

YSU PARTNERS WITH ISRAELI COLLEGE



Photo by TANNER MONDOCK

JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ

New opportunities are coming to Youngstown State University after a memorandum of understanding was signed with Western Galilee College in Israel.

President Jim Tressel, along with a delegation from YSU and the Youngstown Business Incubator, took a trip to Israel in January. The trip was organized by the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation.

The relationship between YSU and Western Galilee College goes back for years, according to Nathan Myers, associate provost of international and global initiatives at YSU.

"YSU and Western Galilee have actually been partners for a long time, since the 1990s," My-

ers said.

Myers said the Western Galilee region in Israel partners with Ohio on a regional basis.

"Every region of our country has a sister region in Israel. Our region's sister region in Israel is the Western Galilee region," Tressel said.

During his trip to Israel earlier this year, Tressel said he met with the college and talked about programs with a focus on education and workforce.

Dov Dvir, president of Western Galilee College, came to Youngstown this summer where the agreement was signed. The agreement between the two schools is meant to accomplish study abroad programs, faculty connectivity and overall educational opportunities for both colleges.

The study abroad programs with Western Galilee College will kick off in 2018, for which Myers said activities are already planned.

"We'll have a faculty-led study abroad study tour coming from criminal justice, led by Dr. Phil Dyer," Myers said. "The other thing we're looking at is in the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services. Dr. Nancy Wagner is trying to put together a faculty-led tour for nursing."

Joncquil Hope, a graduate of YSU who studied abroad, said it was great experience for her.

"I learned that no matter where you go and how different it is, people are the same and the only difference is the culture and the language," Hope said.

Before graduating in 2013, Hope took a faculty-led geology

class in China for 18 days. She said she encourages students to study abroad because they may never have another opportunity.

Students are not the only ones who will benefit from an ongoing relationship between the two colleges, Tressel said. He said the faculty of YSU and Western Galilee College are now in a position to gain as well.

"Anytime our faculty has a chance to interact with another faculty, it's always a positive, both from an educational standpoint and a cultural standpoint," Tressel said. "It is a great experience for our campus to interact with different cultures and different backgrounds and learn from one another."

Myers said one of the interesting things about Western Galilee's campus is its diversity.

"Israel is a very complicated region in terms of politics, ethnicity and religion. Western Galilee's campus is actually majority minority," Myers said. "They have Jewish ethnicity, Arabic, Lebanese [and] Israelis all going to school together, all living in proximity of each other and attending classes together. This is a very special situation."

Tressel said Western Galilee College is not the only school YSU is working with. In May, there will be a conference in Israel with Technion – Israel Institute of Technology.

"We think with Western Galilee and Technion we have a natural opportunity to learn from one another and make the world a little bit smaller," Tressel said.



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Photo by JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ

COMMUNITY MEN UNITED

JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ

Men of the Youngstown community are uniting together to encourage, cheer and welcome back high school students on their first day of class. East High School and Chaney High School will begin classes on Sept. 5, and will be joined by volunteers of the community, specifically men.

Brandon Perry, founder of City Kids Care, a non-profit organization which gives back to the city of Youngstown, and Charles Banks, a recent Youngstown State University graduate, came up with the idea of the 100 Men Cheer and Greet for the Youngstown area.

"This summer, Brandon Per-

ry and myself thought of this amazing idea to have men in the community greet the students as they enter school on the first day and it morphed into this amazing 100 community men unity event," Banks said.

Perry and Banks called for 100 men to volunteer, but said the response from the community was beyond that. Nothing like this has ever been done before in the area, according to Krish Mohip, CEO of Youngstown City Schools.

"I think the 100 men initiative goes to the heart of what we are trying to do, and it wasn't us who did it. It was the community that came up with it," Mohip said.

Men from Youngstown and Warren came together on Aug. 22 to kick off the initiative and wel-

come back students to Warren G. Harding High School. Perry said although the movement was initially started for Youngstown City Schools, some community members of Warren reached out and asked if they could bring the movement to their city.

Roughly 100 men were in the entryway of Warren G. Harding chanting and cheering as students walked in. High fives, handshakes and words of encouragement continued for more than a half hour.

Perry said it is important that the men are coming together for a cause such as this, and stresses the importance of men becoming involved in the community.

"When you think about school, the first thing that comes to mind is the mother. There are

a lot of absent fathers," he said. "Probably more guys want to do this type of stuff but aren't given the opportunity."

Banks said having men step up in this way will serve as motivation for young men in the city.

"I think it's important in our communities and inner cities nationwide because I think a lot of men get a bad rep in the urban communities and it's more common to see a single parent mother than father," Banks said. "We want to show them that there are successful men that look like them that they can look up to and aspire to be like."

Banks also said having men greet the students is important and can help ease the first day nerves for the students.

"I think this is important be-

cause this helps students with a sense of pride on the first day," he said.

Mohip and Perry both agree this initiative is just the start and would like to keep moving forward with the men of the community.

"We want to start a program, we want to keep the men working in the community," Perry said.

Groups of men will meet at both East and Chaney High's first day beginning at 7:45 a.m. and more volunteers are welcome. Mohip said he is not sure which school he will end up at yet, but he will definitely be in attendance.

TIPS FOR FRESHMEN



Photo by TANNER MONDOCK

MELISSA TUROSİK

While no two students at Youngstown State University are the same, every student has experienced their first semester on campus. Not everything comes across easily for upcoming freshmen or newcomers to the school, so fellow students, faculty and alumni offered some advice on the best ways to survive this new academic chapter with success.

“The number one tip is go to class. We looked at data, this is research proven; the number one indicator of academic success is class attendance, which I think is good news for students. I think if they didn’t get a good

ACT they might be thinking in their head, ‘This is going to be hard for me,’ but all the research said it’s not their ACT. It’s not their high school G.P.A. It’s whether or not they go to class and engage.” - Becky Varian, Director at Center for Student Progress

“Find time to balance your outside activities so you can really focus on your school work and school requirements.” - Krista Ellis, YSU graduate

“Get to know your professors and respect them. They’re here to help you succeed because we’re all made for greatness. But, the only way for a

professor to know who you are — you need to go to class.” - Rachel Vince, YSU junior

“If you don’t know what you want to do, stay undecided so that you won’t add on extra semesters and still graduate within four years. It’s far better than changing majors later.” - Tyler Killa, YSU junior

“Stay organized as much as you can.” - Joe Lyes, YSU senior

“Keep working hard and never hesitate to ask for help.” - Tamer Ilayyan, YSU senior

“Don’t be afraid to break away from your comfort

zone. Push yourself to take on new opportunities, adventures and make friends from diverse backgrounds in order to find your true potential, as not only a student leader but as a lifelong learner.” - Cat Cooper, graduate assistant at YSU

“Take all the advice you’ve been given. Write everything down. Set that paper on fire. **Not everyone is going to have the same college experience.** Most of you will probably not graduate in four years and that’s okay. Make choices for yourself, not for others.” - Marissa McIntyre, YSU graduate

“Become interested in what you’re learning. Dis-

cipline yourself and have a set schedule for studying. Set an hour for each hour you’re in class to study.” - Bryan Phares, YSU junior

“The study guides are the most important part of studying. The peer mentors are very helpful with getting organized. There are computer labs all over the campus.” - Danielle Bondy, YSU graduate

“Spend time with people who are different from you. The lessons you’ll learn from them and they’ll learn from you will far outweigh any single classroom lesson.” - R.J. Markowitz, Coordinator of Adventure Recreation at YSU.

YSU MOOT COURT RANKS SIXTH IN THE NATION



Photo courtesy of *MARISSA SNYDER*

MORGAN PETRONELLI

The American Moot Court Association recently announced the top intercollegiate moot court programs in the nation for 2017, ranking Youngstown State University's team sixth on the list.

Paul Sracic, team coach and YSU chair of politics and international relations, said the ranking is a tribute to the students and shows how hard they worked to get where they are now.

"We have some of the best students in the country, the best pre-law program in Ohio and the U.S.," Sracic said. "The fact we can go toe-to-toe with Ivy League schools and come out on top is very impressive."

Moot court is a mock competition where two teams consisting of two members debate fictional cases against one another.

YSU began their moot court team in the mid 1990s and has continued competing for more than 20 years. Sracic has been in charge of the team since its inception, except for a five-year break period starting in 2009.

Last year, the moot court team

ranked 11th in the nation and has since jumped five spots. Team members Samantha Fritz and Jacob Tomory finished in the top eight at the 2017 national competition.

Teams that they beat for the position included Texas A&M University, Duke University and Baylor University, among many other schools.

Marissa Snyder, president of the YSU Moot Court team and a member for three years, said moot court was the major reason she decided to pursue her education at YSU.

"I feel incredibly grateful and proud to be the president of a nationally ranked organization, and one that I feel so deeply passionate about," Snyder said. "I've given hundreds of hours over the past three years to the team, both helping others and tending to my own arguments and performances, and I would gladly do that all over again."

Fritz and Tomory are on their second year of the team. A former member of moot court, Jacob Shriner-Briggs, coached both Fritz and Tomory in speech and debate at Canfield High School, asking them to join the

YSU team after they graduated.

Since then, the team has travelled across the country for competitions and to meet prominent lawyers and judges, helping the students network for future careers in law. One of these individuals was Mahatma Gandhi's grandson.

Fritz, Snyder, and Tomory wished for the continued success of the team and hoped they can improve upon their performances in order to jump up places on the list.

"It's actually kind of surreal. I love YSU and the different opportunities it has brought me, but going to a smaller school like this, I never expected to receive the national recognition that we have," Fritz said.

When asked if the team will continue if the faculty go on strike, Sracic said a strike would not get in the way of preparation for future competitions. If necessary, he said, the students help coach others and could self-sustain the team.

The next event for the moot court team will be Sept. 18 at noon in the Board of Trustees room in Tod Hall for Constitution Day.

LIBERTY WITH LIMITATIONS

ELIZABETH LEHMAN

A "Unite the Right" white nationalist rally turned violent on Aug. 12 in Charlottesville, Virginia, leaving three people dead and more than a dozen injured.

Images of some participants of the white nationalist rally were captured and distributed widely across social media platforms. As a result, the identity and personal information of many of these protesters were revealed to the public and consequences were faced. Some were publicly ostracized by family members, while others lost jobs.

Consequently, the First Amendment's protection of free speech and the right to protest have been widely discussed and debated.

With freedom of speech being protected by the First Amendment, questions are raised as to how fair and lawful it is for someone to lose their job because of involvement in a controversial group.

Paul Sracic, chair of Youngstown State University's Department of Politics and International Relations, said it's perfectly legal for private employers to terminate employees on these grounds.

"The First Amendment only protects people from actions by the Federal or State governments," Sracic said. "You can't bring a First Amendment case against a private employer."

Adam Fuller, assistant professor of politics and international relations, said people's livelihoods are in fact often threatened by what they say, even if their views are not as extreme as, for instance, members of neo-Nazi groups.

"We're talking about people who just have regular points of view about all kinds of things, about ethnic groups, religions, gender, whatever that may be, they just don't feel like they can say so," Fuller said. "Otherwise, they're going to face dire consequences at work, whether it's something as severe as getting fired or suspended from their

job, or having a pay cut or missing out on a promotion."

Results of a Rasmussen Report released in late August echoed this fear. According to the poll, only 28 percent of American adults feel like they have true freedom of speech today.

"Most (66 percent) think, rather, they have to be careful not to say something politically incorrect to avoid getting in trouble," the report said.

Michael Jerryson, YSU associate professor of religious studies, mentioned the recent controversy at Google. In early August, a 3,300-word manifesto written by a male employee became public. The document said women were not suited for jobs in technology for "biological reasons." Jerryson said the man was fired as a result.

"How can you, as a female sitting next to this person, feel like you're comfortable and accepted in the workplace?" Jerryson said. "That's important and I think that a company needs to pay heed to and has to be responsible for protecting a good culture."

He said the problem provides companies with an opportunity to find ways to promote civility and responsibility among employees. Jerryson said companies need to inform employees that their choices can adversely affect their agreement with their employer as well as the business culture in place.

"[Businesses] need to begin to breed more of this understanding, saying, 'Look, it's okay that you have views, but we need to be civil about it and be careful about it,'" Jerryson said.

Jerryson said he thinks the recent events are a wake-up call for people, especially those who may have become overly emboldened in regards to their personal views.

"It's a wake-up call on their parts to say, 'Oh wow, there are repercussions for us choosing to do these things. We have the freedom to do this, but [we] also recognize that by doing this, we are adversely affecting our work culture and the jobs that we have, and we can lose them for that reason,'" Jerryson said.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY

DAVID FORD

Members of the Youngstown State University Honors College volunteered at several locations on Saturday for the annual Global Day of Service. The YSU Honors College encourages students to get involved in the community and make a difference through their volunteer work. Amy Cosentino, the director of the YSU Honors College, said the students' volunteer work leaves an imprint on the community.

"Global Day, which started in 2012, connects students to each other, the campus and the Youngstown community," Cosentino said. "Whether it is writing cards of encouragement to veterans, making mats out of plastic bags for the homeless, tending community gardens or cleaning animal cages, every volunteer is making a positive impact."

Each honors college student is required to complete 60 hours of community service, but according to Nick Boyle, YSU student and member of the honors college, volunteer work is extremely vital.

"I think it's important to spend our free time giving back to the community," Boyle said. "We all have free time that adds up."

Boyle was among the several students who volunteered at the Dorothy Day House, located right near campus.

The Dorothy Day House located in Youngstown opened nearly nine years ago, thanks to the help and dedication of Sister Ann McManamon and several volunteers. The mission of the house is to provide a safe environment, warm meals and care to the homeless and impover-

ished.

According to McManamon, the amount of support through volunteer work and donations has been nothing short of amazing.

"No one is paid here. No one gets a cent for what they do," McManamon said. "They do it out of their heart. It's amazing the kind gestures we receive."

McManamon added that the house is open four days a week and feeds nearly 100 people nightly. Despite the commitment to making a difference in the lives of those they help, she said the house has been subject to a widely controversial move.

"We moved to the idea that this house would be ideal to take in two refugee women," McManamon said. "A lot of people in Youngstown don't want refugees, but we want to help."

According to McManamon, everything the house does revolves around the guests and welcomes anyone who desperately needs the help, especially refugee women and their children whose husbands and fathers were murdered or disappeared attempting to flee Syria.

Volunteer work is vitally important in providing a safe, clean environment for the guests, especially from YSU students, she said.

"Each year YSU sends students to the house," McManamon said. "This year they sent about 30 students and I always push harder on them to come back. I think nearly 15 offered to return."

Other YSU students participating in Global Service Day volunteered their time for charitable organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, Angels for Animals, the Rescue Mission of the Mahoning Valley and the Ursuline Sisters among various others.



Photo by JORDAN UNGER

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' ELECTION HELD DURING COFFEE HOUR

NAMI NAGAOKA

International students seem to come to campus more confident every year.

"More students feel a little bit more safety in numbers and they seem to be more confident and more excited to be a part of the YSU family," Tressel said. "Every year, it gets a little better."

Tressel expects the new ISO members to determine the needs of international students and represent their ideas and perspectives on campus.

"If we can continue to slowly grow the number, it's just going to be more opportunities for students to come here and learn more about our culture. The more international students, the more our domestic students will be touched," Tressel said.

However, Tressel worries that the quality of student programs will diminish if there is a sudden and large intake of international students, which could overwhelm the programs available.

"We've got to do it with the right increment," Tressel said.

Mishra said it is very important to him as head of ISO to understand the students' problems and speak up for them.

"We need to understand and respect everyone's views, and we need to accommodate their di-

verse opinions," Mishra said.

He recently helped new Nepali students adapt to their new environment by providing tips and advice based on his own experience living in the United States.

"We made sure that they all feel welcome to YSU so that the transition is smoother," Mishra said.

Rachel Mientkiewicz is the chair of the iPals organization, which is a YSU student community of international and domestic students who engage in various events and volunteer opportunities together. She said being active and accessible is important in a leader of ISO.

"I really want us to work together and connect all the international student and domestic students," Mientkiewicz said. "We'll be more powerful."

The iPals is planning to work with ISO for the homecoming parade, according to Mientkiewicz.

"The theme this year fits us very well. Working together will boost our creative power and boost our manpower working on the float," she said.

Mientkiewicz said her goal this year is to expand the organization not just at YSU but throughout all of the Youngstown community.

The Youngstown State University International Student Organization held its election for officers with the assistance of the international programs office at YSU President Jim Tressel's house on Friday.

Ashwin Mishra, a sophomore majoring in computer science from Nepal, was announced as the new president of ISO. The election was held during the semester's first international coffee hour.

Each year, Tressel hosts the first international coffee hour of the semester at his residence. He said international coffee hour is an opportunity for students, faculty and community members to come together and engage in conversation and friendship.

"It's so good to get a chance to let all of our international students know that they are welcome here, [and] feel that this is home for them," Tressel said.

More than 150 people attended the coffee hour to meet fellow international students and share their culture and views over free coffee and food. Tressel said in-

SPIRIT OF THE BEAR, NEW MUSIC IN THE AIR



Courtesy of JORDAN AUDIA

JOHN STRAN

Spirit of the Bear, a local indie rock band, releases its new single “Run My Mouth” on Sept. 8.

Jamie Vitullo, drummer for the band, described the song as pop influenced yet in-depth.

“‘Run My Mouth’ is easily one of the catchiest songs we’ve ever written,” Vitullo said. “Though it may not sound like it, the song is also very complicated at parts.”

The single will be featured on Spirit of the Bear’s new album, “Fade into Blue,” which will be released Nov. 24. James Harker, the band’s guitarist and lead

vocalist, described the album as more mature and put together than their previous releases.

Harker said “Fade into Blue” has a much more natural sound, replacing electronic influences with more live instruments.

The way they’ve approached the recording made for a more enjoyable process and is what made it stand out from their previous recordings, the band said.

“This summer, we spent so much time together, tailor-fitting these songs to exactly how we wanted them,” said Ethan Schwendeman, the band’s keyboardist. “This upcoming album is wonderful in the fact that every member has put their own

thought and feel into each song.”

The band members selected songs from this upcoming album as some of their favorite tunes that they’ve written.

“I’d say that ‘Why Can’t We Talk about It,’ is one I’m very excited about,” Mike Perorazio, bassist of Spirit of the Bear, said. “It has a heavy R&B influence and I feel this could be a favorite for people.”

Although many consider Spirit of the Bear to be an indie band or something that falls into a subgenre of indie, the band feels that they step out of the genre to create their own unique sound.

Each member’s musical taste slightly differs from the next,

which may contribute to the mash up of sounds. The group looks up to music acts such as Cage the Elephant, Death Cab for Cutie, Radiohead and Animals as Leaders.

Spirit of the Bear formed in Youngstown in the summer of 2014. The band has obtained a decent following for a band from this area, Vitullo said. He started to notice more of a following when they started playing at bars downtown in 2015.

“I feel like people really enjoy our energy,” Vitullo said. “It’s all very frantic and exciting and I’d like to think that people can connect with it because today’s music is all done by computers and

so planned out.”

For Schwendeman, the popularity sunk in during Fiction Forest, a festival held this past summer at the B&O Station in Youngstown that the band brought together. As for how they gained the popularity, Harker believes it was all about timing.

“It was just as the Youngstown music scene started coming up again and we had music that was new and refreshing for the city,” Harker said.

The next Youngstown show for the band is expected to be performed on Nov. 24.

McDonough Museum of Art

Youngstown State University's Center for Contemporary Art



Salon de Fleurus

September 8 – November 3

Public Reception, Friday, September 8, 5-7pm

Salon de Fleurus is a traveling exhibition organized by Salon de Fleurus and Independent Curators International (ICI), New York. The exhibition and tour are made possible by The Fine Art Dealers Association (FADA), and with the generous support from ICI's International Forum and the ICI Board of Trustees.

Salon à Midi Series Performances, readings and talks will be presented in the Salon on Tuesday at noon throughout the run of the exhibition featuring:

Lit Youngstown, From the Salon Modernist Readings – part 1, Karen Schubert, September 12, 12-12:50pm

Screenings of Paris was a Woman, 1996, 1hr 15m, September 19, 26, October 17, 24, 12-1:15pm

Lit Youngstown presents selections from Marty Martin's play *Gertrude Stein Gertrude Stein Gertrude Stein*, October 3, 10, 12-12:50pm

Paris Memories and Art of Le Salon Presentations by students from The Valley Christian Lewis Center for Gifted Learning.

October 31, 12-12:50pm

Please visit our website or social media for additional programming for these two exhibitions and our events calendar.

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From Salon de Fleurus, installation view, Muzeum Sztuki, Łódź, 2016, courtesy of ICI and Muzeum Sztuki.

McDonough Museum of Art

Youngstown State University's Center for Contemporary Art



Kelli Connell / Double Life: Fifteen Years

September 8 – November 3

Public Reception, Friday, September 8, 5-7pm

Kelli Connell, *Ascend*, 2013, *Head to Head*, 2008, archival digital inkjet prints.

Kelli Connell / Double Life: Fifteen Years is a traveling exhibition organized by the Society for Photographic Education and is made possible in part by support provided by Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, and by state tax dollars allocated by the Ohio Legislature to the Ohio Arts Council (OAC). The OAC is a state agency that funds and supports quality arts experiences to strengthen Ohio communities culturally, educationally, and economically.

Gallery Talk Kelli Connell, Friday, September 8, 5-5:30pm

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DEPARTMENT
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College of
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A CALL FOR CREATIVITY

NOAH P. JOHNSON

Youngstown State University faculty members are on the search for local artists and technology projects leaders to come forth with proposals for Awesome Foundation Youngstown.

Awesome Foundation Youngstown will award a \$1,000 grant to the winning proposal. Robert J. Thompson, YSU assistant professor of graphic design and interactive design and founding member of the Youngstown chapter's twelve trustees, started the local chapter this past summer.

"Awesome Foundation Youngstown is one chapter of a global network of Awesome Foundations," Thompson said. "My job is to find active and in-

terested trustees and have them commit to a \$100 buy-in that would eventually fill the \$1,000 grant and to also promote our cause in the community."

Youngstown received one of 64 Our Town grants from the National Endowment for the Arts to fund the public arts program, INPLACE (Innovative Plan for Leveraging Arts through Community Engagement).

"A lot of this was prompted by the NEA Our Town grant [that] we received to create the INPLACE project," Thompson said.

Thompson said the INPLACE project really brought a lot of great funding and enthusiasm to the arts community. He intends to use Awesome Foundation Youngstown as a means of assuring an ongoing commitment to investing in Youngstown and its artistic community.

While the grant is focused on creative arts and technology projects within the city limits of Youngstown, Thompson said proposals from outside those categories are considered.

"We've gotten applications from folks in Zimbabwe, from startup entrepreneurs that need help funding their business and a grant proposal the other day from a gentleman that wants to buy helmets for local youth football teams," Thompson said.

Thompson was first exposed to the Awesome Foundation through a contact in the Pittsburgh chapter. The Awesome Foundation has been funding projects since 2009 and veteran chapters like Pittsburgh have awarded several grants that impacted their community through grassroots projects.

"Getting the grant early on

helped clear our doubts and affirm that we were onto something," said Josh Corcoran, a member of one of the organizations impacted in Pittsburgh.

Awesome Pittsburgh's website describes the organization, Spare Change, as a creating platform for those who have had success playing music to give back while documenting the journey in a professional docuseries.

The organization expanded their charitable busking operations to proper event hosting after receiving the grant. Their first event raised nearly \$300 for the Rainbow Kitchen food bank and the video covering it received approximately 20,000 views in one week on their website www.sparechange.tv.

"Micro-grants are suited to these projects with a reasonable scope yet room to grow,"

Thompson said.

Lillian Lewis, fellow trustee and YSU assistant professor of art education, agreed by saying she is really interested in something that can have a lasting impact or something that has a ripple effect.

"It's something that is able to reach a number of people, maybe not just in its initial conception but in terms of its implications with how people work with it later," Lewis said.

She admired the accessibility of the Awesome Foundation's approach to community investment and said it eliminates a lot of barriers of entry to both funders and awardees.

Those interested in the competition must submit proposals to the foundation by Sept. 8.

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WELCOME WEEK CONTINUED...



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EDITORIAL: FAIRNESS FOR FACULTY

There has been plenty of talk recently about the Youngstown State University faculty members potentially going on strike over contract negotiations. This should not come as a surprise to anyone.

The faculty have not received an acceptable pay raise over the course of the past several contracts. Heavy workloads have been thrown onto them as well, whether that be in the classroom or administrative assistant work.

If the administration wants to continue this pattern into the current faculty contract, clearly faculty are not going to take this lightly.

Now, it should be addressed that no official strike has been issued yet. The OEA-YSU union and the administration still hope to reach an agreement before it comes to that, which would be the best outcome. If the administration does not treat the faculty with equity, a strike will be

administered. Not only will the university suffer, but the students will as well. Academics would be disrupted and some students could be thrown off track, and that's something that no one wants.

As students who pay to attend this university, it sometimes becomes easy to be selfish. Thoughts such as, "How will this affect me?" and "I hate the idea of everything pushed back closer to Christmas," start to run

through heads.

While these thoughts are natural and somewhat justified, it matters more to look at the larger picture. What would a university be without its professors? The answer is simple: nothing. The faculty are the ones who not only educate students, but also offer them guidance into their future careers and dedicate their time for the students and community's sake far beyond the classroom.

These individuals deserve to be compensated for all of the hard work and dedication that goes into teaching at a university. At the same time, students and faculty alike wish to be in the classroom doing what it is that this university was built for. With all of this in mind, the greatest news to come out of this dispute would be a compromise.

CIGARETTE BUTTS & BROKEN GLASS ...A LIVE MUSIC EXPERIENCE

NATHAN HRITZ

I recently had the privilege of attending a Kings of Leon concert at the KeyBank Pavilion just outside of Pittsburgh. The event itself was a special night for a variety of reasons. I have been a Kings of Leon fan for years now, but more importantly it was the last time I would be seeing my sister for a while as she was moving into her respective college within a few days of the concert — a bittersweet night to say the least.

We were greeted at the event by an ocean of drunken concert goers, apparently more interested in the drinking than the music. Cans and bottles of mediocre

beers littered the ground with an occasional can of Yuengling Lager here and there. This all leads into the point I want to make with my column this week.

Concerts are a magical thing, they really are. It is not just the music, or the social drinking, the overpriced snacks, or even the frisking at the front entrance. I truly believe that the mixture of all these things really makes going to concerts a beautiful thing. Otherwise, why would people go to them?

Okay, back to the music. The opening act was Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats and in all honesty, if you were to ask me to recommend a live act to see before you kick the bucket, I would highly suggest seeing them. They were absolutely fantastic. The energy that Nathaniel

Rateliff and his backing brought to the stage was astounding. They went above and beyond what I would expect of any opening act.

Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats set a higher bar for Kings of Leon to meet than they did in getting the crowd amped up with enough energy to "appreciate" Kings of Leon appropriately. I use the word "appreciate" liberally. At any rate, the opening act somehow managed to accomplish both.

Now onto the main act, Kings of Leon. I have not followed them extensively over the past few years. "Mechanical Bull" was the last KOL album that I truly enjoyed from start to finish. Of course, they were fantastic. It was almost humorous as they began the intro to "Use Somebody," a tid-

al wave of shrill screams came up out of the ocean of concert goers as if on cue.

To be honest, I would have paid the money just to see the opening act. If I am being really honest, I would venture to say that the opening act was a better listening and a better viewing experience than Kings of Leon themselves.

It is important now more than ever that we gather together in these crazy times regardless of race, color, or creed just to remember that we are all human. Music is an excellent catalyst for this, a universal language. It makes my heart happy to see that we as Americans, and more importantly as humans, have not lost sight of this.

With that being said, in the famed words of Garth Algar: Party on.

BEST FILM OF THE SUMMER 2017 EDITION

MARIO RICCIARDI

This past summer we saw the big screen debut of "Wonder Woman," not one, but two new Marvel movies, a new film by Christopher Nolan released in 70mm and a B.A. female take on everything James Bond is about. Describing the past summer movie season can cumulate into one word: epic. Even the new "Transformers" was epically awful.

With all those films to choose from, most would have a hard

time picking a favorite. Although I understand the indecisiveness of others, I have concluded firmly that one particular film has earned its spot as my favorite movie of the summer of 2017. That movie is a little film going by the title of "Baby Driver."

Written and directed by visionary (and audio-ary? If that's a word) Edgar Wright, starring Ansel Elgort, Lily James, Jon Hamm, Jamie Foxx and Kevin Spacey. In it we find the story of a young getaway driver, mixed in with the wrong people, tasked with performing one final heist that's destined to fail.

Along the way we get romance, comedy, drama and a killer soundtrack that goes down easy like Sunday morning. "Baby Driver" stood apart this summer as one of the few films that refused to use CGI to facelift its action.

With car stunts worthy of the "Fast and Furious" franchise being executed with nothing more than a stunt driver, 150 Subarus and some airbags, "Baby Driver" showed off some of the most daring and exciting action sequences all summer.

Assisting the stunting cars is a soundtrack that blends R&B, hip

hop, alternative tracks and oldies-but-goodies that turned the film into cinema's most untraditional musical. Edgar Wright's electric style of filmmaking is pushed to a new level in "Baby Driver" showing us why he earned a degree in audio-visual design.

The editing is fast-paced and engaging, the cinematography innovative and watching the film is like understanding a new language. Complaints in regards to the plot of "Baby Driver" failing to bring something gritty, or boundary pushing to meet the culture's standard should be

pushed aside.

"Baby Driver" is an art film disguised as a blockbuster. It makes itself easily accessible to those who prefer a little more action than movie in their action movies, but at the same time it asks that audience to raise their standard for smarter movies.

Thanks to its unique flare and honest performances from an A-list cast, "Baby Driver" has every right to be pretentious, but it refuses it for maximum, full-throttle, enjoyment absolutely deserving of a viewing. Just make sure you keep the volume up.

A TIGHTENING ISSUE WITH FASHION



Photo by TANNER MONDOCK/THE JAMBAR

MARAH J. MORRISON

Why is it that no matter how hard some people try, they can't find the pair of jeans that fit the way they would like?

Taci Turel, an associate professor in the fashion merchandising program at Youngstown State University, said fitting is one of the biggest issues in the fashion industry today.

"This is a problem because we no longer have tailors that we go to who produce garments to fit exactly to our bodies," Turel said. "We mass produce."

With mass production on the rise, people who work in the fashion industry need to have

some type of standardization of sizes, Turel said. The associate professor said these companies cannot just produce for one single person based on their sizes.

"You have to have an understanding that there are certain categories of sizes that the majority of people fall into," Turel said. "And then you try to produce your garments or mass produce based on those standardized sizes."

Turel said there is a lot of work put into the standardization of sizes in this industry and there are a lot of differences in size based on the masses that are trying to be customized.

"This has led to a lot of new technologies," Turel said. "There is actually this body scanning technology that came up."

The body scanner can determine anyone's exact measurements, but Turel said not all companies can afford to do this. Companies are working hard to try and minimize this sizing issue, but there is no clear cut answer on how to solve this problem, she said.

On the other hand, Tiffany Anderson, a YSU assistant professor in the department of English and the director of Africana studies, has not had a lot of problems with fit.

"Consistently I've had really good experience with Stitch Fix," Anderson said. "... which is a website where you go in and you put your preferences in and you put your size in."

Anderson said she believes the reason why she's always had

great fit from this website is because of the specifics they ask about the clothes customers are purchasing.

"We don't go into clothing stores and have people measure us," Anderson said. "We go in with this idea of, 'Oh this is my size,' but oftentimes we're wrong and we don't know what our size is or we're unwilling to admit what our size is."

Stephanie Miranda, a YSU student majoring in communications with a focus on media track with journalism and minoring in theater, is a Miss Ohio Latina 2013 and a Miss Ohio U.S. International 2015 winner. Miranda thinks clothing should be made to fit all types and all stores should carry every size for customers.

"When it comes to finding the best fit, it does get a little hard," Miranda said. "I always try my best to find a great seamstress so that way, the dress I fall in love with, I'm able to have."

Reilly Johnson, a YSU student majoring in fashion merchandising and minoring in marketing, has noted that most consumers feel confused the most when shopping in department stores. Johnson said this may be due to department stores selling a large array of brands.

"I've definitely encountered sizing issues within my circle of brands and stores," Johnson said. "I think companies should work with their product development teams as well as allocations to produce certain sizes for different regions and countries."



Cameron Morse celebrates after YSU's shocking takedown of the one-seeded Oakland University during the Horizon League tournament in March.

Courtesy of YSU SPORTS/JOSE JUARUZ

MORE THAN BASKETBALL: OVERSEAS TRIP MEANS THE WORLD FOR TWO YSU PLAYERS

MARC WEEMS

tion of the Global Sports Academy, or GSA, and it has been doing those trips for years.

"The first day we got there, a random guy comes up to Cam. We didn't know what he was saying and he was asking for a picture. Everything was just great. The scenery was wonderful and the history was great."

While both Morse and Haygood were there, GSA went 4-0 with them on the team.

"It was a great experience. I'm glad coach [Jerrod] Calhoun was able to get me on that trip," Morse said. "It was a nice little 7-day trip. We toured the city, played four games and rode through the mountains. Overall, it was a good experience."

Last season for YSU, Morse averaged 22.9 points per game

on 41.5 percent shooting. He also grabbed a career-high 3.2 rebounds and dished 3.1 assists per game.

"With Dev [Haygood] there, it was good for our team but it was great for us as teammates here," Morse said. "Now, I feel like I can go to him for more things. Late last year, we didn't talk much. We are building a bigger bond. That's my guy."

Last season, Haygood averaged 6.1 points per game while shooting 58.1 percent from the field. He also grabbed 3.7 rebounds and blocked one shot a game.

Haygood said that playing European-style basketball was much different than anything he played before.

"When it comes to basketball, out there it was just totally dif-

ferent than what we are used to here," Haygood said. "The referees are hard to understand. They might be telling you that I travelled and we'd say that's not a travel in the U.S. It was a big adjustment."

Haygood also said that the fouls were much weaker and that the European style was tough to get used to at first.

"We are both from Michigan and in Michigan, that is all we really know; the run-and-gun," Morse said. "We like to get up the court. He likes to dunk the ball and I like to score the ball and pass. I tell him just to run the floor and I will find him."

Morse also said that playing like that overseas has helped their practice because it helped push coach Calhoun's mentality and willingness to find the

extra man.

"On the court, Cam and I haven't really had a chance to play into my style of basketball," Haygood said. "When I was out there able to run, I played better. Just playing in the post last year wasn't my thing. Our new system showed how well me and him can play together."

In the second game of the tour, Morse put up 22 points while Haygood put up 22 in the third game of the tour.

"Their style of play means moving the ball around and finding the open man. That's what coach wants out of us so everything over there was to our advantage."

YSU will start the year on the road against Kent State University at the University of Akron on Nov. 11.

STARTING OFF HOT: YSU VOLLEYBALL STARTS OFF RIGHT

MARC WEEMS

The Youngstown State University volleyball team came into this season with low expectations. So far, those expectations have been exceeded as YSU has started the season 4-0.

YSU played in the Eagle Challenge at Morehead State University. YSU defeated Winthrop University 3-0, defeated Morehead State 3-0, and defeated Delaware State University 3-0.

YSU hadn't swept a match since Sept. 10, 2016 and also

hadn't won consecutive games since September of last season.

"I was very excited to get that win," YSU head coach Mark Hardaway said. "We weren't very good at home last year."

YSU went 0-9 at home last season which included two 5-set losses. YSU defeated Robert Morris University by a 3-2 score with a 15-11 final set.

"One of the team goals this year was to defend our home court. It felt really good to pull out the win. It's always good when you can win a 5-set match at home. It's also nice for the

fans. We had a great crowd and the men's basketball team came out so that was nice."

This is the first time YSU has started the season 4-0 since the 2014 season when YSU started 6-0, all on the road.

"It is going to be the toughest competition of the year so far for both tournaments," Hardaway said.

Right after a home tournament, YSU travels to the University of Texas at El Paso to face off with the University of New Mexico, the University of North Dakota, and UTEP.

"North Dakota is very solid,

New Mexico is solid, and El Paso is very good," Hardaway said. "This is a tournament that we scheduled because of the depth of talent. This is to start getting us prepared for the upcoming conference schedule. I expect it to be a tough weekend on the players."

YSU now has to look ahead to its next matches with La Salle University at home before the Courtyard Marriott-Canfield Penguin Invitational. That tournament will feature the Fort Wayne Mastodons, St. Francis (Pa.) University, and the Univer-

sity of Akron.

"My team probably wants to shoot me because we have to come back a day early," Hardaway said about the La Salle game. "A chance to get another home match was hard to pass up. The girls wanted something to play in between the Akron matches."

Hardaway also said that the idea of another good home game was impossible to pass up so he did it. He said that team will need that day because of the amount of class they have all missed early on.

PRESS BOX PERSPECTIVE: MAKE THAT NO. 27

SETH RIVELLO

Another NFL season is ready to kick off and of course there is another quarterback under center for the Cleveland Browns. Here it is Cleveland: DeShone Kizer will be the 27th quarterback to start for the Browns since it re-entered as an expansion team in 1999. There has only been one quarterback since then to start a full season for the Browns; that was Tim Couch in 2001.

The 6'4", 230-pound Notre Dame alumni Kizer is seasoned in winning quarterback competitions and college football games. In week two of the 2015 college football season, Notre Dame took on the Virginia Cavaliers with sophomore quarterback Malik Zaire under center. Late in the third quarter, Zaire went down

with a broken ankle. Kizer, the backup at the time, trotted onto the field and never looked back. That 2015 season, Notre Dame went on to win 10 games and lose three (eight wins and three losses with Kizer) and make a Fiesta Bowl appearance taking on The Ohio State University. Notre Dame was defeated by 16, but Kizer put up good numbers. He threw for 284 yards and two touchdowns while adding another touchdown on the ground.

Kizer started off his junior year with positivity, beating out Malik Zaire for the starting quarterback job. Coming off a ten-win season and a bowl appearance, Kizer and Notre Dame fans were expecting the most. Long story short, the 2016 Notre Dame team was a dumpster fire. It finished with a record of 4-8

while Kizer flung 26 TDs, threw for 2,925 yards, and added eight rushing TDs.

Kizer steps into the Browns quarterback room with a huge chip on his shoulder and a lot of confidence, something the Browns' quarterbacks have lacked in the past years.

"I do have the ability to be the greatest quarterback to ever play," Kizer said in an interview with Tom Pelissero of USA Today. "Imagine taking (Tom) Brady's intellect and Brady's preparation and putting it on a guy with Cam Newton's body. Why can't I be the greatest? The only thing stopping me from it is me. That's what's driving me now."

On Aug. 27, after Cleveland's third preseason game, DeShone Kizer was announced the starter

for week one versus the Pittsburgh Steelers. Kizer's potential and big play ability won the job over the pitiful veteran, Brock Osweiler, and brain-bobbled second year quarterback, Cody Kessler. Through the three games, Kizer led Browns quarterbacks in passing attempts, completions, passing yards, yards per pass attempt and is tied in passing touchdowns with fourth stringer Kevin Hogan at one. Coach Hue Jackson says he feels "very comfortable" with Kizer under center and says he "manages the team well."

Most teams improve from a one-win season but who knows? It is Cleveland, after all.

In free agency, the Browns stayed busy signing two stud offensive lineman in JC Tretter and Kevin Zeitler. They also signed a

receiver coming off his best statistical season, Kenny Britt.

After a strong free agency, the Browns then topped it off with a good draft. With one of its three picks in the first round, it selected the big, strong, wide receiver-like, tight end David Njoku from the University of Miami. Kizer has some big men up front to keep him safe, a hybrid tight end playmaker, and a good run game with Duke Johnson Jr. and Isaiah Crowell, not to mention second year playmaker Corey Coleman lined up in the slot and, depending on his reinstatement in the fall, number one receiver Josh Gordon. This team has a lot of upside, and it needed someone like Kizer to bring it out.



Tevin McCaster (37) runs the ball in a running back drill in preparation for YSU's game against the University of Pittsburgh.

Courtesy of YSU SPORTS

YSU SEASON OPENER: BUILDING ON SUCCESS & PAST FAILURES

CHRIS MCBRIDE

With the loss of key members from last season's championship run that came up short, the Youngstown State University football team looks to its upper-classmen to lead them into the new season.

YSU's roster features 20 seniors, eight of whom are returning players, while the others have come to YSU various ways. Headlining some of the returning seniors are Kevin Rader, Ricky Davis, Cole Newsome, Shane Kuhn and Justin Spencer.

Building from the momentum of his play last season, junior running back Tevin McCaster will be starting this season fol-

lowing in the footsteps of former Penguins Jody Webb and Martin Ruiz.

"I learned a lot from Webb and Ruiz. They were here for a long time and had a lot of success," McCaster said. "I worked with them a lot and now I'm excited to lead the group."

McCaster is expected to be an intricate part of the offense this upcoming season after he rushed for 652 yards on 129 carries in 2016.

A major factor in McCaster being able to achieve the same success will be the offensive line.

Last season for the Penguins four members of the offensive line started all 16 games. Of those four, YSU will have three returning. Those are Vitas Hrynkiwicz at center, Gavin Wiggins

at guard and Justin Spencer at left tackle.

Coming into the season, McCaster feels confident about the team's ability to win.

"We have the momentum right now, we had a long season last year and we wanna pick up where we left off," McCaster said.

Adding to the offense will also be tight end Kevin Rader.

Coming off a career season racking up 17 receptions, Rader expressed his excitement about getting back on the field against the University of Pittsburgh.

"All camp we've been itching at the moment to play Pitt," Rader said. "We played them two years ago and didn't get the result we wanted but we're ready to get out there and get the win."

Pelini recalled his 2015 debut

game against Pittsburgh, the high scoring game in which YSU suffered a 45 to 37 loss.

For Pelini, the game was a defensive nightmare he longs to forget.

"I'm a defensive guy," Pelini said. "I just watched that film the other day and I maybe want to burn it."

For this season's home opener it's something Pelini hopes to correct despite missing key players from the team's defense this year.

"We wanna execute in all three faces of the game and play as well as we can and if we do that we'll have an opportunity to win the game," Pelini said.

While Pittsburgh's defense managed to give up 407 yards, their defense also recorded six

sacks including a late sack to clinch the game by now returning linebacker Zach Poker.

Coming into the game against Pitt, Pelini hopes to use the game as a learning curve.

"After game one, we'll learn a lot more," Pelini said. "As we went on last year, we learned a lot and we were able to make the adjustments necessary as we [got] to know our team better — what we're gonna be good at, or what we're gonna be not as strong at."

"You have to be ready to make adjustments," Pelini said.

Youngstown State opens the 2017 season Sept. 2 at the University of Pittsburgh with kickoff at 1:00 p.m.