

THE JAMBAR



TIM RYAN RALLIES UP THE VALLEY

Photo by *Tanner Mondok/The Jambar*

MORGAN PETRONELLI AND ALYSSA WESTON

Youngstown was bursting with energy as community members and local politicians gathered in front of the Youngstown Business Incubator to witness Democratic Congressman Tim Ryan (OH-13) kick off his 2020 presidential campaign with a rally.

The Niles, Ohio, native is an outspoken advocate for blue collar workers, and has recently been the center of media attention for trying to persuade General Motors Co. CEO Mary Barra to reopen the GM Lordstown plant that saw its last Chevy Cruze roll out in March.

Akron Mayor Daniel Horrigan, Warren Mayor William D. Franklin and Youngstown Mayor Jamael Tito Brown took the stage prior to Ryan to rev up the crowd and announce their support for the moderate Democrat.

Throughout his speech, Ryan repeatedly emphasized his stance of having the backs of rural America and supporting the development of Rust Belt cities like Youngstown.

“When you talk about reinvesting in communities like ours, which I have spent the last 19 years of my public life trying to do, trying to make sure that communities like ours aren’t forgotten,” Ryan said. “The flyover states are my states. The flyover states are your states, and the flyover states are gonna start governing

in the United States of America.”

Ryan acknowledged that the country is divided and said he plans to bring both parties together to make improvements in both rural and urban America.

“I’m running for president first and foremost, trying to bring this country back together because a divided country is a weak country,” Ryan said.

He also mentioned his goal of helping Americans become the best versions of themselves.

“I will tell you that if there is one value that I will bring to the highest office in the land ... When I wake up, it’s going to be how today can I use every ounce of power that this office has to help ordinary people do something extraordinary today in America?”

In a post-rally press conference, Ryan said he plans on mobilizing young voters by challenging them to help solve today’s “big problems” because he said they are the future of America.

“Our job at the government is to provide opportunity, and make sure [young people] can get through school without huge economic burdens,” Ryan said. “And that there’s early stage capital investment if they want to start a business and be creative, or incubators to go to like we’ve done here in Warren and in Youngstown and in Akron, where people can come in and really generate the next generation

of ideas.”

Carson Markley, president of the College Democrats at Youngstown State University and outreach organizer for the Mahoning Young Democrats, said young, college age voters should get behind Ryan because of his large support of education.

“Tim Ryan’s a guy who understands the importance of getting education,” Markley said. “He wants to see people get the help that they need. So, he wants to send workers back to college. He wants to send us to college to make sure we revamp the economy in a different way.”

Markley said what sets the congressman apart from the rest of the packed Democratic ticket is his advocacy for the Rust Belt.

“You hear from a lot of people who are trying to stand up for social issues or a different economic policy and running on African American or Asian or being a woman or being from this area of the country, but nobody has really set up and said, ‘I’m a Rust Belt guy,’” Markley said.

Dante Colaluca, a sophomore political science-public management major at YSU, said he supports a number of Ryan’s ideas for the country.

“[Ryan] really cares about the middle class Americans, and Donald Trump, I really feel that he only cares about the top 1%,” he said. “I think that Tim Ryan can really bring it back to the country and middle America.”

Youngstown boxing legend Ray “Boom Boom” Mancini attended the rally in support for Ryan.

Mancini said Ryan understands the goals, dreams, ambitions, pain and sorrows of the Mahoning Valley and will reflect that into the White House.

“[Ryan] represents and stands behind the elderly, the youth, the vets, the homeless. We want one of us in office to hopefully help us reach our dream goals,” he said.

Michele Lepore-Hagan, democratic representative of Ohio’s 58th congressional district, was present at the rally to encourage Ryan’s bid for president.

In Lepore-Hagan’s opinion, supporting Ryan is the right thing to do for Ohio, the midwest and the entire nation.

“He is not going to let us down,” she said. “He’s talking to us directly and when he makes a promise to us, he will keep his promise.”

The first Democratic presidential debate will be June 26 and 27 in Miami, Florida.

The two day event will require candidates to receive a minimum of 65,000 unique donations, with 200 of those donations from 20 different states. Also, due to a large Democratic presidential candidate pool, 18 at the time of publication, the Democratic National committee has limited the number of debate spots to 20.

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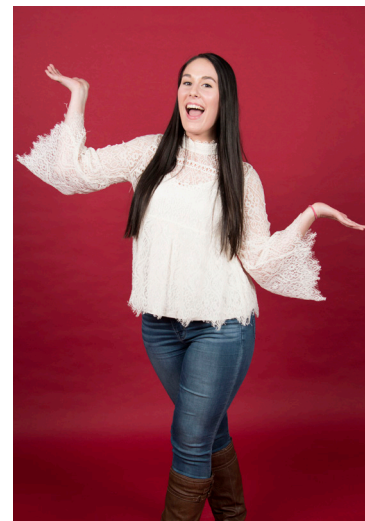
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Photos courtesy of **University Marketing & Communications**

SOCIAL MEDIA AMBASSADORS AIM TO TELL YSU'S STORY

VICTORIA REMLEY

Youngstown State University recently introduced student social media ambassadors, aiming to tell the stories of the university through social media by a variety of students with different backgrounds and majors.

Each student social media ambassador has their own Instagram account and makes posts relating to all things YSU.

Kati Hartwig, the social media and digital marketing coordinator at YSU, said social media ambassadors are volunteer students who market the university from their perspectives.

In Hartwig's opinion, students receive information well from other students.

"We figured if we had some students telling their story online and on social media, then it would be a really awesome way for our current students, and our prospective students to see what life is like here at Youngstown State University," Hartwig said.

The ambassadors create content for YSU and gain social media management skills. Each ambassador creates a brand Instagram account they manage themselves. They also deal with content creation.

"Students are vital to telling a story, especially on a college campus. This role is extremely important in telling that story," Hartwig said.

Any student from any program can apply to be a social media ambassador. To be an ambassador, students have to follow the group on their social media accounts, fill out an application online and go through training.

"The goal is to not just have students from one college telling the same story, but having students across all different disciplines and all different colleges telling a different story," Hartwig said.

She said the office of marketing and communications would not be able to function without student ambassadors.

"We rely on them so heavily, and it's so great to have them as hands-on learners willing to really get into it and help and get their hands dirty with things," Hartwig said.

Lexi Timko, the university's social media assistant and a senior communication major, said students like to hear from other students when discussing on-campus events.

"I feel like that's something that students are going to give their honest opinions on, and I think that's what's so valuable about a student ambassador," Timko said.

Timko described her experience working for YSU's social

media as hands on and a rewarding experience based on teamwork.

"Having such a small team to work with, it gets you really in the nitty-gritty of everything, which is awesome. I've learned so much just from my short time here," she said.

Students interested in social media should try being a social media ambassador or social media assistant. Timko said the positions teach students about having a social media account and showing off a brand.

Alyssa Osman, a social media ambassador and a freshman communication major, said being a student social media ambassador will help her get students involved on campus.

"I think it will make them more involved and allows them to see campus from a different perspective — especially on a small campus like YSU," Osman said.

The ambassador application for the fall 2019 semester can be found at: ysu.edu/content/office-marketing-and-communications/marketing/social-media/ambassadors. For more information about the social media ambassador team visit: ysu.edu/office-marketing-and-communications/marketing/social-media/meet-ambassadors

Photo by *Tanner Mondok/The Jambar*

A FORUM FOR FINDINGS: QUEST CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

JOHN STRAN

Youngstown State University students from every major had the opportunity to present their unique research findings at the 30th annual QUEST event.

The two day affair was held April 2 and 4, with the second day reserved for Best of QUEST, which was for top awarded presenters from the first day.

Joseph Mosca, interim provost at YSU, said he was around to witness the first forum when there were about 10 or 12 presenters. This year had an estimated 178 presentations, with about 400 students participating.

Of these over 178 presentations, eight were selected for Best of QUEST. There was one graduate winner and seven undergraduate winners. Isaac Hraga, senior music recording major, was one of the undergraduate winners.

Hraga's speech was titled, "Controlling Forte: Discussing Composition for a Dynamic Video Game Soundtrack and Sound Design." He discussed how he started composing video

game music and the technicalities behind the field.

"From my personal experience, I find composing to supplement another medium comes a lot easier than composing music for the sake of composing music," Hraga said. "Having an idea of functionality and making music to serve another purpose allows me to see problems and find solutions."

While he was living in a dorm at YSU, one of Hraga's roommates was a video game developer, which influenced his passion for soundtracking games. His first time creating a soundtrack was under a stressful time limit at a two-day game development event.

The gaming event helped build confidence in his skill, and now finds motivation trying to create soundtracks that outdo any of his previous pieces.

Hraga's advice for those interested a game soundtrack career is to just go for it.

"Regardless if you want to do it, try it out," Hraga said. "Just dive in. There are loads of free tutorials on YouTube and helpful advice on the Unity and FMOD forums if you run into

roadblocks."

Hraga's presentation varied from many of the other presentations at QUEST, but there was no replicated presentations because every presentation took different paths to get to their results, even if their topics were slightly the same.

QUEST'S keynote speaker was Alicyn Rhodes, plastic engineering technology professor at Penn State University. Her advice for the QUEST audience was to create a good network that will enhance the transition from student to professional, no matter what the field of study is.

"Your network will follow you for the rest of your life," Rhodes said. "I cannot encourage everyone enough to go out into your field and make connections."

She also told students that their ambitions and passions, no matter how big, do not have to be compromised for a job, and the easiest path is usually not the right way.

"Sometimes you have to be brave to make change," she said. "But if you like something, don't let it go. Don't think that your first job is a prediction for your whole career because it's not."

NEWS BRIEF

FIFTH ANNUAL TASTE OF YOUNGSTOWN FUNDRAISER

YSUscape will hold its fifth annual Taste of Youngstown fundraiser on Saturday at the B&O Station Banquet Hall in downtown Youngstown from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

YSUscape is a student organization affiliated with Youngstown State University. It collaborates with community and other university organizations to revitalize and beautify Youngstown.

Proceeds from the event will be used to fund YSU student-led revitalization projects over the next year, including public art installations and neighborhood improvement efforts around downtown.

Taste of Youngstown is a YSUscape fundraiser that began in 2014 that highlights the wide variety of food and restaurants that are available throughout Youngstown. Twenty-seven restaurants

and food businesses plan on sponsoring the event with their food, and represent a wide variety of diverse food cultures that can be found in and around the city. The event will also include over 30 baskets and gift cards to be raffled off, live music and a cash bar offered by the B&O Station.

Tickets for the event are \$15 for general admission, \$10 for students, \$5 for children 6 through 12 and free for children 5 and under. Tickets can be purchased at squareup.com/store/ysuscape/ or at the door during the event. The B&O Station Banquet Hall is located at 530 Mahoning Ave., Youngstown, OH 44502.

For more information, contact Daniel Bancroft at (330) 979-5247 or at ysuscape@gmail.com.

A CAT'S JOURNEY 1100 MILES FROM HOME

COURTNEY HIBLER

A family from Tampa, Florida, thought they would never see their cat Barley again when she ran away from home eight years ago.

But, on March 22 Angels for Animals welcomed Barley as a stray cat who was found hiding in someone's garage in New Wilmington, Pennsylvania. After checking Barley's microchip, it was confirmed the stray was 1,100 miles from her home.

Sherry Bankey, manager of the cat wing at Angels For Animals, said the shelter immediately contacted Barley's family once they were able to gather the correct contact information.

"The owner mentioned she didn't have any cats in her household for a long time," she said. "I sent her a picture of Barley, and she immediately knew this was her cat."

Barley's owners found her in a dumpster when she was only six weeks old and quickly became part of the family. While they were in the process of moving, Barley ran off, along with the family's other cat, and was never seen again.

"They had looked for them for a long time, but they just couldn't find them," Bankey said. "Eight years went by. Barley is now 10 years old, and no one knows how she came all the way from Florida to Pennsylvania."

In Bankey's opinion, this is an important example of why it's important to microchip your pets.

"With the microchip comes registering your name, your address and all of the information it asks you to provide," she said. "We do run the microchip, and in some cases, there is no information to be found."

When this happens, shelters have no way of contacting an animal's family.

"It's like a safety net for your cat or dog to be returned to you," she said.

Desire Garza, an Angels for Animals visitor, said all of her animals have a microchip, and it eases her nerves when thinking about the possibility of them running away.

"It's such an important thing to register the microchip in your name because if you don't and your animal happens to run away, you

may never see them again," she said. "It's an amazing thing that has been invented."

Michael Neil, a hopeful adopter at Angels For Animals, said the story of Barley is one for the books and will be remembered by those involved with the rescue.

"It's just so amazing to see something like this happen in our area," he said. "You don't often see these types of things happen, and I believe this is the best kind of miracle for that cat and her family to have."

In his opinion, Angels for Animals did a phenomenal job in handling the situation because Barley will be headed home to successfully reunite with her family.

"We made a post on Facebook, and it blew up instantly," Bankey said. "People from all over the country were offering to accompany Barley in her travels back home, and even airlines were offering their help. It truly is an amazing event that has happened."

According to Bankey, final details are being put into order so Barley can soon be travel home to her family in Tampa.



Photo courtesy of *Angels for Animals*

BEING A WOMAN IS EXPENSIVE

**ANGELICA DIAZ
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR**

Women in the United States spend \$78.6 million on feminine hygiene products a year, according to "The Pink Bill," a piece of Ohio legislation that passed in December 2018.

Women with little resources struggle to buy feminine hygiene products every month, which is why Mary Rodack, a sophomore journalism student and president of the Women in Honors Association, said her group created a drive for feminine hygiene products.

Rodack said she was inspired to start the feminine hygiene drive because people usually donate food and clothing to organizations, but don't donate women's hygiene products.

"It is important for people who are less fortunate or low income to receive the necessary support," Rodack said. "It is not a luxury item — even though it is taxed like one. People need our help and we should be able to help them."

"I just want to bring awareness that this is an issue for many woman on campus, around the community and everywhere," she

added. "It is a universal issue. It is something we should not be ashamed of. I want to normalize it. Hopefully, it will bring help to more people."

Rodack said the drive has been a great experience for her group of twenty students.

"I do plan on doing them more in the future," she said. "Our last drive helped women out and so will this one, which is the ultimate goal."

Rodack said the students in her group will donate the products to the Young Women Christian Association in Youngstown.

Molly Toth, public relations and advocacy manager for the local YWCA, said the drive is an "excellent step in the right direction."

She said the YWCA provides 102 units of affordable housing with women who will benefit from the drive. The YWCA serves about 375 women a year.

"We have families, single women, women who are coming out of domestic violence experiences and we have families with children as well," Toth said. "People tend to overlook things like hygiene products. It goes under the radar."

"If you don't have the proper hygiene it makes it hard to find a

job," she added. "It can make it hard to go to school, go to class, so we know that these things are things that people are in need of. We are really grateful for any support that help us meet people's needs in those areas."

Allison Leone, freshman business student, said menstruation can be an embarrassing topic, especially for young women.

"It's not a conversation a lot of people want to have," Leone said.

She said women's hygiene products can be expensive and can become a problem for women with little resources.

Leone said she normally spends around \$20 to \$30 a month for personal hygiene products, and she still lives at home and her mother helps her with her expenses.

"It should be more openly talked about. We shouldn't be ashamed of it," Leone said. "It's a necessity and you have to have them. It's something that all women have to go through. I don't think it should be as expensive as it is."

Anyone interested in becoming part of the Women in Honors Association can contact Mary Rodack at mtrodack@student.yu.edu.



BOTH RELIGIOUS AND LGBTQ: YES, THEY EXIST

Photo by *Tanner Mondok/The Jambar*

ALYSSA WESTON

Religion and LGBTQ may sound to many people like oil and water. The two do not necessarily mix well together in terms of gender identification, marriage equality, non-discrimination and ordination.

But many LGBTQ people who practice faith are challenging old traditions and expressing how their religion aims to be more inclusive.

When the United Methodist Church strengthened their ban on gay marriage and LGBTQ clergy during a general conference in February, Pastor Vicky Kelley of Girard First United Methodist Church posted a video on Facebook to tell churchgoers her disappointment.

“The events that took place may have made us sad, broken-hearted, angry even, but they are not going to make a difference in what we will commit to do together as a group,” she said. “We have this place where we can belong together, even if we disagree. I just wish that the global church had been able to create that place, as well.”

Kelley said she made the video because she believes discrimination against LGBTQ people or any group of people is inconsistent with Christ, and LGBTQ people shouldn't be treated as second-class citizens.

In a second Facebook video, Kelley told viewers her journey of becoming an LGBTQ ally. The video was aimed at her more traditional friends who aren't allies, to tell them about her experience on acceptance.

“I grew up in a very conservative church, but I came to embrace full inclusion for everyone, while I was still in [the conservative church]. I thought that maybe somebody else who was struggling to understand this could be helped by my story,” she said.

Khakan Qureshi, a Muslim LGBTQ activist and founder of Finding A Voice, a Birmingham South Asian LGBTQ group, said

he was born into Islam and came out 20 years ago at the height of the AIDS epidemic and the controversial anti-gay legislation of section 28 in the United Kingdom.

“[Growing up] in a Muslim household, talking about homosexuality was not particularly allowed,” he said. “It was something to be very ashamed of and embarrassed.”

Qureshi said being gay impacts how he practices faith, and he is more inclined towards the spirituality of faith.

According to Qureshi, as a gay Muslim, he aims to reconcile faith with his sexual orientation and encourages others to do the same.

“I believe whatever religion you are, the relationships you develop are between you and your God,” he said.

Qureshi suggests that other LGBTQ people interested in converting to Islam, or another religion should read the religion's holy book and how they want to interpret it moving forward.

Omar Mushaq, Muslim LGBTQ activist and lecturer of Chapman University in the Department of Sociology, said Islam is broken into different denominations and when discussing LGBTQ Muslims, different ethnic backgrounds should be taken into consideration.

“In any culture, there's going to be homophobia, and there's going to be intolerance. There's definitely some of that still. I'm not saying it's all roses. But I will say that your ethnic background, I think, will largely impact the way you see [LGBTQ] issues,” he said.

Mushaq said the biggest misconception about gay Muslims is that they don't exist.

“You can pretty much have any religion and interpret it anyway you want,” he said. “There's a perception of people that are Muslim, that is characterized as damaged and intolerant.”

According to a 2017 Pew Research Center survey, Muslims in the United States who believed homosexuality should be accepted is 52% compared to 27% in 2007.

Hunter Thomas, a senior early childhood education major at Youngstown State University, discussed his experience converting to Judaism as a gay man.

While working at the Jewish Community Center of Youngstown for the last seven years, Thomas took an interest in Judaism after researching Jewish values and holidays for his students.

Thomas said he felt an immediate connection to Judaism after attending temple for the first time. Two weeks after, he spoke with his rabbi to start the conversion process.

“Just like any religion, there are different levels of observances, different groups of people that refer to themselves as Jewish,” he said. “There are more liberal denominations of Judaism. Reform Judaism, Conservative Judaism and Reconstruction Judaism are the three major liberal movements.”

According to Thomas, he hasn't experienced backlash about his religious conversion from the LGBTQ community or the Jewish community, and he hasn't felt the need to express his sexual orientation with his synagogue community.

Thomas is part of a Reform synagogue that is inclusive of LGBTQ members, and has had open communication with his Rabbi about why he has joined Reform Judaism.

“For many LGBTQ people, their experience with religion conflicting with their values [as LGBTQ], is with Christianity or with more conservative forms of other religions,” he said. “So, I think for a lot of people, it's shocking that you can be an LGBTQ person and also be religious.”

Thomas said it's important for LGBTQ people interested in joining a religion to find a community that they feel comfortable in, research, find support groups and mutual friends to attend religious services with and to go out of their comfort zone.

“If [LGBTQ people interested in joining a religion] feel safe stepping out of [their] comfort zone a little bit and exploring, that's where the first step is,” he said.

MISCHIEF MANAGED

**NATHANAEL HAWTHORNE
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR**

In 1997, a British author wrote a book that was made into a movie, kickstarting one of the best selling movie series and spawned a fan base across the globe.

Harry Potter is one of the most successful book and movie series of all time. The net gross for the movies is roughly \$7.7 billion. The first book alone has sold nearly 400 million copies.

With the popularity of the books and movies, naturally, people want to escape the reality of the “muggle world” and step into the wizarding world of Harry Potter. Youngstown State University students are no exception, thus the Harry Potter club was born.

Several years ago, however, the club changed its name to the Room of Requirement.

In the Harry Potter world, the Room of Requirement is a room that transforms and adapts to the need of its users.

“That’s sort of what the Room of Requirement does,” Angela Messenger, the Room of Requirement advisor said. “There’s a foundation of being interested in Harry Potter, but if they’re also interested in manga, anime or Dr. Who, they’ll discuss other fandoms as well.”

The club has various events throughout the year. They have a Halloween party called “Death Day,” a Yule Ball, which stems directly from the Harry Potter series, and the Hogwarts House Tournament. The latter of which runs hand-in-hand with the Andrews Recreation and Wellness Center for Family Day.

“We co-hosted a Harry Potter themed Rec Extra a couple years ago,” Messenger said. “There was an amazing turnout of students ... A huge amount of people showed up. So, we’re enthusiastic about this upcoming partnership with the rec center.”

The club is a part of the Harry Potter Alliance, a national organization. YSU’s Room of Requirement is a chapter of the organization and was the first chapter of its kind in Ohio.

“[The club] partners with the YSU English Festival, Friends of Maag Library and Waste-Free Maag to host a book drive annually,” Messenger said. “[The club] is also part of the Accio Books Campaign.”

“Since 2009, this annual worldwide book drive has given over 350,000 books away to communities in need,” according to the Harry Potter Alliance website.

The Room of Requirement collects books — children’s through young adult — and makes sure the books get to charitable organizations. In the Youngstown area, the club has given books to PAYO, the Beatitude House and even donated books to an Ohio State University extension that took the books to Ghana. They have also worked with local organizations that have a direct need for the books.

“We oftentimes collect about 2,000 books a year and disseminate those,” Messenger said.

While the club has a focus on charitable causes, they also know how to have fun. Meetings are every Wednesday from 7 p.m. to

10 p.m. in the writing center.

“Since we meet at night, we tend to have the club be a break for our members,” club President Sara Jackman said. “We play games like Cards Against Muggles, a spin-off of Cards Against Humanity, and we sometimes have discussions about the books and movies.”

Members of the club don’t have to be Harry Potter superfans. Laura Sylvester said she came to a meeting not really knowing the Harry Potter world, but quickly became excited to be a member of the club.

“Going into a club full of people who had grown up on the series would have been intimidating if I hadn’t already been friends with three officers and a few members,” Sylvester said. “I had no clue what was going to happen ... but I was pretty excited about it.”

“We are open to anyone coming and joining us,” Jackman said. “We are a very open and welcoming group of people.”

WITHOUT A TRACE

BRIAN BRENNAN

While documenting and preserving the history of Youngstown State University, the archives staff in Maag Library has come across its share of campus mysteries. Here are five interesting examples.

1. In 1939, Youngstown College obtained its first live penguin mascot. Named Pete, the bird lived in Crandall Park when not on duty. One winter day, in pursuit of a fish, Pete dived through a hole in the ice in Crandall pond. Sadly, Pete could not relocate the opening and drowned. YSU President Howard Jones had him stuffed and placed on display in his office. One night soon thereafter, Pete was stolen from Jones’ office. The stuffed penguin was never seen again.

2. In 1955, Youngstown College became Youngstown University. The plaque on the marker stone in front of the main building (now Jones Hall) was updated to reflect this. In addition, the name “YOUNGSTOWN UNIVERSITY” was

formed in bronze letters and placed along the east side of the building, facing Wick Avenue. Presented to YSU as a gift by the class of 1955, each letter was individually cast, set on a limestone base and illuminated from the rear against a low wall. According to archival records, the letters were stolen later that year. Their fate remains a mystery.

3. Pete III (YSU’s last live penguin mascot) died in 1971. The following year, as the acquisition of another live mascot was debated, the Bertolini Brothers Company — the largest marble contractor in the Mahoning Valley — offered to donate a penguin statue. Crafted in Italy and weighing about 500 pounds, the sculpture was 30 inches high and made of black and white marble. It was eventually erected on a pedestal and displayed in the lobby of the new Beeghly Physical Education Center. Today, however, the whereabouts of the penguin statue are unknown. Perhaps it was relocated during renovations.

4. On June 2, 1987, the YSU Peace Pole was dedicated on the campus core, with the Rev. Jim Ray of the Campus Cooperative Ministry hosting the event. Based on an idea originating in Japan,

the pole was six feet tall and four-sided, with the phrase “May peace prevail upon Earth” inscribed in English, Spanish, Russian and Japanese. Weekly, a small group would gather around the pole, promoting global concord in silence. Unfortunately, the Peace Pole was stolen soon after its dedication. On November 10, 1987, a replacement was installed, but the original was never returned.

5. In the summer of 2004, YSU sponsored the “Parade of Penguins,” which consisted of 31 fiberglass penguins. Each five-foot sculpture was titled and decorated by a local artist before going on campus display. One of these, “Mosaic in Metal,” was discovered missing on the night of June 17, 2004. Many at the time could not understand how something that large and cumbersome could be moved without any notice. Even so, it has never turned up.

Human folly knows no bounds. Persons having information regarding these mysteries are invited to contact me at bkbrennan@ysu.edu

NEWS BRIEF

POP-UP WOMEN’S CENTER IN KILCAWLEY

A pop-up women’s center will be displayed on the first floor of Kilcawley Center as a staging of what is typically offered for a women’s center. The event will take place on Youngstown State University’s campus on April 18 and 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

“All college campuses have a need for a women’s center, and all but two campuses in Ohio have one,” the pop-up’s flyer said. “YSU is one of those campuses. Women’s centers provide an environment for people to seek support and guidance on issues relating to gender, sexuality, sexual health issues, gender education and other topics.”

The center also has the ability to provide a “calm, inviting atmosphere to those who feel as though they need a comfortable place to be when handling these sensitive issues.”

According to the flyer, a women’s center in Ohio would typically provide resources for those

struggling with gender and sexuality issues, advice and advocacy for issues relating to discrimination and violence based on gender, a safe and non-judgmental environment for all, education on gender and sexuality topics, condoms and menstruation products, relationship and domestic violence resources and an environment that fosters conversation about gender discrimination and inequality.

Development for a women’s center began at the university in September 2017, but progress has been delayed.

A petition for women and gender resource center to be brought to YSU has been signed by 734 people, which is roughly 4% of the more than 12,000 students. The administration at the YSU and advocates for the center are in discussion to determine its direction.



SEARCHING FOR YOUNGSTOWN'S PAST THROUGH A LENS

FRANCES CLAUSE

"Pittsburgh and Youngstown are so similar in the sense that they were both hugely important to the steel industry," Tyler Calpin, a senior photography major at Point Park University, said.

For Calpin, moving to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, turned into a new appreciation for Youngstown and his senior thesis, "Searching for Jenny."

"In the early stages of shooting for the project, I was aimlessly trying to find this blast furnace and quickly found out that it was demolished in 1988," he said, referencing the Jeanette Blast Furnace of Youngstown's past.

"So, the fact that this well-known relic of the industry no longer existed drove me to keep looking for these kinds of things in the [Youngstown] landscape," he added.

This project includes nine of Calpin's photos and five images that originated from a record Youngstown Sheet & Tube company produced in 1964 to celebrate their research center.

Using the images and documents as a driving force, Calpin created a film that utilizes archival footage about steel production. Accompanied by audio from the record, he also captured footage of a steel sculpture that acts as a metaphor for the steel industry's rise and fall.

Through "Searching for Jenny," Calpin said he hopes his audience begins to consider what the steel industry could have been if it had lasted longer.

"Youngstown is extremely prideful of their past, and I would hope that people could never forget about that time," he said. "It should be celebrated and could

definitely bounce back given the right industry came in and provided sustainable jobs."

Other than archival documents, Calpin used the internet, newspapers, magazines and oral history from ex-steel workers to assist with his project.

"The project was very research-heavy," April Friges, assistant professor of photography at Point Park University, said.

Friges believes Calpin's project creates a strong impact on people from different areas.

"I think that if you think about the history of the Rust Belt and steel industry in general, it relates to other communities, especially small towns, as well," she said. "Youngstown's situation wasn't much different than them and was part of a larger issue."

As Calpin's professor, Friges sees the growth throughout his college years within "Searching for Jenny."

"He started the project in my contemporary issues class when he was a junior," she said. "Senior thesis is an entire year, and students not only touch on a subject but really dive in. This really connected and focused Tyler on the community."

Calpin is proud to come from Youngstown because it's where he found his passion for art and photography.

"As for Youngstown's future, I hope to see more kids follow their dreams," he said. "I just want to show people, especially those that are younger than I am, that being an artist is feasible no matter where you are from. Opportunity and success will find you."

"Searching for Jenny" will be displayed at Artists Image Resource in Pittsburgh for the Point Park Senior Thesis Exhibition April 12 through 28. The opening reception is April 12 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.



INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED

MARAH J. MORRISON

Kate Reid's voice has been described as a deep, sensual instrument full of easy charm and grace that is intoxicating by Phyllis Paul, dean of the Cliffe College of Creative Arts and Communication at Youngstown State University.

On April 4 in Bliss Hall's Spotlight Theater, the jazz singer and pianist, who grew up in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, conducted a master class and engaged with YSU students. Reid has worked with many known artists including John Clayton, Don Shelton and the Duke Ellington Orchestra.

Reid appears as a duo and with her trio and quartet at jazz venues in the Los Angeles and Miami areas. Her latest CD titled, "The Love I'm In," features tunes from "The Great American Songbook." It has received extensive airplay on jazz radio stations throughout Canada, Europe and South Africa.

Reid said being able to bring what she does to Youngstown and YSU students is exciting because she thinks she has a mix of everything. She said she's lived in New Orleans, Tokyo, New York and Miami.

"I'm bringing all [of] those things together," she said. "[I'm] trying to just share different ways for approaching music that students maybe don't necessarily do every day. It's super fun."

Reid said her older brother, who is a jazz guitarist, introduced her to a lot of music when she was a kid, and by the seventh and eighth grades, she knew that she wanted to pursue jazz music in life.

"[Just] going into the studio and recording with some of my heroes and not having a rehearsal about that music," she said. "Just going in, putting that red light on and experiencing music for the first time [with] somebody I don't really even know. [I'm] addicted to that feeling."

Reid said she was happy to be at YSU and to be able to share what she does with others.

Maria Fenty Denison, the program coordinator of musical theatre in the Department of Theatre and Dance at YSU, said she was thrilled to have Reid be at YSU, and this has been about a year and a half in the making.

"What we're trying to do is expand the experiences of our voice students so they can sing in multiple contexts," she said.

Denison said in the field of performing arts, things cross pollinate. She said music, theatre and acting is all relatable, and she has been amazed because of the talent YSU students have.

"Not only are these students really gifted, but they are amazing humans," she said. "When she said, 'I can't believe the open hearts that you bring,' that's what I find. That open-heartedness makes them all talented."

Denison said when YSU voice students sing, it moves other people, and along with Reid, she is fortunate she can have the opportunity to work with them.

Matthew Mazuroski, the chairperson of and an associate professor in the Department of Theatre and Dance at YSU, said it was like a shot in the arm for YSU voice students to be able to experience an artist of Reid's caliber.

"Anything that increases their flexibility as singers [and] as artists, it gives them a whole different genre to look at," he said. "I think it's fantastic."

Mazuroski said YSU has a strong group of students who are hard working and dedicated, and they are always eager to learn as much as possible.

"We're small, but mighty," he said.



Photo courtesy of *Cliffe College of Creative Arts & Communication*

MARIO'S MOVIES: 'SHAZAM'

MARIO RICCIARDI

Remember the Captain Marvel etymology lesson a few weeks back? As it turns out, there's a bit of a legal conflict with the name Captain Marvel, and DC Comics can't really use it at all. So, in the movie "Shazam," our title character never gets called Captain Marvel, even though that's his name in the comic books. He doesn't exactly get called Shazam either, which would have been my next guess. He's pretty much just Zachary Levi in a bright red costume.

According to that writing-math I just did, we've got our first superhero film to feature a superhero without a superhero name. Since there's so many superhero movies out there, a first for just about anything is an accomplishment. So, there you go "Shazam," you just earned your first penguin. Apart from this lack of a name, the other unique thing about "Shazam" is its central theme.

In my opinion, no other mainstream Marvel or DC superhero movie has told a story that turns the idea of "good" into something wholeheartedly translatable to its audience. Yes, "Captain America" is about not giving up, "Thor" is about not letting your emotions control you and "Batman v. Superman" is pretty much about not judging a book by its cover, but those lessons are merely decoration to the larger story at hand in those movies. "Shazam" uses its morality to not only tell the story but also create a parable.

Billy Batson is a 14-year-old foster child who is constantly on the run, constantly looking for his real mom. The latest home to take him in belongs to five other foster children. Batson, at first, resents the new smiling faces, but when the chance to step up and protect them reveals itself, Batson does so. Exposing Batson's pure heart, he is granted powers like Superman at the mention of the word "shazam." The catch is that Billy takes on the appearance of a buff 30-year-old in a red suit when he powers

up.

What follows is a story that puts family first. Even the bad guy, Mark Strong's Dr. Sivana, serves as an example of the negative effects family can have on a person. Using the bond of family as the cornerstone for "Shazam" holds the film together. Without it, "Shazam" is just an above average origin film with the occasional comedic high note.

"Shazam" is bright and funny, but doesn't hit enough high notes to keep it from dragging. There are more low-hanging jump scares than clever twists, and the film ultimately doesn't give the audience anything to marvel over (no pun intended). What "Shazam" does get right is building off of moral ground. By showing that past the corniness of moral relativism, things come down to either good or evil, and there is far more to gain from doing good for the sake of family.

YOUNGSTOWN'S CREATIVE LAUNCHPAD

MARY RODACK
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

Youngstown's Joseph Napier, Michael Cotton and Autumn Ellis want to make Youngstown's art and cultural scene rival that of New York, Charlotte and Los Angeles. They hope to accomplish this through their group, the Youngstown Creative Collective.

The Youngstown Creative Collective began with the purpose of acknowledging creatives' gifts in 2017, according to its founder, Napier. Two years later, the collective now networks and helps other creatives showcase their abilities.

"We really wanted to find ways to invest in the people we knew, and find ways to help them. We wanted to invest in the community around them," Napier said.

Another member of the YCC, Cotton, said Napier and the organization gave him a thirst for trying new artistic forms and serving the community with his many talents.

Cotton said the YCC has a spot for everyone, and the group centers around support and love.

"It's all about what we love to do and helping others," he said. "It's pretty much about giving back."

Ellis, an author and painter in the collective, said the group wants all creatives in all career fields to feel welcome in the organization. Jobs not typically associated with creativity such as entrepreneurs and caterers, are welcome to join the group.

"It's bringing people together," Ellis said. "They can be open and be themselves."

"We push the culture. It's a platform of freedom where there is no judgement," Cotton said.

Ellis said people can join the collective if they appreciate the arts or need someone creative to work for them.

"It's a networking collective, as well," she said.

Napier said the collective is currently working on creating a directory of everyone involved so people can look through to find the talent and artists they need for work or events.

Ellis said many creatives tend to work in isolation, but working with a collective helps the creative process.

"It really nourishes your own creativity and brings that out ... You get to bounce your ideas off them and get feedback," Ellis said.

Napier said students at Youngstown State University can get involved with the collective by presenting their ideas, volunteering at events or collaborating with projects. Ellis added the collective helps promoting other creative's events and do not just focus on their own projects.

"Right now, [Youngstown Creative Collective's] purpose is like a launchpad. Youngstown is a small city and resources are limited," Napier said. "If we come together, we can share each other's resources collectively."

Napier said although Youngstown's art scene might seem small today, it has the potential to grow into a hub for creatives. He explained many talented artists from Youngstown become

successful in major cities like New York, Los Angeles and Charlotte, North Carolina.

Napier said he hopes with the collective creating more artistic opportunities, successful creatives will feel like Youngstown could be called home.

"We educate. We reinvest. We empower," Napier said.

YCC is not incorporated, so it cannot take cash donations. Ellis said it welcomes people who would like to donate venues or buildings for events, sponsors or food.

"I don't do it because I want to make a profit from it," Ellis said.

All events and projects are funded out of pocket by members.

Napier said the collective would like to pass down a better art culture in Youngstown to younger generations and hopes to make connections with such local schools as YSU.

"We don't appreciate how the arts make a city," Ellis said. "It creates beauty."

To join the Youngstown Creative Collective, contact the group via email or fill out the application on the YCC's website and through Instagram. Cotton said to apply to the collective, a talent is the only requirement.

Napier said the best way to reach the collective is through its social media pages. Instagram and Facebook accounts can be found under the handle @theyoungstowncc. Interested parties can also contact the group through Inspireytown@gmail.com or (330) 397-8097.

YSU STUDENT BRINGS VISION TO LIFE THROUGH MUSIC PASSION

AMANDA JOERNDT

A Youngstown State University student is bringing the open mic night concept to Inner Circle Pizza to add more liveliness to the restaurant that many students frequent.

Open mic nights take place at Inner Circle on Wednesday nights from 7:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. to give students a chance to share their passion for music and perform.

Tom Metheney, a senior business management major, is a singer and songwriter who has been performing both locally and in bigger markets for the past year. He is determined to share his love for music with the Youngstown community.

Metheney said Inner Circle was one of the best spots on campus to bring his vision of an open mic night to life.

"I came up with the idea to put the open mic nights at Inner Circle because I've been eating here for a long time, and I'm friends now with the staff," he said. "There's not anything like that really around here and if there is people don't really know about it."

Metheney said the idea to bring open mic night to campus came from his personal experiences with performing. He said there is no judgment, and as long as it was art and music, that was the point.

"The concept I want people to understand once we get this going is taking the idea from the Music Mafia, which is a group of musicians from Nashville and their goal was music, and art all in one place," he said.

In Metheney's opinion, Youngstown lacks locations that give people the opportunity to perform in a casual setting.

"It's a combination of bringing the music and students together because there's not a place for students to do this around here," he said.

Metheney said having an open mic night gives students a place to try something new with their music or art specialty, and he wants to be encouraging about it and give students a place to perform.

"The best encouragement that I can give for coming out to this is you're never going to know if you can do it if you don't do it and give it a shot," he said.

Shawn Crum, bartender and server at Inner Circle, said open mic night draws in a larger Wednesday night crowd. He said a lot of people come in to sing, but they also do stand-up comedy.

"One of the better nights we had, there were just students that I have never seen in here before, and it was kind of crazy but cool," he said. "Everyone had a really good time and people were talking and getting to know each other."

Crum said open mic nights draw in a more creative crowd and brings positive energy into Inner Circle.

"I like a lot of creative types in here because I'm an artist, so it's good to see people come in here using creative energy," he said.

Jacob Shaffer, a junior advertising and public relations major, performed during open mic night with stand-up comedy and said he wants to keep participating in them each week.

"I'm definitely going to keep going, and even if you don't have anything to do on a Wednesday, just go down and watch the performances," he said. "If you are someone who wants to get their name out there and try something different, it's a great place to get started."

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THE JAMBAR

— EDITORIAL —

SURPRISE! RAPE AND ROBBERY ARE NOT THE SAME

Recently, a 3-year-old video from rapper Cardi B resurfaced describing things she did in her past to become successful. In the rant, she explained that she “had to strip,” take men to hotels, “drug them up” and rob them. Fueled by the controversial content, the video is being spread like wildfire and debated among sympathizers and critics of the rapper’s actions.

Calls to end Cardi’s career and send her to jail have been circulating through social media, citing the hypocrisy of her actions in regards to recent events in which powerful men have been outed and punished for their past offenses.

Most of these critiques, however, are coming from comparisons of completely different crimes: rape and sexual abuse. Posts,

tweets and memes are comparing Cardi to newly convicted rapist Bill Cosby and even alleged rapist R. Kelly, with the hashtag #SurvivingCardiB in reference to the Lifetime documentary “Surviving R. Kelly.”

When the issue is broken down, it’s easy to see the debate is comparing apples to oranges. Both are considered crimes and both are wrong, but the intent in the action and outcome of the victims are completely different. Cardi’s intent in tricking and drugging men was to rob them in order to acquire money. Bill Cosby’s intent in luring and drugging women was to subdue them in order to rape them. R. Kelly’s alleged intent in preying on young women was to brainwash and isolate them in order to abuse them. Cardi’s victims lost money and possessions. Bill Cosby and R. Kelly’s victims lost their body autonomy and peace

of mind.

As the saying goes, “sin is sin,” but this is a faulty concept. Heinous offenses should never be equated to lesser offenses simply because they are not the same. The actions are not the same. The emotional and physical toll on the victims are not the same. The things gained and lost in the incidents are not the same.

Whether robbery is a worse offense than rape and abuse, or vice versa, according to people’s personal values is one thing. But in all reality, our justice system would concur that the physical safety of a person is more important than the loss of fiscal or worldly possessions. So, before calling for action for a wrongdoing that isn’t as harmful as the other, remember to do what Gilbert and Sullivan famously said: “Let the punishment fit the crime.”

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To express a perhaps unpopular opinion, I love school. Therefore, I decided to become a teacher. However, with my education classes came fieldwork in schools all around the area. My world opened up to a world of inequality in the education that students receive. This inequality in public education is absolutely the greatest threat facing our nation today. Inequality in education perpetuates a growing wealth gap by preventing class mobility, as well as promoting racism, undermining the very definition of our American values.

The current system of public education encourages segregation based on race as well as socioeconomic status. According to the Civil Rights Project published by UCLA, the 1991 Supreme Court “authorized the termination of desegregation plans” in our country which perpetuated increased segregation among race. This trend continues today. Schools with less than “10% white enrollment have more than tripled.” These schools are typically in improvised areas. Consequently, students of color are simply not receiving the same education as their richer counterparts. A valedictorian at a low-performing school will simply not be as college-ready as an average student at a top performing public high school. To give low-income students a real opportunity to attend college, improved education at the local level is crucial.

Not only is this disparity disallowing future academic and financial success but encouraging racism. When living in a United States during a time when the President was endorsed by the Klu Klux Klan, we wonder what our relationship with race

is. As humans, we are biologically built to distrust the “other.” However, we create the image of “other” by the separation of schools. An article by the Century Foundation titled “The Benefits of Socioeconomically and Racially Integrated Schools and Classrooms” cites a plethora of benefits of integration, including higher average test scores, enhanced leadership skills, and providing equitable access to resources. Specifically, the city that integration can “reduce racial bias” and leads to “a dramatic decrease in discriminatory attitudes.” Integration is not a necessary chore, but an outstanding resource that the United States has an opportunity to use. Diversity is what has made the United States a world power. If the United States truly wants to battle major issues such as white nationalism, they must treat the disease and not the symptom.

Because of the situation above, students who attend poorer schools have less access to class mobility. As the income gap widens in the United States, there lies route to disaster. If a solution to our underperforming schools is not reached and acted upon, we will be left behind in a global economy that requires diversity in thought. American politics, already at a tense and divided time, will continue to get more so. If working-class white Americans and people of color cannot receive the same education as their rich counterparts, we will never see an accurate representation of American citizens within Congress. Officials will continue to be elected who have the finances and education to get them in power, and the specific needs of the people who need it most will never be met. Additionally, the very values that the United States promotes will be lost if we cannot level the playing field. The United States values a meritocracy. Yet if everyone begins at

a different starting point, then is it really a meritocracy?

The solution is obvious, even if its application is less so. Obviously, to level the playing field in the United States, we must integrate our school systems. Hypothetically, it would be incredibly difficult to create diversity in a poor, white, rural town where students already travel for miles just to attend classes. Yet, areas such as Chicago, New York City, Washington, DC, and other large cities already have access to a large public transit system that could help create more diversity. Areas such as Youngstown which have inner city schools very close to rich suburban schools can work at the county level to find appropriate solutions that fit local needs. To ensure that this happens, the government at the state and federal level should provide incentives towards integration and monitor progress from a larger scale.

Of course, it is easier to identify a problem than to solve it. But ignoring the problem allows a further mess. If we fail to provide equal education to every student our country, we fail to uphold our American promise. The potential problems that stem from such a large-scale issue are infinite. But, in the end, so are the possibilities that come with the incentive to find solutions.

Anna Maria Jadue

This is the winning entry for the 2019 Pi Sigma Alpha Essay Contest. The topic of the contest was “What do you see as the greatest political challenge facing our nation, and what do you propose should be done to address this?”



GETTING BETTER ALL THE TIME

Photo by **Robert Hayes/The Jambar**

BRIAN YAUGER

“It’s been a rocky start for the Youngstown State University baseball team, but the team is showing signs of a turnaround after two wins in its last four games.”

Since this was written last week, YSU baseball has won three of their last five games and the signs keep getting brighter. The Penguins are now 7-25 and 4-8 in Horizon League play, and are closing the wins and losses gap from their rough start.

The April 3 game against Kent State University went in favor of the Penguins as Phillip Glasser ran home on a wild pitch to give YSU a 4-3 walk-off win in 11 innings.

“I saw the ball kick, so I just went because it’s deep in the game, and I just had to take a chance and luckily it paid off,” Glasser said. “I was safe, I got my hand in there. It was a close call. It probably could have been called either way, but I still think I got in there a little bit early.”

YSU went on to take two games out of the

three game series against the Horizon League leading University of Illinois-Chicago.

Friday’s series-opening game went in favor of YSU as they took down UIC 7-3. Blaze Glenn hit a two-run bomb in the sixth inning and finished the game with five RBIs.

Glenn’s improvement over the last few weeks has not gone unnoticed by Penguins coach Dan Bertolini.

“I think he’s been swinging the bat well the last couple of weeks,” Bertolini said. “He hadn’t had a lot of a results from it, but we could see it coming. He had two hits against Wright State in the last game of the series. He had two hits against Kent, that’s a really good sign.”

Game two also went in favor of YSU with the Penguins coming away with a 6-5 victory. Freshman Travis Perry got the first win of his career, pitching seven innings and recording three strikeouts.

“I’m just glad we’re starting to play some good baseball, that’s what we’re happy about,” Bertolini said after game two of the series. “It was another game with double-digit hits, and we’re finding ways to score runs.”

Hitting has gone from an issue to a key to their recent successes.

“You can see the confidence starting to build in our hitters,” Bertolini said. “It’s contagious. When you’re not hitting, you’re not hitting. When you’re hitting, you’re hitting. It’s big that the middle of our order is really swinging the bats really well.”

YSU dropped game three 8-3, but still left room for optimism going forward.

“I thought the bat was swung really well and didn’t get a lot of results,” Bertolini said.

Glenn hit his fourth home run of the season in game three and finished the season going 8-12 at the plate and hit two home runs.

Zach Farrar has had a couple issues that have kept him out of the lineup, but things look to be changing for the Chicago White Sox draft pick.

“He’s [Farrar] doing a great job,” Bertolini said. “He’s just had some minor things that have held him back, whether sickness or a couple of injuries that have held him from being in the lineup consistently. He’s given some great at-bats and working hard, so we’re looking forward

to changing his role and figuring out where he can go from here.”

Tuesday night, the Penguins fell in a barnburner, losing to Pennsylvania State University 16-15. YSU came back from an eight run deficit, scoring 12 runs across five innings to take a 15-13 lead in the ninth inning.

Penn State wouldn’t go away though, scoring three runs in the bottom of the ninth to get the victory.

Up next for the Penguins is a four-game road trip. They play a three-game series against the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and then travel to Pennsylvania to take on the University of Pittsburgh.

Taking three of five after a rough start for the Penguins shows the signs of improvement are definitely there. Even the biggest doubters have to admit it’s getting better.

Note: At the time of publication, the Penguins will have played against the University of Toledo, but at the time of writing they have not.

WOMEN'S GOLF TO HOST TOURNAMENT PRIOR TO HORIZON LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

JOSHUA FITCH

The Youngstown State University women's golf team will host a tournament in the Valley for the first time this season.

On April 13, the Youngstown Country Club will host the YSU Spring Invitational. This event will take place after the Penguins finished in second place as a team during the Indiana State University Invitational last weekend.

After capturing a six-shot lead in round one, ultimate winner California Baptist shot a 287 compared to YSU's 300, the Penguins weren't able to hang onto the

lead. However, this is now the sixth event of the season the Penguins have finished either in first or second place.

Freshman Puthita Khuanrudee posted a career low 144 for the tournament while finishing at the top for YSU for the fourth time this year.

Junior Katlyn Shutt's first round score of 69 tied the fifth-lowest single-round in the program's history.

New since last week, sophomore Kara Raines earned honors at the JCU One Day Shootout hosted on Saturday at The Country Club of Hudson, sponsored by John Carroll University.

Raines earned medalist for the first time

in her career after posting a 76 in the JCU shootout, and her second top 10 finish during her career.

Lineups haven't been announced for the YSU Spring Invitational.

Following the local event, the Penguins will fly to Orlando with the YSU men's team for the Horizon League Conference Championship tournament, beginning on April 21, falling on Easter Sunday.

Stay tuned to thejambar.com for updates throughout the week as the women's golf team looks to close out the regular season strong.

Stats courtesy of the YSU Sports Information Department.



Photo courtesy of YSU Sports Information

MEN'S GOLF TEAM LOOKS TOWARD HORIZON LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

JOSHUA FITCH

The Youngstown State University men's golf team finished first out of the 17 teams participating at the Towson Spring Invitational in Grasonville, Maryland. The Youngstown State University men's golf team finished first. Five out of the six Penguins that made the trip placed in the top 15 at the tournament.

During the two-round contest, sophomore Kevin Scherr shot a 75 in round one, followed by a 72 in round two, placing him tied with sophomore teammate Zack Ford for ninth place overall.

Sophomores Ken Keller (72-77), C.J. Hughes (73-76) and senior Jason McQuown (73-76) each tied for 15th place after posting a 147 combined score for the tournament.

"It was a fun tournament going into it," Scherr said. "We were one of the favorites and a lot of other teams were speaking of us to win the tournament. But, we had a good lineup and a lot of chemistry. We had a lot of fun in the practice rounds, as well. The weather was perfect and the course

was in great shape."

Scherr, Hughes and Keller have competed in all nine tournaments for the Penguins this season, while Jason McQuown in eight of the nine. All are expected to be big factors once the Horizon League Championship tournament begins on April 21.

"I think everyone is expecting to finish near the top of the leaderboard," Scherr said. "I know one of my keys for playing good is playing from an individual standpoint, just trying to finish the best I can. I know everyone else is going to do the best they can. If you just stay true to yourself, it will fall into place like it did."

The chemistry Scherr mentioned is a very welcomed sight for coach Tony Joy, especially looking ahead with such a young roster.

"The future looks good," Joy said. "It's been competitive amongst the kids themselves. They all know that, which is why I think their games are stepping up because they know if they want to be on the traveling team, they have to play well."

The team will travel to Athens, Georgia, for the final regular season tournament on

Sunday, with the tournament beginning on.

Following the Southern Intercollegiate in Athens, the team will fly back to make final preparations before flying with the women's golf team to Orlando, as the conference championships begin on April 21, which happens to be Easter Sunday.

"To me, it's just another tournament that I'm trying to play well in," Sherr said. "Everyone's ready and once we get through this next one, I don't think there's any doubt that we're not going to play well."

Also making the trip to Orlando will be Ron Strollo, athletic director of YSU. Joy said the trip to Orlando is a great time for Strollo to conduct business and even look ahead.

"This is an exciting time of the year not only for Youngstown State University fans, but for the athletic department as a whole," Joy said. "Both the men's and women's golf teams will take part in the Orlando conference championships. If both do well, or both win, it looks great for the entire area of Northeast Ohio."

Stats courtesy of YSU Sports Information Department.



Photo courtesy of YSU Sports Information



YSU TAKES ON THE NORTHEAST OHIO QUAD

Photo by **Robert Hayes/The Jambar**

ROBERT HAYES

The Youngstown State University track and field team had a busy weekend, as they hosted part of the Northeast Ohio Quad at Farmers National Bank Field.

The Northeast Ohio Quad features Kent State University, the University of Akron, Ashland University and YSU. The meet has been historically held at the University of Akron, but tree roots caused damage to Akron's track, making it unusable for this season. Many of the field events were still held at Akron.

"Overall, I think this a good symbol for our program," YSU coach Brian Gorby said about the meet.

Chad Zallow and Nicolette Kretsoulas both won weekly Horizon League honors for their performances over the weekend. Zallow did what he did best, as he won both the 110-meter

hurdle and 200-meter dash with times of 13.71 seconds and 21.63 seconds, respectively. Kretsoulas came in second place in the hammer throw, but threw a distance of 58.77-meters on her last throw of the day, breaking the school record of 58.04 meters.

Alan Burns did extremely well, as he won the 5000-meter run with a time of 14:39:36, which is both a new personal-best time and a new facility record at YSU. Collin Harden won the 400-meter hurdle with a time of 52.283 seconds, and the men's 4x100-meter relay team which includes Jamynk Jackson, Josh Beaumont, Brendon Lucas, and Harden won with a time of 41.55 seconds.

The women's relay team also came in first, as Antonella LaMonica, Suerethia Henderson, Jaliyah Elliott and Teneisha Myers posted a time of 46.62 seconds.

Terron Taylor had a personal best jump of 2.03 meters, which was good enough for second place in the high jump.

Although Akron normally hosts the event, the other teams enjoyed competing at YSU.

"Akron's coach and Ashland's coach both said they love the atmosphere," Gorby said. "They love looking over the city. They said they love the press box and that our sound system is much better than Akron's. Akron has grass in the middle so it's muddy."

Gorby went on to say how the Northeast Ohio Quad might be returning to YSU next spring.

"Akron doesn't want to lose this, from what I understand, they're going to take two to three years to redo their track, so it's probably going to come back here next year because all the coaches naturally like the setup here," Gorby said.

YSU does host another meet this season, as they'll host the Horizon League Outdoor Track and Field Championships from May 3 through 5.