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THE STUDENT VOICE OF YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY SINCE 1931

THURSDAY 04 • 19 • 2018

BIDDING

“ADDIO” TO YSU



Photo by JORDAN UNGER/THE JAMBAR

JORDAN UNGER

A full-time Italian professor at Youngstown State University will be departing for a new opportunity at Loyola University Chicago in the fall.

Carla Simonini accepted a position at LUC, where she has been named the inaugural Paul and Ann Rubino Professor in Italian American Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences.

According to LUC's University Newsroom, “The endowed professorship was established to build a premier IAS program among only a handful of programs in the country.”

Simonini said she was honored to be selected for the position.

“Career-wise, it’s a big step up,” Simonini said. “It was not an easy decision because I love it here. I love my students.”

Although it was not on her radar to move, Simonini said a colleague convinced her to apply, and it was her late husband who encouraged her to take the position.

“When they made me the job offer, it was actually my husband who said, ‘I want you to take this. I think this is a sign.’”

John Sarkissian, chair of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, said Simonini has made great contributions to the department and the university over the past eight years.

Simonini developed a program for YSU students to study abroad in Sicily, Italy.

“It was a model program for what study abroad programs should be,” Sarkissian said. “It’s just really a tremendous educational experience for the students.”

The John Felice Rome Center is LUC's branch in Rome, so Simonini hopes there can be collaborative efforts between YSU and LUC for study abroad opportunities.

She introduced Italian-American studies courses to the university and has spearheaded the push for an Italian-American studies center in the area, something that LUC recently formed on its campus.

“I think with the rich Italian community we have here in Youngstown, this is a good place to do something similar,” she said. “We want to make sure we still have a vibrant Italian program here at YSU, but also a center that preserves the heritage of the Italian-American community, the history here and also understanding the important relationship between Italy and the U.S.”

She said one of her roles at LUC is to promote other programs like this to thrive, so she plans to still be involved with YSU's center.

There was a fundraising campaign in the community to start the center at LUC. YSU's foreign language department hopes the same effort can bring this to Youngstown within the next few years.

Simonini has also taken students to the Cleveland Italian Film Festival, helped organize the operas on campus and is the editor of “Italian Americana Cultural and Historical Review,” one of the leading journals in Italian studies.

She credits many of these contributions to a very supportive department and the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences as a whole.

“I’ve been given the freedom to shape this program in the way that I wanted it to be shaped ... We’ve got more [Italian] majors now than when I came in, our upper division classes have much higher enrollment than they had in previous years, so all in all things are going really good here.”

Although she is excited to start the new position in August, Simonini is slightly concerned about the fate of the Italian program after she leaves. She is the only full-time Italian professor at YSU and hopes that the university will find a good and experienced replacement.

“We are one of only two majors in Italian in the entire Ohio state system. It is us and [Ohio State University],” she said. “Many, if not the vast majority, of the teachers in the local school systems have gotten their degree from YSU.”

A visiting professor from northern Italy will temporarily teach upper division Italian courses until a new faculty member is hired. Sarkissian said the department will make a request for a new hire for the 2019-2020 academic year.

“In addition to teaching the Italian courses for us, he’s doing a history of Venice course in the history department in the fall. He will be giving some public lectures,” he said. “We’re fortunate to have gotten a distinguished professor from Italy.”

Still, Sarkissian said Simonini will be greatly missed by the university.

“In every way, she’s been valuable to us,” he said. “We’re all wishing Dr. Simonini well and we’re very happy for her, but she is going to be tough to replace.”



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FEATURES



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

NEWS

- 3 | YSU Student Receives Internship
- 4 | Disney College/Baby Changing Stations
- 5 | March for Science
- 6 | YSU Mourns Baseball Player

A&E ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

- 7 | Ma'lik Richmond
- 8 | Hanging Out in the Past
- 9 | The State of Rap in the City

OPINION

- 12 | Editorial/Keeping the Inner Child Alive
- 13 | Disappearance of Arthur Weston

SPORTS

- 14 | YSU Baseball/YSU Men's Basketball
- 15 | Pressbox/YSU Women's Golf
- 16 | YSU Track and Field

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YSU STUDENT RECEIVES LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY INTERNSHIP

DAVID FORD

During World War II the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico first opened under a secret name, Project Y. At the top-secret facility, the Manhattan Project was developed which culminated in the creation of “Fat Boy” and “Little Man,” the two atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Youngstown State University computer science student, Ryan Slavic, will complete his summer internship at this laboratory.

“Out of the internships I applied for, I was most excited to be accepted to this position because it is a prestigious government research laboratory,” Slavic said. “Los Alamos holds significant historical importance to the U.S. military.”

He said he attributes his passion for U.S. military history as to why the Los Alamos internship stood out to him among the rest.

According to Slavic, the internship focuses on cybersecurity topics including network archaeology, computer forensics, malware analysis and incident coordination. The early portion of the internship surrounds morning lectures, supplemented with afternoon projects.

He said as the internship progresses a small team of interns are selected to work on their project alongside a faculty advisor.

“As a part of these projects, interns are given access to

real data from past cybersecurity incidents,” Slavic said.

The internship, which is from June 5 until August 10, focuses heavily on computer technology.

“I’ve had an interest in technology nearly my entire life, just like many other millennials,” Slavic said. “My initial interest in technology was developed through playing video games on the Nintendo 64 and using our home desktop running Windows 95.”

The advancements in technology including Wi-Fi and smartphones only furthered Slavic’s interest.

When Slavic was younger, he said working for the FBI became a dream of his.

“In high school and my freshman year of college, I wanted to join the FBI. After looking at their desired education for applicants, I decided that a major related to computer science would be the best route for me,” Slavic said. “I took my first computer programming class my sophomore year at YSU and immediately knew the field was for me.”

While Slavic said he no longer has the strong desire to join the FBI, his interest in computer science, especially cybersecurity, has stayed with him.

He currently teaches computer science to Youngstown City School sixth-graders as a Raspberry Pi instructor.

Throughout his time at YSU, Slavic has been recognized with multiple awards, as well as participating in several organizations on and off campus.

“As a recipient of the Leslie H. Cochran University Scholars Award and member of the YSU Honors College,



Photo by JORDAN UNGER/THE JAMBAR

my time at school has been centered on involvement on campus and in the community,” Slavic said.

Additionally, Slavic serves as a member of the academic senate, an historian of the YSU Rotoract, entertainment co-chair of YSU Relay for Life, a member of Gamma Theta Upsilon and a member of the Security and Police Advisory Committee.

He is currently a cadet in the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps.

After graduation, Slavic will be commissioned in the United States Air Force as a cyberspace operations officer. For six months he will attend technical school at the Kessler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Missouri.

Coskun Bayrak, chair of the YSU computer science and information systems department, spoke highly of Slavic and his upcoming internship.

“This is something we love to see at YSU,” Bayrak said. “Los Alamos is an elite research lab that deals with highly sensitive material. It is prestigious to get your foot in at. Not too many people are fortunate to get these opportunities.”

Bayrak said the department focuses on making sure each student is well equipped for their future career, whether it’s through internships, co-ops or formal training.

Additionally, Bayrak said students in the past landed internships with First Energy, the U.S. Air Force, Google and Yahoo.

YSU STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN THE DISNEY COLLEGE PROGRAM

ALYSSA WESTON

Many college students work internships to gain on-the-job knowledge of their field of study before graduation, and some students work for the Walt Disney Company.

The Disney College Program, according to jobs.disneycareers.com, is an opportunity to gain experience working in Disney parks and resorts, participate in college coursework and have the opportunity to meet and live with people from around the world in company-sponsored housing.

The five-to-seven-month allows the participants to network with leaders, participate in personal and career development classes and build skills such as problem-solving and teamwork, the website states.

The website said application requirements for the DCP include an age requirement of 18 years old or older. The applicant must possess unrestricted work authorization and be currently enrolled and taking classes at an accredited pro-

gram or institution. Students must complete at least one semester or have graduated within six months of applying.

Students should check with their university if there are any additional requirements for their school and are encouraged to meet with an academic advisor.

Veronica Hall, junior communications major, is currently enrolled in the Disney College Program at Walt Disney World.

Hall's role is a seater at the Jungle Navigation Company Ltd. Skipper Canteen Restaurant at Magic Kingdom.

She said the main goals of the college program are to help students enhance their resumes and to build leadership skills. Students learn how a business operates within a Fortune 500 company and how to network with executives.

Hall said her favorite Disney memory so far is when she was able to create a magical moment for a young boy who ate at her restaurant with his family.

"He was dressed in khaki like a skipper and his parents told me he wanted to be a skipper when he grows up. So after their meal I was able to walk the family down to the Jungle Cruise ride and put them di-

rectly on a boat to head down the rivers of the jungle. The little boy was just ecstatic," she said.

She said his parents were happy and posted photos on Twitter and Instagram, giving her a cast compliment.

"Guests can post pictures and tweet their experiences and #castcompliment and the company makes sure the cast member gets a picture with their compliment," Hall said.

Jeremy Leff, former Campus Representative and DCP alumni, said he worked at Disney for about 10 years, learning the ins and outs of the company.

Leff said his main job was to get people to attend presentations by distributing Disney collateral and through a number of on-campus and social media marketing techniques.

"Once offers were sent out, we would host an offer session where we would invite anyone with an offer and their parents to meet with us and answer any additional questions they might have before accepting," he said.

Leff said his advice to students looking to apply is to just do it.



Photo Courtesy of VERONICA HALL

"Even if you are on the fence or think you may have other opportunities, the whole application process is a great experience. I would also recommend visiting your career services office on campus and let them give you tips on your resume and do a mock interview," Leff said.

Megan Jones, senior theater studies major, is a DCP alumni and is currently accepted into a second program for fall of 2018.

Jones worked at Disney World's Animal Kingdom's Dinosaur ride in the spring of 2016, and she will work alongside characters as a character attendant in her next program.

During her first program Jones said she wanted to "dip her toe in the water" and see if she liked working for Disney. She said she hopes to move up to a professional internship or full-time position in entertainment management or event management.

"The program is what you make of it. I personally took classes," she said. "You can go just to do it as a job, for fun to an extent or do it for networking opportunities."

SGA IN FAVOR OF MORE BABY CHANGING STATIONS ON CAMPUS

MELISSA TUROSIK

There are currently four baby changing stations in restrooms across Youngstown State University's campus.

One member of the YSU Student Government Association is pushing for an initiative to increase the number to provide convenience and sanitary means for parents and guardians.

Korinne Sackela, SGA vice president for assessment and enrichment, is a new mom and a full-time student with a part-time job on campus. She said that sometimes means she has to bring her eight-month-old to school.

"I found myself changing him on tables in random classrooms or on my office desk if I needed to because changing tables are so scarce," Sackela said.

She said it's a challenge to work around the lack of changing tables.

"Changing my son on tables and floors across campus is unsafe, unsanitary and very inconvenient," she said.

Sackela said this is a problem for all parents and guardians of young children on campus.

SGA President Rayann Atway said the university is not being very accommodating toward students, faculty and staff who have children.

She said through the single-user restroom resolution that was passed last semester by SGA and approved by the Academic Senate, there will be more changing stations on campus.

Due to the resolution, the university will be pushed to implement more single-user restrooms as well.

Ernie Barkett, vice president of SGA, said over the summer, restrooms will be renovated to adopt the policy. By the beginning of the fall semester, he said there should be at least one changing station in every academic building at the university, which will be beneficial.

"This creates an added convince for our students and we hope it will make parents [and] guardians of young children feel more comfortable," Barkett said.

Summer Barker, a staff architect at YSU, said the implementation of baby changing stations will be included in their restroom renovation projects.

Barker said she feels it is important to continue adding the baby changing stations in women's, men's and unisex restrooms across campus to accommodate both mothers and fathers.



YOUNGSTOWN CELEBRATES STEM WITH MARCH FOR SCIENCE

Photo by MORGAN PETRONELLI/THE JAMBAR

MORGAN PETRONELLI

The bright eyes of eager children learning about possibilities of science, technology, engineering and mathematics lit up the room at the March for Science STEM Appreciation event on Saturday.

Watching chemical experiments, interacting with drones and learning about nutrition were just a few of the activities that went on at the event. These activities educated both children and adults about the wonders of STEM-related fields.

Rachel Young, a representative from Valley STEM Me² Academy, said her program is an independent tech school that works with the Mahoning County Career and Technical Center (MCCTC) to bring a hands-on approach of STEM-related studies to ninth and tenth graders.

With her, Young brought a grinder to the event that students from the program drew on the computer and then figured out how to manufacture it.

“The program is a great opportunity to promote the engineering and manufacturing process with parts and devices,”

Young said.

She also brought a 3-D printed creation, a motherboard of a laptop and another laptop which displayed various languages of code.

Young says high school students in ninth and tenth grade interested in STEM can apply on their website, <https://mahoningctc.com/stemme2>, in February.

Mike Serra, an associate professor of chemistry at Youngstown State University, along with two of his students, Salam Picard and Brea Bartley, held a table at the event showcasing various chemical experiments.

Serra said it is important to educate the public about chemistry because it is involved in everyday life.

“We call chemistry the ‘central science’ because the basic understanding of chemistry is important to so many things. It is important in medicine. It is important in forensics,” Serra said.

He cited examples, such as designing drugs through chemistry and how doctors should know what they are giving their patients. Serra said chemistry can also help understand DNA in order to solve

murders or arson crimes.

Salam Picard, a pre-med student at YSU, said he studies chemistry because it is important in medicine to understand drugs, diseases and the human body down to a molecular level in order to achieve better health.

“It’s very important to understand what’s going on. All three sciences — biology, chemistry and physics — play a big part in anything. So, it’s good to go through all three of them to understand not only how different they are within each discipline, but how they all really intertwine,” Picard said.

Dr. Alexis Smith, a radiologist at Mercy Health in Youngstown and the event coordinator, said it is important to hold events that support STEM in the community.

“We want people to realize that this is an integral part of society and that science, technology, engineering and math are all so important to our everyday lives,” Dr. Smith said. “The problem is people don’t really realize that and fail to conceptualize how much STEM does for us and our livelihoods.”

She said that the best way to promote

STEM is through education, which is why she chose to organize a STEM appreciation day instead of an official march.

“We are trying to educate people about STEM so then in turn they demand their legislators use STEM and make legislative policy because we feel like at the moment they are not using the expert knowledge and best evidence available to make policies,” she said.

Dr. Smith said at the end of the day, it comes down to how politicians can utilize STEM to make policies that benefit everyone and the environment.

“STEM is non-partisan. The facts are the facts and they need to be used when making policies that affect all of us, the rest of our lives and the future of our world,” Dr. Smith said.

The free event was held from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Youngstown and was organized by Dr. Smith and Peter Norris.

More information about how to get involved in the March for Science can be found online at <https://www.marchfor-science.com>.

YSU MOURNS LOSS OF ALUM AND FORMER BASEBALL PLAYER

NAMI NAGAOKA

Kevin Yarabinec, Youngstown State University graduate and Penguin baseball pitcher, passed away at the age of 24 in a car crash in Clarion County on Sunday evening.

He graduated from Sharpsville High School in 2012 and helped YSU win the Horizon League Championship in 2014.

A statement by the YSU Athletics Department said, "The Youngstown State baseball family is heartbroken about the loss of one its recent student-athletes, Kevin Yarabinec, who passed away Sunday evening. Yarabinec

was a right-handed pitcher with the program from 2014-17 and graduated in May 2017 with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice."

A statement released from YSU head coach Dan Bertolini said, "Kevin was not only a great player, but he was an even better teammate and friend. His smile and energy were infectious. He lit up our clubhouse every day, and we will carry fond memories of him the rest of our lives. Our entire team extends our deepest condolences to his family. He will be sorely missed."

Bertolini also tweeted, "This has been so challenging for me to write. Kevin, I can't believe you're gone. I can remember recruiting you at Sharpsville and four years

later I had the pleasure of coaching you. Your smile and energy will be greatly missed RIP#34."

Yarabinec was voted to the Horizon League All-Freshman Team in 2014. As a junior, he became the sixth player to lead YSU in both wins and saves in the same year. He finished his Penguins career ranking sixth in school history with eight career saves, and his 61 career appearances ranked 17th, according to the athletics department.

Yarabinec was riding in a pick-up truck with two other men when the vehicle hit a tree. All three were sent to a hospital near Pittsburgh. Both Yarabinec and Mark Marucci from West Middlesex, age 29, passed away from their injuries.



Photo Courtesy of YSU ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

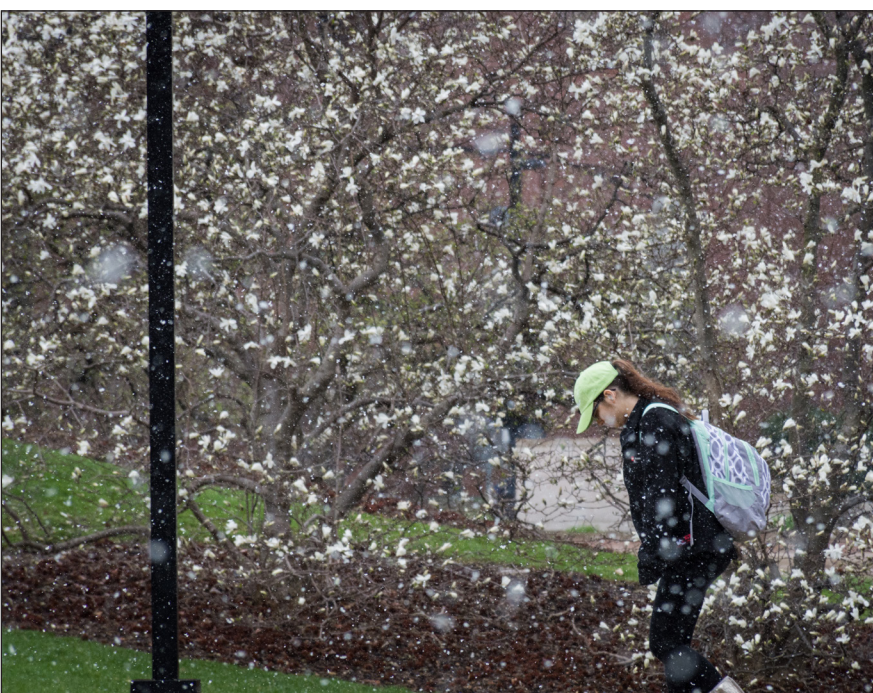


Photo by TANNER MONDOK/THE JAMBAR

A student walks through campus during a heavy snowfall in front of a blossomed tree on Tuesday, April 17.



Are you looking for a "low-stakes" medical school experience?

This program invites people interested in medicine to learn about anatomy through:
Dissection of Human Cadavers • Imaging Lab Sessions • Viewing Cadaveric Brains, Spinal Cords and Organs • Lectures and Group Discussions • Cased-based Clinical Vignettes

Session I: June 18-29, 2018 • **Session II:** July 9-20, 2018

TOP 10 WAYS JAMBAR EMPLOYEES PROCRASTINATE

1. COMPLAIN ABOUT ALL THE WORK WE HAVE TO DO
2. THROW BALLOONS AT THE A&E EDITOR
3. UGLY PHOTO SNAPCHAT WARS
4. TAKE RIDES IN PRESIDENT TRESSEL'S GOLF CART
5. GET SPONTANEOUS PIERCINGS
6. PLAY HQ AND ALWAYS LOSE ON QUESTION THREE
7. GET FOOD FOR THE FIFTH TIME IN THE SAME DAY
8. WATCH VIDEOS OF CUTE ANIMALS
9. WE'LL GET BACK TO THIS ONE LATER
10. MAKE A "TOP 10" LIST INSTEAD OF ACTUALLY DOING OUR JOBS

THIS TOP 10 LIST WAS SUPPOSED TO RUN TWO WEEKS AGO, BUT WE PROCRASTINATED PUTTING IT IN.

NEWS BRIEFS

YSU PENGUINS BREAK GUINNESS WORLD RECORD

In October, 972 people dressed as penguins gathered in the Watson and Tressel Training Center at Youngstown State University in attempt to break a Guinness World Record.

It was recently announced that the Penguins broke the record.

View the official listing here: <http://www.guinnessworldrecords.com/world-records/largest-gathering-of-people-dressed-as-penguins>

DINNER TO SUPPORT WOMEN AND GENDER RESOURCE INITIATIVE

The Women and Gender Resource Initiative at Youngstown State University will host their debut dinner April 27 at 5:30 p.m. on the fifth floor of Maag Library.

The fund-raising event is \$50 per person. To make a reservation, visit www.ysu.edu/WGRI.

REAL ESTATE AGENT LICENSURE PROGRAM TO BEGIN IN MAY

Those who wish to obtain a license as an Ohio real estate salesperson can begin coursework in the Williamson College of Business Administration at Youngstown State University in May.

Through the successful completion of four required courses: Real Estate Law, Real Estate Principles & Practices, Real Estate Finance and Real Estate Appraisal, a person can prepare for the Ohio licensure examination.

All classes are offered from 5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. in Williamson.

The schedule of Real Estate classes, online regis-

MA'LIK RICHMOND REQUESTS REMOVAL FROM SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY

RACHEL GOBEP

Ma'lik Richmond was one of two Steubenville High School football players convicted of raping intoxicated 16-year-old girl while at a party in August 2012. He recently requested to be removed from Ohio's sex-offender registry.

He was convicted of rape in 2013 and served a one-year sentence in juvenile detention. He was then ordered to register his address for 20 years. Judge Thomas Lipps reclassified Richmond to register once a year for 10 years in 2014, as reported by the Associate Press.

According to Senate Bill 10, which is Ohio's sex offender reg-

istration and notification statute, those who are placed on the registry as a juvenile may petition the court three years later for removal.

The AP wrote that there will be a scheduled hearing at a juvenile court in Steubenville on Thursday, where Lipps will decide whether Richmond should be removed from the registry.

Richmond is currently enrolled as a pre-business student and is a football player at Youngstown State University.

He joined the team as a walk-on in 2017, but when news reached the public, petitions circulated both in favor of his association with YSU football and against. Richmond was not permitted to

play in the 2017 football season, according to a statement released by YSU on August 9.

As a result, he filed a federal lawsuit against YSU on Sept. 13, claiming he was denied his right to due process, which violates the 14th Amendment.

He also claimed there was a breach of contract and that the university discriminated against him due to his gender, which is a violation of Title IX.

He entered his first game as a Penguin against Central Connecticut State on Sept. 16.

According to a statement released by YSU on Oct. 2, he agreed to go through additional Title IX training and will remain on the active roster.



THE HONOR SOCIETY OF
PHI KAPPA PHI

The Youngstown State University
chapter of the honor society
Phi Kappa Phi (Chapter 143) extends
our congratulations to our spring
and summer graduates!

We congratulate all of YSU's spring
and summer graduates!

A great future awaits you!
Let your journey begin!

HANGING OUT *IN THE* PAST

MARAH J. MORRISON

Even though the ways and the locations where people gather may have changed for Youngstown State University students over the years, the general aspect of hanging out remains the same no matter when or where.

Brian Brennan, Maag Library operations supervisor in the archives and special collections, said before Kilcawley Center was built, students would hang out in the cafeteria, which used to be where Ward Beecher Hall is now. He said Kilcawley Center was built in 1964 because there was a need for a student center.

"It gave students a place to hang out on campus," Brennan said. "Meanwhile, you had other spots on campus, various bars and other locations just off campus."

Brennan said in the late 1960's, there was a location for students to hang out at that had a 1960's themed atmosphere inside called The Gates of Eden. He said there was music, poetry and it reflected the 1960's culture at the time.

"Being a commuter school, you didn't really have a lot of people hanging out on campus per se," Brennan said. "They would just go to work or go home, much like they do today."

Brennan said YSU is still a commuter school, but there

are a lot of students who want that campus experience. He said a lot of the experience is social in addition to academic.

"They're going to want to be a part of whatever social scene there is," Brennan said. "When I was a student here, for my first two years, I commuted. By my junior year, I decided I wanted to be here, so I rented a room on the north side of a private residence."

Brennan said because he rented, he was able to hang-out on campus a lot more. He said he was able to go to various events, lectures and concerts.

"They used to show movies in Kilcawley," Brennan said. "Even today, there are students that commute that would want that experience."

Brennan said the undergoing changes in Youngstown is providing more of an opportunity for university students to hang out, go places and get away from it all compared to what it had before.

Jo Ellwood, a 1992 graduate of YSU who double majored in math and computer science, said if she didn't have to eat, she hung out in the computer lab or the library. She said if she did eat, Inner Circle Pizza was her place to go.

"In the student center, there was a place that had pool tables," Ellwood said. "It had terrible pizza and warm beer."

Ellwood said when she studied alone in the library, she

would lay down on the double chairs, cuddle up with her book and study, or she would participate in study groups. She said the Candy Counter in Kilcawley Center was also a part of her daily routine.

"I would study on campus," Ellwood said. "I wasn't very good at studying at home."

Ellwood said she could write her algorithms and programs at home, and if she had to read a lot and prepare for a test, she had to be at the library. She said the only two places she went to off campus were Charlie Staples and the public library.

Tim Fitzpatrick, a 1985 graduate of YSU, said Inner Circle Pizza was also one of the places he would frequently hang out at. He said The Brass Lion, which was across from Fifth Avenue at the time, was another hang out spot he would go to.

"I always felt bad for the wait staff because we would come in and be able to piece together just enough to buy a pitcher of beer and a pizza, and have literally pennies left offered as a tip," Fitzpatrick said.

Fitzpatrick said his social life at YSU took place more at The Jambar than anything else while he was an editor. He said those were fun years and a great training ground.

Even though the way campus looks has changed over the years, students still hangout in the same places. The library, Kilcawley Center and Inner Circle Pizza still remain campus favorites.



Photo Courtesy of **BRIAN BRENNAN**



THE STATE OF RAP IN THE CITY

JOHN STRAN

Some blast it in cars and others bump it in headphones. The rap and hip-hop genres are arguably the most popular genres of music with fans across the globe.

The two genres may be cut from the same fabric, but some believe there is a difference. Local artist, Ron Johnny, spoke about the main difference between rap and hip-hop

“Hip-hop is music of the soul,” Johnny said. “Rap is music of the flesh.”

What happens when the widely-known rappers are switched out with local products, like Johnny, trying to make a name for themselves, and if this global fan base is magnified into fans from Youngstown? Are these rappers receiving any support from these local fans?

Clarence “Grizzly” Gordon sits at Suzie’s Dogs & Drafts and questions the Youngstown environment, and whether or not it can create a platform for him to accelerate his rap career.

Gordon got his first taste of the stage performing in different pop-punk and metal bands as a front man, which led him to perform at, most notably, the House of Blues in Cleveland.

As the different bands faded, Gordon found himself still wanting to perform as well as explore different genres. He dropped his first rap album, “Space Camp”, when he was 21. His most recent album, “Bipolar”, was released in 2013.

Though he is currently dedicated to rap, he is still in-

involved in shows consisting of artists from his previous genre. Gordon said many of his early shows were with pop-punk bands and as of late, they have mainly been with other rappers.

What Gordon has witnessed during his time as a rapper is a decline in inclusiveness amongst different places downtown willing to let him perform.

“I feel like the raw truth is downtown is a little exclusive of rap music,” Gordon said. “In 2011, rap was performed three times a week at the Lemon Grove, but since then it feels like I’m not getting any shows.”

Johnny said local venues aren’t always willing to stick their necks out to give rap and hip-hop artists a chance, but many places have open-mics where anyone can go on stage and perform.

On top of this, Johnny and Gordon both agree the rap and hip-hop community can sometimes lack just that: community.

“We don’t always support one another and it can feel like a dog-eat-dog situation at times,” Johnny said.

Gordon compared the hip-hop community to the rock and heavy metal communities saying he felt rock is more of a brotherhood, where hip-hop was more about getting money.

Sterling “Da Bopman” Smith is a Youngstown producer and DJ. Having worked with what he said were hundreds of artists, he feels there is a small community of rap and hip-hop artists in Youngstown.

During his time in the studio, Smith has listened in on many different rap styles and noticed Youngstown doesn’t really have a defined sound.

“Being that we’re in the Midwest, we take from the west

Photo Courtesy of CLARENCE “GRIZZLY” GORDON coast, east coast and southern styles of rap,” Smith said.

This replicating of others’ sound is something Gordon has an issue with.

“Instead of stealing other rappers’ blueprints, rappers need to take the time to make their own blueprint,” Gordon said.

Gordon broke the Youngstown rap sound into two categories, one that could be described as a gritty street rap that is comparable to the Detroit rap sound.

The other is where he places himself, a more artistic sound that proves you don’t always have to rap about committing crimes and what life is like on the streets.

Johnny said there are local artists who just copy whatever is currently popular, but then there are artists who are just themselves. He simply defined his style as “real life.”

“You’ll never hear me rapping about cars, money or girls I don’t have,” Johnny said.

Both Johnny and Gordon admit there are disadvantages of being Youngstown rap and hip-hop artists, but neither would want to be doing anything else, anywhere else.

“I enjoy it,” Johnny said. “If you can build a following here then you can pretty much do that anywhere.”

“I want to put Youngstown on track,” Gordon said. “I want to build skate parks, performance halls for kids and help defeat poverty and if I’ve done that then I’ve won, even if I have nothing.”

Gordon’s next show is July 13 at JR’s Pub while Johnny and Smith will be performing together on April 21 at All City Sports Bar & Grill.

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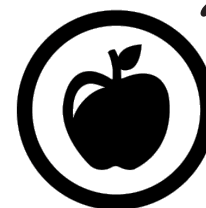
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A JAMBAR

EDITORIAL: DO SOMETHING FOR YOURSELF

Life always seems to get a little hectic at the end of every semester. As we get ready to head into summer, remember to do something for yourself.

All students can think about right now are tests, finals, projects, papers, assignments, looking for summer jobs and so on. It's easy to get swept up in deadlines that just keep coming. There doesn't seem to be enough time to actually finish everything in the time we have left, but there is. We do it every semester.

It's important to realize we are not superheroes. We can't do it all without cracking. We're just people. Remember, "I'm just one person." Sometimes the stress can get to be too much, and sometimes we just need a break.

It's okay to take a break.

So, make a list in order of due dates if you have to, but find time to do something for yourself. Whether it's reading a book, watching a show, playing a game, taking a nap, spending time with your friends or just taking your

dog for a walk, do one thing you enjoy and walk away from that pile of assignments for just an hour.

Whatever it is doesn't have to cost anything, but it should be something you really enjoy or something to help you relax and destress. It's important for your mental health.

Everything will get done, but don't let it consume you. Relax. Take a breather and go back with fresh eyes.

KEEPING THE INNER CHILD ALIVE

SAMANTHA ALLAN

When you were a kid, you had parents and teachers controlling most of your life. You felt like you had little say in your day-to-day activities and looked forward to having more control over your own life. As a child, growing up appears as this sort of magical state of being. Kids view growing up as the ultimate goal.

According to most kids, adults have the freedom to do whatever they want, whenever they want. As adults, we know this is not the case. Work, school, bills and other responsibilities often prevent us from having the freedom we all dreamed about. Instead of teachers and parents telling us what to do, we have expectations and

goals pushing us forward. The magic outlook of adulthood quickly fades away.

So what's left? Are we supposed to resign ourselves to adulthood? Do we let the magic and mystery fade away? The clear answer is no, but how can we bring back some of the positive light?

There are a number of different ways you can bring back the fun of becoming a grown-up. The easiest action is to let yourself be silly once in a while: eat ice cream at a weird time of day, crack a super corny joke or just let yourself laugh at something that might not even be that funny. Kids oftentimes focus more on having fun than how they look while doing it. They say laughter is the best medicine, so why not take advantage of it?

Even your job can bring back some of

the inner child magic. Children constantly look at everyday aspects differently than we do. Kids ask lots of questions and maintain a constant curiosity for the world around them. They see magic and mystery because they are unafraid of endless possibilities. How can you transfer some of this outlook to your own job?

In "Bringing Back Childhood Creativity," Josh Colton suggests "If you find yourself saying declarative sentences in meetings like 'Our customers don't want to ...' try replacing the certainty with a little curiosity by starting the sentence with 'I wonder ...' Even if you think you know the answer, pay attention to how opening up to possibility changes the energy of the room." The idea presented here is we can still think like a child. We can ques-

tion things and open ourselves up to more creativity. We can make working more interesting by looking at our situation like a child would.

So growing up is not exactly what you expected? Responsibilities and work has taken away some of the magical freedom you constantly thought about. However, this does not mean all of the magic has to go away forever. As adults, we can try looking at our lives with a sense of childhood wonder. We can ask more questions, be silly and look at our life from a different perspective. Try bringing back the endless possibilities we saw not too long ago; they still exist. Give yourself time to bring some awe and magic back into the world of adulthood.

HELP NEEDED

THE MYSTERIOUSLY UNSOLVABLE DISAPPEARANCE OF ARTHUR WESTON

Week 7/7

Quinn Weston

Sleuths, the end is nigh and a prize is to be bestowed. The final week has arrived and for those of you who stuck it out, my family and I are eternally grateful. Not only was I able to find dear old Uncle Arthur, but I have also become a part of a much bigger mystery encompassing the fate of humanity. Isn't that all we humans truly strive for? The chance to be a part of something bigger than ourselves? Before I catch you up on the post cliff-hanger briefing, I feel it would be wise to reiterate the terms. If you compile the riddles of this past semester and solve where today's piece fits into the puzzle, you will be entered into a drawing for \$150 cash.

Arthur is recuperating and doing much better than when Agent Palmer brought me to him last week. Solving his cipher has brought him closer to a peace of mind. Doctors assured me he will be all right soon. Unfortunately, the informal visiting hours did not last long. Agent Palmer ushered into the room in his usual anxious manner to let me know official contact had been made.

"What does that mean?" I asked. He told me the silver-eyed aliens had landed a ship outside of Arthur's mansion and that the FBI needs someone to help solve a message they are trying to relay. To this, Arthur sat up from his hospital bed. He urged me not to go, as contact with the aliens is what had left him in his current condition.

Palmer turned his beady eyes to me and told me that it was now safe. The FBI has been running tests on the aliens since. The aliens now conceptualize that code is the best way to communicate with humans without it taking a mental toll on them.

Arthur laid back at this. I agreed to help Palmer. He took me to the Weston Estate where I was outfitted in a biohazard suit. The house had been overrun with agents. Upon entering Arthur's study, a bright teal light shone through the gaping hole where the window once was. One of the agents, also in a biohazard suit, stepped out to the opening. He pointed a small silver pyramid at the teal haze. A green laser shot out into the abyss and a door hatch breathed open.

The extraterrestrial I had previously met in the library stepped out. It stared at me. I stared back. All of a sudden I was overcome with, and could see in front of me, the final piece to the mystery.

SAJ / LIMZO / UASHEIR / ICL

It was noted to me that once (if) you crack the cipher, the last full sentence of the piece it takes you to should be what I receive back. Email that phrase to qweston727@gmail.com. If correct you will be entered into the raffle. For the final time this semester best of luck, sleuths. Hope to see one of you soon.

YSU BASEBALL LOSES TOUGH SERIES; KENDRICK BECOMES ALL-TIME HOME RUN LEADER



Photo Courtesy of YSU SPORTS INFORMATION

Andrew Kendrick looks for a pitch during a game back on March 31. Kendrick became the all-time home run leader over the last weekend.

MARC WEEMS

Senior infielder Andrew Kendrick became Youngstown State University's all-time home run leader as he hit the 28th homer of his YSU career in game one of a double-header at Wright State University. The Penguins dropped both games to fall two and a half games behind the Raiders in the Horizon League standings.

The Penguins fell 18-4 in game one as the Raiders scored five runs in the bottom of the first and six in the third to take control of the game.

Kendrick hit his record-setting home run over the wall in left field in the top of the second inning to give YSU its first run of the game. The senior eclipsed Erich Diedrich's mark of 27 career home runs, which had stood since 2008, and did it in just three seasons.

Kendrick joined the program in 2016 after spending a season at Highland Community College in Kansas. Kendrick now has a team-high seven home runs this season. He set the Youngstown State single-season home run record last season with 17, and he hit four in 2016.

WSU added three runs in the fourth and four in the sixth to build an 18-1 advantage. The Penguins plated three runs in the top of the ninth as Tanner Montgomery hit the first home run of his career and Cody Dennis hit a two-run double that scored Anthony Santoro and Nick LaBrasca. Seven different Penguins had hits in the game.

JD Orr and Gabe Snyder each had three hits for WSU. Snyder doubled, homered twice and had six RBIs in the contest.

Greg Dunham suffered the loss for YSU, snapping his streak of three straight conference wins. Ryan Weiss got the win for the Raiders after allowing one run on three hits over seven innings.

In game two, the Penguins fell behind 2-0 but were able to battle back and tie the game behind another stellar pitching performance by Collin Floyd.

Floyd allowed just two runs on six hits and struck out eight batters over seven innings in a no-decision. The game was tied 2-2 when he departed after the seventh inning.

WSU scored a run in the bottom of the first and

in the third to build a 2-0 lead. The Penguins answered with two runs of their own in the fourth. Nick Massey led off the frame with a walk and advanced to third on a single from Wehler. Blaze Glenn followed with an RBI single and Wehler scored on a wild pitch to tie the game at 2-2.

The contest would remain deadlocked until the Raiders broke through with a run in the bottom of the eighth. Orr led off the inning with a walk, stole second and was able to reach third on a wild pitch. With one out, Zane Harris was able to drive in Orr with a sacrifice fly for what proved to be the winning run.

Joel Hake took the loss for the Penguins after surrendering the go-ahead run in the eighth. Jeremy Randolph was awarded the win for the Raiders and Derek Hendrixson earned the save.

YSU was limited to just five hits in the ballgame. Kendrick doubled while Massey, Wehler, Glenn and Dennis each had base hits.

Matt Morrow went 2-for-4 with a double and two runs scored for WSU.

ON THE RECRUITING TRAIL: YSU MEN'S BASKETBALL ADD 3 JUCO AND A FRESHMAN



Photo Courtesy of YSU SPORTS INFORMATION

Head coach Jerrod Calhoun is seen yelling instructions during last summer's workouts. This summer's workouts will be very important for Youngstown State's winning culture.

MARC WEEMS

Four new recruits will be joining the Youngstown State University men's basketball program for the 2018-19 season after signing National Letters of Intent during the late signing period, Head Coach Jerrod Calhoun announced on Wednesday.

The Penguins inked 6-foot-5 guard Donel Cathcart III from Buffalo, N.Y., 6-foot-3 guard Kendale Hampton from Columbia, S.C., 6-foot-7 forward Antwan Maxwell, Jr. from Savannah, Ga. and 6-foot-9 forward Olamide Pedersen originally from Bronshoj, Denmark.

Cathcart spent the last two seasons with Niagara County Community College. He will have two years of eligibility remaining. Cathcart was named to the NJCAA Division II All-America Second-Team, earned Region III Division II First-Team honors, and averaged 20.6 points per game. He also averaged 8.5 rebounds and 2.8 assists per game. In his two seasons at NCCC, Cathcart scored 1,068 points and made 144 3-pointers, including 82 in 2017-18.

Hampton, an incoming junior, will have two years of eligibility after playing two seasons at Garden City Community College. He was named to the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference All-League Team after averaging 13.7 points

per game and shooting 41.8 percent from 3-point range. Last season, he made 81 3-pointers and scored in double figures 25 times.

Maxwell, a junior who spent a year at Charleston Southern University and a year at College of Central Florida, will have two years of eligibility. Last season at CCF, Maxwell averaged 8.4 points per game and 7.6 rebounds. He connected on 45.4 percent of his shots. He played in 28 games and made 14 starts as a freshman at CSU. He scored in double figures three times, including a career-high 15 points against Longwood College.

Pederson, a freshman from Sunrise Christian Academy in Wichita, Kan., averaged 12 points, eight rebounds and two blocks per game. His size and length will help the Penguins tremendously as they look to improve now.

They join Darius Quisenberry (Huber Heights, Ohio) Jelani Simmons (Columbus, Ohio), Atiba Taylor (Hackensack, N.J.) in the 2018-19 recruiting class.

These moves point to a glaring idea: winning now. Coach Calhoun and his staff understood the task at hand when they came here and believe they can win a lot of games with the group now assembled. With three JUCO guys in the fold, he is sending a message that he wants guys that can help win and play now. A year to wait for guys just isn't in the cards at the moment.

YSU WOMEN'S GOLF TEAM GETS SECOND WIN; TWO NAMED TO ALL-ACADEMIC TEAM

Kaitlyn Shutt (Left) and Courtney Shutt (Right) have been integral parts to the success of the Youngstown State University's women's golf team this year and for the last few years as well.

Photo Courtesy of YSU SPORTS INFORMATION

MARC WEEMS

The Youngstown State University women's golf team earned its second victory of the season by winning the Sand Ridge Shootout at Sand Ridge Golf Club on Friday. The Penguins were led by Megan Creager and Katlyn Shutt, who each tied for first place individually.

YSU finished first as a team with a score of 305 in the greater Cleveland area. The Penguins were one of four teams competing in the one-day event and finished four strokes ahead of Cleveland State University.

There was a three-way tie for medalist honors as Creager, Shutt and Nichole Cox of Bowling Green each shot 74 over 18 holes on the par-72 course.

Creager finished atop the leaderboard for the first time in her career while Shutt previously earned medalist honors at the Horizon League Championships last season. Creager now has two top-10 finishes this season and six in the top 25.

Shutt's 74 is her lowest single-round score of the season thus far. She was competing in just her fourth event

of the season after missing the team's entire fall slate due to injury. She was YSU's top finisher last week at the Dolores Black Falcon Invitational.

Courtney Shutt finished only one stroke behind the medalists with a 75 to earn her third top-10 finish of the season.

Tori Utrup turned in an 82 to finish 13th while Kara Raines was tied for 16th with an 86. The two freshmen each posted their second-best finishes of the season.

Youngstown State will now travel to Howey-in-the-Hills, Fla. to compete in the Horizon League Championships at Mission Inn Resort April 22-24.

Creager and Courtney Shutt were voted to the 2017-18 Horizon League Women's Golf All-Academic Team for their success on the course and in the classroom, the conference announced Wednesday.

Both golfers have competed in each of the team's nine events so far this season. Creager earned a first-place finish for the first time at the Sand Ridge Shootout on April 13. Creager has two top-10 finishes this season and six in the top-25. She has also been YSU's top finisher on three

occasions.

Courtney Shutt has three top-10 finishes this season and has been YSU's top finisher in four events. She earned medalist honors for the first time in her career and led YSU to a first-place finish at the Marietta Pioneer Classic. Her first-round 71 at the Shirley Spork Eastern Michigan University Invitational is the lowest single-round score by any golfer on the team this season. Courtney Shutt matched a career-low and tied for the fourth-lowest individual round in program history. Courtney Shutt is currently fourth in the Horizon League with a 78.3 per round average.

Creager boasts a 3.8 GPA as a marketing management major and was the 2017-18 recipient of YSU's Jerome P. Deibel Scholarship. Courtney Shutt also holds a 3.8 GPA as an exercise science/pre-physical therapy major.

The Youngstown State women's golf team will be competing in the Horizon League Championships April 22-24 at Mission Inn Resort in Howey-in-the-Hills, Fla. The Penguins have captured three league titles (2003, 2009, 2015) and placed second as a team last season.

PRESS BOX PERSPECTIVE: DUMPING DEZ

SETH RIVELLO

Having a wide receiver that is constantly productive is hard to find in the NFL, but when you find one, they can come with a lot of baggage. Some can't control themselves off the field, on the field and on the sidelines. They let emotions run wild and they always want big money. Once they get paid, sometimes they let themselves go. Workouts aren't important to them anymore, meetings don't mean anything and being a distraction is encouraged.

In 2010, the Dallas Cowboys took a shot at a receiver in the first round out of Oklahoma State University. He fit the mold of a great receiver: 6-foot-2 and about 220 pounds with speed and good hands. Dez Bryant could not be passed on. Yes, he had his speed bumps in college and got suspended his junior year only after playing three games. Dallas is known to take these guys in.

Playing eight seasons in Dallas, Bryant

has been recognized as an "elite" receiver. The Dallas Cowboys all-time receiving list has Bryant's name plastered everywhere. Third in receptions (531), fifth in yards (7,495) and first in touchdowns (73). Those can no longer be added to by Bryant because he was cut by Dallas to free up \$8 million in cap space. The five-year, \$70 million deal he signed back in 2015 did not last.

From 2012-2014, Bryant accumulated 273 catches, 3,935 yards, and 41 touchdowns. Quarterback Tony Romo and an offense based around Bryant set him up for this production and his huge deal. Romo goes down with injury in 2015 and only throws four more passes in 2016. This is where Bryant's production and health fall. Through 2015-2017, he only accumulated 150 catches, 2,035 yards and 17 touchdowns in 38 games. Now add on his sideline tantrums, he isn't worth \$70 million.

Dallas fans can take this in two ways: is this a good thing or bad thing he's gone?

I'm not a Dallas fan but this seems like a good move. You want to build around a young quarterback in Dak Prescott and develop a run-first team with Ezekiel Elliott. You don't want to fluster a young quarterback with a diva receiver. Donovan McNabb, Jeff Garcia, Tony Romo and a couple other quarterbacks had the same problems with Terrell Owens. Owens was constantly in the media and in the ears of the offense demanding the ball. In the end it never worked out.

You want a controlled locker room especially with the young team Dallas has. Bryant may be a veteran but he is past his prime. At 29 years old approaching 30, injuries and lack of chemistry caused him to miss his "really" productive years, possibly 1,700-yard, 20-touchdown years. Take the money you saved by cutting him and spend it on savvy veterans or young developing guys.

Dallas still didn't fully rid the Bryant headache. As Bryant was walking out after his release he said, "I'll see you guys

twice this year." That means Bryant has intentions of signing in the NFC East with either the Washington Redskins, New York Giants or Philadelphia Eagles. If that's the case his best landing spot would be the Eagles.

Washington has no second receiver to take pressure off Bryant, no run game and Alex Smith under center. The Giants have Odell Beckham Jr. and if they mix that with Bryant, the locker room would be an absolute mess. With the Eagles coming off a Super Bowl victory and Carson Wentz currently healthy, a productive backfield committee threatens to take eyes off Bryant. Alshon Jeffery, Mike Wallace Nelson Agholor and Zach Ertz would take eyes away from Bryant.

The ball is in Bryant's court now. It's up to him to find his speed again and break separation from these young corners. Bryant's 1,300-yard seasons are gone but if he keeps his mouth shut and leads these young guys he can find himself in a nice situation.



Collin Harden (In front) takes the lead in a race during the Horizon League Championships in February. He was one of the athletes of the week from Youngstown State.

Photo Courtesy of YSU SPORTS INFORMATION

MARC WEEMS

For the second time this spring, members of the Youngstown State University men's and women's track and field teams swept the Horizon League Weekly awards.

Collin Harden (men's track), Arnaldo Morales (men's field), Amber Eles (women's track) and Abby Jones (women's field) all received Horizon League accolades, the league announced on Tuesday.

Harden won the 400-meter hurdles and was second in the 400-meter dash at the Westminster Invitational this past Saturday. He lowered his school record in the 400-meter hurdles running a time of 51.87. He won the

event by an impressive 2.65 seconds. He was second in the 400-meter dash with a time of 48.65 seconds.

For the second time this indoor season, Arnaldo Morales was named male field athlete of the week by the Horizon League. He won the high jump at the Westminster Invitational on Saturday as he cleared the bar at 2.14 meters. He started the meet at 1.95 meters and cleared 2.00 meters on his third try, 2.05 meters on his third try, 2.10 meters on his first try and 2.14 meters on his first try. He was the only jumper to clear 2.00 meters at the meet.

Amber Eles was named female track athlete of the week. She picked up wins in the 100-meter hurdles and the 400-meter hurdles on at the Westminster Invitation-

al. In the 100-meter hurdles, she won with a time 13.79 seconds (winning by 0.67 seconds). In the 400-meter hurdles, she won by 0.11 seconds finishing with a time of 1.02.79.

Abby Jones increased her school record in the high jump from 1.71 meters to 1.75 meters on Saturday at the Westminster Invitational. That helped her be named field female athlete of the week in the league. She passed through 1.65 meters before clearing that height on her first try. She cleared 1.70 meters on her first attempt and broke her mark at 1.73 meters on the second try. On her third attempt at 1.75 meters, she cleared the height to win by 0.15 meters and eclipse her record from April 2017.