YSU officials fail to renew Rice's coaching contract

By BRIAN J. MACALA Jambar Sports Editor

"After taking a long look at the basketball program, I have recommended that the Board of Trustees of YSU not renew the contract of Mike Rice as head basketball coach."

With these words YSU Athletic Director Joe Malmisur closed one chapter and began another in the Penguins' basketball record book.

At a news conference held March 13, Malmisur announced his decision to not renew Rice's contract. At the same time he stated that Bill Dailey would be elevated from his See Rice, page 10

Rice

Continued from page 1 position as assistant basketball coach to head basketball coach.

"We have an obligation to the faculty, students, and the community," Malmisur said.

He further stated that he had given the basketball program a long and careful consideration and decided that a change had to be made.

Dailey comes into the position after serving YSU as an assistant for the past seven years. The 32 year old native of Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, first came to Youngstown in 1980, hired by former coach Dom Rosselli.

Before coming to YSU, Dailey served on the staffs of Western Illinois, his alma mater, and Southern Illinois. Dailey also served as interim head coach for the Penguins in 1980-81 when Rosselli suffered a heart attack prior to the start of the season. He guided the Penguin cagers that year to a 13-13 mark.

"Being named to the post is very rewarding to me," Dailey said. "I hope to make the most of it. This is a tremendous opportunity that millions of guys never get."

Dailey went on to say, "Its been to my advantage to have worked under two great coaches (Rosselli and Rice). Coach Roselli has done so much for me, I'll be asking him for advice."

The naming of Dailey to the post marks only the ninth time that the position has changed hands since YSU began varsity basketball play in 1927.

Malmisur said, "I knew I wanted Bill from the start. There never was any possibility of going outside to find a new coach. Naming Bill will be a great morale factor to the program and the school."

The terms of Dailey's contract were disclosed by Malmisur as being for three years at \$42,000 per year. Dailey cited the need of the Penguins to improve their inside game next year, something that was a sore spot on the 1986-87 team. He said that he hopes to bring in four to five new players for next year.

"We need to get a guard, some help on our wing play, and three new people for the inside," Dailey stated. "We have outstanding perimeter shooting going into next year led by (Tilman) Bevely."

The new coach also stated a desire to improve the Penquins road record and finish among the nations top 96 teams, a position that he feels will give the Penguins a post-season tournament berth.

In addition to Rice's contract not being renewed, Malmisur announced that the contract of assistant coach Bruce Bauer, who came to YSU with Rice from Duquesne University, would not be renewed as well.

The dismissal of Bauer left two vacant assistant coaching positions on the basketball staff. One of these has been filled with the naming of David Greer, former head basketball coach at Tiffin University, on March 31. Greer coached at Tiffin one year, leading his team to a 17-13 record.

Dailey expressed a desire to fill the other assistant positions with one of the basketball coaches from the Youngstown area high schools. As of now no one has been named.

Dailey's being named marks the second major change that Malmisur has made in the last year, the other being the firing of head football coach Bill Narduzzi and the hiring of Jim Tressel to that post.

Among those in attendance at the press conference was former head cage coach Rosselli. Rosselli had nothing but warm wishes for his former assistant.

"I am so happy for Bill, he's such a fine person. I wish him the best of luck, and hope the students and the community give him a fair chance," Rosselli said.