

the jambar

VOLUME 88, ISSUE 26 The student voice of Youngstown State University

Weather >> rain / snow
46 | 33
Friday: showers, 48/31
Saturday: sunny, 55/34

Inside



▶ Marcus Mason leads the Penguins into Iowa this week.

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▶ Need a date? Or, maybe not. Mackey goes to the movies.

Entertainment | see page 8

In Brief

Correction

An article headlined "SGA finalizes funding for free movie night at YSU" in the Oct. 25 issue of the Jambar was mistakenly attributed to Katie Libecco. It was actually written by Cheryl Thompson.

Nursing Health Fair set for Nov. 8

The Junior YSU Nursing Community Class will host a YSU Health Fair 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 8 at the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center. Free health information, including health screenings and fitness tests will be available.

Pig Iron poetry reading today

Pig Iron Literary and Art Works will host "Poetry Night Out," a poetry reading, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 27 at Pig Iron Press, 26 North Phelps Street. Reservations are requested for participants. For more information, call (330) 747-6932.

the jambarpoll question

Last question

Are you excited about the opening of the convocation center?

59% Yes 41% No

Today's Question: Are you attending a local Halloween celebration?

vote online www.thejambar.com

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YSU

Football player charged

By: Bill Rodgers
NEWS EDITOR

Freshman accused in slaying

A Youngstown State University football player is being held at the Mahoning County Jail awaiting an extradition hearing, Akron City Police said. YSU freshman Anthony Norman Jr., 19, was arrested Tuesday, charged with the murder of Christopher L. Harris, 23, of Akron. Police allege that a shootout on July 18 in Akron between Norman and Michael Welch, 19, also of Akron, resulted in the death of Harris, who was an innocent bystander.

Norman was arrested Tuesday at Stambaugh Stadium by the Northern Ohio Violent Fugitive Task Force, working in cooperation with Youngstown and YSU Police.

Arrest reports and a press release from the Akron police state that Norman is being charged with the murder of Harris, the attempted murder of Welch and felonious assault. Welch was arrested at Summit County Jail where he is currently incarcerated for domestic violence and a probation violation. Welch is being charged with attempted murder, felonious assault, carrying a concealed weapon



NORMAN

and weapons under disability. Lt. Robin Lees, a spokesperson for the Youngstown Police Department, said Tuesday's arrest on campus was "effected without incident." Lees said the officers formed a perimeter around the stadium in case Norman tried to escape.

"We didn't want to be playing a hide-and-seek game," Lees said. July's shooting occurred in a parking lot on Plaza Boulevard in Akron at 3:26 a.m. Police said the shootout was between Welch and Norman. Harris, an innocent bystander, was fatally shot in the encounter. When officers arrived on the scene, they found Harris lying

face down in the parking lot. The Akron Beacon Journal reported that Harris had been struck in the chest.

Ron Cole, director of marketing and communications at YSU, said that the office of student affairs was reviewing Norman's case. Cole said the university was proceeding with action in accordance with the student code of conduct. Cole stressed that the crime took place in Akron and had nothing to do with the university or the athletics department on campus.

"The focus here today is the student's status here at the university," Cole said.

Cole said that the proceedings couldn't be made public until they were completed, in accordance with

please see **MURDER**, Page 5

IRAQ

Death toll reaches 2,000

By: David Jackson
KRT CAMPUS

WASHINGTON — As the Iraq war hit a grim benchmark Tuesday with the announcement that the death toll for American troops had reached 2,000, President Bush said his commitment to victory had not changed.

The political environment in which he is conducting the war, however, is very different from how it was earlier in the conflict.

His lowest-ever approval ratings, conservative anger over his Supreme Court nominee, and a grand jury investigation based in part on faulty pre-war intelligence can only make it harder to stay the course, said members of Congress and political analysts.

"It's the bigger picture that continues to wear down Bush's approval rating on Iraq, and voter frustration with Iraq," said Amy Walter, a senior editor with the Washington-based Cook Political Report.

When the 1,000th American died in Iraq in September of last year, Bush stood less than two

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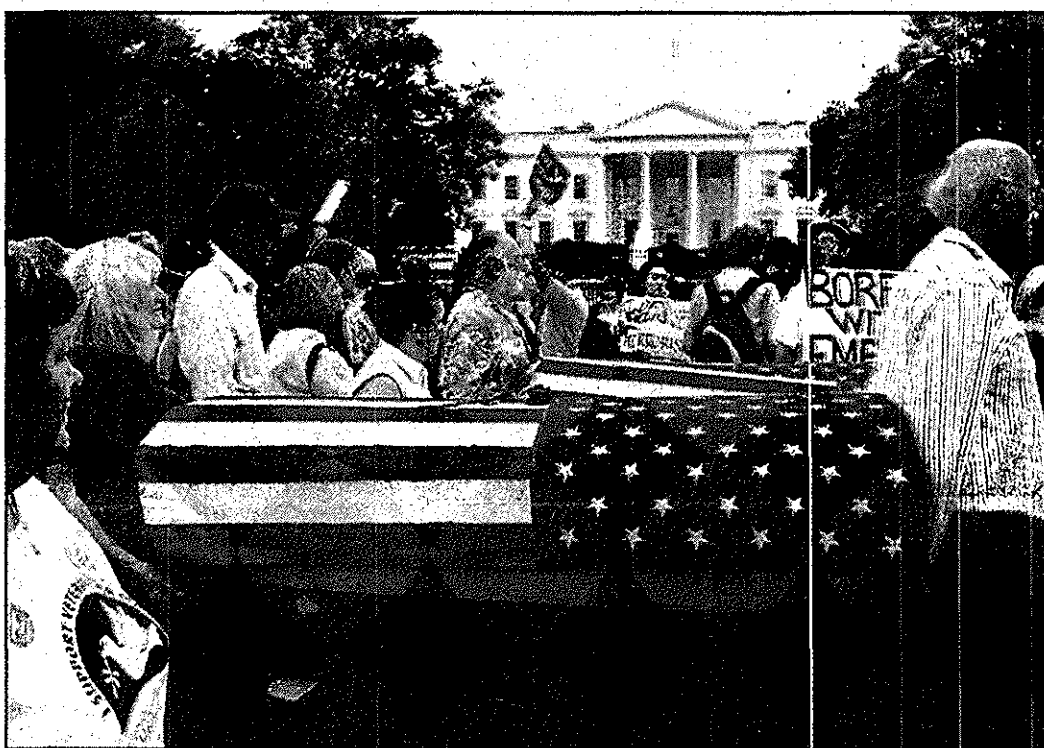


Photo courtesy of krtcampus.com
Demonstrators carrying coffins representing soldiers who died in Iraq during an anti-war protest in Washington, D.C., on Saturday, September 24, 2005.

Former YSU student 'just happy to be home' from Iraq

By: Sean Ryan
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Jesse Francis, a former Youngstown State University student, spent a year and a half in Iraq serving as a medic, aiding fellow American soldiers; bandaging the wounded, housing the sick and always staying alert. Now he's finally home.

Francis, 22, returned home to Erie, Pa., Oct. 10 and was greeted by friends and family members at the Pittsburgh International Airport.

"I'm just happy to be home," Francis said. "I don't ever get emotional or anything, but seeing everyone there really got to me. It was awesome."

The former YSU engineering student discussed a variety of topics that took place overseas, including some of the

graphic images witnessed.

"I took care of a lot of people who had lost their arms or legs. It shocked me at first to see it, but then I had to just get to work and help them," Francis said. "It's a lot worse than any movie or television show can imagine."

One incident he discussed involved an Iraqi family that he helped after they fell victim to a nearby car bomb.

"The parents and two little girls were sent to us. We gave them medicine and patched them up. They were grateful, and really appreciated us."

Francis left YSU after the 2003 spring semester to join the Marines. Francis said he enjoyed his time in Youngstown, but felt he could have a bigger impact by going overseas.

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YSU

No charges in frat fight

By: Bill Rodgers
NEWS EDITOR

Youngstown Police announced this week that no arrests would be made regarding a fight at a fraternity party on Aug. 28, which resulted in three stabbing victims and two hit and run victims.

Chief John Gocala of the Youngstown State University Police Department said that one of his staff members would review the incident to see if the students involved could face any university disciplinary actions.

Lt. Robin Lees of the Youngstown Police Department said that prosecutors did not have enough evidence to charge anyone with a crime, though that could change if more information comes to light.

"Most of the participants in the incident were intoxicated to varying degrees and there was a lack of cooperation from the outset of the investigation. A number of peoples' stories have changed. The prosecutor doesn't feel comfortable pursuing charges under these cir-

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YSU

ZTA to hold Pink Ribbon Classic

By: Cheryl Thompson
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The Zeta Tau Alpha sorority will hold its fifth annual Pink Ribbon Cheer Classic Sunday at 10 a.m. in Beeghly Center to raise money for breast cancer research. The event features cheerleading squads from Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and the Midwest performing routines dedicated to

women who have been affected by breast cancer.

When senior Jenn Smith joined Zeta Tau Alpha sorority in fall semester 2002, she participated in the second annual Pink Ribbon Cheer Classic. After being involved for the first time, Smith said she had no idea how successful the event would become.

"As a new member, I did-

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YSU

Four thefts from cars cost students \$4,000

By: Eric Grosso
FEATURES REPORTER

Four thefts from student cars this weekend, totaling reported losses of over \$4,000, have led to an urgent message to students from YSU Police.

"If you see anything even a little out of the ordinary, or something that just doesn't seem to belong, bring it to our attention," YSU Police Chief John Gocala said.

Gocala noted that officers on patrol aren't always in the right place at the right time, but if students alert them of unusual

events or people anywhere on campus, they'll investigate. He said increased student involvement would help officer patrols, which could lead to a decrease in crime, such as the break-ins.

"We'll look at anyone if we get a student call. If they don't belong on campus for any reason, we'll give them a trespass warning and make sure they don't come back," Gocala said.

The thefts, three of which occurred in the University Courtyard Apartments parking lot, took place between 11:30 p.m. on

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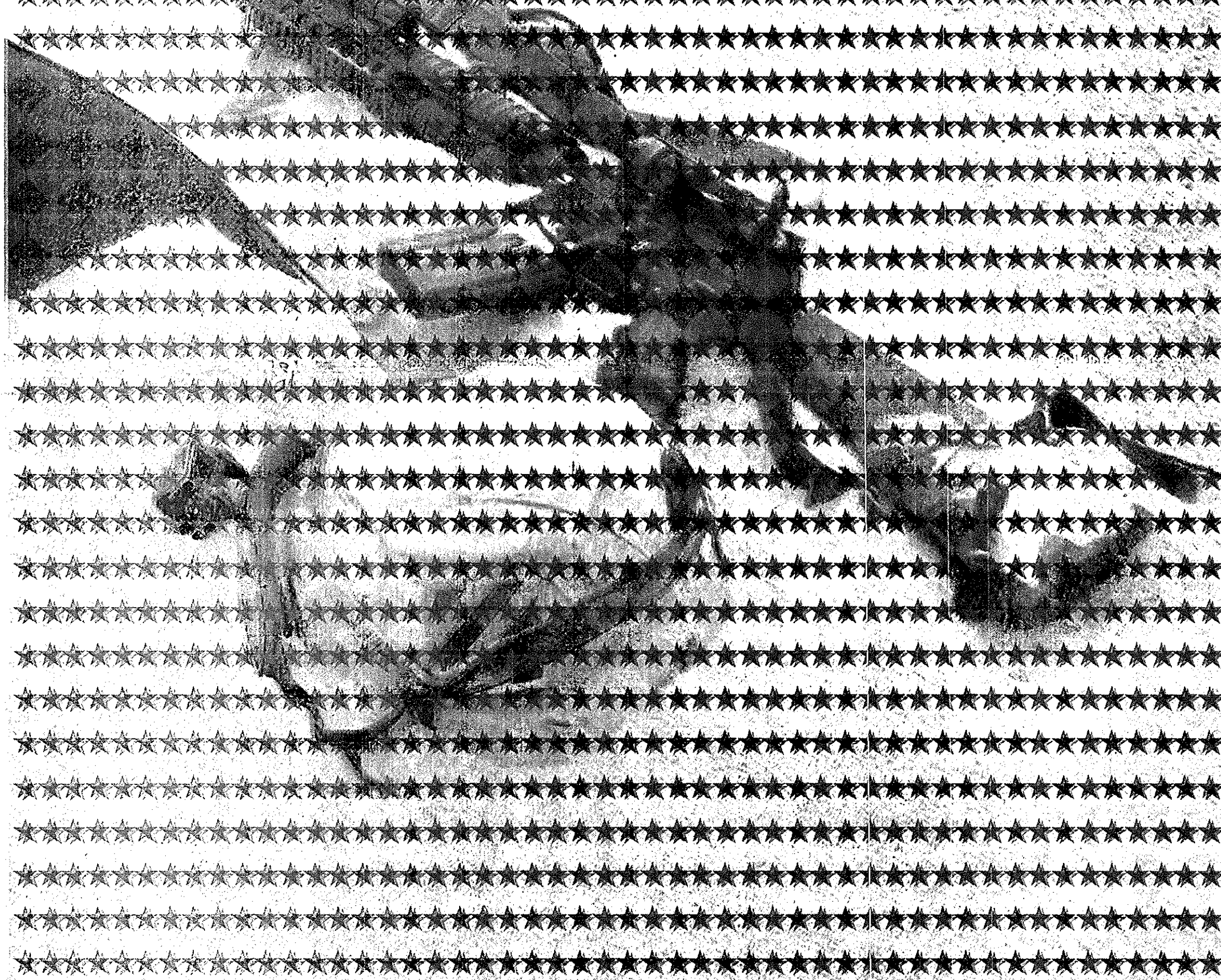


Photo: sxc.hu — Layout: Jambar / Mark Stevens

OUR SIDE

The price of the war: 2,000 dead — so far

The conflict in Iraq reached another grim milestone this week as the 2,000th American soldier died on Saturday from wounds received in combat. That's 2,000 Americans who have died in support of an idea — whether they believed in it or not — that their presence overseas was protecting their country and allowing a new, better government to grow in a country that was previously ruled by an oppressive dictator.

The validity of those beliefs is still up for debate, and the success or failure of America's long-term efforts in Iraq are in an area of equal uncertainty. Whether the deaths

of those 2,000 brave soldiers were noble sacrifices for a greater good or tragedies consumed in a lost cause remains to be seen.

One thing is certain, though. It was way back in May 2003 that President Bush stood smiling on the deck of the USS Abraham Lincoln under a huge sign that read, "Mission Accomplished," as he declared an end to the major combat operations in Iraq — a short sighted celebration turned satirically ironic given the many hundreds of soldiers killed since that photo-op.

By September 2004, 1,000 American soldiers had lost their lives. Now, a little more

than a year later, we have 1,000 more dead Americans to add to that number.

Joining the Americans are Iraqi civilians: men, women, police officers, soldiers and children. The last unofficial count tallied more than 30,000 Iraqis who have died since the U.S. invaded. The Iraqi innocents were hit harder in 2005 than they ever were previously; an average of 60 civilians are killed each day, according to The New York Times.

How close are we to finishing our business in Iraq? It could be that Iraq approving a new constitution will give the fledgling democracy the momentum it needs to gov-

ern and protect itself. Conversely, the facts that the constitution only narrowly passed and that Iraqi insurgents have stepped up their efforts to kill and maim American soldiers and Iraqi civilians could show that America has become stuck in a quagmire from which it cannot soon walk away.

America's operations in Iraq are lodged in doubt. What's certain is that if our efforts fail, and Iraq's new government can't withstand inner turmoil and the attacks of insurgents, the 2,000 blue stars that adorn this page will be joined by 1,000 more in no time at all.

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months from re-election. The 2,000th death finds him more vulnerable to demands to pull out U.S. troops sooner rather than later.

"It's a very sobering hallmark," said Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif. "It indicates that we need to rethink where we are in Iraq."

Bush told a group of military spouses in Washington on Tuesday that the United States will continue helping Iraq's military and political system to the point where they can operate independently.

"No one should underestimate the difficulties ahead," he said. "Nor should they overlook the advantages we bring to this fight."

Speaking at Bolling Air Force Base, Bush did not specifically cite the 2,000th death but said, "Each loss of life is heartbreaking."

"The best way to honor the sacrifice of our fallen troops is to complete the mission and lay the foundation of peace by spreading freedom," Bush said.

Bush and his aides touted the Iraqi electorate's recent approval of a constitution as a major step forward. They now look forward to the election of a permanent Iraqi government in mid-December, though that doesn't automatically mean a drawdown of troops.

"The president doesn't believe in artificial time lines," said White House press secretary Scott McClellan. "It will be based

on circumstances on the ground."

Bush and supporters said a democracy can spread from Iraq to the rest of the Middle East, thereby reducing the influence of terrorism.

Critics laud the goals but question the cost, and marked the 2,000th death by calling for a clearer plan, leading to withdrawal.

"If he is suggesting an open-ended, long-term commitment, I'm afraid that's not good enough," said Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill.

Feinstein said the election of a new government in December is an opportunity.

"It seems to me that that's the time to look at getting to downsize, and change the mission in Iraq," she said.

Some skeptics fear things will get worse before they get better.

Many Arab Sunnis voted against the constitution, some of these critics pointed out, and civil war between Sunnis and Shiites remains a possibility.

In any event, critics note that Iraq has become a haven for al-Qaida and other militants.

Others pointed to recent testimony by Gen. George Casey, who said only one Iraqi battalion is ready to fight without American support, down from three last year.

The Government Accountability Office reported this month that security costs are

diverting money from needed infrastructure projects in Iraq.

Sen. Barbara Mikulski, D-Md., said the Bush administration has to work harder for more help from more countries in combating the insurgency.

"The fact is we have to get other nations involved," she said. "We went to war with Iraq; now we're at war with Iraq."

News of the 2,000th death also underscored the nation's political polarization.

"Opponents of the war will seize this moment to attack our policy in Iraq," said Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz. "They're already doing that. We know that. It will not affect my view, except for the sorrow and regret that I feel at the loss of American lives."

Sen. Carl Levin of Michigan, the top Democrat on the Senate Armed Services Committee, called the 2,000 deaths "a nonpartisan issue" and "an immense tragedy personally for the families of those Americans."

One result, he said, is already lost public support.

"America is now questioning more and more the president's decisions," Levin said. "Not only the statements, the policy which led to the war, the way we got into it, but the failure to acquire allies and to get the Iraqis to take over the security of their country."

Bush could normally look to his conservative base for support, but the Iraq war has also been criticized by nominal allies.

Lawrence Wilkerson, former chief of staff to former Secretary of State Colin Powell, said last week that Iraq has had a "deleterious impact" on foreign policy, and "is going to resonate with the military for a long time to come."

Meanwhile, Bush's deep pool of conservative support has been drained by opposition to Supreme Court nominee Harriet Miers. Some conservatives say the White House counsel lacks qualifications for the job.

A grand jury, meanwhile, is investigating the news leak of the name of a CIA operative, the wife of a former diplomat who challenged the administration claims about Saddam Hussein and weapons of mass destruction.

Indictments of high-level aides could make the administration more vulnerable to criticism over Iraq, analysts said, at least temporarily.

Michael O'Hanlon, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, said Iraq preceded the president's other difficulties and will likely linger after the rest fade.

"A lot of these recent problems," he said, "are sort of classic temporary problems — with the notable exception of Iraq."

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Saturday and 1:40 p.m. on Monday. All of the vehicles were entered with force, according to police reports. Windows on two vehicles were broken out, a convertible top ripped on another, and the passenger door was pried open on another vehicle.

Items stolen include multiple car stereos, CDs, speakers, and a cell phone. The reported values of the items stolen were reported at \$4,100.

Chief Gocala noted that YSU Police do not have any leads on the cases, but has looked at security footage from cameras stationed in the University Courtyard parking lot. The cameras noted a lot of activity this weekend because of YSU Homecoming festivities,


making it unusual that no one reported any suspicious people or activities.

Gocala also said that the recent situation of funding for jails and prisons in the area could be leading to the break-ins, noting how criminals who are arrested for these types of crimes are often released with no jail time, putting them back on the streets with no punishment. This makes a student's watchful eye even more important.

"Anyone or anything, anywhere on campus that seems like it doesn't belong, we want students to let us know," Gocala said.

Student can reach YSU Police at (330) 941-3527 and can also call 911 to report any suspicious activity.

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FRANCIS, continued from page 1

"I was going to catch Bin Laden," Francis joked. "That's not why we're there and I know that. We are trying to help establish something in Iraq that they have not seen: peace."

Francis said he was surprised by the many warm receptions he and his platoon received from some of the Iraqi people. The hospitable treatment by some of the citizens did not, however, overshadow Francis' deep feelings of fear.

"I was scared and nervous everyday," Francis said. "Many of the people are nice as all hell, but there are obviously enemies trying to take you out. I prayed not to meet those guys."

Francis became close with his fellow medics and said they formed a strong unit.

"We were never attacked, thank God, but we took care of many who were. We took care of American soldiers, and even some Iraqi citizens. We tried to help everyone, not just the Americans," Francis said.

Francis said he was aware of the public's current perception of President George W. Bush. Francis tried to be diplomatic in regards to the president.

"It's easy to bash the president right now but he is our leader. We have to remain strong and have faith in him," Francis said.

Rachel Boring, Francis' sis-

ter, said she is happy her big brother is back home.

"Everybody missed him. We are really proud of what he did," Boring said.

"I'm looking forward to spending as much time with him as I can. We have a lot of catching up to do," Francis' dad Norm Francis, born and

raised in Youngstown, said.

Francis said his plans for the future are unclear. He does not know if he will continue any further involvement with the Marines. Francis expressed a strong desire to go back to school and has not ruled out a possible return to YSU.


"I liked YSU when I was there. The classes were great, I made a lot of friends, and the campus looks nice too. I'll take some time and look at all my options. I might be back," Francis said. "Right now, it's just time to relax and enjoy being home."

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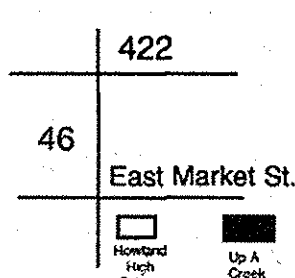
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UP A CREEK TAVERN
 SPECIALS EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK

Monday: Coors Lite Nite, \$2.00 24oz drafts, 1/2 off appetizers, 7pm- close
Tuesday: HAPPY HOUR DOESN'T STOP! 3pm-close, \$1.00 16 oz drafts, \$1.50 bottle beer, .50 mixed drinks, .30 wings
Wednesday: Burger and Beer Nite: All day all 1/2lb. burger & fries baskets are \$5.00, \$1.00 "Skinny Burger" (All Day), \$5.00 pitchers of Miller Lite & Coors Lite, and \$7.00 pitchers of Margarita (7-close)
Thursday: Karaoke with "Simply Ed," \$4.00 bombs
Friday: \$2.00 shot specials after 10pm, \$5.00 1/2lb, Peel-n-Eat Shrimp (All Day)
Saturday and Sunday: 1/2 slap rib dinner \$7.99, whole slap dinner just \$12.99, \$5.00 Martini's, \$4.00 Long Island Ice Tea (All Day)

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HAUNT, continued from page 8

jar of eyeballs. Everything has its place and reason, but for an observer, with extra body parts strewn here and there, it simply seems a better-lit extension of the fright show going on upstairs.

They are two of the makeup artists that comprise the crew for the haunted house and laboratory. They talk shop: a monster face tore last night, and it'll need repaired by Saturday night.

I can't take it anymore, and finally ask what possesses them to work a job like this.

James Schick crosses tattooed arms and considers, finally answering with a smirk, "Just feeding the addiction. Make someone scream and run into a wall once... It's a rush to know your work did it."

Marty Whitmore, with the bullet hole, gets distracted by someone walking into the studio. They shake hands and toss a bit of gossip back and forth before settling into business. I'm fascinated by the work both the men are doing, taking an average employee and quickly blackening eyes, layering masks and gore, flayed skin and hanging eyeballs.

The employee laughs while getting worked on, watching themselves be transformed in the mirror. "It's cool to watch yourself turn into something else, something scary. See the effect you have on people, ya know? And if they're not scared right away, you just growl louder."

Whitmore laughs, and agrees. As they send their newly made lab monster to get dressed, he comments that it lets him exercise his creativity. "It's such a great opportunity to try new

things. It's great to scare people. I got to work in the lab. James did my makeup, and it was awesome. We made a bunch of girls fall down screaming." They sober a moment, thinking over their creatures and demons; their art.

"It's really cool to start with a blank canvas, and end up with a monster in just five or ten minutes," he says.

Schick agrees. "There's something gratifying about being the makeup artist for a haunted house, especially one this good. It's not often you get to take the incredible ugliness that's inside yourself, put it on someone else, and instead of having someone say 'God, that's awful! How could you do that?' say, 'Wow, that's really cool looking,' or scream in terror when they see it in the house. It's just really satisfying."

Open since 1974, and scaring people ever since, the Haunted School House and Laboratory isn't just another little haunted house on the radio. Scene magazine has rated it the best haunted house in northeast Ohio, and Nickelodeon magazine considers it the number two spot in the United States. According to the Ohio Paranormal Society, there's also a certified haunting in the lab. Not only that, but their effects are superior; not simply leading guests through a black maze with people jumping out randomly at them. The sets are elaborate, carefully done, and even beautiful in a horribly macabre kind of way.

So I'm being treated, and I know it, and part of the experience is promising to keep secrets, which lets them keep scaring their guests, who wouldn't want it any other way.

"No way! It was awesome." James Carney has just run through the house, and he doesn't want to know how they made up anything. "It's hard to find a place that'll scare me. We're thinking about coming back next weekend."

His girlfriend thinks differently, explaining that he can take friends next week but she doesn't know if she can make herself do it again. "It's not like it's gets less scary. It just does it all over again!" she says with a laugh.

Schick and Whitmore wait patiently for the night to end, for their monsters to return to them, and to start it all over again tomorrow night. They watch another large group sprint out, girls clinging, and their guys grinning and laughing nervously. A loud noise spooks the entire group, jumping and screaming, casting looks over their shoulders.

Schick grins, stubs his cigarette out and gets ready to head inside. For a moment, he stands and surveys the now chattering group, moving towards the parking lot. "Yeah ... Man, I get paid for this!"

Call Rudi Whitmore at (330) 941-1913.

Tell us about your campus events. Call (330) 941-1991 to give us the details.

Jillians Halloween Bash
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Costume Contest
win cash and prizes
Bands all evening
Headliner: Via Sahara

**MOVIES**, continued from page 8

for George's head, because of his preference for duck sex over space battles. Personally, after watching "Howard the Duck," I couldn't sleep for weeks without seeing phantom ducks come after me with lust in their eyes.

"Battlefield Earth" (2000) — It's like Scientology, but in movie form! If you don't start shrieking like a cheerleader as the movie clumsily attempts to promote this "religion," then you're not human.

"Kazaam" (1996) — Remember when Shaquille O'Neal was a movie star? And a rap star? And a practitioner of "Shaq-Fu"? Well, I don't, but Kazaam brings back memories of when

America trusted the 30-foot tall basketballer to do more than make a shiny round thing go in a hole. So, why is Kazaam so frightening? If the concept of having to sit through a movie with a rapping genie doesn't make you pee your pants just a little, witnessing Shaq try to utter complicated lines such as "I am Kazaam," will. It's like watching a blind monkey try to build a house out of scorpions; you feel bad for him, but there's no way in hell that he deserves your help. Having no direction for my empathy, I began cutting myself halfway through the movie, and by the time it was over, I had the script for "Kazaam 2" etched into my left arm.

Spoiler alert: He dies at the end of the sequel.

"The Notebook" (2004) — Sadly, "The Notebook" is not about a killer notebook from outer space that eats children. Instead, it's a barrel full of treacle from the sticky pen of America's favorite sap-producer, Nicholas Sparks. If you don't think this movie is scary — and this is for the fellas — try watching it with your girlfriend. Not only will you have to discuss such foreign concepts as "emotions," your love will pale in comparison to the story of two star crossed lovers who are like "Romeo and Juliet," but not very interesting due to their lack of double-sui-

cide. If you do not fear the phrase, "We have to talk," after seeing "The Notebook," you will.

"Popeye" (1980) — Shelley Duvall as a love interest?! Shelley Duvall singing?! Is it possible to be so stricken with terror that you vomit inside your own body?

Just a disclaimer: Before you go through with this Halloween movie mania, my only advice is to drink, and drink a lot. I can't be held responsible for what happens, but hopefully by the next morning you'll have either forgotten it all, or be dead from alcohol poisoning. In either case, you're better off.

Call Bob Mackey at (330) 941-1913.

SWIMMING, continued from page 7

in practice with her work ethic.

Hanley and sophomore Amanda Ladd will take the blocks as the returnees in the distance free events. Hanley began last season as a breast-stroker but made a strong transition to set three personal-best marks at the Horizon League Championship. Ladd finished 17th in the mile at the conference meet and has shown promise with

a good training attitude.

Joining them will be a strong group of freshmen that includes Erin-Michelle Gordon, Jessica Front, Natasha Bray and Olivia Arnold. Gordon is a solid swimmer from the sprints to distance events and should rank among the team leaders in every event. Bray has impressive incoming times in the distance events and should be able to contribute immediately. Arnold, an Australia native, has improved greatly since the beginning of workouts and could step up to be one of the top threats by the end of the season. Front is strong in the middle distance events and will add depth to the relay events.

Butterfly

The Penguins will also be strong in the butterfly as Bertuzzi, Ladd and Senn will join Bray for a deep corps.

Bertuzzi is the squad's top returnee in the 200 fly as she ranks in school history in the event. She finished 13th at the Horizon League Championship with a personal-best time of 2:19.27. Ladd turned in a 16th-place finish in the 200 fly at the league meet a year ago and ranks sixth all-time in the event. Senn is coming off a 12th-place finish in the 100 fly at the conference meet. She ranks fifth all-time in the event with her personal-best time of 1:01.95.

Backstroke

The Penguins will be lacking depth in the backstroke and will have to rely on

IMers and a developing backstroker.

Freshman Erin Sayre swam the stroke on a limited basis in high school and will concentrate on improving steadily throughout the season. Arnold, Bray, Ladd and Senn will all be counted on to use their versatility from swimming in the individual medley to rotate in and add depth.

Breaststroke

Sophomore Julia Darling returns to anchor the breaststrokers after establishing herself as YSU's top athlete in the event in school history. As a freshman, Darling broke two individual records and was part of two record-setting relay teams at the Horizon League Championship. In the individual events, she turned in a ninth-place time of 1:08.46 in the 100 breast and a 10th-place time of 2:28.27. According to Anderson, she should improve on those marks as she is stronger and more mature.

Hanley will split time between the breast and the distance free, and Bray and Arnold will also help to add depth.

Individual Medley

Anderson will have a deep group of swimmers in the individual medley led by Bray and Ladd. Ladd was solid in the 400 IM as a fresh-

man, finishing 15th at the conference meet and ranking sixth all-time.

Darling was also solid last season in the 200 IM as she placed 19th at the league meet and ranks third all-time in school history. Senn and Hanley will also rotate in to add depth to the event.

Diving

Diving coach Nick Gavolas will be in an uncanny situation this season as he does not have a returning conference champion for only the second time in seven years after the graduation of four-time Horizon League Champion Kalya Leveto. But Harless returns as an upperclassman leader and a scorer at the conference meet, and Gavolas brought in a talented freshman duo of Kelly Reese and Amanda Zhelesnik.

"I think we have more talent this year in total, but I'm cautiously optimistic," Gavolas said. "I've had to replace three of the top three conference divers in the past three years, and bringing new kids that are untested is a little scary."

Reese was a three-time All-Ohio selection and an Academic All-American at Canfield High School. Zhelesnik earned individual titles at the conference and sectional levels and was a two-time district finalist at

Medina.

"Kelly might have more talent than anyone I've had. She's absolutely God-gifted," Gavolas said.

"Amanda came in with no experience on 3-meter, but she's already started to come around and understand what she needs to do up there. She's getting better every day at it."

Schedule

The Penguins will open the home portion of their schedule at the Beeghly Natatorium with duels against Cansius and Marshall on Oct. 28 and Oct. 29. After the Clarion Diving Invitational on Oct. 30, YSU will play host to Horizon League rival Cleveland State on Nov. 10.

The Penguins will then face a stiff test in a double-dual against Akron and Ohio before competing in a conference-like meet at the Radford Invitational. The squad will wrap up its regular season with a double-dual against Cleveland State and Illinois-Chicago in Cleveland on Feb. 4. The conference meet will be hosted by Cleveland State from Feb. 22 to Feb. 25.

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YSU

Global culture focus of event

By: Eric Grosso
FEATURES REPORTER

Aiming to increase awareness of global culture, the YSU Department of Human Ecology presented "Diversity: A Global Perspective" yesterday in Cushman Hall. The day-long event included discussions on marriage and dating customs from international students, foreign foods, presentations by YSU faculty and a close look at hand made items from foreign lands.

The program started with a panel discussion moderated by Janice Elias, professor of human ecology. International YSU students from Taiwan, Uganda, and Turkey took part, with each explaining the dating, courtship, and marriage customs of their culture. Specific topics included marriage traditions, dating standards, and marriage proposal customs.

The day continued with a variety of foods and music

presented by human ecology students. Students also made display boards featuring information from various countries.

"I really didn't know what lot of it was, but it was pretty good," said attendee and YSU student Kristen Carlisle.

Carlisle noted the portions of the event she attended may make her "broaden her horizons" when it comes to other looking at and experiencing other cultures, which was a main goal of the program's coordinators.

The event continued with a presentation titled "The Savvy International Traveler" by Mary Beaubien, professor and chair of the human ecology department who recently returned from a trip to South Africa. She brought along handmade goods from South African women, some of which were for sale with sales benefiting those women.

Fashion merchandising

Any exposure to foreign culture is good as far as I'm concerned.

—Margaret Thompson

instructor Prabha Kolji also presented fabrics from India.

"To see some stuff that is created so far away, the intricacy, the quality, the detail, it's just amazing to see," Carlisle said.

The day ended with "Thinking Globally - A New World View on Development" presented by Virginia Draa, a human ecology faculty member.

"Thinking Globally" covered topics of trends in globalization, why globalization may be needed, how a global economy affects the world and specifically and how it affects smaller cultures.

"It was pretty good, from what I saw. Very well-

rounded," Youngstown resident and world-traveler Margaret Thompson said.

Thompson came for the first few hours of the event and said she has visited, or plans on visiting, many different areas to experience different cultures, and that it was nice for a program to bring the cultures to her.

"You can't really get a full effect of their culture unless you're there, but you get a lot more information than you would watching educational programs or reading books on the subject," Thompson said. "Any exposure to foreign culture is good as far as I'm concerned."

Call Eric Grosso at (330) 941-1913.

CHARGES, continued from page 1

circumstances," Lees said.

Lees said he didn't have enough information to comment about which individuals involved didn't cooperate or changed their account of what happened.

The fight occurred at the Sigma Chi fraternity house on Aug. 28 at a party. Police reports say that three individuals were stabbed with

what appears to have been a box cutter. The attackers fled the scene in a Jeep Wrangler, hitting two people as it left. Two of the stabbing victims and one of the hit and run victims were sent to St. Elizabeth's Medical Center for treatment.

Gocala said that the incident would be reviewed to see if any of the students

involved could face university disciplinary action. He stated again that people who host parties are responsible for the safety of their guests.

"First of all, it's the responsibility of the organization having the party," Gocala said.

Gocala said that people hosting parties have to take responsibility for actions of

their guests. He said they could do that by prohibiting intoxicated people from entering, and calling the police if a guest is causing trouble.

"If a guest appears to be intoxicated, don't let them in. If someone is causing trouble there, call us or call the city police and we'll take care of the issue," Gocala said.

Call Bill Rodgers at (330) 941-1989.

RIBBON, continued from page 1

n't anticipate that three years later we would have doubled our contribution to more \$20,000 with participation of more than 40 squads," Smith said.

Smith, who is in charge of choosing the type and quantity of apparel sold at the event, said to help meet their goal of \$30,000, in addition to offering a wider range of apparel for cheerleaders and spectators to purchase, they are bringing back a concession stand, which was unavailable last year.

All of the proceeds from sales go directly toward researching a cure, spread-

ing awareness and prevention of breast cancer.

"Our goal is for the campus to come to our event and support this great cause. The more people we reach, the better," Smith said.

According to the Center for Disease Control, one out of eight women will develop breast cancer.

Since the disease affects such a great number of people, Smith said members of her sorority have friends and family members who have been diagnosed with the disease.

Smith said that breast cancer has greatly affected her

own family's history. Her grandmother died at age 36 from breast cancer, leaving her 14-year-old mother and five other children.

While there was little that could have been done for her grandmother, she said she is optimistic a cure will be found as a result of events like the Pink Ribbon Cheer Classic.

"It's amazing how many medical advances have taken place since then," Smith said.

Another change this year, Smith said, is the increased number of squads performing. To participate in the

Pink Ribbon Cheer Classic, cheerleading squads pay a \$50 fee that is donated to the Zeta Tau Alpha Foundation.

Smith said she plans to be involved with the Pink Ribbon Cheer Classic in future and is completely committed to this event and its cause.

"I became more involved every year with this event as it has become an important part of my life," Smith said. "The event grows each year and we increase our donation goal and our reach of community awareness each year as well."

Call Cheryl Thompson at (330) 941-1913.

YSU

Donation gives Dental Hygiene clinic a boost

By: Steve Lettau
REPORTER

A donation from Dean John Yemma of the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services provided most of the \$30,000 necessary for new 360-degree X-ray machines in Youngstown State University's Dental Hygiene Clinic.

These new panoramic radiograph machines provide dental hygiene majors an upgrade over previous equipment, which only took small individual X-rays.

"It is important that they are trained in the latest technology," Madeleine Haggerty, director of the dental hygiene program, said. "We want our students to be able to use what the doctors are practicing on," she said.

Dental Hygiene students receive first-hand experience practicing on students and people in the community, although they are carefully monitored. Oral exams and polishing teeth are some of the services the students provide.

"They must complete a radiology lecture and laboratory course before they can work on patients," Haggerty said.

One YSU student, Lauren Alfreno, regularly checks the

patients for problems.

"We give them oral exams and check everything; cavities, gum disease, gingivitis and then we refer them out to their private dentist," she said.

Patients must sign a release that gives their dentist's name for the clinic to send the X-rays to for use in their prognosis.

There are also 16 new computers with the latest programs available. One program is CAESY, which allows the examiner to make a model of the patient's teeth and chart problems.

Working with CAESY were Alfreno and Lori De Salvo.

"The really nice thing about it is the chart, that when a patient has a cavity filled we can mark what progress has been made and keep a record for that particular person," DeSalvo said.

Haggerty said she believes the experience is particularly useful once the students graduate, and that these new machines will help them prepare for the equipment in a dentist's office.

"They may go into an office and it might not be exactly the same program, but they will be familiar with it," Haggerty said.

Call Steve Lettau at (330) 941-1913.

MURDER, continued from page 1

the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, which keeps student records private.

"YSU wants to assure the community that the university has taken active steps to assure and continue the safety of the campus for students, faculty and staff," Cole said.

Jon Heacock, head football coach for the YSU Penguins, said that he didn't know of the arrest yesterday until well after it happened. He said that he was "shocked" to learn about the

arrest and that the team never had any issues with Norman.

Heacock said he was "bothered" to learn of the arrest.

"It bothers you. As a coach, the players are like your kids," Heacock said.

The Akron police department said in a press release that detectives were still looking for anyone with information about the shooting. They asked that anyone with information call (330) 375-2463.

Call Bill Rodgers at (330) 941-1989.

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YSU

Civil rights champion's son to visit YSU campus

By: Eric Grosso
FEATURES REPORTER

The son of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. will conduct an invitational consultation with Valley leaders on Friday in Kilcawley Center. Martin Luther King III will lead a group of representatives from Mahoning Valley in an attempt to help the community unify.

King, born 1957, is the second oldest of four children born to Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King. A human rights advocate, community activist and political leader, King has been aggressively involved in important policy initiatives to help maintain the fair and just treatment of citizens at home and abroad while being deeply devoted to the struggle for a nonviolent society.

"We want him to lead us in an open conversation about labor-management relations, race relations, economics, education, class and other issues that separate and divide us and keep us from acting in our best interest," Jimmy Myers, director of YSU Equal Opportunity and Diversity, said.

King will open the meeting of about 25 representatives with a 30-minute speech, followed by two shorter speeches by local leaders. Groups represented at the meeting will then present a list of priorities in order of importance. A discussion on those priorities and how they affect the citizens of the area will be the main topic of discussion

throughout the consultation.

The groups will consist of business, education, labor, and other leaders throughout the Mahoning Valley.

"It's really an ambitious agenda," Myers said.

According to Myers, YSU asked King to come to Youngstown because of his national reputation for resolving conflicts effectively and bringing varying segments of the community together.

In 1984, King traveled to five poverty stricken African nations on a fact-finding tour. During the late 1980s he turned his attention to the injustices in South Africa and the freedom of Nelson Mandela. King traveled in England in 1996 to share his message as part of a month-long celebration of Black History Month, and also served as president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

King will also attend a luncheon at the Holiday Inn Metroplex in Girard from noon to 1:30 p.m. on Friday. The event, sponsored by the Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber, will honor local school districts that received "Excellent" ratings on the 2004-05 state report card.

The invitation-only meeting at YSU is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. in the Bresnahan Suites of Kilcawley Center. The public can meet and talk with Martin Luther King III at a public reception held at 10:30 a.m. in the same location.

Call Eric Grosso at (330) 941-1913.

NEWS IN BRIEF

SGA to raffle concert tickets

Student Government Association will be raffling off two tickets to a Barenaked Ladies concert to raise money for a United Way campaign from today through Nov. 1.

The tickets are first-level seats for the Dec. 5 concert at the Youngstown Convocation Center. Raffle tickets are \$1 apiece and can be purchased at the SGA office in Kilcawley Center. Donations are also being accepted for the campaign.

Have pizza with President Sweet

Student Government Association will, with the office of the president, host a "Pizza With the President" on Nov. 2.

Students can discuss issues with YSU President David Sweet at 1 p.m. in Kilcawley Center's Ohio Room. Provost Robert K. Herbert will also be in attendance of the event that is free of charge for students.

HISTORY, continued from page 8

land and the freewheeling southern colonies.

Over the next 200 years, modern Halloween began to take shape like a werewolf on a moonlit night. However, Halloween, in any form, was not yet widely celebrated. With Halloween barely on the American radar, what were Homer and his maid to do?

The British are coming...and they've got candy!



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It can safely be said that the best thing the British gave us, save for a great recipe on how to boil meat and a reason to brush our teeth, was trick-or-treating. Our most hallowed of traditions originally began in England. On All Souls Day, poor citizens would beg for food and families would give them pastries called "soul cakes" in return for their promise to pray for the family's dead relatives. Combining two early traditions, the pagan practice of wearing costumes, along with the English custom of begging for soul cakes, our modern trick-or-treating conventions began.

Finally, with all the traditional pieces in place, Homer and his French wench can set out with candy bags in hand.

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SPORTS FOCUS

Groups hope Swoopes will help acceptance

By: Brian Davis
KRT CAMPUS

DALLAS — Sheryl Swoopes' announcement that she was coming out of the closet shot through Houston's gay and lesbian community Wednesday like a comet. National women's groups hoped the news smashed more barriers in the process.

"I can't tell you how many people have called me and said, 'Have you seen it? Have you heard it?'" said Donna Junker, a Houston Comets season ticket holder for the last eight years.

"Yes, yes, yes!"

Fears of homosexuality have flourished in male and female locker rooms for years, and it affects everyone regardless of their sexual orientation, said Donna Lopiano, executive director of the Women's Sports Foundation.

With a recognizable figure such as Swoopes coming forward, Lopiano hopes more stereotypes are shattered, and people begin accepting the reality of others.

"It will go a long way toward reducing the hostility toward lesbian and gay athletes and coaches that results in harassment and discrimination and negatively affects team unity," Lopiano said. "It has a lot of really good impact."

Tennis star Billie Jean King supported Swoopes.

"I'm glad that Sheryl was able to make this decision on her own terms and for her own reasons," King said. "I'm happy for her to be able to live openly and freely, and I hope that others will gain strength from her decision."

Pat Griffin, author of a book titled "Strong Women, Deep Closets," believes Swoopes immediately becomes a role model for young people struggling with their sexuality.

"I'm excited for her and what it means for continuing and moving the discussion about discrimination about and gays and lesbians out into the public," Griffin said. "Any kind of conversation is good rather than silence."

But Jim Buzinski, founder of a gay magazine called Outsports.com, said he can't



Photo courtesy of krtcampus.com

WNBA star Sheryl Swoopes, left, talks about her decision to announce that she is a lesbian, during an interview in Houston, Texas, Wednesday. Next to her is her partner Alisa Scott.

see a male athlete announcing his homosexuality simply because Swoopes did.

"A backup quarterback of a NFL team would be a much bigger story than the top women's player," Buzinski said. "Still, this is another sign of progress. This issue isn't going away."

But is this a conversation that the WNBA wants to encourage?

For years, the women's

WNBA may eventually see that promoting an athlete who is a great athlete who happens to be a lesbian will not hurt its fan base at all.

"In fact, it may even just make it more inclusive and really help straight people understand more than this perception that everybody who plays in the WNBA is bad," Carroll said. Nike spokeswoman Trisha Burns said the shoe manufacturer

Navratilova lost major endorsement deals.

"I think the public's more understanding now of the gay and lesbian issue," Lopiano said. "It's much more sophisticated than it was two or three decades ago."

Amy Errett, chief executive officer of Olivia, is excited Swoopes will be promoting her cruise line and travel company, which caters to lesbians. Errett predicts the company will see increased business because of the endorsement.

The new endorsement deal is one reason Swoopes is giving multiple interviews to announce that she is a lesbian.

Other lesbians said Wednesday that Swoopes will enjoy her newfound personal freedom. That, if anything, makes coming out of the closet worth it.

"Coming out is a very personal decision for everyone," said Carol Wyatt, who writes a column called "Social Notes" about the Houston lesbian community. "But obviously, we really applaud her for having the courage to come forward."

Junker said this changes nothing. She'll be back in her seat next season cheering on Swoopes and the Comets.

"The fact that many people's suspicions have been verified, big deal!" Junker said. "She can still kick butt on the court."

The fact that many people's suspicions have been verified, big deal! She can still kick butt on the court.

— Donna Junker, season-ticket holder

basketball league has portrayed itself as a traditional family-friendly entertainment experience. Swoopes has long been one of the WNBA's biggest stars. This year, she became the league's first three-time MVP.

The WNBA is also a league that appeals to the gay and lesbian community.

Helen Carroll, who works at the National Center for Lesbian Rights, said the

has no plans of dropping Swoopes' endorsement contract because of her announcement.

"We've had a relationship with Sheryl for more than 11 years, and we look forward to a continued relationship with Sheryl," Burns said.

That's not how it was when King and Martina Navratilova came out years ago, Lopiano said. King and

Classified

Help Wanted

Students who are in good standing and interested in working for the Grounds Department during "Snow Removal," please contact the Grounds Department, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. weekdays. For information, call 330-941-7200.

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- ▶ 10/28 — Soccer @ Detroit
- ▶ 10/28 — Swimming & Diving vs. Canisius, 4 p.m.
- ▶ 10/28 — Volleyball vs. Cleveland State, 7 p.m.
- ▶ 10/29 — Cross country @ Horizon League Championships

YSU FOOTBALL

Penguins set for Gateway homestretch

By: Justin Smolkovich
SPORTS REPORTER

When the 11th-ranked Youngstown State University football team travels to Cedar Falls, Iowa, Saturday to battle the Northern Iowa Panthers, they will not only be playing the No. 18-ranked squad in Division I-AA, but the Penguins will also be facing them indoors.

The Panthers are one of just a handful of college football teams to play their home games indoors, and the atmosphere creates a unique home field advantage for UNI.

"They feel like it is an advantage," YSU head coach Jon Heacock said. "And it has been over the years playing there in the dome, with the crowd and the noise and the sound."

The Panthers' record so far this year illustrates this advantage. Just 4-3 overall, UNI is a perfect 3-0 at the dome.

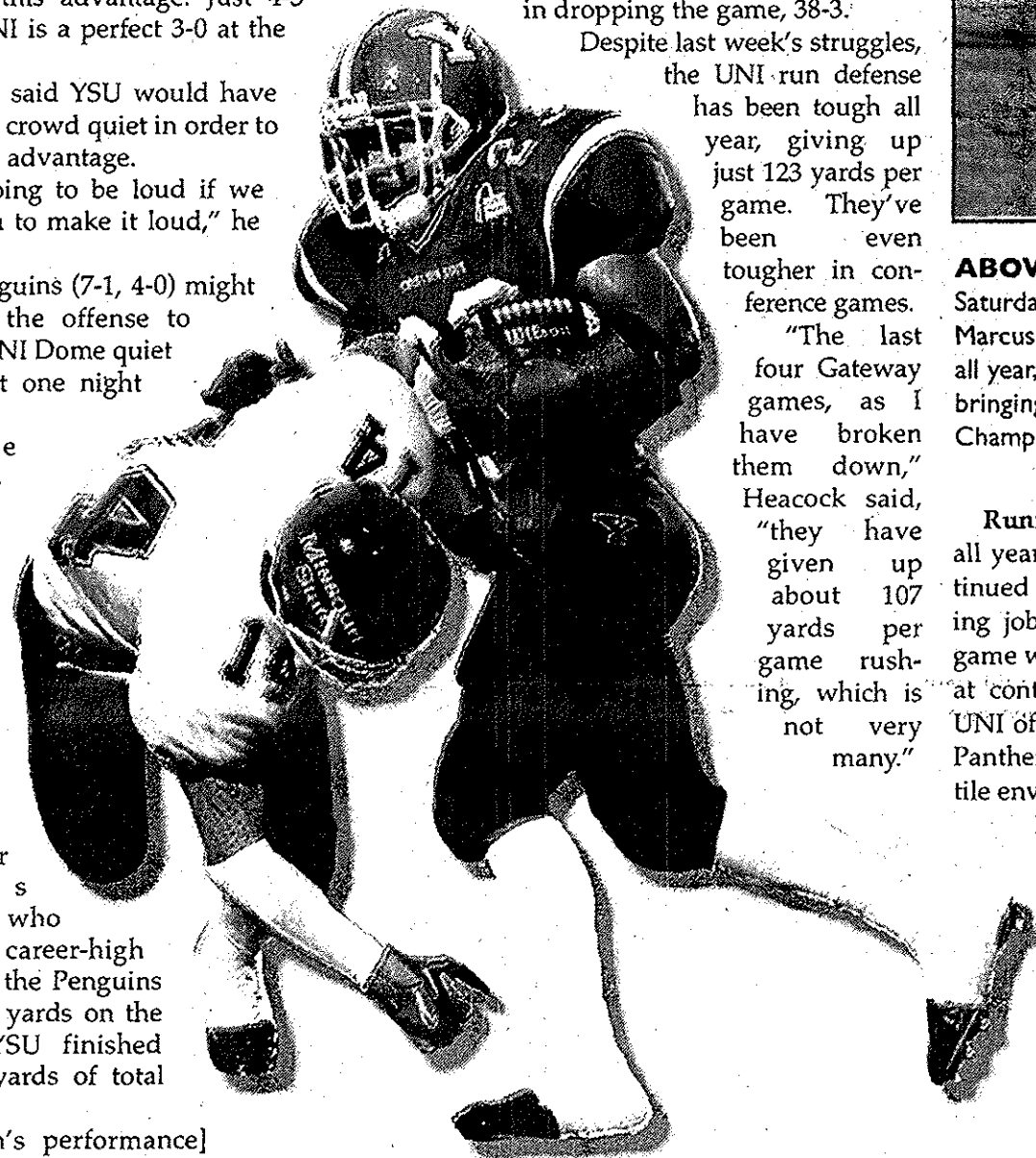
Heacock said YSU would have to keep the crowd quiet in order to negate that advantage.

"It is going to be loud if we allow them to make it loud," he said.

The Penguins (7-1, 4-0) might just have the offense to keep the UNI Dome quiet for at least one night Saturday.

The Penguins are coming off a solid offensive performance last week against Missouri State. Led by emerging star Marcus Mason, who totaled a career-high 203 yards, the Penguins tallied 331 yards on the ground. YSU finished with 469 yards of total offense.

[Mason's performance]



was a key to the game," Heacock said. "Being able to run the football is extremely important."

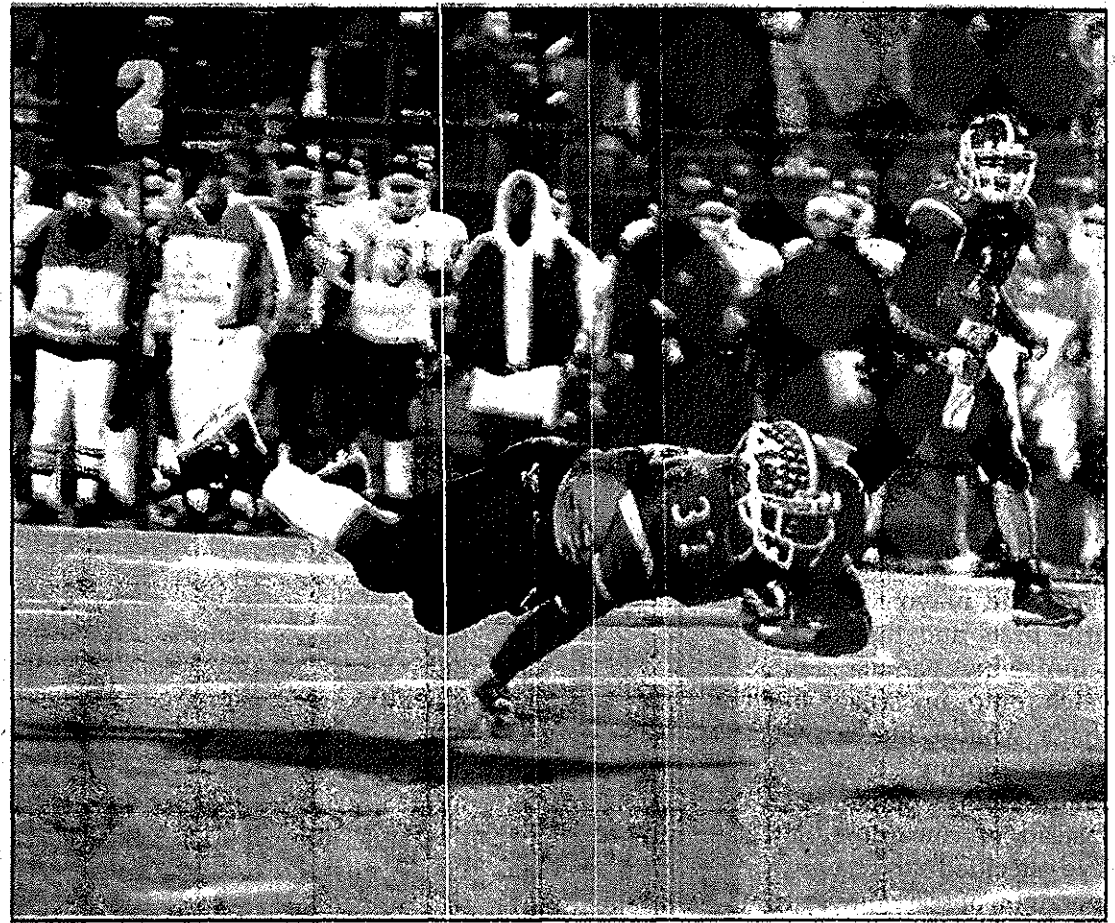
The Gateway Conference is taking notice of just how potent the Penguin run game is. UNI head coach Mark Farley said at a press conference Monday that this year's YSU team is eerily similar to those of the 1990s.

"It's the old Youngstown team. It's power football," Farley said. "They're going to line up and just run power at us. They've been doing it against everybody and they run it out of every formation, and it's exactly what they were doing when they were winning national championships."

On top of the success of YSU's offense, the Panthers' defense struggled mightily last week against Illinois State, giving up more than 400 yards of total offense in dropping the game, 38-3.

Despite last week's struggles, the UNI run defense has been tough all year, giving up just 123 yards per game. They've even been tougher in conference games.

"The last four Gateway games, as I have broken them down," Heacock said, "they have given up about 107 yards per game rushing, which is not very many."



Jambar / Ron Stevens

ABOVE: Penguin running back Monquante Gibson dives forward for some extra yardage in Saturday's game against the Missouri State Bears. **BELOW LEFT:** Gibson's backfield mate, Marcus Mason, pushes a Bears defender aside Saturday. The YSU running attack has been solid all year, with Mason rushing for more than 200 yards last week and the entire running attack bringing back memories of hard-nosed power football that brought four National Championships to Youngstown in the '90s.

Keys to the Game

Running attack: Mason has been solid all year, and Monquante Gibson has continued to contribute despite losing his starting job. The effectiveness of the running game will determine how successful YSU is at controlling the clock and keeping the UNI offense off the field. No points for the Panthers means no loud cheering in a hostile environment.

Pressure the passer: Last week, UNI quarterback Dexter Hill was sacked nine times. James Terry and Brandon Brown and the rest of the Penguin pass rushers will need to be sharp, knocking Hill down and forcing the inexperienced quarterback into making bad decisions.

Zetts' Zen-like decision making:

Turnovers against a team picked in preseason polls to contend for the conference title will make for a long day for YSU. Quarterbacks Tom Zetts and Vince Gliatta need to continue making smart decisions and not trying to force passes into tight spots. If YSU wins the turnover battle, they should win the game.

Codera the cobra: Codera Jackson has been spear-heading a much-improved Penguin secondary, making big interceptions — he has six on the year — and turning things YSU's way. With an inexperienced quarterback and a tough Penguin pass rush, Jackson and the rest of the secondary could have a big day.

Kickoff is set for 4 p.m. The game will also be televised as the Gateway Conference Game of the Week.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758.

YSU CROSS COUNTRY

Penguin runners have tough middle of season

By: Justin Smolkovich
SPORTS REPORTER

It has been an up-and-down season for cross country coach Brian Gorby. Fortunately for the thirteenth-year coach, the Penguins always seem to peak at just the right times. No time could be better than now as the Penguins head into the Horizon League championship Saturday at Wright State University.

"We have had a tough middle part to our season," Gorby said. "But no excuses."

Gorby said that those tough times in the middle of the schedule would only make them stronger when the league meet begins.

"They work to this point. You run the other meets and use that as feedback. We look to the conference meet as the key meet," Gorby said.

The Penguin men and women cross country teams have fared well in the past and Gorby said that history of excelling and being competitive in the conference meet is what propels this team.

"It has been the hardest training so far the last few weeks," Gorby said of the teams' approach to the meet. "We had 11 straight years of finishing in the top three. Last year we finished fourth."

Gorby also said his runners do not want

a repeat of last years performance and is optimistic about his team's chances on Saturday due to senior leadership.

"Nick Kruse has come on really strong for us," Gorby said. "And Dave Mealy is one of our senior captains, has also come on strong. They don't want to let it happen again."

The biggest hurdle, once again, for the Penguins will be Horizon League powerhouse Butler. They boasted a men's team that was ranked No. 15 nationally and had a women's team ranked 30th. "They are very good this year. They recruit nationally," Gorby said. "We try to recruit the city of Youngstown, and the state of Ohio."

The women's side will be led once again by their own top flight runner senior Emily Schnitkey, who is poised to break into the YSU record books.

"Emily Schnitkey has been really big for us, I think she can be the first person to get All-Conference First Team all four years," Gorby said of the senior's possible feat.

The Penguins are looking to use the meet as a stepping-stone to send athletes to the NCAA Great Lakes Regional meet November 12 and then onto the NCAA championships on November 21.

"It is going to catapult us," Gorby said. Start time for the meet is noon for men and 12:40 p.m. for women.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758.

We have had a tough middle part to our season, but no excuses.

— Cross country coach Brian Gorby

YSU SWIMMING & DIVING

Anderson confident in squad despite its losses

By: John Vogel
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The graduation of 10 seniors from last year's squad makes the 2005-06 Youngstown State University swimming and diving team small in number, young and untested. But head coach Matt Anderson is confident that the six returnees from last season and the group of eight incoming freshmen will lay a solid groundwork for the future success of the program.

"We can develop the foundation of the future of the program with this group, because I really think we have a great group of talented athletes," Anderson said. "If we can come in and prove what we can do with a small group and add to it next year, I think we're going to be sitting really good a couple years down the road."

Returning from last year's squad are three of the top freestylers, the school record-holder in the breast-stroker, a diver and an IM'er. The team's three junior captains — Becky Bertuzzi, Kim Hanley and Cortney Harless — will have the job of not only providing leadership in

the pool, but keeping a sense of unity within the team.

"We have to key on making everybody work well together because it's a small group and we don't have a lot of depth," Anderson said. "We can't rely on just winning by numbers. We have to win by quality."

Being a small group has its advantages, however. With no seniors on the squad, younger athletes have assumed the leadership role, and the freshmen will have the opportunity to get experience in pressure situations as they will be counted on to contribute immediately. The addition of the program's first full-time assistant in Jillian Coleman will also allow the swimmers to get more specialized personal attention in workouts.

The team also has goals outside of the pool involving academic commitment and community service. The team has the ambition of earning a combined grade-point average of at least 3.3 and having the highest GPA of any team on campus — a title they fell just short of last season after having the distinction in 2003-04. The squad also wants to

reclaim the Horizon League Community Service Award that it enjoyed two years ago.

Freestyle

The freestyle events will be YSU's strongest area as the squad has solid swimmers from the 50-yard free to the mile.

Anchoring the group will be two of the best sprinters in school history in Bertuzzi and sophomore Brittany Senn.

Bertuzzi ranks second all-time in school history in the 100 and 200 free. She missed breaking the school mark in the 200 free at last season's Horizon League Championships by .4 seconds with a 12th-place time of 1:55.95. She added a 14th-place finish in the 100 free at the meet with a personal-best time of 53.74.

Senn finished 10th in the 50 free at the conference meet last season with personal-best time of 24.82, which ranks third all-time in school history. The sophomore ranks fifth all-time in the 100 free after placing 18th in the conference in the event last year. She has also stepped into a leadership role as a leader-by-example

please see **SWIMMING**, Page 4

COMMENTARY

Scary movie time — sort of

By: Bob 'Bones' Mackey
COLUMNIST

Every Halloween, we recluses are plagued with visitors in the form of mobs of children, pounding at our doors, demanding candy in exchange for their sick "holiday protection." I'm not one to kowtow to the demands of sticky little punks who have not yet been broken by the harsh realities of life, but my options are limited. I could huddle in the darkness of a faux-empty house, keeping silent and praying that the little brats and their mini-van-driving parents don't catch onto my ruse, but that's what I like to call "more boring than 'A Prairie Home Companion.'" Instead of cowering out, I've decided to have a marathon of scary movies at my place, the intent being that my nightmarish screams of terror from watching said movies will cause the little glucose rats to scamper back to their ranch houses and race car beds. My choices, which may seem inappropriate at first, will keep children out of sight even more than an Amber Alert. I recommend that you watch the following in order to have your very own non-silent night: "Armageddon" (1998) — Ben Affleck plays a chin-butted retard, which is not a big stretch for him, being a chin-butted retard. If having to watch Ben Affleck spout out one-liners and



attempt to act his way out of a wet paper bag isn't scary enough for you, just remember this: Ben Affleck won an Oscar. And it wasn't even in the appropriate field of mediocrity! Also, watching him rub his sweaty body and animal crackers over Liv Tyler should produce more projective vomit than any devil-possessed little girl ever could. The real bone-chilling truth behind this movie, though, is that if a

meteor really was headed toward Earth, our president would probably send his own oil drilling squad up into space; not to destroy the meteor, mind you, but to see if that thing was full of oil. Civilization be damned! "Howard the Duck" (1986) — Have you ever wanted to see Lea Thompson have sex with a duck? If you answered "yes" to this question, either a.) Shoot yourself, preferably in the head, or b.) Get

really drunk and watch an episode of "Caroline in the City," then shoot yourself. If anthropomorphic bestiality doesn't make you break out in a cold sweat, just remember this: while George Lucas sat on his hands for 15 years with the "Star Wars" franchise, he had the time to make "Howard the Duck." "Star Wars" fans may suffer from a twisted version of Stockholm Syndrome, but even they should be calling please see **MOVIES**, Page 4

HAUNTED HOUSE

Scary good time to be had in Akron

By: Rudi Whitmore
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It's dark and cloudy with a waxing full moon, and slow chilly breezes. The screams of women and children are ripping through the night, and their racing hearts are almost palpable in the heavy air. The monster I'm sharing a cigarette with cracks a grin so wide it starts to pull at its bloodied, burned, decomposing face, and sighs. "Isn't that beautiful? And I get paid for this!" He and about fifty other people working in Akron's Haunted Schoolhouse and Laboratory do indeed get paid to scare the sense out of the hundreds of people passing through their doors Thursday through Sunday. Standing in line with other horror hopefuls, there are nervous twitters and rumors passing through groups, hoping to make friends to hold on to through the school and lab. "I heard it's actually haunted." "Well, I heard they have real bodies in there..." There is some anxious fidgeting before a girl in a high school jacket shoves her companions. "Shut up! They do not!" I'm standing with two unobtrusive men; one with a bullet hole in his cheek, easily over-looked without a

second glance, and another with tattooed sleeves down his arms. They inform me that my friend and I get a very special run through, without the benefit of safety in numbers. Fortunately for us, they're amicable to the idea of two girls wrapped around them in sheer terror for the better part of an hour, panting and shaking in the stairwells between floors. Having been through my share of haunted houses, I was shocked that I was so terrified. I ran my escort and I into a wall in the lab three times before letting myself be led into the next room. After a shaking smoke and a commiserating conversation with the group behind us — all laughing at friends who are laughing at us in return, revealing to others which rooms and which ghouls scared us the most — all our nerves are shakily soothed. Our escorts chuckle quietly to each other, separating us from the group before leading us down a flight of stairs to their little shop of horrors. They have pots, bottles, and potions of every color and size over every surface, with two large mirrors covering a wall with two stations and chairs. I hop up on low-hung cabinets, and almost sink my hand into a

HISTORY OF HALLOWEEN

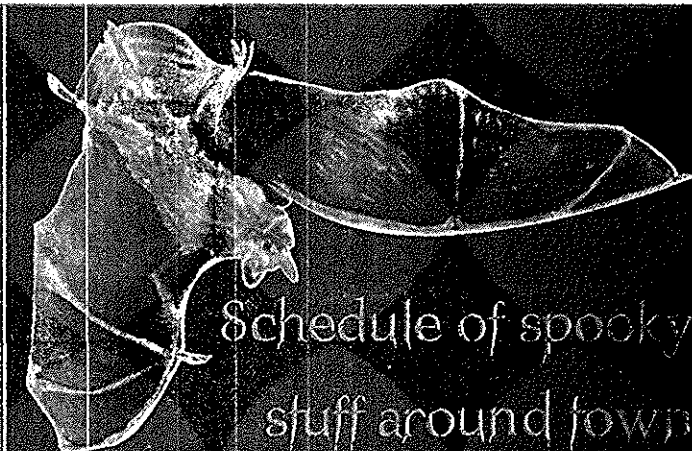
From pagan worship to your goodie bag

By: Jake Glavies
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The gold, orange and red leaves, having already fallen from their woody perch, rustle endlessly as children take to the streets for a night of ghoulish deeds and ghostly haunting. It is a night in which vampires, witches and ghosts walk the Earth, accompanied by their parents, asking for any manner of sweet treat. It's Halloween, of course! Considered by many to be a "pseudo-holiday," Halloween is actually a celebration that dates back nearly 2,500 years and can be found, in varying forms, in 13 countries around the world. **Halloween: the early years** Halloween has its origins in the Celtic peoples of the 5th century B.C., who lived in present day Ireland, Great Britain and northern France. The Celts believed that on Oct. 31, the eve of their new year, the boundary between the worlds of the living and dead became blurred. On this day, the spirits of those who had died throughout the previous year would come back in search of living bodies to possess. To ward off these spirits, the Celts would dress in costumes, consisting of animal heads and skins. The Celts' use of costumes is an ancient precursor to our more modern traditions. However, we have chosen to

replace animal heads with Homer Simpson masks and their skins with naughty French maid outfits. Costume clad, Homer Simpson and his naughty maid must wait to set out on their ghastly Halloween trek, while a few more changes are made to their holiday du jour. For starters, it wasn't called Halloween yet! Enter the Catholic Church. The most important change came from, of all places, Vatican City. After spreading into Celtic lands, the Church designated Nov. 1, All Saints Day. The celebration was called "All-Hallows Day," while the night before, Oct. 31, became known as "All-Hallows Eve," and eventually, Halloween. It is widely believed that the Church was attempting to replace the Celtic festival of the dead with a related, church-sanctioned, holiday. **Halloween's Manifest Destiny** As Europeans immigrated to America, they brought with them their various Halloween traditions. However, because of the predominately puritan belief system of the New England colonies, Halloween celebrations were extremely rare. Although infrequent, celebrations did appear in predominantly Catholic Mary-

CALENDAR



Schedule of spooky stuff around town

Sourced up by: Katie Li 'hoor'cco

Friday:
"The Rocky Horror Show" will be performed by Center Stage Performances and Productions at **Crossroads Golf Course**, 1300 N. State St., Girard, 10 p.m. — midnight with a DJ, to follow. Cover is \$10. (21+)
The **Bad Apple** will hold their final show before closing their doors at 21 Federal Plaza, Youngstown. Bands performing are Rounding 3rd and the Gates Called Beautiful. (18+)
The **Austintown O'Donald's Irish Pub and Grille**, 6600 Mahoning Ave., will hold a costume contest with a \$1,500 give-away. The Warren location, 2774 Youngstown Road, will give away tickets to see 3 Doors Down at the Youngstown Convocation Center. Saturday night. Tickets for the raffle will be distributed with the purchase of Bud Light. (21+)
Cedars Lounge, 23 N. Hazel St., Youngstown, will host the **Champions of All Time** and their 4th Annual Spookshow Extravaganza. The Kellys and You Are The War That I Want will also perform. Cover is \$5. (18+)
Bands **P.W. Long**, **Night Terror** and **Tonight We Glow**. Show starts at 10 p.m. at the **Nyabinghi**, 1229 Salt Springs Road, Youngstown. (18+)
The Cellar, 162 S. Bridge St., Struthers, Rock 104 and Eric Ryan Productions present national recording artists **Hinder**, known for their single "Get Stupid." Doors will open at 8 p.m. and the show will start at 9 p.m. (18+)
Kahunaville in the Eastwood Mall in Niles will have a costume contest 9 p.m. — 2 a.m. with specials on drinks. (21+)
Halloween **Harlequin's Voices** birthday show at the **Girard Knights of Columbus**, 112 S. State St., with **Lady Fairbanks**, **Harlequin's Voices**, **Falling Stars**, **Burn Bright**, **Sides Blood Back**, **Heggs**, **Randy Savage**, **Mainliner** and **Beverly Allit**. (All ages)
The **YSU Planetarium** will host "Nightlights," their Halloween program for all ages, at 6 and 8 p.m.
Saturday:
Royal Oaks, 924 Oak St., Youngstown, will hold a Halloween Party featuring **Bob's Country Bunker** and the **Grand Nationals**. There will also be a costume contest with cash prizes. (18+)
The **Nyabinghi**, 1229 Salt Springs Road, Youngstown, will hold their annual Halloween Party. (18+)
The **Zou's** Fourth Annual Rocky Horror Halloween Party at **Cedars Lounge**, 23 N. Hazel St., Youngstown. Youngstown's Posture Coach and Boatz from Cleveland are slated to open, starting at 10 p.m. The Zou will play a set of originals featuring old and new songs followed by a set of music from the "Rocky Horror Picture Show." (18+)
The Golf Dome, 1300 N. State St., Girard, will hold their Halloween Party with a DJ all night. (21+)
The Warren location of **O'Donald's Irish Pub and Grille**, 2774 Youngstown Road, will hold a costume contest with a \$1,500 give-away. Y103 will do a live broadcast. (21+)
Salty Grogs Halloween Party featuring **The 60's Band** with a costume contest. (21+)
Jillians in the Southern Park Mall, 7401 Market St. in the Southern Park Mall, will hold their costume contest at 8 p.m. with cash prizes. **Via Sahara**, **December Son** and **Blaming Venus** are scheduled to perform. The cover will be \$7 and CD 93.3 will have giveaways. (21+)
3 Doors Down with **Alter Bridge** and **Shine Down** perform the live concert at **Youngstown Convocation Center**. The show begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 to \$37.50 at the Convocation Center box office. They may also be purchased by calling (866) 443-8849 or by visiting www.gettin.net. (All Ages)
The **YSU Planetarium** will host "The Halloween Show" for grades one through six at 1 and 2:30 p.m., with all ages program "Nightlights" at 6 p.m.
Sunday:
"The Rocky Horror Show" will be performed at **The Golf Dome**, 1300 N. State St., Girard, 10 p.m. — midnight with karaoke to follow. Cover is \$10. (21+)
The **YSU Planetarium** will host "The Halloween Show" for grades one through six at 1 and 2:30 p.m. "Nightlights" at 6 p.m. and **Halloween Mars Madness** with telescopes set up on campus with the **Mahoning Valley Astronomical Society** at 7 p.m.



Illustration courtesy of krtcampus.com