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SGA PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES SHARE PLATFORMS



PHOTO COURTESY OF MAX GOCALA.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHAEL SLAVENS.

Max Gocala and his running mate Paige Rassega (left) will run against Michael Slavens and his running mate Jacob Schriener-Briggs (above) for the Youngstown State University's Student Government Association president and vice president positions. The election will be held on April 1 and 2.

LIAM BOUQUET

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Youngstown State University's Student Government Association elections are quickly approaching, with online polls opening on April 1 and 2. Students will be able to cast their ballot to determine their representation in the coming academic year and to determine who will lead the SGA body as president and vice president.

This year two tickets are running for the executive positions. Michael Slavens will run for president with his running mate Jacob Schriener-Briggs. Opposing them is Max Gocala, and his running mate Paige Rassega.

Slavens and Schriener-Briggs will run on a platform emphasizing communication with the electorate and creating a communication network that will allow them to effectively convey the needs of students to the administration.

"The first thing we really are going to harp on is communication. Because with student government, you are a liaison between the students and the administration. So student government, in and of itself, doesn't have the administrative ability to, in and of itself, practically change things, but what we do have is the ability to communicate with people who can change things," Schriener-Briggs said. "The second

thing is just basically going to be progress — just moving the student body forward."

Though the pair plans to address a variety of contested and pivotal issues from safety concerns to academic equity, they, if elected, also assure students that their voice will significantly influence the issues they tackle.

"We have general areas we would like to address, but to walk into the election with a bunch of predetermined planks is kind of counterproductive to what student government is. In the sense that we shouldn't be deciding what should be changed for everyone else, we should let them decide and then work to further their interest," Schriener-Briggs said.

Slavens pointed to the current initiative, which he and other executives are spearheading, to add a student government tab to the YSU home page as an example of the pair's commitment.

"When you login, it will come up and say, 'student government.' Then within that, it will be, at least initially, we are thinking of a forum, where obviously we will be the moderators," Slavens said. "Any question, comment, concern that they want to pass on. ... We will talk to who we need to talk to and then give them an official response or tell them who to return to."

Gocala said he and Rassega are running on a platform of better representation of the student body in

SGA.

"We want to make a student government body that accurately represents the student population as a whole, so that all walks of life are represented well on the body. We can't do that overnight and we can't even do that in one term, but we can lay the groundwork so that more people feel comfortable not only running but becoming involved in student government," Gocala said. "We, Paige and I, are your average Joes. We are not Scholars; we don't have 4.0s. We can relate more so to our campus population."

Gocala will try to accomplish this through improved communication as well, via social media and direct involvement.

"If we do our best to outreach to all organizations, so that they feel their voice is heard in the most appropriate terms — whether that be social media, face-to-face interaction or simply us going to attend their meetings — I think that they will not only feel that they are heard, but also feel a trust amongst their club and student government," Gocala said.

Rassega said that she and Gocala will also seek to garner more funding for allocation to these student groups by pursuing the issue with the administration and familiarizing themselves with the new president and provost.

**CANDIDATES
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Research Experiences for Engineering Students

FRANK GEORGE

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This January, U.S. News and World Report ranked Youngstown State University's undergraduate engineering program in the top 25 percent in the world — among schools that do not offer a doctoral degree.

Unlike large schools that primarily provide research opportunities to graduate students, YSU's undergrads play an active role in YSU's research labs.

"I saw the big universities put an emphasis on the graduate school and the research more than the teaching. Very rarely, I saw undergraduates in the research labs there. ... Here at YSU, that's not the case," said Virgil Solomon, assistant engineering professor.

Hazel Marie, chair of the mechanical and industrial engineering programs, agreed with Solomon and said undergraduate research opportunities contribute to YSU's educational value.

"We have to bring our undergrads into the knowledge of our research, because we don't have Ph.D. students. So, we become better teachers to pass that on to undergrad students, and they learn more because they are exposed to things that they wouldn't be exposed to at Texas A&M [University]," Marie said.

The engineering program has closely worked with local companies and successfully acquired research grants to provide a hands-on education to its students.

Solomon currently uses electron microscopes to conduct research on advanced materials, looking for defects in their chemical and mechanical makeup. He said he encourages his undergraduate students to participate in this research.

"We have very good research facilities here," he said. "Whenever I conduct a research project, I am recruiting undergraduate students."

Geordan Cover, an undergraduate chemical engineering

**RESEARCH
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YSU HOSTS DISTINGUISHED PHYSICIST

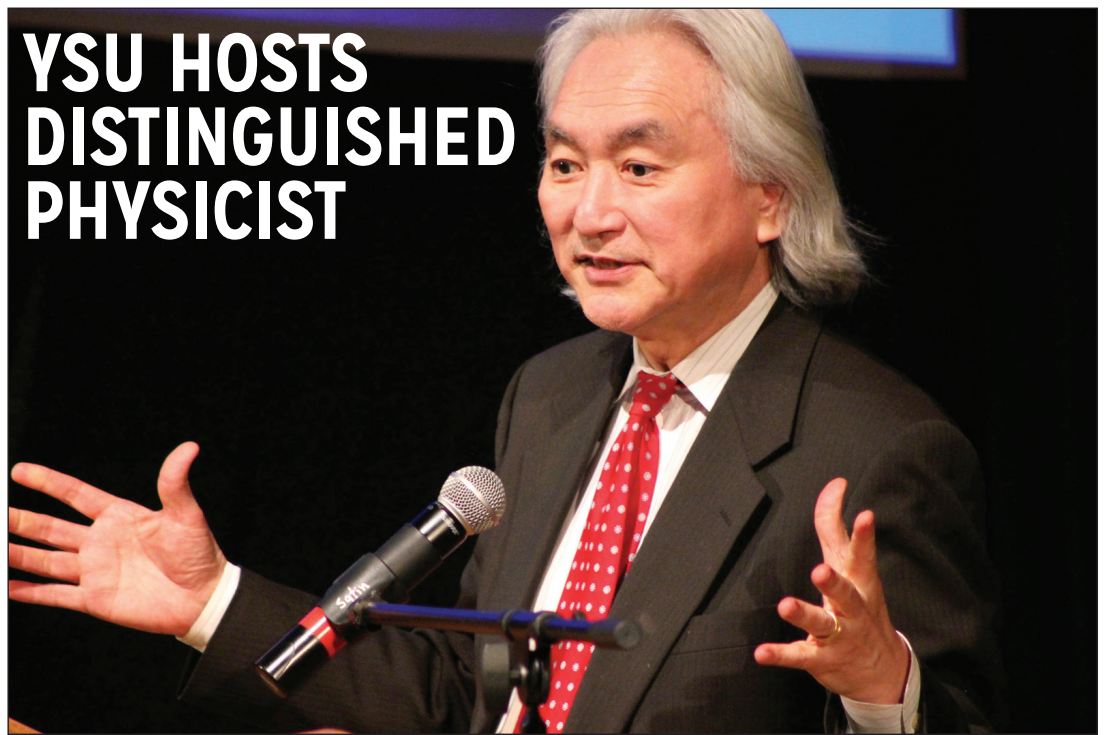


PHOTO BY JENNA MEDINA/THEJAMBAR.

Michio Kaku speaks in front of a filled Stambaugh Auditorium. Kaku, author of several books about the advances of modern science, spoke on his work concerning the mind and the nervous system, as well as previewed the leaps the scientific community has made in the past few years.

RICK POLLO

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Youngstown State University's Department of Physics and Astronomy, partnered with the Skeggs Lecture Series, welcomed physicist Michio Kaku on March 20 at Stambaugh Auditorium.

Kaku brought his "theory of everything" lecture to downtown Youngstown. Kaku has appeared on various science documentaries

for the Discovery Channel, Science Channel and the BBC.

The author of several books, including the New York Times best-sellers "Physics of the Future" and "Physics of the Impossible," Kaku hosts a weekly syndicated radio program and has been a staple on such popular television science programs as "How the Universe Works." His textbooks are required study for many in the fields of physics and astronomy.

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MAAG LIBRARY BUDGET CUTS

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The rising cost of digital journal packages and the shrinking budget allocated to the William F. Maag Library are putting important research tools in danger of being cut.

Maag Library has been battling budget reductions since 1996, but current cuts have forced the library to begin dropping important academic journal packages. Making the situation worse, the prices of digital journals have been rising substantially.

"The sky isn't falling, but it's looking pretty dark," assistant professor Susan Clutter said.

Clutter is an assistant professor in the Forensics department at Youngstown State University, and the chair of the Academic Senate Library Committee.

"When we were making good money in the 1990s, early 2000s here at YSU, we probably should have been raising that money [the library's budget]. In 1996, I believe, the budget was \$4 million, and it has been steadily declining from there," Clutter said.

Though budget cuts due to economic factors have been a reality for the majority of public higher education institutions, YSU spends significantly less money per student on its library than other regional public universities.

The University of Akron, Ohio University, Kent State University, Bowling Green State University and Wright State University spend \$184.50, \$140.48, \$135.59, \$154.34, and \$251.01 per student, respectively, on their libraries' budgets. Youngstown State spends \$76.97 per student.

The budget reductions to the library were manageable until this year, when cuts to widely used digital journal subscriptions, such as the American Institute of Physics, were implemented.

"Unfortunately, as we're making these cuts, the cost of OhioLINK and other resources are rising astronomically," said Clutter. "Currently, these e-resources take up 65 percent of our budget."

Academic journals, which publish original research by top minds in whichever field the journal covers, have largely converted to fully digital editions. As in the past, the journals are available through the use of a paid subscription.

However, with the conversion to digital, the university no

longer receives physical copies from many of the services. This means if a journal's subscription is cancelled, not only does the university lose access to any new publications, but also to the entire history of previously published works as well.

Other digital journal services, such as EBSCO, have raised their prices while dividing up their services, offering certain databases that had once been a part of the core service as "extras" to be purchased in addition to the core.

For the library to maintain the current level of access to EBSCO's databases, it would be forced to purchase not only the core service at a price of \$30,000, but also the extra packages at their own cost.

Making the decision to cut research tools, while difficult, is done with consideration to the students who would be impacted most severely by the cut. To determine this, Jeff Trimble, the head of Information Services of Maag Library, reviews usage data from the journals to determine which students from which majors are utilizing the individual databases.

"He tries to say, 'Well, we have only five people in the women's study program, but all of them are dependent upon a certain database, whereas STEM has 'x' amount of databases to pull from, so if we remove one of those, it won't cause the entire STEM program to falter,'" Clutter said.

Of particular concern to faculty and students, however, is the possibility that the widely used database JSTOR could be cut if there are further budget reductions next year.

"JSTOR makes up about 5 percent of the library's budget, and generally when we have to make a cut we're asked to cut between 5 and 7 percent. As unsettling as losing JSTOR would be, it is essentially all we have left to cut," Clutter said.

For the majority of students and faculty involved in the humanities, losing JSTOR would be a major blow to their researching capabilities.

"For English, for history, for political science ... for all departments under the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, they absolutely need JSTOR," Michael Jerryson of the YSU Philosophy and Religious Studies Department said. "I've had students use this [JSTOR] for research for papers they've submitted to contests and won prizes for. ... So, for me as a faculty member, it would hurt me, but for the students, it's even worse. It would cripple



PHOTO BY GRAIG GRAZIOSI/THE JAMBAR

Budget cuts have impacted operations at Maag Library, forcing the library to drop important academic journal packages.

their ability to do any outside research."

Other faculty members are concerned with YSU's ability to live up to its proposed image as an urban research institution if JSTOR is cut from the library.

"To lose JSTOR would pretty much end research for people like myself and those of us in the humanities ... I don't know how we can call ourselves a research university if you don't have at least a minimally decent library that has those resources," Mark Vopat of the Philosophy and Religious Studies department said.

The cost of losing a resource such as JSTOR would not only include derailing humanities research at the university, but would like also force professors to require textbooks or additional readings, a cost that would be passed along to the students.

"One way we can defray the

cost of textbooks for courses is to point students to articles and journals in the library. If I can't do that, then that means I have to buy textbooks, or I have to buy anthologies which are going far more expensive than just pointing students to the library resource," Volpat said.

At a time when YSU's enrollment is already suffering from low numbers, losing a resource that is necessary for faculty, undergraduates', and graduate students' research may cause some prospective students to reconsider attending YSU for their undergraduate or graduate school.

"I couldn't think of a way. ... I could actually complete the [graduate school] workload without spending a ton of my own money on articles and journals. It would probably be more cost effective for

me to go somewhere else that was more expensive that actually offered JSTOR and other research materials in the long run," senior Raymond Wolfgang, an English major, said.

While the shrinking budget and the potential service cuts may seem catastrophic, Clutter, Trimble, and the rest of the library staff and the faculty who represent them remain confident they will find a way to survive the budget crises and provide students with a quality library on YSU campus.

"One thing we don't want to do is scare anyone away. YSU is still a great school, and we have an amazing faculty. We're just in a tough position right now with the budget. What it all boils down to is that we need more money," Clutter said.

Windows Upgrade

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On April 8, Microsoft will no longer be supporting its Windows XP operating system. The problem? A lot of the computers campus-wide run off of that system.

The Youngstown State University Information Technology Services Department has established a plan to replace the operating system in computers campus wide.

When an operating system is no longer being supported by its manufacturers, it could be because the program could be more vulnerable to viruses and doesn't get the normal upgrades it needs.

"Microsoft will not be providing anymore updates to [Windows XP]," Lloyd Painter, the project's manager, said. "What is going to happen is it will make that certain operating system vulnerable to attacks that is the reason we need to upgrade them."

Even though ITS is already in the process of this change, Painter said employees have more than one thousand computers to upgrade.

"We will be working on them over the course of the next few months," he said.

ITS will upgrade all the computers to the

Windows 7 operating system.

"There is no coast from an operating windows perspective because of our arraignment with Microsoft," Painter said. "But we will have to be purchasing some new PC's as apart of this."

Painter said that the total cost of replacing the older computers is estimated out to be around \$200,000.

"The older PC's are not able to support the Windows 7 operating system, so those pc's will have to be replaced with newer ones," Painter said.

Though the upgrades will have to be given all over campus, Painter said that certain departments have higher priority than others.

"We are doing one department at a time," Painter said. "We have prioritized the departments in terms of which ones we are doing first."

With certain departments being prioritized Painter felt it had to do with how the certain departments affect the school in a bigger way.

"It more has to do with the risk of a particular department," he said. "We did a risk assessment and those that were high risk in terms of keeping the operations of the university going without any problems made them ranked higher."

The department plans to be finished with completing the project by mid-June.

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"We have done research from other universities, ones even similar like Kent, they have so much more money than us to deal with when it comes to student organizations. People get upset when they are not getting what they ask for, but we only have so much we can work with," Rassega said. "Just keep bringing up how important it is. We are the customers here at YSU. We are the students, we should matter."

Each ticket brings with it a level of experience with SGA. Gocala and Rassega both serve as representatives on the SGA body. Although Schriener-Briggs is new to SGA, Slavens has spent the last year as vice president.

"I thought I would enjoy it, but I didn't realize how much I would enjoy it. I thought it was a really great experience," Slavens said. "I loved the feeling like I am actually accomplishing something, doing something with my time here — making a mark, and I really want to continue it."

Both tickets' campaigns are in full swing. Both are employing everything from social media — both sides having created a Facebook page with over 200 likes — to T-shirts to alert students to their platform and the impending election.

Gocala said he has reached out to all the organization presidents on campus in his campaign.

"We sent out an organization president email. All 170 presidents got an email that simply asked if we could go and talk to their organization as a whole. Kindly saying or kindly asking for an invite to their regular meeting between the email being sent and the elections. So far we have gotten about 37 replies and invitations to come talk to them," Gocala said.

With polls online for the first time this year, both sides predict a better turnout than ever before. Gocala pointed to the homecoming election, which is said to have increased from 250 votes in 2012 to over 1200 when polls went online.

"The first reason is because voting is going to be more accessible," Schriener-Briggs said. "That will increase turnout in and of itself, but then also because this is actually going to be a contested campaign. I think with two tickets trying to energize the student body, you are going to also have a bigger turnout."

Additional reporting By Cassandra Twoey

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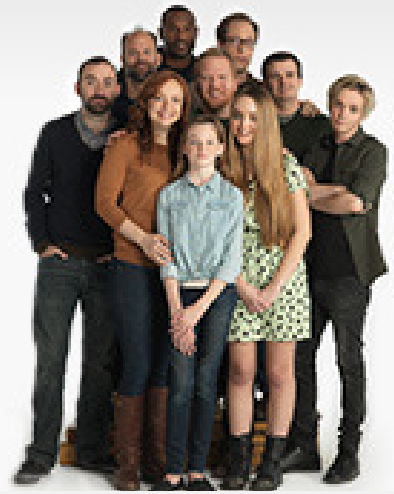


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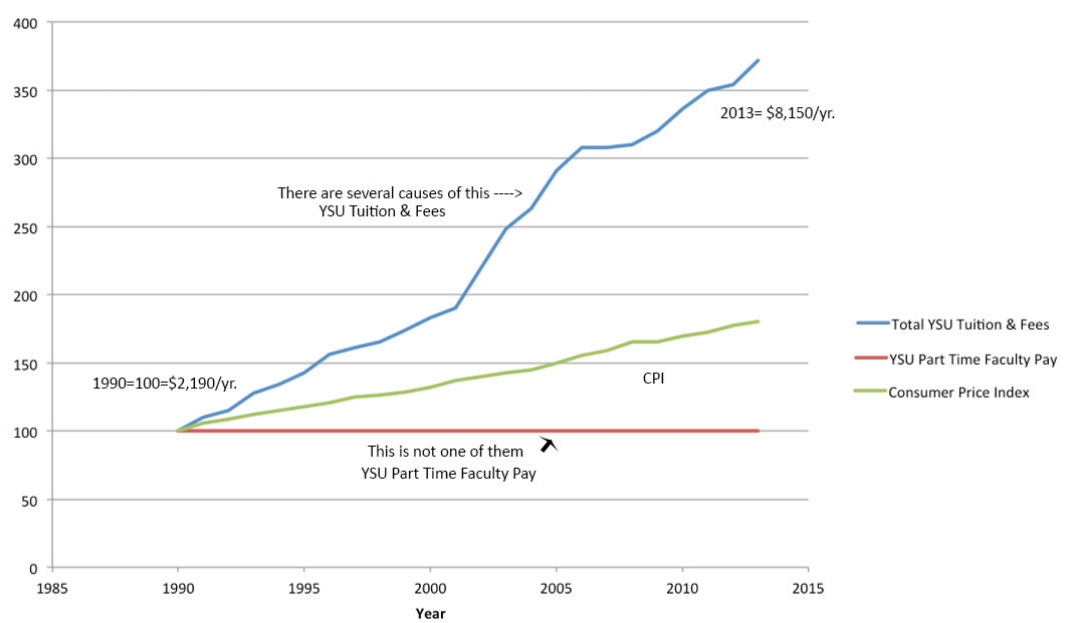


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NEWS BRIEFS

YSU Helps Students Get a Jump Start

This summer, Youngstown State University will be providing two ways for students to get ahead on their education.

Beginning June 16, high school underclassmen have the opportunity to improve their readiness for Math and English at the college level. The Penguin Prep Academy is a program that part-time YSU faculty will be teaching for sophomores and juniors who scored 16-17 on their ACT in English and/or a 20-21 in Math. It is a six-week, two-day-a-week program that if completed, would allow students to be ready for introductory, non-developmental English and Math college classes and also possibly qualify for the post-secondary programs at their respective high school. The Academy will be held at YSU campus Monday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. for English. 11 a.m. until noon for College 101, and 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. for Math classes. It costs \$180 for Math, \$100 for English, or \$250 for both.

The second program that YSU will be offering is called Jump Start. It runs for six-weeks, and is also a two-day-a-week course. It was put together for incoming freshman who placed into developmental Math or English. Also taught by YSU faculty, this program would allow students to enroll directly into introductory Math and English classes for credits. Every Tuesday and Thursday, beginning June 17 and ending July 24, classes will run from 9 a.m. until noon for English and 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. for Math. The Math course will cost \$180, English will cost \$150, or you can take both for \$300.

For more information contact Sharon Schroeder at 330-941-2445

"Crazy like Love: An Evening of Two One-Act Plays"

Alpha Psi Omega National Theater Honor Society will be presenting "Crazy like Love" March 28 and 29 at 7:30 p.m. and on March 30 at 2 p.m. The shows will be at the Spotlight Arena Theater at Youngstown State University.

The nights will include performances of "Gendermat," by Mark Dunn and "The New Mrs. Jones," by James Armstrong. "Gendermat," revolves around two individuals, freshly single, who meet in the laundry room of an apartment building. "The New Mrs. Jones," is about a man and his fiancée trying to survive a dinner with his mother. Some of the material may not be suitable for younger audiences. Tickets for the play are \$5 and can be purchased by calling the University Theater Box Office at 330-941-3105.

National History Day Competition

Ohio's District Four National History Day contest will be from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on March 29, in Kilcawley Center at Youngstown State University. About 200 students, grades six through 12 from Ashtabula, Geauga, Columbiana, Portage, Trumbull, and

Mahoning counties, will be participating. National History Day is a series of activities designed to help the participants learn more about history through many different platforms. Educators and historians will judge the student entries. Winners will advance to the state finals at Ohio State University, state winner's move on to the national finals at the University of Maryland in June. This year's theme is "Rights and Responsibilities."

National History Day has been happening in Ohio for 40 years and currently involves 350,000 students from 48 states.

student, contributes to a research project, testing an alloy wire's resistance to force and heat. He expressed satisfaction with his YSU education.

"I can easily see why YSU has been ranked among the world's best engineering programs," Cover said. "The small class sizes along with a huge amount of hands on time with professors would be the biggest reason. ... Besides simply taking the time to meet with any student, [professors] help in giving opportunities with research, allowing hands on work with a multitude of lab equipment and finally applying everything we have learned to real world problems."

Cover said his laboratory experience will be beneficial as he continues to consider a career research.

"Being an engineer, you have the option of two different paths to go down. You can go into manufacturing or you can go into research," he said. "My short time doing research has given me a good view at what a chemical engineer would do at a research and development position at a company. Research involves a lot of thinking outside the box and hands on problem solving, two things that have helped immensely when it comes to course work."

Solomon concluded that he expects the engineering program to continue its tradition of excellence and said he was not surprised to see YSU rank among the world's best undergraduate schools for engineering.

"I know that we have a very good engineering program here at YSU. We have a tradition in engineering, we have good feedback from our alumni regarding their education here at YSU ... and we can compete against any other engineering school in the United States," Solomon said. "[Students] just have to say, 'hey, I want to learn,' and they have that opportunity here."

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A graduate of Harvard, Kaku obtained his doctorate in physics from the University of California. His works spans four decades, three of which he has spent as the Henry Semat Chair in theoretical physics at the City University of New York, where he also currently serves as a professor.

Kaku discussed "Explorations in Science" during his visit. He touched base on his life's work and research, string field theory. String field theory is derived from string theory, today's leading theory summarizing the mechanics of the known universe.

His work attempts to pick up where Einstein's left off, looking to develop an equation for the "theory of everything," that will simplify and explain the physical laws of the universe.

During his time, Kaku spoke on dozens of advancements making their waves through modern science.

"At John Hopkins University, they have now created a mechanical arm as good as the real thing. This mechanical arm was funded by the United State Pentagon. The Pentagon realizes that there are thousands of wounded warrior from Iraq and Afghanistan: spinal cord injuries, no arms, no legs. Why not give them the gift of life? These arms are so delicate, you could pick up an egg shell without breaking it. You can high five; you can fist bump," Kaku said. "In addition, complete exoskeletons are next."

Mike Crescimanno, a YSU professor in the physics and astronomy department, said he was very happy students had the unique opportunity to experience what he believes is brilliant work.

"Very excited — this is a great opportunity for students to study and learn from one of the greatest minds of our time. Anytime we have an opportunity to promote science on this kind of level is good in and of itself," Crescimanno said.

Daniel Catello, a senior Math major, attended the lecture and enjoyed it.

"Dr. Kaku's lecture was a good down to earth insight for the public to see the cutting edge field of science today," Catello said.

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A Love for Words

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On April 3, the Youngstown State University English Department will host its second Words Have Power reading — an event that allows students and faculty to read a piece of literature they find particularly inspiring.

This semester's Words Have Power event is the first that will feature readings by students.

"The last event was a wonderful opportunity for students and faculty. This time, although some faculty will read, we hope to foreground students' reading of what they find important or compelling," Julia Gergits, chair of the YSU English Department, said.

Madison Sudon, an English major, said that Words Have Power brings the English community together and gives students the opportunity to interact with one another.

"We want to create a fun environment where some of our more established students can share something that has inspired them, and the younger students can feel welcome," she said. "I think it's important to create a sense of community within the department because it allows students to meet and interact with some of their peers and teachers in a relaxed environment."

Chris Barzak, an assistant English professor, said that Words Have Power is also an

opportunity for students to coincide with one another on how language affects everyday life.

"People get to share their stories and experiences with how language has been effective for them in their lives, studies and scholarships," Barzak said.

Some of the participating students — Sudon, Bradley Dubos and Craig Marks — are still deciding what they want to read during the event. Sudon said that she is considering a poem by Dean Young or William Shakespeare.

Marks said that he will read his own, original piece. Like Sudon, Marks positively commented on the Words Have Power event.

"I will be reading a comedy piece I have written, titled 'How to Talk Like a Construction Worker: A Linguistic Field Study,'" Marks said. "I am very grateful to be picked by the professors to read at the event, it means a lot to be considered."

"I think it's definitely a good thing to include students alongside of professors in this reading, and it serves as a two-way street. Our professors value our work as their students, and we recognize that they are more than just instructors. Coming together to read as students and professors displays that we are all in this field because of our love for literature, or even just our love for words, no matter what stage of academia we are in."

The Words Have Power event will be held in the DeBartolo Auditorium at 4 p.m.

Senate Moves Toward Sending Aid to Ukraine

William Douglas
McClatchy Washington Bureau (MCT)

WASHINGTON — The Senate moved Monday to advance aid and sanctions for Ukraine, though the fight over the emergency funding measure is just beginning.

Senators voted 78-17 to move forward with the aid bill, which includes changes to the International Monetary Fund long sought by President Barack Obama but stymied by Republican opposition in the House of Representatives.

All 17 no votes were Republicans. Senate Democratic leaders said they expect to pass the bill later this week and send it to the House of Representatives, where the battle over the IMF provision will continue. The House passed a Ukraine aid bill on March 6 that has \$1 billion in loan guarantees but excludes the IMF provision.

The Senate bill provides \$1 billion in loan guarantees for the Kiev government and \$150 million in aid for Ukraine and neighboring countries. It also imposes sanctions on Russians and Ukrainians linked to corruption and human rights atrocities in Ukraine.

But the IMF provision is a sticking point. It allows the IMF to move \$63 billion from its crisis fund to its general fund and re-balance its board of directors to give nations like Russia, China, Brazil and India a greater voice.

Conservative Republicans in the Senate and House called the IMF provision unrelated to Russia's annexation of Crimea and argued that changing the structure of the IMF board would dilute U.S. influence over the fund.

Republicans Sens. Rand Paul of Kentucky, Ted Cruz of Texas, Mike Lee of Utah and Pat Roberts of Kansas last week demanded a separate vote to strip the IMF provision from the Senate bill.

But Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Marco Rubio, R-Fla., argued that the crisis

in Ukraine was too dire for lawmakers to get hung up on the IMF and urged that the legislation move forward.

"If we don't send this message now with this package in a bipartisan and strong manner, Vladimir Putin will be encouraged to enact further acts of aggression against Crimea and in the region," McCain said.

Though McCain agrees with Obama that Ukraine needs U.S. aid as quickly as possible, he had harsh words for the president's handling of the crisis.

Noting that Obama is in Europe this week consulting allies on Ukraine, McCain said, "I hope he is leading in Europe rather than just consulting in Europe."

Heritage Action, the political arm of the conservative Heritage Foundation, urged senators to vote against moving the aid bill forward because of the IMF measure and warned that the vote would be included on the group's legislative report card.

But congressional Republicans have signaled that they would be amenable to supporting the IMF provision if the Obama administration would agree to delay Internal Revenue Service implementation of a new rule curtailing political activities of tax-exempt groups.

Tea party and other conservative groups assert that the rule infringes upon free speech. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., accused Republicans of holding up aid to Ukraine to "protect the anonymity of their big-time donors."

Reid blamed his favorite target for Congress' inability to swiftly pass a Ukraine aid package to get to Obama's desk: the billionaire Koch brothers.

"Republicans objected to moving forward with this aid package to protect the ability of the Koch brothers and other GOP donors who hide behind shadowy groups, groups that spent millions on misleading attack ads," Reid said. "This is the reason for holding up something that is so important to 46 million Ukrainians and important to our country."



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Marcellus Shale Project

NICHOLAS ROCK
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Stephen Chalmers of Youngstown State University's Department of Art, working with Ray Beiersdorfer of the geology department, has prepared a week's worth of events during the week of March 24 to educate students and the public on the topic of hydraulic fracturing.

Slated for March 25 in Room 2000 of Moser Hall, "The Science of Shale Gas: Geology, Seismology, and Environmental Impacts," a lecture by Dr. Beiersdorfer, will take place from 7 to 9 p.m.

On March 26, there will be another lecture in the same room titled "The Science of Shale Gas: The latest evidence on leaky wells, methane emissions, and implications for policy." The lecture will be by Anthony Ingrassia, an engineering professor from Cornell University. It will also be from 7 to 9 p.m.

The day before the gallery closes, March 27, there will be a gallery talk and reception in Gallery 2300 of Bliss Hall, with three of the project's photographers — Brian Cohen, Scott Goldsmith and Noah Addis.

Already on display is The Marcellus Shale Project in Gallery 2300 of Bliss Hall. It has been open for public viewing since March 5 and is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. everyday until March 28.

The gallery is entirely composed of photographs taken by six different photographers — Addis, Cohen and Goldsmith in addition to Nina Berman, Lynn Johnson and Martha Rial.

Each of the photographers set out to different regions of Pennsylvania, documenting and interviewing people from all walks of life in order to accurately capture "the complex story of Marcellus Shale gas drilling in Pennsylvania."

"They have reached out

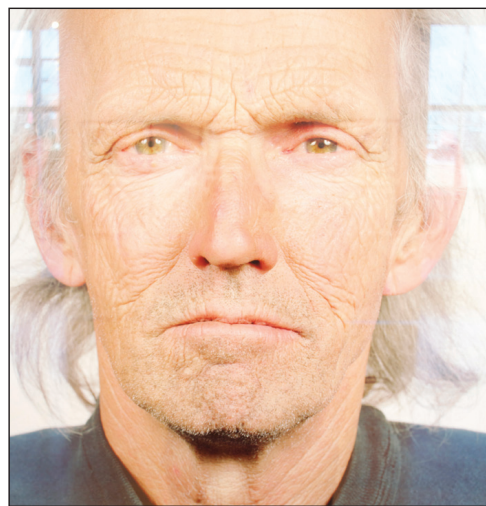
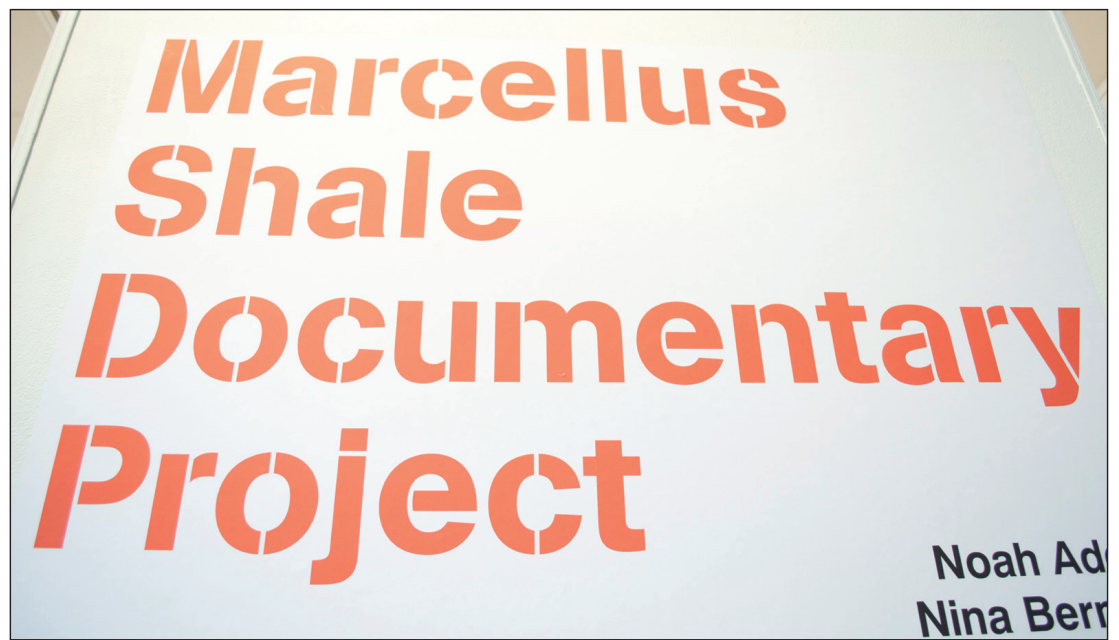
to farmers, homeowners and tenants; medical practitioners, engineers and legal professionals; casual protesters and full-blown activists; to people who feel they have benefited from gas drilling and to those who feel they have been victimized; to people whose lives have been forever changed, for better and for worse," the on-line summary of the project said.

The week will conclude at McDonough Museum Lecture Hall, with a screening of the documentary "The Triple Divide" on March 28 from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Pennsylvania and Ohio residents alike have hailed this documentary as "a must see" in order to have an informed opinion on fracking. The documentary also features narration by actor Mark Ruffalo, known for playing Bruce Banner and the Incredible Hulk in the live-action film adaptation of The Avengers, and environmental activist Melissa Troutman, who recently testified at a Pennsylvania public hearing about the dangers of fracking.

Although project organizer Chalmers was unavailable to speak in person, when asked which area, if any, was particularly damaged by fracking that the photographers of The Marcellus Shale Project visited, he didn't seem to think that the fracking debate is about which community or household has been hit hardest.

"Everywhere that there is shale gas, including Ohio and Pennsylvania, either is, or will be adversely affected. Ohio has some of the weakest laws in the country regarding the industry, including S.B. 315, which seems to have been written by gas industry," Chalmers said in an email.



The Marcellus Shale Project will be on display in Gallery 2300 in Bliss Hall until March 28.

PHOTOS BY GRAIG GRAZIOSI/THE JAMBAR

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EDITORIAL

DROPPING KNOWLEDGE

It's never easy to determine what areas of the university will be the victim of budget cuts. Every department at Youngstown State University is feeling the strains of less funding, and Maag Library is no exception.

As it stands now, e-resour-

ces — things like OhioLINK, EBSCO and other research databases — make up 65 percent of Maag's budget. The fact that the cost of these resources is rising does not help.

Where is the line drawn? For any department, not just Maag Library, where do bud-

get cuts go too far and start to impact the education of students?

Susan Clutter, chair of the Academic Senate Library Committee, said it's the analysis of the usage of each journal to figure out who is using what. In her example, students

from a small major may only use one journal, where as a large major may require several journals.

By cutting the only journal a small program needs in favor of one of the several for a larger major, it would throw the research ability of the students and faculty into turmoil.

It's not that much different from budget cuts across the university. We hope that those responsible for making the decisions on budget cuts take this into account.

Cutting the budget of a small department for the sake of preserving a large one might not be the best decision for the students of YSU down the road.

The education of students

should be a major factor in any decision the administration makes when it comes to cutting budgets and we need all departments to be treated fairly.

YSU is always looking toward the future and striving to be a better university for future students. The quality of education that is given to all students, both present and future, is greatly impacted by budget cuts.

The decisions that Maag Library must make are not specific to them. Every department on campus will face similar decisions. We hope that the education of students is given a very serious consideration when those decisions are made.

U.S. Must Insist on Internet Remaining Free and Open

SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS (MCT)

As we note the 25th anniversary of the birth of Tim Berners-Lee's World Wide Web, the integrity of the Internet is threatened as never before. China and Russia are launching cyberattacks at unprecedented levels, and the NSA's hacking and spying are destroying trust in technology.

In that context, the Obama administration has announced it will give up U.S. control of the Internet to an international governing body. This has been in the works for more than a decade — but the president needs to be certain that the transition to a nonprofit will maintain a free and open system. That

is not at all clear today.

Silicon Valley can't keep driving the U.S. economy unless the guiding principles that shaped the Internet are the foundation of its next governing body.

If it were possible, we would urge Obama to hand control of the Internet back to "God." But the bushy-bearded, sandal-clad tech genius who bore that nickname, the University of Southern California's Jon Postel, died in 1998 after serving as unofficial governor of the Internet for decades.

Valley legend Vint Cerf said this of Postel's legacy: "He was our rock. He was the foundation on which our every web search and email was built."

Postel helped devise the protocols that underpinned the web and then served as the Internet's primary administrator. His philosophy, now known as Postel's law, was that any "imple-

mentation should be conservative in its sending behavior, and liberal in its receiving behavior."

Postel died just as the current Internet administrator, the Los Angeles-based ICANN (The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers), was being formed. ICANN contracts with the Commerce Department to keep the system running.

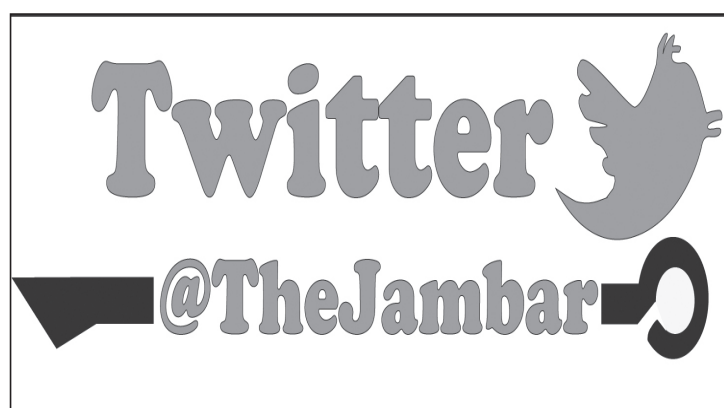
Critics of releasing control now, including Republican Newt Gingrich, fear that foreign governments will swoop in and stifle its democratic principles. It's a legitimate fear, given that in 2012, the World Conference on International Telecommunications considered handing control of Internet operations to the United Nations, a frightening thought.

Commerce Department officials have issued guiding principles for the

next governing body that emphasize the importance of a stable, open Internet. They maintain they will not turn over control to a government-led organization of any form. That's a relief.

An ICANN stakeholder meeting beginning Sunday in Singapore is supposed to clarify the transition. The Obama administration should insist on an international nonprofit with established Internet principles to assume leadership.

Unfortunately, the United States has lost some of its moral authority in this choice because its own spying outrages have been exposed. It's one more reason the president needs to restore Internet integrity, starting with its own use of the system. And he should not hand anything over until we know who or what will be Postel's heir.



Fred Phelps' Legacy of Hate

THE KANSAS CITY STAR (MCT)

Fred Phelps' life work, if that's what hate-mongering can be called, depended on getting attention, so we will keep this short.

Phelps and his pseudo church, mostly family members, were indecent enough to picket funerals of gays and service members whom they saw as symbols of a nation too tolerant of homosexuality. They were haters extraordinaire.

Phelps died in hospice care, and we can hope he knew that his work was in vain.

Acceptance of gay men and lesbian women is the great sea change in America. Intolerance is giving way to a high tide of acceptance.

In Columbia, Mo., recently, hundreds formed a human wall a half mile long when a few members of Phelps' Westboro Baptist Church showed up to make an issue of NFL prospect Michael Sam's coming out as a gay man. It is now a badge of honor to be picketed by the increasingly cartoonish Westboro clan.

There is no better evidence that love triumphs over hatred than the statement offered this week by Thomas Witt, executive director of Equality Kansas.

"This is our moment as a community to rise above the sorrow, anger and strife he sowed, and to show the world we are caring and compassionate people who respect the privacy and dignity of all," Witt wrote.

Even at the end, Phelps was outclassed by the people he so inexplicably hated.

JAMBAR POLICY

Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Collegiate Press honors. The Jambar is published twice weekly during the fall and spring semesters and weekly during the first summer session. Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. The first copy of The Jambar is free. Additional copies of The Jambar are \$1 each.

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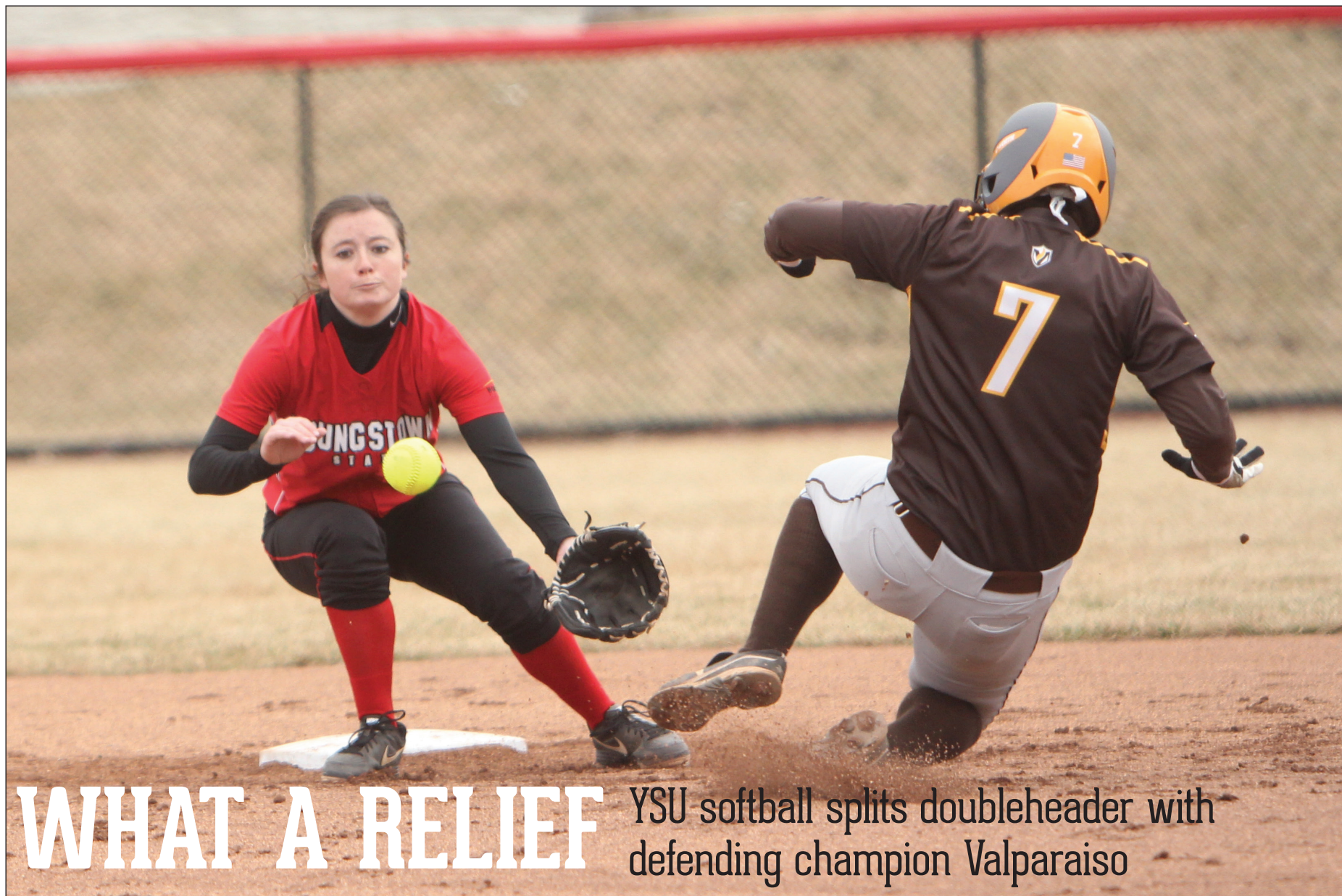
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WHAT A RELIEF YSU softball splits doubleheader with defending champion Valparaiso

PHOTO BY DUSTIN LIVESAY/THE JAMBAR

Youngstown State University's Katie Smallcomb (5) reaches for a ball at second base to get an out on Valparaiso's Amanda Wisniewski (7) during the first game of a double header on Saturday afternoon at the YSU Softball Complex.

JOE CATULLO JR.
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The colder the weather is for any sport, the funnier the outcome is. This was no different for the Youngstown State University softball team on Saturday.

Playing a doubleheader against Valparaiso University — the two-time defending Horizon League champion who had two wins over YSU on the final day last year — the Penguins got help from everybody, especially their freshman.

"I just knew going in that they're the two-time champions, so we knew we needed to step up our game," freshman Caitlyn Minney said. "I think we did that as a team really well."

When Casey Crozier pitches, there's a good chance YSU will win. The same could be said with Kayla Haslett's early-season performance. When the Penguins score, Miranda Castiglione, their best hitter, has a say.

These three scenarios were not in effect Saturday as YSU split the doubleheader, losing 7-4 in the first game and winning 12-9 in the second against the Crusaders (6-19, 1-1 Horizon League).

"It's always been a good, competitive game," head coach Brian Campbell said.

"It's nice to be able to take one today and split with them. It really helps show these younger kids what the Horizon League is all about when you start off like that."

Two "younger kids" that were crucial elements in the 12-9 victory were freshmen Minney and Katie Smallcomb. When the Penguins (13-10, 1-1) trailed 9-7 with one out in the top of the fourth inning, Minney relieved Haslett. She pitched 3 2/3 scoreless innings, allowed two hits, one walk and struck out five.

"I think Caitlyn did a great job of leveling out the ballgame," Campbell said. "That game turned into a slugfest a little bit. Both teams were going back and forth. She came in, she got herself out of a bases loaded jam and just pitched wonderful."

Offensively, Smallcomb led the charge with two hits, one walk, three RBIs and three runs. She batted sixth in the second game after hitting seventh behind Samantha Snodgrass during game one where she had two hits in four at bats. The lineup change had no effect.

"I was just trying to string hits together. I wanted to keep it in charisma, I guess," she said.

Smallcomb added that the Penguins had revenge on their minds after losing the first game. Crozier took the loss, pitching a complete game and allowing all seven runs on eight hits, five walks and struck out 11.

YSU trailed, 4-0, when Sam Dowd hit a grand slam in the bottom of the fifth inning, her third home run and RBIs 14, 15, 16 and 17. It was YSU's first grand slam since Haley Thomas in 2010 and 11th in school history.

Tied at 4-4 in the top of the seventh inning, Amanda Wisniewski put the game away with a two-out, three-run homer to left field. Twenty minutes later, Wisniewski was at it again in game two.

She hit a two-run homer to right field in the first inning off Haslett, giving Valpo its second 4-0 lead of the day. Tarah McShane and Janelle Bouchard each rocked RBI doubles before Wisniewski's home run.

Haslett helped avenge her poor pitching performance with a three-run homer in the bottom of the second inning, cutting the deficit to one. Haslett is fourth on the team with a .286 batting average along with two home runs and eight RBIs.

"I think that sparked us there a little bit," Campbell said.

The Penguins then scored four times in the bottom of the third inning, capped off by Haley Knight's two-out, two-run double. Smallcomb led off with an RBI double. Shortly after, Snodgrass hit a sacrifice fly.

Leading 7-4, Valpo scored five times in the top of the fifth inning before Minney relieved Haslett. Minney entered

Saturday with a 0-3 record and a 6.07 ERA, which was later reduced to 4.88.

YSU countered with five in the bottom half of the inning. Smallcomb tied the game at 9-9 with a two-run single. Darcella Blakey, another freshman, then lined a two-run double to take the lead.

Blakey replaced Haslett in the lineup. Also, the switch hitter batted right-handed against right-hander Sierra Pico. Except for her first at bat in game one, Blakey batted right against right-handers and left-handed against southpaws.

Courtney Ewing added some insurance with a two-out RBI single, giving YSU a 12-9 lead. Minney took care of the rest.

"I was just trying to keep our team in it, and we all contributed to every single run," Smallcomb said. "It wasn't just the RBIs. It was [Blakey's] clutch hit. It was Kayla's three-run homer. It was everybody."

The third game of the series, which was scheduled for Sunday, was cancelled due to cold weather. No makeup date has been announced.

The Penguins don't return home until April 9 against Saint Francis University (Pa.). Their next series is a doubleheader at the University of Akron on Tuesday, followed by a three-game series at Cleveland State University on Saturday and Sunday.

Spring Cleaning

YSU football opens spring practice

ALAN RODGES
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Poking through gray skies late Saturday morning, the sun shined down on Stambaugh Stadium, giving the Youngstown State University football team some warmth during its first spring practice.

For the brief five minutes, jerseys glistened. Numbers embodied the players. No. 12 shined once again as it has for the past four seasons. But this time, it wasn't Kurt Hess.

"It's a little different not having Kurt out here leading the practice and leading the offense," senior receiver Jelani Berassa said.

Sophomore safety Kenny Bishop sported the number. Although he always wore No. 12 last year, everybody knows that that belongs to Hess. The biggest question heading into the season is who will be his replacement.

"I think the first thing that is glaring is when you watch all those guys out there, they have a live arm," head coach Eric Wolford said. "They all have zip on the football, and they can all zip the ball pretty well."

Obviously, Wolford isn't going to decide the starter for the

season during the first day of spring practice. Instead, he'll utilize the next month searching for the possible future.

"It's going to be a very interesting spring," Wolford said. "Is it going to be resolved by the end of spring? I don't know. We are going to find a guy who can manage the game."

Some potential replacements for Hess at quarterback are junior Dante Nania, who had 180 passing yards last season on 20 attempts, sophomore Tanner Garry, who had 10 pass attempts last season with a touchdown and an interception, freshman Ricky Davis and sophomore Nick Wargo.

Even though the quarterback spot is a huge question, the four possible candidates will throw to familiar targets. The Penguins have returned all their top three wide outs from last season.

Junior Andrew Williams had 395 yards receiving and two touchdowns on 26 receptions. Marcel Carver had 393 yards and three touchdowns on 21 receptions. Andre Stubbs hauled in five touchdowns and 359 yards on 29 receptions.

The Penguins also return six-year senior Berassa after being granted another year for medical reasons. Berassa had a bit of a down year with six re-

ceptions, 74 receiving yards and one touchdown.

Even though his knee injuries have bugged him in the past, one of last season's team captains feels healthier than in past years.

"Unfortunately last year, it took so long for him to really get back to where he once was," Wolford said. "He has leadership abilities. We have high expectations for him."

Berassa said he feels his body getting back to full strength.

"In the offseason, I have been working on my leg strength and total body strength, so I am feeling pretty good," Berassa said.

Last season would have been frustrating for most players that were in Berassa's situation, but he didn't mind it because a team player just wants its team to win.

"Last fall was an exciting season. I was just happy we were winning because I am a team player first," Berassa said. "But my role was cut down a little bit because I was still getting healthy."

This season is a different story and a healthier beginning for the veteran receiver. He seemed pretty healthy during the first practice, he moved smoother and seemed quicker off the ball.

Berassa appears to enjoy the intensity, which his new position



PHOTO BY JOE CATULLO JR./THE JAMBAR

Receiver Christian Bryan runs a drill during practice on Saturday at Stambaugh Stadium. Bryan is one of Youngstown State University's top four receivers from last season returning with the squad.

coach, Kenny Carter, brings. Carter is from the University of Louisville, which won two bowl games (one BCS bowl) in the last two seasons.

"He coaches every little thing we do, which is only going to make us better players," Ber-

assa said. "He pushes us to the limit, which is what we need."

The Penguins will continue to search for a starting quarterback and build more team chemistry in the upcoming months. For now, it is back to the gridiron for YSU.