

# the jambar

VOLUME 88, ISSUE 16 The student voice of Youngstown State University

Weather >> sunny  
 84 | 60  
 Friday: showers, 71/49  
 Saturday: showers, 72/59

Inside



▲ New clothing store Sassypants wants to vintage you up.  
 Entertainment | see page 7

▼ Tom Zetts leads the 'Guins against Pitt on Saturday.



Sports | see page 8

In Brief

Correction

In a Sept. 20 article headlined "National Constitution Day comes to YSU," lecturer Robert Bennett was incorrectly identified as a former Utah Senator. He was never a senator.

Film Auditions

Black Castle Films will hold open auditions Saturday for the movie "Sheila's Story" in the McKay Auditorium in Beeghly Hall. Times are 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. for students, 2-5 p.m. for the public. All auditions are taped and hopefuls should bring a photo and biography if available.

Mayoral Forum

A forum featuring Youngstown's mayoral candidates will be broadcast live tonight at 8 p.m. on PBS Channels 45/49 and on WYSU-FM. Held in Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room, the mayoral candidates will discuss Youngstown 2010 and their position statements for candidacy. The public is invited to attend.

the jambar poll question

Last question

Are you planning to vote for Homecoming court?

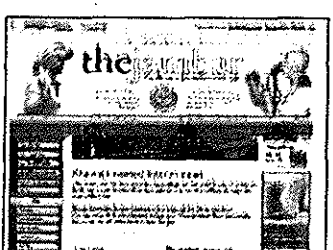
30% Yes 70% No

Are you excited about the opening of the new rec center?

vote online  
 www.thejambar.com

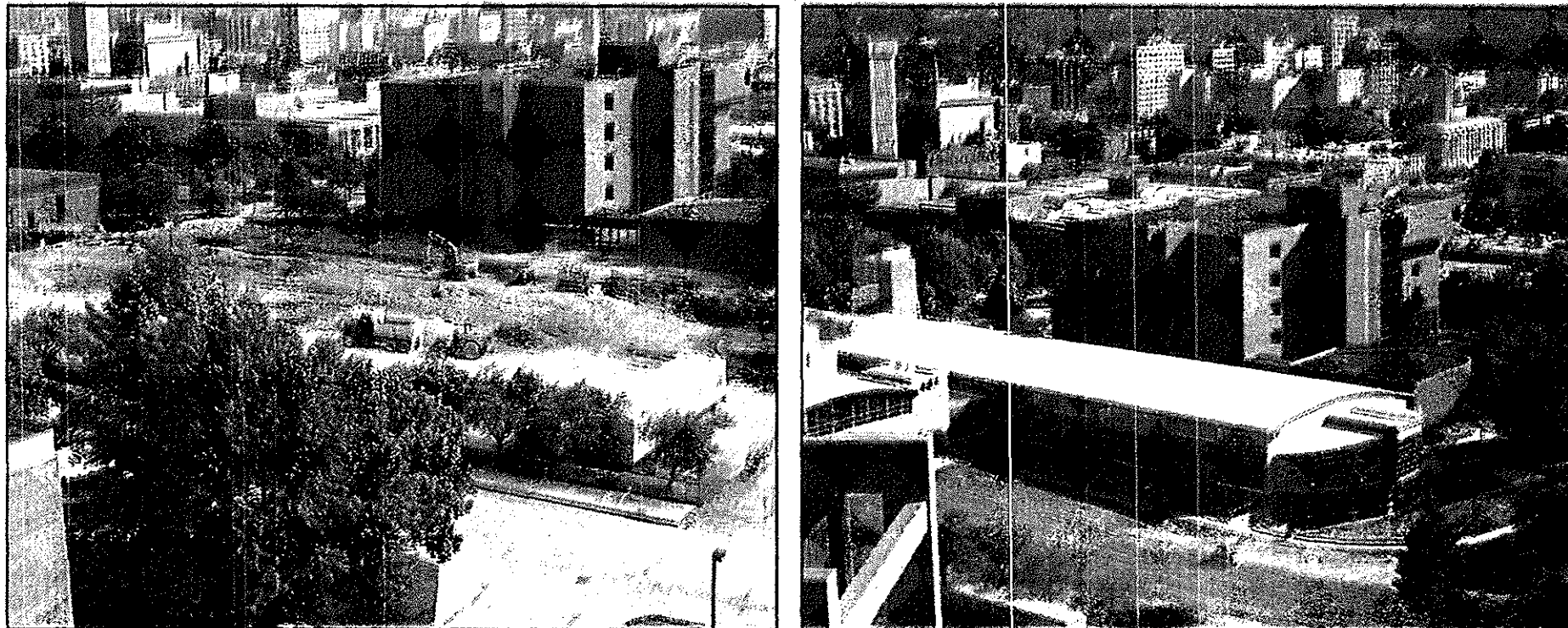
INTODAY'S JAMBAR

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Online: thejambar.com  
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YSU REC CENTER



These Jambar photographs of the area off of Fifth Avenue where the Andrews Recreation and Wellness Center is located were taken from the roof of Stambaugh Stadium. The picture on the left is from last spring, before construction, and the photo on the right was taken Wednesday afternoon.

## Rec center to open Monday

By: Eric Grosso  
 FEATURES REPORTER

This Sunday will mark the official dedication for the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center, a brand new facility that will offer nonstop exercise and recreation throughout the day.

A meditation room, a jogging track and a 33-foot tall rock-climbing wall are some of the center's unique features, in addition to the weights, cardio machines and basketball courts.

The 67,000 square-foot, \$12.1 million facility will open Monday to students and faculty, ending a long

journey that brought the center from being a rudimentary idea to the spotlight of YSU.

Throughout the early 1990s, several student initiatives passed in an attempt to create a recreation center. Fitness facilities had to be shared with athletes, shutting out students at certain times. Physical education classes also limited student access, but most importantly, the equipment and facilities were old

It's going to be one of the shining stars on campus.

— Jack Nigney

Beeghly Center was built in 1972 and Stambaugh Stadium in 1982.

Even with staff members and administrators recognizing the need for a fitness facility, the plans stood dormant for nearly a decade.

Facing decreasing state funds, a student vote was held to ask if they would pay for construction of the center. In 2000, 86 percent of students voted in support of a temporary tuition hike of \$75

per semester for the center. Even with students offering up the money, officials decided against the idea, as students were already contending with rising tuition. Over the next year, plans for the center took a back seat to looming budget concerns.

YSU President David Sweet then began talks with others one-on-one about the rec center, saying he and other administrators were in the "quietly fundraising phase" of obtaining money for the center.

The beginning of 2002 marked the start of the official campaign to pay

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YSU

## Board set to vote on energy-saving upgrades

By: Bill Rodgers  
 NEWS EDITOR

At tomorrow's Board of Trustees meeting, members will vote whether to approve contracting with Johnson Controls Inc. to make energy-saving upgrades to Youngstown State University's facilities. Under the proposed contract, JCI guarantees at least \$15 million in energy and operational expense savings over the contract's ten-year span and will pay the amount of any shortfall.

Under the contract, YSU will borrow up to \$12 million to finance the upgrades. The university will pay the loans with the annual savings in energy consumption it would collect as a result of the upgrades.

The contract is made possible by Ohio Revised Code 3345.64-66, which allows public universities to contract with energy services companies for the purposes of making energy conservation upgrades to campus facilities. John Hyden, YSU's executive director of facilities, said the law revises the way state universities apply for energy-sav-

It will show that we're good stewards of our financial and natural resources.

— John Hyden

ing contracting and funding procurement.

Hyden said the law allows the university to work with a single contracting company rather than ask for bids from companies for each project. The law also allows the university to borrow the money necessary for the upgrades from a third-party financier, without a budget appropriation from the state general assembly. Hyden said the financier would be found by sending out requests for proposals.

Hyden said that the university would be required to pay 10 percent of the cost of the upgrades in two years. The university would pay off the entire cost in 10 years.

Hyden said he had "absolutely no worries" about the university being able to pay

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YSU / CISP

## International Studies lacking director

By: Katie Libecco  
 COPY EDITOR

Youngstown State University's Center for International Studies & Programs is lacking direction. Or at least a full-time director.

The CSIP has been without a full-time director since Aug. 31, when Noah Midamba's contract expired. Midamba served as the interim administrator for the Center for International Studies & Programs for two years. In that time, his contract was renewed twice and extended once.

However, when Midamba's most recent con-

tract expired, there was no offer for a contract renewal. Employees at the CISP and YSU administration said faculty members are helping to cover the job's duties until someone is found for the position.

"We will be looking at what we want the center to be... then when we figure that out, we will start looking nationally for someone to fill the position," Assistant Provost Ron Chordas said. "Dr. Midamba is more than welcome to apply for the position."

Chordas said that the next director the university hires will hold a full-time position, instead of the inter-

im position Midamba held.

The Black Faculty and Staff Association held an emergency meeting Aug. 31, opposing the non-renewal of Midamba's contract.

Leaders of the group have explained that the issue extends farther than one position, but directly relates to the treatment of black employees at YSU.

Herbert said there is currently an internal investigation looking into why Midamba's contract was not renewed. There will be a group meeting with administration next week to discuss Midamba and the vacant position.

Call Katie Libecco at (330) 941-3758.

YSU HOMECOMING

## Homecoming voting done, results still secret

By: Cheryl Thompson  
 REPORTER

After weeks of campaigning and two days of voting in Kilcawley Center, the results are in for the 2005 Homecoming King and Queen Court.

Listed in alphabetical order, the finalists are Fred Burazer, Bert Gestnecker, Jonathan Jenyk, Keith Logan and Jeremy Payne for king and Janel Finch, Christine Franz, Jessica Silvestri, Shannon Starr and Sarah Vansuch for queen.

From 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday and from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, 776 students showed up at the polls to cast their ballots to determine which candidates would make it to court. Out of the seven men and 16 women nominated, 10 made it to court.

The final outcome has been determined but the king and queen will not be announced until Oct. 22 during the halftime show of the football homecoming game, played against Missouri State University, Assistant Director of Student Activities, Greg Gulas, said.

Gulas, who has been running the show for eight years, said that no matter how many people try to get him to spill, said he has never had a problem keeping the results secret.

"If I were to let just one person know the results early,

then I might as well make the announcement to everyone, spoiling the surprise at the game," Gulas said.

Some of the students who voted said they knew several people in the running, but made their choice based on the character of the nominees.

Junior Autumn McDonald said the decision was tough for her; she is friends with several people who ran this year.

"I just picked the person I thought would represent YSU the best and have the interest of the students in mind," McDonald said.

Senior Jon Williams echoed her sentiment; he said he voted for Janel Finch because of her involvement in organizations and dedication to academics.

"She was going through all the right steps to be homecoming queen; she participates in activities and gets good grades. She is the type of person I want to represent my school," Williams said.

Although 776 students voted this year, the amount fell below the goal of 1000 students set by Gulas. The reasons students gave for not voting varied. For some, homecoming slipped their minds, for others, unfamiliarity with candidates kept them from voting.

Freshman Jillian Mulanax said she abstained from voting this year

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**ENERGY**, continued from page 1

off the cost of the upgrades. "We're not dealing with fly-by-night contracting companies; the university would be working with the leaders of the industry. The proposed vendor also guaranteed us the savings. If we fall short, they pay the difference," Hyden said.

Hyden said the project that would offer some of the biggest savings to the university would be a new lighting system. The university would switch from the typical fluorescent light bulbs it currently uses to smaller, more energy efficient lights. He said that having the latest lighting technology would offer the university 'significant savings.'

"You wouldn't normally think about the cost of turning a light on, but when you light as many as we do, changing the lighting system is a very cost-effective thing to do," Hyden said.

If YSU signs with JCI, Hyden said it would have to decide whether to upgrade its current electric cooling system or to use a steam cooling system. YSU is currently using an electric cooling system, but Hyden said the university would explore the possibility of steam cooling by negotiating possible rates with local steam utility Youngstown Thermal. YSU currently uses a steam system for heating.

"We're not sure which way to go yet. There are some variables that still need to be worked out," Hyden said. John Habat, vice president for administration at YSU, said the current electric cooling system is getting old, can no longer efficiently serve the needs of the university and needs to be replaced.

JCI outlined the benefits and problems of each system in a presentation they will give to the board tomorrow. An electric system would cost approximately \$9.4 million; a steam cooling system would cost approximately \$11 million.

With the electric cooling system, the report said the university would eliminate the risk of relying on Youngstown Thermal for steam. The university would also remove R-11, a refrigerant that Hyden said the EPA has deemed harmful to the ozone, from the campus.

A problem with the electric system, however, is that the university would not have any flexibility in fuel usage. The university would be limited to using electricity. With the steam cooling system, the university would still have its electric chillers, allowing more flexibility; electricity or steam could be used. The diversity would allow YSU to take advantage of whichever fuel cost less in the future. The detriments to a steam system are that they would require higher maintenance costs, and would rely on Youngstown Thermal. The R-11 refrigerant would still remain on campus in this scenario.

Hyden said the energy saving upgrades would reflect positively on YSU's image.

"I'm excited about this project," Hyden said. "It will show that we're good stewards of our financial and natural resources." Call Bill Rodgers at (330) 941-1989.

**VOTING**, continued from page 1

because she did not know any of the candidates personally.

Mulanax said she saw campaign posters and knew the candidates, but did not feel comfortable voting for someone whom she didn't personally know.

"I didn't want to vote for someone and have that person turn out to be mean and not know it," said Mulanax.

Freshman Kimmy Eicher also didn't vote in this year's Homecoming election, though she said she knew some of the candidates. Eicher thought the paper ballot method was too time consuming.

"It's just too inconvenient to have to wait in line and go in the booth. I'm too busy

between classes," she said.

Eicher said she would have been more inclined to vote if voting was offered in a more convenient form, such as online electronic ballots.

Gulas said the use of electronic ballots accessed through student's CUE-mail accounts is a possibility for next year's voting.

"Last year was supposed to be the pilot year with electronic voting, but it didn't end up working out for homecoming," Gulas said. "We did use the technology for the Student Government elections and it worked well."

Call Cheryl Thompson at (330) 941-1913.

**POLICE BLOTTER**

Lyden House resident Shannon Davies was charged with underage consumption of an alcoholic beverage. A police report states that YSU Police witnessed Davies attempting to enter Lyden, but could not get her key into the lock and stumbled. When stopped, Davies said she had been at a party on Ohio Avenue and had been drinking, according to the police report.

A freshman student reported items valued at \$665 had been stolen from his vehicle, parked in

the University Courtyard Apartments on Sept. 18. Among the items were an Alpine CD stereo, ten CDs and two tickets to a Green Day concert valued at \$150, according to the police report. The report also stated no forced entry was used.

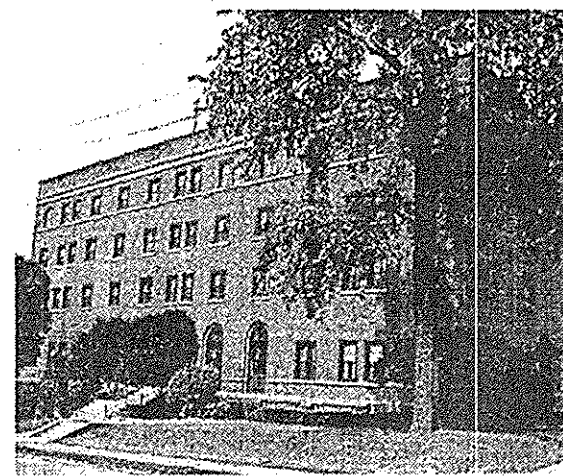
Police responded to a Courtyard Apartment assault and menacing on Sept. 18. A female resident stated she was threatened by another Courtyard resident, a male, who he said he was going to get a 45-

caliber gun. The victim also said the man pulled her hair and threw her to the ground. The suspect denied allegations and stated that he was attacked by residents of the victim's room. All parties refused to pursue criminal charges.

Property was reported stolen from Moser Hall, valued at \$1,080 on Sept. 19. The report noted a Dell computer, monitor, keyboard, mouse and power pack among the missing items. There were no signs of forced entry.

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thejambar  
 Youngstown State University

# Editorial & Opinion

Thursday, September 22, 2005

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**thejambar**  
 Excellence in journalism since 1931

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The Jambar is published twice weekly during the fall and spring semesters and weekly during the summer sessions. The first copy of The Jambar is free; each additional copy is five cents. Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Collegiate Press Honors.

OUR SIDE

## Alternate energy sources needed

Hurricane Katrina happened just three weeks ago and Hurricane Rita is already eyeing the Gulf Coast, giving victims little chance to recover.

Some former New Orleans residents who were relocated to Texas during or after Hurricane Katrina are facing yet another evacuation. While Hurricane Rita is expected to hit Texas, the effects of the South's repeated bombardment are likely to be felt nationwide.

Just two weeks ago, gas prices rose above \$3 per gallon, driving the nation into a panic. Angry and confused customers began sharing pictures of receipts and signs from gas stations coast to coast over the Internet. Only a slight relief seemed to spread as prices dropped to around \$2.50 per gallon.

Be warned. With Hurricane Rita's projected path, experts are predicting a decrease of up to 3 million barrels each day for drilling. After Hurricane Rita hits Texas, analysts predict gas prices could raise well about \$4 per gallon, some saying as much as \$5 per gallon.

When Hurricane Katrina hit, 15 crude oil refineries were, at least temporarily, shut down, decreasing refining capacity by 20 percent in the United States. Some of those have just recently started putting the pieces back together for a successful business. But now, that number may very well rise.

But luck isn't only bad for crude oil drilling. The cards have been dealt just as unfortunately for natural gas wells.

As winter nears, many analysts are predicting a 70 percent increase in natural gas prices in the Midwest. With offshore platforms that produce natural gas around the Texas shore, that number is expected to spike even higher.

As gas prices increase and the minimum wage has stayed the same since 1997, it is getting harder to keep a family warm in the winter. In this time of recovery for so many Americans, our government needs to extend its focus to the rest of the nation, which has suffered as a result of this hurricane season.

Often, the reaction to high gas prices is to blame consumers for irresponsible gas consumption. This would be a valid argument for highly-developed urban cities with efficient mass communication. But some forget that most of the Midwest has developed into an area designed for commuting, expecting residents to drive.

The government should focus on finding efficient alternative energy sources and helping communities develop effective ways to heat homes of Americans.

Renewable, environmentally-friendly energy sources do exist, often with little maintenance costs. This is an age where solar and wind power are logical solutions. If the government would help businesses, cities and families make the conversion it would immediately and directly benefit the environment and the economy.

As Youngstown State University has recently decided to shop the market for the most cost-efficient energy resources to keep tuition down and the environment clean, we begin to wonder: Why can't the government do the same?

### EDITORIAL POLICY

The Jambar editorials reflect the opinions of The Jambar and its Editorial Board members. Commentaries and columns reflect only the views of the individual who wrote the piece. Those wishing to schedule meetings with the Editorial Board should call the editor in chief.

### LETTERS POLICY

Letters must be typed and should not exceed 400 words. Each letter must include a name and telephone number for verification purposes. Submissions are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and clarity. Letters must be received by noon Friday for Tuesday's edition and by noon Tuesday for Thursday's edition.

The Jambar will not print letters that libel others or threaten harm. The editor in chief reserves the right to reject any letter. The views and opinions expressed in published letters do not necessarily reflect those of Jambar staff or YSU faculty, staff or administration.



COMMENTARY

## Washing away borders

By: Richard Gonzales  
 KRT CAMPUS

Among the 94 countries that have offered aid to the United States in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, none is more symbolic of a difficult friendship than Mexico. Katrina forced the United States and Mexico to cross years and miles of border resentment and suspicion. The neighbors transcended national and personal boundaries in the face of catastrophe to find their humanity.

It's estimated that 145,000 Mexicans were affected by the hurricane, 10,000 of them in New Orleans.

With President Bush's approval, President Vicente Fox sent a Mexican Peace Corps to help his neighbor. Fox proudly told his people: "This is Mexico: It's solidarity, love, caring, capable of conquering adversity. For this reason, we have a stronger Mexico, a more democratic Mexico, a free Mexico, a working Mexico."

Mexican sailors from the ship Papaloapan docked last week off the coast of Biloxi, Miss., and began unloading supplies for the hurricane victims. Their ship brought along rescue helicopters, vehicles and water.

For many Tejanos and Mexican immigrants, the sight of the 45-truck Mexican troop convoy rumbling across the border along Interstate 35 on its way to San Antonio stirred pride and cheer. Many locals waved the Mexican flag and shouted, "Bienvenidos!" — Welcome!

Mexican troops hadn't advanced this far north since 1846, at the start of the Mexican-American War.

At that time, the Mexicans claimed that their land began at the Nueces River; the United States insisted that its southern border was the Rio Grande. Troops clashed in the disputed land between the rivers, and war was declared.

After two years of fighting, Mexico and the United States signed the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. Mexico ceded lands that would become America's Southwest and West for \$18,250,000.

Many Mexican citizens north of the Rio Grande suddenly found themselves to be U.S. citizens. An often-repeated, wry comment by Mexican-Americans who claim a long family residency in the conquered lands is that they didn't cross the border — the border crossed them.

But this time, unarmed Mexican soldiers, sailors, engineers, physicians and nurses came to conquer fear, hunger and sickness. U.S. citizens were able to see the true might of a foreign people: the sharing of talent and resources to ease the pain of another foreign people.

Minutemen, take note: From the halls of San Antonio to the shores of Mississippi, Mexican soldiers and sailors in plain view feed, comfort and heal the citizens whom you seek to protect. Don't be surprised to see thousands of immigrants take part in the massive cleanup and rebuilding of New Orleans and other hard-hit Southern cities. As Fox said, Mexicans are a working people.

Their time would be better spent if they followed the Mexicans' example and volunteered to assist fellow citizens displaced by Katrina. If not, they should turn the binoculars on one another and peer into their hearts to track their fears.

Cross the border, Minutemen, from shadow land to helping hand.

Despite the rancor on both sides of the border about past wars, spilt blood, lost land, drug trafficking and illegal crossings, demographic reality and natural calamity have forced us to recognize that the future demands reconciliation and cooperation.

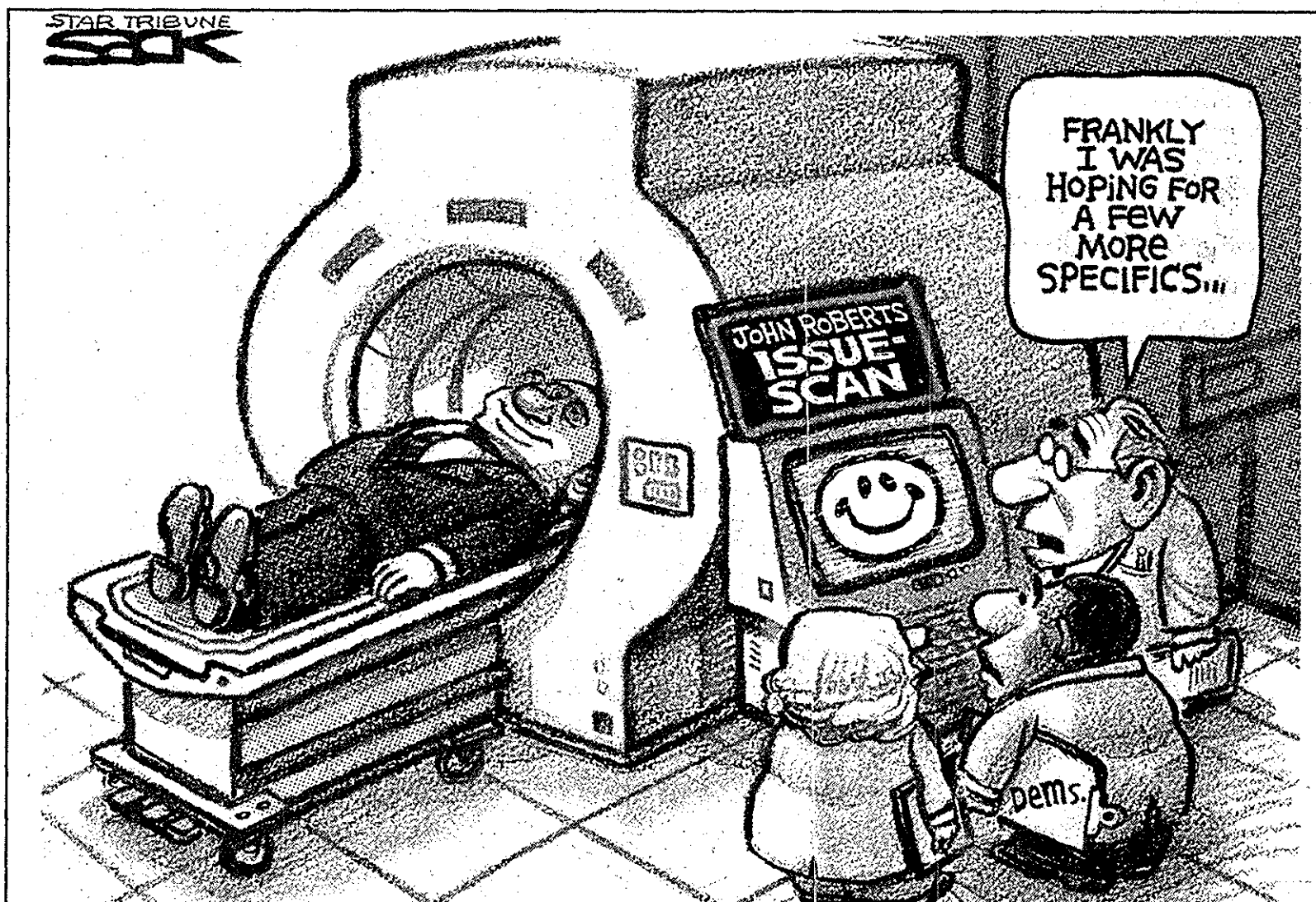
Mexicans and U.S. citizens must cross their Rubicon, knowing that they shall not return to futile construction of walls, moats and fences. It's too late: Mexicans are here to stay.

Latino numbers have grown so exponentially that Texans have come to a cultural crossroads. They can travel the path of harmonious blending of heritages to become a showcase to the country and the world, or they can follow the road historically more trekked by jealous countries — one of bitterness and hostility.

If the first path is taken, American presidents and governors can bring those neighbors in conflict — Israelis and Palestinians, Roman Catholic and Protestant Irish, Indians and Pakistanis — to the yellow rose state and explain that we've learned to respect one another. We've managed to defuse our fears of difference and to identify our common humanity. We can do so because we shed the ethnic and class arrogance that blinds us to the good in other peoples.

Katrina washed away buildings, levees and borders. Mexico and the United States can rebuild American cities as their citizens proudly wave both flags.

Richard J. Gonzales is a columnist for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Readers may send him e-mail at Rgonz237034@aol.com.



ANDREWS, continued from page 1

for construction. YSU hoped to raise the \$12.1 million with nothing more than donations.

With fundraising covering the building costs, the debate began over who would cover the operation costs of the center. Generally, students were supportive of paying around \$40 per semester on top of their tuition, but with a recently passed hike of 8.9 percent, students were mostly against the idea of paying the fees combined with the tuition increase.

In the end, students were assessed the fee to pay for operation which started this semester.

The John S. and Doris M. Andrews Trust, John and Denise York and the Ward and Florence Simon Beecher Foundations each gave donations of over \$1 million. YSU alumni also donated around \$7 million to the university during this time, with officials taking \$5.4 million of that money and directing it to the campaign, leaving only \$1.1 million for scholarships and \$500,000 for university operations. The move made some question the priorities of top YSU officials, but the donations continued.

In March 2004, university employees and Board of Trustees members donated to the fund, falling just \$1 million short of the \$12.1 million goal. University employees contributed more than \$70,000. President Sweet personally donated \$10,000 with Board of Trustees member H.S. Wang giving \$100,000.

YSU also received a grant of \$600,000 from the Kresge Foundation in 2003 for the center. Officials broke

ground on the project on April 19, 2004, with Hively Construction beginning the project.

The fundraising goal was finally reached in June 2004 with more than 650 individuals donating. The private donations made YSU the only public university in Ohio with a rec center not constructed with public money since 1967. The project was given an Aug. 15, 2005 completion date.

Although students were happy with the construction's start, some weren't as excited about the logistics of the build. A main complaint was the fence surrounding the area, which cut off walkways. Students were surprised to find their favorite paths had been blocked, making some students late for class the first days of construction. The construction also moved the Spring Street parking lot from in front of Beeghly Center to the M-24 lot, taking away a section of student parking.

Another heated debate started when YSU Trustees gave \$4.2 million in university funds to the project in 2004. Trustees stated numerous times that the center would be built with private donations. The money was put up to cover future donations that weren't in on time for construction, but some wondered what would happen if the donations never came through.

Construction was halted, along with activities in Kilcawley Center, because of a bomb threat on May 3, 2005. After an early morning phone threat and a subsequent police search of the area, workers returned after a few hours.

In June, the ribbon cutting

ceremony was pushed back to Sept. 25 due to spring and summer showers which slowed work. With the date approaching fast, there's no looking back for YSU, the students, staff and administrators. Taking over a decade to complete, the center will open on Monday, ending a long and treacherous road to recreation and fitness.

Jack Rigney, director of campus recreation and intramural sports, called the center a major addition to YSU.

"It's going to be one of the shining stars on campus," Rigney said. "It's going to open the door to many students who are considering attending YSU. It will help attract students to YSU's campus as well as retain them. There's also a lot of employment opportunity at the rec center."

"It's a phenomenal addition to campus. It really is," Rigney added.

The construction of the rec center was complimented this summer by renovations totaling \$7 million. The most notable was a 4,000 square-foot addition to the YSU Bookstore. DeBartalo Hall received upgrades in 13 classrooms, including new ceilings, floors, lecterns, desks, chairs and paint. Numerous buildings on campus received new doors and the Beeghly Center pool was drained and re-painted. A number of parking lots also received upgrades.

The Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness center is just one of many similar facilities being built across the country. Many universities, including YSU, are hoping the buildings will entice new students when deciding on a school.

Boise State University recently finished a \$50 million project, which included

large plasma screens, a lazy river, whirlpool, sauna, cardio equipment with individual DVD players and a 42-foot rock-climbing wall.

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is in the midst of a \$77 million project to overhaul its two main facilities, and Southeast Missouri State University plans to break ground on a \$7.8 million project in January: students there requested a 25-person whirlpool and a deck for parties. Illinois College and Monmouth College in Illinois each recently built their own \$22 million fitness centers. Missouri Baptist University is beginning an \$8 million fundraising campaign similar to YSU's, with Missouri Southern State University in Joplin and St. Louis University both in the early stages of planning rec centers.

Lori Lynn, director of campus life at Southeast Missouri State, said, "Part of the reason college rec centers have become so super-sized is because the field of community rec is getting so pushy."

The building boom is a response, in part, to outdated buildings that have become crowded with health-conscious students. Often an important stop on the campus tour, the centers also are about recruiting students.

The boom in recreation centers has been under way

since the early 1990s, according to the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association. The college trade group's 725 member institutions have 1,546 rec centers, nearly half built since 1995, including 25 percent built since 2000.

Whatever the reason for the center, students are glad it's finally done.

"A lot of the old buildings just couldn't provide anything worthwhile," said YSU student Jamie Wilkens. "Either they didn't have what you need or they were closed when you wanted to use them. The center is cheaper than most health clubs, so it works out pretty good for all of us."

Wilkens also noted that she plans on using the center a few times a week, the same as many of her friends.

Other students aren't so optimistic about the center.

"Honestly, it seems like a great idea right now, but what about in a few years," YSU student Rueben Shaw said. He wonders what will happen after the novelty of the center wears off.

"Will anyone still use it? I hope that people do, but you never know," Shaw said.

The rec center will open to students at 6:30 a.m. on Monday and will stay open Monday through Friday until 10:30 p.m. It will also be open from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Call Eric Grosso at (330) 941-1913.

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**PRESSURE**, continued from page 8

or Gibson or anyone wearing red and white. Pressure can be good, but pressure in this game will be bad for Pitt. Play calling will be tight. Players will be stiff, afraid to make mistakes. Pressure will boil Pitt, and the Penguins, loose, prepared, confident will be ready to roll when it does. See, when there's pressure, a mistake turns into two turns into three turns into a snowball from hell. I don't know if you've ever seen a

snowball from the pits of hell, so if you haven't let me just tell you, it ain't something you want to see. When the game's still close in the fourth quarter, the team with everything to lose will. Sports are a cold, black-and-white thing most of the time. It's win or lose. There's two columns in the standings that matter. Wins. Losses. Everything else is pointless, really. You win or

you lose. That's all. But it's not really. Sappy sentimentalism doesn't really have much of a place in a locker room, and moral victories amount to jack when the dust settles, but YSU doesn't need to win this game on the scoreboard. One or two losses won't keep YSU from the playoffs. Another loss for Pitt will doom its season. It's a damning thing, this pressure.

Last Saturday, after Pitt blew the game against Nebraska, ESPN's Mark May consoled the Panther nation by saying that next

week, the Panthers would get to play YSU. When you think about it though in terms of intangibles and pressure and the reality of

the situation, it doesn't seem like that much of a consolation for Pitt, does it? YSU 30, Pitt 27.  
Call Mark Stevens at (330) 941-1807.

**TRIFECTA**, continued from page 7

Facebook allows you to look up information on, or "stalk," students in your classes. Do you like that blond girl that sits two seats in front of you? Well, just log on to Facebook, and you can find out her entire schedule, and if you're lucky, ten to twenty pages of information on her. Seriously, a lot of the people on Facebook write so much about themselves that even a biographer would say, "Jesus Christ, that's enough!" MySpace is the last part of the Trifecta, and can be considered the retarded cousin of LiveJournal. The main

benefit of MySpace is that it allows amateur bands to share their music, no matter how terrible it may be. Can you play "Louie Louie" on a Theremin? Well, just start up your own MySpace account and inflict it on the public! MySpace is gaining some credibility among the music world, though, as "bands" like Cherry Monroe are now advertising the amount of "MySpace friends" they have on their promotional CDs. I know for a fact that this is a valid judgment of success because, in high school, I proudly wore a t-

shirt that displayed the amount of hits my website had received. At the time, the words "Damn, he is fly" were thrown around a lot. I guess we're the ones to blame, just because we, as a generation, are always looking for attention. And it is profoundly sad that we have to turn to the Internet for love and recognition. But you shouldn't let this article prevent you from visiting my own LiveJournal or Facebook pages. If I get 100 Internet friends, I'll become a real boy!  
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## student recreation & wellness center

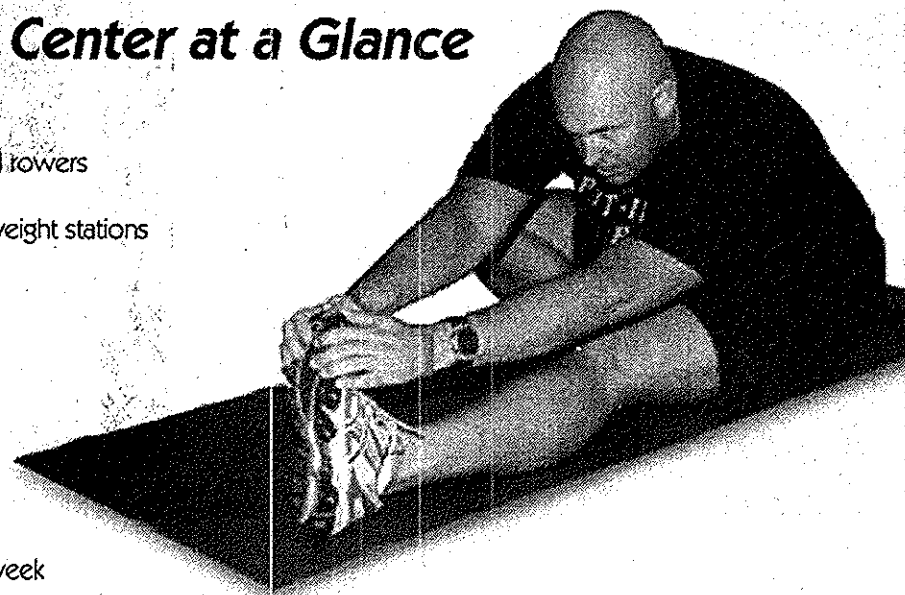
### The Andrews Student Recreation & Wellness Center at a Glance

#### Strength and Conditioning Area

- Over 70 pieces of cardio equipment including treadmills, ellipticals, cycles, steppers, and rowers
- A ten-station cardio theater that will accommodate 40 machines
- 24 selectorized weight training pieces, and a combination of 40 plate-loaded and free weight stations

#### Sports Forum

- Four multi-purpose courts, with the option of isolating each court
- Adaptable to basketball, volleyball, badminton, and a host of other activities



#### Aerobics & Multi Purpose Gymnasium

- Designed as a group fitness instructional area to accommodate over 26 aerobics classes each week
- Can be divided in half to hold two different classes at the same time



#### Meditation Center

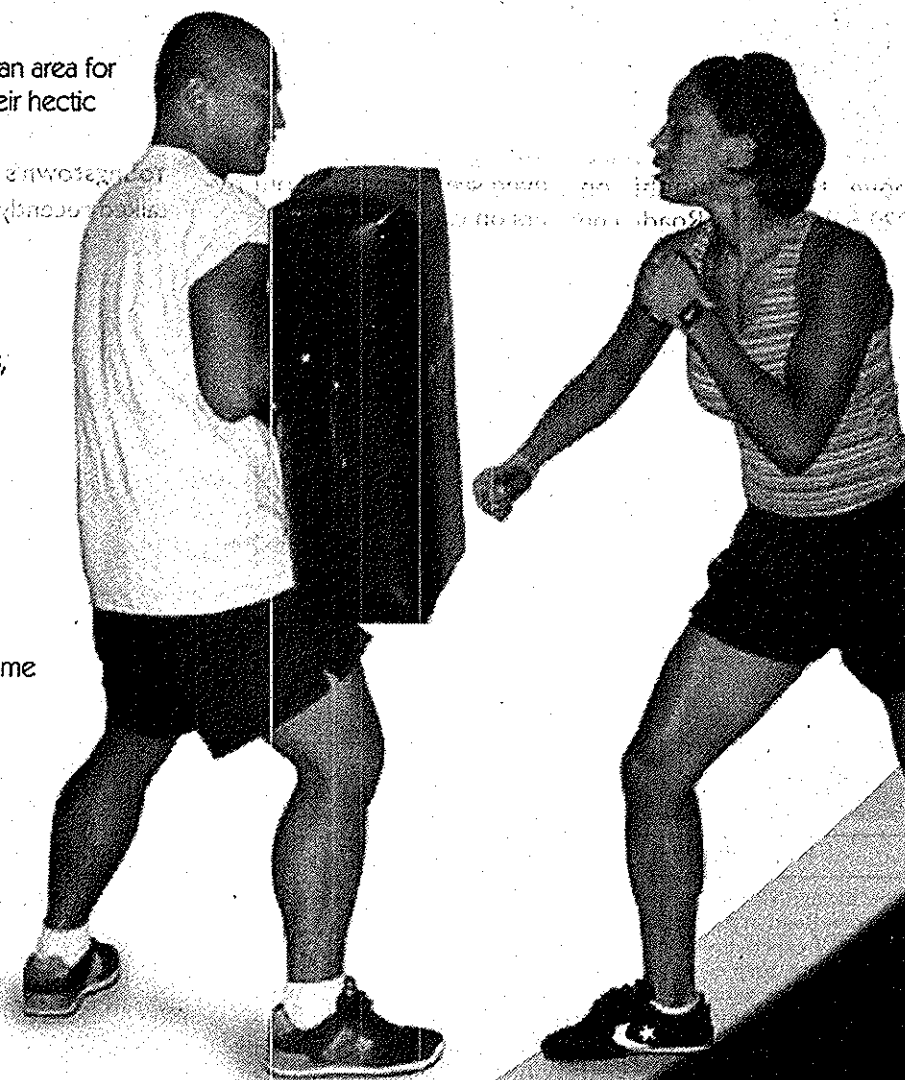
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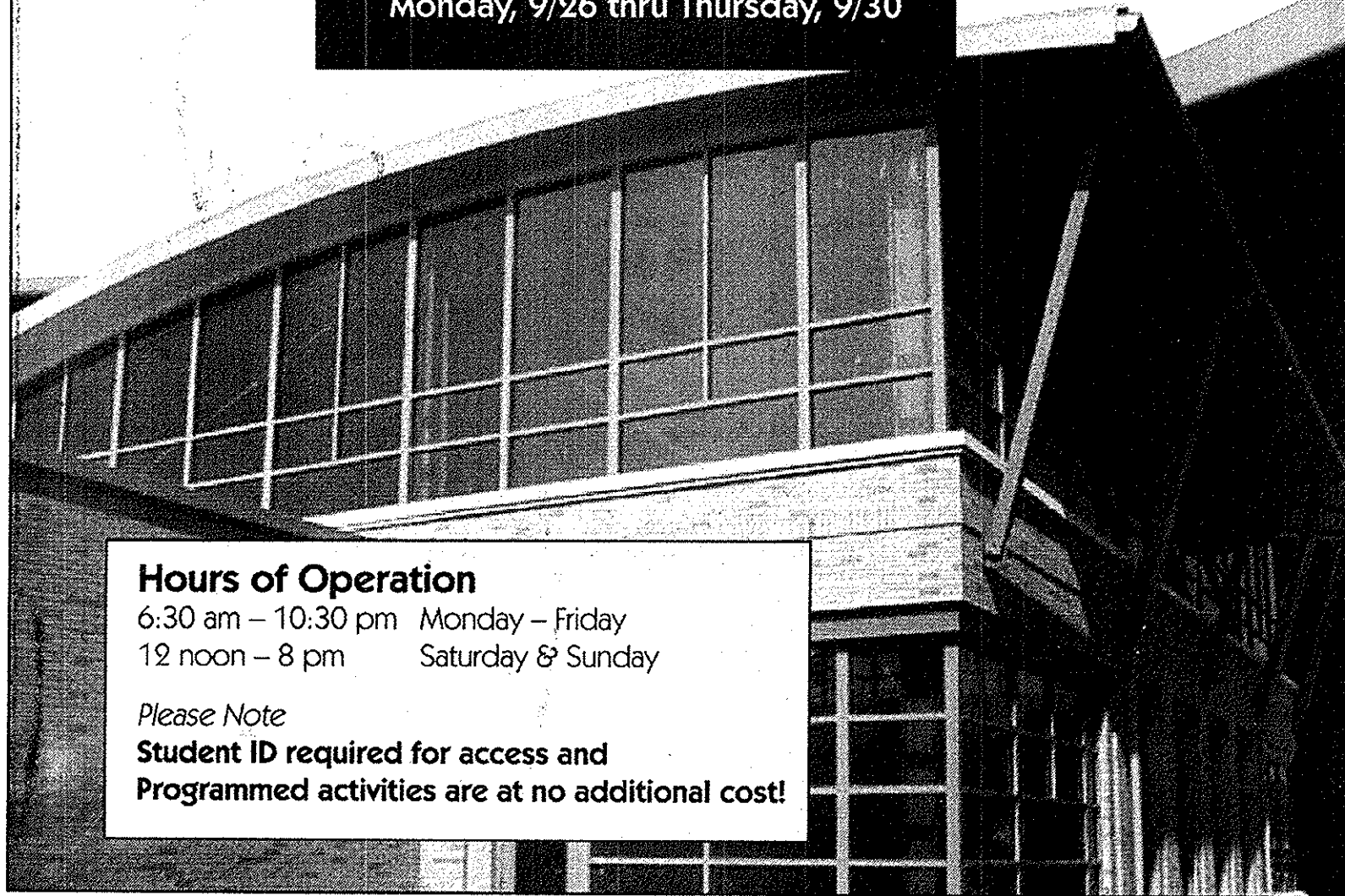
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**Youngstown**  
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BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

# Those pants are so sassy!

By: Eric Grosso  
FEATURES REPORTER

Shop owner Mindi Bowman is hoping to turn her passion for vintage clothing into a successful business by expanding her on-line operation into a retail store. Sassypants Vintage, the area's newest and coolest clothing store, offers trendy vintage wears from the past 30 years.

Sassypants sells a variety of items. Only lightly worn and fashionable clothes are sold, so you won't have to look around your favorite thrift store for hours to find that one cool vintage shirt. The garments are also all authentic, unlike the new trend of retailers offering new clothes in vintage styles, making sure every piece is unique.

If you're looking for it, Sassypants Vintage probably has it. The store has coats, jackets, vintage t-shirts, dresses, different styles of hats for men and women, western and Hawaiian wear, polo shirts, belt buckles and jumpsuits are just some of the items Sassypants carries.

"The clothes come from everywhere, I'll buy it anywhere I can find it," said Bowman.

The new store is located above the Nyabinghi on 1229 Salt Springs Road. The location was formerly living space for Bowman, but after failing to rent the property out after moving, she packed her vintage goods and set up shop on the second floor.

Already having the inventory available, Mindi filled the area and was ready to open Sassypants.

Bowman noted her rea-

sons for opening the store. "If you have a passion for it, and it's what you want to do, then you should do it."

But the Sassypants operation isn't anything new for Bowman. She's been selling vintage clothing on eBay for about seven years and through her Web site <http://www.sassypantsvintage.com>, for five years.

The birth of her now 2-year-old daughter was the precursor to change her operation.

"Mom became my number one job. The clothing became my number two job, and it still is," said Bowman.

The retail store allows Mindi to work while taking care of her daughter, something sitting in front of a computer just didn't allow. She also noted that on-line sites such as eBay are becoming overcrowded with vintage wear.

Being new to retail, Mindi is keeping any open mind. Sassypants offers possible trades and exchanges. They also work as a consignment shop, selling vintage items you have or may have created. Mindi also plans to advertise locally in the future. She's already started putting flyers on campus and around downtown Youngstown. You might even see her passing out flyers on campus.

"It's a lot easier to talk to people face to face, than just post a flyer somewhere," Bowman said.

She also hopes word of mouth will help with business.

Sassypants Vintage is open on Fridays and Saturdays from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Call Eric Grosso at (330) 941-1913.



**ABOVE:** Mindi Bowman, owner of the new Sassypants vintage clothing store located above the Nyabinghi on Youngstown's west side, talked recently about her fascination with vintage clothes. **RIGHT:** Fez from "That 70s Show" would be right at home in some of Bowman's wares.

Jambar / Eric Grosso



COMMENTARY

## THE TRIFECTA OF SELF-ABSORPTION

By: Bob Mackey  
COLUMNIST

Do you remember what the Internet was like back in 1995? When someone told you they had a Web page, you would just assume that it was one of the many "personal pages" prevalent at that time. It would probably have a jumbled collection of photos with the ubiquitous star field background, and text that would be rendered impossible to read on said background. Looking at one of these web sites, you'd probably think it was harmless, or even a bit cute. Then you would lean back, sip your Fruitopia, turn up your Alanis Morissette CD and think to yourself, "Isn't it ironic?" mainly because the Canadian singer got that word oh so very wrong.

As time passed and the Internet grew up, rather than writing about their new babies, litters of puppies, or in some rare cases, litters of babies, people instead chose to create failed businesses that nearly destroyed the American economy, but did produce some great deals on electronics and home appliances. Yes, aside from all of the rampant child pornography, credit card scams and sexual predators, the Internet was gradually improving, and worthwhile if only for the ability to buy DVDs at five dollars below retail cost.

Today, however, these personal pages that clotted the early years of the Internet are back in a highly-organized form which I call "The Trifecta of Self-Absorption." The Trifecta consists of three culprits: LiveJournal, FaceBook, and MySpace. And if you're in college, there's no doubt that you've heard of at least one of these three;

they're beginning to make the "me generation" look like a bunch of Mother Teresas in power ties. Let's investigate.

LiveJournal, possibly the most popular of the Trifecta, is much like a regular journal. The main difference between the two is that a regular journal is usually stuffed under a mattress - protected from the prying eyes of those that would wish you harm - and a LiveJournal is located where anyone with a computer can find it: on the Internet. Unfortunately, the majority of people with LiveJournals seem obsessed with writing down the minutiae of the day that the people they talk to tune out in real, non-Internet life.

I would not dare inflict the prison of monotony that is my daily life on the public; which is why, if I used LiveJournal for its intended purposes, it would look something like this:

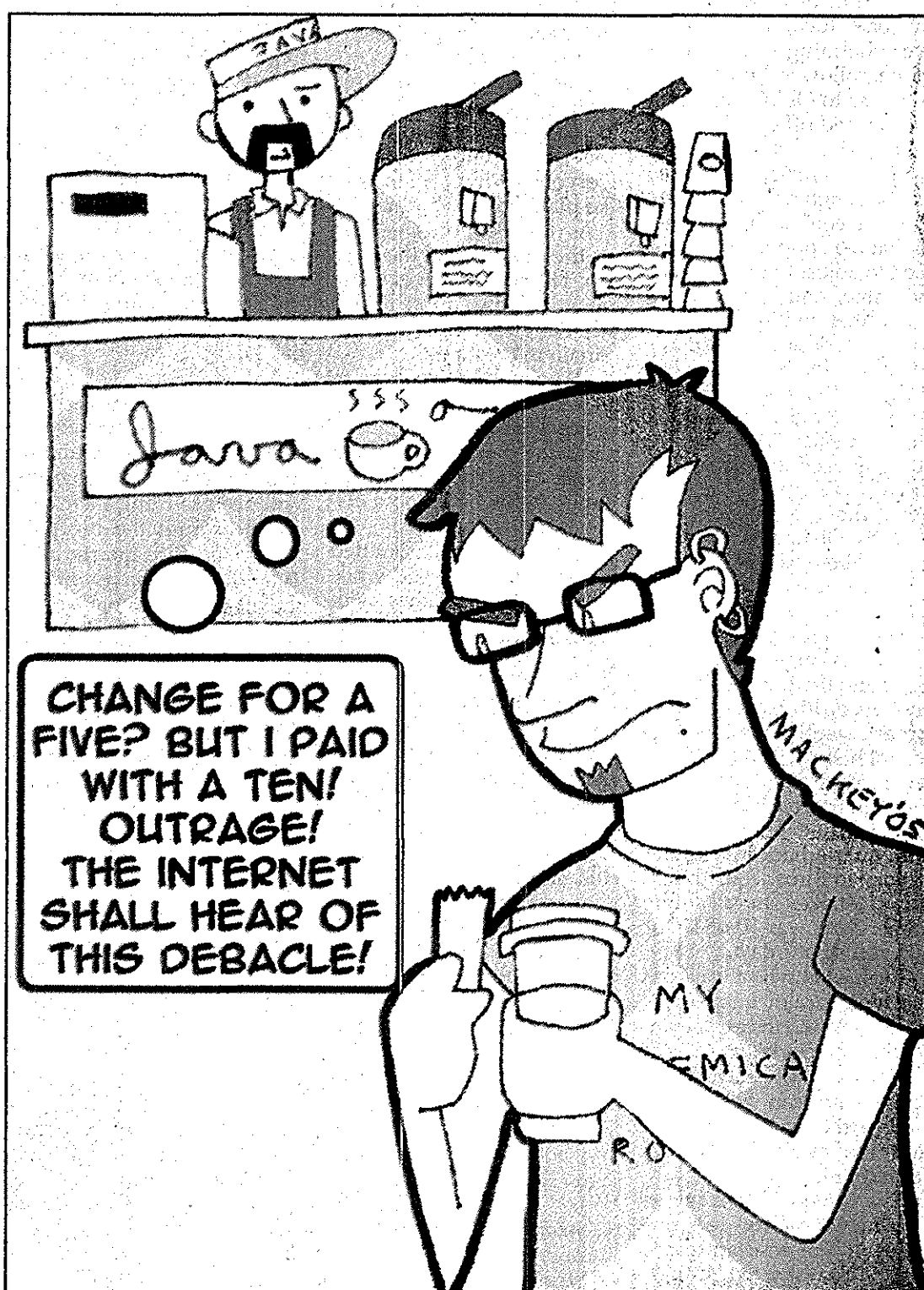
9/22/2005 3:15 P.M.: Ate peanut butter sandwich with Skippy Crunchy Peanut Butter. When they say the peanut butter is "crunchy," brother, they ain't kidding!

9/22/2005 7:03 P.M.: Stared at cell phone for three hours, and it didn't ring. I surmise that the phone is broken.

9/22/2005 11:37 P.M.: Watched three hours of VH-1's "I Love the 80s." What have I become?! Wait, "I Love the 90s" is about to come on. Awesome!

Facebook is the second part of the Trifecta. The Facebook service allows college students to share information about homework assignments and term papers through the limitless power of the World Wide Web. And if you believe that, then you probably believe that the Internet is primarily used for research, and not pornography. In reality,

please see TRIFECTA, Page 5

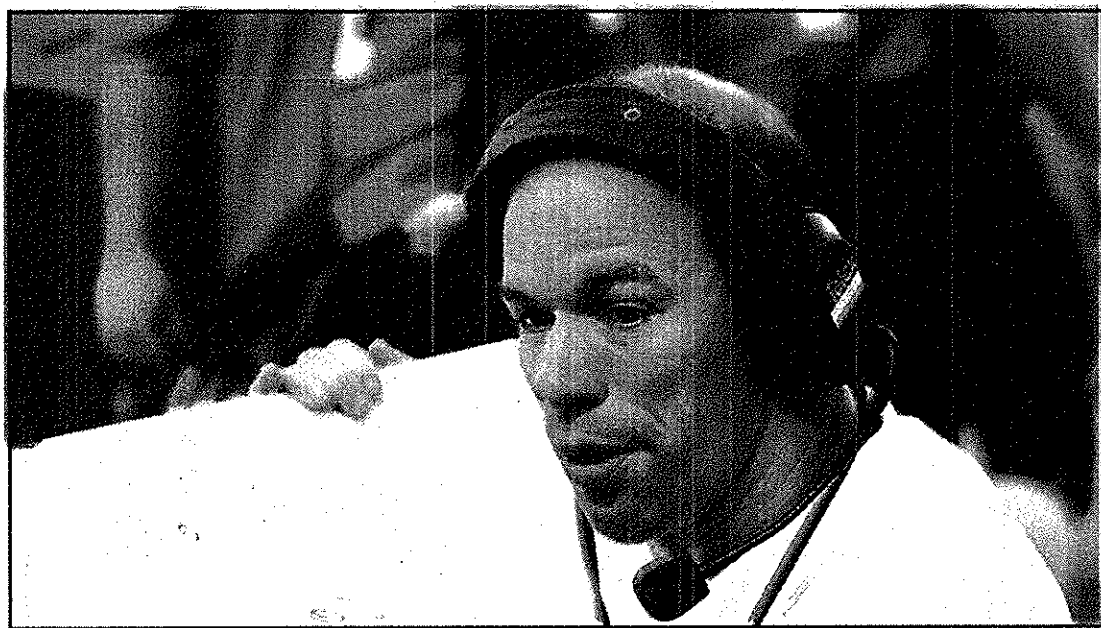


## UPCOMING YSU SPORTS

- ▶ 9/23 — SOCCER vs. St. Francis (PA.), 4 p.m.
- ▶ 9/23 — VOLLEYBALL at Wright State, 7 p.m.
- ▶ 9/24-25 — W GOLF at Toledo Rocket Classic, all day
- ▶ 9/24 — CROSS COUNTRY at Spike Shoe Invitational, 11 a.m.

### YSU FOOTBALL

# Penguins vs. Panthers



YSU linebackers coach Jerry Olsavsky will be having a homecoming this weekend when the Penguins face Pitt. Olsavsky played for Pitt and for the Pittsburgh Steelers.

## 'Just another football game'

By: Justin Smolkovich  
SPORTS REPORTER

After a 3-0 start to the season, and a 42-0 romp of Liberty University, the Youngstown State University football team will face its largest test of the season Saturday when they travel to Pittsburgh to take on the Pitt Panthers in the first-ever meeting between the two schools.

Fifth-year head coach Jon Heacock said in his weekly press conference that his team is right where it needs to be and the Penguins are focused on the task ahead.

"This team is fully aware of what is ahead of them," Heacock said. "We are going to take one game at a time, and treat each one as an individual."

The Penguins, so far, have done just that, outscoring their opponents, 121-30, and dominating early in the season.

While the Penguins have had the ball bounce in their favor, the Panthers have been the complete opposite. At 0-3, Pitt has had nothing but bad luck, first losing overwhelmingly to Notre Dame, followed by an overtime loss to Ohio University and capped off by a blocked field goal to win the game against Nebraska last week.

The Penguins, who own a 19-19 record all time against Division-I opponents, will need to adjust to the speed of the game, said Heacock. He added that limiting big plays will be the deciding factor in a Penguin win.

"Everything is going to be going 100 miles per hour," Heacock said. "And we are going to need to respond."

This will mark the first time the Penguins have played a Division-I team not from the Mid-American Conference or a team that was an independent.

The Penguins are coming off of a huge road win, defeating the Liberty Flames and recording the second largest margin of victory in school history. The Penguins were led by standout sophomore quarterback Tom Zetts, who became only the seventh quarterback in a school history to throw four touchdown strikes in a single game. Zetts was 10-of-12 for 205 yards Saturday.

Even Zetts, who always has the typical calm quarterback demeanor, said the excitement for this game is huge.

"You see how excited this whole city can get," Zetts said of the upcoming game and the city's fervor surrounding it.

The game will be a homecoming of sorts for one Penguin. For assistant coach Jerry Olsavsky, a Youngs-

## VS. PITT

**Game time:** Saturday, 2 p.m.  
**Where:** Heinz Field, Pittsburgh.  
**Forecast:** 77 degrees, mostly cloudy  
**Radio:** AM 1390 WVNIO / 106.1 FM WBBG  
**TV:** None  
**Series record:** First meeting  
**Coaches:** YSU — Jon Heacock; Pitt — Dave Wannstedt  
**Notes:** YSU's shutout of Liberty last week was its first in five years ... Wannstedt has coached the Chicago Bears and was with the Miami Dolphins last year.

Information courtesy of YSU Sports Information

town native who played for the Panthers and later played professionally for the Steelers, this game is important.

"I told my guys that this game is huge for me," the 10-year NFL vet said at the press conference. "I know everyone down there. It's like playing your brother."

As the Penguins get set for the final part of the road trip, Heacock believes there are only a few simple things the Penguins must do to remain in the game.

"We are going to have to take care of the football," Heacock said. "We've got to make the game last as long as we can. The longer we stay in it, the better obviously it is for us."

The Penguins committed no turnovers last week, while intercepting the Flames twice and forcing five fumbles.

**Excitement**  
The Penguin nation has been awake as of late, and the Pitt match up maybe the most anticipated regular season game in YSU history.

YSU athletic director Ron Strollo said the electricity this game has produced is contagious.

"It's a great game for us," Strollo said. "We are probably going to have over 4,000 fans there."

Strollo said that the excitement is intensified due to the fact that Youngstown State has such deep ties in western Pennsylvania due to recruiting both students and athletes. The Penguins roster has four players from the Keystone state including one from Pittsburgh.

Strollo said community

support has been overwhelming.

"We were joking that we might not be able to get a bus for our own team," Strollo said.

The most difficult thing for the Penguins may be limiting the hype surrounding the game, but Heacock said that the team understands the importance of being focused, regardless of the opponent.

"The bottom line for football players is that it is a football game."

**Keys**  
Defensive pressure: Heacock said that his defense would continue to be an up-tempo attack. The Penguins will need to bring their best effort to limit the big play ability of Pitt quarterback Tyler Palko who is one of the best pocket passers in college football.

**Establish the run game:** The Penguins' game plan will be to take as much time off the clock as they can. YSU will need two solid performances: from the offensive line and from their stable of backs.

**Game management:** The Penguins will need quarterback Tom Zetts to not necessarily make BIG plays, but to keep the offense moving. Zetts must play within himself and not get forced into trying to make the big play.

**Kicking game:** Pitt has been snake bitten in terms of special teams, last week dropping a 7-6 decision to Nebraska on a botched snap and a blocked field goal. If the Penguins can make one or two big plays on special teams, it may jump-start the YSU offense.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758.

## Pressure will cook Panthers

By: Mark Stevens  
DESIGN EDITOR

**YSU 30, Pitt 27.**  
Aww. I gave away the ending. I'm going to write like 500 or 600 words and you already know how it's going to end. Doesn't that suck? Oh well, last week I was the random goth kid; I guess this week I'll be Captain Anti-Climatic.

But if you can find it in your heart, forget I said that for a second and let's have a realistic conversation about Saturday's YSU-Pitt football game.

It's a huge game for both schools, but for substantially different reasons. For Pitt, it's a must-win. Pitt, having started 0-3 — and not just a generic 0-3, an 0-3 that includes an embarrassing loss to Notre Dame, an embarrassing loss to Ohio University, and a debacle of an attempt at a game-winning field goal against Nebraska — needs to win this game. They don't just need to win; they need to win big, or the rest of their season is in serious trouble.

It's a big game for YSU, too, but it's not a must-win. It's a must-play-well. It's a let's-go-into-the-conference-schedule-with-confidence. YSU is 3-0 and not a generic 3-0, either. It's a 3-0 for the first time in four years kind of 3-0. It's a holy-crap-this-is-a-playoff-caliber-team 3-0.

(Let's get one thing straight right from the jump, though: This game does not define Jon Heacock's tenure at YSU. The thought is absurd. Winning or losing this game will not determine whether or not Heacock is YSU's coach in the future. As absurd as that last thought was, this one is four times as absurd.)

And the differences for

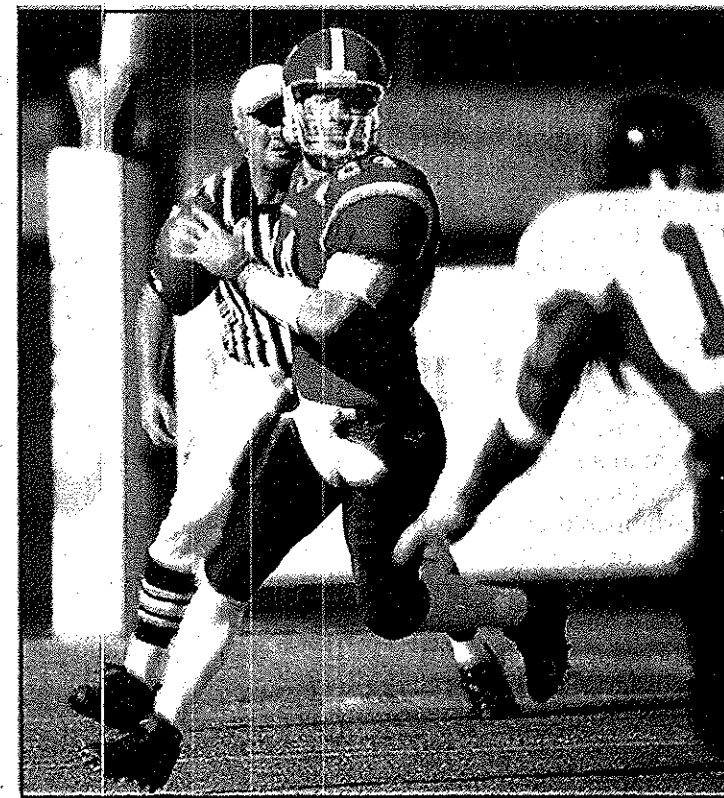


Photo courtesy of YSU Sports Information

each team headed into the game are exactly why YSU will win.

The major difference between Pitt's must-win and YSU's must-have-a-good-game situations is like this: If Pitt wins 30-27, YSU and Heacock can probably walk away OK with their performances on the whole, but if YSU wins 30-27, Pitt coach Dave Wannstedt is fired on the spot, tarred and feathered, and Pitt might not win another game all year.

YSU doesn't need to be 4-0; they don't need to knock off a Big East opponent; and the Penguins don't need to beat Pitt to validate their season.

If YSU plays as well as it has so far this season, if quarterback Tom Zetts is sharp and the offense moves the ball, if the defense continues to look like the antithesis of last year's, if the special teams continue to improve, if Monquanae Gibson runs the ball well, if YSU is in the game in the fourth quarter, if the Penguins come out on the first possession and go after Pitt the way they would any other team, if Heacock can proudly address the media after the game, if all or most of these things happen, it's a win for YSU, regardless of the final score.

If YSU can go into conference play next week 3-1, feeling good and strong and confident, then it's a whole bunch of trouble for the Gateway Conference. More than any other team since I've been on campus, this YSU team has a swagger. They don't look like they're waiting for something bad to happen; they look like they're ready to make plays, to win games.

Of course, I wouldn't be me if I didn't see the facts of the game for what they were, and while what I said before this point I honestly believe, I also honestly believe that the scouting report would suggest that Pitt is going to roll.

Don't be confused here; I understand that Pitt is bigger, faster and stronger than YSU. It's a bigger program, coached by an ex-NFL head coach, quarterbacked by Tyler Palko, a legitimate NFL prospect. The Panthers are, on paper, the better team.

But the paper isn't worth anything. Football isn't about paper. It's about making plays and handling pressure. Where's the pressure? It ain't in Youngstown. It ain't on Heacock. It ain't on Zetts

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### YSU VOLLEYBALL

## Bonner's young volleyball team continues to make improvements

By: Justin Smolkovich  
SPORTS REPORTER

Sitting at 7-4, first-year volleyball coach Joe Bonner has a lot to be thankful for. His young team hasn't taken nearly as long as expected to get into his offense and his playstyle.

"The girls have been very receptive in what we are trying to do here," Bonner said.

Bonner filled the vacancy after long-time Penguins coach Joe Conroy stepped down to accept a position at the Andrews Wellness Center. This is Bonner's first head coaching position. He had previous coaching stints at both Dayton and Robert Morris.

"Coach Conroy was a great mentor to these girls," Conroy said.

Conroy coached the volleyball team for 13 seasons and owns the most wins by a Penguin coach with a remarkable 188 wins.

The Penguins are being tested early, giving them a good idea of where they stand as they complete their preseason, Bonner said. "This September preseason gave us a good preview of what we can do," Conroy said. "They are working hard and well and they are progressing the way they need to."

The early part of this season consists of a huge road trip, with 17 straight road games

before the Penguins host a game at Beeghly on Oct. 4.

Bonner believes that the road trip will only make the team stronger.

"They are doing fine, it is tough, but it's just another challenge they are going to have to face," Bonner said.

If there is one game, or more importantly, one team that Bonner and his squad have circled on the calendar, it is Cleveland State. CSU, 5-3, provides the Penguins with a true in-state rivalry and both teams are familiar with one another.

"A lot of our girls are friends with their players," Bonner said. "It will give them an idea of where they need to be."

Bonner has help in guiding this team with four seniors on the roster. Abby Ettenhoffer, Angie Pasquini, Katie Shea and Crystal Duncan all return for the Penguins. Pasquini leads the team with 461 sets while Shea leads the team with 11 blocks scored.

Defense is where the Penguins have pleasantly surprised their first year coach.

"Our defensive play has really stepped up in the early part of this season," Bonner said of his team, which has recorded 28 blocks so far this season.