



# The Jambo



Thursday, October 31, 2019

THE SPOOKY STUDENT VOICE OF YSU SINCE 1931

THEJAMBAR.COM



Buechner Hall pictured in 1943. Photo courtesy of *Jambar Archive*

## FRANCES CLAWS

From stories of ghosts haunting Wick House and Fok Hall, to rumors of a dead janitor that still roams Kilcawley House, students learned about the history behind these legends during Maag Library's haunted campus tour Wednesday.

Colleen Duchon, a reference librarian for health and human services and the organizer of the event, said the tour was a good way to get students more involved with the library and made for a fun Halloween event.

"There's a lot of history in Youngstown, and [we] thought that with some of the older buildings on campus and some of the stories that have been told for a while now that we could use those to make an enjoyable event for students," she said.

Stops included Sweeney Hall, the Arms Family Museum and Holy Trinity Romanian Orthodox Church, and some unexplainable sounds and sights witnessed by those who enter were blamed on the age of the buildings and the creaking floors that accompany.

But one building whose history is sometimes overlooked is Buechner Hall, a residence hall exclusively for female students and women in the workforce, built in 1941 near campus.

Gail Keaty, director at Buechner, lived in the residence hall from 1973-75 when she attended Youngstown State University and has worked there ever since.

"It was left in Lucy Buechner's will [that] this building

was supposed to be built in memory of her mother, Elvira [Buechner]," she said.

The Buechner family resided at Champion Street and East Federal Street for 41 years, and William L. Buechner, husband of Elvira and father of Lucy, was one of the leaders in organizing a hospital in Youngstown.

Complications from an illness ended Lucy Buechner's life on Sept. 10, 1926. The bulk of Lucy's \$2 million estate went to found Buechner Hall.

From the day groundbreaking ceremonies were held at the Bryson Street site Aug. 2, 1940, to the present, her dream continues to come true.

As stated in her will, Buechner Hall continues to be "a home where student girls and women and those who are self-supporting and are engaged in gainful occupation" can benefit from the "respectable home surroundings, entertainment and inspiration."

A Buechner 50th anniversary pamphlet written using Vindicator archives states Lucy Buechner provided well for her city and gave as generously as her father and brother, William H. Buechner, did.

After the death of her brother, Lucy Buechner was rarely seen by anyone except old friends who would come to the house, and she could occasionally be seen from a distance sitting on her porch in a black dress.

Some students report that Lucy can still be seen roaming the

residence hall in this same black dress.

Geena Badalamenti, a junior music education major, said she has encountered who residents call "Lady Buechner."

"[Lucy] likes to jiggle door knobs when they're unlocked at night. I also see a shadowy reflection in the window when I'm walking in the hallway at night, too," she said.

Other sightings of "Lady Buechner" include the same, shadowy description.

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Buechner Hall pictured Oct. 30. Photo by *Frances Clause/The Jambar*

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## Art Student Explores Prosthetic and Augmented Photography, Featured in Public Exhibit

The “Extract and Augment” photo exhibit is on display in the lower level of Cushwa Hall, presenting prosthetic objects and photography by Ashely Vaughan. Photo by **Amanda Joerndt/The Jambar**

### AMANDA GOURDNT

A Youngstown State University art student got the chance to combine her passion for photography with her interest in the medical “mad scientist aesthetic” by creating a photo exhibit using real-life prosthetic objects.

Ashley Vaughan, a senior interdisciplinary studio art major, was given a photography project in her course work, which sparked an idea like no other.

A book called “Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children” prompted Vaughan to analyze what humans leave behind and “the idea of body without ever actually showing body.”

Vaughan said purchasing her own prosthetic objects would have been too expensive, which led her to do research on where

to invest in the objects, guiding her to YSU’s Melnick Medical Museum.

“I met up with Cassie [Nespor] and told her about the idea, and she was like, ‘Well, I have all of this stuff, so let me show you.’ That just rabbit trailed into so many different possibilities because she had all of these really great things,” Vaughan said.

Cassie Nespor, curator of the university archives and Melnick Medical Museum at YSU, collaborated with Vaughan on the project, providing her with the prosthetics along with the display space.

Vaughan said she had to start from scratch with the creation of the exhibit by taking her own still-life photos, creating black and white and color photos and choosing which photos to use.

“When I started thinking about how I wanted to display everything as a whole, I was thinking about the space that I had and how I wanted to size these photos and balance everything,” she said. “I played back and forth between colored photography and black and white photography.”

According to Vaughan, the exhibit being featured so close to Halloween makes the project even more meaningful.

“I myself am super into the macabre aesthetic, anything that’s got a creepy and weird vibe to it,” she said. “It’s always really nice to twist the project that you have to do and make it something that you really like.”

Johnathan Farris, assistant professor of art history at YSU, said Vaughan finds “beauty in unexpected places.”

“Typically, she is drawn to issues concerning death, macabre, kind of the spookier end of the supernatural,” Farris said. “She takes these subject matters and aestheticizes them using very fine techniques, whether it’s in printmaking or photography.”

According to Farris, being able to celebrate augmented ideas that people may have a negative perspective of is uplifting as an artist.

“She looks at objects which at first take the casual viewer back a little bit. ... The artificial eyes, artificial hips and these sort of things in their own are a little bit gruesome even. But yet they were there for a reason, which is to help people live full lives,” Farris said.

According to Nespor, at first, the duo spent two to three hours at a time working on Vaughan’s project but soon realized what other opportunities could follow.

“It was just her semester assignment to do this, but we spent so much time on it, and Ana Torres suggested to me that maybe we should do an exhibit on it,” Nespor said.

She said the museum paid for the photos to be enlarged to about 3 feet wide.

Nespor said giving Vaughan the opportunity to construct her own photo exhibit will allow her to move forward with future projects.

“Just learning how much time it takes, the approximate cost of how much these materials ... she knows how much time she has to leave to do this or that,” Nespor said.

She said the department has never shown an exhibit from an augmented medical angle.

“I think the precious metals exhibit that she really built as her germ of an idea that grew into her exhibit was an interesting way to honor those things that help you move forward and live your life to the fullest,” Nespor said.



The “Extract and Augment” photo exhibit. Photo by **Amanda Joerndt/The Jambar**





# 'Good Humor Radio Hour' Gets Spooky

"Good Humor Radio Hour" performed its Halloween-themed radio show in front of a live audience Oct. 29 and 30. Photos by *Shawn Williams/The Jambar*

## STABIGAIL CLOUTIER

"Good Humor Radio Hour" pulled out all the stops for its 2019 Halloween special-edition radio performance, featuring over a dozen voice actors using vintage-style radio equipment.

The show was performed in front of a live studio audience, with students from various academic departments at Youngstown State University being the main voices of the show.

"Good Humor Radio Hour" is directed by Randall Brammer, adjunct theatre faculty at YSU, and he said although the cast may be smaller, the show still has a unique quality.

"It's a smaller cast [than in past years] but has big production value," Brammer said.

"The Ghost Who Came to Dinner," "The Dark" and "Ghost Hunt," the three featured stories in the show, were once broadcast on popular radio dramas.

"Ghost Hunt" was featured on "Suspense," a CBS Radio show, that began in 1940 and aired for over 20 years.

The concept for "Good Humor Radio Hour" was created by Fred Owens, a telecommunications professor, along with Brammer.



Gary Rhamy, owner of Peppermint Productions, was the master of ceremonies, and the performances were recorded for broadcast on WYSU, YSU's

public radio station.

The last story of the night was a sound effect drama with different voice actors pulled from the stories, along with a pianist and foley artists.

Brammer said he enjoys how directing a radio drama allows him to focus on different creative aspects of directing.

"There's a lot of aspects that are removed that give me the time and energy to focus on the things that I really like," Brammer said. "So I'm not worried about costumes or lighting, so that gives me time and energy to really listen to the acting, the music, the sound effects."

According to Brammer, there's a slightly different directing style that often involves less control.

"I look at us as a band," Brammer said. "There are certain moments where there are certain things I want, but I trust [the cast and musicians]. You figure out how to communicate, and once you figure out the best language, it makes things easier."

Jay Lilley, sophomore telecommunication studies major, said he became interested in the production aspect and wanted the show to be visually interesting as well as entertaining for radio.

"As an actor, you want to perform for the [live] audience, as well as the radio audience," Lilley said. "They'll see our reactions to things, so it's a little of a live performance and a radio performance."

Katie Gennaro, junior telecommunication studies major, said she participated in theatre during her high school years, and "Good Humor" lets her continue a time-consuming hobby.

"If you're someone who enjoys theater and voice acting, but you don't have the time or commitment for it, you can definitely audition," Gennaro said. "It's a lot of fun."

Other opportunities are available for students participating in the "Good Humor Radio Hour," such as advertising, sound effects and music.

There will be an additional radio show in the spring semester.



# RHA Inspires Residents to Spook Up Their Dorms

## J. HARVARD HAUNTED HOUSE

The Residence Hall Association hosted a door-decorating contest for students living in the dorms at Youngstown State University as part of the RHA's House Cup competition.

In the competition, named the Hallo-Fall Door Decorating Competition, residents had the chance to win a prize and points for the House Cup by decorating their room doors with a Halloween or autumn theme.

Ally Borak, sophomore biochemistry major, participated because she likes arts and crafts and believed it to be a good use of her time outside of studying.

"I'm mainly in for the fun of doing it," Borak said. "I had a lot of fun decorating my door, seeing different concepts and trying to, like, creatively do it because in my field, I don't really get the chance to be creative. So, this was a fun little activity to do outside my major."

Borak prefers Christmas over Halloween, but she saw the opportunity to make a door using both Christmas and Halloween themes after she rewatched the movie "The Nightmare Before Christmas."

"I was just inspired by that [movie], and I thought it would be funny if I took something that's actually a Christmas movie and made it Halloween," Borak said. "[On the door] we have the big Oogie Boogie monster as the background, and then we have Jack and Sally on top of a pumpkin patch."

While some residents decorated their door specifically for the competition, some submitted doors they made before the competition was announced.

Gloria Hynes, sophomore forensic science major, said decorating for various holidays is a tradition in her suite.

Before they knew about the competition, Hynes and her suite furnished their door with Halloween caution tape, spooky

skull banners, tinsel and a wreath. When they heard about the competition, they figured they might as well submit their door.

"We definitely think [we have a chance to win]," Hynes said. "We kind of tend to go all-out, at least in our opinions, and from what we've been seeing around, there's not as much as we have just because we're a little bit extra."

Kameya Parks, junior theatre studies, stage management major and director of operations of RHA, said about 30 students submitted their doors to the competition.

"It was a pretty good turnout of submissions and sign-ups," Parks said. "I was kind of shocked to see that so many people were interested in doing this."

Various members from Housing and Residence Life will vote for the winners based on creativity and how well the displays are put together. Each residence hall — Kilcawley, Lyden, Cafaro, Wick and Weller — are House Cup teams. Each house will have a winner as well as an overall winner.

"We did this just to get people excited about living in the residence halls, so they have something to be proud of like when they're on campus," Parks said.

"There are a few [submissions] while we were going over them that just blew my mind," Parks added. "I never thought to do that. We have some pretty creative people on campus."

Each house gets an automatic 50 points for participating, but overall first place gets 200 points, second place gets 175 points and third place gets 150 points. Winning students will get to pick from a variety of \$5 gift cards, and the overall winner wins a \$15 gift card.

Like Borak, Hynes and her suite are in it for the fun; the prize is simply extra.

"We absolutely love it," Hynes said. "We always get into what we call the 'spooky season.' We always watch horror movies like "Halloweentown" together. It's a little thing that brings us all

together."

Contest winners will be announced on Nov. 1 at 11:30 a.m. on Instagram at @YSU\_HouseCup.



Gloria Hynes stands by the door she and her suitemates decorated. Photo by J. Harvard Feldhouse/The Jambar

# Halloween: Is It Against Religious Beliefs?

## BRIANNA GLEGHORNS

Halloween can symbolize carving pumpkins and trick-or-treating, but some children may not participate in the holiday festivities.

While not all people who practice a religion believe celebrating Halloween is wrong, there are some who believe the origins or meaning of the holiday are against their faith.

Corey Andrews, associate English professor at Youngstown State University, said the name of the holiday is a Scottish word that means "hallows' eve."

"Halloween was actually coined in 1745," Andrews said. "Hallow means saint, so it becomes All Saints' Day."

In Andrews' research, he found Scotland and Ireland played a big role in the history of Halloween, and the holiday has similar traditions to the ancient pagan festival Samhain celebrated by the Celtic people.

According to Andrews, the festival begins at dusk, comparable to Halloween, and children would "dress in disguises to ward off ghosts."

"There becomes a kind of crackdown on the practice of pagan rituals and a lot of those customs become funneled into Christian practices," Andrews said. "Then began the practice of All Saints' Eve."

In Andrews' opinion, Halloween has become commercialized, and he believes the holiday is misunderstood.

"I think it's based on a misunderstanding of where this holiday comes from, what it's meant to do," Andrews said. "In association with horror and so on. Those are all fun things I love about Halloween, but that's not really where it comes from."

Jacob Labendz, assistant professor of Judaic and Holocaust Studies, said that Halloween is not considered a Jewish holiday, therefore it isn't featured in the Jewish calendar.

"Many American Jews, perhaps the majority, don't think twice about participating and would not consider their Jewishness a barrier to doing so," he said. "For some, it may even be a sign of their integration into America as Jews, particularly if they choose Jewish-themed costumes."

As a child, Labendz said he compromised with his mother when she didn't allow him to participate in trick-or-treating.

Instead of dressing up and going door to door, Labendz would dress up to greet the trick-or-treaters knocking on his door for candy.

Suzanne Diamond, professor of English at YSU, said the season surrounding Halloween adds to the "feel of the holiday."

"It's the season when things are dying," she said. "There's a sadness to October, and I find Halloween as an unhappy time."

In Diamond's opinion, Halloween has a connection to the "sublime, something that enchants us and scares us."

"In British culture ... they talked about a thing called the sublime," Diamond said. "There are things that both terrify and tantalize us, interest us and scare us. There's something sublime about the season."

Alyssa Cuprik, a senior communication studies major, said she didn't celebrate Halloween growing up due to her family's beliefs.

"Growing up, it was a little bit frustrating to not be allowed to trick or treat," Cuprik said. "I wanted to be included with the other kids who were dressed up and went out trick-or-treating, but I also learned to value faith from a young age."

According to Cuprik, although her family didn't participate in the holiday, they would still buy candy and have fun in other ways.

"I still got candy from Walmart and we always had fun but, as Christians, my parents didn't want us to participate in Halloween because of what it stands for."

In Cuprik's opinion, whether or not someone decides to celebrate Halloween doesn't determine the quality of their faith.

"It isn't something all Christians do," Cuprik said. "No one is a better or worse follower of Jesus for subscribing to Halloween being bad."



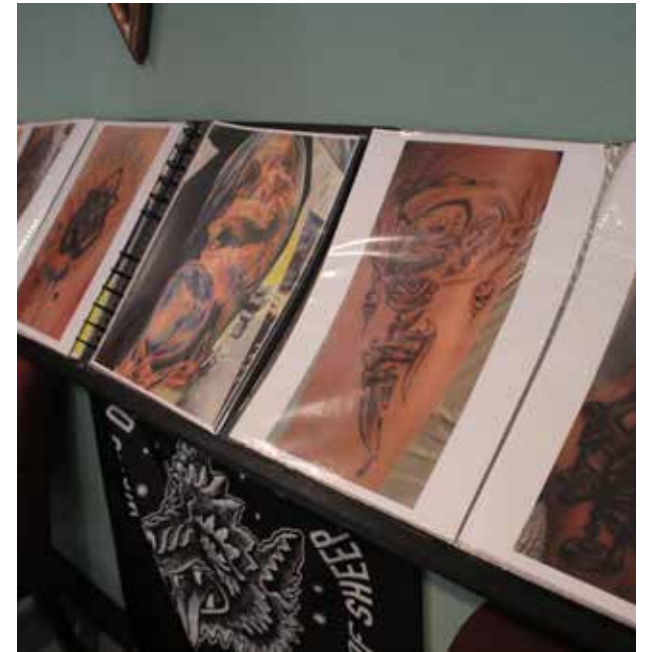
# DNA Studios' "Slash'n Flash Halloween Bash"

If you are looking for good food, drinks, vendors, tarot card readings and a costume party, look no further than DNA Studios' "Slash'n Flash Halloween Bash."

The event is happening every day from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. through Nov. 1 with tattoo designs priced at \$33, \$66 and \$99. Piercings are also \$10 off.

The after-party costume contest on Oct. 31 is open to anyone who has been pierced or tattooed with the studio, and a prize will be awarded to the best costume.

DNA Studios is located on 132 Lincoln Ave. near campus, and it encourages people to "come get wicked with three days of devilish delights."



Photos by Frances Clause / The Jambar

# Stambaugh Hosts Annual Silent Horror Movie with Live Organ Accompaniment

**SCAILEY BARNHART**

A screening of the silent movie "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari" with live organ accompaniment was held at Stambaugh Auditorium on Oct. 27. Stambaugh holds a silent film viewing each year around Halloween to get the audience into the spirit.

"The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari" is a 1920 German horror film. It follows Francis and Alan, who come across the mysterious Dr. Calligari at a carnival in Germany. Caligari is displaying a somnambulist, a hypnotized man named Cesare who can see into the future.

When Cesare predicts Alan's death and Alan is found dead the next morning, Cesare is the main suspect. Francis begins to descend into madness as the movie leaves it up to the audience to decide if Cesare was the killer, or if he was being controlled by the mysterious Dr. Caligari.

Many consider "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari" to be the first true horror film as well as the quintessential display of German expressionism due to its set and makeup styling.

The set features crooked backgrounds, sharp shadows and bold lines, all hand painted. The buildings are pointed and crooked, giving an almost hallucinatory effect that one would expect in an Edvard Munch or Pablo Picasso painting.

The makeup on the actors is dark and exaggerated, drawing expression and emphasizing the eeriness of the film due to the fact that words cannot express it.

Famous film reviewer Roger Ebert gave "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari" a five-star review, explaining that "there had been earlier ghost stories, and the eerie serial 'Fantomas' made in 1913-14, but their characters were inhabiting a recognizable world. 'Caligari'

creates a mindscape, a subjective psychological fantasy. In this world, unspeakable horror becomes possible."

In the book "From Caligari to Hitler," Siegfried Kracauer, an art historian, argued the rise of Nazism was foreshadowed by early German films that reflected a world at wrong angles and lost values. Kracauer felt that Caligari was a symbol of Hitler and the German people were sleepwalkers under his spell.

Clark Wilson, the event's organist, has been bringing life to silent movies for decades.

Wilson discussed the evolution of film, from a man turning a crank to a two-step motion at a carnival to what we view now in cinemas. He made sure to point out the Warner Brothers, whose family settled in Youngstown.

"They would hang a bed sheet over a wall, a hand-crank projector in the back and would have 75 or 100 chairs borrowed from the local funeral parlor, and they would show these short films," Wilson said about the movement of film from carnivals to indoor nickelodeons, which were theaters with an admission fee of one nickel.

Wilson notes that plot was originally introduced in 1903, "changing the history of films forever."

Upon the ending, Wilson was met with a standing ovation from the audience.

The audience also included YSU students who were no strangers to Stambaugh's silent movies.

Senior finance major Anthony Nakley has been attending the silent film shows at Stambaugh since his freshman year of college.

"It's always a treat to see large crowds attending. The art, storylines and especially the beautiful organ music encapsulates the audience for two hours, transporting them into another world," Nakley said.



Clark Wilson seated at his organ before playing a show in Sarasota, Fla. Photo courtesy of Clark Wilson



## Youngstown Pedicab Travels Through Oak Hill Cemetery, Offering New Halloween Specials

Jambar TV anchors Amanda Joerndt and Dominic Joseph were the first two customers to experience Youngstown Pedicab's Halloween special tour in Oak Hill Cemetery. Photo by Collin Headley/The Jambar

### AMANDA GOURDNT

Pumpkin carving, haunted houses and corn mazes are traditional Halloween activities for many, but a new Halloween activity in Youngstown allows people of all ages to experience some spooky entertainment this season.

The Youngstown Pedicab travel service has been carting customers around downtown Youngstown for over a year from the \$5 “bar to car” service to the \$20 trip to Wick Park.

Jacob Harver, owner of Youngstown Pedicab, decided to add a twist to his service by offering a Halloween premium special with a tour through Youngstown's Oak Hill Cemetery.

Harver said the idea stemmed from purchasing a hat to match his jacket; it spiraled from there.

“When a good friend, Barry Silver, finally closed after 50 years of business, I saw this hat there and I had the jacket already. That kind of evolved [to] thinking about doing the haunted tours,” Harver said.

Harver said being able to use a Youngstown landmark to offer Halloween special services makes the experience enjoyable for both the passengers and himself.

“It's such a cool cemetery we have here, and it's a cool way to see it without wandering by yourself,” Harver said. “There's also the motion of the ride. ... Once we get some speed going down the hills, it provides a cerebral and physical experience.”

The Halloween tour is \$50 for a trip through the entire

cemetery and will continue until Nov. 2, which is the Saturday after Halloween.

For inquiries about the tours and the Halloween special, visit the Youngstown Pedicab Facebook page.

Two Jambar TV anchors, Amanda Joerndt, a senior journalism major, and Dominic Joseph, a senior sports broadcasting major, experienced the Oak Hill Cemetery tour firsthand.

For Harver's first Halloween tour of the season, he took Joerndt and Joseph on a 30-minute ride, adding in some spooky tricks to the hillside cemetery extravaganza.

Read Joerndt and Joseph's experience below:

**Amanda Joerndt:** Although I do love the fall season and Halloween holiday, I have never been a fan of the scary, gory or spooky aspects of Halloween.

Riding through a dark cemetery at night just days before Halloween definitely gave me chills and sparked my curiosity about what exactly was going to happen during the Oak Hill Cemetery experience.

Being with Dom and Collin Headley, assistant videographer for Jambar TV, helped calm my nerves because I wasn't alone on this journey.

Harver drove the pedicab up and down monstrous hills while pointing out historical headstones within the cemetery, such as the founders of Youngstown, along with the Stambaugh and Wick family memorials.

Having to walk down the grass hill, touch the headstones and hear the wind whistle in the background gave me an eerie feeling. During some parts of the tour, Harver would spontaneously play haunting or screeching music, making us both jump out of our seats.

For this being my first experience on a pedicab cemetery tour, I would definitely recommend it to anyone wanting to try a new Halloween activity and get into the holiday spirit. Although I wouldn't consider it a gory experience, it makes you feel a sense of fright driving through one of the oldest cemeteries in Youngstown.

**Dom Joseph:** My experience on the Youngstown Pedicab was great. Unfortunately, I was under the weather during the tour, but I was still able to enjoy it.

I'm not a big fan of jump scares and haunting-themed activities — honestly, it terrifies me. However, it was a heart-racing experience in the Oak Hill Cemetery.

If you've never gone into a cemetery at night, it's truly a nerve-wracking time.

While the headstones went by, it was eerily silent, almost as if the entire city's sounds were drowned out. You could hear a pin drop in the deeper parts of the cemetery, which only made it more frightening. Would I recommend the tour? Yes. It's spooky, it's fun and it's a great time for everyone.





## Come as You Wish: 10th Annual Halloween Costume Contest is in Full Swing

Photo from the annual Halloween Costume Contest hosted by the Department of Communication featuring YSU students in 2016. Photo courtesy of **Jeff Tyus**

### KELCEY HORRORIS

A spooky celebration brings students and faculty together during the Halloween holiday while giving back to those less fortunate.

The 10th annual Halloween Costume Contest hosted by the Department of Communication at YSU is celebrated with a costume contest, ax throwing, prize raffles and food and beer specials, with the proceeds benefiting the American Cancer Society.

Jeffrey Tyus, associate professor of communication at YSU, said he saw this as an opportunity to give back after beginning his career at the university.

"I have done some charity work at all of the institutions that I have taught at. It's one of my personal passions," he said. "I wondered if I could host some type of fundraising event that would bring this place some business."

Tyus said he wanted to incorporate Halloween festivities into his new idea and set the date each year for the last Thursday in October.

"I wanted to combine Halloween with some type of fundraiser, and my students just looked at me like I was crazy," Tyus said. "I told them I could do it, probably."

After collaborating with Inner Circle Pizza as the former venue and spreading the word across campus, Tyus said he was thrilled with the outcome

of the first fundraising event.

"It was packed that night," he said. "People donated nice prizes, and the pizza was donated by the owner. ... I made around \$400 that night, and each year I added something to it."

According to Tyus, his efforts have increased the donations given by the faculty to the American Cancer Society since 2009.

"Our department has always had a Relay for Life team, and each spring we give a donation to the American Cancer Society," Tyus said. "This event is an opportunity for students to participate in our fundraising effort."

Additionally, the event helps students receive real-world experience.

The media relations campaigns course offered at YSU works directly with marketing the costume contest.

"One aspect of the class is event planning and putting together a campaign over several weeks that will culminate into an event," Tyus said. "I let them throw in their own little niches to it."

The main attraction each year is the costume contest, and this year's contest will be judged by YSU's President Jim Tressel.

Tyus said he encourages attendees to enter the contest, but they should be ready for fierce competition.

"Some previous costumes I've had ... I was a clown one time. Another time, I had a student who was emo, and I wore a wig and skinny jeans in all black," Tyus said. "I like to get into the

spirit of the event too, and I encourage my students to do the same thing."

Jaietta Jackson, senior lecturer in the communication department, said seeing her fellow professors in "wacky outfits" off campus brings them together for a good cause.

"The most memorable part of the event are the costumes," Jackson said. "Dr. Tyus always has a unique and great costume. I can't wait to see what he will wear each year."

Jackson ensures all proceeds raised at the event are given to the Department of Communication's Relay for Life team, which are then donated to the American Cancer Society.

The entertainment will feature a local band called Northern Whale, and Jake Capezzuto, YSU alumnus and lead singer of the band, said he is familiar with the contest.

"The event itself is really great. It's a huge group effort from all of the classmates putting it on," Capezzuto said. "It's always a really big success and the turnout is always awesome."

Capezzuto said he encourages the community to come see the performance and support YSU's communication department.

"YSU students and faculty should come out to see us perform just to support the event being put on by a class of YSU students," Capezzuto said.

The festivities will be held Oct. 31 at 7 p.m. at Rhine Haus Bier Hall.





# Last-Minute Halloween Costumes That Are Already in Your Closet

## ALYSSA WITCHSON

It's scary how quickly Halloween snuck up this semester. Between welcome week activities, homecoming, midterms and a plethora of other events at Youngstown State University, October has flown by faster than leaves on the trees surrounding campus.

Some YSU students might be struggling to find a last-minute costume for a Halloween party this weekend, or they perhaps want to impress trick-or-treaters with a knock-out ensemble.

Luckily, it doesn't have to cost much to achieve a quality costume for Halloween. A few YSU students helped The Jambar compile this list of last-minute Halloween costumes that are already in your closet.

### Lydia Deetz ("Beetlejuice")

Just don't say Beetlejuice three times.

You'll need: a black dress, a blazer, tights, heels, dark eye makeup and some hair gel to get the spikes in the bangs. - Antonina Boggia, senior English major

### E-girl

Make your online aesthetic goals a reality this Halloween.

You'll need: a long sleeve black T-shirt, another shirt to go over it, such as a band shirt or a pop culture-themed shirt, jeans and Vans or Converse sneakers. - Lexi Cerny, sophomore musical theatre major

### Kim Possible

Just your basic, average girl and she's here to save the world.

You'll need: green cargo pants, a black cropped top, gloves and curl your hair. - Alyssa Hutch, senior merchandising: fashion and interiors major

### Party Animal

Everyone has the right koala-fications to monkey around this Halloween.

You'll need: a dress, animal ears, face makeup and a party hat. - Alyssa Hutch, senior merchandising: fashion and interiors major

### Lumberjack

This wood make for a great costume.

You'll need: a flannel, a beanie, jeans and boots. - Alex Sanders, freshman integrated science education major

### Boxer

Ready, set, swing!

You'll need: a sports bra (for a woman's costume), black athletic shorts, a silk robe, ankle socks, and black eyeshadow to create a black eye. - Courtney Weimer, senior merchandising: fashion and interiors major

### Scarecrow

This costume is bound to be a "a scarecrow'd pleaser."

You'll need: jeans or overalls, a flannel, a straw hat and face makeup - Anthony Nakley, senior finance major

### Steve from "Blue's Clues"

Blue skidoo, you can achieve this look too!

You'll need: a green-striped, long-sleeved polo shirt, khakis, black dress shoes and a notebook - Adam Dominick, sophomore musical theatre major



Adam Dominick, sophomore musical theatre major, and Lexi Denney, junior musical theatre major, model costumes of "Blue's Clues" characters Steve and Blue. Photo courtesy of **Adam Dominick**



Anthony Nakley, senior finance major, poses next to Cailey Barnhart, senior long term care administration major, in his scarecrow costume. Photo courtesy of **Anthony Nakley**



Cailey Barnhart, senior long term care administration major, portrays "Beetlejuice" character Lydia Deetz for Halloween. Photo Courtesy of **Cailey Barnhart**

## YSU's Spooky Pets



Sheba in her pumpkin dress. Photo courtesy of **Kati Hartwig**



Luke pictured as a spider. Photo by **Rachel Gobep/The Jambar**



# A Simply Frightening Fear

**MAC BOOMEROY**

Everyone has a fear of some kind — clowns, heights, the possibility of dinosaurs coming back from extinction and using our dead remains to power their vehicles as some weird form of revenge. For as long as I can remember, I have suffered from a very specific fear: my own balance ... or my lack of balance.

I genuinely do have poor balance. I was never a graceful child, and that carried on well into adulthood. However, my fear goes beyond that.

Walking into a wide space causes me to panic. Being near stairs causes me to panic. Even right now as I picture either of those situations, my hand shakes, and I have to go back and fix a lot of typing mistakes.

Typically, when people discuss fears, they discuss how to get over them. Yet, it isn't that simple, especially in the case of phobias. Many phobias can even be called rational, meaning the reason is valid and the phobia was created due to self-preservation instincts. This is the case with my phobia.

Especially if you have rational fears and phobias, getting over them is highly unlikely. But life needs to go on, with or without your fears. So, it's a much more reasonable solution to learn how to cope with your fears.

The most important thing when it comes to coping with your fears is to accept that you have the fear. If you have an extreme fear, it will be much more difficult to cope if you deny it.

By accepting your fears, you can figure out a plan to cope. There are many different ways to cope, including simply avoiding your fear. Are you afraid of clowns? Avoid the circus. Afraid of flying? Don't get on a plane. Scared of sharks? Don't go in the ocean.

But if this method always worked, then handling fears wouldn't be a problem. Instead, this is simply for dealing with more specific fears. After all, you don't run into clowns, planes or sharks in daily life. But if you have a more common fear, like spiders or the dark, then you will have a more difficult time avoiding it.

Another method, and one that I personally use and suggest, is to just ask for help. Sometimes it is OK to rely on others. Fears are a perfectly normal, human thing. You should not be afraid to ask

for help.

Whenever I find myself alone and stuck right beside some stairs, I panic because I feel like I am going to fall down. By having someone with me, I don't feel as unstable, and I am less likely to succumb to my fears.

But even this isn't a flawless method. Sometimes you really do need to attempt to get over your fear. If you are afraid of the dark, for example, you can't avoid it, nor can you always guarantee someone will be there.

For fears like this, you need to remind yourself that danger in that situation is extremely unlikely. If you are afraid of airplanes, for example, it is far more likely that the plane you get on will have a safe trip. If you are afraid of spiders, it's important to remember they are unlikely to do you any harm; they are way more afraid of

you than you are of them.

Realizing your chances of danger or harm in a given situation can help reduce your fear greatly. In most cases, your fear is of a very rare situation.

I don't think I will ever stop being afraid of balance, nor do I think that would be a good idea. My fear stops me from attempting tasks that would not be OK with my lack of grace.

However, I can't let my fear control my whole life. There are a lot of stairs and open fields on campus, so that would be an unwise idea. Rational or not, I have had to learn to cope with my fears and carry on in my daily life.

Have a frightening Halloween, everyone!



*Being near a staircase causes Mac Pomeroy to panic. Photo by Frances Clause/The Jambar*

# Mario's Movies: My First Horror Movie

**SCARIO RICCIARDI**

Hey there, loyal readers making your way all the way to the double-digit pages; I'm back! That's right; for those of you keeping track, this is year five. That's me, Mario's Movies, the voice of a fifth-year senior.

Pretty scary, right? Oh, look at that. Here I am writing for the Jambar's Halloween issue, and I've segued myself into talking about something scary. How fitting. Well, you're probably sticking around for a horror movie review or something, so let's get to it.

Did I ever tell you about the first 15 years of my life when I didn't have internet in my house? What a time to be alive.

It's much scarier in retrospect, but seriously think about it. Not knowing anything faster than seven-day shipping, having to ride a horse to school, churning our own butter — what kind of backwoods, "Children of the Corn" life was I living?

There was hope, though: a 3-by-3 square of hope in my driveway that I could resort to when I needed a hit of that sweet internet dopamine. My neighbor's Wi-Fi network was unsecure, so I would stand outside in



that square where the signal was strongest and download movies to my iPod Touch to watch later.

I would sometimes spend three times as long as the movie itself downloading it from the driveway, occasionally unattended. If someone ever tried to break into our house by looking for keys under rocks, they wouldn't have found keys, but they definitely would have found an iPod.

I was never really into horror films, but I had seen a lot about the "Scream" franchise in Entertainment Weekly. Production for "Scream 4" was just starting up, so there was a whole cover story on its legacy.

Thanks to quasi-tabloid magazines and the power of public relations, I became really intrigued.

The funny thing was, up until that point, I don't think I had ever seen a legitimate horror film. The closest I had gotten was probably the "Goosebumps" TV show and that jump scare in "Spider-Man" when Willem Dafoe is talking to himself in a mirror.

So, exactly four and a half hours later, "Scream" was downloaded and I was in my bedroom watching it.

Lights off, home alone, mid-October, I remember being

genuinely excited. By the end, I was a fan.

"Scream" is a funny, scary and sharp meta-deconstruction of the horror genre. If you pay attention, the beginning of the film tells you who the killer is, and it will still surprise first-time viewers by the end.

"Scream" outlines how film, and ultimately we the viewers, anticipate life through a relatively well-established set of rules. But even knowing those rules and being so familiar with the human condition doesn't prevent things from sneaking up on us pretty hard.

Maybe I went too far with all that.

What you should take away is that "Scream" is a really great movie on multiple levels, and I recommend it. You can find all four "Scream" movies on Netflix. The first two are definitely worth your time. If you're looking for something to watch this Halloween weekend, check them out. Hopefully we're all in a place where we can be in a house comfortably, letting a 0.3 second buffer time make that happen for us.

●●●●○ 4/5 Penguins



## Experience a Nightmare: Steel Valley Nightmare and Escape

Collin Headley, Rachel Gobep and Brandon Terlecky pictured after they attempted to escape from "Escape 817." Photo courtesy of Paul Patterson

### RACHEL GHOULBEP

After entering Steel Valley Nightmare and Escape, players must unlock the demons that possess the house of 817.

Steel Valley is a horror-themed live gameplay escape room in Girard — about eight minutes away from Youngstown State University. Players have an hour to find clues, solve puzzles and ultimately escape the demons that lurk in the darkness.

There are three ratings: PG, R and X. While PG can be considered family-friendly, X-rated provides an experience with adult content.

To enter this attraction, players must first choose their level of scare.

Then, they must choose from three difficulty levels: easy allows three clues, medium allows hints to two puzzles and hard offers no help.

Reservations must be made in advance to book the challenge, and at least two people must play, but there is a maximum of eight players.

This is the third theme the owner, Paul Patterson, has developed since it opened in August 2017.

To reserve a game, go to its Facebook page, Steel Valley Nightmare and Escape, or call 330- 360-8496. The cost to play is \$25 per person.

Jambar TV anchors Rachel Gobep and Brandon Terlecky tried to escape from Steel Valley Nightmare and Escape but failed. Their best reactions will be featured in Jambar TV's special Halloween episode on YouTube.

Though they chose X-rated, they chose the easiest difficulty and were able to ask three questions to help them escape.

Read their firsthand accounts of "Escape 817" below:

**RACHEL GOBEP:** The minute I stepped into Steel Valley Nightmare and Escape, I felt uneasy but in a good way.

The escape room is unlike any experience I have encountered in my life, and it definitely is not your typical escape room. Not only was I trying to escape the room, but I was trying to escape Elizabeth — the demon that made me live my worst nightmare.

This makes the experience a million times better because it is so much more difficult to concentrate when you know that at any moment you might be caught off guard and be absolutely terrified to even move.

Brandon Terlecky attempted to help me escape, but I ended up being his knight in shining armor — opening the locks, going first into rooms and even deciding to separate myself from him and our videographer, Collin Headley, to try and win the game.

Brandon cowered in fear and even hid behind me, but his reactions were priceless, and I'm so happy I got to tackle this challenge with him.

"If you think I'm stepping over there, you are out of your mind. It's not for the camera. It's not for anything," he yelled, as I was trying to get him to help me find a clue.

Ultimately he screamed, "Why did I agree to this?"

Although we didn't win, I am craving more and even conquered some of my fears. From the minute I left Steel Valley Nightmare and Escape, I couldn't stop talking about it because it is so exhilarating.

All I can say is I'll be back soon.

**BRANDON TERLECKY:** Anyone who is looking for a fun and inexpensive Halloween haunt experience in 2019 should add Steel Valley Nightmare and Escape to the list of things to do in

the Valley.

We hear so much about haunted house experiences that we have around us, but nothing really puts you in the driver's seat while fearing what characters lurk in the darkness around you at the same time like Steel Valley does.

You may have heard of simple escape rooms that leave you feeling nervous or high-strung as you look for a key to get into the next room, but you have not had a storyline of crazed serial killers or a woman that follows you through every room as you have to search for hidden clues at the same time.

When I first entered the room with my partner in crime, Rachel Gobep, it was easy to point out who was going to be the hero when it was all said and done.

Rachel took over the game while I was glued to her side waiting for the next scare to pop out of wherever we were. Everytime something bumped or moved, I was jumping out of my skin.

This was an overall tremendous experience, and we had a blast in the end. The owner delivered a safe, scary and enjoyable time for all of your friends to enjoy.

As we got to the end of the game and the hour was winding down, we were unable to finish the challenge. However, when it finally came to an end, I was a little disappointed because I wanted to keep going.

Although I was in a frenzy when we began, this was one of the best experiences I have had in quite some time. Escape rooms should leave you wanting to come back. Steel Valley Nightmare and Escape does just that.

When you walk in, you are already in trouble in the best way possible. It will have you begging for more once you walk out the door.





## The Afterlife

Jambar editors reflect on their future burial or alternative burial. Photo by **Heather Newsome/The Jambar**

A Youngstown State University professor of geological and environmental sciences was made into a diamond after he died in October 2018.

One pound of Ray Beiersdorfer's ashes underwent a 10-month process to turn him into a diamond. This inspired The Jambar's editors.

So, we thought we'd share how we'd like to be buried after death, or an alternative to being buried, with our readers.

**Rachel Ghoulbep:** I've never wanted a traditional burial when I die. This is something that I have thought about a lot throughout my life because seeing my loved ones in an open casket at their funeral has made me feel uncomfortable numerous times. I want my ashes to be placed in the soil with a seed to plant a tree. Not only is this environmentally friendly, but it can provide a beautiful place for my friends and family to celebrate my life. Please have a wine and cheese celebration, too!



**Alyssa Witchson:** Some may call me old

fashioned or traditional, but when my time comes I'd like to remain comfortably in my coffin. I'm so busy in this life, just leave me to rest. Although I want an old-school burial, I want my funeral to be a celebration of my life. Funeral guests will be encouraged to listen to a playlist of my favorite songs (mostly show tunes), eat French macarons and toast an Aperol spritz while sharing stories of my life.

**Amanda Gourdat:** Bury me with my glam box so I can look pretty in the afterlife.

**Frances Claws:** I never thought I would want my remains to have a sound, but then I learned you could have your ashes pressed into a vinyl record. And since I am a bassoonist, it only makes sense that I stay musically inclined in the afterlife. All those years I annoyed my family with my practicing until the late hours of the night can continue — because each track would be me playing all the bassoon repertoire I learned throughout my life. If you're lucky, contrabassoon won't be involved.

**Brains Yauger:** I don't want anything fancy. Just throw a

roast in my honor and make sure it ends with "Celebration" by Kool & the Gang.

"When I'm dead, just throw me in the trash." - Frank Reynolds

**J. Harvard Haunted House:** Much like Rachel, I also want to be planted as a tree. There are these awesome urns called EterniTrees specifically for this. After cremation, your loved ones put your ashes in the urn and plant it in the ground. The urn has a mixture of nutrients that, combined with the ashes, help the tree seeds germinate and grow. The container is also biodegradable, and I'm all about that. As humans, we have done enough to hurt the environment, so I'd like to start my afterlife by healing the planet.

**THE JAMBAR**  
— EDITORIAL —

# BUECHNER

Continued from Page 1

## FRANCES CLAWS

Amanda Bertilacci, a senior vocal performance major and resident at Buechner Hall, said her friend woke up one night to something in her dorm room.

"I think it was a dark mist or something," Bertilacci said. "Then it disappeared, but she had left her laptop open on her desk. ... She said it turned on by itself and only displayed blue static."

And even if a shadowy figure is not seen, some residents say a

presence can be felt.

"The main thing was in the middle of the night, when you would go either down to the basement or the bathroom, it felt like you would have someone follow you the whole time," Christina Aviles, a former Buechner resident, said.

There is no way to prove that Lucy Buechner still roams the residence hall, but one thing is certain: she is a very generous ghost.



ABOVE: Lucy Buechner, last surviving member of her family in Youngstown. Photo courtesy of "Buechner Hall 50th Anniversary"

LEFT: Groundbreaking ceremony for Buechner Hall on Aug. 3, 1940. Photo courtesy of "Buechner Hall 50th Anniversary"

# CLASSIFIEDS

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## OTHER

### NEED BIRTH CONTROL, PAP SMEAR, STD TEST? PREGNANT?

Dr. Hill, 1350 Fifth Ave., near YSU campus, all insurances, walk-ins. Mon-Sat - 330-746-7007, askthedoctor@aiwhealth.com, answered confidentially.



Photo from the annual Halloween Costume Contest hosted by the Department of Communication featuring YSU students in 2016. Photo courtesy of Jeff Tyus



## Men's Golf Motivated By Fall Slate

**CHRISTINA SAINOVICH**  
**JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR**

The Youngstown State University men's golf team closed out the fall portion of the season with a second place finish at the Towson Fall Invitational in Grasonville, Maryland, which is its best performance as a team of the season.

The team had some ups and downs but finished out strong. A trio of juniors consisting of C.J. Hughes, Ken Keller and Kevin Scherr lead the Penguins through the season.

Penguins coach Tony Joy was impressed with the core of his team, what they have and what they can accomplish.

"Kevin [Scherr] had a great fall. ... He's become a very special player here at Youngstown State," Joy said. "Basically the three juniors that have been playing for three or four years, with C.J. Hughes and Ken Keller and obviously with Kevin [Scherr], the sky's the limit."

For Scherr, the best part of the season was a win at the Health Plan Mountaineer Invitational in Bridgeport, West Virginia.

"For me it would have to be coming away with a victory, not only at a small event but an event hosted by a Big 12 school," Scherr said. "There was a lot of ranked players there. So to come out of there with a victory feels good."

Not only did the experienced players make an impact on the green, freshman Cole Christman was in the lineup throughout the season, contributing to the team's success.

Hughes had mixed emotions about the fall slate but noted some bright spots.

"We did good. I think we were expecting a little more, but it wasn't terrible," he said. "We had some freshman who really produced; Cole Christman played really well. We are pretty deep. We have a lot of players that can really play."

Joy said injuries also hindered the athletes this fall.

"There were some ups and downs," Joy said. "Zack Ford, who transferred last year from East Tennessee, had a really good spring for us last year, had some back injuries over the summer and never really got back to where we need him. So that was a little

disappointing."

During the offseason, Keller said he will be working on staying focused.

"I'm just going to try to be more consistent, not to make as many mental mistakes as I did in the fall," Keller said. "Try to help the team out and contribute to the team's success."

Hughes said they have to work better as a team rather than individually.

"We've got to play better as a team," Hughes said. "We're

struggling with that last score, just trying to tie it all together and get a victory."

While the fall brought mixed emotions and results, the team has its sights set on one thing in the spring. The Horizon League Championship is the driving force for the team moving forward.

"[Our goal is] the conference championship," Scherr said. "We were really hoping last year we were going to get it done, but this year we're going to go in fighting."



Zack Ford swings his club during the Firestone Invitational. Photo courtesy of YSU Sports Information.

## Men's Basketball Has a Chip on Its Shoulder Heading Into the Season

**CHRISTINA SAINOVICH**  
**JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR**

Youngstown State University's men's basketball team is gearing up for the fall season. After an up-and-down 2018-2019 campaign, the Penguins have something to prove in the Horizon League.

The team finished 12-20 overall and 8-10 in conference play. An exciting six-game win streak, lasting from Jan. 31 until it was broken on Feb. 21, drew a large crowd to the Beeghly Center.

Sophomore point guard Darius Quisenberry was the leading scorer throughout the season, averaging 13.8 points per game. He quickly became a young leader on the team. Recently, he was named to the preseason All-Horizon League Second-Team list.

"It's a great honor but I'm not satisfied. I'd rather have first team. I think for our team it's good to finally get recognized, but like I said, I'm not satisfied," Quisenberry said.

The team was voted to finish sixth in the

conference preseason coaches poll, and that is not sitting well in the locker room.

Junior guard Garrett Covington said the rankings are in the back of their minds, but it does not make a difference to the team.

"We're pretty much the underdogs every year, so going into the year, we're not really worried about rankings, but it definitely gives us a little more motivation," Covington said.

Eight players will return from last season, when the team finished in sixth place. Penguins coach Jerrod Calhoun is impressed with the group as a whole.

"I would say collectively this whole group has gotten better. They really have, every single guy. We've got eight returnees all coming back that have played a big part in our program, and each one of those guys has been really good," Calhoun said.

There are also a few incoming players who will see key playing time this season. Christian Bentley, Tyler Foster and Jamir Thomas stood out in practice and scrimmages.

Quisenberry said the newcomers are fitting in well and will

have a huge impact on the season.

"I think everybody is doing well, adapting to the team well. I think everybody is gelling well and coming into the culture," Quisenberry said.

Calhoun said right now they are working on the little things during practice so it will come together on game day.

"What we've really worked on as a group is working on the little things, trying to be really good at the little things. Whether that's a defensive rebound, whether that's our communication, pulling for one another. I've been telling our guys this, little things will add up to big things," Calhoun said.

The Penguins are set to host Thiel College on opening night in the Beeghly Center on Nov. 5. Then, they will travel south to face an Atlantic Coast Conference powerhouse: The University of Louisville.

Covington said the team is beyond ready for the opener against Thiel and for what the upcoming season has in store.

"I'm excited. We've been preparing for this for a while, so we're ready to finally get the ball rolling," Covington said.





# YSU Looks To Be North Dakota State's Nightmare

Joe Alessi breaks through the Western Illinois University defensive line in the Penguins' 59-14 win over the Leathernecks. Photo by Brent Bigelow / The Jambar

## NATHANAEL HAUNT-THORNE

After a monstrous 59-14 win over Western Illinois University, the Youngstown State University football team faces its toughest opponent yet — No. 1 ranked North Dakota State University.

The win over Western Illinois snapped the Penguins' three-game losing streak and gave the team some much-needed confidence.

"It gave us that boost we needed to show what we're capable of," senior linebacker Cash Mitchell said.

Going into the Oct. 26 contest against Western Illinois, the team hadn't won a Missouri Valley Football Conference game. Their wins only came from nonconference games.

This week, however, the Penguins face one of the strongest teams in the Football Championship Subdivision.

"We're gonna play a good football team Saturday. ... [They're] gonna execute at a high level, [so] we're going to execute at a high level," Penguins coach Bo Pelini said. "They're not going to beat themselves. You've got to go beat this football team."

Playing against a team of this caliber can be a daunting task, even more so when North Dakota State has a 29-game winning streak. However, the team's attitude is strong. Mitchell said he knows anyone is beatable.

"We know what we have to do to beat these guys," Mitchell said. "They're beatable, so you just gotta have a good week of practice and preparation. ... It's the little things."

The past games between these two teams haven't fared well for the Penguins. North Dakota State has a 9-4 record against the Penguins, with YSU dropping the last seven consecutive games against the Bison.

"I think if we stick to our game plan, we'll be all right," senior center Matt Jones said. "I have confidence in [the coaches]. ... I have confidence that they're going to lead us in the right direction and help us to victory."

One of the biggest factors of the game is going to be the Penguin defense. The defensive unit has had 16 turnovers so far this season, with three of them coming in last week's contest.

Those 16 turnovers are a far cry from the nine the team had all last season.

The offense is also averaging 414.8 yards per game. Statistically speaking, the offensive output for both passing and rushing are almost equal at 207.9 yards and 206.9 yards, respectively.

Pelini said the coaches played an instrumental role in the huge win last week. He said he believes if the team sticks to a similar game plan and executes the way it did against Western Illinois, it will be successful.

Pelini also said the game is going to come down to one simple element: fundamentals.

"I think the plan's coming together and it's gonna come down to blocking and tackling and who's going to fundamentally play better. ... That's what it comes down to in a game like this," Pelini said.

Kickoff against the Bison is scheduled for 6 p.m. at Stambaugh Stadium.



# The Curse of The Black Jerseys

## BRAINS YAUGER

Can uniforms be cursed?

In 1986, the Youngstown State University football team surprised fans by coming out after warmups in never-before-seen black uniforms.

Those never-before-seen uniforms would become “never seen again” after the Penguins lost to Middle Tennessee State University on homecoming weekend.

The mastermind of this operation was none other than YSU president and former Penguins coach Jim Tressel.

Tressel was in his first year with the team, and from the start he wanted to hear suggestions from students on what the team could do to make their experiences better.

One thing he kept hearing was “a new look.”

“When we first got here and we were talking with student athletes about things that they were thinking about and what types of things could we do to make the experience better,” Tressel said. “A lot of the things they brought up, amongst many things that we needed to improve upon, was they said that someday we gotta get some all black uniforms.”

An inspiration for the design of the black YSU football uniforms came from an unlikely source.

The assistant coach at the time, Ken Conatser, came to the Penguins from San Diego State University.

According to Greg Gulas, the sports information director at the time, Tressel remarked how he liked the black uniforms and red helmets worn by the San Diego Aztecs during a film session, and the idea was born.

Tressel was able to secure a donation for the uniforms and kept them hidden away until the time was right.

“We were going to hold them until we were playing really well,” Tressel said. “Looking back in that first season, we weren’t playing very well at any point in time until the last game.”

Heading into homecoming week, the Penguins were sitting at 1-6. They weren’t playing as well as Tressel would have liked, but the donors disagreed and his hand was forced.

“About midway through the year, the people that helped us fund the uniforms thought it would be the perfect time to spring the uniform,” Tressel said. “I didn’t really feel the same because I knew we weren’t improving quite as much as I’d like, but I lost the argument, so we sprung the uniform out at homecoming against Middle Tennessee State.”

The homecoming game started normally. The Penguins came out for warmups with their red jerseys on, but when they stepped out onto the field for the game, they looked different. The fans didn’t see the typical red and white; they saw black jerseys and black pants.

Gulas was just as surprised as the fans that day. “The team came out for pregame warmups

in their home white pants and red tops,” Gulas said. “They went in and changed. ... I had no clue. I wasn’t tipped off. A lot of people weren’t tipped off.”

The team had a boost of energy from the new look, but it didn’t last long enough, as the Penguins had their biggest loss of the season in the new duds, falling 49-14.

“It excited us for about 10 minutes, and then we lost the game by about 30 points or 40 points,” Tressel said. “To me it wasn’t trick or treat, it was only a trick.”

The student reaction was just as lukewarm. In a column in the Nov. 4 issue of The Jambar, managing editor at the time Lisa Solley wrote this.

“Regardless of how sharp the uniforms are, the fact still remains that the team was rewarded with new uniforms for having one of the worst seasons since 1982.”

After that poor showing, the jerseys were never worn again in a game, but the black pants have been a staple for the Penguins ever since.

“That was my decision,” Tressel said. “I’m kind of a superstitious guy. It was probably silly, but we did end up wearing black pants throughout the course of time, but we never wore the black jerseys again.”

The black jerseys didn’t just go to waste, however. While never seeing game time again, the jerseys still had use.

“We always wore them in practice,” Tressel said. “They were kind of like the opponent’s jerseys, so if we were trying to demonstrate what the opponent’s formations or defense and so forth, they were always in those black jerseys. So it’s not like they didn’t get used.”

When asked about the uniform craze from a coaching perspective, Tressel gave some insight about the process during his time at Ohio State University.

“I think teams are trying to show how many different sets of jerseys they have,” Tressel said. “It’s different than when I was coaching my last couple years at Ohio State. I acquiesced and did a couple of throwback jerseys, but they were always either scarlet or white. ... It’s sort of turned into a fashion show.”

As the importance of uniforms in the college football world has grown exponentially over the past 33 years, especially as a recruiting tool, there’s a possibility that we’ll see the black jerseys

again someday.

Since that fateful day all those years ago, a Tressel-coached team never worn black jerseys. Maybe it’s preference, or maybe it was that superstition in the back of his mind.

It’s safe to say that the decision worked out for him, however, as the Penguins went on to win four national titles during his tenure, donning the red and white.

“I’m a bit partial to the school colors,” Tressel said. “I know black is kind of one of our school colors, but I like red. But times change. When I was at Ohio State, I always avoided wearing black when they wanted me to.”

Like Tressel said, however, the times are changing and the Penguins may surprise us all once again with a new set of black jerseys. Thirty-three years is long enough for a curse to wear off. Right?

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## SPORTS

### MTSU spoils homecoming afternoon

By JONI GRIFFITH  
Jambar Sports Editor

Collier went to work again completing two more passes with the second going to Mike Pittman for the score with 7:52 remaining in the period.

After an exchange of punts, YSU got the ball on their own 44-yard line. Lorenzo Davis got the call for YSU on first and ten and rushed 26 yards for a Penguin touchdown, ending the quarter, 21-7. It seemed maybe the Penguins had gotten over their first quarter jitters and would come back to make it an exciting ball game. But the Raiders next drive quickly loaded that thought.

Collier took the field and connected on three of five passes for 38 yards, adding another seven on the ground. It was Dwight Stone who dove over the line for the Raiders this time with 0:19 left in the first half.

After a 55-yard Ken Kubas punt, the Raiders had to start off on their Byard line. But they wasted no time getting to the 'Guin side of the field as Collier took off 42 yards on the QB keeper. It was again Collier who burst through the line on a 14-yard TD run with 3:13 remaining.

Lykes took to the field ready to play, connecting on five out of six passes for 70 yards, the last going 13 yards to Steve Strabala for the TD.

YSU never sat, paydirt again. But MTSU did.

Collier ran for his last touchdown of the day, a four yard QB scamper to end third quarter scoring at 42-14.

They still weren't quite finished. Collier connected on one more TD pass, a 5-yarder to Gerald Anderson, ending the scoring MTSU 49, YSU 14.



Up the middle: Tailback Rod Lovs goes up the middle for a gain during YSU's homecoming game Saturday afternoon.

### CC teams finish fourth

The YSU men and women cross country journeyed to Tennessee over the weekend for the Ohio Valley Conference Championships, bringing back to Youngstown two fourth place finishes.

Holdi Neupach finished 12th overall with a time of 18:22, leading all YSU women to a fourth place finish.

Other finishers for YSU were Ronay Fibolta with a time of 20:29 (25th), Bev Smith at 20:42 (26th), Denise Spencer at 22:00 (31st), Gloria Durjoy at 22:34 (32nd), Carla Moser at 22:34 (36th) and Laura Luther at 23:15 (39th).

The women finish the season with a perfect 8-0 record.

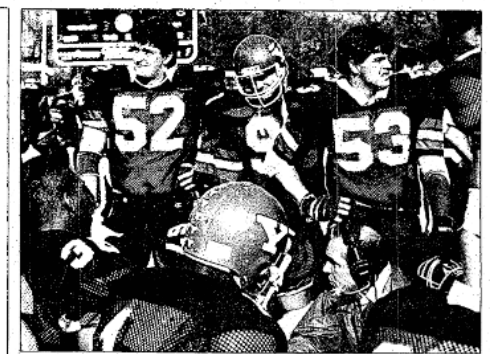
Bill Hess finished ninth overall with a time of 26:17, leading the men's team to their fourth place finish.

Other finishers for the men include Tom Bellish at 27:34 (25th), Rich Price at 27:30 (26th), Jeff Luther at 28:35 (32nd), Joe Misk at 28:55 (35th), Greg Cisneros at 29:01 (37th) and Jantle Stait at 32:10 (43th).

The men finish the season with a 2-4 record.

The following are the OVC cross country standings:

| MEN                 | WOMEN               |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Austin Peay      | 1. Eastern Kentucky |
| 2. Murray State     | 2. Murray State     |
| 3. Eastern Kentucky | 3. Akron            |
| 4. Youngstown State | 4. Youngstown State |
| 5. Morehead         | 5. Austin Peay      |
| 6. Tennessee Tech.  | 6. Morehead         |
| 7. Akron            | 7. Tennessee Tech   |
| 8. Middle Tennessee | 8. Middle Tennessee |



Penguin huddle: Assistant head coach, Bob Dovo, gives a few Penguins last-minute instructions before sending them back onto the field Saturday afternoon.

An excerpt from the Nov. 4, 1986, edition of The Jambar. Photo courtesy of Jambar Archive