worked so hard on it, and it was unbelievably touching."

Rottman said she was inspired by the Miracle Families positively influenced by Akron Children's Hospital at the event.

"Each hour, a different family told their story," she said. "[The dancers] saw exactly why we were doing what we were every hour. It was so encouraging to meet the Miracle Kids and see exactly where the donations go."

Throughout the marathon, dancers and Miracle Families enjoyed various activities, including performances by Pella Penguins and the YSU Dance Ensemble, team building exercises and learning the morale dance that was performed at the fundraising reveal.

Katlyn Kritz, a junior journalism major and member of Pella Penguins, said the group's performance felt extra special because it was for a great cause.

"[Pella Penguins] mainly raised money by doing a lot of social media campaigning," she said. "You'd be surprised at how much you can raise over social media."

The group raised over \$600 and one member decided to donate 10 inches of hair at the event.

Taylor Phillips, a sophomore early childhood education major and president of Pella Penguins, said she was inspired to donate her hair after watching two participants donate at last year's Guinathon.

"There are tons of children out there with hair loss due to medical issues and treatments, and there's no reason to have excess of something if you can share it with someone who has none of it," she said. "For someone who has life so easy in comparison, it feels good to do what little I can to help them out."

Phillips's favorite moment of Guinathon was the ceremony that concluded the event.

"[The participants] are so tired and sweaty, but we stand in a circle while Miracle Children cut our hospital bracelets to symbolize our ability to go home at the end of the night, remembering there are still so many children unable to do the same," she said.

"This ceremony truly makes each person in that room think about how lucky they are and what they can do to fight for the next generation," she added.

# THE FREE UNIVERSITY

## BRIAN BRENNAN

In 1971, an unusual experiment took place at Youngstown State University. It was called the Free University. Noncredit courses would be offered to YSU students and area residents without cost in order to generate open discussion on various subjects.

While noble, it was a short-lived undertaking and never drew large numbers of participants.

The turbulence of the 1960s extended into the early years of the 1970s. The war in Vietnam continued to grind on. The resulting antiwar movement led to a dramatic reassessment of society by American youth.

Perceiving a "generation gap" between their elders and themselves, young people became increasingly mistrustful of convention — everything was questioned.

This was the period of Women's Liberation,

Black Power, the Sexual Revolution, the Age of Aquarius and the Kent State shootings. To some at YSU, open inquiry was the key to understanding society as it evolved. It was for this reason that the Free University was established.

Agreeing to contribute their knowledge and talents to the enterprise, participating faculty received no extra pay for the instruction provided. YSU students and members of the general public were invited to take part in Free University courses, at no cost.

Meanwhile, student coordinator Joe Magielski did his utmost to promote the endeavor, chiefly through The Jambar.

Since the Free University was outside the mainstream, courses were similarly unconventional. The first was entitled "The New Sociology" by YSU assistant professor Bhagwati P.K. Poddar, a controversial figure later dismissed from the university (but that is a

story for another time).

The bill of intellectual fare also included "Cybernetics and the New Society," "Theory of Social Conflict," "Collective Bargaining," "Human Sexology" and "Agitational Speaking," just to name a few.

As the Free University struggled to be relevant, others on campus viewed it with skepticism.

Former YSU President Albert Pugsley never understood it and declared early on that the Free University's offerings were not officially sanctioned. Opinions on the Board of Trustees were mixed; some supported it, while others ranged from apathy to utter perplexity.

One trustee thought the Free University could be used as a glorified vocational school, teaching carpentry, house painting, income tax preparation and home economics for boys.

In the end, the Free University failed due to a lack of interest. Few students signed up; even fewer local residents registered.

Eventually, faculty participation declined, with classes being increasingly taught by graduate students. In one instance, the lecturer in a course entitled "Third World Revolution and Guerilla Warfare" was only a junior.

Joe Magielski did everything he could to keep the Free University afloat, but to no avail; he gave up and turned to politicking for a course on the history and culture of Poland, Ohio.

To make matters worse, other organizations began offering their own "courses," including the newly-established Cooperative Campus Ministry.

Yet, the final nail in the coffin was the YSU faculty's decision to unionize. With faculty rights now protected under a collectively bargained agreement, there would be little room for instruction offered gratis.

By 1973, the experiment had ended.





# SGA LOOKS TOWARD THE FUTURE FOR YSU

Photo by **Morgan Petronelli / The Jambar**

## **MORGAN PETRONELLI AND JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR COURTNEY CINA**

Many things have changed around Youngstown State University during the 2018-2019 academic year due in part to the efforts of the university's Student Government Association. From the expansion of the food pantry to include a career closet to the startup of the Giant Eagle grocery pickup area, SGA's efforts to improve the quality of life on campus is evident.

While SGA President Ernie Barkett and Executive Vice President Caroline Smith have accomplished a majority of their goals they set prior to being elected, they still have a few boxes left to check off their to-do list.

Barkett and Smith had prior experience in SGA before they assumed their leadership positions.

Both Barkett, a economics graduate student, and Smith, a senior political science major, have three years of experience working in SGA in an effort to better the campus community through university facilitated public service.

"We partake in quite a few different initiatives. If you look around campus you'll see the water bottle refill stations," Smith said. "Those are things SGA has sponsored."

Initiatives like the water bottle refill stations aid in SGA's attempts to cater to the needs of students. But some things they didn't plan on helping YSU fix until they happened.

"We respond to the needs that students bring to us," Smith said. "For example, the campus lockdown. Ernie [Barkett] and myself have been in contact with the YSU police chief and university administrators for the students' safety," Smith said.

Aside from unplanned occurrences, SGA has a variety of goals on the docket this semester.

Once the Mercy Health Care Center opens on the corner of Wick and Lincoln Avenues, Barkett and Smith urge students to take advantage of the on-campus health care option that is funded through a fee every students pays in their tuition.

They also want to remind students of the opportunity to pick up their groceries at the new Giant Eagle grocery pickup area located in The Cove.

"Those are two things that are university sponsored and [we want] make sure students are aware to make use of these opportunities," Barkett said.

Some works in progress include a designated family area. Smith said after the idea of a YSU grocery store fell through, SGA opted for the Giant Eagle pickup area instead.

According to Smith, the remaining funds would be used toward the upcoming family center. She added that a space in Maag Library has been designated for the project and the funding has been secured to paint, refurnish and make the new area kid-friendly.

In an pre-election preview interview with The Jambar during the spring 2018 semester, Barkett said one of his and Smith's goals was to rearrange advising and update the electronic degree audit system.

While DARS format has drastically improved, Barkett said there are still improvements to be made with department advising, and they plan to work on the issue throughout the remainder of the semester.

"[Smith's] committee is going to be working on trying to gather all the issues with advising around different colleges, complaints from students and see how we can fix that because we can't fire people and hire people. We will maybe rework the system that they use," Barkett said.

Smith added that SGA and the Academic Affairs Committee plans on releasing a survey to the student population regarding advising. The survey will consist of questions asking students if they have a set department advisor or if their professors take on the job.

"I think it's a lot more intricate than maybe we thought it was at the outset. So, it's going to take a lot more work involved in the next 14 weeks to really get it done. But I think that we can," she said.

According to Barkett, some of SGA's other various goals include improving the shuttle system to get it running before 8 a.m. and pulling leftover Pete's Points swipes into a weekly or semesterly pool to be used by students in need.

Smith added that since the move of the food pantry into the lounge behind Jamba Juice in Kilcawley Center, the days of operation have shifted from Monday through Thursday to

Tuesday through Thursday. Due to this shift, SGA is planning on solidifying a position at the food pantry to maintain the presence of the resource.

"We're attempting to put that person into our constitution, so it's harder for the university to get rid of the food pantry and [the food pantry becomes] something a little bit more concrete," she said.

Smith also mentioned the idea of universal Blackboard adoption by university administration and professors.

She said they are working on having every professor upload their grades and syllabus to Blackboard before the drop date along with posting final grades on the website instead of professors separately entering final grades, which the university could integrate with the Banner System.

With 14 weeks of the semester remaining and SGA opening up calls for candidates this week, Barkett and Smith have some suggestions for their future successors.

"So, the thing for the next administration is trying to find out something where we can make this place more affordable, outside of just being cheap tuition dollars, but making housing cheaper, making food costs cheaper, making textbooks cheaper. That's always hard to do from year to year. I think it's something that we haven't touched on that would be useful," Barkett said.

Smith suggested the next administration should look into more ways to diversify things and be more inclusive to the campus community.

Overall, both SGA officials said they were pleased with their accomplishments during their administration's time in office and are hopeful for the future of YSU.

"I think we're doing well. I think we just need to close out," Barkett said. "I think we've done a great portion of doing the shared governance and keeping more people involved. I think it's now just about wrapping everything up. It's all been small steps leading to here."

SGA body meetings are held every other Monday at 4 p.m. and are open to the public. The campus community is urged stop in and ask the student government body any questions they might have. The SGA office is located across from The Cove on the second floor of Kilcawley Center and is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Photos by *Tanner Mondok/The Jambar*

# NEW ELM STREET DINER IS A BIT CHEESY

**ALYSSA WESTON  
COURTNEY HIBLER**

On the edge of Youngstown State University's campus is a new diner, welcoming students and community members and aiming to serve delicious food. Their speciality — macaroni and cheese.

Elm Street Diner, owned by Ron Heinbaugh, is located at 832 Elm St. and is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

In addition to 10 different macaroni and cheeses, Elm Street Diner serves breakfast, soup, sandwiches, desserts and more.

Each macaroni and cheese dish ranges in price from \$8 to \$13 and is served with a side salad and breadstick.

A few of the assortments of macaroni and cheese include "Original Mac" with cheddar

and New York sharp cheese, "Southern" with pulled pork and barbecue sauce and "Hawaiian" with Bavarian ham, croutons, smoked cheddar and pineapple.

Heinbaugh said the macaroni and cheese options are the most popular menu items and are highly recommended.

Heinbaugh is no stranger to the restaurant industry. Before Elm Street Diner opened its doors, he owned four restaurants in Champion Township and Cleveland.

"One of the restaurants I owned was Cheddar's," he said. "I've worked in this industry for most of my life."

According to Heinbaugh, the idea for Elm Street Diner came to life when Pat Rosenthal, executive director of Commonwealth, asked him if he wanted to open a restaurant on the property.

"We know each other because we go to the

same church, and she knew about my culinary background," he said. "She told me about previous plans for the space not working out, one thing led to another and now here we are," he said.

Heinbaugh's Youngstown roots run deep, and he grew up on the north side of Youngstown in the 1970s and 1980s after moving from Minnesota.

"This area is great for the diner, especially with the park being down the street, and I believe Youngstown is becoming nicer every day," Heinbaugh said.

Heinbaugh said he has enjoyed opening the diner and looks forward to serving students for breakfast and lunch.

Taylor Walker, a senior physics and astronomy major, enjoys Elm Street Diner and believes Youngstown should continue to add locally owned businesses.

"Trying new places is always an interesting experience," she said. "They have so many different options of mac and cheese too, so that's a big plus."

Myranda Bukovinsky, a senior general studies major, visited Elm Street Diner earlier in the semester.

Bukovinsky described the diner as hip new place to eat at in Youngstown.

"[Elm Street Diner] has a nice light and a friendly atmosphere. It's a good place to eat, hangout or study at," she said.

Heinbaugh plans to open the front porch for outside dining with music hooked up to play throughout the area once the weather permits.

"I hope to see more Youngstown State University students come down and try out the food," Heinbaugh said. "We have a unique menu and want to reach out to as many people as we can."

## NEWS BRIEF

### WYSU-FM LOSES LONGTIME HOST AFTER UNTIMELY DEATH

Barbara Krauss was the voice listeners of WYSU-FM heard in the morning for three decades, and she is being mourned after her untimely death on Feb. 15.

Krauss was the host of the National Public Radio's "Morning Edition" and the station's "Weekday Morning Classical Music" programming. She began working full time at WYSU in 1975.

As a native of Youngstown, Krauss attended the Youngstown State University Dana School of Music and received a bachelor's degree in music education.

A memorial will be held in honor of Krauss in March with details to come. Read next week's Jambar for a tribute to Krauss and her accomplishments.



# HOPEFUL SIGNS IN THE MIDST OF THE HEROIN EPIDEMIC

**AMANDA JOERNDT**

The Trumbull and Mahoning Counties have dealt with devastating losses and challenges from the opioid epidemic in recent years, but in 2018 a beacon of hope emerged with the reported decrease of opioid deaths in the area. Now, community members question whether 2019 will be just as successful.

During the rise of opioid use and other designer drugs, the Trumbull County Mental Health and Recovery Board took action on the crisis.

The community worked together to provide several programs throughout the school districts and worked with major agencies to provide services and addiction programs to those in need.

According to the Trumbull County Mental Health and Recovery Board reports, a 275 percent increase occurred from the year 2012 to 2017. The biggest incline of reported deaths was from 2016 to 2017 with a 35 percent increase.

The reports stated from 2017 to 2018, there was a 44 percent decrease in deaths throughout the county, showing signs of optimism for the future.

April Caraway, executive director of the Trumbull County Mental Health and Recovery Board, works around the clock with the board, police departments and program directors to fight the battle and bring the reported amount of deaths down.

She made the Trumbull County Opiate Action Plan 2017-2019, which focuses on several objectives that will help combat the issue such as “reduce drug trafficking, reduce drug overdoses and deaths, enhance the capacity and funding for accredited drug treatment centers and increase supports for first responders.”

Caraway held a meeting with the community to figure out what needs to be done to overcome the epidemic.

“We sat down with everyone a couple years ago and asked them, ‘What do you need to help you do your job better to deal with this crisis?’” she said. “Police officers wanted more officers, agencies wanted more money for increased services, and the health department started their Project DAWN: Deaths Avoided With Naloxone program with Narcan kits.”

Caraway said when the Trumbull County Mental Health Board noticed the amount of deaths increasing each year, she knew something needed to be done.

“We really started to pay attention around 2015, and 2016 is when we started all these efforts. We had a lot of state help like Medicaid expansion,” she said. “That was a huge game changer because so many people in the system do not have access to medical care and couldn’t get treatment.”

The Mahoning County Overdose Surveillance Report of January 2018 states from 2010-2015, Mahoning County was ranked seventh in the state for unintentional drug overdose rates.

Caraway said other drugs are starting to take a major role in drug overdose deaths.

“Crack and meth are starting to take a role in this epidemic. Five percent of the 135 deaths last year were from heroin only. The rest were meth and fentanyl, everything with fentanyl in it,” she said. “We’re seeing such an increase in meth and crack and we need to be able to fund those things as well ... drug addiction is addiction and it has to be open to everything.”

Programs through local school districts that brought awareness to the epidemic, along with prevention centers for people who are battling addiction, have been major contributors for the death decrease.

Caraway said the surveys provided in the

schools are helping bring awareness to the epidemic through the students’ perspective.

“We provide surveys in the schools that measure perception of harm and use. Our use rates for alcohol, tobacco and marijuana all went down last year,” she said. “That’s hopeful that we’ve invested evidence based programming so what we’re doing is making an impact.”

Several programs are provided for people in the area battling addiction including ASAP: Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention, Project DAWN: Deaths Avoided With Naloxone and First Step Recovery.

Drug drop-off boxes are located throughout Trumbull and Mahoning Counties for residents to dispose of drugs they want to keep out of reach of other family members, specifically children.

While working against the epidemic is a challenge for Caraway and has affected her personally, it inspires her to help the residents of Trumbull County receive the best service possible.

“I take calls throughout the weekend if people are in crisis and get them the treatment they need. It’s a calling for me and I like what I do but it’s hard,” she said. “I know so many people who have either died or lost a loved one to the opioid epidemic. It’s really hard for anyone in this field.”

According to Caraway, the media has been a huge outlet that allows them to spread the word about the epidemic and the services offered to the community.

“Stigma was a big problem with people and their families not getting help, so we’re doing a lot of marketing through the media saying it’s okay to get help.”

Caraway said she’s hopeful that 2019 will be even more successful with the decline of reported deaths.

“Three years ago, we didn’t have any detox

beds in Trumbull County, now we have 32. Three years ago, I had people on a waitlist for 10 days, now I can get people in the same day,” she said. “We reduced it from 2017 to 2018 by 44 percent, and it would be nice to see that reduction this year again.”

The police departments in Trumbull County are taking action through their services to help the epidemic and the addicts involved in the crisis.

Toby Meloro, chief of the Liberty Township Police Department, works with the community and the police officers to help take charge with the crisis in Trumbull County.

“We’re trying to be more proactive. People that take heroin and don’t die, we take them back and we actually charge that person,” he said. “We want to get them into some type of rehab or program to help them in the system to get off the addiction because it’s a disease.”

According to Meloro, the drug court plays a role in making addicts get the right treatment.

“There’s always issues with drugs and about 80 percent of our drugs involve some type of addiction. I think there’s always signs of hope,” he said. “I know our drug court is very active in it and it’s helped attack it from all angles.”

Ally Anastis, patrolwoman of Liberty Township, deals with the drug overdoses and addictions on a daily basis throughout the county.

She said one of the biggest solutions to helping drug addicts overcome the epidemic is to make them get treatment and attend programs through the county.

“I think that’s part of the whole movement, to get the people with the problem treatment,” Anastis said. “Obviously getting treatment is a way to reduce the number of people that have addiction problems. Whether they act on it or not, that’s up to them.”

## NEWS BRIEF

### AKRON LAW PROFESSOR TO LECTURE: ‘AMERICAN JURIES AND THE JAPANESE EXPERIENCE’

Matthew J. Wilson, professor at the University of Akron School of Law, will be presenting a lecture titled, “American Juries and the Japanese Experience,” on Feb. 25 in the President’s Suite of Kilcawley Center.

Wilson has 30 years of international experience in academic, business and legal matters in the United States, Asia and the Pacific. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Asian Studies in 1995 at the University of Utah. He acquired his juris doctor degree at Temple University Beasley School of Law in 1999.

Following the lecture, there will be a question and answer session where both Wilson and the

Emma K. F. Schulze, director of admissions at the UA School of Law, will be able to answer questions regarding the 3+3 Program.

The 3+3 Program allows eligible undergraduate students at Youngstown State University to apply to Akron Law in their junior year of college. Students are then able to fulfill their senior year of academic credits through the completion of their first year of law school.

Typically, it will take a student seven years to graduate with a bachelor’s degree and a juris doctor degree — this program shortens the time to six years. For more information on this program go to: <https://www.uakron.edu/law/curriculum/three-plus-three>.





Photos by J. Harvard Feldhouse/The Jambar

# MUSICAL THEATRE'S QUICK FIX FOR A BROKEN HEART?

**VICTORIA REMLEY**

Broken hearts were possibly mended this Valentine's Day by the Youngstown State University's Musical Theatre Department. Those who saw "Cabaret Unrequited" on Feb. 15 may say that they were in love.

The DeYor Performing Arts Center was decorated with 1930's art deco for the performance. Drinks, finger food and dinner were also provided.

Maria Denison, the director of "Cabaret Unrequited" and program coordinator of musical theatre, said the show was a post-Valentine's Day celebration of love gone wrong and right.

"We're there for you if things didn't go right on Valentine's Day," she said.

YSU musical theatre students put "Cabaret Unrequited" together, and Denison said the event gave people the ability to see what the students can do. The performance featured improvisations and many performers took their creations into

the audience.

"I think that's what makes it exciting for the students and the audience because it's a cabaret setting. So, they go into the crowd and sing to the people and work a room," Denison said.

The show also raised money for theatre studies scholarships at YSU. Denison said she chose "Cabaret Unrequited" because it was showing close to Valentine's Day and she wanted to allow her students to have another performance opportunity.

With the musical "Into the Woods" coming in April, Denison thought February would be the perfect time to have the cabaret.

Adam Dominick, a freshman musical theatre major, said the focus of "Cabaret Unrequited" was unique.

"It's kind of a funny concept, but it's for the people who are not quite so in love with Valentine's Day," he said.

Dominick enjoyed preparing for the production because it was different. Songs from "Rent" and "The Little Mermaid" were performed, along with a few songs from the musical theatre department's upcoming production "Into the Woods.

Dominick joined the "Cabaret Unrequited" production to figure out what he enjoys and to get involved on campus, plus he loves performing.

"It makes me feel like nothing else does, so it's nice to have an opportunity to just sing about things you don't usually get to sing about," he said.

Aislinn Lowry, a sophomore musical theatre major, said the production included some fun, catchy numbers.

"It's nice because it's the day after Valentine's Day, and we're singing all of the unrequited and crazy and kind of off the beaten path love songs," she said.

Lowry enjoyed working on the group numbers. As a musical theatre major, Lowry does not get to do many stand-alone pieces. The pieces taught her how to compose a cabaret-style show and how to work a piece.

Joe Farina from Albany, New York, said the production was really well done, and he thought it showcased a lot of fantastic talent and it was just an enjoyable evening.



Photo courtesy of **Todd Hancock**

# A TASTE OF BROADWAY IN YOUNGSTOWN

**MARAH J. MORRISON**

A semi-staged concert version of the hit Broadway musical “Guys and Dolls” featured a cast of actors from the stages of Broadway and the Mahoning Valley on Feb. 16 at the DeYor Performing Arts Center.

“Guys and Dolls” involves a gambler who is challenged to take a cold, female missionary to Havana, but they end up falling for each other. The musical opened in New York City on Nov. 24 in 1950 and played through Nov. 28, 1953.

Todd Hancock of Easy Street Productions and the director of the shows said it’s great the Youngstown Symphony thought outside the box by presenting a concert version of “Guys and Dolls.”

“What Easy Street does is musicals,” he said. “I think that they wanted to do something that would appeal to people especially because of Valentine’s Day.”

Hancock said Easy Street Productions and the Youngstown Symphony wanted to collaborate to create the perfect date night for people with “Guys and Dolls,” and a cool fact about this show was they were able to invite two former Youngstown actresses who are making it big on Broadway tours.

“Elysia Jordan and Natalia Lepore Hagan were both just finishing up their Broadway tours of ‘School of Rock’ and ‘Love Never Dies,’” he said. “It worked out in their schedule that they had free time and were able to come back to Youngstown to star in the show.”

Hancock said the best thing about this production was to bring a sense of pride to Youngstown by proving they can put on a production like this and feature many talented performers.

He said not only the leads of the show, who are from Youngstown and are currently doing Broadway, get to be celebrated in the production, but it was a chance for people to see how talented the local actors are.

“There’s touring productions that come through Powers Auditorium all of the time, but this was something that the Youngstown community can be proud of,” he said.

Randall Fleischer, the music director and conductor of the Youngstown Symphony, said it was very exciting to celebrate Valentine’s Day with a classic and romantic Broadway musical. He said it was brought to life in a unique fashion with the orchestra on stage.

“It [was] fully staged, fully choreographed, fully acted, fully costumed, fully lit, but the orchestra [was] actually on stage [and] not in the pit,” he said. “It [was] a unique experience.”

Fleischer said the cast for the production was very diverse,

with the youngest featured performer in the production being in their early 20s and the older cast members in their early 70s.

“The Youngstown Symphony strives to serve the community of Youngstown,” he said. “We work to be this sort of musical axis around which the musical community of Youngstown spins. Everything that we do, we are looking to provide a diverse, varied, artistic menu to the community.”

Mia Colón, a Hot Box Girl in the show, said the first time she did “Guys and Dolls” was in a different scenario because she was in grade school for her first performance in the show. She said being in it again was more reminiscent than anything.

“I’m older now so there [were] a lot more things that I [caught] onto,” she said. “The cast that I got to work with this time around [was] absolutely fantastic. Everyone [was] so awesome and everyone [was] so dedicated.”

Jessica Joerndt, another Hot Box Girl in the production, said it was exciting to have an amazing group of people from the community, as well as those who have gone on professionally, come back to work together on a heartwarming show.

“We don’t normally get the chance to work with people that have gone on [professionally],” she said. “You learn so much in your community, but it’s really when you go out to bigger cities and learn the ropes and how the business really is, and come back and show the community what you can do and what’s possible.”






# TATTOO CLASSIC COMING TO YOUNGSTOWN

Pictured: Hope Sweany, owner of Intuitive Ink / Photo by *Rachel Gobep/The Jambar*

## RACHEL GOBEP

Over 80 Ohio tattoo artists and vendors will be under the same roof at the inaugural Youngstown Tattoo Classic in March.

The tattoo classic will take place at the Metroplex Expo Center located on 1620 Motor Inn Dr., Girard, Ohio, 44420 on March 8, 9 and 10 from noon to 8 p.m.

Hope Sweany, owner of Intuitive Ink, along with Doc Fields, who works at the shop, are working together to showcase the event, something Sweany said she wanted to bring to Youngstown because there used to be a tattoo convention in the area about 10 years ago.

Sweany said the goal of the show is to bring local tattoo shops and artists together, and they want everyone to be able to see the amazing tattoos they have in the area.

“Some people we have coming are mind blowing talent-wise,” she said.

Local tattoo shops such as Artistic Dermographics, Bitter Hearts Tattoo, Bulldog Custom Tattooing, Intuitive Ink, Street Tattoo and Twisted Metal will have artists inking people’s skin at the event.

To book an appointment with a tattoo artist at the show, contact the individual artist directly. Sweany recommends contacting the artist prior to the show, as bookings fill up quickly. A full list of artists can be found at: <https://www.ytowntattooclassic.com/artists/>.

Vendors at the event will include Molnar’s Concession, EndTime Grafex, Citizens Bank, Damsel in Defense, American National, Sullen Art Collective, Lacey and Leather Exotic Attire, Youngstown Apparel, Pat-t-Shirt, Shane Harris Design Co., The Barber Shop, 80 Proof Candle Co. and Dr. Joseph G. Protain laser tattoo removal and fading.

Additionally, Kathleen Moore, known as “the tattooed medium” will be doing readings at the event. Moore has practiced

as a medium for more than 25 years, and she has attracted a clientele from around the world through her abilities.

A beer and liquor bar will be at the tattoo classic with a portion of the proceeds going to Falcon Animal Rescue.

There will also be tattoo competitions held each day with a \$10 entry fee. Only artists tattooing in the show can enter to compete. First, second and third place trophies will be awarded in each category.

Presale tickets are \$12 for a one-day pass and \$30 for a weekend pass. Only a limited number of presale tickets are available at Intuitive Ink on 5620 Mahoning Ave. Suite C, Austintown, Ohio 44515. The shop is open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Tickets can also be purchased at the door each day of the event, \$15 for a one-day pass and \$40 for a weekend pass.

All tickets sales will be cash only and ATMs will be available at the event. Children under 12 years old are admitted free.

# MARIO’S MOVIES: THE PHILOSOPHIES OF ‘THE DARK KNIGHT’

## MARIO RICCIARDI

Christopher Nolan’s “The Dark Knight” is accepted as one of cinema’s greatest works. The film is dark, suspenseful and about Batman — three things that just speak to the times, right? Along with being widely accepted by fans and making Batboat-loads of money, “The Dark Knight” is deservedly revered by critics.

Critics are a strange breed. They’ll give credit where credit is due, but it’s hard to get them to revere something. Apart from “The Godfather” and any Coen Brothers film with a nihilistic ending, what does a critic actually like? Well, Christopher Nolan’s “The Dark Knight.”

You can catch a dark movie in theaters just about every week now, so that’s resolved. Superhero movies are a dime a dozen as well. Heath Ledger’s performance as the Joker undoubtedly factors into it, but there has to be more. It’s not just greying of the line between good and bad either. That’s too easy. Critics are suckers for that though.

I would say the appeal comes from the questions “The Dark Knight” asks viewers to consider. During my last viewing of the film, there were three big questions that stood out to me. Three big questions that I want to put out there for you to ask yourself.

The first, and most relevant, involves Harvey Dent. The question gets brought to light after Rachel Dawes is killed, and Dent’s broken mental state completes his transformation into Two-Face. As district attorney, Dent had done nothing but good, as Two-Face he became a murderer.

The film ends with Batman evading the cops while claiming Dent’s crimes as his own. He does this to preserve the good Dent had originally achieved.

Question: Is it okay to live a lie as long as it’s for the greater good of society?

Question number two is more straightforward, but no less complicated. The Joker demands that Batman reveals his true identity to the public. Every day that Batman does not comply Joker will murder people.

Question: Is it ethical to preserve your right to privacy at the

ransom of others?

The final big question, and most common, in “The Dark Knight” is posed by the The Joker.

Question: Is true clarity the belief that society is a facade? Is madness the only answer to a true reality?

Good stuff. What are your thoughts?

Of course, these are not the only worthwhile questions “The Dark Knight” asks, but they are the ones that hold the most relevance in terms of the epic Greek tragedy that the film is. These questions are challenging decisions to make and they cleverly engage the audience. Instead of setting out to convince the viewer of right and wrong like most movies, the film takes on the position that the audience can decide for itself.

I think that is what ultimately attracts the critics to to the film. “The Dark Knight” isn’t a film that panders to the audience; it challenges them. In terms of art, isn’t posing such a challenge what denotes the important stuff?



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

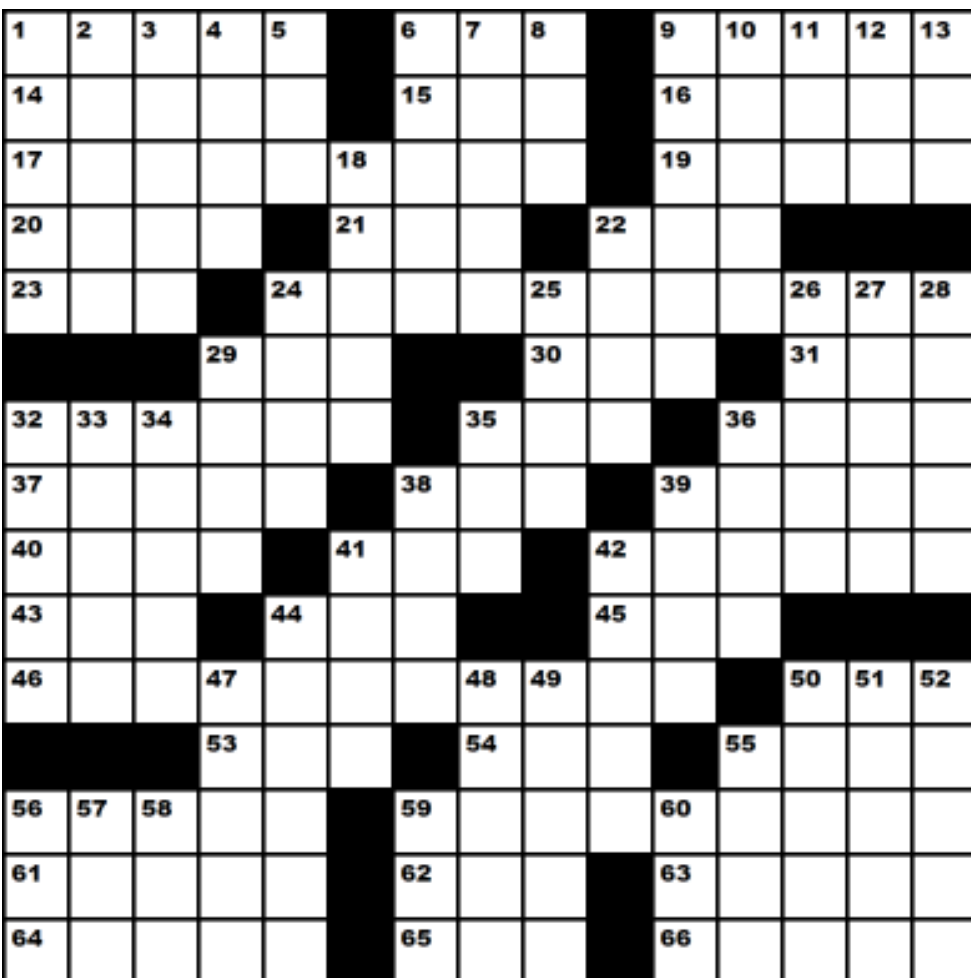
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Photos by **Tyler Rothbauer / The Jambar**

Students in the Youngstown State University Student Art Association showcased their art in the Ohio Room in Kilcawley Center Feb. 13, selling various artworks as a fundraiser for the group. It was their first time hosting the event.



### HIGH TECH PENGUINS

#### Across

1. "You'll get 'em next time, \_\_\_"
6. "Enabler of mass murderers": NY Rep. Nadler (Abbr.)
9. Fields of study
14. 59 Across attendees need them
15. McKellen of "The Lord of the Rings"
16. Grant access (2 wds.)
17. Like 59 Across attendees (Hyph.)
19. Hoops
20. \_\_\_ Grey tea
21. "Caddyshack" prop
22. Scheduled
23. Sharp
24. Where 59 Across takes place (2 wds.)
29. Starter for center or pen
30. First word of "Nowhere Man"
31. Bruce Springsteen song "Born in the \_\_\_"
32. Apple advertising catchphrase (3 wds.)
35. Red Cross supply
36. Victoria Secret buys
37. Rock bottom
38. What a 59 Across attendee might create

39. Cosmic latte shade
40. Part of a monogram (Abbr.)
41. UFC fighting style (Abbr.)
42. Formed a mutual admiration society, say
43. "\_\_\_ me ae spark o' Nature's fire": Burns
44. Ghost scare
45. NYSE abbr.
46. Hardware you can borrow at 59 Across (2 wds.)
50. Yax in "Zootopia" for one
53. Booty
54. Mai \_\_\_
55. "Going Back to \_\_\_" (LL Cool J single)
56. Torus-shaped cake
59. High-tech inventing and creating event happening Feb. 22-24
61. Saunter or mosey
62. Computer key abbr.
63. Tip of a reindeer's antler
64. Hightailed it
65. The "S" in DOS
66. Writes for the Web

#### Down

1. They come with strings attached
2. Like Shangri-La
3. Knock hard?
4. Willy Wonka's creator
5. "The Good Shepherd" org.
6. Olay alternative
7. Gave a five-star review
8. "\_\_\_ Way You Want It" (Journey single)
9. Audiophile's "vinyl"
10. Renaissance fiddle
11. Pilot's announcement (Abbr.)
12. Feel lousy
13. "Weekend Update" show
18. Heirloom location
22. "I Got You Babe" or "Summer Nights," e.g.
24. Tussle
25. Denny's rival
26. Ghastly, garish or grisly
27. Grammarian's concern
28. Stationed
29. Broadcast
32. "Hello. My name is \_\_\_ Montoya ..."
33. Bouncing off the walls
34. Bayou bye-bye
35. Williamson grad (Abbr.)
36. Flexed
38. Valentine's Day cherub
39. Artoo and Threepio, briefly
41. Rootless plant
42. Colorful Indonesian dyed fabric
44. "Caught you red-handed!"
47. Stock holder?
48. Country with a da Vinci drawing on its one-euro coin
49. Trivia night fodder
50. "Hurray!"
51. Beside
52. Some checkers
55. Bottom-row PC key
56. Prevent
57. Thurman of "Pulp Fiction"
58. Peacock network
59. "Olympus \_\_\_ Fallen"
60. P.D. alert (Abbr.)

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# THE JAMBAR

## EDITORIAL

### **NO ROOM FOR RACIST, THREATENING 'EDITORIALS,' ALABAMA EDITOR RIGHTFULLY CENSURED**

The Alabama Press Association Board of Directors voted to censure the editor of an Alabama newspaper on Feb. 19 after he wrote an editorial in support of the Ku Klux Klan.

The press association also suspended the membership of The Democrat-Reporter.

Goodloe Sutton, editor and publisher of The Democrat-Reporter, claimed it is "time for the Ku Klux Klan to night ride again" against Democrats that "are planning to raise taxes" in the state in his Feb. 14 editorial.

Sutton has confirmed to numerous media outlets that he was the person who penned the editorial.

"If we could get the Klan to go up there and clean out D.C., we'd all been better off," he told the Montgomery Advertiser. "We'll get the hemp ropes out, loop them over a tall limb and hang all of them."

Sutton said he was calling for the lynching of "socialist-communists."

He does not deserve to write for a newspaper, let alone be an editor and publisher. There is no place for an editorial about lynching — this is a horrendous threat. People take words like Sutton's seriously, and we are lucky that a lynching did not occur after this editorial was published.

Sutton has yet to apologize for his asinine remarks, and these racist, hateful words can have a true impact.

Sen. Doug Jones, D-Ala., called for Sutton to resign in a tweet, writing, "Words matter. Actions matter. Resign now!"

Jones is absolutely right, words do matter. The act of putting these words on paper and publishing it in a newspaper that has a circulation of 3,000 shows how truly senseless Sutton is

Other legislators in the state have also called for his resignation.

His editorial was written about a month after a racist photo emerged from Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam's medical school yearbook — one man was in blackface and the other in a Ku Klux Klan robe and hood. Northam denied that he was in the photograph, but admitted that he wore blackface when he dressed as Michael Jackson for a Halloween party.

Northam has resisted calls for his resignation.

Not only should Sutton be censured, but he should never be allowed to publish a written word again. We need to hold people in power accountable — there is no room for racist, disgusting "editorials."

## THE JAMBAR IS NOW HIRING

YSU STUDENT MEDIA IS  
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# SOCGER PREPARES FOR SPRING SCRIMMAGES

Photo by **Robert Hayes/The Jambor**

## ROBERT HAYES

“Winning games and making the tournament.”

Those are second-year Youngstown State University women’s soccer coach Brian Shrum’s goals for the upcoming season.

Over the past few weeks, the YSU women’s soccer team has been practicing hard as they prepare for their first spring scrimmage against the Toronto Blizzard.

The Penguins didn’t have the season they wanted last fall, as they finished the year with a record of 1-13-4, but Shrum and a youthful roster are looking to take a step forward this spring as they prepare for the fall season.

YSU did lose several players from last fall to graduation and transfers, but for the most part the core team from last season is intact. Shrum believes many of these players are ready to step up.

“I think we’ve got a lot of talented players on the team now that are taking steps, and we have a lot of young kids on the team that are going to be a year in,” Shrum said. “Then we’ll have another group next year.”

Injuries plagued the Penguins last season, as Jordan Evans, Sammy Salatino and Lexi Neal are still sidelined. Lauren Dolak is also a member of YSU’s track and field team as a distance runner, which means she’ll be unable to participate in spring scrimmages.

During a recent team practice with a half field at the Watson and Tressel Training Site, the offense was running plays similar to how a football team practices against a scout team. Shrum was calling out plays and coaching the offensive team, while assistant coach Josh Green was working with the defensive team.

The offensive team’s objective was to push and try to score a goal, while the defensive team’s task was to steal the ball and score on

two miniature nets set up at midfield.

Freshman Laurel Prokopchak seemed optimistic about moving forward.

“We’re all working really hard at practice and getting our formation down,” Prokopchak said.

She started 17 out of the 18 games last season, but she’s ready going into her second season at YSU.

“Last season definitely got me prepared the next upcoming season, because it got me a feel for how Division I soccer players are and how fast the game is, so I definitely got used to it,” Prokopchak said.

She also has some goals moving forward.

“As a team hopefully we win some of these spring games, and build our confidence for next season,” Prokopchak said.

The spring season gives the Penguins an opportunity to fine tune and prepare for the fall, while also facing tough competition. It will also give Bethany Rasile, a transfer from

the University of Pittsburgh, the opportunity to adjust to a different style of play. Rasile is a graduate of nearby Niles McKinley High School who will have three full seasons of eligibility left.

Shrum believes the spring is good for development.

“We’ll use this time now to play some good competition in the spring,” Shrum said. “We’ll go play a lot of Division I schools that are in the area that are good in their conferences, so we’ll challenge them in that regard.”

YSU is playing six games this spring, with home matches against Akron University and Kent State being the highlights of the spring schedule. The Penguins host a total of four home matches, with the first match kicking off on March 3 at 11 a.m. at Farmers National Bank Field in the Covelli Sports Complex.

# YSU HEADS ON THE ROAD FOR CRUCIAL CONFERENCE GAMES

## BRIAN YAUGER

The Youngstown State University women’s basketball team heads on the road down south for a big two-game trip against Northern Kentucky University and Wright State University.

With the regular season conference title in play, it’s safe to call these games “must wins.” The Penguins took down both Northern Kentucky and Wright State in their prior meetings at Beeghly Center, but that doesn’t mean the team has two free wins on the horizon.

“Northern Kentucky was 14 points ahead of us in the second half, so we had to fight and claw just to come out with a win there,” Penguins coach John Barnes said. “We have to come extremely focused, sharp and play our best basketball.”

Wright State is on top of the Horizon League with only two losses, one of which was an 83-68 beating by the Penguins. Barnes is coming in to the game like the win never happened.

“We probably played one of our best games against Wright State at home,” Barnes said. “I think they’re very good on their home floor, very good in general. They only have two losses in the conference, so obviously they’re good. We’re just going to approach it like we have all year. I think that’s our best way to do it and try to learn about each team as much as we can before the game and execute the game plan.”

This past weekend was huge for the Penguins as they took down two teams that defeated them earlier in the year.

First up was the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, the 20-time reigning Horizon League regular season conference champions. The Penguins would come out on top in that

one 70-59.

Chelsea Olson dominated, finishing just four assists shy of a triple-double. Olson scored 19 points and grabbed 13 rebounds. She said the key to the game was aggression and she delivered it in spades.

“We had to be aggressive on the offensive side,” Olson said after the game. “We knew our defense was going to be able to win the game. It was just our offense, we needed our offense to be more aggressive to win this game.”

Closing the weekend was a win over the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. YSU completed the two game “revenge tour” and took down the Panthers 67-47.

“We had a different mindset today against this team,” senior Alison Smolinski said. “We kind of got popped in the mouth by them at their place, so we wanted to do the same thing back to them today and we did a heck of a job.”

Rebounding played key for the Penguins in the win. McKenah Peters led the team bringing down nine boards and the duo of Olson and Sarah Cash each brought down seven.

“[Rebounding] was one of our keys,” Barnes said after the game. “We kind of let them get too many offensive boards the first time around. Normally, we’re second in the league in rebounding, like three-tenths of a point behind first place in terms of rebounding margin. We knew we had to get back on that track here at home.”

If students and community members want a chance to see YSU take the court this season, there’s still one more opportunity. Winning this past Sunday against the Milwaukee clinched a home game in the Horizon League tournament for the Penguins.

The Penguins take on the Norse Friday at 7 p.m. then head up the road to Dayton to take





Photo courtesy of **YSU Sports Information**

# GOLF SEASON TO TEE OFF SOONER THAN LATER PART 2: THE WOMEN'S TEAM

## JOSHUA FITCH

While the snow continues to swirl throughout the campus of Youngstown State University, many students long for a summer's day on the golf course. While summer is still far away, the Penguins women's golf team is already out on the fairways.

The Penguins began its spring season on March 5, coming in second place overall at the Motor City Cup tournament in Florida. In the first two rounds, the Penguins knocked off the University of Illinois-Chicago and Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis to advance to the championship round.

After a tie with Oakland University, YSU fell due to a 9-8 tiebreaker in favor of the Golden Grizzlies. Despite being so close, Nate Miklos, coach of the Penguins, has a lot to look forward to with his young team.

"We played pretty well overall for our first event of the spring," Miklos said. "It was a great opportunity for our players to get a little more familiar with the golf course we'll play at conference. We put ourselves in position [to win] and we competed pretty well in all three matches and just lost a very close one at the end."

Miklos, now in his sixth leading the Penguins, took four freshman to the opening tournament. While all six Penguins won individual matches, the freshman led the way for the team as Rattika Sittigool went 3-0, Jenna Vivo 2-0-1, Victoria Grans 2-1 and Puthita Khuanruddee went 2-1.

Coming into the spring season, the Penguins were ranked in first place in the Horizon League tournament bracket. Naturally, with a high seeding comes high expectations, but there are still some loose ends to tie up.

"It's a nice honor," Miklos said. "It reflects how we played throughout the fall season and we had a very good fall season, but at the end of the day that's all it is. We know we have a lot of work to do between now and the end of the spring to be where we want to be."

The Penguins will play four more tournaments between now and the Horizon League Golf team championship, set to begin on April 21. Youngstown will host one of the tournaments on April 13 at the Youngstown Country Club, for the YSU Spring Invitational, a one-day event.

South Carolina is slated next for the Penguins, as the team will bus down for the Edwin Watts Kiawah Island Classic

beginning on Feb 24. Coach Miklos said the lineup for YSU will include senior Shutt, and freshmen Vivo, Sittigool, Grans and Khuanruddee.

According to Shutt, one of only two seniors for the Penguins, this will be another great chance for this young team to prove themselves while growing as a team.

"It's a big learning curve for them because they were just thrown right into it. A lot of them learned on their own and it was cool to see from the outside," Shutt said. "The goal right now is to do what we can, do what's within our control, grow as a team and become closer, so when that victory comes at the end of the year it's that much sweeter and we can enjoy it with everybody."

YSU will hit the road Feb. 23 before arriving in Kiawah Island, South Carolina, on Feb. 24 to begin the Edwin Watts tournament. The Penguins then fly back to Youngstown in preparation for the Benbow Collegiate Tournament in Jacksonville, Florida, on March 11.

To follow the Penguins throughout the season, follow @TheJambar on Twitter and go online to [ysusports.com](http://ysusports.com).

# ARE THE PENGUINS HAVING FUN BECAUSE THEY'RE WINNING? OR WINNING BECAUSE THEY'RE HAVING FUN?

## JOSHUA FITCH

There's been a monumental difference since the early part of November, when the Youngstown State University men's basketball team began its season. Close losses, mental errors and a lot of breakdowns made frustrations build within a young team, as a spot in the Horizon League Playoff bracket looked bleak at best.

That's all changed now as the Penguins are riding a six-game winning streak, the longest since the 1997-98 season. While early on the Penguins were fighting for their Horizon League lives, they now fight for a home game spot in the tournament.

YSU currently sits in fifth place in the Horizon League standings ahead of its matchup at Northern Kentucky on Feb. 20. To get a home game in the tournament, the Penguins will need to finish in at least fourth place once

the regular season has come to an end.

One of the biggest factors that caused the turnaround for YSU has been the emergence of freshman Darius Quisenberry, who continues to make headlines as the Penguins starting point guard.

For the third consecutive week, Quisenberry has won the Nike Horizon League Freshman of the Week, an honor he continues to be grateful for, but will not be complacent with.

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

Quisenberry is coming off a career high 37 points in the Penguins' most recent win over UIC, 81-73. The freshman standout shot 10-of-19 from the field and went 14-of-16 from the charity stripe. He is YSU's first freshman in

40 years to have a 35-point game, according to YSU sports information.

Junior guard Devin Morgan, who has played inspired basketball during the winning streak, chipped in 15 points. While Quisenberry is getting a lot of the well deserved recognition, it's been the team chemistry that turned this season around.

Jerrod Calhoun, second-year coach of the Penguins, added that this group of student athletes didn't fold when times were tough.

"Anytime you can win with a young group, confidence is a powerful tool, but this group never really wavered even after the rough start. They all stuck together," Calhoun said. "They always worked hard and just stayed the course. That's been the biggest lesson these guys have learned this year. Our locker room is in a really good place. You have to be at the best this time of year."

The Penguins have three games remaining

including Northern Kentucky University, followed by playing at Wright State University on Feb. 23 before closing out the regular season at Beeghly Center against Cleveland State University on Mar. 2.

"Both Northern Kentucky and Wright State are very, very good teams," Quisenberry said. "It's probably going to be our toughest road trip of the year, but I think we can do it as a team if we believe in each other and play the way we have been [of late]."

The way the Penguins have played of late, they wouldn't trade a tough close to the season for anything.

"This time of year, what everyone is playing for," Calhoun said. "We're playing to host a game, it's going to be a very tall task for us, but I think our guys are up for it and are excited about it. We're looking forward to it. There's a lot of excitement within the city and you can feel it."





## STAY HUNGRY, STAY HUMBLE: PENGUIN FRESHMAN IS READY FOR MORE

Photo by **Robert Hayes/The Jambar**

### **BRIAN YAUGER**

Fresh off of a 37-point game against the University of Illinois-Chicago, star freshman for the Youngstown State University men's basketball team, Darius Quisenberry, earned his third straight Horizon League Freshman of the Week Award.

Quisenberry's 37 points in a game is the most as a freshman in YSU's Division I era, beginning in the 1981-82 season, and the most by a freshman since Jeff Covington scored 44 points in 1975. Covington went on to be drafted by the then New Orleans Jazz, but never saw NBA time.

So far in February, Quisenberry has averaged 20 points a game and has played a key role in the Penguins' six-game win streak. But no matter how many awards he gets, it doesn't matter. He keeps his hunger.

"Coming in everyday as if I haven't won anything," Quisenberry said when asked about how he keeps that hunger. "Trying to get Player of the Week instead of Freshman of the Week. I think for me personally, just staying hungry and staying on my grind every day, coming in and working and trying to get Freshman of the Week again. That's what I've got to do every day."

Despite only being a freshman, the Huber Heights, Ohio, native has gained the trust of his coaches to be an on-court leader.

"I think coach [Jared] Calhoun, [assistant] coach [Jason] Slay and the coaching staff [have] trust in me," Quisenberry said. "They've said 'You're a freshman and you got thrown into this

role, but you're built for it.' I think I'm built for it as well. I've had to be a leader all my life and for me to come here and lead this team is fitting."

The trust between Quisenberry and Calhoun goes both ways. Calhoun played a big part in why Quisenberry came to YSU in the first place.

"I thought it was the best fit for me out of all my offers," Quisenberry said. "I think YSU and coach Calhoun and his vision for me here at YSU was a big part of why I chose here over the other offers I got."

At the most recent press conference, Calhoun laid praise on Quisenberry's game and how quickly it's grown since the beginning of the year.

"He's just more and more comfortable running the point guard spot in college," Calhoun said. "It's just a different deal from high school to college. You talk about a guy who's gotten better and better each week and just embraced it. There's a few guys when you recruit them that you know they can change your culture. Not only from a talent standpoint, but a makeup standpoint. Darius comes from a hard-nosed family and he brings that to our program."

Coming out of high school, Quisenberry was named Division I All-Ohio First Team after averaging 18.5 points per game as a senior at Wayne High School. Adjusting to the game as quickly as Quisenberry has done is a rare feat. He notes the speed of the game as something that's been an obstacle.

"The biggest adjustment from high school to college has been the pace of the game," Quisenberry said. "I think just reading things faster and knowing where the help side is going to be and where the help side isn't going to be. I think that's been the biggest factor from high school to college."

What sparked Quisenberry's love for the game is a tale familiar to many players. Quisenberry's father Richard was a coach at nearby Tecumseh High School where his sister attended as well.

"I was born in the gym, honestly," Quisenberry said. "My dad was a coach ever since I was little. He was coaching boys basketball and girls basketball, so I've just always been in the gym from birth until now."

Quisenberry's sister Bianca also played Division I basketball at the University of Cincinnati where she averaged 6.8 points-per-game.

If Quisenberry keeps his play at this level, it's safe to say he'll be a key piece for an ever-improving Penguins team. He may think he's playing well, but he's more focused on helping the team get wins instead of the personal accolades.

"I think I'm playing pretty well," Quisenberry said. "Staying humble, staying the course and trusting the process for me is a big one. I think big picture. I think that the accolades are going to come, but winning is the first thing that's on my mind. We know that we're very, very capable of winning in this league. If we think that everytime we go out on the court, it's going to show."