

THE STUDENT VOICE OF YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY SINCE 1931

THE JAMBAR



YSUNTY'S ANNUAL DRAG SHOW CHANGES PACE

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PERIODIC TABLE INSTALLED IN MEMORY OF DR. RAY

RACHEL GOBEP

A large, intricate periodic table now lights up the student lounge area on the west side of Ward Beecher Hall at Youngstown State University.

Ray Beiersdorfer, also known as Dr. Ray, made arrangements for the 118-element periodic table, and he helped secure the donation that was given to the university for the cabinet by an anonymous donor.

Dr. Ray, a distinguished professor of environmental and geological sciences, made these arrangements before his untimely death after he suffered from a heart attack on campus in October.

Susie Beiersdorfer, Dr. Ray's wife and an adjunct professor of environmental geology at YSU, said the periodic table is amazing, and it is a powerful legacy to Dr. Ray.

"It's a masterpiece, it's artistic, it's scientific and it really lays

out the periodic table of the elements," she said.

Beiersdorfer said this is what education is about.

"[Education] is not about just seeing a little chart on the wall or something in the book. This is science in our world. This is everyday science, connecting your real world to an element," she said.

The periodic table connects the real world to an element by showing how the element can be used in everyday life. For example, indium is found in the screens of cell phones.

Felicia Armstrong, associate professor of geological and environmental sciences, said she believes the periodic table is a great addition to the campus learning environment.

She said she plans on utilizing it in some way by taking her students to view the display.

The cabinet was designed and constructed on campus by Marcos Polomo, a craftsman from Madrid, Spain. The installation was also constructed by Andrew Goodall, a chemistry elements

specialist with RGB Research Ltd. in London that supplies the elements, according to a YSU press release.

It takes the pair four days to assemble the cabinet and install the elements, and there are around 15 periodic table installations across the United States.

The process is also underway for Dr. Ray's Memorial Diamond because he told people that when he died, he wanted to be a diamond in the YSU Mineral Museum.

One pound of his ashes was sent off to create a "diamond in the rough" because Dr. Ray was "many faceted and not polished."

A scarlet oak tree, which is the only tree of its kind on campus, was planted in honor of Dr. Ray. An abundance of YSU students, faculty and staff gathered in the lawn between Moser and Ward Beecher Halls for the tree planting ceremony in November. The tree can be seen while sitting in the student lounge viewing the periodic table.



Photo by *Tanner Mondok/The Jambar*

COURTNEY HIBLER

The U.S. Bank National Association is seeking foreclosure of Flats at Wick, a NYO Property Group off-campus student apartment complex for Youngstown State University students. The foreclosure is a result of the developer, Dominic Marchionda, allegedly being behind on loan payments to the bank.

The foreclosure was filed as the result of an \$5.2 million alleged default payment by Marchionda on a \$5.5 million loan, which was issued in December 2012.

Flats at Wick was notified in April and September of 2018 that the loan had not been paid in accordance to the agreed terms and was extended to December 2018.

After another extension was granted until April 5, the loan had still not been paid and the property has been ordered to be sold.

According to an article by WKBN, the court filing stated the borrower “failed to deposit all rents into the restricted accounts, fund all required reserves and deposit excess cash as required by the loan agreement.”

Michael Pasternak, attorney for Marchionda, said he doesn't agree with the lawsuit and the case is unjustified.

“Dominic takes care of his properties,” he said. “This is an

unreasonable lawsuit, and I'll do what I can to protect him because his position in this deserves to be heard.”

According to Pasternak, when something like this happens it's because payments aren't being made and nothing is being taken care of.

“For Flats at Wick, this isn't the case at all,” he said. “Dominic has kept this housing complex in excellent condition, and he has always paid what has been owed.”

Flats at Wick is one of 67 projects by Marchionda that was cited last year.

Marchionda faces charges including falsification, theft, receiving stolen property, telecommunications fraud, record tampering, money laundering and engaging in a pattern of corrupt activity.

He has denied all allegations in the indictment as well as other allegations regarding him improperly securing money from Youngstown's waste water and sanitation funds for personal use.

According to Dave Betras, an attorney with Betras, Kopp & Harshman, current tenants are usually not affected by a foreclosure.

Logan Mitchell, a sophomore psychology major, said she isn't worried about the foreclosure since she will be moving back

home.

“I don't live far from here, and I don't mind moving back home,” she said. “Although I'm worried for my friends who currently live here.”

In Mitchell's opinion, the current living conditions at the complex could be better.

“Certain things just don't get fixed in a timely manner, and the current construction makes it worse,” she said. “We already have limited parking on campus, and now we basically have none which makes it inconvenient.”

Mikenzie Ryan, a freshman anthropology major, said she isn't sure what the foreclosure means for tenants.

“We weren't really notified of the foreclosure,” she said. “There was a letter, but even that still left us confused because we don't know what's going to happen.”

In Ryan's opinion, the situation could have been handled better to ease the minds of everyone involved.

The letter provided to tenants at Flats at Wick states to contact Marchionda directly with any questions or concerns.

The Jambar contacted Marchionda in attempt to speak with him about the allegations, but he could not be reached for comment.

YSUNITY'S ANNUAL DRAG SHOW CHANGES PACE

ALYSSA WESTON

The Chestnut Room in Kilcawley Center was full of charm and sass as local drag professionals took the stage of YSUnity's annual drag show on April 26. This year, Youngstown State University students had the opportunity to join in the fun and try the art of drag.

For the first time since the start of the YSUnity drag show in the '90s, inexperienced YSU students had the ability to try drag during a special student show.

The idea was spearheaded by Joe Lemasters, whose drag name is Mya Garrison, host of the drag show the past three years. Lemasters also finds all the talent for the drag show.

Carissa Brennan, a senior middle childhood education major and president of YSUnity, said

the student drag show was started when many students asked how they could get involved in the show.

Together Brennan and Lemasters offered Drag 101 and Drag 102 — two workshop-style classes for YSU students to learn drag makeup, costuming and performing in drag. The class was aimed to prepare students to perform in the drag show.

After the classes, the rehearsal for the student performers was up to their own discretion.

Brennan said she loves the excitement the drag show brings to the campus each year.

"This year stood out compared to other years because of the queens we had. We had two queens who have been doing drag for 10-plus and 20-plus years. The level of experience really brings a unique twist to their performances," she said.

According to Brennan, it is important to

bring drag to YSU because it opens up people's minds about the LGBTQ community.

"Drag is an art, and I'm so happy I get to show that art to the YSU campus and the Youngstown community," she said.

Lemasters said his favorite part of performing at the drag show is the interaction with students.

"If the [students] are having a good time, I'm having a good time. And if they're not, then I feel like I have to change what I'm doing, and make sure they are having a good time," he said.

According to Lemasters, after the Drag 101 and 102 classes, there was no preparation for the student show on his end.

"I was just kind of there to encourage [student performers] and help them out with whatever questions that they had," he said.

Lemasters said the excitement backstage with the student performers was contagious, and he is hopeful there will be more student-based drag

performances at the YSUnity drag show in the future.

Devon Biggs, a freshman human resources management major, was a performer in the inaugural student drag show. He took the stage and amped up the crowd to the tunes of Beyonce and Cardi B.

Biggs, who is in the process of learning drag, said he contacted Lemasters about performing in the show to get some name recognition in the drag community.

According to Biggs, he pulls inspiration from both hip hop and R&B performers, as well as country musicians.

"It's always nerve-racking when you first go out there because you never know how the crowd is going to react," he said. "I just love making people laugh and smile and have fun."

RESOURCES RESCINDING FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDENTS

BRIANNA GLEGHORN

Resources for African American students at Youngstown State University have been decreasing in past years and the issue has only accelerated with faculty retiring and leaving.

With several faculty members gone, multiple events have gone unplanned or left in the hands of faculty with no direction.

The position of director of Africana studies was left open from August 2018 until January 2019. There has not been a director of student inclusion and engagement or associate vice president of multicultural affairs since both faculty members retired in June 2018.

The common solution to solve the decreasing resources is to bring on three new positions at the university: associate provost for diversity and inclusion, associate provost for teaching and learning and assistant director of diversity programs.

Cryshanna Jackson Leftwich, acting chair of the Department of Politics and International Relations, was put in charge of organizing events for Black History Month 2019.

"My real qualification is I'm a black faculty member," Jackson Leftwich said. "If we don't [put on the event], then we just won't have any Black History Month programming because there's no other department at the university designated to do that."

This event is usually the responsibility of the director of Africana studies. Tiffany Anderson, the former director, left in August 2018 to teach at Texas A&M. Her position was filled in January, but planning events like Black History Month takes months to organize.

Even though there were events planned, the time given for planning was limited and might've not happened if Jackson Leftwich had not taken lead.

The Annual Diversity Leadership Celebration did not take

place this year because the associate vice president of Multicultural Affairs was responsible for organizing the event.

The awards portion of the celebration was moved and incorporated during the Martin Luther King Jr. Observance on Jan. 17, sponsored by the YSU Division of Student Experience.

"We didn't want to lose recognizing people," Eddie Howard, vice president of student affairs said. "The other primary focus behind that was for Dr. Imler to raise resources for minority scholarship and things like that. By the time she left, she had reached her goal in regards to the amount of scholarships."

Howard explained two approaches the university has to handle diversity and inclusion.

YSU is currently looking for an associate provost for diversity and inclusion to combine the responsibilities of the associate vice president of Multicultural Affairs and director of student inclusion and engagement.

After hiring the new associate provost, the search for a new assistant director of diversity programs will begin with the current director, Ani Solomon, leaving for a position at Kent State University.

"We're going to repost that position and rehire," Howard said. "That person is going to really work with, on a student level, helping students to develop programs and initiatives that's more student affairs focused."

The YSU Diversity Council works to "promote both extracurricular programs to enhance and increase knowledge and appreciation of cultural diversity" but with Solomon leaving, the council's advisor, there is no talk on who will be the advisor.

President Jim Tressel believes this problem ties into diversity and inclusion and needs handled in a higher position.

"We want to get it right, especially in the classroom part of things," Tressel said. "That's why we thought it needed to report in the provost office, because that's the office that directs the

classroom."

"In my opinion ... we have a lot of people doing the work already," Howard said. "What I think has happened is a lot of the work we're doing is disjointed. There are people in different pockets doing different things."

While different departments have handled events and programs involving diverse cultures, the hope for these positions is to put the responsibility on one office and to have a position in the provost office to bring it to the classrooms.

Patrick Spearman, director of Africana studies, began his new position in January 2019.

"Everything is really focused on students. So, what do students want?" Spearman said. "You can't give students everything they want. But if they say that we need this office or we need funding for this particular program or we want this initiative, I think that the administration across the board should listen to those students and try to meet those students in terms of their need."

Arlene Floyd, a member of Black Alumni Chapter, believes the rescinding resources are a "little microcosm of the larger problem."

An article by the Jambar reported a nine percent African American student graduation rate according to the 2010 six-year cohort.

William Blake, former director of student inclusion and engagement, believes that students should play a role in making these resources a priority.

"I believe that students should be focused upon identifying a university advocacy agenda that seriously promotes diversity and inclusion," Blake said.

Although YSU has left some of these positions open for nearly a year, they are now making efforts improve the resources available for African American and minority students.



Photo by Tanner Mondok/The Jambar

YOUNGSTOWN FOUNDATION AMPHITHEATRE: MODERNIZING DOWNTOWN YOUNGSTOWN

AMANDA JOERNDT

The yearlong construction of the new Youngstown Foundation Amphitheatre will come to an end in June and begin hosting national and international musical events this summer, aiming to draw in more business to downtown Youngstown.

The amphitheatre will host several nationally ranked performances that will draw in a diverse demographic and potentially bring Youngstown State University students back to the city during their summer vacation.

Gucci Mane, Earth, Wind & Fire, MuddFest and Steely Dan are a few of the performers making a mark on the amphitheatre this summer.

Eric Ryan, president of JAC Management Group, will be operating the outdoor facility and managing booking the events.

Ryan said it will bring more traffic flow to the area and help businesses in downtown Youngstown draw in more customers throughout the summer months.

“Downtown will notice an influx of activity on the nights of these shows,” he said. “We have been fortunate to be able to

book many shows on weekends this summer, which will help encourage fans attending our shows to make a night of it and visit the restaurants downtown.”

According to Ryan, advertisement for the facility will be directed toward younger audiences and bring college students downtown during the summer months.

“We will have a great opportunity to engage this younger audience at the shows through social media, which we have recently been taking in a new direction for our venues,” he said.

Ryan said JAC Management has partnered with several different businesses to bring the vision of the new outdoor venue to life, and plans to announce other partnerships in the future to help further progress the amphitheatres entertainment value.

Hayden Brooke, manager at Suzie’s Dogs & Drafts in downtown Youngstown, said he is looking forward to seeing how the outdoor venue will help grow downtown businesses.

“I think it’s definitely going to help the growth of Youngstown in general. It’s going to bring a whole bunch of people down here,” he said. “It will help business here at Suzie’s, even though it’s a bit of a distance away from the amphitheatre.”

Brooke’s hopes the venue will give local artists the opportunity to perform and work with the national touring acts.

“With these bigger national and international touring acts coming into this new amphitheatre, that gives opportunities for local artists to open up for them as well,” he said. “I’m hoping there will be some collaborative efforts between those touring acts and local artists.”

Serena Stout, a sophomore dental hygiene major, said she is taking summer courses at YSU for her program and plans on utilizing the amphitheatre.

“I actually think the new amphitheatre coming to downtown is a really good idea, especially for students that are going to be here in the summertime,” she said. “With it being in such a short distance from campus, that’ll be really good, and it’ll get a lot of younger generations coming down there.”

Stout said she is looking forward to spending her free time this summer at the outdoor venue.

“It’s really nice to have a specific center designated just for music and festivals, with it being in an outside environment,” she said.

LATINX & HISPANIC STUDENT ORGANIZATION

**ANGELICA DIAZ
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR**

The LatinX & Hispanic Student Organization at Youngstown State University is working actively to engage in the community.

Alexandra Montaz, senior political science major and president of the LatinX & Hispanic Student Organization at YSU, said the group has been established since 2009 but hasn't hosted many events.

"It wasn't officially inactive but we wouldn't do anything," Montaz said. "We wouldn't have meetings. We wouldn't have events. We would just do Hispanic Heritage Month."

Montaz, who recently received the Women's Student Leadership Award through YSU's Women's and Gender Studies Office, said she wanted LatinX to do more and have a place here on campus.

"We started by changing the name, updating the bylaws and just doing more activities," she said, noting that the name had been changed from Latino Organization to LatinX & Hispanic Student Organization.

Montaz said that she and other Latino students got together and decided to "reboot the organization."

She said it's important for everybody to communicate no matter their ethnicity, but she understands it is also important for Latino students at YSU to have their own community.

"It is important to have that community of people who go through similar struggles as you," she said.

Montaz said the organization also discusses the different issues surrounding Latino in today's society. She said the organization has partnered with HOLA Ohio, an organization that works with families and children impacted by immigration policies in the United States.

Veronica Dahlberg, executive director at HOLA Ohio, said her organization has worked to empower the Latino community through education, advocacy, civic engagement and leadership development for two decades.

"We try to help the Latino community use their own voice to improve their own lives," Dahlberg said.

Dahlberg explains how YSU LatinX & Hispanic Student Organization has stepped in and is helping create a pilot project. The plan is to help provide a support system for dislocated immigrant families in the Youngstown area by translating or providing additional help.

"It is important that our community, especially the students in the student organization with Hispanic roots, learn about the current situation many immigrant families in our own community and surrounding areas have been facing due to Zero Tolerance Immigration Laws, and most importantly, that

our youth understands the importance of active engagement and how to be part of community organizing," Ana M. Torres, co-director and head of library services and operations at MAAG Library and one of the advisors for the LatinX Organization, said.

Montaz said anyone is welcome to be a part of the LatinX Organization and Hispanic Student Organization.

"We want to share our culture with other people," Montaz said.

She said when it comes to sharing cultures, it's not just about learning how to dance or eating Latin food, but also partnering with Latinos and engaging in the issues the Latino communities encounter.

If you want to be a part of LatinX & Hispanic Student Organization or want more information contact Alexandra Montaz at amontaz@student.yosu.edu.

THE FOURTH OF MAY

BRIAN BRENNAN

On May 4, 1970, four students at Kent State University were shot to death by Ohio National Guardsmen during a heated anti-war protest. For those attending Youngstown State University, this event was particularly heartrending; one of the dead, Sandra Lee Scheuer of Boardman, had attended summer school at YSU only the year before.

Student rage led to strikes and demonstrations on many American college and university campuses. YSU was no exception.

It all began on the other side of the world. U.S. combat forces had been heavily engaged in Vietnam since 1965, fighting the communist North Vietnamese Army and Viet Cong guerilla forces. The stated objective was to limit the spread of communism and to preserve the independence of non-communist South Vietnam.

In 1969, President Richard Nixon promised to gradually reduce America's involvement in this unpopular war. In April 1970, however, Nixon ordered the bombing of the Ho Chi

Minh Trail, a communist supply route that ran north-to-south through neighboring (and neutral) Cambodia. U.S. and South Vietnamese ground assaults followed. It looked as if Nixon was actually expanding the war instead of containing it.

To make matters worse, the military draft was modified. Now selections would be made through lottery. Men born between 1944 and 1950 were affected — college deferments were also abolished.

Students were horrified by Nixon's actions.

At Kent State, enraged students took to the streets on May 1. Both public and private property was threatened — in one case, the ROTC building was torched.

To restore order, Ohio Governor James Rhodes dispatched the National Guard. On May 4, these part-time (and relatively untrained) soldiers faced an oncoming rush of livid demonstrators. Out of tear gas and pelted by rocks, the National Guardsmen opened fire. In addition to the four students killed (two of whom, including Scheuer, were not even part of the protest), another 11 were wounded.

The country was stunned — and furious — at the events of May 4. Unrest led to the closing of many Ohio colleges and

universities. At YSU, President Albert Pugsley called for a two-day period of introspection (a "teach-in") whereby all course work would be set aside in favor of discussion relating to the tragedy. Pugsley and others addressed an open rally, seeking to come to terms with events. Some demanded the eviction of ROTC from YSU. The Newman Club asked the campus community to cancel the upcoming spring weekend festivities.

Dissatisfied with the official university response, SCAR (Students Committed to Academic Reform) called for a general student strike. A poorly organized candlelight vigil was held, but some wanted to stage a march on the downtown. Others opted to advance upon the Christy National Guard Armory on Rayen Avenue.

The following month, Nixon withdrew U.S. forces from Cambodia, hailing the campaign as a great success. Yet, popular outrage remained. Later, a presidential commission found the actions of the National Guardsmen to be unjustified. Meanwhile at YSU, students returned to class. Pollock House (where ROTC was quartered) remained undamaged, and spring weekend festivities took place as scheduled.

Photo courtesy of *Cliffe College of Creative Arts & Communication*

A TIMELESS TALE GETS THE SPOTLIGHT

MARAH J. MORRISON

Engelbert Humperdinck's opera "Hansel and Gretel" was presented by the Dana School of Music on April 28 in Bliss Hall's Spotlight Theater. Even though the opera followed the original fairytale by the Brothers Grimm, there are lighter elements within.

The production was directed by Dana School of Music alumnus and internationally acclaimed heldentenor Gary Lehman and his wife Susan Foster.

Lehman said this opera was a great opportunity for students to be able to get up on their feet and do an opera that has been done thousands of times around the world, and it was very family friendly, so it was nice for a younger audience to come see it.

"The students [did] great jobs developing the characters, and it [was a] large enough cast, [so we got to use] quite a few students," he said.

Lehman said while the Grimm's original story of "Hansel and Gretel" is deeper and darker than the opera, Hansel and Gretel still get lost in the woods and The Witch still finds them.

"It's very comical," he said. "[There are] very comical scenes with the witch. She's a little over the top at times. We like that."

Lehman said freshmen-year to graduate-year students participated in the opera.

Youngstown State University graduate student Lindsay Heavner played The Witch, sophomore Rachel Jones played Hansel and senior Amanda Bertilacci played Gretel.

"Seeing where the students start from and where they end up with the development of their characters and the way they're singing the roles [is my biggest fulfillment,]" Lehman said. "That's our ultimate goal."

Foster said it is exciting for her when she sees younger singers discover things they did not know about their own voices, and when a singer hits a note they were not sure they could hit, she can see the satisfaction in their eyes.

"I love the music preparation part of preparing an opera because you get to find out how interactly the composer wrote all of these pieces to display the emotions of the characters," she said.

Foster said the opera was intended for children, so it was made less disturbing. She said there are still some frightening aspects, such as The Witch living in the woods who is cooking and eating children.

"It's suitable for kids, and I think adults [would] enjoy it as well," she said. "I think people would be surprised how much they would enjoy opera. Even some of our students have said to us, 'We really didn't think we'd like opera as much as we do, and now we really love it.'"

Foster said the "Hansel and Gretel" opera is highly accessible,

and it would be a great first experience for those wanting to be exposed to opera.

Jones, a YSU music theory major, said being a part of this opera has helped her loosen up performance-wise and gain more of a stage presence. She said because of her major, she is not much of a performer.

"I planned on going through music school performing the least possible, but I had so much fun with a tiny role in the last opera that I wanted to try again," she said. "I ended up getting a lead, and that kind of forced me into acting out a lot more."

Jones said playing the role of Hansel included a lot of comedic relief, and she had to act out a lot more and do a lot of funny scenes, as well as sing in ways that are not pretty because she is playing the role of a child.

"I had a lot more to learn," she said. "Almost everything [I did was] with Gretel. That involved a lot of extra practice with us together. It's a lot [of] responsibility when somebody else's singing relies a lot on you."

Jones said a lot of time was spent on the opera. She said audience interaction was included, and the directors spent a lot of their time making the show fun to watch.

"It's a story that everybody knows," she said. "Everybody knows what happens, but we made it really fun and entertaining."



Photos by *J. Harvard Feldhouse/The Jambar*

FEDERAL FRENZY SHOWCASES NATIONAL AND LOCAL TALENT

FRANCES CLAUSE

Twenty-four bands, six venues, food trucks and art filled four blocks of downtown Youngstown for the fifth annual Federal Frenzy on April 27.

Sponsored by Penguin Productions and the Summit FM, the nine-hour music and arts festival attracted an energetic crowd for headlining act Robert DeLong.

As an electronic rock and roll musician from Bothell, Washington, DeLong drew the crowd into his performance with music from his new EP, "See You In The Future."

"[The EP] is four songs and touches on different reactions to life in the modern era," he said. "'Revolutionary' is about dealing with technology and social media in daily life and 'Beginning of the End' deals with our social and political climate."

DeLong said the music that inspires what he creates stems from growing up in Seattle, Washington, in the early 2000s.

"Death Cab for Cutie and Modest Mouse were coming into their own at the time, and those two bands are definitely part of my musical language," he said. "But, I'm really influenced by all music, whether it's electronic or even ambient background

sounds."

Because he always had an interest in electronic music and a background in percussion instruments, DeLong stumbled into finding his sound naturally and believes supporting local artists can help them do the same.

"If you can foster creativity in the community, then it creates possibilities for performers," he said. "And the more space you give people to be creative and have an outlet, the more people that are inspired, as well."

Local musicians were abundant at this year's Federal Frenzy, and for Ziya MC, being in the music lineup for the first time at the event was important to him.

"I started performing solo in Youngstown the summer after my junior year of high school and continued with it," he said. "I've always wanted to be in a festival."

Ziya's goal was for the crowd to enjoy his melodies, but most of all, interpret his lyrics to get the messages he brings.

"It's so powerful when people can relate to your lyrics, even if they take it in their own way and not what [the lyrics] really mean," he said.

Ziya said he has something to prove through his album that is being released in August about his internal and societal struggles

that have led him to change.

"So, for all the people who have shut me down or doubted me, it is slightly satisfying to show them how seriously I take my music by performing at this festival," he said.

Frank Toncar, a music major at YSU, also performed for the first time at Federal Frenzy and believes it was the perfect opportunity to spread the sounds of his EP "Avalanche."

"[The EP] was just going to be a studio project, but then I had the idea that playing out would be a cool way to bring the songs to life," he said.

Toncar said the timing of Federal Frenzy was perfect because of "Avalanche's" release the day before the festival, serving nicely as a pseudo EP release show.

Toncar also took the festival as an opportunity to enjoy the other talent that the Youngstown and Northeast Ohio area had to offer.

"The world of local music is very fun and intriguing," he said. "We have a ton of great musicians around here with some really phenomenal minds. Supporting, contributing and being involved in that scene is just so important."

Photo by *Tanner Mondok/The Jambor*

'STILL IN LOVE' MUSIC VIDEO CREATED BY YSU STUDENTS

VICTORIA REMLEY

"Still In Love," a music video collaboration between two Youngstown State University students, was created in half a day and all started on the YSU mobile app.

Tawana Hymes, a junior social media communications major and solo artist, posted on the YSU mobile app asking if any musical artists on campus wanted to collaborate. Fortunately for Hymes, Briana Dent, a freshman psychology major and lyricist, responded.

Hymes created a musical beat 15 minutes after Dent responded and within four hours of Hymes' original post, the pair met up. From there, Hymes gave Dent the musical beat and Hymes went to class.

By the time Hymes got out of class, Dent created lyrics to the song. Hymes and Dent recorded "Still In Love" later that night.

The song's inspiration came from previous experiences both Hymes and Dent had with past high school relationships.

Hymes said he has created music for 15 years and grabs inspiration through events in his life and other local artists.

"Every time I see one of my friends have a song coming out or

a video that's coming out, or taking a step closer to their dream, whether it be photography or videography or whatever, it just makes me think, 'OK, well if they're doing that, what's stopping me?'" Hymes said.

Hymes is a mostly a self-taught musician, pulling information from YouTube, and he googled how to navigate the music world. He learned how to use the music creation app GarageBand and used it to launch his music career with it. He slowly acquired better studio equipment and took vocal lessons.

Dent said she wants to affect people with her lyrics.

"I rap in it a little bit, but that's not my main focus when it comes to songs. My main focus is to get a message across," she said.

Dent included her girlfriend in the music video to emphasize the importance of communication.

"I just wanted to have that visual of saying to someone face to face, 'It's OK to stand up to whoever you're having feelings towards, or even previous feelings towards, and just talk about feelings and communicate,'" Dent said.

Growing up, Dent tried to listen to a plethora of different music genres, so she could be diverse with her writing. She started focusing on her writing in high school, and began going

to a recording studio while in college.

Dent pulls inspiration from her father who writes and records his own music, and travels to recording studios for his job.

"My dad is definitely one of my major influences when it comes to getting started with music," Dent said.

When writing "Still In Love," Dent thought about situations a person could go through from a man's perspective. She decided to do a slow song for a man expressing his feelings.

"Usually, all I do is work with girls when it comes to music and singing, so it was nice to work with a guy," Dent said.

Dent took a chance on Hymes because no one responded to his post on the YSU mobile app.

"I like to build a bond. I don't want to just be your songwriter, so it was just nice to meet him, and he was really humble," Dent said.

Hymes' first professional album called "Hidden in Plain Sight" comes out in May and can be found on Apple Music, iTunes and YouTube. It will include a YouTube series. The "Still In Love" music video can be found on YouTube under the creator name of Tee Hymes.

MARIO'S MOVIES: A FINAL REVIEW II

MARIO RICCIARDI

The reality surrounding us at any given moment comes and then infinitely flees toward mere resonance of what that moment was. An entire conversation cut down to one clear image. A full night-to-morning out diluted to only vibrant colors and deep blacks, (and maybe the smell of fireball). Every single hour of every single class you attended; what happened to all that time? All those moments? Life is wispy like that.

When I wrote my first end-of-the-year entry, I promised that I would dedicate every end-of-the-year column to filmmaker John Hughes. Besides, we all saw “Endgame” and it was good, so there’s not much else to say about that.

Hughes was a unique man in both his work and personal life. A staunch Republican, he had as much disdain for the culture of Hollywood as he had love for his craft. Taking his family from the advertising world of Chicago to the unstable world of filmmaking in Hollywood,

Hughes took the risk, worked hard and left an impression the world will never be able to shake.

Hughes’ work predominantly shows that he understood the fleeting urgency of life. A certain Ferris Bueller quote comes to mind. Not so fast though — Ferris is being saved for “Final Review III, A Final Final Review,” which is coming next fall. For this year’s final entry, I wanted to talk about an overlooked Hughes’ film: “Planes, Trains & Automobiles.”

Yes, it’s that semi-sorta-holiday film that never makes it on favorite Christmas movie lists (probably because it’s technically a Thanksgiving movie). It’s that movie everyone has heard the title of, but never seen all the way through. It’s that film whose own marketing people seemingly threw the towel in on, consequently overwriting it as simply a token holiday comedy.

That’s not nearly the case, though. “Planes, Trains & Automobiles” is a story of human capacity. How much can we take? What can we really endure and for how long? But not in a “Rocky” movie kind of way— that’s too easy.

When Rocky gets knocked down, we want him to get back up because we see ourselves as the underdog. When John Candy’s Del Griffith in “Planes, Trains & Automobiles” can’t find the point to the story he has been trying to tell Steve Martin’s Neal Page on a crammed flight for the last hour, we want Neal to knock Del down to shut him up.

Where’s the glory in that? Neal Page is a deeply cynical man and yet, whether you realize it or not, we relate to him for most of the film. Hughes seemingly wrote the entirety

of “Planes, Trains & Automobiles” to test how far can he could push Neal Page on his quest to return home to his family for Thanksgiving.

The epitome of Neal’s challenge is the constant re-introduction of Del Griffith, who is an unlucky, vehement penny who keeps turning up in Neal’s comically unfortunate trip. He’s a poignant reflection of our inability to endure life’s nuisances as easily as we will accept life’s blessings, hiding in our phones or tapering the conversation to expedite our way through the awkwardness, shamelessly talking about another person once they’ve left.

What Neal and the audience do not immediately see is Del’s pain. We know Neal is struggling. In fact, he reminds us every five minutes, so much so that it’s pretty much a plot twist to find out that Del has any pain of his own. The true dynamic here is that Del’s struggles are covered up by not only Neal’s cynicism, but also Del’s efforts to help others be happy because he knows his own pain all too well.

Ask anyone familiar with Hughes’ filmography and they’ll say his greatest speech is the one at the end of the Breakfast Club. I disagree. His greatest speech is the one Del gives in the motel after Neal berates him for the better part of six minutes.

“Yeah, you’re right. I talk too much. I also listen too much. I could be a cold-hearted cynic like you, but I don’t like to hurt people’s feelings. Well, you think what you want about me. I’m not changing. I like — I like me. My wife likes me. My customers like me. ‘Cause I’m the real article. What you see is what you get.”

Before we make our goal to move forward to conquer the world presently out of reach, let’s take a moment to take care of the world presently around us — the one that has accepted us for who we are and still likes us, the one that’s unabashedly the real deal. From a different perspective, “Planes, Trains & Automobiles” isn’t about Neal learning to accept Del. It’s about Del’s strength to put away his own pain to help someone else with their own.

To humble oneself for others is a truly noble deed, but what is nobility if it’s a status builder. Humility is crucial because our achievements (our uphill battles, our paychecks, our beautiful cathedrals) will always get wisped away in the objectiveness of time. The only thing that truly lasts is how we’ve treated one another.

That’s that for now. See you for one final semester YSU! “Planes, Trains & Automobiles.”

●●●●○ 4/5 Penguins

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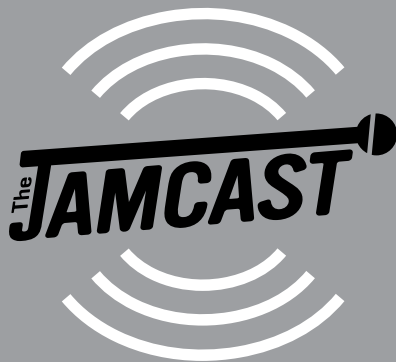
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THE JAMBAR STAFF PRESENTS



FRIDAY 2-3 P.M.

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR IT SERVICE DESK ASSISTANT (STUDENT)

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THE JAMBAR STAFF PRESENTS



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MONDAY 1-2 P.M.

THE JAMBAR STAFF PRESENTS



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MONDAY 2-3 P.M.

THE JAMBAR

— LETTER FROM —

THE EDITOR

As we quickly approach finals week and I say goodbye to my time as an undergraduate, I can't help but reflect on my experience at Youngstown State University and as editor-in-chief of The Jambar for the 2018-2019 academic year.

If you would have told me nearly two years ago that I would become editor-in-chief, I would have laughed in your face and told you I would never write for the school newspaper. Fast forward and here I am writing a goodbye letter to my colleagues at the paper and the YSU community.

From general assignment reporter to web manager to eventually head editor, I would have never guessed I would be writing this letter, but I'm forever grateful for the opportunities the university and the paper has given me to improve myself both professionally and as a human being.

It was no secret that this was the hardest year of my life. I went through some extreme life changes and battled with my mental health, all the while trying to put up a tough front to lead the newspaper to the best of my ability.

There was times when this was extremely hard to do, and I was on the verge of vacating the position, but I couldn't do that to myself or the staff of The Jambar. Especially since we've come so far from where we started in the beginning of the year.

But thankfully The Jambar's advisor, Dave Davis, was always in my ear telling me I was doing a good job, even when I probably wasn't. So thank you, Dave, for always being there to reassure me that I wasn't a total and complete failure, and preventing me from possibly making the worst decision of my life.

Am I perfect? Of course not! I've made plenty of mistakes and struggled to keep a stable mental state, while trying to juggle the newspaper, a part-time job and going to class full time.

But out of all the struggle that I've been through, The Jambar has been able to accomplish some amazing feats this year.

We've completely redesigned the physical paper and online website, increased our story outreach to cover areas and topics we haven't previously, started multiple podcasts, improved our social media presence and implemented more advertising to our website.

The Jambar has transformed into something completely different than it was last year or years prior, and I'm immensely proud of how far we've come.

But accomplishments from my tenure as EIC aside, I couldn't have changed anything if it wasn't for the previous editors and reporters at The Jambar who paved the way for journalistic integrity at The Jambar, since its inception in 1931 by Burke Lyden.

So, I want to say thank you to from the bottom of my heart to them for inspiring me to stick to journalism and always report the truth.

Out of all of the things I could say, I think the most paramount would be to thank the people that got me to where I am and helped me make the The Jambar what it is today.

I want to start off by endlessly thanking all of the reporters, copy editors, designers and photographers. Without all of you, there would be no Jambar. It's because of your hard work and dedication that we turned this news organization around into something more than just a newspaper.

Did I mention they're award winners? From winning Best Overall News at the Ohio National Media Association to racking up award after award in the Society of Collegiate Journalists' national contest — which, by the way, we beat out over 60 schools for the title of Best Overall News Excellence for our print publication — they all make me one proud "newspaper mom."

Also some personal shoutouts go to Tanner Mondok, Alyssa Weston, Brianna Gleghorn, Brian Yauger, Brent Bigelow,

Amanda Joerndt, Ryan Peplowski, Samantha Welch, Robin Stears, Josh Fitch, Ana Truby, Lydia Tarleton, Brady Sklenar, Marah Morrison and a few others I'm forgetting (forgive me) for doing their jobs so well they blew my socks off to the moon and back.

Thank you all for constantly inspiring me and making this paper what it is today. I love you all and couldn't express my gratitude enough.

Mary Dota, thank you for keeping The Jambar afloat and always being there for everyone at the paper. I honestly don't know what we would have done without you.

Rachel Gobep — I want to say thank you endlessly for keeping me sane and picking up my slack when I was falling apart. You have been the greatest managing editor and I can't wait to see what you'll do as EIC next year. Thank you for being a confidant and friend to everyone at the newspaper. You are an amazing reporter and editor, and you're going to kick this world's butt when you graduate. I love you 3000, and I honestly just can't say thank you enough.

And to the YSU community, thank you for letting me your EIC and provide a reliable and truthful source of news to you. It was my pleasure to provide you stories about happiness to sadness and controversy. I've met so many wonderful people through my time at The Jambar and I will never forget my experiences at this university while I embark on my next journey in life.

Thank you all again and remember — this is not a goodbye, it's a see you later.

Sincerely,
Morgan Petronelli
2018-19 Editor-in-Chief



HRYNKIEWICZ GETS NFL OPPORTUNITY

Photo by **Robert Hayes/The Jambar**

BRIAN YAUGER

While no names were called from Youngstown State University during the 2019 NFL Draft, Penguins offensive lineman Vitas Hrynkiewicz got a phone call from the NFC Champion Los Angeles Rams after the draft, signing him to an undrafted free agent deal.

“It was just a relief,” Hrynkiewicz said. “I talked with the Rams and some other teams pre-draft, so I knew there was some interest. My agent told me some teams were going to start having some opportunities, especially at center going into next year, so I knew they were interested. It was nice to have it happen.”

The Somerset, New Jersey, native joined the Penguins roster after transferring from Independence Community College in Kansas where he played for one season.

“I wouldn’t be here without YSU and the people here,” Hrynkiewicz said. “Coming out of high school, I didn’t have any Division I offers, so I went to junior college. YSU gave me that opportunity, and I’m proud to represent them.”

After joining the Penguins, Hrynkiewicz started in 38 games with YSU. In his first season with the team, he was an anchor on the national championship squad, starting in all 16 games, playing every snap in 14 of those games, blocking for two 1,000-yard rushers and being named to the Missouri Valley Football Conference’s All-Newcomer Team.

His second year with YSU, Hrynkiewicz was named to the All-MVFC second team and second team Academic All-MVFC. He started all 11 games at center and earned his second letter.

This past season he was an honorable

mention for the All-MVFC Academic Team. Hrynkiewicz graduated from YSU in December 2018 with a bachelor’s degree.

Despite the successes with the Penguins, Hrynkiewicz wasn’t invited to the NFL Combine in Indianapolis, but attended a pro-day put on by the New York Giants back home in New Jersey.

In the pro day, Hrynkiewicz put up 25 reps on the bench press, ran the 40-yard dash in 5.38 seconds and posted a 32-inch vertical jump in front of NFL coaches and scouts from across the league.

Had he been invited to the NFL Combine, his 40-yard dash time would have been third among draft eligible centers.

Being snubbed from the combine and the draft doesn’t affect Hrynkiewicz. However, he would carry himself with the same energy regardless of where he was taken.

“I always have a chip on my shoulder,” Hrynkiewicz said. “I don’t expect anything to be given to me. Being drafted would have been nice, but I’m glad to have this opportunity. I’m going to go out, work as hard as I can and go from there.”

Gavin Wiggins, teammate, fellow offensive lineman for the Penguins and best friend of Hrynkiewicz, was given two rookie camp offers with the Oakland Raiders and Buffalo Bills.

Just like after the victory over the University of Northern Iowa, it’s expected that the two will grab a bite to eat and likely share some, as he eloquently put it, “fat guy hugs.”

“I’m starving, so if we can get a little food, a couple wings, I’m sure [the offensive line] are thinking the same thing,” Hrynkiewicz said after the senior day game. “We’ll probably have a huge dinner and give some nice fat guy hugs.”

YOUNGSTOWN STATE CONCLUDES SPRING BALL

BRANDON TERLECKY
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

The Youngstown State University football team had a program record eight athletes receive the Missouri Valley Football Conference President's Council Academic Excellence Award, the conference announced in February.

YSU worked out two weeks before taking a week off for spring break in March. The Penguins will conclude workouts with two weeks of practices following the break in March.

The team completed spring training on March 30.

Some new faces will have the opportunity to emerge this spring on offense. YSU has lost key starters: tailback Tevin McCaster,

quarterback Montgomery VanGorder, guard Gavin Wiggins, center Vitas Hrynkiewicz and offensive guard Connor Sharp from last year's roster.

Their losses will give players an opportunity during spring drills. The Penguins return all of their tight ends from a year ago and all but one wide receiver.

Nathan Mays returns as a fifth-year senior and has the bulk of the experience for the position. Mays started against North Dakota State University as a junior and played in four games. He completed 26 of 44 passes for 304 yards and three scores while rushing for 223 yards on 47 carries.

He was a key contributor as a sophomore in 2017 when he played in eight games and started five contests. He completed 75 of 113 passes for

905 yards and four touchdowns while rushing for 317 yards on 77 carries.

YSU's defense also lost some talented players in 2018 seniors linebacker Armand Dellovade, defensive tackle Savon Smith, defensive end Johnson Louigene and free safety Chrispin Lee. However, YSU returns full-season starters defensive end Sherief Bynum, defensive tackle Wesley Thompson, cornerback D.J. Smalls and cornerback Bryce Gibson.

The offense scored five touchdowns during the workout, while the defense registered six sacks and had three pass breakups. The first offensive score was by senior tailback Joe Alessi. Alessi scored on a 17-yard for the number one offense against the number one defense.

Sophomore quarterback Joe Craycraft led the top unit on two other scoring drives. Craycraft

found sophomore wide receiver Natavious Payne for a 33-yard score before adding a quarterback keeper for a 15-yard touchdown run later in the scrimmage.

Freshman quarterback Mark Waid ended the spring on a good note. Waid was on the money tossing a 65 yard touchdown pass to Jake Coates on his third series of the scrimmage.

The final offensive score was a touchdown pass from Conor Collins to Michael Diaz from 12 yards on the last play of the scrimmage.

YSU is looking to open up its season opener against Samford University on Aug. 24. The team will be looking to get back to where they were in the 2016 season, where they made an incredible playoff run and competed in the national championship game against James Madison University.

PENGUIN HOCKEY SET TO SKIP ANOTHER SEASON

BRIAN YAUGER

After missing the 2018-19 season, the Youngstown State University club hockey program looks to be taking another season off, with the possibility of the program folding again.

"We were planning on taking a year off to kind of recruit and get funding and stuff," Penguins forward Chase Hovel said. "Because of lack of commitment and people not putting in the time the team needed, it seems like the hockey program is going to cease to exist entirely until a new group comes along that can revitalize it, and actually put the time they need to recruiting players and getting the fundraising."

Before suspending operations, the Penguins played in Division II of the American Collegiate Hockey Association and held their home games at the Deep Freeze Ice Arena in Boardman, Ohio.

When the team returns to the ice, that isn't expected to change.

If YSU's hockey team were an NCAA-sponsored program, a lot of issues with the team would be less of a problem. Being a club team, the players are on the hook for most if not all of their equipment, which can go into the hundreds of dollars if estimated generously.

"If we weren't NCAA team, the team could offer scholarships to the students that are incoming," Hovel said. "So, instead of having to pay, however much to play, they're getting paid to be there. They don't have to worry as much. NCAA teams tend to get some free gear, but the club team — we pretty much have to pay for all of our gear."

While people weren't looking to lead, Hovel stepped up and became an officer. He said he didn't do enough to recruit incoming players because, like every college student, his schedule is full.

"I didn't try to push as much as I should have for some of the things," Hovel said. "I didn't push recruiting as hard as I should have. I work almost full time, so I don't have the time to do a lot of the recruiting and stuff between college and work. All the other players and officers, including myself, needed to do more recruiting. We needed to do more fundraising. We need to get hockey's name out there better."

There were talks of an ice rink being built on or near campus, which would have helped the team, but those plans fell through. The Penguins reached out to the Covelli Centre for practices as a way to ease the burden of driving to Boardman for practice every day, but would be charged over \$100 per hour of ice time.

Going forward, the Penguins face plenty of challenges if they want to take the ice again. With how expensive the sport is, the fate of the team is up in the air. But Hovel is doing his best to make sure the Penguins can see the puck drop once again.



CEA IS Y AND PROUD

Photo by **Robert Hayes/The Jambar**

ROBERT HAYES

“Just being able to step out onto the field and say that I play for YSU is really big.”

There’s no shortage of school spirit in Grace Cea, the left fielder out from Canton, Ohio, who has stepped up to be one of the most productive members of the Youngstown State University softball team in her freshman season.

“I’m very proud about that, and I’m proud to wear YSU across my chest and tell people that I go here,” Cea said.

Cea has made an immediate impact for the Penguins, as she leads the team with 29 RBI, while being one of YSU’s better power hitters with five home runs and being third in the batter order for most of the season.

Penguins coach Brian Campbell sees Cea growing as an individual.

“Sometimes you have a little bit of an adjustment period when you come in. The speed of the game at this level is a lot faster, and pitchers might have a lot more movement and a little bit more speed,” Campbell said. “Those are things that you really like to see the younger players be able to come in and make those adjustments.”

For Cea, she’s just doing her job.

“Anytime I get up to bat or I get on the field, I honestly just

focus on what I have to do and my job for the team,” she said. “It’s basically just me putting myself in other people’s shoes and trying to do the best I can for everyone else, and trying to make the team better everytime we play.”

A graduate of North Canton Hoover High School, Cea had a solid high school career, as she was named all-conference twice and was selected Second Team All Northeast Ohio during her senior season.

As a nursing major, Cea tries to balance her work on and off the field.

“In high school, you had a little break in between athletics and school, and it wasn’t just a full-time thing,” she said. “Athletics have become like a full-time job since I got here. And just figuring it out my first semester it was a little tough at first. But now you figure out how to juggle it and how to really enjoy it at the same time.”

Cea said she has always had an interest in the Penguins; she made a visit to YSU as far back as her freshman year in high school.

“I really enjoyed the campus and the people here because everyone is just so nice,” Cea said. “It’s very easy to talk to people and make new friends, which is very big for me because I’m very social, and I like to meet new people and have more friends. The atmosphere that comes with YSU is what I really liked, so that’s what made me come here.”

She said she also enjoys the friend group she made on the field.

“I couldn’t ask for a better freshman year,” Cea said. “I just think that getting to know all the people on the team and becoming really close with all of them is one of the things that I’m most happy about. It’s very important to me to have good group chemistry with my teammates.”

Campbell believes Cea’s approach at the plate is what has allowed her to have the success she’s been able to have.

“I think that when she goes after the first few pitches that’s in the zone there. She’s a lot better hitter compared to taking the count a little bit deeper and she’s probably the first one to say that,” Campbell said. “I think that one thing that started out and turned is that she became a very aggressive hitter in the box. What I mean by aggressive is not swinging at everything, but swinging in that little box or that strike zone that she has.”

Cea said she has bigger goals going forward.

“I want to produce in every opportunity that I get on the field and off the field and to just make the most out of the years that I have left here,” she said.

The Penguins (22-27, 10-9) conclude their regular season with a three-game series against the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay (12-26, 7-14) at the Circle Tap in Wisconsin. The series isn’t being played on Green Bay’s campus due to ongoing renovations to their field. First pitch of game one is set for 5 p.m. on Friday.