

# YC360

YAVAPAI COLLEGE, YOUR COMMUNITY & YOU | SUMMER 2022

## SPORTS RENAISSANCE AT YC

Roughrider Athletics  
in the Zone Page 6

YC SOFTBALL'S  
AMAZING RUN

BATTLING PRICEY  
TEXTBOOKS

SBDC'S "SHARK TANK"



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### ON THE COVER

Yavapai College Softball's amazing 2022 season – 57 wins, including a 28-game winning streak, and a fifth-place finish in the NJCAA National Tournament – epitomizes an Athletics program that is scoring points both on and off the field. With the return of Men's and Women's Basketball this fall, a new e-Sports program and competitive success on the volleyball court, the soccer field and the baseball diamond, Roughrider Athletics is running on all cylinders. Meet the people behind the revival. Photo by Chris Henstra. Stories begin on page 4.

### YC360

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# MESSAGE BOARD



## How Being a Student-Athlete Prepared Me for Life

By Dr. Lisa B. Rhine,, Yavapai College President

Cocurricular competencies are those skills that are part of the education of the whole person. They occur informally, primarily outside of the classroom in student organizations like athletics and prepare students to participate fully in formal learning in the classroom and in life.

I attended Eastern Michigan University on an athletic scholarship to play field hockey. I had played and served as co-captain of my two-time state championship high school team (Kettering Fairmont HS in Kettering, OH) which likely made me a good prospect to play in college.

Without that athletic scholarship, I would not have attended college. It provided the opportunity to further my education that, little did I know, would change my life trajectory, become my passion, and help me realize my purpose.

Athletics gave me life lessons and skills that have allowed me to progress in my professional career and personal life. These include leadership development, social responsibility, self-management and wellness and life skills. In leadership, I learned how to empower others and inspire action toward group goals. In athletics, you must be dedicated to advancing the group purpose and desired group outcomes; a skill I still use today in leading the College.

In social responsibility, athletics provides a tight-knit community where athletes must effectively navigate and manage social and societal interactions. You learn that you must act for the benefit of the whole, the society at-large, and work to understand others. You not only represent yourself but the organization for whom you play.

In self-management and wellness, athletes must gain knowledge and adopt attitudes and behaviors that lead to well-being, including learning structured responses to managing stressors. Leading a college is incredibly stressful and I still rely, today, on these attitudes and behaviors that I adopted years ago as a college athlete.

As for life skills, athletes must adapt to academic, social, emotional, and physical changes that occur in the college environment. They must create a unique plan for life activities that reflects use of appropriate time management techniques to handle multiple responsibilities and maintain composure and a positive attitude in challenging situation.

Not only did athletics provide me with life changing opportunity, it also gave me a set of solid competencies that have served me well throughout my personal and professional life and prepared me to lead.

*Lisa B Rhine*





Sophomore Outfielder Mia Weckel connects

# SOFTBALL SCORES A SEASON TO REMEMBER

By D.J. Irwin

The 2022 Yavapai College softball team's season was one for the ages. The Roughriders, a roster of just 16 student-athletes (10 freshman and six sophomores,) came into the season ranked No. 5 in the NJCAA rankings, climbed all the way to No. 1 and finished up as the No. 2-ranked team in the country.

Their 50-3 regular-season record included two 15-game win streaks: a 19-game win streak from January 28 - February 26 and a 28-game win streak from March 1 - April 30.

After their stellar regular season, the Roughriders earned hosting rights to the 2022 NJCAA Division I Region I Tournament. Playing at their home ballpark of Bill Vallely Field, Yavapai went 4-1 and played all the way through the loser's bracket to win the tournament and



**After their stellar regular season, the Roughriders earned hosting rights to the 2022 NJCAA Division I Region I Tournament.**

advance to the NJCAA Division I Softball Championship to compete for a national title.

At the championship tournament, Yavapai went 3-2 and eliminated the College of Southern Idaho and Seminole State en route to a fifth-place finish in the country. The 3-2 tournament performance brought Yavapai's final record to 57-6 with 19 of those victories over ranked opponents.

The statistical achievements from the Roughriders this season were just as impressive. As a team, Yavapai led the country in runs scored (745), hits (778), doubles (173), homers (198), RBIs (697), XBH (385), total bases (1573), walks (276), OBP% (.516) and SLG% (.887). The pitching staff finished first in strikeouts (502) and second in shutouts (24).





“  
YC softball team ...  
finished up as the  
No. 2-ranked team  
in the country.”

Head Coach Doug Eastman and Assistant Coach Erika Bennett were named NJCAA NFCA (National Fastpitch Coaches Association) West Region Coaching Staff of the Year while Eastman was also named the ACCAC Coach of the Year. Coach Eastman also captured his 800th career victory (and 300th victory at the helm of YC) during the season.

Roughrider Softball led the country in NFCA All-American and NFCA All-Region selections with Lovey Kepa’a, Yaya Kaaialii, Kayla Rodgers, Emily Dix, Emily Darwin, Mia Weckel and Jasmine Moreno earning NFCA honors. Kaaialii was also named NFCA Player of the Year while Moreno was named NFCA Catcher of the Year.

In the ACCAC, Dix was named Pitcher of the Year, Kepa’a was named Player of the Year and Darwin earned Region Tournament MVP honors. All players also earned All-Conference honors in addition to Makena Riggs. ■



Clockwise from top left: Frosh Infielder Yaya Kaaialii goes yard; Freshman P/O/F Emily Darwin runs the bases; Sophomore Pitcher Emily Dix on the hill.  
Photos by Chris Henstra





# ROUGHRIDERS SPORTS

## *Sits Tall in the Saddle*

New coaches, new athletic programs herald an exciting year ahead

By D.J. Irwin

Summertime is upon us and for Yavapai College athletics, which means Roughrider baseball and softball just finished their 2022 campaigns. Every season the Roughriders take the diamond is special and 2022 was no exception.

In addition to softball earning a fifth-place finish at the NJCAA Softball Championship Tournament, the baseball team enjoyed a fantastic season as well with a 36-19-1 overall record while also earning a trip to the playoffs.

The excitement that spring sports brought can also be mirrored throughout the entire athletic department. With the addition of women's soccer in the fall of 2021, the takeoff of the

E-Sports program and the reinstatement of men's and women's basketball, Yavapai athletics has doubled its sport total (from four to eight) in just one calendar year.

With six of Yavapai Athletics' teams having great success during the 2021-22 academic year, the stage is set for the return of men's and women's basketball in 2022-23. The teams return to Yavapai with incredible generosity from the community as an anonymous Yavapai College Foundation donor gave \$1.2 million to help restart the programs.

The gracious donation will help the teams and their facilities as newly renovated Walraven Gymnasium has a new floor

and state-of-the-art video scoreboards coming soon.

Last competing during the 2010-11 seasons, the teams have made top-tier head-coaching hires to insure a successful relaunch of the programs. Jay Joyner was hired as the head men's basketball coach on November 17, 2021, while Gerrard Carmichael was hired as the head women's basketball coach on January 24, 2022.

Joyner comes to Yavapai from North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, North Carolina, where he was the head coach of the Aggies for four seasons in addition to his 15-plus years of collegiate coaching experience. Carmichael joins the Roughriders after coaching women's basketball at the varsity





level in Arizona for nearly 15 years, including a state championship season at Shadow Mountain High School in 2010.

Joyner will be tasked with taking over a program that owns a 674-458 overall record, twenty-eight playoff appearances and six NBA draftees in addition to fourth-place finish at nationals during the 1980 season. Carmichael takes the helm of a program that has currently made the playoffs in 29-straight seasons in addition to a 713-282 overall record.

In addition to E-Sports Coach Kevin Lewis, Joyner and Carmichael, Yavapai athletics announced the hiring of Chris Houser as the head men's soccer coach on March 21, 2022. Houser, the fourth new head-coach hire for YC during the 2021-22 athletic year, boasts a college national championship and five-year professional playing career on his soccer resume.

To stay up to date on the rapid growth of Yavapai College athletics, visit the newly renovated **GoRoughriders.com** for the latest news. ■





# WHAT'S NEWS



## PANDEMIC-ERA GRADS TURN THE TASSLE AT SPRING GRADUATIONS

They came to college to pursue their dreams, then held on thorough lockdowns, mask mandates, social distancing and an unprecedented global health crisis. In four separate ceremonies over Mother's Day weekend, Yavapai College honored the Pandemic class of 2022.

"Remember what you have learned here during this time," Speaker Jennifer Bergstad, R.N., told her fellow graduates. "You are strong, you can overcome many obstacles and even when the world stops you can continue!"

Six hundred sixty-eight Yavapai College students graduated in the Spring semester, earning a combined 916 degrees and certificates. The ceremonies - held at the Findlay Toyota Center in Prescott Valley and the Sedona Performing Arts Center - included another 465 students, who completed their 571 degrees and certificate programs last fall. Students as young as fifteen and as old as seventy-two earned degrees or certificates from Yavapai College this past term.



## POP ICON TONI TENNILLE IN "HELLO, DOLLY!" AT PAC

Prescott resident and pop vocalist Toni Tennille, whose hit, "Love Will Keep Us Together" ruled the Billboard charts in the 70's, will play the lead in Yavapai College Performing Arts Department's production of *Hello, Dolly!* this fall.

Renowned as half of the Grammy-winning musical duo The Captain & Tennille, *Hello, Dolly!* is actually a return to Toni Tennille's roots. At California's South Coast Rep, she wrote the music for *Mother Earth*, which eventually reached Broadway. In 1998, she played Victoria Grant/Count Victor Grazinski in a national tour of *Victor/Victoria*.

"Toni brings a wealth of professionalism, talent and charm to our production." Dr. Craig Ralston, Performing Arts Director of Programming and Development, said. "This is a musical theater journey that comes along once in a lifetime."

*Hello, Dolly!* runs Nov. 3-20 at the Performing Arts Center. For reservations, please call (928) 776.2000 or visit: [www.ycpac.com](http://www.ycpac.com).



## TOBIN NAMED DIRECTOR OF YC DRUG & ALCOHOL PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Yavapai College is proud to officially announce James Tobin as its new Director of Drug & Alcohol Prevention programs.

Tobin is a Prescott native with a distinguished 25-year law enforcement career that includes service with many local agencies, including the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office, the Prescott Valley Police Department, DARE and YC Campus Safety. He is working to expand Yavapai College's counseling and prevention services and integrate them with local agencies for a broader, more effective response.

"The way to solve problems like substance abuse is to work with people in the community making similar efforts," he said. "We may be wearing different uniforms, but we're all doing the same job. When we pool our resources, talent and energy, the public wins."

For YC's drug and alcohol abuse prevention resource info, please call: (928) 771-6183.



## STUDENT GOVERNMENT LOBBIES IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

YC's Student Government officers took their case to Washington to lend their voices and faces in support of America's community colleges.

SGA President Brian Moultrup, Vice President Andrew Tucker and Treasurer Hannah Lowe joined Yavapai College President Dr. Rhine and an Executive Leadership delegation on a February junket that included meetings with Arizona Senator Mark Kelly and District 1 Congressional Representative Tom O'Halleran. The students offered real life testimonials on the valuable role colleges like YC play in making education accessible and fortifying communities. Their busy, four-day itinerary did afford the delegation a little time to tour the Capitol, the White House, the National History Museum and the National Mall. Meeting with Senator Kelly and Representative O'Halleran was incredible!" SGA President Brian Moultrup said. This trip brought great value to the relationships we're able to grow within the YC family.



# focus

on the Yavapai College Foundation



## FINDING THE FUNDRAISER WITHIN

*Radiologic Technologist Finds a Second Act Creating Scholarships*

Robert Altmanshofer was already a success story.

In 2017, a timely X-ray identified a bowel obstruction and saved his life. It inspired him to become a Radiologic Technologist, so he earned three scholarships to study at YC's Radiology Program, graduated with honors and created a scholarship to help others do the same. "I could say 'thank you' 'til I'm blue in the face." Robert explained in 2017. "But the best way to be thankful is to continue the example of what my donors did."

Now his story has spawned a marvelous sequel: Fueled by crowdfunding and his own determination, the Robert Altmanshofer & David Moore Radiologic Technology Scholarship is also a success story — and a hope for aspiring medical professionals for years to come.

### Reaching Out

After graduation, Robert began his new career in Yavapai Regional Medical Center's Radiology Lab. "I have a great deal of empathy for patients coming through," he explained. "I'd share a little of my story. It makes them feel better. It reminds you, 'this is why I'm doing this.'"

Creating a Radiology scholarship meant making a personal commitment, so Robert staked \$10,000 of his own money toward the effort. His fund enjoyed modest success at first. "Then I thought, 'What about Crowdfunding?'" In 2020, he asked YCF Executive Director Mary Talosi about the web-driven platform. "She said, 'sure, we'll set it up on our [Just Giving] site, make you an administrator and post your story. Then you can send the link for people to donate online.' I thought I could raise a little bit of money."

He hit his initial \$3,000 goal in three days. So, he doubled the goal,

and hit that in 30 days. "We were able to fund two students and that really opened my eyes. So I set a really ambitious goal — \$30,000 — but knew I couldn't do it myself."

### Sharing Your Story

Robert laughs when asked if he ever thought of himself as a fundraiser. "My demeanor wouldn't be suited for that." But he had a cause, and a story. "I studied professional fundraisers on YouTube. They said, 'Be authentic and be genuine.'"

He reached out to colleagues at YRMC. "I'd tell them why I'm raising money, and what I'm doing with it." Fellow radiologic technologists contributed 'to pay it forward.' When the scholarship reached \$18,000, Robert emailed Chief Executive Officer John Amos. "I shared my story. Told him every scholarship recipient currently works for YRMC. He responded in less than 24 hours with a personal donation, a hospital donation, and connections to do more."

Robert's story ran on YRMC's website, received coverage in The Prescott Times and the Courier, and more folks contributed. "People at the hospital were saying 'Thank you for what you're doing.'" Now, the Robert Altmanshofer & David Moore Radiologic Technology Scholarship — renamed to include a cherished mentor from the Radiology Program — is an endowed scholarship, raising more than \$48,000 for tomorrow's Radiologic Technologists.

An incredible accomplishment, but Robert is quick to share the praise. "It goes to show how generous our community is." He said. "People have been so kind. They care about students, education and healthcare — and they've made a big difference." ■



# Verde Businesses Fund Construction Scholars



Construction class at the Verde Valley Skilled Trades Center

YC is reviving the construction trades, and local builders are getting on board. "The College provides an excellent opportunity for students to learn the building trades," John Bassous, co-owner of Tierra Verde Builders, explained, "which benefits them as well as the community."

That's the idea behind the new Verde Valley Skilled Trade Scholars program, which pairs Verde businesses with local students pursuing Carpentry, HVAC, Electrical or Plumbing certificates. Once the endowed scholarship becomes fully funded, students can get a full-ride scholarship. Construction firms get a trained employee, and the community gets a stronger workforce.

"It's pretty safe to say that every trade could take on more people right now," Bassous said.

Participating firms pledge up to \$20,000 annually to the Skilled Trade Scholars endowment, which will support five local students each year. In exchange, students commit to stay and work within Yavapai County.

Bassous says the program sets graduates up for success close to home. "I tell students: 'Don't look for a job, look for a career.' Students who train at Yavapai College can easily work their way into management positions and that allows you to work here a long time." ■

For more information on YC's Skilled Trades initiatives, please call: (928) 776-2034.



## A New League of Fundraising

*YC Athletics Hires  
Shaun McDonald as  
Major Gifts Officer*

The Yavapai College Athletics Department is thrilled to acquire Sun Devil football standout and NFL veteran Shaun McDonald as its new Major Gifts Officer.

"I'm incredibly excited to have Shaun join the Roughrider Family," Director of Athletics Brad Clifford said. "Shaun has a strong commitment to the success of the student athlete and understands where we want to go as a department."

A Phoenix native and Shadow Mountain High School star, Shaun earned Honorable-Mention All-America honors before playing for Arizona State. In Tempe, he won First Team All PAC-10 Conference honors twice and Third-Team AP All-America honors. A fourth-round selection in the 2003 NFL Draft, Shaun played seven years for the St. Louis Rams, the Detroit Lions and the Pittsburgh Steelers.

"The Foundation and Athletics have developed a strong working relationship," YCF Executive Director Mary Talosi said. "Having Shaun join us as the Major Gifts Officer for Athletics will foster a new level of enthusiasm with connections and passion for sports." ■



# Foundation *on the Move*

## Prescott Vette Sette Shifts Into Overdrive



The Prescott Vette Sette Club has a higher gear that converts love for a certain classic vehicle into promising futures for fellow car enthusiasts.

This year, the club raised \$7,000 for scholarships through their annual Corvette show, which drew four hundred classic 'Vettes and their fans to Prescott last September. The Foundation will direct the money to deserving Career and Technical Education students who "demonstrate an interest in entrepreneurship, employment, or advancement within the automotive technology field."

Faithful and productive donors since 2016, the Vette Sette also provides veteran scholarships and looks to expand their CTEC scholarship support to a variety of technical education fields in the coming year.

"We need tradespeople, we need skilled workers," Vette Sette President David Weinroth explained. "They're teaching kids things that no other colleges do - teaching hands-on skills - things that society needs." ■



### YCF Calls on Workplace Donors to Help Sustain IAMYC

For two years, IAMYC played a vital role in Pandemic assistance.

The student-run organization helped its peers through a range of COVID crises: funding shortfalls from a job loss; short-term support to help a student weather an unexpected expense; food pantry access so working families can make ends meet.

But even as the Pandemic fades, the needs linger. Now, the Foundation is calling on YC teachers and staff to help the helpers. With a small donation - via payroll deduction or one-time payment - employees can be heroes, helping YC support its own. "I gave because I believe there is no better investment in our future than students," Instructor Ed Newman said. "It made sense to be a part of their future."

Visit [yc.edu/workplacegiving](http://yc.edu/workplacegiving).



### Back to the "Future" for the FEC

The Yavapai College community took a long-awaited step back to normalcy in March, when "Framing the Future" reclaimed the Performing Arts Center in a colorful flourish of laughter, fellowship and child-created art.

A longtime fundraiser for the College's award-winning Family Enrichment Center, "Framing the Future" was the Foundation's final in-person event in 2020, before COVID darkened social calendars across the country. Last Spring, with the Delta variant still threatening, the Foundation opted for online fundraising instead.

But on Friday night, March 11, "Framing the Future" returned in all its glory, raising more than \$27,000 as benefactors feasted on beverages and appetizers while bidding on sponsor packages and beautifully framed masterpieces from the FEC's budding artists.



### Foundation Honors Donors with Commemorative Wall

On a Friday evening last fall, on a Prescott Campus courtyard, the Yavapai College Foundation honored the people who turned the College from a great idea into a great institution.

"These plaques commemorate your importance to Yavapai College," President Lisa Rhine told the donors and their families. "It's YOUR passion, YOUR commitment and YOUR philanthropy that makes it possible for us to tell students 'You can.'"

The Foundation marked its Golden Anniversary with a "50 for 50" fundraising campaign for student needs and a wall commemorating YC's "It's inspirational to work with people making such a major impact on the lives of others," YCF Executive Director Mary Talosi said.

Visit [www.yc.edu/YCF50](http://www.yc.edu/YCF50).



# A TANYA, TWO TONYS & A DOLLY! TO REMEMBER

Toni Tennille Headlines 2022-23 YCPAC Season



Anchored by Toni Tennille's Dolly! (left), YCPAC's 22-23 season will also feature (top to bottom, right) Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, Tony Orlando and Tanya Tucker.

Toni Tennille, the 70's pop legend and the voice behind the Grammy award-winning hit "Love Will Keep Us Together," will make a triumphant return from retirement this fall to portray the title character in an iconic American musical in her Prescott home. Don't miss Toni Tennille in Yavapai College Performing Arts Center's production of **Hello, Dolly!** November 3-20.

Best remembered as the voice behind The Captain & Tennille, Toni Tennille and former husband Daryl Dragon lit up America's airways in the mid-1970 with hits like "The Way I Want to Touch You," "Muskrat Love" and "Love Will Keep Us Together." Their signature take on the Neil Sedaka's anthem "Love Will Keep Us Together" won them the Grammy for 1975's Record of the Year.

"We are thrilled to be doing *Hello, Dolly!* with Toni leading the way!" Dr. Craig Ralston, YCPAC Performing Arts Director of Programming and Development, said. "Toni brings a wealth of professionalism, talent and charm to our production. This is a musical theater journey that only comes along once in a lifetime."

*Hello, Dolly!* anchors a star-studded YCPAC season that begins in August with Grammy nominee **Raul Midón's** Cabaret performance and rolls through an exciting first half that includes the **Little River Band**, **The Righteous Brothers** and Country Music legend **Tanya Tucker**.

**Tony Orlando** brings the star power into 2023, which also boasts appearances from pop icons **Herb Alpert and Lani Hall**. Audiences will enjoy new performances – from Country favorites **Kathy Mattea and Suzy Bogguss**, saxophone great **Bill Saxton & His Harlem All-Stars** and A.J. Croce's moving tribute to his father, Jim: **Croce Plays Croce** – as well as returning favorites like The Texas Tenors, Rita Rudner, **The New York Gilbert & Sullivan Players** and **Big Bad Voodoo Daddy**. (See sidebar.)

Single tickets are already on sale. Pick 6 and Pick 3 packages – which enable some multiple-show purchasers to save up to 15% -- are still available. For reservations or further information on any upcoming shows, please call the YCPAC Ticket Office at (928) 776.2000 or visit online at: [www.ycpac.com](http://www.ycpac.com) ■

## 2022-23 SEASON

### AUGUST

Raul Midón (Cabaret) Aug 26 & 27

### SEPTEMBER

Tumbledown House Sep 17  
Little River Band Sep 24  
Prescott Film Festival Sep 27-Oct 2

### OCTOBER

Prescott Film Festival Sep 27-Oct 2  
The Righteous Brothers Oct 15  
Brian Chartrand Quartet (Cabaret) Oct 21

### NOVEMBER

Hello, Dolly! Nov 3-20

### DECEMBER

Tanya Tucker Dec 1  
Let the Season Begin! Dec 2 & 3

### JANUARY

Tony Orlando Jan 13  
The Texas Tenors Jan 20

### FEBRUARY

New York Gilbert & Sullivan Players' H.M.S. Pinafore Feb 3  
Rita Rudner Feb 19  
Bill Saxton & Harlem All-Stars Feb 24

### MARCH

Kathy Mattea & Suzy Bogguss Mar 2  
Herb Alpert & Lani Hall Mar 11  
Masters of Illusion Mar 25

### APRIL

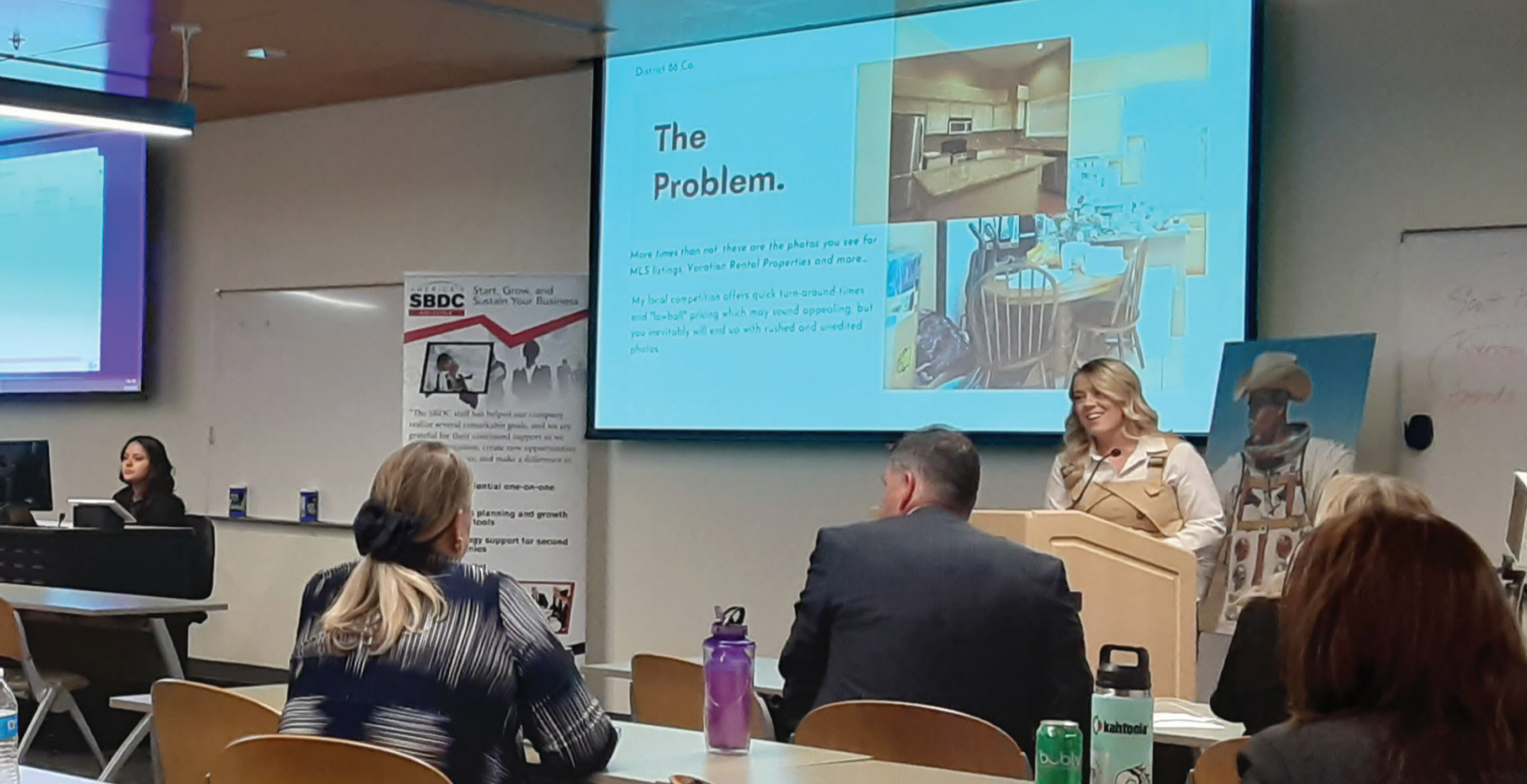
Jane Eyre, The Musical Apr 14-16;  
Apr 21-23  
Big Bad Voodoo Daddy Apr 28

### MAY

Sofrito & the Blues (Cabaret) May 5  
Croce Plays Croce May 26

For tickets or additional information,  
please call the YCPAC Ticket Office,  
(928) 776.2000, or visit: [www.ycpac.com](http://www.ycpac.com)





Photographer/Entrepreneur Kellie Worthen promotes her interior photography business at the Arizona Pioneer Pitch Competition.

# Hitting the Perfect Pitch

## SBDC Helps Local Entrepreneurs 'Swim with Sharks' at AZ Pioneer Pitch Competition

By Michael Grady

Elaine O'Connor has a strong speaking style and a well-researched business plan. But before she tells you about Prescott Bark – her proposed pet boarding and daycare business – she needs to capture your attention. She does it with her first slide: two older dogs, with salt and pepper muzzles, jousting for attention. You cannot help but smile.

"Aren't they cute?" She asks. "These are my dogs..." In the next five minutes. She'll pivot to describe her target market, financials, and business obstacles. But the dogs have given her proposal a pleasing, upbeat opening. We're hooked.

Launching your own business isn't just about product or market share. Entrepreneurs also must be their own advocates. At some point, they'll have to sell their idea at a moment's notice, and they'll need their best pitch, ready to roll.

So YC's Small Business Development Center partnered with Moonshot at NACET to present the *Arizona Pioneer Pitch Competition*, a live local version of the hit show *Shark Tank*. It brought aspiring entrepreneurs from across the Quad Cities to the Prescott Campus in March, where they pitched to a panel of judges, chasing the state finals and its \$10,000 prize.

Kellie Worthen is a talented interiors photographer who wants to expand her business serving realtors, builders, and Air B&B owners. Her pitch offers plenty of gorgeous photography – but the panel suggests some 'Before' shots for contrast. "Demonstrate your uniqueness," one advises. "Show us what you can do."

"It's really a way to know your business better," SBDC Director Ruth Ellen Elinski explained. A pitch clearly identifies a need; offers a new product (or service) as a solution, with enough

fiscal skill and vision to attract investors. The SBDC worked with clients through the winter to hone their five minutes. "We usually start from the Business Plan. We work backwards to the executive summary, then the pitch. Then we help them put together five to seven quality slides to tell their story."

The judges weighed a variety of pitches – tourism packages, cyber protection, a Wellness retreat – but, in the end, the day belonged to Elaine O'Connor and Prescott Bark.

"The SBDC team made life easy for me," O'Connor said. "They helped me distill my business plan and develop my financials, then let me practice to see where my pitch drifted." O'Connor will take her pitch to the statewide competition in Flagstaff this June. And yes, she's bringing the adorable dog slide. "Having those puppos looking at me, just makes everything better." She laughed. ■



# YC UNVEILS NEW 'BOOKLESS' DEGREE PROGRAM

Management 'Z Degree' uses Open Educational Resources (OER)



By Michael Grady

Management Program Faculty Director Lauri Dreher always keeps an eye out for the latest trends. "All Business teachers keep on reading and learning," she says, "so when [students] exit the program, what they've learned is relevant to what they'll encounter."

It was that desire that led Dreher to Open Educational Resources, and YC's very first bookless degree program: the Associated of Applied Sciences or 'Z Degree,' in Management, which rolls out this fall.

## BOOKLESS IN BUSINESS

Management's AAS program trains students to succeed as managers in today's workforce. Open Educational Resources scraps traditional textbooks in favor of free materials developed from openly licensed and public domain resources. At YC's School of Business & Computer Systems, these initiatives combine in a way that makes learning accessible and very up-to-the-minute.

"OER materials are very agile and adaptable," Dreher explains. "Writing a textbook is a lengthy process before its even published." By the time a Business student opens a textbook,

some of its ideas are already obsolete. "What is the relevancy of that printed text now? Especially with times changing so fast?"

Because they are fluid, and curated by instructors, OERs can be perpetually updated. That, and the cost savings, makes the Z Degree attractive to working students. In Dreher's case, the push to go bookless did not begin with the College, or the students. It came from the businesses that employ them.

## MEETING THE STUDENT HALFWAY

Dreher recalls a meeting with the Western Association of Food Chains in 2019. At the time, the WAFC was collaborating with community colleges to develop a Retail Management Certificate program for employees. "It was the retailers who asked us to use OER materials," she says. "The business community knew about it before we did."

Cost-saving measures like OER are necessary to educate employees at a collegiate level. Today's retailers often pay for their employees' continuing education, using the certificate attainment as a structure for raises and promotion. In that context, books are a heavy expense. College textbook costs

have risen 142% since 1998. A Florida study shows that expensive textbooks forced 31% of students to avoid certain classes, and 14% to drop courses altogether.

At YC, Dreher rallied her faculty to convert the certificate courses to OER. They split up the eight-class certificate program, swapping out books for royalty-free resources, which range from open-source documents to a growing bank of OER materials teachers have developed themselves. Together, the Management Program was able to roll out a full OER Retail Certificate program in 2020. "Then the OER Committee began the work to line up the right courses to offer a full Associates Degree with OER."

The Z Degree, in addition to using OER, is also an accelerated, eight-week program, available completely on-line. Dreher says these accessibility measures reflect YC's passion "to support students and help them achieve their goals in the most time-efficient and cost-effective way possible."

"Life is a lot," she says, "and Yavapai College's role in this community is to help our students working toward a purpose." ■

Learn more about YC's Management programs at: [www.yc.edu/mgmt](http://www.yc.edu/mgmt)



# WHEN JUSTICE SPEAKS

New public forums open a dialogue between law enforcement and the community



Former Campus Safety Chief Jerald Monahan (L) came up with the Justice Institute through discussions with current Campus Safety Chief Tyran Payne.

"Start by Believing is more than a pledge card. It's a philosophy." Retired San Diego Police Sergeant Joanne Archambault explains. "It's something we integrate into all of our lives, whether you're a mother, a sister, an advocate, a forensic examiner or a cop, we all have a part to play."

It's April 6 – National Start by Believing Day – and we're listening to Sgt. Archambault, former Supervisor of the San Diego Police Department's Sex Crimes Unit and founder of the Start by Believing Movement, discuss supportive ways to respond to victims of sexual assault.

"Some of the best people I've seen dealing with sexual assault trauma are crisis interventionists and hostage negotiators." She speaks. "I think they really learn to listen to what's going on [with victims] physically, like respiration, not just words and things that confuse us."

Too often, community members know law enforcement officers only from press conference or body-cam footage. But Jerald Monahan says YC's new Justice Institute Community Forum seeks to change that. "The mission of the Institute is to facilitate conversations around issues that the community may want to hear from the Criminal Justice leaders about."

Monahan, the former Prescott Police Chief-turned-YC Justice Studies Professor, believes a safe space is needed, where people on both sides of the Blue Line can share ideas and insight. "And the college is in a perfect place to provide that neutral location. When you think about the mission of the College in general, YC wants to be that conduit of factual info that speaks to community concerns."

In just its first year, the Justice Institute has presented an ambitious slate of speakers, tackling difficult issues where law enforcement, social awareness and personal liberties intersect (see sidebar) as well as holding training seminars for those dealing with at-risk populations. Monahan developed the idea with Campus Safety Chief Tyran Payne.

"Ty and I began talking about this after the George Floyd death. There was so much hatred and misinformation about our profession on social media that we thought 'There's got to be a way to speak to that.'"

The speaking, Monahan says, goes both ways. The early forums have drawn small but responsive crowds and he wants to see them grow. "We want to hear from community – what topics do *they* want us to take on? We really have something special to offer, here. The issues around social justice and criminal justice are part of the national narrative right now. And I want us to speak to that." ■

## Social Justice on the Agenda

*Public forums and trainings the Justice Institute offered in its first year:*

### DE-STIGMATIZING MENTAL ILLNESS FORUM

January 27, 2022

Public discussion on methods and approaches law enforcement can use to de-escalate encounters and facilitate communication with the mentally ill.

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH FORUM

February 24, 2022

The Justice Institute and the RESPECT campaign co-hosted a Zoom Forum honoring Black History and its prominent leaders.

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RISK ASSESSMENT TOOL TRAINING

March 15-16, 2022

ASU's Center for Family Violence gives trainings on a new tool that allows arresting officers to give judges a detailed picture of why a domestic violence suspect should/should not be granted bail.

### START BY BELIEVING DAY FORUM

April 6, 2022

Sgt. Joanne Archambault, former Supervisor of the San Diego Police Department's Sex Crimes Unit and founder of the Start by Believing Movement, discusses supportive ways to respond to victims of sexual assault, to prevent re-traumatization and promote healing.

### CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS TRAINING

April 8, 2022

Day-long seminar for adoptive parents, foster parents, Dept. of Child Safety workers and anyone in the child welfare system. Experts discuss how to identify signs of child sexual abuse and handle its behavioral effects.

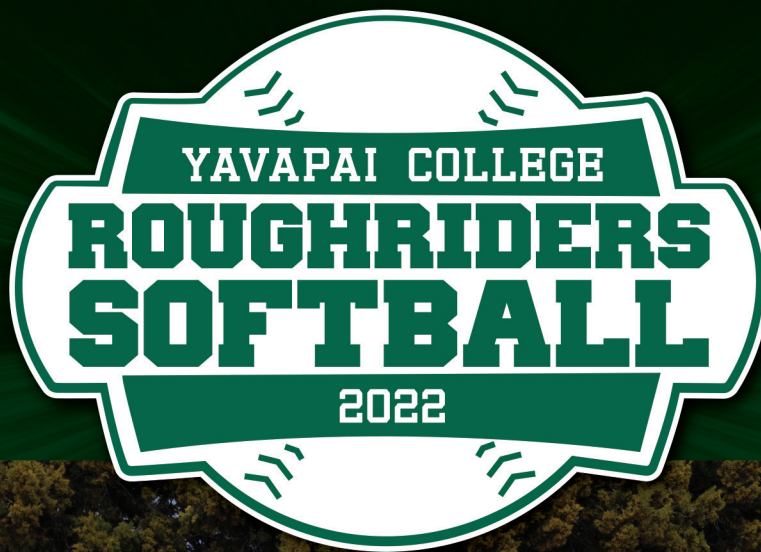
### RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA FORUM

October 27, 2022

A panel, including a recreational marijuana advocate, discuss marijuana as a drug, and the role it plays in the courts, on the border and in the future.

The Justice Institute would like to hear your suggestions on future forums. Visit: [www.yc.edu/ji](http://www.yc.edu/ji)





**Overall Record** **57-6**

**Home Record** **25-2**

**Home Runs** **198**

**Stolen Bases** **81**

**Regular Season Record** **50-3**

**Team Batting Average** **.439**

**Hits** **778**

**Win Streak** **28-Games**

**Conference Record** **42-2**

**Runs Scored** **745**

**Extra Base Hits** **385**

**ACCAC PITCHER OF THE YEAR**

Emily Dix

**FIRST-TEAM ALL-CONFERENCE**

Lovey Kepa'a, Emily Darwin, Emily Dix,  
Yaya Kaaialli, Kayla Rodgers, Mia Weckel

**SECOND-TEAM ALL-CONFERENCE**

Jasmine Moreno, Makena Riggs

**REGION TOURNAMENT MVP**

Emily Darwin

*Yavapai*  
**COLLEGE**

**ACCAC PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

Lovey Kepa'a

**ACCAC COACH OF THE YEAR**

Doug Eastman

**NFCA NJCAA WEST REGION  
COACHING STAFF OF THE YEAR**

Doug Eastman & Erika Bennett

**THANK YOU FOR A TERRIFIC SEASON!**