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THE STUDENT VOICE OF YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY SINCE 1931
THURSDAY 02 • 08 • 2018



NEWLY ELECTED MAYOR AND JUDGE HOLD TOWN HALL AT YSU

MORGAN PETRONELLI

Nearly 150 students and community members gathered in Youngstown State University's Ohio Room in Kilcawley Center on Tuesday to spark a dialogue with newly elected Youngstown Mayor Jamael Tito Brown and Municipal Court Judge Carla Baldwin.

The topic of persuading students and community members to stay in the city was a recurring issue throughout the town hall.

Marissa Snyder, a YSU student, asked if Brown and Baldwin will have any "millennial engagement."

Baldwin responded by inviting millennials and other young community members to her chamber where she said she would talk with them and explain how the

system works.

The room burst with laughter when Jaylin Archie, a YSU student, asked how they plan on fixing the pothole problem in Youngstown after he explained that two of his friends had three flat tires within two weeks.

"The father in me says slow down. The mayor in me says we have to look at best practice and how we can get better at keeping those potholes filled and keeping them closed up," Brown said.

Cryshanna Jackson Leftwich, associate professor in the politics and international relations department, voiced her frustrations with the recent faculty union contract negotiations at the university. She asked how the city was going to keep the millennials if they can't keep the other generations from leaving due to low pay.

Brown referenced the problem the local police department face with the compet-

itive wages that other departments offer. He said in order for people to stay in Youngstown there has to be a collaboration between YSU and the city.

Another topic raised by YSU social work students was predatory land contracts that target lower-income communities.

Brown said according to statistics, people doing the home buying are honest citizens, but aren't being careful enough when contracts are written.

He said home buyers are so eager to own a home that they don't look carefully between the lines, which essentially sets themselves up for failure.

"It's going to have to be up to the legislators to make it [illegal]," Brown said.

The town hall was hosted by YSU Student Government Association.

Ernie Barkett, SGA vice president, said SGA and the mayor plan to conduct monthly meetings to keep the conver-

Photo by MORGAN PETRONELLI/THE JAMBAR

sation going about what the university needs.

"We understand that YSU and the community are hand in hand. Right now we are trying to get a grocery store installed on campus, so that's something that I'm extremely excited to start working on together," Barkett said.

He said it's important for the elected officials to hear from the younger community because they will soon become the biggest voting base.

"What Mayor Brown was saying tonight is that we want to see change. We have to understand the only way we can have that change be met is if we talk to our officials," Barkett said. "If we go to the meetings. If we do the hard work that no one really wants to do, we get the end result that we all want to see."



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REFLECTION: OCTOBER 1970



TÊTE-A-TÊTE — A couple, seemingly isolated from an all-campus rally, ponder questions raised by two Kent State students on the indictments at KSU.

Photo Courtesy of YSU MAAG ARCHIVES

COVER OF *THE JAMBAR*

MELISSA TUROSİK

David Brown and his girlfriend attended an anti-Vietnam War rally at Youngstown State University, and a photograph of the pair appeared on the front page of *The Jambar* on Oct. 27, 1970.

Brown said he was listening to the speakers and was interested in what was occurring at the rally.

“We were kind of engaged with everything going on and lo and behold, one day I picked up *The Jambar* and there we were on the front cover,” Brown said.

Brown said he was “flabbergasted” when he discovered his picture on the front page.

“I was kind of humbled by it,” Brown said. “I’m not the type of person that

minds being front and center, but I don’t look to be the front and center of anything.”

Brown said he cannot remember much about that rally, but it was peaceful.

“If you were at one [anti-war rally], you were at all of them because fundamentally nobody in our age group wanted that war to be going on,” Brown said.

Prior to the YSU protest, students gathered at Kent State University on May 4, 1970.

Members of the Ohio National Guard fired at unarmed student protesters at KSU during the protest, killing four and injuring nine others.

Brown said he learned about the KSU protests by reading *The Jambar*. He said he was taken aback by the KSU shootings and told himself this violence should not

occur on a school campus.

Keith Robert’s late wife, Debbie Roberts, was on the campus of KSU when the shootings occurred.

“May 4, another demonstration began with speakers at the Victory Bell located in The Commons, which is in the rear of Taylor Hall,” Roberts said.

Roberts said the National Guard dispersed the crowd with tear gas and protesters were provoking members of the Guard.

Roberts said the Guard started shooting and his wife, Debbie, hid behind a Volkswagen.

“When the shooting stopped she came out of hiding, and there was screaming from her friends and classmates, blood everywhere, students bleeding and dying in front of her,” Roberts said.

Brown said he never enlisted into the service and was never drafted. He said he was petrified of the thought of going to fight in the Vietnam War.

“I’m a lover, not a fighter. If I’m backed into a corner, I’ll do what I need to do and I was that way back then and that part of me has not changed,” Brown said. “I’ve become more confident in who I am and I still wouldn’t want to go to war.”

Brown said he feels honored to be a part of history.

“Not that I played any significant role in anything going on, but if a picture means anything then yes, I did play a role and I feel privileged to be a part of anything that might leave a mark on the world in some way,” Brown said.

FASHION IN THE WINTER



Photos by TANNER MONDOK/THE JAMBAR

NAMI NAGAOKA AND RACHEL GOBEP

The freezing temperatures in Ohio make it difficult for students to choose an outfit for class.

Some people attempt to stay warm by bundling themselves in coats and layers of clothes, and some still choose to wear stylish outfits.

Courtney Weimer, a sophomore majoring in merchandising: fashion and interiors, said it's important to layer clothes in the winter.

"Whether someone's wearing a T-shirt or a sweater, they can always throw a flannel over or under it. Same goes with shoes; socks don't always have to be boring," Weimer said. "Dress up your shoe game with an embroidered or fishnet sock to spice things up."

She said she began to wear faux fur coats this winter.

"I've noticed that you can really wear a fur coat with just about anything. I've worn it with my most well-thought out and fancy outfits, all the way down to my sweat suits," she said.

Weimer said people should invest in a warm coat.

"Nothing is worse than wearing your sporty North Face with a nice outfit you spent some time picking out. Long lined coats are in, as goes for puffer coats," Weimer said. "Professional or casual, you can really go either way with it."

Madalyn Baker, a sophomore also majoring in merchandising: fashion and interiors, said she also enjoys wearing faux fur coats throughout the winter.

"I would wear a faux fur coat with ripped jeans or a dress and crazy patterned tights," she said. "I hate the cold, but I absolutely love winter fashion. I don't think I could ever live anywhere warm because I wouldn't be able to wear tights, sweaters, hats, coats and boots."

Alexis Marucci, a senior marketing major, said she has been a big fan of shoes since she was in high school and owns more than 50 pairs of shoes. She said she decides her shoes before deciding her outfit.

She also said she cares about fashion more than the weather.

"My feet will just freeze ... I don't really care. I try to be as fashionable as possible," Marucci said.

Tom Foley, a junior marketing and sales major, said he tries to look well qualified when he meets someone professional.

He said looking professional gives potential employers a good impression and people are not used to wearing a suit and tie, but some have to get used to it.

He said he tries to wear something nice when he goes out; however, he likes to wear sweatpants when going to class because they are comfortable.

Amy Crawford, acting chair of the communication department, said she has planned her outfits for work a week in advance for the past 15 years.

"I find that I'm getting older ... but I know what works for me," she said. "I still enjoy fashion."

She said she wears nice clothing when she needs a boost.

"[Fashion] can impact my mood ... It impacts the way that I feel and my energy," Crawford said.

SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT NAMED

RACHEL GOBEP AND
JORDAN UNGER

A Special Assistant to the President was named on Feb. 2 at Youngstown State University.

Mike Sherman will manage the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning, including the Division of Student Success and the Office of Institutional Research.

Sherman was previously an assistant professor at Texas A&M University, a faculty member and vice provost at Ohio State University and a senior vice president and provost at the University of Akron.

Sherman grew up in Dublin, Ohio and said he worked at Texas A&M for two semesters before taking a position at OSU in 1985, which was close to home.

"In higher education, you don't usually get to work where you grew up," Sherman

said.

He began working at UA in 2010 and left to become an education consultant in 2016. He said he will be able to look at his prior experience and it will help him in his new position.

"What I really think I can bring to an opportunity such as this is helping support the success of the academic enterprise ... and creating opportunities for academic excellence to be enhanced," Sherman said.

He said he would like to continue the progress YSU has made to become an institution of choice and prepare its students to become employees of choice.

Although YSU President Jim Tressel and Sherman worked at OSU at the same time, Sherman said they did not interact much.

"At Akron, we worked very closely together on integrating student success with academic excellence," he said.

Sherman said he and Tressel shifted the conversation about student success at UA.

"The student success committee ... became very active and led the institution in some activities that created institution wide conversations about student success," he said.

According to a YSU press release on Feb. 2, Tressel said Sherman's experiences "will serve as an important guidepost" to the university.

"Dr. Sherman has more than three decades of extensive academic and management experience in higher education, from the classroom to the highest levels of administrative leadership," Tressel said.

Sherman said students at YSU need to support their own success, but the university needs to back them.

"We have to make sure faculty are treated right and respected and they have the opportunity to grow professionally and deliver great academic programs," he said.

Sherman said he is excited to have the opportunity to support YSU.

"My overarching philosophy has always



Photo Courtesy of YSU NEWS CENTER

been to enable students' access and success, stimulate academic excellence and support engagement with the community in mutually beneficial ways," Sherman said in the press release.

Sherman said when he was provost at UA, he visited YSU while collaborating with other provosts in Northeastern Ohio and said the campus-wide changes have been "remarkable."

"It is a pleasure to join the YSU team and to have the opportunity to build on the many successes already achieved here at the university," Sherman said in the press release.

According to the professional/administrative staff position description, Sherman's hiring salary range is \$100,323-\$135,483.

GABBY GIFFORDS AND MARK KELLY TO SPEAK AT YSU SKEGGS LECTURE

MORGAN PETRONELLI

What do a former congressional representative and an astronaut have in common? Gun violence.

On Feb. 15, former U.S. Rep Gabby Giffords and retired NASA astronaut and Navy combat veteran Mark Kelly will travel to Youngstown, Ohio to speak at the Youngstown State University Skeggs Lecture Series at 7 p.m. at Stambaugh Auditorium.

Giffords was a target of an assassination attempt in Tucson, Arizona at a Congress on Your Corner event in January 2011. She suffered a gunshot wound at point-blank range to her head. The gunman went on to kill six people at the event and injure 12 others.

She survived, but the traumatic event has left her with

trouble controlling her arms and legs, speaking and hearing. Giffords subsequently stepped down from Congress.

In her biography on Giffords.org, Giffords says she is still a gun rights supporter and believes it is "the constitutional right of all Americans to safely and responsibly own firearms," despite being a victim of gun violence.

After hearing about what happened to Giffords, Kelly rushed to be by his wife's side. He went on to take part in his last launch as a NASA astronaut just a few weeks after the shooting, according to space.com.

Jackie LeViseur, director of university events at YSU, said the Skeggs Lecture Series board tries to keep the topics and speakers diverse.

Previous speakers include journalist Anderson Cooper, "The Handmaid's Tale" author Margaret Atwood and Watergate whistleblower Bob Woodward.

"The board thought that Gabby and Mark had a really inspiring message and something that we haven't had as part of a Skeggs Lecture Series before," LeViseur said.

She said that YSU is about learning and sparking dialogue, and that's what these lectures do.

"Even if you don't know much about these speakers, you leave each event learning something new and that's really what we're about here at YSU," LeViseur said.

LeViseur said people have the opportunity to see these experts and world-renowned speakers at no cost due to donations from the Skeggs family.

In fall 2018, the lecture series will feature actor, writer and political commentator Ben Stein.

There is no cost to attend the event, but tickets are required. Tickets can be reserved at the Stambaugh Auditorium box office or online at stambaughauditorium.com.



Photo Courtesy of DAVID MOLITERNO

YOUNGSTOWN COFFEE CLUB BRINGING COFFEE TO DOORSTEPS

RACHEL GOBEP

Through the Youngstown Coffee Club, subscribers can receive whole bean coffee from different local shops each month at their doorstep.

The business began two months ago and is in its infancy, but it's designed to let people experience different flavors of Youngstown coffee such as those at Stone Fruit Coffee Company and Branch Street Coffee Roasters, according to David Moliterno, owner of the Coffee Club.

"We got a lot more momentum than I thought we would get in two months, so that's really encouraging," Moliterno said.

Moliterno said there will be a different local coffee shop featured in the subscription each month, which could give those who only go to one shop a new experience of flavor and open people up to trying new things.

"[Most coffee drinkers] go to one shop. They know just one flavor, one roast and they don't expand and really try new flavors," Moliterno said.

He said the Coffee Club is a way to help support local businesses and help money stay into the community.

He also said people from out of the area have contacted him wanting to receive Youngstown coffee monthly.

Moliterno, a true coffee enthusiast, said he tries various flavors of coffee and will go to two or three coffee shops in the area every day. He said each shop has "different, unique flavors."

He said he currently has multiple flavors at home and drinks two cups of coffee at night before going to sleep.

Through the subscription, Moliterno said people will not only receive coffee, but locally made candles and baked goods.

"It's not just one thing you're getting. You're getting a taste of Youngstown and

the Mahoning Valley," he said.

Stone Fruit also has a subscription that focuses just on coffee, but the coffee is also sold through the Coffee Club, according to owner and chief coffee meister, Josh Langenheim.

Langenheim said he was interested in helping Moliterno with his business because it is a locally based company, trying to promote Youngstown products.

"Anything that we can do to put Youngstown back on the map, we're interested in doing ... This is all about Youngstown," he said.

Scott Couchenour, a Youngstown State University graduate and founder of Coffeeprops, an Instagram account that showcases photos of coffee, said he has discussed the topic of coffee and the elements that are related to it with Moliterno.

He said the elements include local coffee, passion and millennials.

"Coffee is something that draws us together," Couchenour said.

With his Instagram account, Couchenour uses photos other people or shops took of coffee or coffee related things and gives "props" to them. The account has over 92 thousand followers in 185 different countries.

Couchenour said it is good to support local coffee shops through something like the Coffee Club.

The Coffee Club offers two ways to receive a coffee subscription: Just the Beans, which includes 8-10 ounces of fresh roasted whole bean coffee, and Coffee Club, which includes 8-16 ounces of fresh roasted whole bean coffee and items from local bakers or shops.

Subscriptions can be made for one, three, six or twelve months and orders can be made at youngstowncoffeeclub.com.

THE ARCHAEOLOGIST OF YSU

RACHEL GOBEP

Matt O'Mansky said he knew he wanted to be an archaeologist when he was 10 years old — and he followed through.

"I'd seen King Tut's treasures at the Smithsonian ... so it was always in my mind that I want to do this," he said.

O'Mansky is the chair of the sociology, anthropology and gerontology department at Youngstown State University and said he has traveled to numerous countries including the Bahamas, Belize, China, Egypt, France and Guatemala for field work since the 1990s.

He said the first time he experienced field work in Central America was in Belize, while studying for his undergraduate degree at Indiana University. He spent three months there in 1990.

"[Belize] was my first chance to do archaeology and I loved the experience. I just fell in love with the Maya, the ruins, the artifacts, the jungle and just everything about it," O'Mansky.

During graduate school at Vanderbilt University, O'Mansky said he began to go on Guatemalan excursions in 1994 and has gone almost every year since.

"The professor I wanted to work with at Vanderbilt, Arthur Demarest, is among the top in the field. He works in

Guatemala and I was on his project," he said.

To this day, O'Mansky said he still performs fieldwork with Demarest.

"He is the reason I wanted to go to Vanderbilt and I've had incredible experiences with him," O'Mansky said.

He said there were many years where he would spend four months in a tent camp in the Guatemalan jungle and three or four months in a lab house in Guatemala City.

O'Mansky said one of the best archaeological finds he has had was with a U.S.-Guatemalan team in Cancuén, Guatemala, which is the central sight he is working at now.

He said there had been some earlier work where people had mapped small parts of the site and realized there was a palace.

Today this palace is known as Tajal Chan Ahk, and O'Mansky said it is one of the largest Mayan palaces ever built with about 200 rooms.

O'Mansky said when the palace was mapped, it was during the rainy season and snakes come out more. He said the Guatemalans would make fun of him because he would wear snake guards.

"There are lots of snakes, most are innocuous but some will kill you ... We come across the corner and there's a six-foot-long barba amarilla, which is a pit viper," he said.

He said he takes students to perform archaeological excavating and field work during spring break in the Ba-

hamas and Guatemala, and some summers in Guatemala. He said some students have accompanied him numerous times.

"It's commonly said that you don't learn archaeology in a classroom, you learn it by doing it in the field through field schools," he said.

According to a Jambar article in 2012, Sara Weigel, a former YSU student, traveled to the Bahamas with O'Mansky and went on an excursion to Guatemala in 2012. She said her favorite memory was ziplining over Lake Atitlan, while surrounded by volcanoes.

He said he brings two to four students with him to Guatemala during the summer, but many more students are able to attend spring break excursions in the Bahamas and Guatemala.

O'Mansky said it is about the experiential learning for the students.

"Every two or three years we'll do a trip [in Guatemala], usually during spring break for about 10 days and we're not doing archaeology, but it's an optional add-on to my Maya class," he said.

O'Mansky teaches a range of anthropology courses, including field classes and said he always goes back to the Maya and case studies he has conducted when giving examples in class because it is what he knows best.

O'Mansky said he will be doing field work in Guatemala this summer.

A JAMBAR

EDITORIAL:

PHILADELPHIA "CELEBRATION": CAN SOMEONE SAY, "HYPOCRISY"?

This past weekend, the Super Bowl featured many amazing performances. From the Eagles' spectacular win to Justin Timberlake's halftime show, the Super Bowl lived up to its anticipated entertainment. But along with the performances came controversy. While we can talk all we want about Justin Timberlake's tribute to Prince, the real controversy lies in the so-called celebration the Eagles' fans held in the streets.

According to the BBC, only three arrests were made among the looting, brawling, vandalism, trespassing and destruction. Specific incidents include flipping cars, climbing the City Hall gates, and attempting to tear down traffic lights and lamp

posts. Videos show disturbing footage, from an Eagles fan eating horse feces to the Ritz Carlton Hotel's awning collapsing under the weight of dozens of people, some of whom were previously seen jumping off it.

But despite the damage, injury and chaos, many news outlets have called this an act of "celebration."

According to Merriam-Webster, the definition of celebrate is, "to observe a notable occasion with festivities."

The definition of a riot, on the other hand, is, "a violent public disorder; specifically: a tumultuous disturbance of the public peace by three or more persons assembled together and acting with a com-

mon intent."

In the past, the Black Lives Matter movement has been condemned for riots in Baltimore and Ferguson. Properties were looted and vandalized, hundreds were arrested and many officers and civilians were injured. Police officers used tear gas and other forms of violence to subdue protesters and rioters.

Why then, in a state of violent public disorder, were Eagles fans not subjected to the same treatment?

According to Newsweek, BLM New York President Hawk Newsome might have an answer.

"Somehow, it seems there's a line drawn in the sand where destruction of proper-

ty because of a sports victory is OK and acceptable in America," Newsome said. "However, if you have people who are fighting for their most basic human right, the right to live, they will be condemned."

"You can riot if you're white and your team wins, but if you're black and being killed, you can't speak out," he added.

He also called the lack of denunciation from authorities "a glaring example of white privilege."

In essence, some of the same people who have complained about NFL players kneeling for the flag are now burning and condoning the burning of the birthplace of American democracy.



CHRISTIAN POWERS: A STONE FRUIT ARTIST *AND* BARISTA

MARAH J. MORRISON

What started out as a hobby turned into something for Stone Fruit Coffee Company's customers and employees to enjoy. The chalk murals people see when they venture inside the coffee shop are the works of Christian Powers.

Powers was a barista at Starbucks when he first started working with art, and he went to high school with the regional manager of Stone Fruit.

Powers said the regional manager contacted him one day, saying she had a chalkboard that needed some art on it. He was just expecting a little bulletin board, but ended up with a massive wall.

"I've never worked with chalk in such a way that it would be like, 20 feet high," Powers said.

He ended up not only as an employee at Stone Fruit, but also an artist for them as well. He said since he has gotten better at it, he can finish murals quicker.

"Some things I can do all at once," Powers said. "When



Photos by MARAH J. MORRISON/THE JAMBAR

I do these huge, entire walls, I need to come back to it because it is exhausting."

Powers said some of the chalk murals he's done are pre-drawn. He thinks of ideas, but a lot of the time, it just spews. He said he will do a little portion of the wall, and then he'll sit down and sketch something else up, and then he'll stand up and start again whenever he has an idea.

"I'm actually terrified of heights," Powers said. "There's these massive ladders involved or we get a scaffold, so I have to use the help of those and I'm terrified the whole time."

Powers said he's doing this because he gets a lot of freedom to express his artistic abilities. He said Stone Fruit owner Josh Langenheim is cool about it.

"When I first did it, it was all coffee related and all Stone Fruit," Powers said. "As it progressed, he said just do whatever you want, the art I want is from your head."

Syd Clayton, a manager at Stone Fruit, said Powers chalk art for Stone Fruit has given him opportunities to

go around in the community to do art for different places.

Emma Linnen, a barista at Stone Fruit, said Powers is the most artistically talented person she's ever known. She said sometimes she will sit and watch Powers draw after hours.

Linnen said from the very beginning, Powers might have something in his book where he draws and sketches everything out initially, and when he puts it up on the wall, he does it all free hand.

"Even if he doesn't like something when it's up on the wall, he'll change it to something that his mind already knows it wants to do," Linnen said. "The way he goes about shading and the color choices and everything, it's very articulate, but he nails it every single time."

Clayton said Powers' art is a huge aspect of Stone Fruit's image. He said every location has the chalk art and the woodwork, so the two go hand in hand.

"His brain is just wired differently than the average person," Clayton said. "The capacity he has for creativity is pretty insane."



Photo by JOHN STRAN/THE JAMBAR

JOHN STRAN

Mad About the Arts celebrated their 23rd event Friday with a building full of observers and art in various forms. The McDonough Museum of Art hosted the event, offering a variety of sampled foods from prominent restaurants in the Mahoning valley, which were scattered throughout the gallery.

In the lower level of the museum, the Youngstown State University Jazz Ensemble performed, followed by the Sensations, a four-piece soul and pop group. As the music switched from swinging jazz to dance pop, people were either dancing or mingling with their fellow art enthusiasts.

Leicester Stovell, a horn player for the jazz ensemble, was playing at the event for the first time. He said he really enjoyed his experience and how all the different genres of art came together for one crowd-gathering night.

"This event shows that art is art no matter how it is

created," Stovell said.

The event is held every year to benefit the McDonough and WYSU, YSU's public radio station. Tricia Perry, the funding officer for WYSU, said the yearly event is vital to raise money for both programs.

The entrance fee was \$80 for the public and \$65 for YSU students and staff, prices that may deter some from attending. Perry said because it's a fundraiser for two programs, it's essentially combining two events into one and paying \$40 for each event, which is one of the cheapest prices available for an event like this.

The ticket price did not appear to be a major barrier this year though, with moments of constrained movement throughout the museum. Leslie Brothers, director of the McDonough, said the atmosphere changes into something extraordinary when the Mad About the Arts season is upon the museum.

The extraordinary atmosphere change Brothers spoke of is something Perry attributes to the buildings infrastructure.

"There's never a permanent exhibition, so there's always a minimalist feel to the McDonough," Perry said. "It's really a perfect setting for the event."

The exhibition displayed that day was the YSU faculty exhibition, Immersion. An event containing this amount of art every year may not always be the simplest to put together, but Perry credits the continuing tradition to good collaborations and timing.

"Now, it seems like everyone knows about Mad About the Arts," Perry said. "It comes along every year when there isn't much else going on so it's noticed a lot more."

Perry said the groups who catered the event have, for the most part, been with the event for the last 10 years and they're always willing to participate. For Stovell, Mad About the Arts has a definite importance within the YSU community.

"It's a benefit, so it's important to help raise money for the two programs," Stovell said. "As a student, it gives me the opportunity to be in a very professional atmosphere."

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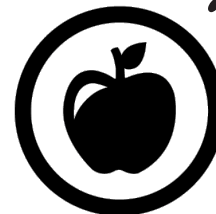
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MARIO'S MOVIES: THE GREATEST SHOWMAN REACHES FOR GREATNESS; NEARLY GRASPS IT

MARIO RICCIARDI

For an actor whose career has spanned 17 years of playing one of Marvel's angriest superheroes, Hugh Jackman sure knows how to switch gears. I suppose that's part of the job description when you're an actor, but Jackman does so with poise – a certain poise that sets him apart from many of Hollywood's other leading men.

One minute he's stabbing through hearts with claws, the next he's moving them with songs from Les Mis. Not to mention that he can act too (Prisoners anyone?). He's a regular triple threat (even though there's nothing regular about that) and the box office knows it. His latest star vehicle is the musical/P.T. Barnum biography, "The Greatest Show-

man."

"The Greatest Showman" tells the story of P.T. Barnum, the eccentric dreamer behind the Barnum & Bailey Circus. Although Barnum has a legacy that to this day isn't the most ethically outstanding, Showman glosses over all that to tell a blissful story about holding on to your dreams.

As Jackman's portrayal of Barnum grows from boy to man, he manages to get the girl, raise a beautiful family and invent a business that allows society's undesirables to shine. It's an optimistic story void of drama until a race-fueled romantic subplot and Barnum's personal deviation from his original intent for the circus comes to fruition.

The additional subplots are crucial to the structure of the film, not to mention keep the audience engaged. Unfortunately, director Michael Gracey fails to flush

them out. It has just enough drama to keep the attention of the audience, but not gain their concern. Hence, the story portion of the musical doesn't do as much as it could. Luckily, in turn, the key component to every musical is ... the music.

"The Greatest Showman" flaunts a soundtrack that does an outstanding job combining show tunes with pop power ballads. The opening song "The Greatest Show" starts us on a ride that takes us through performances by Jackman, Zac Efron, Zendaya and Loren Allred – all formidable singers who outshine the film's narrative simply by singing and dancing their hearts out to a beautiful whirlwind of camerawork.

From the start to finish, the music of "The Greatest Showman" is its own element that leaves you in high anticipation for each following number. It's hard not to be swept away by this tale of dreamers

risking it all for a world that does not want to accept them. Showman has a unique optimism and persistence that does not alienate. It is made for all backgrounds and interests. Despite its occasional shortcomings, it manages to speak to the hearts of its audience. It is a feel-good movie that is worth feeling good about. "The Greatest Showman" is not a Christmas movie, but it carries the same romanticism and light-heartedness Christmas movies are so beloved for. It shines as a whirlwind of color and positive messages regarding our social climate.

Unfortunately, it misses the mark on providing anything truly substantial. I encourage you all to see it, but I would not insist upon it. Now, going to Spotify to listen to the soundtrack ... that's a different story.

 (3/5 Penguins)

SWING ON THROUGH

SAMANTHA ALLAN

Youngstown is full of great bars and hangouts that offer a relaxed place to visit on any given night. Many of these bars also offer an eclectic variety of music to enjoy. Cedar's West End is no different.

Cedar's has been a core part of the Youngstown atmosphere for quite some time. Bands and acts from all around the area visit here and offer a selection of music you simply cannot find anywhere else.

While the selection of live music is a great part of the environment, there is one aspect of Cedar's West End that makes it really unique. Every Thursday night, Cedar's offers a night of swing dancing. For a \$2 entry fee, you can get a short lesson on East Coast Swing at 8:45 p.m. each week.

No matter what your experience level, the whole group

openly welcomes anyone who wishes to come inside. You can bring a friend or easily partner up with any of the great regulars. The lessons are broken down in such a way that anyone can learn a few basic steps and spins.

While I came across this gem through mutual friends at Youngstown State University, the dancers include a great variety of ages and skill levels. For the more seasoned swingers, Lindy Hop or Charleston is also available to anyone who stops by at 8 p.m.

The beginning of the month marks the new cycle of the more advanced steps and progresses further each week. The instructors are super friendly, and the atmosphere of the lessons are relaxed and fun. The steps are broken down and explained in a way that is easy to pick up. Small mistakes are also not focused on too much; they simply offer suggestions to improve as you learn.

The fun really starts after the lessons, when a disc jockey or band comes in and plays a selection of light and

fun swing music. All of the regulars are always happy to dance with you, regardless of your level. They are quick to give advice and small talk as you step through the music.

As mentioned before, the atmosphere is really what makes Cedar's Swing Night a great place to head to on a Thursday night. Entering the doorway is almost like walking into a time capsule of upbeat music and friendly new faces.

Most of the dancers are dressed up in clothes that reflect the era of swing and give the night even more personality. Dresses will be twirling as dancers spin out and step their way through the music.

If you are looking to learn something new, Cedar's Swing Night is a great spot to visit. You can dress up, meet a lot of great people and enjoy a few drinks as you pick up a hobby like no other.

JAMBAR CROSSWORD PUZZLE: WHAT'S GOING ON

ROBIN STEARS

HOW TO GET AN A SOLUTIONS:

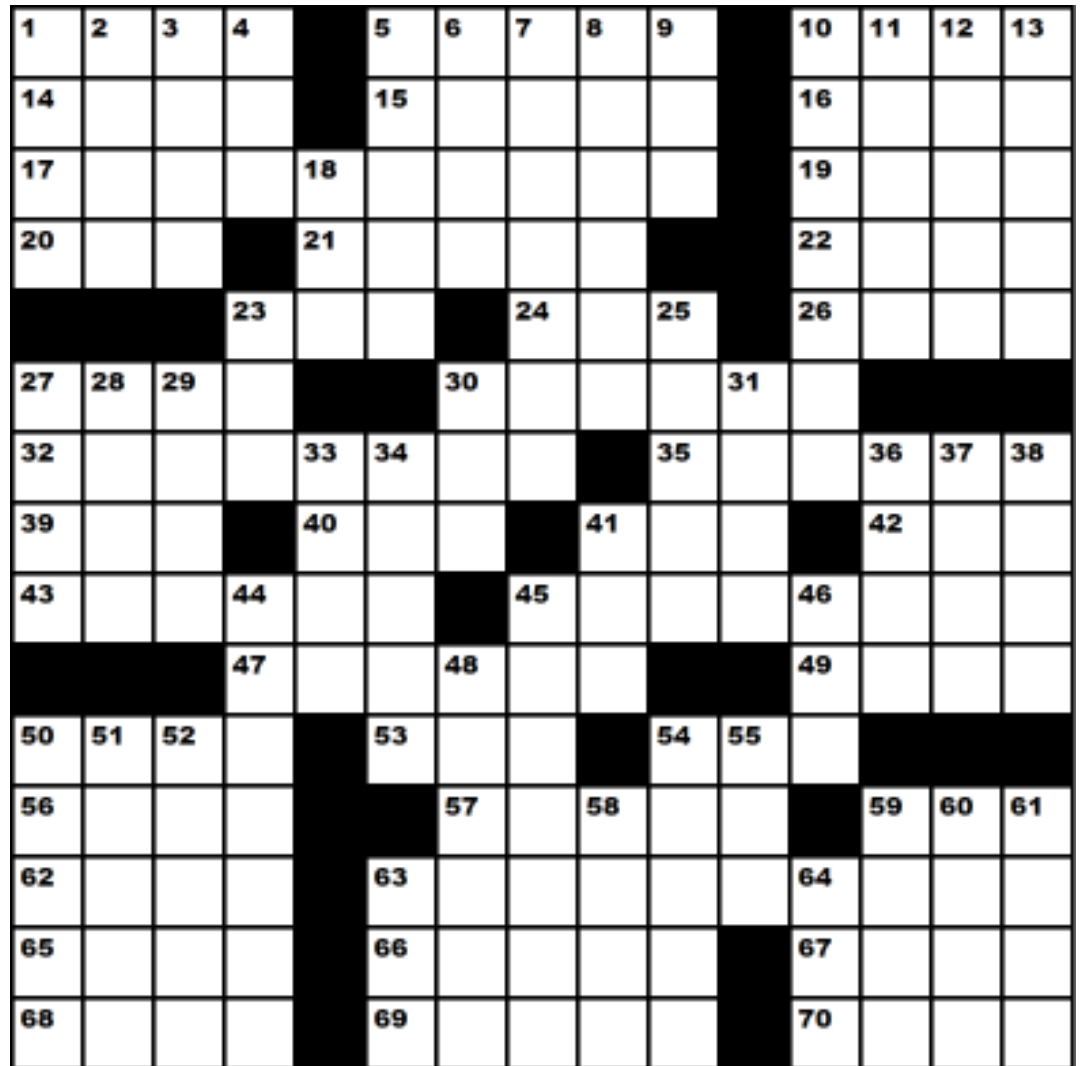
Across

- 1. Noah on "Falling Skies"
- 5. Barnes & ___ bookstore
- 10. De Matteo of "Sons of Anarchy"
- 14. "___ Flux" (Charlize Theron film of 2005)
- 15. Consumed ramen in the dorm, say (2 wds.)
- 16. Ursula's Flotsam and Jetsam
- 17. Female-centric dinner being served in Christman on Feb. 14
- 19. Anything but that
- 20. Part of QED
- 21. Superlatives
- 22. Pro ___ (in proportion)
- 23. Some econ. degrees (Abbr.)
- 24. Fired up
- 26. Observe a posted parking restriction
- 27. Coin featuring Leonardo da Vinci's Vitruvian Man
- 30. Obi-Wan ___
- 32. Women's Basketball opponent on Feb. 17
- 35. 66 Across, for one
- 39. Brutus Buckeye's sch.
- 40. Computer key abbr.
- 41. Feb. 14 event in the Lower Arcade of Kilcawley
- 42. ___ de Janeiro
- 43. Dana Prof. Caroline Oltmanns' album, "Venezia e ___"
- 45. Watch party winter sports event on Feb. 9 in the Kilcawley Annex
- 47. Bake sale item
- 49. "Law & Order: SVU" rapper-turned-actor
- 50. Poetry class inspiration
- 53. Dry, as wine
- 54. "Zounds!" in a text message
- 56. Quotation notation
- 57. ___ apso (dog breed)
- 59. Progressive spokesperson
- 62. Bogus
- 63. "___ 101": Feb. 15 Ohio Room event about fraternities for those who don't benefit from white privilege
- 65. ___ Valley, Calif.
- 66. It comes from the heart
- 67. In the vicinity
- 68. Gilgamesh's story, notably
- 69. Ewoks' home moon
- 70. ___-Seltzer

Down

- 1. Hourly pay
- 2. Office of First-___ Experience
- 3. Agent Coulson's 1962 Chevrolet Corvette
- 4. Suffix in chemistry class
- 5. Archibald, Thurmond, and the "Great" kid-lit detective
- 6. Big name in elevators
- 7. Unlikely M1 sight
- 8. ___ wait; lurks (2 wds.)
- 9. Jazz group (Abbr.)
- 10. John Boyega movie being shown on Feb. 16 in the Schwebel Lounge
- 11. Amy Winehouse hit song
- 12. NCAA's ___ 90
- 13. Put to the test
- 18. Cavs group (Abbr.)
- 23. Stooge with a bowl cut
- 25. All-too-agreeable suck-up

- 27. Spengler who is the first to spot the Stay Puft Marshmallow Man
- 28. Major or minor found in Ward Beecher?
- 29. Sign on for another tour
- 30. Kit ___ bar
- 31. Stoker who wrote "Dracula"
- 33. Simba's beloved
- 34. CCAC's ___ Hall
- 36. "South Park" kid
- 37. Sushi ingredient
- 38. David who played the Blue Power Ranger
- 41. Layer, as TP
- 44. Amateur event on Feb. 15 in The Hub, "___ Night" (2 wds.)
- 45. Fruit farm
- 46. Wilbur or Babe, famously
- 48. Squeal or rat (2 wds.)
- 50. Shot rarely seen in pool
- 51. Behind the times
- 52. "Same here!" (3 wds.)
- 54. Schindler with a famous list
- 55. Jenny or Penguin Review, for short (Abbr.)
- 58. X-___ knife
- 59. Have a hunch
- 60. Plumbing problem
- 61. Gumbo veggie
- 63. Date for Mini Golf Madness on Feb. 19 at the Rec Center, maybe
- 64. Genetic "messenger" (Abbr.)





Naz Bohannon (#33) looks to get the inbounds pass as Dikembe Dixon (#10) guards him.

Photo Courtesy of YSU SPORTS INFORMATION

FRUSTRATIONS MOUNT FOR PENGUINS BASKETBALL

CHRIS MCBRIDE

The novelty of playing at home has seemingly worn off for the Youngstown State University men's basketball team. Since ending its road trip, YSU has dropped its last two games played at the Beeghly Center.

YSU (6-19, 4-8 Horizon League) started the first of its two-game homestand against Northern Kentucky University and Wright State University.

The Penguins best effort of the two games came against the Norse, keeping pace with them in a 95-85 loss.

Youngstown State had four in double figures being led by Braun Hartfield with 23, a career-high 19 for Tyree Robinson, and Cameron Morse and Devin Haygood with 13 and 11, respectively.

Both teams traded scoring runs in the second half but eventually the 59.6 percent shooting Northern Kentucky overcame.

"I thought we battled, I thought we

played hard," YSU Head Coach Jerrod Calhoun said. "If you play in a half-court against that team everyone loses. You have to press, you have to fly around to beat them, I thought we did that, we just gave up so many easy ones."

Next came the Raiders last Saturday.

The Horizon League-leading Wright State showed exactly why it has earned its place among the rest of the league. Regrouping from a loss to Cleveland State University, the Raiders pummeled YSU 83-57.

What promise the Penguins showed in the first half faded fast as a 9-2 lead quickly evaporated over the next 15 minutes of the first. From there on, a flurry of scoring runs including 14 unanswered points stiffened the Youngstown State defense.

The Penguins jabbed back to begin the second half getting the lead to 17 at one point. From there, the Raiders, led by Ursuline graduate Mark Hughes, closed out the game shooting 57 percent.

Hughes contributed 15 points on the game in total with three others making

it into double figures. Meanwhile, only Hartfield reached that threshold for YSU, scoring 20 points.

After the game, Calhoun pointed the finger at himself in the post-game despite players saying the same about themselves.

"You can't blame kids anymore, you're not allowed to do that, I take full blame," Calhoun said, visually upset after facing a bad loss in front of a crowd of over 5,000.

Calhoun's passion echoed that of Naz Bohannon who tried his best from the bench to fire up teammates.

His outspokenness carried over into the press conference this week as Bohannon also voiced his frustrations with how the season is playing out.

"We shouldn't be 25 games into the season and asking when do we get to the point where we stop it," Bohannon said. "It's just about pride and heart within yourself. We have to figure out when are we going to punch back."

Stepping into a leadership role as a freshman is a tough order with a several upperclassmen that have been here be-

fore. A freshman finding his voice among the vets is challenging but that doesn't deter Bohannon from assuming his place on a team struggling.

"People tell me all the time, you're just a freshman, it's all right, we put you in shoes a little too big for you," Bohannon said. "When they gave the shoes to me, I chose them, they had to fit so it's my job to get the team to go."

Time is running out. With six games remaining on the regular season and a chance to salvage the season before the tournament, this young Penguins team is still finding themselves.

Building a winner for Youngstown remains to be a priority for Calhoun, citing a high demand for it around the area.

"This place they want to fill it up. They want a winner. So we have to give them that," Bohannon said.

A road trip to Chicago is next for Youngstown State as they face University of Illinois at Chicago this Thursday at 8 p.m. in UIC Pavilion.

PRESS BOX PERSPECTIVE: THE DUMPSTER FIRE THAT IS THE CLEVELAND CAVALIERS

SETH RIVELLO

When you look at any roster before the season, no matter what sport, you normally have high hopes. “This guy will have a career year” or “This guy is going to help a lot.” That’s what I was thinking when I first saw the Cleveland Cavaliers roster, and many others thought the same thing.

Back in August, All-Star point guard Kyrie Irving was traded to the Boston Celtics because of his unwillingness to play with LeBron James. In return, the Cavaliers received an injured, undersized scoring threat in Isaiah Thomas, forward Jae Crowder, some big guy named Ante Zizic, and the Brooklyn Nets 2018 first round draft pick.

At the time, this seemed great. Thomas was averaging 28 points per game in the regular season for Boston, Crowder was scoring in double digits and a good defender, and the Brooklyn pick might be top-3.

So far, Thomas has only played 13 games and is a locker room cancer. He’s reportedly called out Kevin Love in

a team meeting for faking an illness against the Oklahoma City Thunder and just hasn’t found a place in the offense. He’s shooting the ball at a measly 36 percent while in Boston, Irving has turned into the man.

Now, the Cavs might be third in the Eastern Conference standings at 30-21 but they don’t stand a chance in the playoffs. They won’t compete with the Western Conference and possibly the two teams above them in the East: Boston Celtics and Toronto Raptors. The Cavs are missing a big man so they are trying to deal before the deadline, today at 3 p.m.

No team wants to take on Tristan Thompson’s \$82 million contract because he flat-out can’t play. They pretty much paid a Pringles can to play center. Other assets are J.R. Smith who is shooting 37 percent, injured Kevin Love who still produces when healthy, the Brooklyn first rounder, and LeBron James. It might seem unholy to trade LeBron but if you think about it, he probably won’t be in Cleveland next year and when he leaves, this team is nothing.

A team would be willing to give up major assets for

LeBron not just to win but to also sell tickets and merchandise. It seems like Dan Gilbert (Cavs owner) and LeBron don’t really get along so this move seems very possible if he waived his no trade clause. It would be better to take Devin Booker, Josh Jackson, and the Phoenix Suns’ young talent and picks than see LeBron just walk out of Cleveland into a Golden State Warriors jersey next season.

The All-Star break is approaching fast and teams can make immediate changes on this week off. Time is running out quickly before the playoffs begin so compromises need to be made ASAP. Without a big man to handle the paint, the Cavaliers’ finals hopes are dead; they might make it there but they won’t win.

If LeBron really cared about Cleveland, he would waive the no-trade clause and let the Cavaliers build off of him. Let them bring in young talent, build through the draft, and LeBron would probably come in later years and possibly own the team. Instead he wants to be the villain seen in a Lakers, Rockets, or Warriors uniform.



Stevie Taylor (#6) follows through on a pitch in an exhibition game against Gannon University.

Photo Courtesy of YSU SPORTS INFORMATION

YSU SOFTBALL LOOKING TO BUILD OFF HISTORIC SEASON

CHRIS MCBRIDE

A historic run for the Youngstown State University Softball team has expectations at a high coming into the new campaign. The recent Horizon League Preseason Coaches Poll predicts the Penguins to finish second on the year behind University of Illinois at Chicago, last year's regular season and tourney champions.

Despite the high praises for the team, YSU Head Coach Brian Campbell isn't deterred by season projections. Instead, Campbell sees the predictions as something for his group of girls to build upon in the new season.

"It's about where you finish at the end of the year," Campbell said, whose team is coming off a 31-28 season and second place in the tourney. "That's definitely a credit and something they should be proud of that. They also know it's not where you started but where you finish."

Approaching his 10th year as coach at YSU, Campbell is experiencing the most

success of his tenure over the last few seasons. He has an opportunity to cement himself in Penguins history as he is seven wins from 208 wins all-time as YSU's Head Coach. That would put him in first place in YSU history.

He also needs 14 wins to get 500 career wins, a feat that would see him eclipsing the record set by Hall of Fame Coach Ed Strauss in 1985-95.

With a strong crop of players making their way back this season, it's a goal largely within reach for Campbell. The Penguins will be returning 14 letter winners from that second place team of last year.

"It's always a good thing when we have so many returners, we also have a strong group of freshman who will help out tremendously this year," senior Stevie Taylor said, who's returning after starting in 58 games last season.

Those highlighting the upperclassmen include:

Senior outfielder Hannah Lucas who was named All-Horizon League First-Team last season, Lucas led the team bat-

ting a .339 average with 20 stolen bases.

Senior Cali Mikovich will look to continue her climb up seven different top 10 statistical categories on YSU's All-Time leaders lists. Heading into the season she's two more hits away from being top 10 in hits.

Junior pitcher Paige Geanangel, who was once named Horizon League All-Freshman, is currently nearing an YSU top 10 milestone with two more wins separating her from trying for 10th in wins.

Adding to a strong crop of returnees, four freshman players will be looking to make an impact as well.

"It's about the adjustment when you come in as a freshman but some freshman have been able to do some great stuff for us in the past," Campbell said.

Hoping to add to that tradition is Elle Buffenbarger, a Mason High School graduate who will be joining last year's freshman sensation Maddi Lusk and Geanangel in the pitcher's circle.

Buffenbarger was described as a difference maker by Campbell due to her

unique style of pitching.

"She throws a variety of pitches, she throws the lower ball and she's able to come up with the rise ball," Campbell said. "I think all three of them have a great mix of pitches."

The Penguins will have to wait awhile before playing on their newly refinished field, because a 23-game road stretch down south will keep the team homesick for a while. However, the long road trips are taken in stride by a team using the moments to build togetherness.

"It prepares us very well for coming back home and starting our season here," Taylor said. "I enjoy it and I think the competition is great down south."

Heading into the year, Campbell expects to produce a faster team with more power factored into their lineup. He'll get a chance to display this new system come this weekend as the team heads into tourney play.

Youngstown State will travel to Boiling Springs, NC to open the season against Hampton on Feb. 9 in the Gardner-Webb Tournament at 10 a.m.