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BIDEN BRINGS A
BLUE WAVE TO YSU

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Photo by *Tanner Mondok/The Jamba*

BIDEN BRINGS A BLUE WAVE TO YSU

MORGAN PETRONELLI

A political frenzy took over Youngstown State University on Oct. 29 as 500 people got the chance to witness a rally headlined by former Vice President Joe Biden. Biden was at the university to campaign for Democratic candidates for governor and lieutenant governor of Ohio, Richard Cordray and Betty Sutton.

Lines to get into the Chestnut Room in Kilcawley Center started forming around 11:30 a.m., and people flocked from all over the area in hopes to witness the political rally. One such couple, Frank and Debbie Comeriato, traveled all the way from Akron, Ohio, to attend the rally.

Albert Chizmar, a junior political science major at YSU, said he decided to attend the rally to support the Democratic party and see Biden speak.

Chizmar described his political ideology as "liberal and progressive" leaning, but said he doesn't base his vote on whoever is running solely on their party affiliation.

"I like to look at the issues. I like to know where everyone stands and to be well-educated about the issues," he said. "Most of the time when I [vote], I tend to vote left. I usually vote for Democrats, I would say."

A rally was also held outside of Kilcawley Center at the rock for Ohio Republicans starting at 2 p.m., just before the Democratic rally inside was about start.

Local conservatives covered the area with "Make America Great Again" signs and Mike DeWine signs, and chanted "Mahoning County counts," "What wave? Red Wave," and a twist on the president's famous slogan, "Make Mahoning County Great Again."

James Mullarkey, president of the YSU College Conservatives, explained the rally was set up to showcase "the other side," meaning the Republican side, whose candidates for governor and lieutenant governor include current Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine and Ohio Secretary of State John Husted.

"We're also here to show what our platform stands for

and what we hope to achieve through a red wave," he added. "Looking back when Rich Cordray was in Ohio government, it was a time of job loss and massive taxation. During the present time, we have seen economic progress by leaps and bounds for this country and we want to maintain the momentum for our office holders."

Carson Markley, president of the YSU College Democrats, said he checked out the conservative rally "to see what the other side was up to," and it is essential to get everyone out to vote.

"Everybody has the right to vote in this country, so we just need to make sure we use it," he said. "In past years, we've had very low election turnout, so we're hoping for a very high turnout this year. Joe Biden, Rich Cordray and Betty Sutton are all here to fire people up and make sure they go out to the polls and actually use their right."

The floor of the Chestnut Room was bustling with energy as anticipation from attendees increased as each speaker took the stage to warm up the crowd.

The first of many speakers was Youngstown Mayor Jamael "Tito" Brown, who opened the rally by welcoming everyone to the city of Youngstown.

"Youngstown has had our challenges. In the past, we've had the steel mills close. We've been known for some negative activity in this community. But today is a new start, a new opportunity to move forward," he said. "Youngstown's open for business, if you don't know it by now."

Multiple Democratic candidates on the ticket this midterm election season took the stage to support one another and emphasize the party's ideologies on health care, Wall Street, immigration and the current state of the real estate market.

Speakers included Joe Schiavoni, Ohio state senator, Michele Lepore-Hagan, representative for Ohio's 58th district, Melody Stewart, running for the Ohio Supreme Court, Kathleen Clyde, candidate for Ohio secretary of state, Zack Space, democratic candidate for Ohio auditor of state, Steve Dettelbach, Democratic candidate for Ohio attorney general, Tim Ryan, U.S. representative for Ohio, Sherrod Brown, U.S. senator for

Ohio, Betty Sutton, running for lieutenant governor of Ohio, Richard Cordray, candidate for governor of Ohio and Joe Biden, former vice president of the U.S.

Cordray took the stage after an energy-filled speech by Sutton. He touched on a number of topics, including predatory land contracts and his opponents DeWine and Husted.

"Instead of moving backward, as we've been doing in Ohio, we will step forward into our future — and it will be the future we all deserve. A future marked by decency and tolerance and inclusion. We can be, and we must be, a society that embraces everyone, where no one's talents are left out or left behind," Cordray said.

He also emphasized the importance of the effect young voters have on elections and he believes they are the "least bigoted" generation.

"We need your help to get there. This is a team effort," Cordray said of taking back Congress from the Republicans.

Following the conclusion of Cordray's speech, Biden took the stage to an energy-bursting crowd.

Biden started off by telling the crowd he was in Youngstown because "... who ends up being the governor of Ohio is going to tell a lot about the country."

The former vice president also addressed the recent pipe bombs being sent to prominent democrats and the attack on The Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pa. He regarded the events as the work of "hate and terror," and it was time for politicians to unite for the welfare of Americans.

"This election is bigger than politics," he said.

"When have we ever said there was something we couldn't do? So let's lift our heads up ... This is America, there's not a thing we can't do," Biden said as he closed out the rally and descended into the crowd to interact with attendees.

Nov. 6 is Election Day and is quickly approaching. Check out your county's board of elections website for more information on candidates and where to find your polling location.

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UNGARO, 59TH DISTRICT CANDIDATE, SPEAKS AT YSU

ALYSSA WESTON

The Youngstown State University economics club hosted Democratic candidate for the 59th District Eric Ungaro on Oct. 25.

Ungaro was born and raised in Youngstown, Ohio, and is a special education teacher and varsity football coach at Howland High School and a trustee for Poland Township.

The husband and father of two daughters is also the son of Patrick J. Ungaro, former Youngstown mayor for 14 years.

Karlis Larson, a sophomore business finance major and member of the economics club, is a political outreach coordinator for Ungaro's campaign and organized the talk.

Larson brought Ungaro in to promote his campaign and to allow him to speak on the changes he wants to see in the Mahoning Valley.

"He comes from a family that has always served the [Mahoning] Valley with integrity, so we need someone like him who wants to promote economic growth. Someone who fights for the middle class, who is a union guy, has been a public education teacher and longtime coach," Larson said.

Larson is a Howland High School alumnus and his father, just like Ungaro, is a teacher at Howland High School. Because of this, Larson grew up knowing Ungaro personally.

During the talk, Ungaro shared his life story with students.

Ungaro told students he is going to go to Columbus from the perspective of a teacher and a coach and fight for the things he believes in, without being a puppet.

In 2012, Ungaro's brother died due to an overdose, and Ungaro uses this experience to serve as a voice for families who are struggling with the opioid epidemic.

"Everybody talks about it now and everyone has the answers and is compassionate about it, but if you go back to 2012 [people with drug addictions] were considered bums," Ungaro noted in an interview with The Jambar.

He decided to get involved and created family groups that worked toward breaking the stigma around drug addiction. He eventually became part of the Mental Health and Recovery Board and has been proactive in supporting families. The board started the use of narcan in Poland.

"I'm proud of those things. Just trying to take a tragedy and make it into a positive," Ungaro said. "I'm not really political, but I hope my body of work, helping others, being humble and our families history kind of radiates into a victory here."

One of the key issues he discussed was the public education system and his disapproval of most standardized testing.

"[State testing is] a waste of money. Let's get back to helping these kids, getting them in trade schools, counseling them and doing the things we need to do," Ungaro said.

The talk was meant to be informative and not necessarily an endorsement for the candidate.

According to Larson, in the past two years he's been in the economics club, he's noticed the guest speakers weren't as interesting and students were motivated by extra credit from professors to attend the events. However, Larson said students actually listen to and enjoyed this talk.

"There was probably 15 students who went up to him after and wanted to engage with him," he said.

Larson said there are no plans to bring Ungaro's opponent, Don Manning, in to talk and Ungaro didn't really speak about Manning

during the event. Instead, Ungaro focused on telling his life story.

Students were encouraged to attend the event to become more engaged in voting.

"We are part of the moment. We are what shapes the rest of Mahoning County, Trumbull County, the state of Ohio and even the nation. We are part of that group that is going to shape the future," Larson said.

Michael Tricomi, a U.S. government teacher and varsity football coach at Howland High School, said he first met Ungaro when he was a varsity football player at Howland High school in 2003.

"[Ungaro] was my linebacker position coach and our defensive coordinator. From that point on he has been a mentor to me and a role model. If you ask anyone who played or coached with him, they will tell you the exact same thing," he said.

Tricomi said Ungaro inspires a love and passion in his players and fellow coaches that is unmatched in anyone he has met.

"I am lucky enough to have coached with him and learned from him as a member of the Howland football staff for the last six years," he said. "I have also co-taught social studies inclusion classes with him during my time as a teacher at Howland. He shares the same passion for education and coaching as he does in politics."

According to Tricomi, the combination of that passion, personal rapport and leadership makes Ungaro an excellent candidate for the district.

"He embodies the definition of a 'man of action,' which is a characteristic that is currently lacking in many political realms. He is an excellent candidate to represent the people," he said



LOCAL TALK ON NORTH KOREA INFORMS YSU

TYLER MCVICKER JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

Doug Bandow, the CATO Institute's North Korea expert and former Special Assistant to Ronald Reagan during his second term, visited Youngstown State University on Oct. 19. The event was hosted by the John Quincy Adams Society.

"Since the John Quincy Adams Society is a strictly nonpartisan organization, we like to bring in people from the political spectrum and pulling the little notes of wisdom, knowledge and experiences we can learn from both sides," Mara McCloud, a senior political science and history major and president of the group, said.

The lecture dealt with the United State's relationship with North Korea, along with North Korea's relationship with the rest of the world. Bandow has been to North Korea twice, once in the early '90s and again this last year.

He discusses his experiences in the country, and how much the social landscape appears to have changed over a 25-year gap.

"When I returned to the country 25 years later, the wealthy class of the country, at least the women, were wearing bright colors and seemed to hold a sense of individuality. This is something that would have never been seen 25 years prior, and it's mostly due to Ri Sol-ju, wife of Kim Jong Un," Bandow said.

Although turnout to the talk was low, what was discussed was detailed and informational, with many of the general preconceived notions surrounding North Korea being untrue or misinformed.

"What is interesting about Kim Jong Un is that he does seem different. That's not to say that he is a nice guy ... He does seem very concerned about economic development. He does seem

interested in the international stage. Very different from his father and grandfather, not liberal, but very different than what came before," Bandow said.

That said, he made sure to stress that the government of North Korea was an evil regime, and during his time in North Korea, many strange things occured.

"Trying to understand North Korea is not to justify them. It is not to give any sense of moral equivalence. This is a monstrous regime. If you had a contest on earth to pick to earth's most evil regime, North Korea would win most years," Bandow added.

"The national organization does an amazing job of setting up the chapters with speakers and making sure we get the best events possible," David Hofsess, junior political science student and vice president of the JQAS, said about the JQAS managing to get such a high profile speaker.

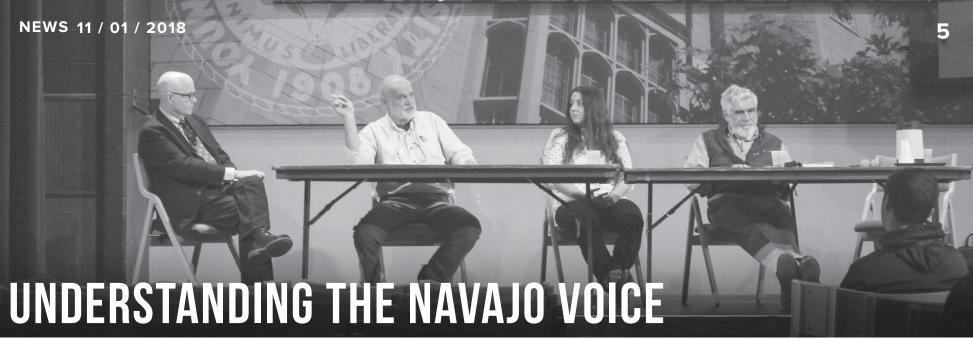


Photo by John Stran /The Jambar

JOHN STRAN

"Journey Into The Voice of The Navajo Creation Story" was held Oct. 22 to 23 in Youngstown State University's Kilcawley Center in the Chestnut Room, discussing a professor's experience studying the Navajo language and learning valuable life lessons.

The event included a video and lecture describing the Navajos' beliefs on creation and the correlations of how all things reproduce.

Paul Zolbrod, professor emeritus of English at Allegheny College and the University of New Mexico, studied the New Mexico Navajo tribe and was the first to take old Navajo stories, previously only told through storytelling, and put them on paper as though they were narrated by the Navajo.

The event was held by First Year Experience's PenguinThink, which is a program aimed

toward first-year students and tries to broaden their understanding of beliefs unlike their own.

Zolbrod's book, "Diné Bahane': The Navajo Creation Story," which was published in 1984, discusses his process of transcribing the Navajo stories into English. He said the idea of the book is still important in today's culture to understand people have different perspectives.

"The story today is different, but there's something underlying it that's universal," Zolbrod said. "There's always a certain type of harmony that has to exist."

Karen Becker, director of first-year experience, picked Zolbrod because he was her freshman advisor at Allegheny College.

"It's neat for me to share my freshman experience with current freshman as they begin to take on different roles at YSU," Becker said.

Bill Pfaff, the video producer and musical composer of the event's film, described

Zolbrod's book as a mirror of the Navajo tribe, and said the book doesn't give the whole story of the tribe's creation beliefs.

Because Navajo beliefs are passed down orally, Pfaff said the story itself is somewhat incomplete.

"[Zolbrod would] hear [the stories] and he'd start to notice there were patterns in the way [the Navajo people's] phrases were put together," Pfaff said. "The book itself is like an English analogue for how the Navajo language actually works."

The book and lecture both went in to detail on sexuality and how it has influenced the creation of all life and today's societal norms. This prompted Zolbrod to discuss the understanding of different genders and the power of the women's voice, adding how important it is to understand those who differ in beliefs.

As a Pittsburgh, Pa. native, Zolbrod grew up in a Jewish family surrounded by many immigrants. Characteristics that place him very close to the victims of Saturday's shooting within a Pittsburgh synagogue that took the lives of 11 people and injured six.

Zolbrot said he was deeply moved by what had happened and the blow of the event and what's been happening in the country disturbs him deeply. He urges people to stay informed about the past in an effort to understand and help reverse course.

"Remember, as different as we are, you and I are of one spirit," Zolbrod wrote in his book. "As dissimilar as we are, you and I, we are of equal worth. As unlike as you and I are, there must always be solidarity between the two of us."

EVOLUTION OF A MASCOT

BRIAN BRENNAN

On Feb. 9, 1933, the Youngstown College basketball team traveled to West Liberty State Teacher's College in West Virginia. In the freezing cold, the YoCo cagers made the long trip in an unheated bus. Upon arrival, the players entered a frigid locker room and changed into their uniforms.

As they made their way to the court, hopping, jumping and flapping their arms in order to warm up, West Liberty's coach quipped that the Youngstown players looked like a "bunch of penguins." The name stuck — and a mascot was born.

It was not long before the sobriquet fell into common use in Youngstown. By the end of 1933, The Jambar was referring to the basketball team as "Penguins," and continues to do so to the present day. However, as the College made plans to field a football team in 1938, some voiced doubts about the suitability of a penguin mascot.

In his sports column appearing in the Youngstown Vindicator, Frank Ward cites the preference of some fans for a team name that evokes a fighting spirit. In lieu of the Antarctic bird, Ward offers up such team name possibilities as Tigers, Polar Bears, Jaguars, Roosters and (oddly) Rhesus Monkeys. To Ward, the penguin is an unsatisfactory choice for a mascot because it is not native to northeastern Ohio.

He further writes that "penguin" fails to pack a psychological punch — and is difficult to pronounce. With its mascot under attack, The Jambar returned fire. In his February 9, 1938 column, Frank Jaczko shoots down each of Ward's fatuous points with great aplomb, while also stating that the use of the penguin moniker is unique to Youngstown in terms of collegiate identity. YoCo remained Penguin Country.

The first in a series of live penguins arrived at YoCo in 1939, making its debut at homecoming. He was called Pete. When an egg was discovered in his nest, Pete's actual gender came into question. It turned out to be a duck's egg, so Pete remained Pete, but his relationship with the duck is still a mystery. In 1941, Pete drowned after losing his way while diving for a fish in ice-covered water. Three more live penguins served as mascots, with the last dying in 1972 from bird gout.

Today's official artistic rendering of Pete Penguin was designed in 1979 by Bill Oakley, a member of the YSU varsity soccer team. Soon thereafter, a Pete Penguin mascot costume based upon the Oakley concept was fashioned. In the mid-1980s, Penny Penguin arrived on the scene and eventually married Pete (Zippy, the University of Akron's kangaroo mascot, officiated). Penny's printed image was briefly modified in the 1990s; her headscarf was replaced with a red brimmed hat styled after the one worn by Lynn Cochran, the spouse of former YSU President Leslie Cochran. In 2000, Penny once again donned her red scarf.

Frank Jaczko's column in The Jambar can be read online at http://hdl.handle.net/1989/3794.

Alvin Skardon also addresses the mascot issue on page 144-145 of his 1982 book, "Steel Valley University: the Origins of Youngstown State," available in Maag Library.

GO PENGUINS!!!



Photos by Tanner Mondok /The Jambar

COURTNEY HIBLER

The current smoking policy at Youngstown State University states all smoking is prohibited on campus, but some students have noticed some smokers don't follow this policy.

No-smoking parameters include all university-owned or leased buildings and vehicles, outdoor areas where smoke may enter the building through an entrance, all residence halls, any outdoor patio that is not separated from a building, all outdoor events, the fountain outside of Kilcawley Center and all outdoor areas posted as nonsmoking.

Ashley Rom, a senior forensic science major, said she is highly allergic to cigarette smoke and when she inhales the secondhand smoke, her throat becomes extremely sore and she develops a congested nose.

"It affects the way that I breathe," she said. "I have told some people to stop smoking in

buildings or to go to another area and smoke, and while some respect that, most people just look at you like you're crazy."

Emily Dawes, a sophomore history major, said the people who smoke in nonsmoking areas are selfish because secondhand smoke is detrimental to people's health and has a negative effect on those with asthma.

"If we can avoid any health risks for YSU students, we should," she said. "No one's health should be at risk, especially those with asthma."

In Dawes' opinion, designated smoking areas should be placed around campus to help people with health risks and to lessen the littering of cigarette butts.

"YSU staff should not have to unnecessarily clean up after students," she said. "If there were designated smoking areas, this may help lessen the litter"

John Hyden, assistant vice president of facilities maintenance, said the littering of cigarette butts is a large problem around

campus.

"It creates an unsightly condition and requires additional work by our grounds staff to clean up," he said. "It's a significant issue."

Crystal Carroll, a freshman psychology major, said she tries to smoke in secluded areas and hopes YSU will soon have designated smoking areas.

"These areas would help us have a set place to smoke and to avoid those who may be affected by it," she said.

Still, with outdoor areas having a "No Smoking" sign, this has not stopped some students from committing the act in the general area outside and indoors.

Dawes said she was in a crowded elevator in Cushwa Hall when a student decided to start vaning

"I was absolutely astounded by her lack of awareness," she said. "I believe a lot of college students have an attitude where they don't care and common courtesy is forgotten." Those who violate the no-smoking policy will be issued a warning, which could result in employee or student discipline and possible fine up to \$100 if reported to the Department of Health.

Hyden supports a smoke-free campus and said the YSU community can help deter smoking on campus.

"The university periodically offers smoking cessation programs to the university community," he said. "This is just one of many ways."

Complaints should be brought to the attention of the vice president of finance and administration.

"Not everyone wants to be breathing in cigarette smoke or going to class smelling like smoke," Rom said. "Some students on campus are quite rude and have no consideration for others."

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BRINGING A POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT TO CAMPUS LIFESTYLES

AMANDA JOERNDT

National Bullying Prevention Month brought awareness to different types of bullying methods, and how to become more aware of bullying in school systems and society during the month of October.

According to a report on stopbullying.gov, bullying is defined as, "unwanted, aggressive behavior among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated or has the potential to be repeated, over time."

Many school districts will find ways to bring students together in a positive and uplifting environment.

National Bullying Prevention Month allows universities to educate students and recognize organizations on campus that allows students to become more aware of bullying methods and offer their services to students on campus.

Youngstown State University offers different services that allow students to bring their issues and daily struggles to resources on campus and learn how to approach the situation.

The YSU CARE (Concern Assessment Referral Education) Team at YSU helps students who are being affected on campus through negative actions that may affect their health, welfare and safety at YSU.

The providers for the students consists of YSU staff to offer support, guidance and outreach to those who are struggling and deliver a positive campus environment.

Nicole Kent-Strollo, chair of the YSU CARE Team and director of student outreach, assists students who are being bullied on campus and helps them come to a resolution.

She said the staff does their best to guide students in the right direction by providing them with campus resources.

"Members of the team play an important role in educating individuals and groups about the issue of bullying and ways in which others can assist such as bystander intervention training," she said.

Kent-Strollo said helping others is an important role to provide a positive environment as students and members of the community.

"I see helping others as the sole reason we are here," she said. "It's critical that we demonstrate this on a daily basis through kind words and actions, service and simply treating others with respect."

Bullying takes place in different settings from face-to-face interaction to cyber bullying through social media.

Emily Dawes, a sophomore history major, tries to break the cycle that students go through on a daily basis.

Dawes said students should become more diverse with the different cultures around them and start to make more connections.

"I think that it's a shame because students who are not being surrounded by a diverse group of people, I really believe that they lose out," she said. "I think we would lessen isolation, promote open mindedness and our community would just simply be much nicer."

She said students need to get out of their comfort zone and start taking action towards being kind to people around them.

"Some people who have been affected by bullying really isolate themselves, and the first step to interrupting the cycle is to take action against it," Dawes said. "Simply saying 'hi' to someone can make the difference between a good and bad day."

David Beaver, a senior mechanical engineering major, said he spreads kindness across campus and is friendly towards everyone he meets each day.

He added reaching out to others is an important part of being kind and respectful towards our peers on campus.

"I always try to talk to people who may need someone to talk to," Beaver said. "Reaching out to others and always being kind to others will always benefit others and always benefit our society."

He said treating others how we would want to be treated is a key role in spreading positivity around campus.

"Try to make everyone feel accepted, and like they belong at YSU," Beaver said. "We are all going through the college experience together, and everyone should be able to enjoy it."

RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION AND SUPPORT

FRANCES CLAUSE

Youngstown State University's Kappa Chi chapter of Delta Zeta hosted the I Have a Choice campaign during National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week from Oct. 22 through 26.

NCAAW has been celebrated on campuses across the U.S. for more than 25 years and aims to raise awareness about the serious public health issues posed by excessive drinking among college students.

Throughout the week, the Kappa Chi chapter participated in NCAAW by educating YSU students about alcohol consumption at their table outside of Kilcawley Center.

Miranda Domiano, Kappa Chi chapter's president and a senior studying special education, said I Have a Choice is an alcohol prevention and awareness experience designed to help students understand how to make informed decisions around alcohol at social events.

"Delta Zeta is honored to partner with The Coalition of Higher Education Associations for Substance Abuse Prevention and become the leader in educating college-age students about alcohol consumption," she said. "Each day of I Have a Choice throughout the week presents a different theme students can learn from."

Kelsey Cirkvencic, a graduate student and risk adviser for the Kappa Chi chapter, said these themes include understanding the effects of alcohol on the body, mixing alcohol with prescription and other drugs, understanding respect and consent, addressing behaviors and concerns regarding alcohol and understanding drink sizes.

"It's important for Delta Zeta to be involved in NCAAW because as an organization, we are able to teach students the dangers of alcohol abuse and inspire them to examine their lifestyle through these different topics," she said.

Beth Brocker of YSU for Recovery, a drug and alcohol prevention program, said although the group understands students will drink, the only way to ensure safety is to abstain from alcohol.

"Anytime you consume alcohol, you run the risk of negative consequences such as unnecessary death and injury, legal issues and sexual or physical assault," she said.

According to the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, about 1,825 college students die from alcohol-related injuries each year, and 696,000 are assaulted by another

student that has been drinking. About 97,000 students also report experiencing alcohol-related sexual assault.

Brocker said YSU for Recovery is a member of the Mahoning County Drug Task Force, which allows the student organization to have access to many resources and facilitate connectedness with the community.

"YSU for Recovery promotes well-being for students in recovery and their supporters," she said. "We are passionate about sharing resources, encouraging self-discovery and enriching the social lives of our members."

The goals of the organization include increasing the number of substance-free activities on campus and reducing the stigma around recovery and substance use disorders, along with other addictive behaviors.

"[YSU for Recovery] provides a safe space for students to discuss how substance use may affect them," Brocker said. "The group is also knowledgeable on 12-step meetings provided in the area and can facilitate linking students to needed support."

YSU for Recovery meets every Wednesday at noon in the Esterly Room of Kilcawley Center and is open to all YSU students.

AWAKENING THE FUNE FROM THE DEAD

MARAH J. MORRISON

When it comes to celebrating Halloween, there are various ways people may decide to let their inner child come to life, whether it's eating candy, watching movies or going trick-or-treating.

Jennifer Behney, an associate professor in the Department of World Languages and Cultures at Youngstown State University, said her birthday is the day before Halloween, and every single year, her birthday party was Halloween-themed.

"We would always have pumpkin-shaped cake or other Halloween-type events," she said. "Bobbing for apples or whatever it would be."

Behney said she and her husband celebrate Halloween by taking their six-year-old daughter out to hayrides, pumpkin patches and to carve Jack-O-Lanterns

She said her husband is from Italy and Italians don't do much to celebrate Halloween. She said Italians celebrate the Day of the Dead, which is mostly a religious holiday in Italy.

"All of this is very new for my husband," Behney said. "Before meeting me, he didn't know anything about this."

"People would go to the graveyard and they would take flowers to the graves," she added. "Many Italians, if they are religious, might attend a mass on that day."

The Day of the Dead in Italy takes place on Nov. 1, and Behney said in the last couple of decades, Italians have become familiar with some of the traditions in the United States from American movies and television shows.

"It's a chance to act like a kid when you're all grown up," she said. "It's nice to also connect it with the meaning of marking that passage from life to death and remembering those who aren't with us."

Beesan Odeh, a graduate student at YSU, said she has always loved trick-ortreating and thinks she's too old for it now, but likes to take her nephews out.

Odeh also enjoys passing out candy to others and staying home on the cold nights to watch Halloween movies.

Odeh said as far as dressing up for Halloween her senior year, she dressed up as Elvis Presley. She said he's her absolute favorite, which made it fun to do.

"I think it's just about having fun and letting kids and adults do something different for a day," she said.

Dia Scruggs, a YSU communications and social media major, said she watches movies to celebrate Halloween. She said "The Nightmare Before Christmas" is her favorite movie and she listens to the soundtrack as well.

She said she will sometimes go trick-or-treating with her younger cousin, and she dresses up in her Pikachu onesie every year.

Scruggs said whether someone is six years old or 100, it doesn't matter, and the most important part of Halloween is to have fun.

"Halloween is for everybody," she said.

Kandace Feorene, a business major at YSU, said she enjoys doing dark makeup for school on the day of the holiday.

Feorene said when she was really little, she and her sister dressed up as Dalmatians and their mother was Cruella. She said Halloween is a good time to just let loose and have fun.

"Especially now with all of the problems going on, it's a good time to just have fun," she said.





Photo courtesy of Diana Cooper

CONTEMPORARY ARTIST FROM NEW YORK TRAVELS TO YSU

VICTORIA REMLEY

Diana Cooper, one of the most well-known interdisciplinary artists today, taught Youngstown State University art students about uncommon art practices and interdisciplinary art in her lecture on Oct. 24.

Cooper, who lives in Brooklyn, N.Y., combines sculpture, photography, painting and drawing in her artwork. Dragana Crnjak, associate professor of art, invited Cooper to YSU.

"We are very focused on interdisciplinary thinking and interdisciplinary making," she said. "We really try to expose students and sort of teach them and show them that art is not this restrictive way of working or this restrictive discipline."

Cooper visually and conceptually investigates the different systems humans occupy. She focuses on science, math and biology, among other things.

Crnjak said artwork can reflect anything and working with art can be done in a variety of ways. YSU's art department tries to encourage students to think in an open-ended, curious way.

Faculty wants students to be brave and experimental.

Cooper's lecture also taught students about art form in a new and uncommon perspective. Crnjak said students will be inspired by someone who is not afraid to work outside of these preconceived notions.

"We try to bring artists who do that and who have a proven record of doing that," she said.

Cooper's work reflected doodle-based drawings. The drawings were both a process and the production of an image, represented imaginary systems and acted as a flowchart for an imaginary world.

"Most of the time, I'm interested in defamiliarizing you or disorienting your relationship to the everyday world," Cooper said. "The work is very colorful and there's also humor. It can be quite playful, and for me, the imagination and idea of a serious type of play are very important."

People interested in contemporary art, abstraction or who simply want to learn something new would have enjoyed Cooper's lecture. She discussed her life as an artist through her artwork.

Cooper also teaches at Columbia University, and thought it would be interesting to speak to other college students.

"Often, I look forward to the question and answer period," she said. "I'm also doing some studio visits with some of the graduate students, I believe, and I'm looking forward to that and meeting students and having a conversation."

Alexis Herrick, a digital media major, found the lecture interesting.

"I really liked all her examples that she had. I thought they demonstrated what she was talking about really well visually," she said.

Naomi Carrier, a sophomore digital media major, enjoyed the Doodle Art portion of the lecture.

"I thought it was cool. I really liked her Doodle Art because there's a lot of variety of lines and colors," she said.

Micheline Cleaves, a junior photography major, found the lecture to be unexpected. She said she thought it was interesting to see the values and textures of what materials she used.

"Her interests were all different from what we experienced," she said.

RUST BELT THEATER COMPANY BRINGS TO LIFE, "LIVING DEAD: THE MUSICAL"

NAMI NAGAOKA

The Rust Belt Theater Company performed "Living Dead: The Musical" each Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. from October 12 through 27, with a special midnight showing on closing night at the Calvin Center on Mahoning Avenue.

The show was written by Youngstown's Robert Dennick Joki and Josh Taylor, as a musical parody of the classic horror films "Night of the Living Dead."

The Rust Belt Theater Company has a tradition of doing "Living Dead: The Musical" each October near Halloween and this was their seventh year performing the show.

The show is a "gem" of Youngstown and the original show hasn't been performed anywhere else.

Although playwright Joki has been directing the show since it hit the Rust Belt stage, Joshua Fleming, who usually performs in the show, tried his hand at directing it this fall. This was the first time someone other than Joki directed "Living Dead: The Musical."

"I'm less nervous about letting other people direct now because [the show] turned out so well," Joki said.

Fleming said most of the materials in the show were the same from previous shows, but he added some additional design elements and jokes to the script. He said his favorite part of the changes he made was a costume he designed.

"My cast was fantastic, my support was fantastic ... everybody did so well," Fleming said.

He described not being onstage as "weird," but expressed his love for directing and making sure the show runs smoothly.

"I love Youngstown, I love working in Youngstown," Fleming

Jacob Nash, a junior general studies major, portrayed Tom in "Living Dead: The Musical."

Nash said he's enjoyed performing on a stage for various local theaters such as The Youngstown Playhouse, Salem Community Theatre, Millennial Theatre Company, New Castle Playhouse, Victorian Players and Youngstown State University's Department of Theatre and Dance.

"Living Dead: The Musical" was Nash's third shows at the Rust Belt Theater Company.

"The Rust Belt typically produces original work and that's very unique," he said

In this show, Nash worked with castmates he worked with in previous projects in Youngstown and YSU theaters. Nash said working with people you know, in his opinion, is less intimidating because you can depend on and trust your friends more so than strangers.

"You aren't judged for how well you do in rehearsals and it's not as competitive as some other theaters," he said.

Nash described the Rust Belt Theater Company as having a good sense of community and family and allows actors to have artistic freedom.

"They are so kind, welcoming and open. It's a wonderful experience," he said.

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Photo by Tanner Mondok / The Jambar

Former Vice President Joe Biden takes a selfie with supporters after speaking at a rally for Ohio governor candidate Richard Cordray and his running mate, Betty Sutton, on Monday in the Chestnut Room.



OPINION 11 / 01 / 2018 12

HAMBAR EDITORIAL

SHOCKED BUT NOT SURPRISED: TRAGIC SYNAGOGUE SHOOTING

The Jambar Editorial Board would like to say we are saddened that yet another shooting occurred in the United States, but we are not surprised at all. This tragic, hate-filled massacre felt different, though. We cannot allow this to be dismissed; we cannot be silent.

Forty-six-year-old Robert Bowers allegedly opened fire at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh on the Jewish Sabbath on Oct. 27, killing 11 and wounding six more, including four police officers, according to multiple reports.

USA Today reported the gunman shouted, "All Jews must die," causing federal prosecutors to file hate crime charges against him. CNN reports that if convicted, he could face the death penalty.

According to the Anti-Defamation League, an organization that aims to fight against defamation and hate, the organization believes the Saturday attack is "the deadliest on the Jewish community in the history of the United States."

Jacob Labendz, director of the Youngstown State University Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies and assistant professor in the history department, said when he heard about the shooting, he was preparing to leave the next day to give a lecture on alt-right anti-Semitism and the place of performative anti-Semitism in American culture.

He said it was difficult to be away from Youngstown during this time because of how close it is to Pittsburgh.

"I'm trying as a scholar of anti-Semitism — who writes about the alt-right and have been following it for a very long time — to be a resource locally and more broadly for people trying to think about this," Labendz said.

"Shocked, but not surprised," is one phrase Labendz used to describe his initial reaction to the tragic event. This is reinforced by the statement released by the ADL after the shooting.

"This violence occurs at a time when ADL has reported a historic increase in both anti-Semitic incidents and anti-Semitic online harassment."

Rep. Louie Gohmert (R-Tex) appeared on Fox News on Oct. 22 and said, "I can't help but think that the Democrats — perhaps [George] Soros — may be funding this, thinking it's going to help them," discussing the migrant caravan composed of thousands of undocumented Central Americans who are reportedly heading to the United States.

According to a report by the New York Times, Bowers posted

his anti-Semitic views on the social media site, Gab, which "has become a haven for white nationalists, neo-Nazis and other extremists."

"It's the filthy EVIL jews Bringing the Filthy EVIL Muslims into the Country!!" Bowers wrote in a post, according to the Times.

This is disgusting. The acts of the current administration absolutely legitimize anti-Semitism, and Labendz said it reveals the deep connection between anti-Semitism and other forms of racism in the United States. He emphasizes he wants people to realize that words matter. He is exactly right.

A vigil and educational event will be held at YSU on Friday as a tribute to those who died in Pittsburgh in Kilcawley Center. The Jambar will update the time and location when more information is received.

There will also be a vigil held by the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation and the Board of Rabbis of Greater Youngstown on Thursday at Temple El Emeth located on 3970 Logan Way, Youngstown, Ohio, at 6 p.m.

Go to these vigils. Stand with those that have been affected by the shooting. Let them know that they are not alone and change needs to be made.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To whom it may concern,

Bill Johnson was a strong supporter of the recent tax reforms that saved Ohio families nearly \$1,500 a year and helped reduce unemployment to the lowest level in almost five decades, by his "yes" vote for the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which was signed into law in December 2017 by President Trump. In September 2018, U.S. jobless claims fell to a 49-year low, consumer confidence hit its highest level in 18 years, jobless claims fell to their lowest level since December 1969 and unemployment remains below 4 percent.

Tax reform has impacted Ohioans across this state and our

fellow Americans across this land positively. Businesses are expanding and investing in their workers and new equipment and 401k plans are doing extremely well and has fueled economic growth not seen in a generation. The current state of our booming economy is a far cry from the previous Obama administration that proclaimed one percent growth as the "new normal."

On Sept. 28, the House passed Tax Reform 2.0, which Congressman Johnson voted in favor of. Building on many successes of last year's law, this piece of legislation would make tax cuts permanent for middle-class families and small businesses. Additionally, it will allow start-ups to bring in new investors without triggering limits on their access to tax benefits and

provide additional resources to help entrepreneurs start a new business with more capital. It contains provisions that permit small businesses to join together to create 401k retirement plans more affordably, and simplifies the rules for participation in employer plans. Congressman Johnson has earned our support and on Nov. 6, and we must vote to send him back to Washington, D.C. to continue fighting for us.

Sincerely, James V. Mullarkey Jamesvmullarkey@student.ysu.edu 13 11 / 01 / 2018 SPORTS

WITH ANOTHER LOSS, TENSIONS CONTINUE TO BUILD IN FRUSTRATING 2018 FOR YSU FOOTBALL

JOSHUA FITCH

"We're a bad football team. It was a disgusting performance. Coming out of the locker room, you could hear a pin drop. I've never been this disgusted in my career."

Those were the words of Youngstown State University head coach Bo Pelini following a 43-17 loss to Indiana State University at Stambaugh Stadium last week. With the loss, YSU falls to a record of 3-5 on the season.

The season won't get any easier heading into next week as the Penguins now go on the road to play North Dakota State University, who is undefeated in 2018 and holds the top spot in league standings. NDSU is also the No. 1 team in the country.

Pelini also stated that he'll look into different options going into game week simply to get more production.

"We're going on the road to play North Dakota State," Pelini said. "So we'll see how the week plays out. All options are open, as far as I'm concerned. I think there's a role for a couple of different quarterbacks - it depends on the game plan."

The Bison are coming off of a dominant 59-14 victory over the University of South Dakota Coyotes last week.

In the loss to Indiana State, the Penguins got off to a great start. In the first quarter, YSU went on a eight-play, 97-yard drive that resulted in a 25-yard connection between quarterback

Montgomery VanGorder and wide receiver Jermiah Braswell for a touchdown.

However, the Penguins allowed 476 yards of total offense in the loss, 125 on the ground and 351 through the air. Sycamores quarterback Ryan Boyle threw for 325 yards, while completing 17 of his 28 attempts and added three touchdowns, as well. On the ground for Indiana State, Boyle also led the way with 68 yards, while running back Titus McCoy added 57 yards.

By looking at the numbers of the Penguins offense, it would seem the game would have gone a different way. VanGorder threw for 125 yards, while Nathan Mays also attempted 11 passes on the afternoon, completing six for 85 yards.

On the ground, it was another strong performance for running back Tevin McCaster. He totaled 165 yards on just 22 carries, a 7.5 average yards per carry.

Junior wide receiver Jermiah Braswell caught six passes for 93 yards receiving and the early touchdown catch.

"It's frustrating for Coach Bo," Braswell said. "And the rest of the coaching staff because I know we're a much better football team than what we've been showing. It makes you want to prove them wrong. Coach feels one way and it's our job to make him change his mind about that. We have to come to practice ready to play, and hopefully on Saturday we can change his mind."

According to Pelini, it will take a monumental effort to produce a win Saturday, on the road against the top team in the

conference.

"In this sport, you've got to play one way," Pelini said. "And that's what has hurt us this year, we haven't played one way. We've been up and down and not as focused. Not as relentless. Heck, with all the work you put in, with all of the time you put in, you get 11 guaranteed shots on Saturday. You have to find a way. It's always a challenge as a coach. This group has not answered the call and I'm looking at every way to fix that."

After playing the Bison this week, the Penguins will have just two games left on the season. The team is back home against the University of Northern Iowa Panthers, before traveling to play the Illinois State University Redbirds to finish off the 2018 season.

Kickoff in Fargo, N.D. is set for Saturday at 3:30 pm. You can follow the game on the radio by listening to 570 WKBN radio, on TV with ESPN+ and online at ysusports.com



MARYLAND REPORT WAVERS ON ITS CLAIMS

DAVID FORD

After months of investigation, the University of Maryland-appointed commission released their 192-page report, which said the football program did not support or promote a "toxic culture."

However, the report does mention the program reached the level where players feared to speak out. While the report said the program did not support a "toxic culture," the part where players feared to speak out against poor treatment suggests that Maryland did. Essentially, the report said the program wasn't toxic, but provided examples that it was.

In summary, the entire story developed back in May, during the football team's offseason workouts.

According to ESPN, Maryland offensive lineman Jordan McNair suffered heat exhaustion in a workout back on May 29. He died two weeks later.

The ESPN article, published back in August, stated, "An ESPN reporter on Thursday and Friday provided details about this story and other findings on the overall football culture and asked Maryland officials for interviews or

to comment."

University officials on Friday afternoon said, "The University of Maryland has placed members of our athletics staff on administrative leave pending the outcome of the external review."

After the initial ESPN story released, the university placed head coach DJ Durkin on administrative leave; the head strength and conditioning coach, Rick Court, resigned back on Aug. 13.

Durkin, an Ohio native and Boardman High School graduate, was hired at Maryland back in December 2015. During his entire tenure, the report suggests Durkin failed to properly monitor and control his entire team, starting with others on the coaching staff.

The university's 192-page report, released on Oct. 24, said Court engaged in "abusive conduct" during his time at Maryland.

According to page 75 of the report, it mentions an incident where Court allegedly choked an injured Maryland player with "lat pulldown bar in their weight room."

The report states; "The player had undergone surgery in December 2015 and was struggling to complete an additional pulldown rep of the lat bar. Mr. Court allegedly came up behind the player and said 'come on mother****** and

pressed the lat bar into his neck, choking him."

In addition, it mentions Court "would attempt to humiliate players in front of their teammates by throwing food, weights, and on one occasion a trash can full of vomit, all behavior unacceptable by reasonable standard."

The conclusions of the report not only seem contradictory, but fail to realize the severity of the entire situation. The most baffling claim in the report comes shortly after the previous quote: "Mr. Durkin claims that it was not his responsibility to supervise Mr. Court. But it was, by Mr. Durkin's own account, his decision to hire Court as the strength coach."

Durkin claimed it wasn't his responsibility, as head coach, to supervise one of his assistants. Keep in mind, Durkin is still on administrative leave; he hasn't been fired yet. The team has played their entire 2018 season with interim Matt Canada assuming head coaching duties.

Just a few days ago, Maryland reinstated Durkin. On Oct. 31, Durkin was fired as the head coach for the Terrapins football program as reported by Bruce Feldman of the Athletic on Twitter.

This came just hours after reports that he would coach against Michigan State University on Nov. 3. In Durkin's absence, Maryland went 5-3 with a 3-2 Big Ten record.

He signed a six-year contract back in 2015. Last season, Durkin received a guaranteed \$2.45 million.

While the report detailed stories of emotional and physical abuse, it denied public claim that Maryland supported a "toxic culture." The claim makes absolutely no sense.

In the end, the commission interviewed 165 people. Within the report, 55 played football under Durkin, 24 were parents of players, 60 were current and former Maryland Athletic Department staff, 12 were university officials not in the athletic department and 14 were "other people with college football expertise, and miscellaneous individuals."

One particular player experienced depression and anxiety because of the bullying he received from the football staff and described his time playing under Durkin "as the worst year of [his] life" and said that "it's hard to hear about it and talk about it again," as stated by the report.

It's clear Maryland made the wrong decision to begin with. It eventually became the right decision to fire Durkin after such a horrendous report showed who he is. This is something that every university looks to avoid and is important to every university with athletics.



Photo courtesy of YSU Sports Information

JOSHUA FITCH

After almost four years as a middle-hitter for the Youngstown State University volleyball team, senior Sarah Varcolla has just three matches left in her career.

Volleyball has been in Varcolla's life for 11 years, and through the sport she has made many memories. One of her earliest memories of volleyball though, has stuck with her through the years.

"I remember because I was in fifth grade trying out for a first club team and they cut me," Varcolla said with a chuckle. "So then I started school volleyball in sixth grade. But when I first tried it, I got cut."

That would be the first and the last time.

Varcolla grew up in New Philadelphia, Ohio, and attended Tuscarawas Central Catholic Junior/Senior High School where she earned four letters and was named co-captain as a senior, while leading the Saints to district title matches in four consecutive years. Varcolla was a first-team all-conference selection for track and field as well.

This was also an important time for Varcolla because she began thinking of the future and figuring out where she wanted to take her volleyball career next. Finding somewhere that would offer her an athletic scholarship was key.

"When I first got to high school, I knew I wanted to continue to play volleyball in college so while looking for school, it was a main thing I was looking at," Varcolla said. "Actually, Youngstown

wasn't my first decision. I had to come back a couple of times. So, I came back for another visit and watched a game and it really set it that I belong here."

Varcolla proved that she belonged on the court. In 2017, she received the program's Best Offensive Player Award after playing in all 106 sets of the season and being the only player on the team to start all 30 matches. She was also one of only two players ranked in the top eight in the Horizon League in blocks per set (1.14) and aces per set (0.27). This season, as the stats continue to pile up, Varcolla's main focus is being a leader for such a young team.

"I definitely do," Varcolla said when asked if she considers herself a strong leader. "Especially because last year and this year I was voted team captain, which I find a great honor. I try to always be a help to them and just be that leader instead of bossing them around. I want to be their teammate first. It's a fine line. Before you can lead anyone, you need to gain their respect first."

Being a leader is very important on a team that has five total freshmen. Even though she'll be gone after 2018, it's what Varcolla wants to leave with the program and is why she was named team captain more than once.

"Everyone's starting to learn and get to know each other and how to play with each other," she said. "It's all just meshing together. I know what I want to leave here is that a new culture here is to give it all you got, and that's what I hope to leave here."

As it stands now, the Penguins are 7-18 on the season and in a tough spot to make the Horizon League volleyball tournament

beginning in mid-November. However, with three games left in the regular season, leave it to a leader to keep believing.

"Honestly, I really do think we can," Varcolla said. "We just need to go out there and believe in our game plan that our coaches set for us. Believe in each other that we can do this."

Varcolla also said her head coach, Aline Scott, has been very influential to the entire team, despite this being her first season as head coach at Youngstown State.

"She's had our back since day one," Varcolla said. "She decided to keep all of us. She took us as we were her own recruits. She really just pushes us to be the best that we can be, not only on the court, but off the court as well."

The Penguins regular season will end on Nov. 10 with a match against Wright State University on the road. Whether the Penguins make it to the postseason will depend on what happens in the next three games. However, not only will a season eventually end, but so will a career.

"Our last four games all we can do is give it all we got and leave it all on the floor," Varcolla said. "When our season is over, it's over for me. I don't plan on going overseas professionally, I plan to go into occupational therapy and private school for that."

Varcolla will have plenty of time to reflect on her time at Youngstown State as a Penguin, but even before the season ends, Varcolla knows Youngstown, the city, the university and the people have set her up for success.

"It's really meant the world. I really couldn't see myself at any other university. From what I've learned just in the classroom,



Photo courtesy of YSU Sports Information

PENGUINS BOWLING SUCCESS BUILT ON SPARES

MARC WEEMS

With a new head coach and a new season upon us, the Youngstown State University women's bowling team has big plans this season.

"The girls are talented. It's about getting them to the best of their ability," YSU Interim Head Coach Clint Daley said. "I have no doubt they will. We have to figure that out on tournament days. They did good on their first day of Reading tournament. We were 3-0 after the first day. We had top pinfall of the tournament at that point. We feel down in one match."

Daley said the team fell from first to 10th in total pinfall after a 152-pin loss to Mount St. Mary's College in the final match of the day.

"It was as important as any first tournament. I knew the girls other than freshmen class," he said. "It's no surprise that we were where we were at the time. We expected to be where we were. It just didn't work out. We were dumbfounded as to what happened."

The Penguins are trying to establish themselves as one of the best teams in their new conference, the Southland Conference,

as the season begins.

As of March 18, 2018, everyone in the Southland Conference was either ranked or just outside the top 25 in the National Tenpin Coaches Association. That will be stiff competition for the Penguins this year.

The NTCA came out with its yearly preseason poll. YSU was voted right outside the top 25 at No. 26. Valparaiso University was voted at No. 27. Arkansas State University, Louisiana Tech University, Sam Houston State University, Stephen F. Austin State University, Tulane University and Vanderbilt University are all ranked within the top 17 of the country.

"I do a lot of trying to simulate game time experiences," Daley said. "When you go to a college tournament, you sometimes have 20, 25 and even 30 teams there with 10 to 15 players each. You can barely think it is so loud. It is tough to duplicate. We lean on our one senior and four juniors. Simulating in practice is important."

The Penguins have three tough tournaments ahead that can determine how good or bad this season will be.

It starts with the Track Kat Klash hosted by conference foe, Sam Houston State, on Nov. 2 through 4. After that, YSU goes to the Warhawk Classic from No. 9 through 11 hosted by the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. Between Nov. 16 through 18, YSU goes to the Hawk Classic Invitational hosted by the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore.

"This weekend is a good limits test. Sam Houston is in the tournament," Daley said. "We need to go in there and show we are for real. It is the third year and we have to start knocking on people's doors."

Daley mentioned that one issue YSU had in their first two tournaments was their spare conversion rate.

"The thing that hurt this program in the first and second year came up in our first tournament. The goal is to have our miss rate down to 5 to 10 percent. We had 126 open frames out of 500 frames. That is nearly 25 percent. You can't compete against the upper echelon. It is impossible to compete that way."

Daley said they are going to rework on basic fundamentals. He wants the team to get down to 10 percent on that.

"This week and the next three tourneys are going to set the pace. If we have a tournament like Reading, we won't succeed," he said. We had it in our grasp. Hopefully they can get that opportunity again and won't let that slip through our hands again."

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