

THE STUDENT VOICE OF YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY SINCE 1931

# THE JAMBAR

## A TRIBUTE TO DR. RAY: A LIFE WELL-LIVED

Photo Courtesy of *Felicia Armstrong*

### RACHEL GOBEP

Ray Beiersdorfer, also known as “Dr. Ray,” was a well-known and distinguished professor of geological and environmental sciences at Youngstown State University for 25 years. From his curly hair and Hawaiian T-shirts to his mismatched Converse and socks, he stood out and was original.

He suffered a major heart attack on Sept. 13 and died on Oct. 11, the day before his 62nd birthday.

“Even though he only lived 62 years, it was a life well-lived ... He was just a bright, shining star,” Susie Beiersdorfer, his wife, said.

She said Ray Beiersdorfer was not just a geology professor, but “an advocate for justice and a clown.”

Colleen McLean and Felicia Armstrong, associate professors of geological and environmental sciences, described Ray Beiersdorfer as passionate, engaged, focused, tireless and family-driven, and emphasized that he left a legacy.

They agreed that he was like an older brother to them.

“He really did touch the people around him in different ways. It wasn’t a single act. Students remember him,” Armstrong said.

Ray Beiersdorfer grew up in a working-class environment in Queens, New York City, and

lived in California, Australia and Canada before moving to Youngstown.

Susie Beiersdorfer said some of her greatest memories with her husband occurred when they lived in Australia together — riding bikes, going to film festivals and enjoying life.

Ray Beiersdorfer obtained his Ph.D. at the University of California, Davis, where he continued the work he was doing with pillow basalts. This is where his twin daughters, Crystal and Rochelle Beiersdorfer were born.

Susie Beiersdorfer said when he came to interview at YSU, he connected with the campus because he was a first-generation college student and YSU has an abundant first-generation student population.

“He felt like this was a place that he could inspire students for lifelong learning, and to love what you do and love what you learn,” Susie Beiersdorfer said.

McLean said that she was Ray Beiersdorfer’s student in the ’90s. She earned her Ph.D. in environmental geochemistry after being inspired by her first environmental geochemistry class with him.

“He was just a presence, even then ... He was a force,” she said.

She said she thought highly of Ray Beiersdorfer, and when she became a professor at YSU, she wanted to impress him.

McLean said when she received tenure and promotion she wanted to create a field course

in the Isle of Man, which was inspired by Ray Beiersdorfer’s field courses and the experiences he offered students.

A man of many travels, Ray Beiersdorfer took students and Youngstown community members to places ranging from China, Tibet, Taiwan and New Mexico to the Isle of Man.

Armstrong and McLean have been on multiple trips with Ray Beiersdorfer and both said they have unforgettable memories with him.

He also would take students on a hike in Mill Creek Park every semester.

In his introductory geology classes, Ray Beiersdorfer would teach upwards of 100 students, and would have them perform songs about rocks and write a children’s book about the agents of weathering.

Susie Beiersdorfer said some students felt like Ray Beiersdorfer gave them his quality time and care.

“He wasn’t just a professor that gave work and the grade, but really wanted [students] to be engaged ... He said, ‘I want them to love geology,’” Susie Beiersdorfer said.

Armstrong said when she first met Ray Beiersdorfer she noticed that he would light up when he talked about his classes and different ways he would try to get students to learn. She said he made her feel like YSU was the place to be.

“He had fun with life, at the same time he’s

learning and educating ... He found joy in everything,” Armstrong continued.

She said one of the things she will remember the most about Ray Beiersdorfer is his laugh.

Ray Beiersdorfer organized and directed the Penguin Bowl, a high school regional competition for the National Ocean Sciences Bowl for 16 years, and organized Dr. Ray’s Energy and Environment Lecture Series for the past five years.

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Photo by *The Jamba*

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# HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS MEET THE YOUNGSTOWN PRESS

AMANDA JOERNDT

Press Day at Youngstown State University has been an ongoing tradition for aspiring journalists to meet professional media agencies, writers in the field and student journalists since the 1930's and has been growing ever since.

The 80th annual Press Day took place on Oct. 15 offering multiple media sessions for high school students to gain a better understanding of how journalism plays a role in society.

Press Day first started as the Tri-County Journalism Association, where students and professionals met in banquet halls to learn more about journalism and media through informal meetings.

In 1977, Press Day moved to YSU and has been transforming into more hands-on sessions from TV studio tours to breakout sessions with different journalism writers and associations.

Press Day allowed high school students and advisors to learn more about the options available for their student organizations, and allowed the students to see how they can one day be a part of media organizations on campus.

Shelley Blundell, Press Day director and assistant professor of journalism, welcomed almost 300 students and 15 school districts participating in the media sessions.

Blundell said journalism helps students academically, as well as the ability to be aware of the community we live in.

"Any student who is involved in school media and journalism in some way, academically is more engaged and they get better results," she said. "The best way to get to know the place you live in is by working in student media, and there's always a home for them in student media."

Blundell said even if students don't pursue a journalism major, there are options for them to be involved in media organizations in the future.

"A lot of students who come to Press Day may never be involved as journalism majors," she said. "If they are still interested in being a part of student media, there are numerous media organizations on campus that would be happy to have them."

There were several speakers who attended the event to work with students, including former YSU journalism advisors, Mark Goodman, Candace Bowen and David Lee Morgan Jr.

David Lee Morgan Jr., a professional writer, author, teacher and Jambar alumnus, was the keynote speaker at Press Day, speaking to students and advisors.

Morgan is a Youngstown native and worked for numerous media agencies, such as the Warren Tribune-Chronicle, the Raleigh News and Observer, the Youngstown Vindicator, the Binghamton Press, the Sun Bulletin and the Akron Beacon Journal, as a professional writer and author for sports biographies, being the first to write a biography on Lebron James.

He currently teaches journalism at Massillon Washington High School in Massillon, Ohio, as a journalism advisor and teacher for writing workshops.

Morgan has attended Press Day in the past as a breakout speaker.

He said journalism plays a major role in society and gives people an outlet to share their experiences.

"Journalism is so important because we have to record history and make people accountable as well as being the voice of balanced and unbiased information," Morgan said. "If you love to tell stories, then journalism will always have a place for people

who want to tell great stories."

He said journalism needs to stay active and present to keep the peace within society.

"We need journalism to stay strong or politicians will become even more corrupt and people will try and take more liberties where journalist were able to stop that by writing the truth," Morgan said.

YSU President Jim Tressel attended Press Day and interacted with the students and advisors from different schools districts.

Tressel said Press Day allowed students to gain a better understanding of YSU and the options they have with different media programs.

"Anytime we can inform the students as to what the opportunities are, it's good because they get to meet our students and they get to meet our faculty," he said. "It's just exciting to see people engaged and learning about good things."

Leslie Tejada, a junior at Austintown Fitch High School, participated in Press Day and was intrigued with the different media opportunities YSU offers.

She said Press Day gave her ideas with what she wants to do in the future.

"For me, I didn't know what I wanted to do, so I came here and now I'm thinking how awesome journalism is," she said. "I want to start doing it and participating in my school organizations more."

Press Day gave students an inside look of the opportunities and experiences they could potentially take advantage of in the future, while networking with professionals.

# A TRIBUTE TO DR. RAY: A LIFE WELL-LIVED (CONTINUED)

As an advocate for climate, social justice, community rights and the rights of nature, his passion is living through those in the Youngstown community, and Susie Beiersdorfer said the lecture series will continue.

McLean said Ray Beiersdorfer "endlessly" inspired her.

"He has been fighting for social and environmental justice for so long ... He [never] quit," she said.

He also shared his enthusiasm for science

through "Dr. Ray's Amazing Sideshow of Science," which was a journey through the spheres: the hydrosphere, atmosphere, lithosphere and biosphere.

Susie Beiersdorfer said she is "astounded" at the number of lives her husband touched.

"His legacy just ripples like when you drop a stone in the water. He really gave his all," she said.

A tree planting ceremony will also take place near Moser Hall on the YSU campus on Nov.

9 at 3 p.m.

There will be multiple celebrations of Ray Beiersdorfer's life in the future, including a celebration at the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Youngstown on Nov. 10 at 1 p.m.

Ray Beiersdorfer's family has requested that memorial tributes are donated to the Youngstown State University Foundation for a memorial tree to be planted on campus. To donate, indicate by writing "Dr. Ray Tree Fund" in the memo portion of the check.



Photo by Tanner Mondok/The Jambar



## SUPPORTING NONVIOLENCE WEEK: ONE STEP AT A TIME

Photo by *Amanda Joerndt/The Jambar*

### AMANDA JOERNDT

Thousands of people, from Youngstown natives to travelers from across the country, gathered in the heart of downtown Youngstown on Oct. 7 to start off the first of many events in support of Nonviolence Week.

The week kicked off with a parade and rally in downtown Youngstown to remind community members the importance of nonviolent behavior.

The parade and rally were put on as a way to bring the community together, while honoring those who have died from violent acts.

Nonviolence Week takes place the first week in October in the state of Ohio and was started by a group of students who went on a journey called Sojourn into the Past in 2009.

The Mahoning Valley Sojourn into the Past allows students to travel to southern states to become more educated on the civil rights movement and other violent acts that occurred

within our country.

The students came back from that particular trip with an action plan to create a Nonviolence Week within their schools to bring awareness and spread peace within the community.

The next year they petitioned Youngstown State University trustees, city council members and school boards requesting to make Nonviolence Week the first week in October permanently.

This soon led to the state general assembly passing Senate Bill 38 in 2013, regarding Nonviolence Week in Ohio.

Close to 2,000 attendees and 70 groups attend the parade and rally each year.

Penny Wells, director of Mahoning Valley Sojourn into the Past and head chair of Nonviolence Week committee, helps to bring the community together throughout this week.

Wells said Nonviolence Week is crucial in the world today and helps bring all people together in a healthy way.

"I think it's important because right now

in our country we have so many people using hateful words and many of them are adults," Wells said. "A lot of people think these events are for young people, but this week is about the hateful and hurtful language we use."

Micah Smith, a senior media communications major, attended the Sojourn into the Past trip in 2014.

She said she wanted to help bring people together to understand that violence is not the answer.

"I was so frustrated with all the violence and racial injustices and I've just been working so hard within that," Smith said. "I just keep being dedicated to the parades and events that keep the conversations going."

Smith said she loves attending the events for Nonviolence Week because she gets to see the good and kind-hearted people in our society today.

"We get to see these people who support nonviolence and the people who don't do those bad things and want to be great people," she

added.

YSU President Jim Tressel attended the event as a speaker during the rally, as well as an active participant of the event.

The university has supported Nonviolence Week since its inception and has participated in the parade and rally ever since.

Tressel said looking out for one another and taking care of each other is important within society today.

"We get so busy in our lives and get in the mists of everything that's going on in the world, so we need to stop and really think about what's most important," Tressel said.

He said bringing the community together can be beneficial for everyone.

"We all come from different places and different backgrounds, culture and beliefs ... every single person is important and everyone should be respected," Tressel added.

## YSU FACULTY PANEL SPEAKS ON 1968 PROTESTS

### BRIANNA GLEGHORN JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

A Youngstown State University faculty panel led a discussion along with a question and answer session to remember a massacre of hundreds of people 50 years ago in Mexico City during a protest.

The discussion took place in the Youngstown Historical Center of Industry & Labor, also known as the Steel Museum, on Oct. 11.

On Oct. 2, 1968, the police and military shot down a group of students protesting in the Tlatelolco plaza. This was one of many protests happening over the world in 1968.

The panelists included: Brian Bonhomme, Alicia Prieto Langarica, Cryshanna Jackson

Leftwich, Rachel Faerber-Ovaska, David Simonelli, YSU student Sylvia Arias and Gabriel Palmer-Fernandez as the moderator.

During the discussion, the panelists spoke of protests in the Soviet Union, Paris, Mexico, Puerto Rico, the U.S. and many more that weren't discussed. All of these protests happened in 1968 making it a memorable year on a global scale.

Prieto Langarica, instructor in mathematics and statistics, spoke more in detail of the Mexico City massacre. She also discussed the divisiveness in politics that each side may perceive.

When a conservative student said he could not express his views, Prieto Langarica was quick to respond.

"The government convinces us we are divided into groups, but when we come together we realize we both want the same things," said Prieto Langarica. "We want to be happy and live our lives."

Arias, vice president of the Youngstown's student Latino Organization, discussed the need for peace in the world.

"There has got to be a way where we all get together and have some peace," said Arias.

Simonelli, YSU associate professor of history, spoke of the serious problem with how these protests were handled when the protesters were only college students.

"In college, students are learning new political ideas and protesting. Do you deserve to be shot for this? Dead no," said Simonelli.

"These governments handled these protests with an extreme force that was not needed."

Bonhomme, chair of the history department at YSU, spoke about protests in the Soviet Union.

"It was a difficult place to protest," said Bonhomme. "Protest while you can because it can become impossible."

This discussion showed students the historical impact that protesting had across the world and the similarities with today's student movements.

The discussion and Q&A were a part of the university's celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month.

## WICK PRIMARY CARE AT YSU

Photo by J. Harvard Feldhouse /The Jambar

### COURTNEY HIBLER

Mercy Health is partnering with Youngstown State University to bring new health services to students on campus through Wick Primary Care.

Located on the corner of Lincoln and Wick Avenues, a new student health center is continuing to be constructed and is scheduled to open in January 2019.

"This is a continuous partnership between YSU and Mercy Health," Eddie Howard, vice president for student affairs, said. "It will be great for our campus and our students."

Expanded services such as psychiatric care, will be available with the opening of the new health center as well as personal access to your health.

Additionally, MyChart, an online program, will allow patients to view medical records, message their care team and schedule

appointments by creating their own account.

Brooke Bada, a sophomore dietetics major, said she uses MyChart through Mercy Health and finds it extremely beneficial.

"Having easy accessibility to anything relating to your health eases your mind a bit," Bada said. "I think this will encourage more students to take advantage of YSU health services."

Bada said this could be a reason many students hesitate to schedule an appointment with the health center.

"If someone believes they can't afford the care or don't know the basics of the health center, he or she may just ignore it altogether," she said. "Many people don't take the time to research things because they feel like they've already been denied."

By providing additional health support on campus, students will not need to travel far to be seen by a doctor.

Howard said students with insurance will be able to avoid an additional copay and students

without insurance will now have a resource.

"Our goal is for students to use what's available to them," he said.

Howard said the new health center will be a game changer for students and is excited for students to receive the best care they can with Mercy Health.

Allie Watkins, a senior nursing major, said students should be able to seek health care for free regardless of their health insurance or financial status.

"I would gladly pay more in my tuition if it meant that others were able to receive the health care they need and deserve," she said.

The current Student Health Clinic is located on the first floor of Kilcawley House. Care from the facility is available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. by appointment and the faculty is taking new patients. Appointments can be scheduled by contacting the health center at (330) 941-3489.

Registered nurse Judy Pavalko said many in-

house services are available to students, such as minor injuries, counseling services, orthopedic evaluations, basic gynecology services and more.

These services are included in the student fee at no additional charge.

"We do our best to help the students who come in and provide services they may not have time to be seen for elsewhere," Pavalko said.

Watkins said the current student health clinic, is small and obscure in its location.

"Hopefully with this new and bigger health center, students will take advantage of the resources available for them," she said.

Watkins has visited the current student health center for a tuberculosis test and had a positive experience with their efficiency and patient needs.

"I wouldn't mind going again if I needed to," she said.

## THE ENEMIES LIST

### BRIAN BRENNAN

In October 1974, The Jambar reported that a campus "enemies list" had been compiled and maintained at the behest of Paul H. Cress, the director of security at Youngstown State University. Reminiscent of ex-President Nixon's own (and infamous) enemies list, Cress' version consisted of carefully-arranged file cards stored within a steel cabinet.

When queried, Cress initially downplayed any knowledge of the files, but his involvement in their compilation could not be denied — they were stored in his own office.

A Baptist minister by training, Cress gave up preaching and applied for the Pennsylvania State Police Academy. After graduation, he served with the Pennsylvania State Police and other law enforcement agencies until becoming a patrolman with the Youngstown Police Department in 1940. Leaving YPD in 1965 with the rank of sergeant, Cress was hired by the Youngstown University to teach sociology.

In 1968, he was asked to create a campus security force, as

mandated by law when YSU became a state institution. Cress took campus security seriously — perhaps a little too seriously. Without a doubt, he would have had a ball working for the former East German "Stasi," or State Security Service.

Through information disclosed by an unidentified source, The Jambar informed readers that Cress' index bore the names and addresses of YSU faculty members, students and other persons of interest. Included were participants in the 1969 Moratorium on the Vietnam War and other peace protests. Professors engaged in union activity also made the list.

Students involved in progressive causes were likewise targeted. Individuals who wrote "Letters to the Editor" received mention, as did one hapless undergraduate who merely complained about the quality of the food served in the cafeteria. Photographs of students taking part in various activities were filed, with each person meticulously identified and labeled. At least Cress did not tap phones or collect body odors in jars (like the "Stasi").

The American Civil Liberties Union entered the fray and decried the administration's prior ignorance of Cress' activities. In the ensuing investigation, the university's legal counsel

determined that no law had been broken by YSU. In addition, much of the information collected by Cress was deemed "no longer pertinent."

Soon thereafter, President John J. Coffelt announced that any person whose name made Cress' list would be given a chance to examine his/her record prior to the destruction of the complete file on November 20, 1974. The ACLU opposed Coffelt's plan and called for a sixty- to ninety-day examination window, with those profiled being given possession of their individual records.

The ACLU was ignored and to its consternation, the "enemies list" was destroyed. As for Paul Cress, no action was taken against him, but he remained controversial. Most notorious was his infamous 1978 reference to rape victims as "stupid" for not taking adequate precautions.

Petitions were signed calling for his removal. Cress retired soon thereafter — and Campus Security evolved into the professional and respected YSU Police that we know today. The Jambar coverage of the "enemies list" may be found online by clicking "Digital Collections" on the Maag Library website, [www.maag.ysu.edu](http://www.maag.ysu.edu).



## YSU STUDENT MAKING GLOBAL IMPACTS

Photo by **Tanner Mondok /The Jambor**

### JOHN STRAN

Ajinkya Jadhav can be described as persistent. This is true in the array of accomplishments he's had at just 19 years old.

Jadhav has been at Youngstown State University for the past nine months studying mathematics. Prior to YSU, the India native was studying at Harvard.

His accomplishments were not made in a classroom at either university, but on his own time as he tried to determine any way in which he could help people.

Prior to attending YSU, much of Jadhav's research dealt with science and military defense. In 2015 he began working on ideas to stop suicide bombers, for which he eventually created a patent and earned a \$25,000 scholarship from Google.

He also worked with the Indian Army, where he designed a suit for soldiers that protects them from below freezing temperatures and aids bullet wounds.

"There are six medicated packets within the suit, so if you were to be shot in your shoulder, the packet would sense the blood flow and burst from inside and relieve the soldier."

Since coming to YSU, Jadhav has turned his focus to researching drunken driving. He chose to study this at an Ohio college because of the state's high rate of accidents involving intoxicated drivers.

Jadhav helped create a design that uses sensors to detect a person's blood alcohol level, and will not allow a car to start if the driver has had too much to drink.

In addition to this, he's conducted TED Talks and is the founder of We All Teens, a platform which Jadhav describes as bringing

the world's smartest students from currently 25 different countries to attempt to solve different global problems.

"Our platform is confidential and we are supported by the government, intelligence bureaus or the armies of any particular nation," Jadhav said. "Today, We All Teens is partnered with National Geographic, Scientific American and Business Insider."

Femi Fabiku, senior criminal justice major at YSU, met Jadhav while both living in the Lyden House dorms and said he's been impressed by Jadhav's work so far.

"Lots of people talk about the military suit he designed for his country's army," Fabiku said. "Since I'm a criminal justice major, I like to support his dedication towards society."

Fabiku also likes the idea of We All Teens adding that he's seen Jadhav video chatting back and forth with many different people,

including some prominent entrepreneurs.

With each creation, Jadhav has had the opportunity to travel across the globe and connect with a variety of cultures, experiencing what may be, for some, a lifetime's worth of adventures in a brief amount of time.

But Jadhav said the opportunities did not come without sacrifice.

"You have to give something if you want to achieve something," Jadhav said.

His advice to others who want to become inventors is that you don't always have to be successful, describing his first journey within the science world as unsuccessful.

Jadhav said he's currently working on a pitch for the cast of the investment TV show "Shark Tank," and is expecting to make an appearance on the show sometime during the winter.

# REMEMBERING VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

**FRANCES CLAUSE**

Remember Me - Domestic Violence Fatalities will honor victims and raise awareness about domestic violence in the atrium of Cushman Hall from Oct. 22 through 29.

Monica Merrill, assistant professor of criminal justice, said people who attend the event will see 27 life-sized silhouettes, representing the victims killed by domestic violence in Northern Ohio this year.

"Some of these victims include pregnant women, children and police officers," she said. "By representing the victims, this event hopes to humanize domestic violence and show that it is happening right in this area."

Along with the silhouettes, students in the criminal justice and forensic science program have written short biographies about the victims that will be displayed in binders.

According to the Ohio Domestic Violence Network, 91 people were killed in domestic violence-related incidents this year. Of the 91 people, 56 were victims and 35 were offenders who either killed themselves or were killed by police.

"Domestic violence is a crime that can occur in any age range," Merrill said. "It is important for students to be able to identify healthy relationship practices and be aware of warning signs in their own relationships as well as their family's and friends."

She said being able to identify more than just physical abuse, including emotional abuse, financial abuse and psychological abuse, is key to preventing domestic violence.

Maisie Claypoole, a senior political science and criminal behavior major, said she feels there is always room for improvement with domestic violence awareness.

"In my opinion, [domestic violence] is a topic that people are afraid to talk about," she said. "In the minds of some people, it does not directly affect them so they don't think about it, but it is a major issue that is extremely underreported."

Claypoole hopes students attend the event to understand what the victims went through before their deaths and encourage others to talk about what can be done to help those who have experienced domestic violence.

Monica Bartley, a graduate student, said many people only associate domestic violence with women, but the displays for the event prove children and men can be victims as well.

"This is an important event to attend because everyone needs to be educated on the statistics, harsh truths and outcomes of domestic violence," she said. "Domestic violence is not just bruises and hurtful words."

Bartley said she has learned the many sides of domestic violence by helping with this event, including brutal stories about victims of all ages, races and relationship types.

"These stories impact me because being in the criminal justice field, I see domestic violence happening all the time," she said. "[Criminal justice majors] see just how it affects families and how it turns into a vicious cycle if children are subjected to seeing abuse at a young age."

Throughout Domestic Violence Awareness Month, events across America are mourning those who have died from domestic violence, celebrating those who have survived and connecting people who work to put an end to the violence.

Remember Me - Domestic Violence Fatalities is sponsored by Youngstown State University's Bitonte College of Health and Human Services, the YSU Melnick Medical Museum and the YSU Office of Student Activities.



Photo by *Frances Clause/The Jambar*

# NAMASTE IN THE YO AND THE YOUNGSTOWN FLEA TO COLLABORATE

**NAMI NAGAOKA**

Namaste in the YO, a free, campus-based community yoga gathering, is collaborating with the Youngstown Flea, a market held once a month that is dedicated to local artisans on Nov. 11. The event will take place in the Watson and Tressel Training Site from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Megan O'Neill, a Youngstown State University alumna with a degree in physical therapy, runs the event with her friend and yoga partner, Jasc Romeo, a YSU graduate student and recreational advisory committee member.

The event's goal is to bring the community together and encourage positivity, and it also helps to give back to the university.

O'Neill said last year, everyone seemed to enjoy Namaste at the YO.

"We had people from all ages and backgrounds, so it was embodying exactly what our purpose was ... bringing the community together," she said.

O'Neill said the yoga class is designed for all ages and all levels of experience.

Romeo said she and O'Neill shared the same vision for the event. The pair went to a yoga festival in Akron four years ago, and decided to bring the similar event to the Youngstown community.

"[We want to] showcase everything Youngstown offers and bring some positivity to the community," Romeo said. "I'm really excited about the collaboration this year with the Youngstown Flea. This gives us a chance to expand and include more people from Youngstown."

Derrick McDowell, founder of the Youngstown Flea, said more than 60 vendors have already signed up so far to partake in the event.

McDowell said a benefit to cross promoting is the possibility of uniting two different audiences and reaching more people.

"Youngstown Flea brings together an audience of people from a bunch of different communities, not just from Youngstown, but also from Salem, Columbiana, Kent, Akron, Cleveland and Pittsburgh," he said.

According to McDowell, there is importance of including students in the event.

"It's going to be full force and a lot of energy to really make sure we hold up our end of the collaboration and share ideas," he said.

The event is free and open to the public, and participants are encouraged to bring nonperishable food items to donate to the YSU food pantry to aid the Youngstown community during the holiday season.



# THEATRE DEPARTMENT REINVENTS "THE ADDAMS FAMILY"

Photo by **Tanner Mondok/The Jambar**

## VICTORIA REMLEY

Wednesday, Morticia, Gomez and the other familiar characters of "The Addams Family" are coming to Youngstown State University's Ford Theater this month for the university theatre's production of the musical.

In this rendition of the show, the eccentric Wednesday falls in love with an "average" boy named Lucas Beineke. Beineke and his parents go to the Addams' house for dinner and things go a little haywire.

Matthew Mazuroski, director and chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance, said "The Addams Family" is "spooky, kooky and ooky."

"I think, ultimately, the story at its heart is about how sometimes love can be very complicated, sometimes it can be very simple," Mazuroski said. "I think if we close ourselves off to the idea for a variety of reasons then our lives are sort of diminished."

The cast had eight weeks of rehearsals. The production features many different dance and music styles, such as a tango number.

Last spring, the theatre department performed "Spring Awakening," a dark production about youth rebellion. For the fall, they wanted to do a light-hearted musical leading up to

Halloween.

"We wanted to do it because it's well known and it's something that a lot of people will want to come out and see," Mazuroski said. "It's not dark. It's spooky in a silly way, but it doesn't deal with the heavier themes."

Jessica Hirsh, a senior musical theatre major playing Morticia Addams, prepared for the role over the summer by watching the original series and both 90s films.

Hirsh said because "The Addams Family" exists in multiple TV series and movies, there was a lot of material for her to study and play off.

"The Addams Family" is a family show.

Hirsh said Halloween is the perfect time for a family-friendly performance, something she doesn't think YSU has done a lot of recently.

"It's a telling of characters that we know really, really well in a story that we haven't seen from them yet," she said.

Nathan Wagner, a senior musical theatre major playing Uncle Fester, prepared for his role by playing around, trying new things and even shaving his head.

"The costumes, the set and music are all incredible, so it's going to be a blast from start to finish," he said.

Fester is a loveable guy who, unlike the other characters, breaks "the fourth wall" and talks to the audience directly. He is the

puppet master behind the scenes, always making sure things happen in the way he wants them to.

Wagner said although he and the character Fester are different in many ways, they share a few similarities.

"Fester describes himself as 'a fat bald person of no specific sexuality' and after shaving my head for the role I can relate to those first two," he said.

AnnMarie Lowerre, a junior musical theatre major playing Grandmama Addams, said she prepared for the show by practicing her music and lines at least once a day.

Unlike most other roles, Lowerre said this role is more physically demanding.

"This role has been so different because it's a creepy old lady, and I have only played an older person one other time," she said. "I was in a show this past summer with multiple dance numbers, but I felt like this role is almost more tasking."

Lowerre said people should see "The Addams Family" for the laughter and love the show presents.

"It is kooky, scary and lovely. Words that don't fit together, somehow work in this show," she said.

Performances of "The Addams Family" are Oct. 19-21 and Oct. 26-28. Friday, and Saturday showings begin at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday showings begin at 2 p.m. in the Ford Theater in Bliss Hall. Students get in free with their student ID.



Photos by *Marah J. Morrison/The Jambor*

# A PALADIN PUMPKIN ALE

**MARAH J. MORRISON**

The paladin-themed bar and brewery named after noble knights and heroic champions, Paladin Brewing on Mahoning Avenue in Youngstown, released its new Pumpkin Ale on Oct. 11.

Husband, John Chandler, owner and brewer, and wife, Abby Chandler, event coordinator, have lived in Youngstown their entire lives. John Chandler said the brewery started about three years ago.

"I got into the industry mainly for the love of craft beer and the camaraderie that's amongst craft brewers," he said. "It's a very friendly work environment."

John Chandler said he brewed the Pumpkin Ale between 2015 and 2017. He said he's done this two to three times on a very small scale, so he would have five gallons of beer and be one-and-done in a night.

"People would come in, they would drink it, they love it ... This year I want to make enough that more people [can] enjoy,"

he said.

John Chandler said he reached out to Molnar Farms to see about getting some pumpkins and how soon he could get them for the ale.

He purchased 200 pounds of pumpkins from Molnar Farms and took them to his mother's church. Along with his aunts and uncles, they cut all of the pumpkins up, fire roasted them for an hour, let them cool and used them the following day.

"It [got] mixed in with all the grains," he said. "That actually sucked some of the pumpkin flavor out of the pumpkin pieces and puts it into the beer. I also [added] in some traditional fall spices but not too many, so it's not overpowering the pumpkin."

John Chandler said according to the industry, the brewery is a little bit late in releasing their Pumpkin Ale, but he thinks it's the perfect timing.

"Pumpkin beer should be released in October and November to celebrate Halloween and then also Thanksgiving," he said. "Unfortunately, the industry is already now starting to see Christmas ales out."

John Chandler said his favorite thing about being a part of this industry is sharing the beer with the people who come into his

tavern and receiving their feedback. He said if all goes well, the Pumpkin Ale will be gone by Christmas.

"People can come in. If they love it, they can get beer to go and take it home to share it with their friends and family," he said.

Abby Chandler said she does a lot of different things for the brewery. She said she did all of the design work inside, including the pillars and the woodwork on the bar, which she cut and installed herself.

"When we opened, my husband was very sick," she said. "There was a lot that I handled as much as I possibly could."

Abby Chandler said she had a big part in the creation of the Pumpkin Ale. She said she was able to help brew the ale, which is something she normally wouldn't do.

"I'm super proud of my husband and what he's accomplished," she said. "To be able to be a part of that with him is immeasurable."

John Sferra, bar manager, said the Pumpkin Ale is very fun because everyone is going to love it. He said he enjoys serving beer to people who love it.

"By far, it's the most labor-intensive beer he's ever made, that I've seen him make," he said. "It's tremendous."

# MARIO'S MOVIES: GOOD TIMES AT THE EL ROYALE

MARIO RICCIARDI

So, the movie is actually called “Bad Times at the El Royale,” but I really enjoyed my time spent watching it, so yeah. I know, the headline is predictable and cliché, but it basically wrote itself. “El Royale” consists of an alluring cast, neon-noir mysteries, a killer soundtrack and edge of your seat suspense.

It's a fun ride from the very start. It immediately puts its audience in the dark, slowly revealing itself as the film grooves along. Following the stories of a priest, a soul singer, a traveling salesman, a cult murderer, her sister, the cult leader and a strange manager, “El Royale” is colorful to say the least. This totals seven leads and claiming that any one of these characters has a secret would be an understatement.

As the film navigates through the intertwining chapters of each character's story, the audience must discern who to root for.

Much about this film is unique, but the key distinction is its ability to put the audience in each individual character's shoes. It leaves one wondering what they would do in the situation and how. These discernments are further complicated by the fact that everyone in this film is bad and very few are good. (I know, a little confusing).

For me, the biggest setback of the film is the use of its star-studded cast. “El Royale” stars Jeff Bridges, Cynthia Erivo, Jon Hamm, Dakota Johnson, Chris Hemsworth and Lewis Pullman, along with a few neat cameos along the way. The cast, combined with the plot's willingness to kill off anyone, adds to the pulp but ultimately takes away from the wonderfully vivid miscellany of characters. Watching Jeff Bridges in a movie is always great — the film comes across as a bit too showy of its cast.

By the way, about that plot. The El Royale is the casino/motel/decaying ruin of 1950's Americana. Loosely based on Frank Sinatra's Cal Neva Resort, the El Royale sits on the border of Nevada and California. As each character arrives at the motel,

the plot slowly unfolds from a series of strange circumstances to elaborately hectic suspense involving murder, bank robberies, JFK, hopes, dreams and cherry pie.

After the suspense relieves and the mysteries allowed to be resolved do so, “Bad Times at the El Royale” is a clever studio film. Unfortunately, this is a clever studio film that will fade away with time, when it could have potentially lived on as a cult classic.

The onscreen geography of the film is too sterile for its messy characters and the story doesn't dive far enough into the weirdness of the material begging to be explored. It's a really entertaining thriller, with some interesting subtext, and the juggling of the many lives is really well done but for as complex as the film is it stops short.

“Bad Times at the El Royale” reaches far, but unfortunately falls just on the good side of greatness. I really want to give it 4 penguins, but:

🐧🐧🐧 3/5 Penguins

# CBS BOSTON'S GARY BRODE VISITS YSU

MARAH J. MORRISON

Gary Brode, a 2012 Youngstown State University telecommunications alumnus, came to speak with students, faculty and community members about the field of journalism on Oct. 12 in Bliss Hall.

Brode has worked for The Jambar, WFMJ, KXMC (North Dakota), WCIA (Illinois), ABC7 (Florida) and KZVN. He is currently working at CBS Boston (WBZ) as a reporter and has worked as an anchor, producer and morning show host.

Brode said it's important that people know YSU can be and is a great journalism school.

He recalled when experienced journalists visited his classes and said he gained a lot from it.

“It's important to show that the alumni can help and will help if a student is really willing to put in that work,” he said.

Brode said time management can be challenging for students aspiring to be in the journalists. He also mentioned the struggle students face keeping up with studying, working and extracurriculars in order to advance their career.

“As you're about to go on into your career, finding that first job in journalism is so important,” he said. “That's why it's so necessary to get that reel and that resume built up.”

Brode said getting a first job in the journalism field lays the groundwork for someone's entire career, and he and his girlfriend are always moving constantly because of their careers in journalism.

“It's stressful,” he said. “There's no way around it, especially when you're six months out from your contract and you just don't know where you're going to live.”

Brode said in most cases if a person wants to advance his or her career in journalism, they will need to move around.

“If you have a family already and you want to stay, that's okay,” he said. “There's nothing wrong with that, but just know that you're going to have to put [your] career first if you're going to establish yourself as a journalist.”

Brode said the best part of being a journalist is meeting new people and the thrill of being on live television. The people he meets impacts his life more than they may realize.

“It's great to see how so many people from so many walks of life actually live,” he said.

Brode said so much can go wrong while on live television, but when it all comes together, it's a euphoric feeling.

He told the audience that the first time he anchored, he turned bright red and his hands didn't stop shaking, but then realized that he could do it.

Natasha Verma, Brode's girlfriend and also a reporter for NBC-10 Boston, said she was happy to be in Youngstown to support him.

Verma said she loves inspiring future journalists and educating them about what the industry is like now because when she was a student, she loved hearing from industry professionals during the time.

“It's always important to come back and talk to the next generation,” she said.

Verma said as a journalist, she loves to give people a voice. She said journalists get to keep others in power accountable for their actions and she thinks that's a great privilege to have.

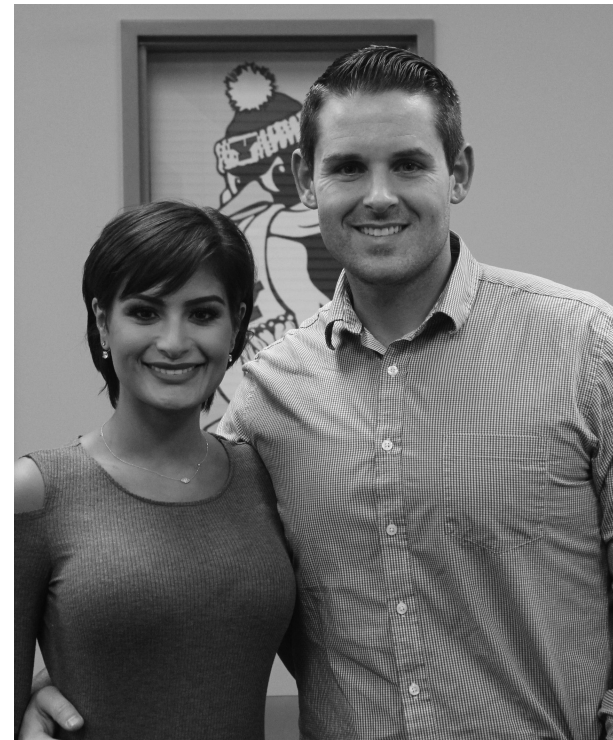


Photo by Marah J. Morrison/The Jambar

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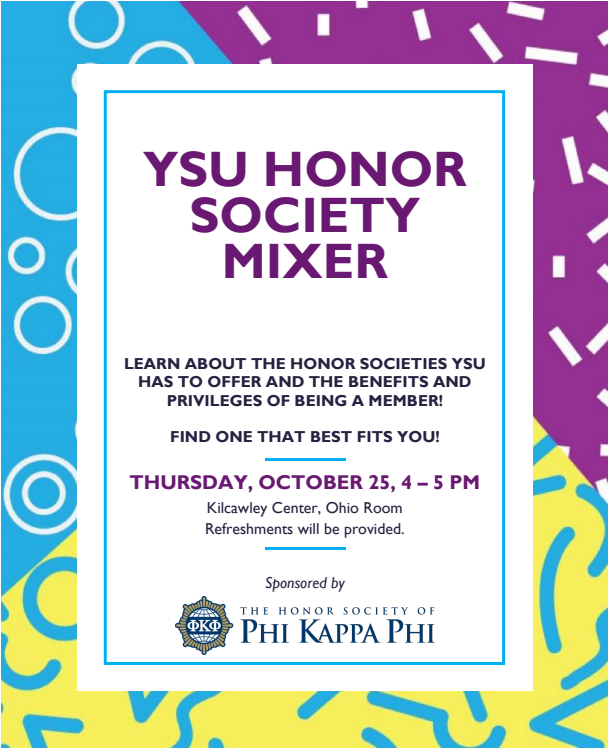
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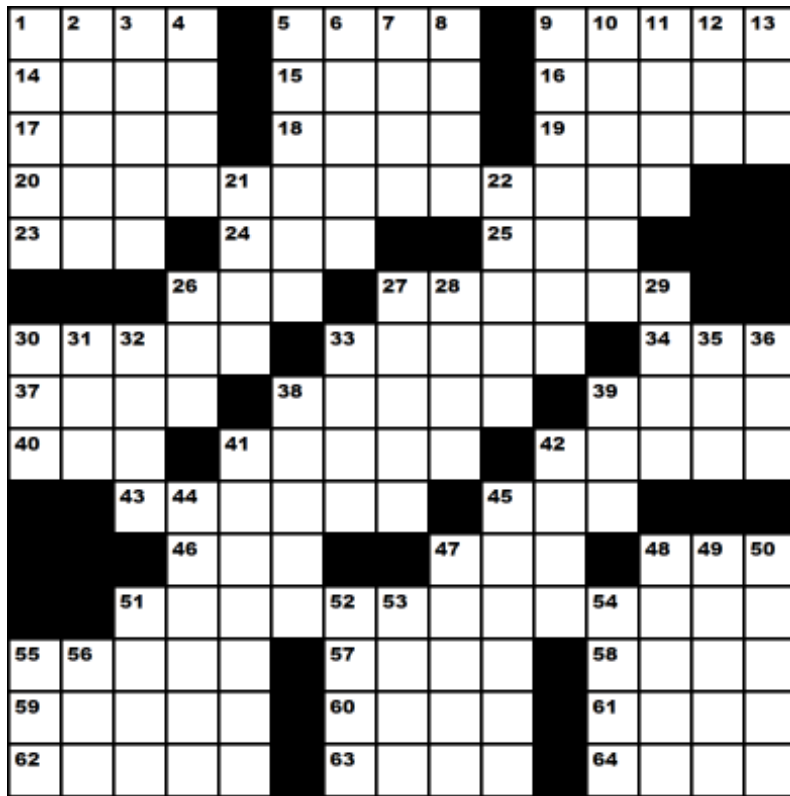
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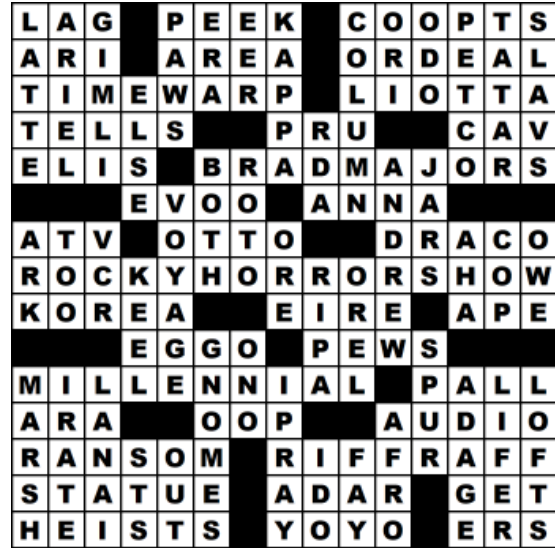
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SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE



CHECK NEXT WEEK'S PAPER FOR THE SOLUTION TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLE

**THE DUMBLEDORE OF MOSER HALL**

**Across**

1. Has a bawl
5. "Fiddler on the \_\_\_"
9. Hindu social class
14. Farmland measure
15. Wiley Coyote's supplier
16. Daisylike fall flower
17. Bambi's father, for one
18. "Welp, it's \_\_\_ real!"
19. What green spaces provide
20. Island wear preferred by 38 Across (2 wds.)
23. The whole enchilada
24. KC Food Court choice, with "The"
25. Santa \_\_, Calif.
26. Number two in Spanish class
27. D: drive inserts (Hyph.)
30. Holder for film or thread
33. Henry, Ernie and Gerald
34. "Hee-\_\_"

37. "House of Cards" role
38. Professor Beiersdorfer, familiarly (2 wds.)
39. \_\_\_ Raton, Fla.
40. Tackle's teammate
41. \_\_\_ Eagle
42. Necessities for YSU spring semester
43. Facebook option
45. Panhandle
46. Abbr. in the Dr. Pepper logo
47. Miss Piggy's accessory
48. Contents of a bowl at some parties
51. "... \_\_\_ and join me on the street": 38 Across, *The Jambar*, Nov. 17, 2011 (4 wds.)
55. Hill who testified on the Hill in 1991
57. Ulrich of Metallica
58. Like mechanics' hands
59. Dunkin' order
60. Oodles
61. Baldwin who spoofs Trump on SNL
62. "Iron Man" Tony \_\_\_
63. Culinary Arts class utensils

64. The stuff of legends

**Down**

1. Younger Obama daughter
2. In base 8
3. "Super Smash Bros. \_\_\_"
4. Dreamcast maker
5. Cujo's affliction
6. About 70% of the earth's surface
7. Sign of things to come
8. Moors
9. Locales for several James Bond films
10. "Eat Pray Love" religious structure
11. "Right now!" in Bitonte
12. \_\_\_ and Karen Lenz Scholarship
13. "... \_\_\_ he drove out of sight"
21. "American \_\_\_"
22. Career Services director, Christina \_\_\_
26. Bambi's mother, for one
27. Tootsie boo-boos
28. "Fiddlesticks!"
29. Drive off
30. "The True Gentlemen" fraternity (Abbr.)
31. Bowler's target
32. Statistics class subject
33. Lady of the "haus"
35. Pre-college test
36. "Now where \_\_\_ I?"
38. "Same"
39. Where cranberries grow
41. Shell container? (2 wds.)
42. Bridges on "Homeland"
44. \_\_\_-totter
45. Gives a leg up
47. "She walks in beauty" poet
48. Like USA Today
49. Part of an archipelago
50. Largest major in CLASS (Abbr.)
51. Sphinx's spot
52. Envelope part
53. "Deck the Halls" syllables
54. "... where the buffalo \_\_\_"
55. PR major's output
56. Forget-me-\_\_

# THE JAMBAR

— EDITORIAL —

## A CHILLING REPORT ON GLOBAL WARMING

The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change issued a report to CNN that in the next 12 years the planet's temperature will rise 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) above pre-industrial levels. The report was released on Oct. 8.

This will advance the risk of natural disasters such as droughts, wildfires and floods, along with food shortages.

This is expected to happen by 2030, this date was determined by current levels of greenhouse gas emissions.

Andrew King, a lecturer in climate science at the University of Melbourne, said in a statement to CNN:

"This is concerning because we know there are so many more problems if we exceed 1.5 degrees Celsius global warming, including more heatwaves and hot summers, greater sea level rise and, for many parts of the world, worse droughts and rainfall extremes."

CNN reported that in order to plateau the progress of the warming, global net emissions of carbon dioxide would need to fall by 45 percent from 2010 levels by 2030.

In order to lower emissions to this degree, it would require a worldwide shift in the way energy, industry, buildings, transportation and cities are operated, King's report concluded.

If you thought global warming was a myth up until this moment, this is your invitation to wake up and look at the data.

These aren't allegations, hearsay or opinions. This is scientific research. The earth is at risk, and we will most likely see the effects of it in our lifetime.

Just because it still gets cold outside, doesn't mean global warming is disproved.

Vox reported that global warming refers to the rise in the average temperature of the Earth's climate.

"Many climate models suggest we'll still see record cold snaps in the United States as the planet heats up. They'll just become less frequent over time — while record heat waves will become increasingly common," the Vox report said.

In our lifetime, the Environmental Defense Fund found that our daily lives could be changed due to climate change.

We could see some of the things we know and love, like the production of coffee and beer become affected, as well as an increase in grocery prices, homeowners will become uninsurable due to storm damages, the beautiful western trees from Colorado to Washington will die and dry out, the coral reefs will die and accessible drinking water will be at risk.

President Donald Trump isn't helping in the case of climate change, because he pulled the U.S. out of the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement.

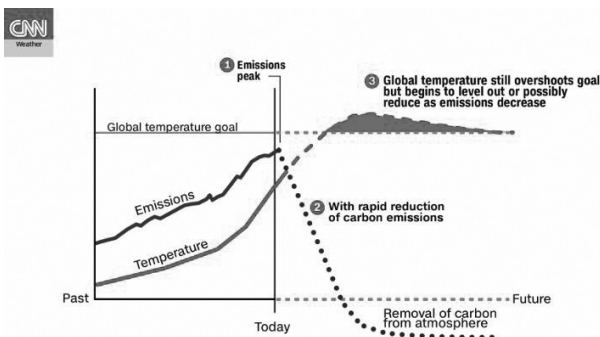
The purpose of the agreement was for 197 countries to keep global temperatures under two degrees celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit it to one and a half degrees celsius.

So, because our president doesn't seem to take this issue serious, we need to.

We can start by small changes, because small changes are better than no changes at all.

Limit your meat intake, carpool to work, stop using plastic straws and bring reusable bags to the grocery store.

Leave this world better for not only our future generations, but for ourselves. The year 2030 is closer than we all think it is, so lets do something proactive to stop the progression of climate change.



Graph by CNN

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Youngstown State University

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October 26, 2018 from 11 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center

Representatives from various law schools will be available to answer questions, distribute catalogs, applications and financial aid information. This is a unique opportunity for students who are considering a career in law to gather information about law school programs.

This event is free and open to the public.

Sponsored by the Department of Politics & International Relations/  
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Photos courtesy of YSU Sports Information

## DEFENSE A FOCAL POINT AS YSU WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SEASON APPROACHES

**JOSHUA FITCH**

The Youngstown State University women's basketball team is ready to tip off a brand new season, starting with defense in mind.

"Our focus has always been defense," center Mary Dunn said. "But now we know, especially with a smaller team that we have to be 100 percent every time down the court for all the 30 seconds of the shot clock. Don't give up any offensive rebounds. We have to do it. There's no way around it."

Dunn played in all 32 games last season for the Penguins, starting 12 and averaged 6.8 points per game on 57 percent shooting.

Last season, the Penguins finished with a record of 16-16 for a .500 year, but finished 11-7 in the Horizon League, something that was a big step last season.

"I think this season is going to be a lot different just because we have a different dynamic on the team," Dunn said. "I think

we've really focused on sticking together as one big unit. I think playing together is what gets us to go far this year."

The season begins with preseason action against Washington and Jefferson College on Oct. 31. The regular season begins on Nov. 6 at home against Robert Morris University.

With the season coming so quickly there's a lot to prepare for, but with the leaders on this squad, it makes gearing up for a long season that much easier.

Sarah Cash said the fact that the team is so close, even off the court makes their chemistry better.

Cash, a 6-foot-1 forward, led the team last year in points (11.6) and rebounds (4.5), while scoring her 1,000th-career point against the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay during the Horizon League tournament.

Being a redshirt senior, Cash has been with the YSU basketball program for five seasons. Her teammates respect the leadership and advice she brings to the locker room. It's also a role Cash is embracing during her last year with

the Penguins.

"It's awesome," McKenah Peters said. "In practice, she's always the person I can go up to. She's always the one to pick you up and encourage and keep pushing you."

"I think I've taken it on," Cash said of her role. "It wasn't something I thought that I'd be doing when I first got here but over the years I think with Nikki [Arbanas] being captain at the beginning has helped me become a better captain."

Being a leader also means finding motivation that the team can thrive off. Going .500 last season is motivation enough for Cash and the Penguins.

"I definitely think we can use that," Cash said. "We can just look at it as we struggled in the beginning but then we figured out what we needed to do and it's a lot of the same girls that are back that can play this year. So as long as we look into that and keep going, I think we'll have a good season."

Game planning has already begun for the upcoming season, defense being the main focus

for many reasons. While rebounding is a large part of that focus, the defensive side of the floor sets up so much for the Penguins as a team.

"Getting stops will push us into our offense and get us easy buckets," Peters said. "We want to slow things down and work on the offense. We have so many different plays, but any opportunity we get with a quick stop and pushing up the floor. We're definitely looking to get quick, easy buckets too."

The Penguins have an overall positive outlook on this upcoming season as any team does, and this group feels something special can happen beginning in November.

"I think the biggest goal is to have a winning season and possibly win the conference," Peters said. "That would be so awesome. I really think if we put our mind to it and keep working, I think it's possible."

The regular season begins at Beeghly Center on Nov. 6 vs. RMU at 7 p.m.



Photo by Brent Bigelow/The Jambor

## FRUSTRATIONS MOUNT AS YSU MISTAKES CONTINUE

**MARC WEEMS**

The Youngstown State University football team has struggled to find any sort of consistency. The Penguins are currently 2-4 with a 1-2 Missouri Valley Football Conference record. The Penguins now come home for two straight home games, which may be just what they need.

The first of two games is against the University of South Dakota, who are coming off a 42-28 loss to the University of Northern Iowa.

"It's pretty simple. We can't make as many mistakes as we've been making," YSU head coach Bo Pelini said. "It's as simple as that. It isn't a physical thing. We make too many mental errors and we're not executing to the level we need to. You can't do that."

Pelini said that he felt that when he walked off the field against South Dakota State University at halftime that they should have been up 10 or 14 points instead of down nine points.

"We've been our own worst enemy. We have to play better," Pelini said.

In YSU's 36-7 loss to SDSU, YSU started with the ball with

55 or less yards to go four times and came away with zero points.

Despite the score, YSU's defense played very well. The Penguins held the Jackrabbits to 331 total yards with just 78 passing yards.

Now with a game against the University of South Dakota, the Penguins must continue to use defense to their advantage.

"South Dakota looks like a good team," defensive tackle Wesley Thompson said. "They are 3-3 right now. That is obviously a tough thing to do in our conference. They played UNI pretty good but they lost. It's going to be a tough challenge this week."

The Coyotes use a mostly passing attack on offense. Quarterback Austin Simmons has thrown for 1,924 yards with 12 touchdowns and four interceptions. He has completed 61.4 percent of passes so far this year.

Running the ball has been tough for the Coyotes, but the Penguins have struggled in run defense.

Ben Klett is the leading rusher with 247 yards on 54 attempts with three touchdowns.

"We've had a couple of tough losses but everything we want is still out there," Thompson said about getting to the playoffs again. "Especially when we have the No. 1 and Illinois State is No. 7. If we win out, we can still get in."

YSU's offense has been the Achilles heel of this team so far.

Averaging just 23.7 points per game, the Penguins will need to move the ball better to beat South Dakota.

Last season on the road, USD defeated YSU, 31-28, on a game-winning field goal with seven seconds left.

"You can't play football that way," Pelini said on playing nervous. "We've talked about it. To me, a lot of that is that you have to believe in your preparation and lean on your preparation. The thing that has me shaking my head goes back to the game. I'm having a hard time putting my finger on it."

YSU ranks in the top 50 of the FCS for total defense and for passing defense.

The Penguins offense has been inconsistent to say the least. The rushing attack has lacked as the Penguins are gaining just 163.5 yards per game which is down 59 yards per game from last year's average.

"The consistency just isn't there and you can't live that way," Pelini said. "I've been coaching a long time and I've never been this frustrated as I am right now. I know the 'want to' is there. The effort is there. We have to coach it better and stay the course. It's not an x and o problem. It's an execution problem."

YSU gets this two-game homestand started on Oct. 20 at 6 p.m. at Stambaugh Stadium.

## THE BIRTH OF YOUNGSTOWN'S MOST FAMOUS CHILD: THE PENALTY FLAG

**BRENT BIGELOW**

If you watch any form of American football you've encountered the bright yellow, high-flying penalty flag. They're annoying, intrusive, delay the game and are normally thrown against your team, but never against your opponent.

The penalty flag was invented by Dwight "Dike" Beede, the first head football coach of Youngstown College, according to YSU Athletics.

Back in the day when an infraction happened on the football field, referees would blow a horn or a whistle to indicate that there was a penalty. The problem was, when they blew the whistle, players would think that the play would be over. This common problem brought Dike to create something that would

mark where the penalty occurred and wouldn't trick the players into thinking the play was over.

Dike told his wife, Irma Beede (also known as the "Betsy Ross of Football" because she would stitch all the penalty flags together) to make something that was bright and striped, so it was eye-catching. Irma Beede grabbed her daughter's red Halloween costume and an old bed sheet for the flags. She used lead fishing sinkers from Dike Beede's tackle box to weigh the flags down.

Once the prototype was created, Dike Beede brought the flag to Rayen Stadium on Oct. 17, 1941, where Oklahoma City University head coach Os Doenges and four game referees agreed to use the flags as an experiment.

One of the refs, Jack McPhee, would take the newly invented penalty flags to Columbus, Ohio, where it was used in an Ohio State football game against Iowa where the league commissioner,

Major John Griffith, was a spectator. At first, Griffith was confused why McPhee kept throwing "rags" onto the field, but post-game McPhee explained himself and by 1948 the flag was introduced at the American Football Coaches session.

McPhee would carry and use the original penalty flag at many Princeton, Yale and Ohio State football games until the color finally faded and it was unusable.

McPhee and the original striped penalty flag finally made it to the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California, where McPhee tossed the flag in front of 100,000 people. The Youngstown-made invention finally made it to "The Granddaddy of Them All."

The penalty flag is annoying, but it is the most important piece of simplistic technology that is used in all levels of football today. So, the next time you feel your blood pressure rise because the zebra threw a flag, remember — that's from Youngstown.

# FROM SOUTH BEND TO THE STEEL VALLEY

**BRIAN YAUGER**

In his fifth collegiate year, the quarterback of the Youngstown State University Penguins football team, Montgomery VanGorder, is finally getting his chance to shine.

"It feels great to be back out there again, competing and playing, not just as a holder," VanGorder said. "Getting that chance to compete, because that's something that I want to do, that's something that I love to do. That's what I missed. It's been fun."

On Jan. 3, 2018, VanGorder made the decision to transfer to YSU. A decision that was made with the familiarity of tradition in mind.

"I wanted to choose a school that was similar in the tradition," VanGorder said. "In the '90s, Youngstown State was dominant. Coach Pelini was dominant when he was in Nebraska. I wanted to go to a place where there was a similar feel and that's you get here. There's a sense of pride and tradition, and I'm excited to be a part of that."

Through six games, VanGorder has thrown for 1,356 yards and 11 touchdowns. His favorite target thus far has been Zach Farrar, throwing to him 20 times for 307 yards and a touchdown.

"He's a strong-minded, tough kid," Penguins head coach Bo Pelini said after the Penguins victory over the Southern Illinois University Salukis. "He's a competitor."

Despite coming out of high school with two state championships under his belt, VanGorder wasn't considered a blue chip prospect, only receiving offers from FCS programs Eastern Kentucky and Murray State and was giving a two-star rating by Rivals.com. He decided to forego those offers and walk onto the prestigious Notre Dame program.

VanGorder, while never starting a game for the Fighting Irish, saw significant playing time as the primary holder on field goals. VanGorder was nominated for the Mortell Holder of the Year Award, a tongue-in-cheek award created by former University of Minnesota punter Peter Mortell.

"The winner of the award selects a charity," VanGorder said. "I really wanted to win for that, because I have a buddy who has a foundation that I would have loved to raise money for. Overall it was fun, it was a good experience, we made a video for it. It was a good time."

Football is a part of the VanGorder bloodline with father Brian and brothers Mack and Malloy all being involved in the sport. Mack VanGorder played for the Auburn University Tigers and Molloy VanGorder played for the University of Georgia Bulldogs.

"I think [being a part of a football household] has molded me into the person I am today," Montgomery VanGorder said. "Growing up, with my dad as a coach, I was moving around so much, so you have to adapt to a lot of situations so that kind of helped me throughout college and transferring. You just learn the ins and outs of the football world. It's equipped me well."

Brian VanGorder has had a long and widespread career, coaching all over the country for nearly 40 years, from a high school assistant to defensive coordinator for the Atlanta Falcons.

Currently, Brian VanGorder is the defensive coordinator at the University of Louisville. For two years, Brian VanGorder was the defensive coordinator with Notre Dame, the same time Montgomery VanGorder was the Scout Team quarterback.

"I loved the time I got to spend with my dad," Montgomery VanGorder said. "I was the Scout Team quarterback so we got to kind of butt heads in practice and stuff like that. Just getting to be around him, not every college student gets to have their dad, one, live that close to them, and two, be a part of their daily lives and their daily routine."

"I mean, he was on the defensive side so when it came to football we weren't in the same meeting room or things like that, he wasn't coaching me directly, but it was a good experience," he continued.

Montgomery VanGorder looks to follow in the footsteps of his father, aiming to transition into coaching after he finishes his time playing football, whenever that may be. When asked if he wanted to stay on the offensive side of the ball, or switch to the defensive side like his father, Montgomery VanGorder kept an open mind.

"I'd take any opportunity that presents itself," Montgomery VanGorder said. "I love coaching quarterbacks, so I'll probably lean towards that side of the ball, but my dad always told me, 'if you want to be a great offensive coach, you have to learn defense first.'"

"I feel like I have a good grasp of defense, but there's a big difference in learning it as a quarterback and actually learning schemes, run fits, and gaps," Montgomery VanGorder said. "Once I'm done, I'll explore a lot of different options, and just try to get in somewhere. That's the first step, just getting your foot in the door."

Whether he decides to continue playing at the pro level, or transition into coaching right after his time in Youngstown is finished, it's safe to say that the man they call "Gummy" has a long future in the game of football.



Photo courtesy of Tanner Mondok/The Jambar