

# Ellis to leave Physics dept. after 31 years

*by Ginny Lippa*

Mr. Frank Ellis, an instructor in the physics department, will retire at the end of the first summer quarter.

Ellis has taught at YSU for 31 years. He came to YSU in the summer of 1945 when he started teaching physics and math at night school.

Ellis earned a B.S. in math and physics from Carnegie Institute of Technology in Pittsburg. The university is now known as Carnegie-Mellon.

Ellis had intended to be an engineer but found that the only available jobs were those in the teaching field. After graduation he taught at Grove City College in Pennsylvania, Southern Illinois

(Cont. on page 2)

# Ellis

(Cont. from page 1)

University (SINU) at Carbondale, and Bethany College in West Virginia.

When World War II began the army and navy were in great need of pilots so they instituted crash courses at various universities around the country to train pilots. At Grove City, SINU, and Bethany, Ellis was an instructor of physics in these special army and navy courses.

While teaching at these various schools, Ellis also worked on his masters degree in education, which he completed in 1938. He also holds a masters degree in math from the University of Pittsburg, which he earned in 1951.

After the war was over, Ellis came to YSU to teach part time while working at Republic Steel.

In September of 1946, Ellis became a fulltime instructor in the William Rayen School of Engineering. At the time, the engineering school housed the mechanical and electrical engineering departments, the math department, and the physics department. The physics department consisted of one classroom and one lab.

In 1940, Dean Deez, dean of the school of engineering, died,

and Ellis was appointed acting dean of the engineering school. Four years later Dean Charignon took over as dean of engineering and Ellis was appointed head of the physics department, a position which he held until 1974.

The physics department began to expand until today it takes up a full floor in the Ward Beecher Science Building and consists of 12 members. Ellis had a hand in selecting all the members that now comprise the physics department.

Ellis met his wife, the former Fay Triffert, on the YSU campus. She is a graduate of YSU and was teaching English here when he met her. They were married in 1951 and have two daughters, both of whom attend YSU.

Ellis says he "decided to retire when students didn't laugh at the same jokes anymore."

His plans for retirement include a possible trip to Europe. Ellis says he also enjoys tent camping in Canada. Among Ellis' hobbies are chess, bridge, and photography.

Ellis says that "a teacher is part of his students."