

BLACK GIRL MAGIC AND THE POWER OF MAKEUP

Coco Jones mainly uses Juvia's Place palettes, Tarte Cosmetics foundations and lashes and L.A. Color lip gloss to complete looks on her clients. Photo courtesy of **Coco Jones**

FRANCES CLAUSE

The beauty industry continues to evolve with the rise of beauty gurus posting their makeup looks to Instagram and sharing tutorials on YouTube. But has makeup become more inclusive with this growth?

According to Coco Jones of Cake by Coco, makeup brands became more inclusive after Rihanna launched Fenty Beauty in September 2017.

With 50 shades of foundation, Fenty is a makeup line that focuses on a wide range of traditionally hard-to-match skin tones, formulas that work for all skin types and universal shades, according to the brand's website.

"There were brands that were targeted toward African American women before [Fenty], but it wasn't until Rihanna dropped her line that made more brands really think about expanding," Jones said.

Jones began her in-home business three years ago in Youngstown, where her goal is to build confidence in the clients that sit in her chair.

"I remember a homecoming client I had where her mom came to the appointment and was telling me about how insecure she was," she said. "When I was done and saw photos of her in her dress and makeup, it felt so good to have been a part of that."

Besides Fenty Beauty, Jones recommends Milani and Juvia's Place for black women because the hues of the brands' eyeshadow show up vibrantly on dark complexions. But Jones also recommends drugstore makeup as an alternative.

"I try to work with drugstore brands because they're more affordable," she said. "If I have to pay more for products, then I have to charge more for my clients."

Jones believes black women shouldn't be afraid to explore makeup lines because even if there is a product they don't like from the brand they may still be able to find a different product they love from that same brand.

Sierra McCorvey, a graduate student in voice performance at Youngstown State University, is not afraid to explore makeup lines and relies on them heavily for her career onstage.

"Makeup onstage is fundamental to the full theatrical experience because it conveys often what words cannot," she said. "If done correctly, it highlights facial expressions needed to convey narrative, work or song."

McCorvey said just 10 years ago she remembers walking into Sephora to find that only one brand in the store carried a foundation that matched her complexion.

But much longer than 10 years ago, the first person to recognize the lack of cosmetics for black women was Anthony Overton, a black lawyer with a background in chemistry,

according to beutymatters.com.

He opened the Overton Hygienic Manufacturing Co. in 1898 with face powder as his first product. The powder soon became a sensation in Egypt, Liberia and the U.S.

Then in 1920, Anita Patti Brown, a famous soprano opera singer, started a mail-order business geared toward women of color.



Sierra McCorvey, a graduate student in music performance, wears makeup frequently onstage for her profession. Photo courtesy of **Sierra McCorvey**

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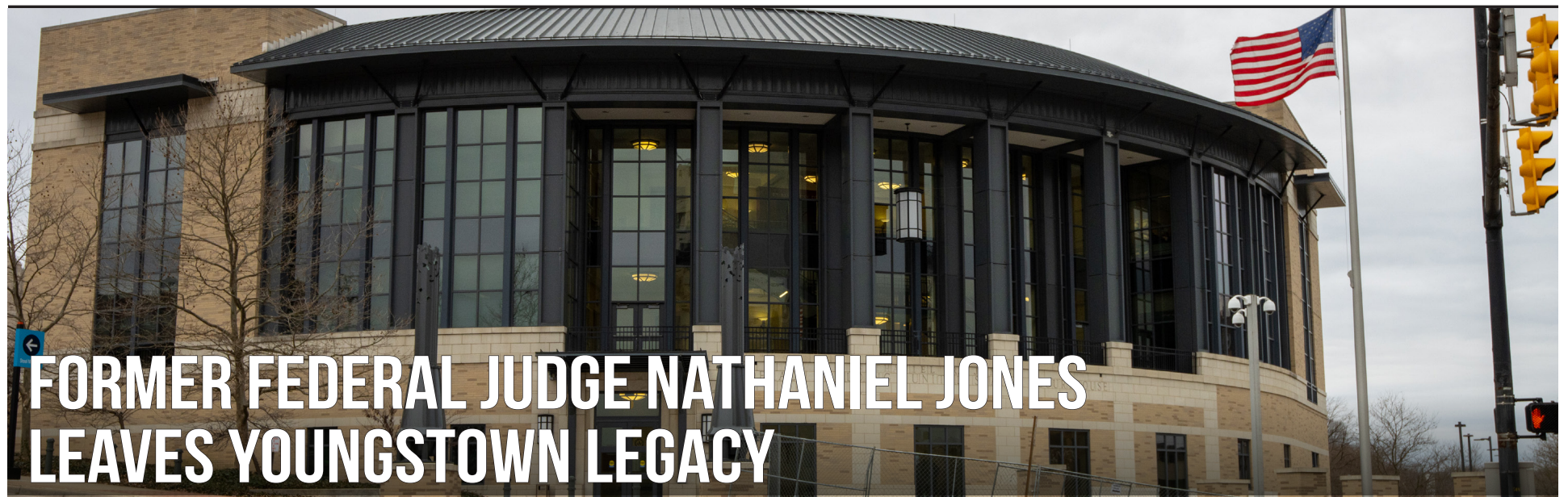
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FORMER FEDERAL JUDGE NATHANIEL JONES LEAVES YOUNGSTOWN LEGACY

The Nathaniel R. Jones Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse sits at the corner of East Commerce and Market streets in downtown Youngstown, within walking distance of Youngstown State University. Photo by **Kamron Meyers/The Jambar**

AMANDA JOERNDT
RACHEL GOBEP

Former U.S. Judge Nathaniel R. Jones was described as a Youngstown legend by many and has not only left a legacy in Youngstown but has influenced the nation through his fight for civil rights.

He died of congestive heart failure at 93 in his Cincinnati home, according to his daughter, Stephanie Jones, as reported by The Cincinnati Enquirer. Jones was a federal judge for 23 years and retired in 2002.

The Nathaniel R. Jones Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse opened in 2003 on the corner of East Commerce street and Market street in downtown Youngstown.

Todd Franko, former editor-in-chief of The Vindicator and director of development for the national journalism nonprofit Report for America, said Jones' impact on the community is understated.

"Not enough people understand or know what Judge Jones accomplished from such an impoverished base as Youngstown," Franko said. "If Judge Jones had been a football player, he'd be top of mind awareness of everybody in the Valley."

Jones became the first African American assistant U.S. attorney for the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio in 1961.

He later served as assistant general counsel to President Lyndon B. Johnson's National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, known as the Kerner Commission, and investigated the causes of and solutions for racial unrest.

Jones also served as general counsel for the NAACP. He argued several cases before the U.S. Supreme Court.

According to a Tribune Chronicle article, Jones directed the NAACP's litigation to "end Northern school desegregation, defend Affirmative Action and question discrimination against African Americans serving in the U.S. military."

Jones first became involved with the NAACP as a youth council member in Youngstown. Eight decades later, he was awarded the organization's highest honor, the Spingarn Medal, in 2016.

Youngstown State University President Jim Tressel said he got the opportunity to travel to Cincinnati to witness Jones receive the honorary NAACP award.

"I got to meet a lot of the people that he impacted," he said.

Jones earned his undergraduate degree from Youngstown College in 1951 after serving in the U.S. Army Corps during World War II. He received a law degree from the college in 1956.

"He's the most prolific graduate of Youngstown State ever," Franko said. "I would challenge that someone did more for humankind on such a scale as Judge Jones."

According to Tressel, Jones' may have been "one of the most decorated people that ever came out of our city or university or law school."

"I'm not sure there's been a more of an impactful graduate in the history of our school," Tressel said.

U.S. District Court Judge Benita Pearson said she was familiar with Jones' work and service to Youngstown long before their paths crossed.

"His determination to embody the rights to the Constitution. ... I've known him long before he's known me, I'm sure," she said.

Pearson said Jones was not only a public figure in the legal arena, but he was also notable for his service through his civil rights activism.

"For every judge and every lawyer, when you're called upon to do what's right, to do what's in the courts with the law promoted by the constitution, he is going to be ranking right there," she said.

Madonna Chism-Pinkard, part-time communications faculty at YSU and director of community relations at 21WFMJ-TV, developed a friendship with Jones through her parents' friendship in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Chism-Pinkard said as a child, she was unappreciative of his work. But as she grew older, she began to understand the importance of his service through civil rights activism.

"He was there for us as a race and the African American community," she said. "He was trusted with the NAACP and all the outsourcing groups that happened in the civil rights

movement."

His true legacy rests within his book titled "Answering the Call," according to Chism-Pinkard.

"[It] chronicles how he got started in the law and how he used it to benefit and represent folks who were mistreated and civil rights cases," she said. "He literally answered the call when he wrote that book."

Chism-Pinkard said she was fortunate enough to see him one last time when he came into town.

"I know that his death was recent, and I'm just very happy that the last time he came to town, I had the opportunity to talk with him and get a picture with him and my best friend's little boy," she said.

YSU awards a Judge Nathaniel R. Jones Scholarship to minority and/or economically disadvantaged students with a 2.5 GPA or higher who are pursuing careers designed to advance intergroup relations. The award includes a public service requirement. Contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships at 330-941-3505 for more information.



A portrait of Judge Nathaniel Jones hangs in YSU's Maag Library. Photo by **Kamron Meyers/The Jambar**

WORRY CIRCULATES YSU, HOAX CORONAVIRUS ALERT ON CAMPUS

BRIANNA GLEGHORN

An outbreak of a respiratory virus named the 2019 novel coronavirus, or 2019-nCoV, in China sparked paranoia in the United States. But recently concerning the Youngstown State University community was an illegitimate text message confirming a case at YSU.

A text posing as the YSU Penguin Alert System indicated there was a confirmed case of coronavirus on campus.

The text included a link to an inappropriate photo and advised students to contact the Mercy Health Clinic if they exhibited flu-like symptoms.

Ron Cole, the public information officer at YSU, said the search for the person behind the text is still ongoing.

“We’re trying to trace the origin of that text, but it was not a hack of the Penguin Alert System or anything like that,” Cole said. “We’re very confident that the system is secure.”

Cole said there is no estimation for where the text was sent from or how many students received the message.

Before the text was released, an email was sent on Jan. 28 to the YSU community providing information about the coronavirus.

The email stated there are no reported cases in Ohio and “the overall risk of acquiring the Novel Coronavirus in the US is low.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,

the virus originated in Wuhan, a city in the Hubei province of China.

The New York Times stated in a Jan. 21 report that symptoms of coronavirus include fever, a severe cough and shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, while milder cases may resemble the flu or a cold. Other symptoms include gastrointestinal problems or diarrhea.

According to the CDC, “Chinese health officials have reported thousands of infections with 2019-nCoV in China, with the virus reportedly spreading from person-to-person in many parts of that country.”

The first reported case of person-to-person transfer of this virus in the United States was in Washington on Jan. 21, according to the CDC. It was declared a “public health emergency of international concern” by the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization.

According to the CDC, “Eleven U.S. cases of 2019-nCoV have been confirmed by the CDC as of Feb. 3. To minimize the risk of spread, health officials and health care providers across the country are working together to promptly identify and evaluate any possible cases.”

Kaitlyn Flynn, a junior chemistry and statistics major at Miami University, said she was nervous when she first heard about the possible cases at her university.

“My phone was blowing up with calls and texts from concerned family members when the announcements first came

out about it,” Flynn said.

According to Flynn, Miami University’s administration sent out several emails encouraging good hygiene and implying the threat was not serious.

“Most of the students have started making a joke out of it because it became extremely blown out of proportion considering how low the risk is in Oxford,” Flynn said.

She said students began walking around the university in hazmat suits and a local bar joked about selling masks with their logo.

The two students being tested had just traveled to China, but test results came back negative for the virus.

A press release from the Ohio Department of Health confirmed “there are no other persons under investigation in Ohio.”

The ODH encourages good personal hygiene practices, including washing hands with soap and water, avoiding contact with eyes, nose and mouth and avoiding close contact with people who are sick. It also encourages those who are sick to stay home and to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue.

YSU students experiencing flu-like symptoms and those who have recently traveled to affected areas should contact Wick Primary Care at YSU at 330-747-4660 and avoid contact with others.

Wick Primary Care is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday.

MAKEUP

Continued from Page 1

“What Rihanna is doing is the same thing Anita Patti Brown was doing — using her fame to get these products made,” Tim Samuelson, Chicago’s official cultural historian, said in a racked.com article.

Fast forward to 2020, where brands from L’Oreal to Estee Lauder now provide a wide range of shades to complement black and brown skin.

“[The industry] has become so much better,” McCorvey said. “Glam Candi Cosmetics, which is a local black-owned brand based out of Warren, is my favorite. Kat Von D and Make Up For Ever are good brands, too.”

Her advice to black performers who are required to wear makeup is to consider the size of the venue and plan makeup coverage accordingly.

“Also, don’t be afraid to take classes,” McCorvey added. “Glam Candi in Warren is always offering makeup classes for all shades.”

But if makeup classes aren’t what someone is comfortable taking up, Rozzie Davis of Youngstown recommends watching black beauty gurus on YouTube.

Some of these gurus with a large following include Jackie Aina, Nyma Tang, Shameless Maya and Bri Hall.

“Those gurus on YouTube are lifesavers,” Davis said. “Try to mimic what they’re doing. Practice makes perfect.”

But before she applies her everyday makeup, Davis said it is always important to moisturize the skin.

“Even if I’m not wearing makeup, I moisturize my skin before leaving my house,” she said.

Chaste Chapman, a senior psychology major, said although she wears makeup often, moisturizing is the most crucial step of her daily routine.

“I think anything Neutrogena is good, especially anything that says ‘hydro boost’ is good for the skin,” she said. “I personally use the Clean & Clear [product] to moisten my skin and clear away pimples.”

Because she has eczema, Chapman consulted an expert to find the right skin care products for her condition that are oil free.

“I hate dry skin and oily skin, and I think the best part of my skin routine is the results I get,” she said. “It’s different when you wash your face before you put on makeup.”

Jones echoed the importance of moisturizing before applying makeup, noting that patience with applying both is key.

“You should feel beautiful no matter what,” she said. “Especially when you’re sitting in my chair.”



Coco Jones of Youngstown runs an in-home business, *Cake by Coco*, where clients can schedule a session to get a full face of makeup. She calls this look, “We’re worth more than 28 days.” Photo courtesy of **Coco Jones**



3D DESIGNS PUT TO THE TEST

A participant in the 3D-printed glider competition propels a glider in the Watson and Tressel Training Site Feb. 1. Photo by **Collin Headley/Jambar TV**

TINA KALENITS

Youngstown State University students might have noticed 3D-printed gliders flying across the Watson and Tressel Training Site on Feb. 1 as teams came together to design gliders and competed for the longest airtime.

Teams were responsible for creating their gliders variant in size and design, closely resembling a paper airplane.

David Irwin is a senior mechanical engineering major and president of YSU's student branch of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, abbreviated as AIAA. He said the event, called "Gliding Around the WATTS," gave students the chance to experience 3D printing, especially aircraft.

"It's like a paper airplane, but it's the 3D-printing material, so they're sturdier. ... They won't bend if they hit the ground a certain way. They have three tries, and [it's] a way of experiencing the new upcoming fad," he said.

Irwin said he hopes this event will be recurring so students and faculty can continue to improve their glider techniques and skills.

"We're hoping to make this a yearly event that people can take their previous gliders and maybe make some adjustments to

them in the future to make them better based on what worked in the last," he said.

Teams went one by one, each getting three tries to get the longest airtime. Gliders were also judged on the best-looking design.

Kevin Disotell, assistant professor of mechanical engineering and the faculty advisor for YSU's AIAA chapter, said the idea for the event came from AIAA students who were interested in the aerospace industry and looking for ways to get involved.

Disotell said YSU has a lot of 3D-printing resources and "Gliding Around the Watts" was an impactful way to connect aerospace careers and resources to campus.

"This event [was] open to the entire campus community, art students, engineering and science students. ... It's important particularly to the engineering students because what engineers do is design, and having hands-on experiences like this are impactful," he said.

Disotell said the event also acts as a recruitment event for AIAA.

"Our student branch relies upon having national student members who were members of our professional society. ... They can take that into their career," Disotell said. "And so we're

trying to grow our branch, grow our brand."

Joe Ciarniello, a senior mechanical engineering major, is a national member of AIAA and said this is a warmup event for the University of Texas 3D Printed Aircraft Competition.

"Our goal is to be able to compete, see how other people have designed any gliders," Ciarniello said. "See where we are in terms of how long our flights are going. We've been doing some flight testing, but it'll be nice to get inside."

Disotell said the student branch became officially chartered by AIAA in January 2018 and "Gliding Around the WATTS" is its first event.

"Our goal is to get as much exposure with AIAA-YSU to get more students involved. Spread the word that our aerospace studying is higher than some people think; a lot of people don't realize that," Ciarniello said.

AIAA documented the gliders and teams and Eric Sullivan, a senior mechanical engineering major, won first place.

"3D printing is a big hobby of mine, but also AIAA is a big organization in mechanical engineering," Sullivan said. "And my friends are officers in the organization. So I wanted to support them and also just get involved in 3D printing mechanical engineering at same time."

NEWS BRIEF

'WE SEE TOMORROW' GOAL INCREASES TO \$125 MILLION

The Youngstown State University Foundation set a new goal of \$125 million for its "We See Tomorrow" campaign Jan. 29 after meeting its \$100 million goal.

"The success of this campaign has been nothing short of phenomenal, a reflection of the generous support and strong reputation that YSU has throughout the region and across the country," Jocelyne Kollay Linsalata, a YSU Foundation trustee and campaign chair, said in a YSU press release. "We

look forward to keeping the momentum going and setting our sights even higher."

The campaign funds new scholarships, student work opportunities, new endowed chairs and professorship positions, campus beautification enhancements, new "Classrooms of the Future" and the new Excellence Training Center on the campus's south end.

"This campaign helps make YSU more affordable, extends

opportunities for academic excellence, brings state-of-the-art classroom technology, improves the appearance of our campus and creates a center that we believe will have a far-reaching impact on workforce development and research across the region for years to come," YSU Provost Brien Smith said in the press release.

So far, the campaign has collected about 27,000 gifts, which includes 32 donations of \$1 million or more.



(Left photo) Jacob Tomory and Samantha Fritz at the American Moot Court Association's national competition in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. (Right photo) Michael Factor (left) and Moataz Abdelrasoul (right) also pictured at the competition. Photo courtesy of **Samantha Fritz**

RACHEL GOBEP

For three political science and philosophy double majors, moot court is an activity that has shaped their college career.

Four members of the Youngstown State University moot court team traveled to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to compete in the American Moot Court Association's national competition at the Southern University Law Center.

This is the 11th consecutive appearance the team has made at the national championship.

According to Jacob Tomory, a senior political science and philosophy double major, moot court is an intense mental activity.

"If you're in an intense practice round at 7 p.m., you're not going to be able to turn that off for the next few hours. You're going to stay in that mentality," Tomory said.

Samantha Fritz, a senior political science and philosophy double major, and Tomory are team members, placed in the top eight of the competition.

More than 500 teams competed in 15 regional tournaments across the country to advance to this year's 80-team national championship.

Participants have the opportunity to take part in an activity that simulates the appellate court process through moot court. Competitors must give an oral argument that uses court precedent, legal analysis and forensic and advocacy skills.

This was Fritz and Tomory's third time arguing at nationals.

They lost two votes to one in the round of eight at Eastern Michigan University, the eventual champion of the tournament.

The first time the pair argued at nationals, they were freshmen at YSU and placed in the top eight. Tomory said although it might not appear like there was growth for the two, there certainly was.

"The entire activity has gotten so much harder since when we started. Suddenly, everyone we're arguing up against is very good," he said. So, while the results have stayed the same, I do think that we have grown a lot in terms of our abilities. I think this last year was the best we've ever been."

Fritz said she believes the most growth for the pair has come from acknowledging the subjectivity of moot court.

"Once you break rounds at nationals, everybody's good. It's just a matter of the personal preference of the judges," she said.

Michael Factor and his partner, Moataz Abdelrasoul, a senior political science and pre-law major, placed in the top 32 of the competition.

The American Moot Court Association releases the case problem in May each year, which means the moot court team begins to prepare for the season in the summer.

Fritz said this means she sometimes has to take a break.

"Usually at the end of October or early November, which is unfortunate because it's right before regionals, but I just need two weeks to stop thinking about moot court. Then rereading the cases feels fresh and the facts are kind of muscle memory at

a certain point," she said.

Tomory placed 5th for best orator individually, while Abdelrasoul received 24th place for best orator.

Fritz, Tomory and Abdelrasoul are all seen as leaders and examples for the team and will be graduating in May. Factor said it's going to be a rough adjustment.

"It's going to be a loss just for me personally in terms of the resources that they provide for the team in terms of bouncing ideas off of them," he said.

Factor said there is young talent on the team though, so he's hopeful for their success moving forward.

The class not only shapes students for communication skills in the real world but also prepares some students for their ultimate goal: law school.

Tomory plans to attend law school after graduation and has been accepted into tier-one law schools.

Fritz plans to complete a dual Ph.D. and law degree program, while Abdelrasoul also plans to attend law school.

Fritz offered advice for those who are interested in participating in moot court: Overall the nervousness of arguing doesn't go away.

"I think that it's just [finding] a way to cope with the nerves that people get better at. ... It's just a matter of practice, getting up there and arguing, going through the material, even just going through the motions. It's practice, but that first practice is always going to be intimidating," she said.

NEWS BRIEF

WARD BEECHER PLANETARIUM OFFERS NEW SHOW FOR SPRING SEMESTER

Youngstown State University students and the general public can now enjoy a trip to Mars by experiencing the Ward Beecher Planetarium "One Day on Mars" show.

The program will be free and open to the public starting Feb. 7, and it will explore "the bottomless canyons and brave the violent winds that sweep across the Red Planet's icy dunes,"

according to the public program.

"We fly to the bottom of the deepest canyon in the solar system, and we go to the top of the highest volcano, and you learn about what conditions are like on Mars," Curt Spivey, the planetarium engineer, said. "These are computer-generated fly-throughs that are based on actual data from NASA and other

space agencies."

Ward Beecher Planetarium was the first planetarium in the United States set up as a classroom, and it has evolved over the years, Spivey said.

Public shows run Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. Most shows feature a live look at the night sky and a video segment.

YSU EXPANDS PARTNERSHIP WITH CHANGWON NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

ABIGAIL CLOUTIER

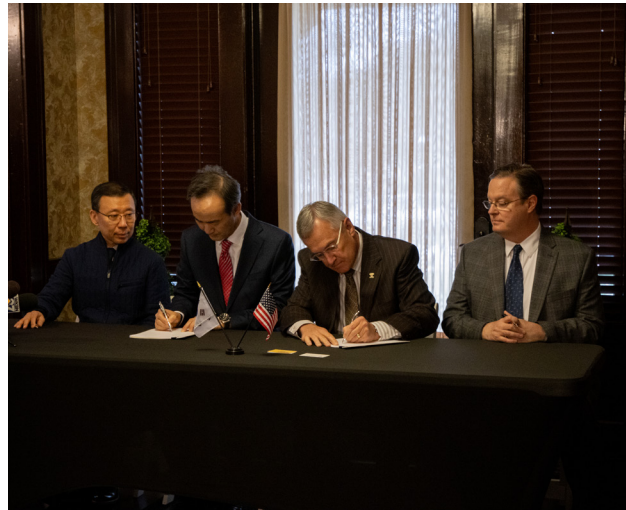
Youngstown State University signed an agreement with Changwon National University to expand the international program to include language training and summer programs Jan. 30 at Pollock House.

YSU has been building a relationship with CWNNU since 2017 and continues to build the partnership with these new programs. The new language training program will allow Changwon students to enroll in the English Language Institute at YSU.

The expansion also offers scholarships to Changwon students, which makes them equivalent to domestic students financially.

Summer term programming will allow YSU students to study in Korea and give Changwon students a chance to study with YSU's Summer in America program.

"This summer, we're going to be sending [YSU] students to Changwon to study how to do business in Korea, Korean business culture, some language and some other exciting cultural and business activities," Nathan Myers, associate



Youngstown State University signs an agreement with Changwon National University to expand the international program Jan. 30. Photo by **Kamron Meyers/The Jambar**

provost for international and global initiatives at YSU, said.

Myers said YSU has hosted 10 students from Changwon University since the program's inception.

"We really feel that this is the most important relationship that the university has with the country of Korea," Myers said.

One exchange student from Changwon, Junbeom Son, transferred to YSU after participating in the exchange program.

Son, a senior mechanical engineering major, said the exchange program could be motivating for other South Korean students.

"It is a totally different culture than South Korea," he said. "It would be a great chance for [them] to experience [the U.S.]."

Son transferred to YSU after he completed required military service in South Korea.

"After I finished my service, I kind of felt bored," Son said. "I thought I needed new motivation, so I decided to study abroad as an exchange student and apply to Youngstown State University."

YSU President Jim Tressel said the university is looking forward to collaborating with CWNNU on the new programs.

"We always say our world is getting much smaller," Tressel said. "We're collaborating and working together much more, so we're excited for this day. On behalf of all of our students, and all of our people in the valley, we welcome you."

Tressel received a traditional clock made of shell from the president of CWNNU, Ho-young Lee. Lee received a decorative dish engraved with the YSU logo.

"We thank you for your warm hospitality, especially President Tressel," Lee said. "There are many exchanges of activities between Changwon National University and Youngstown State University for the last couple of years."

The South Korean delegation included the president of Changwon National University as well as the dean of international affairs and an international coordinator.

"A student from Changwon National University came here, and they learned a lot based upon cultures, certain qualities and STEM," Lee said. "[I am] very much satisfied with the exchange relationship between Changwon National University

and Youngstown State University."

Tressel said this is just another step to "have our students ready for this global society."

"With the LG Chem company coming right to the valley, there's going to be a very natural partnership with our faculty, our staff, our students and our exchanges," Tressel said.

The partnership will bring an electric vehicle battery production facility to Lordstown, according to a Business Journal article.

According to Tressel, he is open to internship agreements with LG Chem and the Lordstown Motors Corp. and has discussed those opportunities with JobsOhio.



President of Changwon National University Ho-young Lee (left) shakes YSU President Jim Tressel's (middle) hand, while YSU Provost Brien Smith (right) smiles for a photo. Photo by **Kamron Meyers/The Jambar**

NEWS BRIEF

YSU FOR RECOVERY IN TRANSITION PHASE

YSU for Recovery started as a student-led initiative for addiction recovery several years ago. Since then, the program has gone through a transition period as faculty adviser Ryan McNicholas attempts to find new students willing to take on the program.

Mason Edmunds, a prevention specialist with Meridian Healthcare, has taken over the program in order to provide support to struggling students.

"My main function right now is keeping it alive and making sure that we can find a healthy transition period between me handling it and it being put back in the hands of students because it is a student organization," Edmunds said.

The group holds biweekly meetings on Monday afternoons in the Hynes Room in Kilcawley center.

"It can be whoever wants to stop by and feel that sense of camaraderie and maybe find a place of belonging that

they might not necessarily have in their regular day to day," Edmunds said.

"Especially if a student feels like they're struggling, they can stop by. I have contacts and tools at my disposal where I can talk to them, and I can get them referred to somebody who could help them set goals and get back on track," he added.



An African youth dance group, Harambee, performed traditional African dances accompanied by a chorus of drums at the African Marketplace in Kilcawley Center. Photo by **Kelcey Norris/The Jambar**

KELCEY NORRIS

The Youngstown community shopped, sang and celebrated African American culture at the African Marketplace, a kickoff event hosted by Youngstown State University for Black History Month.

Patrick Spearman, director of the Africana Studies program at YSU, serves on the Black History Month planning committee for the African Marketplace.

"We bring vendors from around the region as well as entertainment from Youngstown to bring you a taste of Africa here at the university," Spearman said. "We also share with the public what kind of events we have going for the rest of the month."

According to Spearman, the marketplace is composed of African American businesspeople who give the patrons a taste of what the marketplaces are like in Africa.

"It's about bringing everyone together and sharing with them the uniqueness, the ideas and the very importance of African American history and culture," he said.

An African youth dance group, Harambee, performed traditional African dances accompanied by a chorus of drums.

While the event served as a celebration of African American culture, it also gave the community a better understanding of the culture.

"We're really trying to encourage people to come here and learn more about a culture they might not be very familiar with," Spearman said. "It raises awareness for cultural artifacts and ideas that some may not be aware of."

Spearman said the African Marketplace began again after a

year off, and members who planned the event were excited to bring it back.

"It's good because what I found out from planning this is that it's something the community really enjoys," he said. "They really want the marketplace to keep going. We want it to grow and have more vendors and more people participating."

Kira Walker, a sophomore telecommunication studies major, was one of the YSU students in attendance.

"I went to the African Marketplace because I missed the last one and I really wanted to go," Walker said. "I think it's really cool to see people from different backgrounds and cultures interacting in this community."

Walker's most memorable takeaway from the event were the dance group that performed and the variety of unique items for sale.

"It's good to get out of your bubble sometimes," she said. "It's also beneficial to experience this stuff you wouldn't find around your hometown to get a different perspective on the world."

Cryshanna Leftwich Jackson, associate professor of politics and international relations and director of the Women's and Gender Studies program, also serves on the Black History Month planning committee, which was formed in 2017.

"We live in a time where we are more diverse and people are more open," she said. "It's important to have events that will include everybody but also celebrate the contributions of African Americans."

The African Marketplace is only one of the many events the committee organized for the month.

Jackson Leftwich said the YSU Black Student Union wanted

to discuss mental health stereotypes in the black community.

"There's been an increase in suicides in African American teens," she said. "We're bringing in a speaker, Eric L. King Sr., who will be discussing issues and myths about black mental health and mental health awareness."

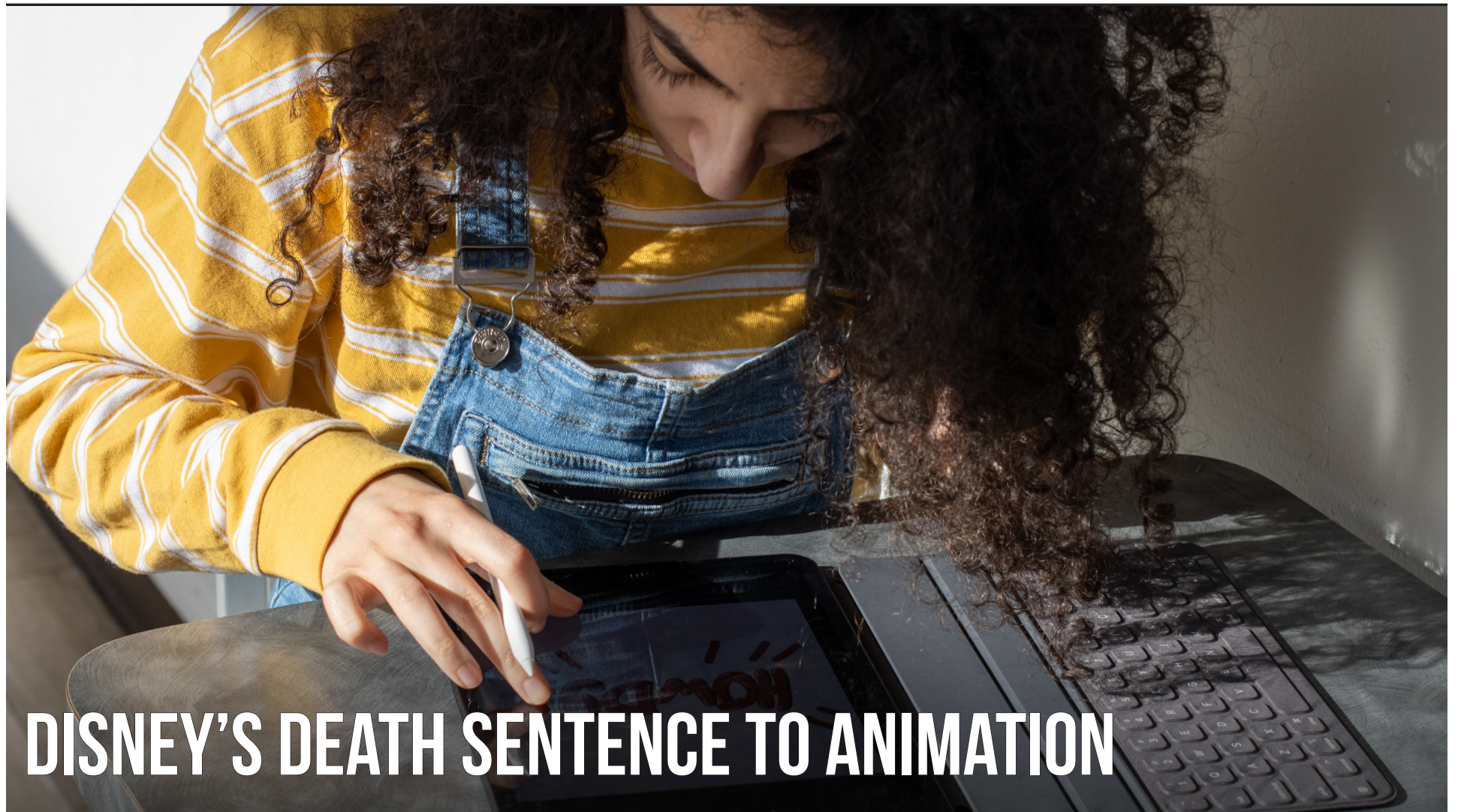
Throughout February, the committee is using social media and signs to encourage YSU students to attend the events.

"We're starting to have a more centralized planning program," Jackson Leftwich said. "Before, it was like we didn't know who was doing what. ... We have our first points of contact to see about what's being done, and we can work together."

Visit ysu.edu/news for a complete list of Black History Month events.



Local vendors sold traditional African clothing at the African Marketplace. Photo by **Kelcey Norris/The Jambar**



Michelle Gabriel, a senior graphic design major, draws on her tablet. Photo by **Kamron Meyers/The Jambar**

KAITLYN KELLEY

Whether it was a classic like “Pinocchio” or a more recent film like “The Princess and the Frog,” many people have a favorite animated film that stuck with them throughout childhood.

That feeling of nostalgia while rewatching older animated films is what turned Disney from a studio focusing on new animation into a studio that remakes its classic animated films in live action.

The remakes started with the live-action adaptation of 1951’s “Alice in Wonderland,” directed by Tim Burton in 2010.

Mikayla Shiels, a freshman pre-nursing major at Youngstown State University, said she was 9 years old when the Burton adaptation was released.

“It was creepy looking back on it, but I still like it to this day,” she said.

With the film boasting \$1 billion in profits despite the mixed reviews, wheels were set in motion for Disney to roll out more live-action adaptations.

Disney also decided to remake its classic princess movies “Sleeping Beauty” and “Cinderella.”

The consecutive releases of “Maleficent” in 2014 and “Cinderella” in 2015 raked in over \$750 million and \$540 million worldwide, respectively.

“Why watch a ‘Star Wars’ movie from 1977 or 1980 when

you can just remake them with more sophisticated special effects?” Milan Paurich, an adjunct faculty member who teaches a history of motion pictures course at YSU, said.

Five live-action remakes of classic animated Disney features came out in 2019 with varying degrees of success. With a celebrity cast and the promise of new music, “The Lion King” remake grossed over \$1.6 billion worldwide.

“2019’s ‘The Lion King’ pointed out the dangers of live-action remakes of animated films, especially since pretty much the entire film was itself CGI animated,” Paurich said. “Not surprisingly, the Golden Globes actually nominated [the live-action Lion King] for Best Animated Feature.”

But it’s possible that the stylish form of 2D animation could come back in style, according to Claudia Berlinski, a professor in YSU’s art department.

“As is the case with other art forms, there has been a trend back to things that are handcrafted after a surge in digital production. I would imagine that will happen in the field of animation as well,” she said.

Despite this, Disney is going to continue pumping out live action remakes as long as it can profit from fans’ nostalgia, according to Richard Johnson, assistant professor of film studies.

“They’ll continue to remake older movies as long as they’re profitable,” he said. “But eventually, they’re going to run out of

classic cartoons to convert.”

Animation and traditional artwork have a rich history, having preceded animation by 35,000 years from cave paintings to short films of the early 20th century, according to Johnson.

Despite this, it seems clear that Disney is headed toward the direction of remakes for the time being. Only time will tell if this method will work or run the company into the ground.



Photo by **Kamron Meyers/The Jambar**



BROADWAY'S 'HAMILTON' PERFORMER TEACHES YSU MASTER CLASS

Bryan Terrell Clark, known for his role as George Washington on Broadway's Tony Award-winning musical "Hamilton," signed two playbills. Photo by **Alyssa Weston/The Jambar**

ALYSSA WESTON

Bryan Terrell Clark, known widely for his role as George Washington on Broadway's Tony Award-winning musical "Hamilton," visited campus last week to give a speech as part of Youngstown State University's Skeggs Lecture Series.

Some other roles under Clark's belt include Marvin Gaye in "Motown: The Musical" and Ortega in the Netflix miniseries "When They See Us."

During his visit, the actor taught an acting master class to YSU students in Bliss Hall's Spotlight Theater.

Clark had students participate in a series of warmups before having groups of two do exercises called "take the paper, keep the paper," where the goal was for one actor to try to keep a newspaper in their hand and the other to try to take the newspaper from them by any means necessary.

This exercise, which Clark learned during his time at the Yale School of Drama, was to teach the importance of objectives in performing.

Clark discussed the importance of being a student for life through grace, focus and listening.

"If you open yourself up and learn how to listen, you'll leave the experience every single night exponentially a better artist and exponentially a better person from listening," he said.

Additionally, Clark encouraged students to listen to their inner voice for guidance into the space they are meant to be in.

"Our job as performers and as human beings is to tap back into that voice inside of you," he said.

Clark lectured students about the future of the entertainment industry being primarily streaming services from various networks and no longer cable television.

"I do believe there's going to be less superstars. Because there's going to be so much content, you might be on a hit show that literally millions of people love to watch, but none of us might ever see it because we don't own the History channel's, you know, streaming service," he said.

Sophia Delatore, a freshman nursing major and self-proclaimed "Hamilton" super fan, took part in the master class days before seeing "Hamilton" on Broadway in New York City.

"I've never been in Bliss [Hall], and I've never been to an acting class or anything like this, but it is super cool," she said. "Thank you to [YSU Department of Theatre and Dance] for allowing me to come to this."

Stephanie Smith, chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance, said interaction with industry professionals outside of YSU's current faculty and staff allows students to have direct connection with the professional field while they are still in school.

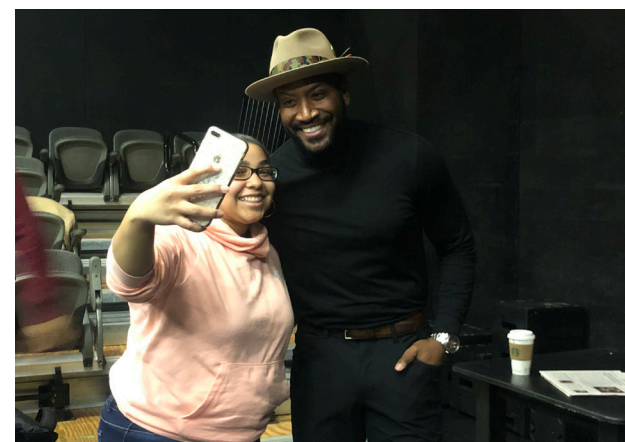
"Bryan Terrell Clark, in both the master class that he gave and in his Skeggs lecture, shared personal experiences drawn from his film, TV and stage career that offered insights that are an invaluable addition to what we are teaching in the classroom," she said.

Smith said theater is about tapping into the human condition, and the more students are exposed to more perspectives, the better.

"We are so grateful to the Skeggs family for their support and to Jackie LeViseur, director of university events, for facilitating such inspirational opportunities for our students," she said.

Clark ended the master class with advice on the practicality of having a professional acting career.

"Nothing is practical. We think that certain spaces are more safe, but they're not, especially if it's going to cost you your happiness," he said. "Creative people are so smart. Don't worry, the money will come. The stability will come; the finances will come," he said.



Bryan Terrell Clark takes a selfie with a woman who attended the acting master class in Bliss Hall's Spotlight Theater. Photo by **Alyssa Weston/The Jambar**



DR. RAY LECTURE SHEDS LIGHT ON RADIOACTIVE BRINE

Justin Nobel (left) and Sil Caggiano (right) discuss ways to bring awareness to radioactive brine. Photo by J. Harvard Feldhouse/The Jambar

J. HARVARD FELDHOUSE

Justin Nobel, environment reporter for Rolling Stone magazine, and Sil Caggiano, Youngstown senior fire battalion chief, visited Youngstown State University's campus Saturday to discuss Nobel's recent revealing article of the oil and gas industry.

Nobel's article, titled "America's Radioactive Secret," revealed that oil and gas companies covered up the fact that brine, a saline byproduct of Marcellus Shale fracking, contains high levels of radium-224 and radium-226, radioactive isotopes.

According to the article, workers at oil and gas wells have been exposed to the radioactive brine without being told and without proper hazmat training and equipment. Workers have experienced nausea, sores and, in some cases, cancer.

Nobel stated, "The Nuclear Regulatory Commission requires industrial discharges to remain below 60 [picocuries per liter of substance]." But when an anonymous brine truck driver took samples of brine to universities for testing, the samples yielded levels from 3,500 to 8,500 picocuries per liter.

Further than that, brine has also been sold to municipalities and commercially to people as a de-icer called AquaSalina. Mill Creek MetroParks uses it.

Tish O'Dell, board member of the Ohio Community Rights Network and co-organizer of the lecture, is on the front lines of anti-AquaSalina advocacy. When she spoke out about it two years ago, the company, Nature's Own Source, sued her for defamation.

O'Dell reached out to professors in YSU's Department of Geological and Environmental Science, such as Colleen McLean, Susie Beiersdorfer and the late Ray Beiersdorfer, in order to get solid evidence against AquaSalina.

"I had known about radioactivity in brine and the brine trucks but was shocked to hear that this radioactive product was being sold commercially," Susie Beiersdorfer said.

O'Dell told Nobel about AquaSalina two years ago, inspiring him to pursue the story.

"Justin contacted me in May of 2018 about a story he was doing about industrial wind projects, and somehow the brine conversation came up — I don't even remember how," O'Dell said. "I told him some of the preliminary results coming in from Dr. Ray's connections and some of the information from the depositions in my suit that didn't add up."

Nobel has since been researching the topic, and he's spoken to many people in Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia about their experiences with brine. Caggiano was among those Nobel spoke to.

Caggiano, who is hazmat trained, worked closely with Nobel and O'Dell (and is a brine awareness activist). During the lecture, Caggiano stressed the importance of proper regulation for oil and gas hazardous waste, especially for first responders.

The laws around hazardous materials are tiered by severity, but companies possessing any hazardous material must provide a material safety data sheet, a list of materials and possible health concerns, to fire and safety officials upon arrival.

Vehicles must also be marked if they are carrying hazardous materials. This is especially essential for radioactive materials.

However, oil and gas companies are exempt from these laws and regulations. They don't have to provide a data sheet or label their brine trucks as radioactive. They can tell fire and safety teams to leave scenes of spills and other emergencies.

"I can pull up on the scene of a spill, at one of these wellhead sites, and they can tell me to go take a hike," Caggiano said. "This is in the middle of my community. This stuff's leaking and getting into a waterway. What do you mean you're not going to tell me what's going on?"

Nobel encouraged those who went to the lecture to start speaking up on a local level because people will listen if enough people are talking about the issue.

"I'm certainly doing my best to get it out there," Nobel said. "I'm in touch with groups that want to take it to legislators, but that process is slow. Legislators are busy with other things. So, we've got to work in a really grassroots way to get this information out."

Nobel's article is only one step in a longer investigation. He plans to publish a book that will go into more detail and explore other aspects of hazardous waste in the oil and gas industry.

"With the book, I'll be taking the information I presented today and just moving further with all the different threads," Nobel said. "So many threads of reporting come up, and now I'll have space to just ramble further down the rabbit hole and talk about new things."

LETTING FEAR FUEL YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

MAC POMEROY

My first semester of college, I somehow ended up in a journalism class. This was not intentional, but unfortunately the class I had planned to take did not work out. I love writing, and this class involved enough of it, so it was a quick match. However, this simple choice to join that class led to a very unexpected chapter within my life.

I should also note that due to my piss-poor legs, I am usually the last person to leave my classes. Because of this, I often spend a few moments after class talking to the professor.

So, over the next few weeks, I got to know Dave Davis, who taught my journalism as literature course and has since retired. But I learned more about his career in journalism. It was surprising to hear about the full and fascinating path of a reporter that he had led prior to teaching and how determined he was to share all he knew with his students.

However, I still wasn't prepared for when he stopped me after class a few weeks in the semester to tell me an opportunity had appeared he thought would suit me.

Often, no matter how much you plan each moment in life, that doesn't stop unexpected opportunities from occurring. And these opportunities can be frightening. Perhaps you don't feel that you can do it. Maybe it is just an odd timing.

Too often, people let good opportunities pass by due to fear. For as many reasons as some may give for this fear, it can be broken down to one simple reason: the fear of failure. Professor Davis told me about how one of the school's magazines was looking for some new writers. He explained he thought I would be a good match for the position.

Of course, I was confused. I had never done any real journalism work. At most, I had written an article for his class, but that was a rough try. However, he seemed sure that it was something I should do, so I decided to give it my best.

By giving in to the fear of failure, we are failing. We are failing to put our best foot forward and try. Otherwise, we cannot expect to get anywhere in life.

How can you get a scholarship if you don't apply? How will you get a job if you never go to the interview? How will you ever know what you are capable of if you never try?

I went ahead and set up a meeting with the person he had given me the contact information for: Frances Clause. Admittedly, I was going in thinking there was going to be a much older woman, probably very serious and strict. I was terrified of meeting this person, though she did sound friendly in her emails.

What I wasn't expecting was to walk into the room and find a student who wasn't much older than me. She was very kind and excited, carrying an infectious enthusiasm for what she did. It didn't take long to realize why my professor wanted me to try with this opportunity.

If I didn't go to the meeting that day and didn't write the article for YO Magazine, I would not have proceeded to become a columnist.

No one can take advantage of an opportunity for you. Yes, it can be terrifying to be faced with a new, uncertain perspective. Use this fear to fuel your passion. Take a chance. Maybe it will end up being one of the best things to ever happen to you.

THE JAMBAR^o — EDITORIAL —

SOCIAL MEDIA'S IMPACT ON MENTAL HEALTH

Instagram can be a platform full of inspiration and connections, but beneath the hundreds of likes and comments is a harsh reality.

Popular Instagram models post photos of themselves that promote unrealistic beauty standards that can't be achieved offline, leading to a negative impact on users' mental health.

Caroline Constantinovich, a Youngstown State University alumna, said this issue comes down to not knowing what is fake or real.

"It's easy to know that your best friend spiced up her selfie," she said. "However, your favorite influencer? That becomes a game of will the influencer actually disclose if they edited a photo or not."

Constantinovich said what matters most to her is her mental health, so she takes steps to unfollow those whose pictures are photoshopped.

"I personally have started deleting people who don't

inspire me," she said. "It's like having a toxic friend group when you follow people who make you feel bad. We're leaving that behind in 2020."

Constantinovich believes that although Instagram sets up women for unrealistic expectations, it is still the consumer's responsibility to choose the content they consume.

"Get better idols, get better friends and find people online who motivate you," she said. "It makes a world of a difference."

A hopeful recent initiative spearheaded by Facebook and Instagram includes doing away with likes.

Last year, the two social media platforms announced they would be stepping away from their traditional "liking" model on posts to discourage online bullying and nurture better societal mental health.

The new feature is slowly being implemented through user testing, giving users different versions of the new liking

system.

Facebook and Instagram users will still have the option to like posts, but instead of a number being associated with it, they will only be able to see if their mutual friends or followers also like the post.

The platforms' main change is showing users when someone likes their personal posts but not the number of likes other users have.

"When someone you follow has liked someone else's photo, it will say '[name of Instagram account] and others' under the post where likes would typically appear. Users can then click to see a list of the accounts who have liked the post, although they won't be able to see a number highlighting how many people have liked it," a CNN article explains.

This will be a huge shift for social media influencers and many platform users who associate likes with popularity.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

YSUnity for Whom?

Since President Jim Tressel has worked on developing YSU's image, we have heard the motto YSUnity again and again. My concern is that this is just simply lip service.

Currently, we have an 8% graduation rate for black students. That is the lowest in the country. And administrators gripe about having black student graduation ceremonies to make them feel more accepted and supported.

We are one of the only two universities in Ohio without a gender resource center to provide support to people who are sexually assaulted and offer other important resources. When we try to promote sexual assault awareness during April's Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April 2019, Kelly Beers, director of Title IX, tried to prevent YSU students

from handing out Title IX information. And we hire a tennis coach for female athletes who has a track record for sexual harassment and lobby for rapists to be allowed to play football.

We have a large population of lower-class students. But our working-class studies are underfunded and undersupported.

We have a veteran's center that we promote quite often, trying to attract veterans as students. But the most needed resource for them, a therapist, is absent from the veteran's center.

And we have disabled students and faculty who desperately need support and do not receive it because they're told it's beyond the purview of the administration. We have students, staff and faculty with MS, ALS and other damaging

disabilities. When they asked to have DeBartolo's most used entrance next to the handicap parking made into a handicap-accessible entrance, they were denied this, and they do not have a door wide enough to allow a wheelchair in. Instead the university argued that the front and back entrances were there and, while very difficult with the slopes to make for handicap people, are good enough.

So, where is the unity? If we are really about unity, we need to start supporting the people along the margins. This means resources, time and funding. Not lip service.

Michael Jerryson

Professor, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies



Members of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia will be going around campus singing for donations on Friday, Feb. 14. The Valentine's Day event will take place from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Phi Mu Alpha members will sing a love song to a person of the donor's choosing. Donations can be made in any amount and will go toward the fraternity. Contact Max Franko at 234-855-5213 to reserve a Valentine's Day serenade for someone special. The group visited The Jambar office Wednesday to give a preview of what to expect. To watch footage of them serenading Jambar staffers, watch Jambar TV at noon on Friday. Photo by **Rachel Gobep/The Jambar**



INJURIES AND INEXPERIENCE PLAGUE YSU WOMEN'S HOOPS

Maddie Schires is one of the Penguins who has seen her role increase due to the team's injuries. Photo courtesy of **YSU Sports Information**

NATHANAEL HAWTHORNE

Youngstown State University women's basketball has been battling injuries all season. The young team has been put to the test this season and have still managed to reach a .500 record.

The injuries started early in the season with senior Mary Dunn and junior Emma VanZanten both getting hurt before conference play even started.

"I think Mary's done for the year," Penguins coach John Barnes said. "Emma's questionable for the year; Amara's [Chikwe] pretty much out for the year; Lexi Wagner's out for the year."

Junior McKenah Peters is recently back from an injury, and Barnes said the adjustment is a slow process, but she is gradually getting back to the level she was playing at.

"I think she'll be much better for Wright State," Barnes said.

Speaking on the inexperience of the team, Barnes believes one of the bigger challenges of the year is the number of young players who have to play. He said there are about six freshmen playing roughly 15 minutes per game, making it difficult to win games.

Barnes also said that the team did everything possible to try to avoid these injuries.

"We hired a specific company for knee [injury] prevention that a lot of big-time schools use," Barnes said. "Luck has not been on our side this year, and you just got to try to do the best

you can."

The team has hit a bump, dropping seven of its last nine games. The next two games aren't going to be easy, according to Barnes. He credited Wright State University, saying the team is arguably the best in the league. He cited Wright State's athletic ability, shooting ability and its ability to create scoring opportunities, among other qualities.

Following the game against Wright State, the Penguins will square off against Northern Kentucky University. In the Horizon League, NKU is tied for second in the conference at 7-4 and has a 13-9 overall record. Also, NKU is riding a four-game win streak.

"NKU is playing some of the best basketball in the conference," Barnes said. "They just beat Green Bay by 20 points, so it's a big challenge."

One bright spot in these next couple of games is that the games are in Youngstown. Starting against Wright State, the Penguins have a five-game homestand, which Barnes believes will help the team in the long run.

Barnes said the team has been on the road for such a long time, and it's nice to be back home.

"The kids are excited to be able to sleep in their own bed, get back into class, get back into a routine. All of that is going to help us play better basketball," Barnes said.

The Penguins will be back in action at Beeghly Center for just shy of three weeks, taking on the aforementioned teams as well

as Cleveland State University, the University of Detroit Mercy and Oakland University.

Tipoff for the Wright State game is scheduled for Feb. 6 at 7 p.m.



Gabby Lupardus dribbles past a University of Wisconsin-Green Bay defender in the Penguins matchup against the Phoenix on Jan. 24. Photo courtesy of **YSU Sports Information**

CALHOUN CALLS FOR STUDENTS AT BASKETBALL GAMES

NATHANAEL HAWTHORNE

Youngstown State University men's basketball coach Jerrod Calhoun said in a press conference that he would like to see more student involvement at the home games.

Calhoun noticed the amount of student support at Wright State University and Northern Kentucky University, and he said he would like to see more YSU students in the stands.

"We've got to get more students involved," Calhoun said.

While Beeghly Center has a student section next to where the YSU Pep Band plays, students sit scattered around the court. Calhoun wants to see the program grow and develop, and he believes more student involvement is the missing piece.



Darius Quisenberry (center) jumps up to put a shot on net in the Penguins' match against the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. Photo courtesy of **YSU Sports Information**

Junior Garrett Covington shared that sentiment. He said he would love to see more students at the games because it creates an incredible environment and atmosphere.

"The more students that we have, I think it kind of energizes us players, and it's going to create some incredible atmosphere," Covington said.

Moving on to gameplay, the team is heading into the final few games of the season. With only seven games left in the regular season, the team is sitting at a 6-5 Horizon League record, which is tied for third in the conference.

The team has had a few days off, which Calhoun believes is helpful for the next couple of games.

"We'll have four days of prep; [we] spent a couple days on ourselves, working on some of the things we need to get better at doing," he said.

Some of those things include situational awareness, playing with a lead and understanding better shot selection and defensive rebounding. On the defensive rebounding side, the team is averaging 25.9 rebounds per game.

With the season winding down, every game, specifically every home game, is important. Calhoun said in college basketball, winning and playing well at home is important. Statistically speaking, the team has done just that with a 10-2 home record.

"Coach Calhoun and the rest of the coaching staff have really emphasized the importance of taking care of business at home," Covington said. "We know how difficult it is to win on the road, so I think it's a great opportunity for us to keep things rolling and then go on the road and take care of business."

Looking ahead, the team wraps a five-game homestand Saturday against Cleveland State University. The Penguins then hit the road for two games, come back to Youngstown for two games and then



Penguins guard Garrett Covington drives the net in the Penguins' game against Indiana University - Purdue University Indianapolis. Photo courtesy of **YSU Sports Information**

finish the season away.

"I think it's going to get real crazy down the stretch," Calhoun said. "We just got to continue to fight and continue to get better. The most important thing we can't do [is] overdo it with practice. We still have to challenge them. ... I think the guys have had a good approach."

In their previous matchup against Cleveland State, YSU lost 82-74. Currently, the team has won two of four games in this homestand, with three consecutive games going to overtime.

Tipoff for the game against the Vikings is scheduled for Feb. 8 at 6 p.m.

MEN'S TENNIS CONTINUES TO IMPROVE UNDER HERNANDEZ

PRESTON BYERS

Those that see Ulises Hernandez walking around the Youngstown State University campus probably just think he's a student heading to class. He's unassuming, with short black hair, oval glasses and no facial hair. Maybe he's a psychology major or he's pursuing a business degree.

He's actually the head coach of one of YSU's most promising athletic programs.

As the men's tennis coach, Hernandez, 25, commands seven players. While some may view his youth as a lack of experience, Hernandez, who graduated from Loras College in 2016, sees it as an advantage in relating to his players.

"I think it [helps by] just building connections with the guys and understanding their perspective," Hernandez said. "As students, I understand what struggles they are going through."

His connection with the players, in addition to the strong play of the team, has yielded impressive results.

Last year, in Hernandez's first season as head coach, YSU won 12 matches, five of which came within the Horizon League. This helped the team secure second place in the conference for

the first time in school history.

Things are looking good again this season. YSU is 3-1 through the first four matches of the spring season. At this point in the season a year ago, the Penguins picked up their first loss to Butler University, which was followed by losses in four of the next five matches.

YSU's undefeated record was again ruined by Butler this season with a 4-3 loss on Feb. 2. But Hernandez doesn't expect the same problems he and his team faced in 2019.

"The system we have in place, I really think it's the difference right now," Hernandez said. "The guys were used to a certain system, but now that they see this system's functioning the way it should be, I feel like the system will continue to progress and progress."

The goal for Hernandez and the Penguins is obviously to win. But he knows more losses lie ahead.

Hernandez said the losses will help the team "learn a few things" about itself. Last year, when the Penguins dropped four matches in February, they discovered they were missing energy. That lesson helped propel them to a solid March and an even better April, during which they won four consecutive

conference matches.

Now that the team has felt defeat, there should be a few more lessons for the Penguins, and they'll have to learn most of them on the road.

YSU's next seven matches are away from Youngstown, with the next home match slated for March 21 against the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay in YSU's Horizon opener.

By then, Hernandez and his players hope they will be able to practice and play in the on-campus indoor tennis facility, which is under construction despite originally being projected to be finished by the start of 2020.

The center is on the campus's west side along West Scott Street. It will house six tennis courts.

Construction of the facility will be complete March 11, according to Rich White, YSU director of planning and construction.

The Penguins will begin their road trip with matches against Morgan State University and James Madison University on Feb. 8 and 9, respectively.



SLIDING INTO SOFTBALL SEASON

Junior Yazmine Romero slides into home during the Penguins' game against Mercyhurst University in October. Photo courtesy of **YSU Sports Information**

CHRISTINA SAINOVICH

The Youngstown State University softball team is gearing up for its season opener on Feb. 7.

The Penguins look to bounce back from a disappointing end to the 2019 season, where they lost the first game of the Horizon League Tournament.

After going 25-29 overall last season, coach Brian Campbell and his team have a chip on their shoulder.

Over the weekend, YSU will play five games. On Friday, they take on the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and Canisius College.

Sophomore Alex DeLeon said the team has high hopes for this weekend and the players are excited to play in their first games as a new team.

"We've been looking better than we did last year," DeLeon said. "We are really starting to come together as a team."

YSU returns some impact players from 2019 but will rely on a large number of freshmen to win games. The team is working on its chemistry on the field getting ready for this weekend.

"We have a lot of key returners this year, and we have a big group of freshmen. ... We are really trying to work together on creating a close bonding together," DeLeon said.

Sophomore Grace Cea is one of the key returners from last year's squad. Campbell and her teammates will be looking for a

big season from the outfielder.

Cea said she has set some goals for herself on the offensive side of the game.

"I want to just improve on basically just getting my job done every time I get up to the plate," Cea said. "Especially the position I'm in because I hit more in the middle of the lineup, so my job is to move runners."

The Penguins are working on team bonding. They have one theme for the season:

"We have this saying: 'We over me.' ... All of us try to be the best team players that we can be," Cea said.

The team is anxious to finally hit the road for the first time with this year's players.

"I'm very excited to travel with my team just because it's the new year, and we brought in a lot of new people. I'm just excited to see how we all travel together," Cea said.

YSU returned experienced players in the outfield in Grace Cea and Yazmine Romero. On the other hand, there is just one senior who is set to start in the infield: Tatum Christy.

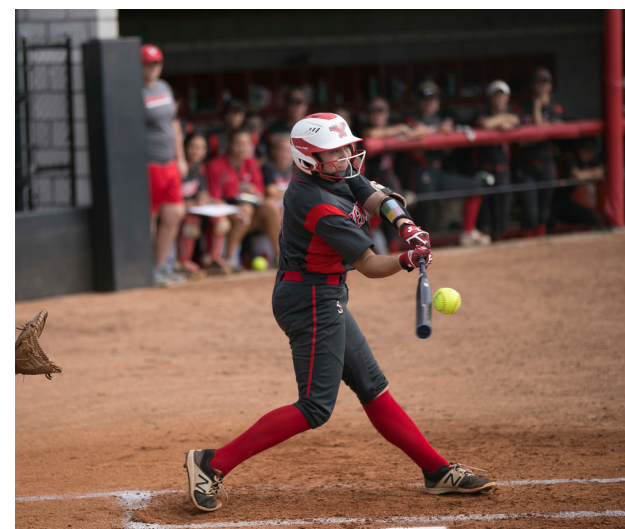
Christy said she has taken up a leadership role and has loved taking the younger players under her wing.

"This year in particular, being the only senior infielder, I've had to take up a big role. ... I think that the underclassmen are really fun to work with," Christy said.

Campbell and the upperclassmen have set high expectations

for this season and hope to finish stronger than last year.

"Our main goal is to always win the Horizon League, but I think the biggest goal we have this year is to compete overall with every team that we go up against," Christy said.



Penguins catcher Conchetta Rinaldi makes contact with the ball during the fall slate of games. Photo courtesy of **YSU Sports Information**