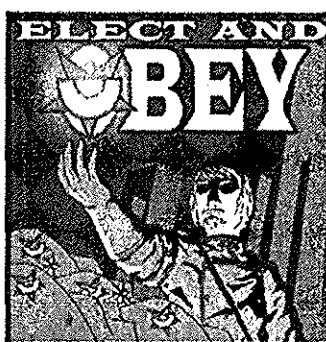


the jambar

VOLUME 88, ISSUE 15 The student voice of Youngstown State University

Weather >> partly cloudy
77 | 52
Wednesday: sunny, 70/55
Thursday: sunny, 83/60

Inside



▲ Bob Mackey's not asking for your vote. He's demanding it.
Entertainment | see page 8

In Brief

Flute Ensemble set to perform

The Dana Flute Ensemble will perform at 12:15 p.m. Wednesday in the Butler Institute of American Art, directed by Kathryn Thomas Umble.

Free performance scheduled

There will be a free Dana School of Music performance at 8 p.m. Friday in the Bliss Recital hall. The theme is "music for two pianos and percussion." Performers will include Jamie Wilding and Gerrey Noh on piano and Ted Rounds and Anthony Donofrio on percussion.

International Student Association to meet

The first meeting of the International Student Association will be held Friday. The meeting will be held on the 5th floor of Williamson in the Cafaro Suite. For more information contact the ISA.

Bird art exhibit at McDonough

"Birdspace: A Post-Audubon Artists Aviary" will be featured at the McDonough Museum of Art through Nov. 4. It includes 70 works by 50 artists and examines birds as a means of artistic expression.

YSUnity will meet tomorrow

YSUnity will meet 4 p.m. Wednesday in the first floor student lounge of the Beeghly College of Education.

the jambar poll question
Last question
Should Keith Logan's Vote or "DIB" posters have been taken down?
45% Yes 55% No
Are you planning to vote for Homecoming court?
vote online
www.thejambar.com

INTODAY'S JAMBAR

- ▶ Classified | 5
- ▶ Entertainment | 8
- ▶ Opinion | 3
- ▶ Sports | 7



Online: thejambar.com
thejambar@gmail.com

YSU

Enrollment is down

By: Katie Libecco
COPY EDITOR

Youngstown State University announced the official enrollment count for the 2005 fall semester is down 2.21 percent from 2004. The official number of students enrolled at YSU is now 12,812 students, a decrease of 289 students.

"There are a lot of reasons why enrollment is down, but I think we need to know what those are," Cynthia Anderson, vice president for student affairs, said. "We're going to find out."

Of the 289 students, there are 188 fewer graduate students and 101 fewer undergraduate students than in the fall semester of 2004. The numbers are figured from a count on the 14th day of classes.

"We will be looking at this, there's a lot more analysis to do," Thomas Maraffa, special assistant to the president, said.

The Williamson College of Business saw a 36.24 percent decrease, or 54 graduate students from 2004. Maraffa attributes the decrease in graduate students due to the cycle of classes in the program.

"We're in the off-year of the executive MBA program, so there's no new executive MBA enrollment," Maraffa said.

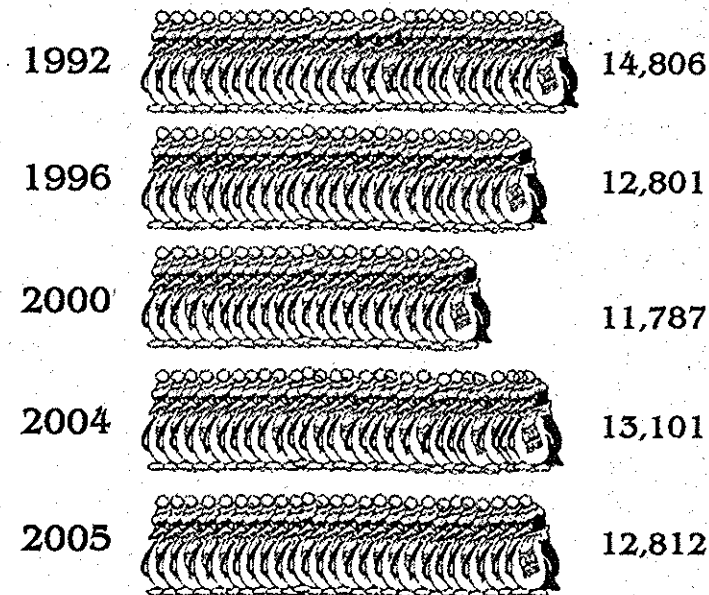
He attributed a 16.02 percent decrease of 91 students in graduate programs in the Beeghly College of Education to a similar cycle of classes and workshops.

YSU enrollment and full-time equivalent had continually increased from 2000 to 2004.

The fall 2005 full-time equivalent decreased by 186 students, down 1.77 percent from 2004. The number is what is looked at to determine state funding, Cole said. Full-time equivalent is determined by dividing credit hours students take by 15.

please see ENROLLMENT, Page 6

Enrollment over the years:



Source: YSU Fiscal Year 2006 Operating Budget and Capital Funds

YSU

Panel will look into YSU strikes

By: Bill Rodgers
NEWS EDITOR

The university will reflect on the negotiations and strikes of the faculty and staff unions for the benefit of future negotiations.

Youngstown State University President David Sweet said yesterday that a panel to investigate the negotiations leading up to the respective strikes of the Ohio Education Association and Association of Classified Employees unions would be formed.

Sweet said the panel would be a small group of individuals, some from inside the university, others external to the university. The panel would be

please see REFLECTION, Page 5

YSU HOMECOMING

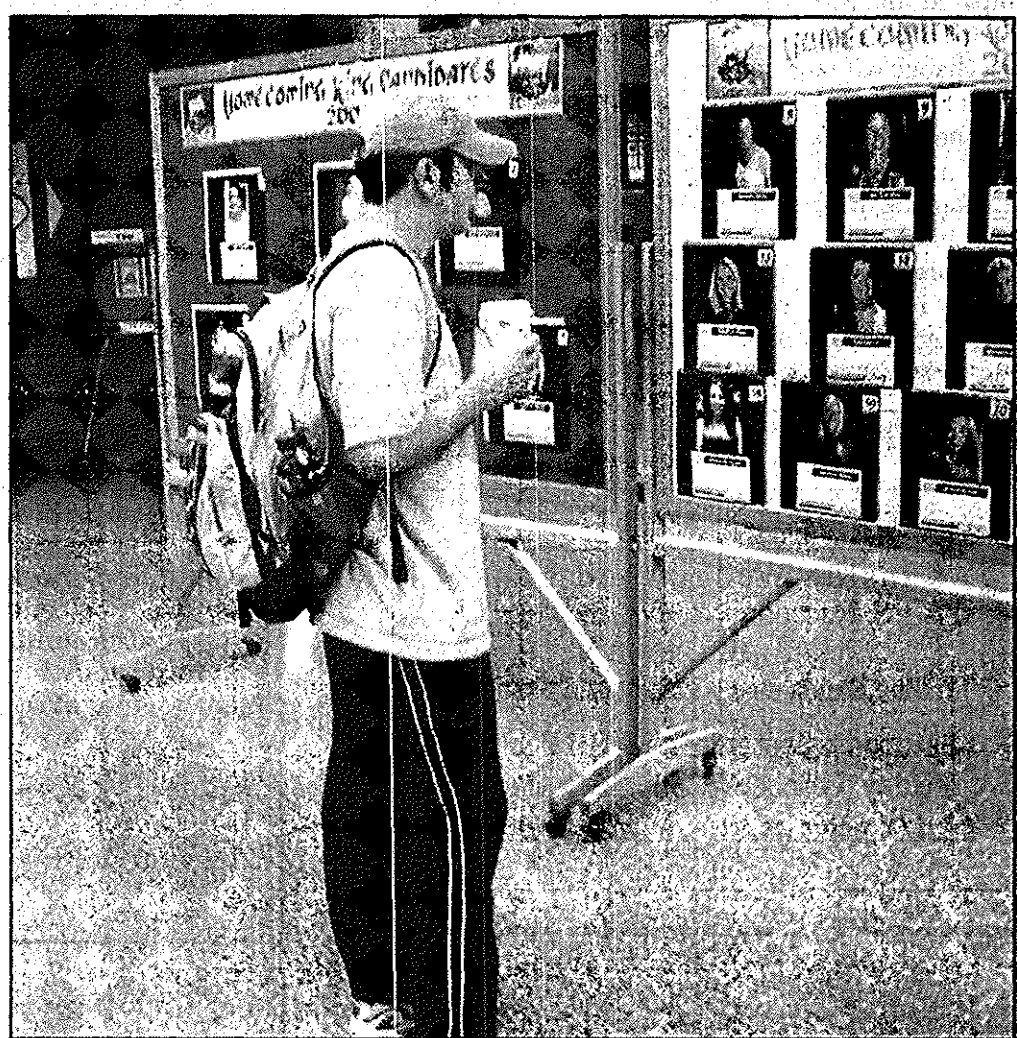
'March of the Penguins'

By: Cheryl Thompson
REPORTER

The theme for the sixty-fifth homecoming game at Youngstown State University is "The March of the YSU Penguins...in Search of the 5th Ring" a play on the title of the movie "The March of the Penguins." The logo, designed by graduate student Carrie Anderson, features a fierce looking Pete, dressed as a pirate, determined to come out victorious over Missouri State.

The actual homecoming game won't be until Oct. 22, but voting for the king and queen is starting a lot sooner. Students can cast their votes on today and Wednesday starting at 8 a.m. in Kilcawley Center.

please see HOMECOMING, Page 6



Jambar / Katie Libecco

Jason Hagerly takes a minute to check out the candidates for this year's Homecoming King and Queen. Voting for the Homecoming royalty will start this morning and last through tomorrow.

See page 6 of today's Jambar for a complete listing of candidates.

National Constitution Day comes to YSU

By: Cheryl Thompson
REPORTER

In commemoration of the first National Constitution Day, Youngstown State University welcomed Robert Bennett, a Nathaniel L. Nathanson Professor and former dean of the school at Northwestern University on Monday.

Paul Sracic a political science professor, who teaches courses on American Constitutional Law, helped bring the former Utah Senator to YSU to give a lecture entitled, "The Inevitability of a Living Constitution."

In his speech, Bennett explained the difference between two ways to interpret the Constitution, as a living document, capable of receiving modern updates or as a static document that must adhere strictly to its

original form. One group known as the Originalists champions the interpretation of the constitution by its original intent. The other group considers the Constitution a Living Document, and claims in order to keep pace with society's changing needs, the Constitution has to remain flexible.

The Originalists see the Constitution as a representative of stable values and morals. Looking at the Constitution as a document that overrides the passing fads and fancies of the day. According to Originalists, the fleeting opinions of the popular culture should not have as much bearing as the decisions made by the Supreme Court Justices.

They claim any question that arises in the present can be answered through inter-

please see CONSTITUTION, Page 2

Marathon raises \$35,000 for WYSU

By: Katie Libecco
COPY EDITOR

WYSU Classical 88.5's Station Director Gary Sexton completed a 50-mile ultra-marathon Saturday in Manistee, Mich., raising about \$35,000 for the station's digital conversion.

Sexton's performance in the North Country Trail Run ultra-marathon generated about \$35,000 between pledges and actual dollars raised, Michele Grant, WYSU development officer, said.

"I'm already thinking of running another [ultra-marathon], with a little less publicity next time," Sexton said. "There was a lot of pressure - I put a lot of pressure on myself this time."

Sexton finished in ninth place overall in the ultra-marathon, amongst 37 runners. His total time was 8 hours 44 minutes and 36 seconds for the 50-mile race. He also took third place in his 12-person category, males ages 45-49.

"My number one goal was to finish. After that, it was to see how well I could do," Sexton said.

The winner of the North Country Trail Run Ultra-Marathon was Zachariah Miller, completing 50-miles in 6 hours 55 minutes and 25 seconds.

Despite pains that developed in his right

calf muscle a week before the ultra-marathon, causing some pain and detracting from pre-marathon training, Sexton said he felt the experience was positive.

"It was a great experience. It was fabulous," Sexton said. "There was a lot of hurt the last 8 miles, but even that was a cool experience to push myself."

Sexton's Power Run fundraiser was an attempt to raise \$50,000 for a digital transmitter for WYSU.

"We're raised over \$35,000. I just think it's incredible," Sexton said. "We expect a few more pledges to come in over the next week."

The digital conversion will take WYSU about five years to complete, using a combination of funding from the Power Run fundraiser and grants requested.

Digital radio means a higher broadcast quality for WYSU listeners. Sexton said the studios are already converted to digital.

After WYSU is fully converted to digital broadcast capabilities, station coordinators have said they will continue to broadcast an analog signal for several years.

WYSU is still accepting donations for the Power Run fundraiser.

Donations may be made in any amount by visiting www.wysu.org.

Call Katie Libecco at (330) 941-3758.

POLICE BLOTTER

A student reported to police that he had left a ring valued at \$3,000 on a sink in the restroom inside Bliss Hall on Sept. 12. According to the report, when the victim left after washing his hands, he forgot the ring. Returning to the restroom one minute later, the victim noticed the ring was missing.

A freshman was struck by a vehicle on Sept. 13 while walking in the crosswalk of Lincoln and Wick avenues, which caused him to flip over and fall into the street, according to the police report. The suspect then fled the scene, with the victim recording the license plate number. The victim appeared to have no physical injuries but was transported to Northside Hospital as Youngstown Police Department took over the investiga-

tion. Police noticed a man on Lincoln Avenue looking into vehicles on Sept. 13; later identified as Andre M. Davis of Youngstown. The report states that Davis walked into the M-7 parking lot and attempted to gain entry into two vehicles. After leaving the lot, police stopped Davis, who then reached into his pocket, causing officers to draw their weapons and order Davis to the ground. Police found a crack pipe, a copper screen, a metal straight rod and a lighter on Davis, who was transported to give a statement.

According to the police report, Davis wrote in the report "I have an addition to crack cocaine," then stated "I can't put that in there." He then scribbled out his previous statement, while police had Davis

place his initials next to the scribbled out words. Davis was charged with criminal mischief, possession of drug paraphernalia and was given a trespass warning.

A Lyden House coordinator contacted police after he received a phone call from an anonymous student reporting alcohol in the dorms on Sept. 14. Freshman Carlyn Winston, student Scott Kathary and an unidentified juvenile were charged with underage possession of alcohol. Police reported that Kathary had two unopened cans of Natural Light Beer in his room, which he admitted was his. Winston and the unidentified student each had one bottle of Green Apple Smirnoff Twist and one bottle of Smirnoff Triple Distilled Vodka.

CONSTITUTION, continued from page 1

preting the document as it exists through original intent. This means analyzing what drafters of the articles or amendments meant at the time.

Bennett argues because the Supreme Court Justices, who do most of the interpreting of the Constitution, are not properly trained as historians that this is not a practical approach to solving problems facing present day society.

"The drafters of the first amendment included freedom of the press, but does that include broadcast? Obviously not, because broadcast wasn't invented yet," Bennett said.

As a part of the lecture, Bennett quoted the late Supreme Court Justice William Rehnquist, who compared the Constitution to a living organism that must change with the people to better serve the people.

Bennett also said that judicial review is evidence of the changing nature of the constitution.

"We are seeing a trend of judicial review becoming more aggressive," Bennett said.

In addition to the efforts put forth by Sracic, Paul

Kobulnicky, the director of Maag Library, said the goals of National Constitution Day and those of YSU mesh well together.

"We are both trying to focus on democracy and civility in our community," Kobulnicky said.

As part of a way to get students interested in learning more about the Constitution, there were exhibits set up in Maag Library, including Myths of the Constitution, and a message board where students can post their thoughts and opinions about the Constitution.

The newly minted holiday was mandated by congress this year to increase awareness and educate students about the document.

Call Cheryl Thompson at (330) 941-1913.

Homemade Chicken Dinners Every Wednesday \$6
Chicken, tossed salad, mashed potatoes, gravy & pie!
Take-out available, too!

St. John's Episcopal Church
323 Wick Avenue • Youngstown
330-743-3175
(next to the main library, across from Y.S.U.'s Jones Hall)

The Grist Mill Lounge

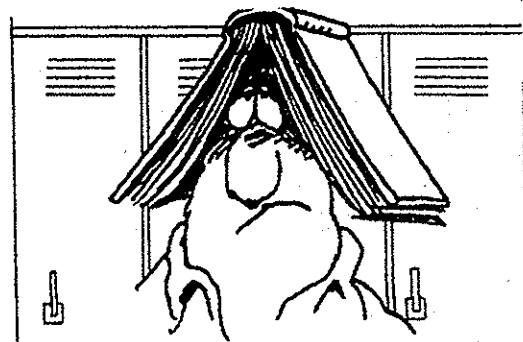
Inside Wedgewood Lanes
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Austintown

Live Bands every Friday and Saturday

Saturday, September 24th "The Rage"
Friday, October 7th "Smack Daddy's"

** 1/2 price admission with college ID**
www.wedgewoodlanes.com

Need a Campus Locker???



Stash it! Why carry it every day? Campus lockers are available in many buildings across campus. Visit YSU Info (formerly Bytes 'n Pieces) located on the upper level of Kilcawley Center to sign up for your locker today! A \$20 one-time fee for the year is required. A lock is included with the fee.

Kilcawley Center
www.kc.ysu.edu

Students and Campus Organizations:

Gain career experience while you help others by volunteering! Flexible short-term (one-day) and long-term (monthly) opportunities in special events, food pantry, and childcare are available at the YWCA downtown!

For more info call Stacy at 330-746-6361

Volunteers needed for Dance Oct. 8 at Holiday Inn Boardman!

YWCA Youngstown
25 W. Rayen Avenue
(across from YSU)

eliminating racism empowering women
ywca

Kilcawley Center's Win A Laptop Contest

You May Be A Lucky Winner!
PRIZE RETAIL VALUE OVER \$1000

Enter to win a Dell Inspiron 2200 Notebook Computer each time you purchase TWO 20 oz. bottles of your favorite Coke beverages on one receipt in Kilcawley Center. Enter as often as you wish September 12-28th. Open to YSU students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

Entry forms given with each valid purchase at all Kilcawley Center's participating Coke retail areas: YSU Bookstore's NEW Convenience Store, Kilcawley Candy Counter, Bagel Stop, Market Place Cafe, YSU Arby's, Peaberry's Cafe, and Noodles Restaurant. Prize details and Official Rules for the Win A Laptop Contest posted at each participating area and available on the Kilcawley web site at

www.kc.ysu.edu

Visit the New **YSU Bookstore Convenience Store**

Drop off your completed contest entry form in the prize box located in the NEW Convenience Store located in the newly remodeled and expanded YSU Bookstore.

You'll find the C-Store on the left, just before you enter the New Andrews Recreation and Wellness Center! Stop in for freshly brewed coffee, a cold beverage, magazine, or snack!



Sponsored by Coca-Cola Bottling Company & Kilcawley Center



Career & Counseling Services

These employers are looking for new talent...

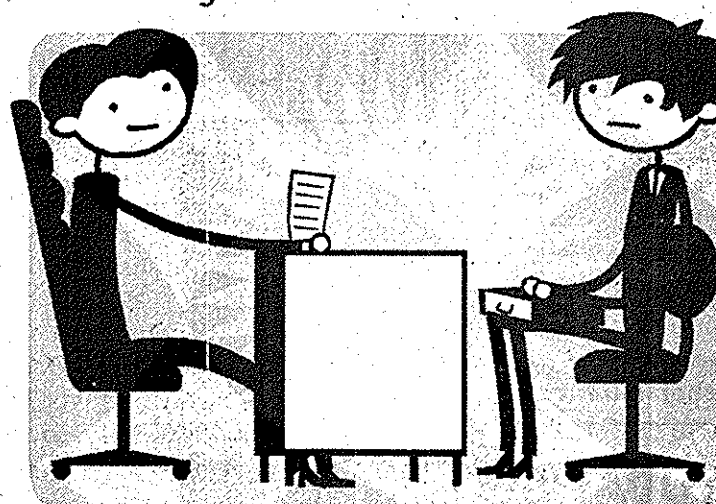
They will be at **YSU Fall JOB EXPO 2005**

Thursday, September 29
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Kilcawley Center Chestnut Room

- ACA Engineering
- AFLAC
- Air Force Reserve
- Allied Machine & Engineering Corp.
- Ameriprise Financial
- Ashtabula County Medical Center
- Associates in Counseling & Child Guidance
- Auditor of the State of Ohio
- AVI Foodsystems, Inc.
- Brennan Financial Group, Ltd.
- Buckle
- Carbis Walker LLP
- Catholic Healthcare Partners
- Cintas Corporation
- City Year Cleveland
- Classic Auto Group
- Clear Channel Radio
- Cohen & Company
- Columbus Fire Department
- ComDoc, Inc.
- CVS Pharmacy
- Dietrich Metal Framing
- Efficient Channel Coding, Inc.
- Electric Furnace Company
- Enterprise Rent-a-Car
- Essroc Italcementi Group
- Fifth Third Bank
- First Investors
- FirstEnergy Corp.
- Gateways to Better Living
- Genesis Healthcare System
- Highmark
- Hill, Barth & King LLC
- Home Savings & Loan Company
- Humility of Mary Health Partners
- InfoCision Management Corp.
- Internal Revenue Service
- Kforce Professional Staffing

- Lowe's Home Center Inc. - Trumbull
- Marriott International
- Marsh Bellofram Corp.
- Mellon Financial Corporation
- MS Consultants, Inc.
- New Castle County EMS Paramedics
- Northwestern Mutual Financial Network
- Ohio Department of Transportation
- Ohio National Guard
- Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission
- Ohio State Highway Patrol
- Oxford Technical
- Packer Thomas
- Prince George's County Police
- PRN Therapy Services, Inc.
- Rite Aid Corporation
- Robert Half International, Inc.

- Schroedel, Scullin & Bestic, CPAs
- Severstal North America, Inc.
- Sky Bank
- Steak 'n Shake Company
- The JM Smucker Company
- The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company
- U. S. Army
- U. S. Customs & Border Protection
- University Hospitals Health System
- UPS
- Walgreens
- Wee Care Day Care
- Wells Fargo Financial
- West Corporation
- Western Southern Financial Group
- WFMJ/WBCB Television
- Youngstown Buick Pontiac GMC



thejambar
youngstown state university

Editorial & Opinion

Tuesday, September 20, 2005

www.thejambar.com/thejambar@gmail.com/330-941-1991

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thejambar
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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

Labor relations must improve

A colossal failure in communication between the faculty and staff unions and the administration was at least partly, if not primarily, responsible for last month's strikes at Youngstown State University.

It was with this breakdown in administrative, faculty and staff relations that spurred Student Government Association President Bob McGovern to introduce to the Academic Senate Wednesday a resolution calling for a renewed dialogue between the unions and the administration, a move that should be applauded.

If YSU is to recover from the residual damage and hurt feelings from the strikes, steps must be taken now. Furthermore, the next round of staff and faculty negotiations in 2008 is not that far away, and communication now may avoid strife and possibly even future strikes.

It is encouraging that the majority of faculty senators voted for the resolution. However, it is a bit disappointing that McGovern had to be the one to step in and propose it.

Throughout the strike, McGovern prodded the unions and the administration into communicating and meeting with each other. While McGovern's role as neutral middleman surely helped bring an end to the strike, it is a job he should not have had to do.

It's also discouraging that some professors do not even want to try to resume a dialogue with administrators.

Bruce Waller, a professor of philosophy and religious studies and a senate member, said the "resolution acts only as a Band-Aid" and that the problem isn't communication between the parties but the animosity administrators feel toward the faculty and staff.

While some administrators may be hostile to faculty and staff, there are also faculty and staff members hostile to the administration. It's a two-way street.

And if such rancor between the unions and the administration does indeed exist, isn't that all the more reason for improving communication and broken relationships?

Professor Gabriel Palmer-Fernandez said he supported the resolution but remained skeptical of YSU President David Sweet's commitment to improving relations.

Expressing a lack of confidence in Sweet's desire to ease tensions on campus not only adds flames to some perceived fire, whether real or not, but it is also pointless. Sweet's contract extends until 2010, which means he will remain president for at least one more round of faculty and staff contract negotiations. In other words, he's here to stay.

Senate Chair Tom Shipka announced at the meeting that he had spoken with Sweet about creating a panel of respected community members to study and hopefully improve campus labor relations. Sweet announced yesterday that a panel would indeed form.

The creation of such a panel will be a welcome change to the hostile labor environment that has been fouling up YSU for too long.

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.

STAR TRIBUNE

CICADAS:
ONCE EVERY 17 YEARS



HALLEY'S COMET:
ONCE EVERY 76 YEARS



GEORGE BUSH ADMITS A MISTAKE:
ONCE EVERY... UH,..... ONCE.

I TAKE RESPONSIBILITY



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Skepticism precedes Sweet in matters of labor relations

Editor:
At the Sept. 14, 2005, Academic Senate meeting, Bob McGovern, President of the Student Government Association, introduced a resolution asking for improved communications between faculty and administration. Tom Shipka, chair of the Senate, reported on the formation of an ad hoc study group on labor-management relations at YSU.

I must express my deep skepticism of any significant action by President Sweet or his administration on any recommendation with regards to improving labor-management relations at YSU. My skepticism is based at least on the following historical record:

First, on July 26, 2000, Mark Shutes and I met with David Sweet to report to him the results of a survey of faculty attitudes at YSU conducted by the faculty union the spring of that year. The results were very troubling — e.g., a majority of our academic colleagues

had little or no trust on decisions by the administration regarding tenure, promotion, or grievances, they reported very low morale; 88% of faculty believed the administration was unaware of the serious problems faculty face, and 82% believed the administration was not responsive to faculty concerns. In spite of his agreement with Professor Shutes and me on the low morale and unhealthy institutional culture at YSU, President Sweet took no significant action to improve them.

Second, while President Sweet did agree to Professor Shutes's suggestion to hold a university-wide Labor Summit, President Sweet failed to take any significant action on any of the recommendations of that summit.

Finally, the Third Summary Recommendation of the Performance Assessment requested by President Sweet and conducted by Jim Petro, auditor of the state of Ohio, reads:

"Relations between management and labor at YSU are characterized by a lack of trust. Interviews with members of the

University's Board of Trustees, administration and unions confirm this breakdown of trust. Rebuilding it may be the single, most important task facing the leadership of the unions and administration... As Dr. Sweet has stated on many occasions, "We must improve the quality of discourse between the administration and the unions." We could not agree more. (pp. 7, 9.)"

In spite of these important opportunities to improve morale and trust among all segments of the university, President Sweet and his administration have taken no significant steps in that direction; but instead those very elements of our institution which those opportunities wished to correct have only gradually worsened.

I have no confidence that President Sweet will take the necessary steps to improve those relations.

Gabriel Palmer-Fernandez
Director, Dr. James Dale Ethics Center
Professor, Philosophy & Religious Studies

Through the looking glass

By: Mike Pingree
KRT CAMPUS

NONETHELESS, MONEY WELL SPENT

Two teenagers at a strip joint in Albuquerque, N.M., apparently failed to understand the concept of the lap dance. Essentially, you pay for each song during which the stripper rubs herself all over you. But these lads thought that, since the music never stopped, they would be billed for one dance apiece.

Alas, management informed them that, since they each had "sat" through 41 consecutive songs, they owed \$2,500. Police were summoned when they couldn't pay up.

THERE'S ALMOST NO CHANCE I'LL GET CAUGHT

A thief in Berlin stole an automobile navigation system, then made the mistake of offering it for sale online two weeks later to the man he had stolen it from. The victim bought it back and sent the police to the thief's house to "pick it up."

THIS CALL MUST BE FOR YOU, DORK BOY

A Buddhist monk in Bangkok is selling cell phone ringtones to counter "distaste-

ful" ones such as "the sound of a woman moaning in a sexual manner." If you buy the monk's dharma ringtones, you will hear "don't let mobile phone conversations lead to premature sex," every time your phone rings.

HELLO? WHY YES, I DID 'LOSE' MY PHONE

Three burglars broke into a house in Ann Arbor, Mich., but were scared off when the homeowner woke up. As they jumped over the fence to flee, one of them dropped his cell phone, which police soon discovered.

After calling the phone company to determine who owned it, a cop called the burglar and set up a meeting to return it. Then came the arrests.

BUT NOW, HE HAS AN URGE TO WEAR PANTIES

A man in Australia had a sex change operation in 1988 even though a pre-surgery report said his masculinity was "above average." This was apparently right because, nine years later, he had another operation to make him a man again. He is suing the doctors who turned him into a woman in the first place.

WHY OF COURSE IT BELONGS TO US

Two thieves stole a washing machine from in front of an appliance store in Ormskirk, Ireland. They were caught because, instead of loading it onto a truck and driving off, they wheeled it through the streets of the city in an attempt to take to the train station. A passing television news crew saw them and immortalized their escapade on film.

UH, MA'AM, COULD I BORROW A BANDAGE?

A man, trying to break into a woman's car in her

garage in Fort Smith, Ark., severely cut his wrist when he shattered the vehicle's window. So he went into the house, woke the woman up, and asked her to help him. He was arrested.

BUT I'M NOT ACUALLY DRIVING, AM I?

A man whose driver's license was suspended after he was convicted of drunken driving thought it would be OK to putter around on a little mini-motorbike. Wrong. A police officer in Plymouth, Scotland, spotted him and arrested him after discovering the man was legally intoxicated yet again.



COMMENTARY

STRIKE WARS

THE EMPIRE STRIKES

By: Leonard Glenn Crist
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The second in a three part series on YSU's Great Strikes of 2005

Not that long ago on a campus far,
far removed from reality...

Last week: In our first installment, "Strike Wars," Youngstown State University was under siege on all fronts by administrators, strikers and reporters, none of whom seemed to give a damn about students. Your humble narrator had an epiphany: whether it was a conscious effort or not, the bitter fights between YSU's unions and administrators served as little more than distraction while both sides repeatedly reached into students' wallets, taking annual pay raises they didn't deserve.

Act 1: The Empire Strikes

The first telltale sign that all was not well at Youngstown State University came in March 2005. YSU administrators had commissioned a study to determine the wage competitiveness of the Association of Classified Employees staff union. The study found ACE union members earned, on average, 12.6 percent more than the market median.

"With pay levels consistently above market rates, it appears that most classified civil service employees would find it difficult to find employment for equal or greater pay outside of YSU," the report stated.

At a presentation of the study's findings, things got hot as John Habat, YSU's Vice President for Administration, and Gary Carlile, a consultant with the Ohio Education Association union and an assistant to ACE, began loudly arguing with each other until YSU's lawyer Holly Jacobs cut them off, asserting that the university could not legally hold a discussion regarding collective bargaining without being in a proper negotiation session.

This wouldn't be the last time Carlile lost his temper.

In June, Carlile was running a wee bit late for a meeting. He pulled up to the M-1 parking deck, where the parking attendant was giving directions to the car in front of Carlile's. Carlile began honking his horn and shouting at the driver to move the car.

Carlile got out of his car and called the student who was receiving directions an "asshole" and then shouted, "Fuck you!" according to the police report. As the driver pulled away, Carlile told the parking attendant to do her job before calling her an asshole. Then he parked and went to the meeting. He later apologized and no charges were filed.

The March salary study also ticked off ACE president Christine Domhoff, who complained the salary study wasn't fair. She said YSU compared its classified employees with jobs that weren't even close to what ACE members do. Domhoff pointed to a study done by the ACE union that actually put their salaries 7 percent below the median.

"I could make a heck of a lot more money somewhere else than what I'm making. I've chosen to stay here. I like what I do," Domhoff said at the time.

But apparently the university didn't feel the same way.

In May, YSU announced they were closing the Cisco Networking Academy, which provided non-credit courses at YSU's Metro College and also provided Chris Domhoff with her job. Domhoff had signed a contract for an externally funded position, which meant if the money for the program dried up, so did her employment at YSU.

University officials cited a significant drop in enrollment over the years as the main reason for the academy's closing and Domhoff's termination, but the timing, just a few months before the ACE contract expired, raised more than a few eyebrows.

"I didn't do anything wrong. I have perfect evaluations. I've worked here 23 years," Domhoff told the Jambar. "The whole action that was taken leaves one to question why. Why at this time?"

As all this was going on, the faculty union and the administration were wheeling and dealing behind closed doors, thanks to a mutually agreed upon media blackout that did little to prevent their ultimate strike.

Act 2: Tuition: The Phantom Menace
As it became increasingly inevitable that this strike was going to happen, over and over in my head I kept thinking: "What is wrong with these people?"

While I grudgingly sympathized with the administration's hard bargaining, they were being total hypocrites.

Tuition had gone up eight straight years at

YSU and state funding wasn't what it used to be. It would have been completely understandable for Sweet to say, "This year, nobody gets pay raises and everybody pays for health care. It's the fiscally responsible thing to do."

And while it would have been a hard sell, YSU's top officials could have at least tried to lead by example. "No pay raises for us, no pay raises for you."

But that didn't happen.
In July, Sweet tried to sneak in a 3 percent pay raise for about 145 non-union administrators, which really only made the news cycle because ACE members got wind of it and weren't pleased.

The end result, however, wasn't outrage on the part of YSU's unions, but a covetous "us too" attitude, embodied most clearly by some striking union members who, while on the picket line, wore pins that asked, "Where's our Sweet deal?"

Besides The Jambar in a July 27 editorial, only Vindicator columnist Bertram De Souza joined in the call for a pay freeze.

Even Student Government President Bob McGovern, who during the spring 2005 semester was quite vocal that tuition costs have risen too sharply over the years at YSU, didn't consider a pay freeze an option. Instead, he chose SGA neutrality, a wishy-washy move if I ever saw one — politically safe.

But McGovern's initial reaction was the correct one: tuition costs had spiraled out of control.

In the 2000-01 academic year, David Sweet's first year on campus, tuition cost a little more than \$3,800 for an in-state resident. For the 2005-06 school year, tuition costs nearly \$6,400, a 68 percent increase over 6 years.

Sweet often blames a decrease in state funding as the reason tuition keeps going up. However, the numbers don't necessarily agree. In 2000-01, YSU received \$46 million in the State Share of Instruction (or SSI, the largest state funding component). If funding had stayed flat at \$46 million, YSU would have received \$276 million between fall 2000 and fall 2005. In reality, YSU received a little over \$252 million in SSI, or a loss of about \$24 million spread out over a period of six years, which, if you think about it, isn't all that much.

In this same time period, YSU's core group of employees (OEA, ACE, professional and administrative staff and campus police) have seen a combined 23 percent pay raise. YSU's payroll for these groups went from \$47.3 million in 2000 to \$58.3 million in fall 2005, or \$11 million in pay raises over six years.

Students' wages weren't likely to have gone up, however, as the last hike in the national minimum wage came in 1997, bringing it up to a whopping 5.15 an hour. To add insult to injury, inflation has continually deteriorated the minimum wage's buying power over the years.

Continuing last week's "Star Wars" references, it was as if the students' best interests had been betrayed by Lando Calrissian (SGA), taken hostage by Boba Fett (the unions), encased in carbon-freeze and shipped off to Jabba The Hut (the administration) for decoration.

Act 3: Middle Class My Ass

On day four of the faculty strike, day 11 of the staff strike, The Jambar received an invite to a special meeting with David Sweet, his "special assistant," Tom Maraffa, and the Student Government leadership of President Bob McGovern, Vice President Amanda Mielke and Representative John Vogel.

I walked into the meet-

ing with a tape recorder, a digital camera and a notebook.

I would prefer if you not use that, Sweet said, gesturing to my tape recorder.

Whenever an administrative official, a public official, says something like that, I immediately grow leery: What are the motivations? Generally, if an official wants to talk on the record, but with no tape recorder, he is planning on either lying to you or later denying things he's said.

But I wanted to be there, so I put the tape recorder away.

YSU and faculty negotiators were close to sealing a deal that would bring professors back to the classroom in time for the start of the fall semester.

Sweet filled us in on the details of the administrative proposal to the faculty. ACE was still up in the air at this point.

The faculty would receive raises of 3 percent, 3.5 percent and 3.5 percent over the three years of the contract and they would contribute 0.75 percent for single health care coverage and 1.5 percent for family coverage, starting in the second year of the contract, but only if they agreed to return to work on Monday.

Then, he added YSU could only afford the new faculty contract by raising tuition the maximum amount allowed by law for each year of the three-year contract.

This pricked my ears up. I asked, "Is it really fair to blame any future tuition increases solely on the faculty?"

Sweet snapped back, "You're darn right it's fair." Sweet said if the faculty or ACE had been willing to pay 10 percent of their health care, YSU would have signed a deal in a heartbeat.

After more talk about the specific plan, Sweet tried to leave us on a lighthearted note.

Sweet said, and I'm paraphrasing here because I was laughing too hard on the inside to take good notes:

I've been wondering, and maybe you can help me figure this out, but what exactly is a 'Sweet deal'?

So McGovern, Mielke, Vogel and myself tried to explain to him what a Sweet deal is, not an easy task considering his head is so far up his ass that it's a wonder he heard anything we were saying at all.

We mentioned the \$60,000 in housing and car allowances, the fancy health care plan from the Cleveland Clinic and his \$200,000 plus salary, to which he gave this response, and again I'm paraphrasing because I was laughing so hard on the inside that it was genuinely hard to take down direct quotes:

I like to think of myself as middle class.

If I were a 14-year-old girl talking to David Sweet over instant messenger, this would have been my response: WTF? OMG! ROTFL!

Middle class my ass.

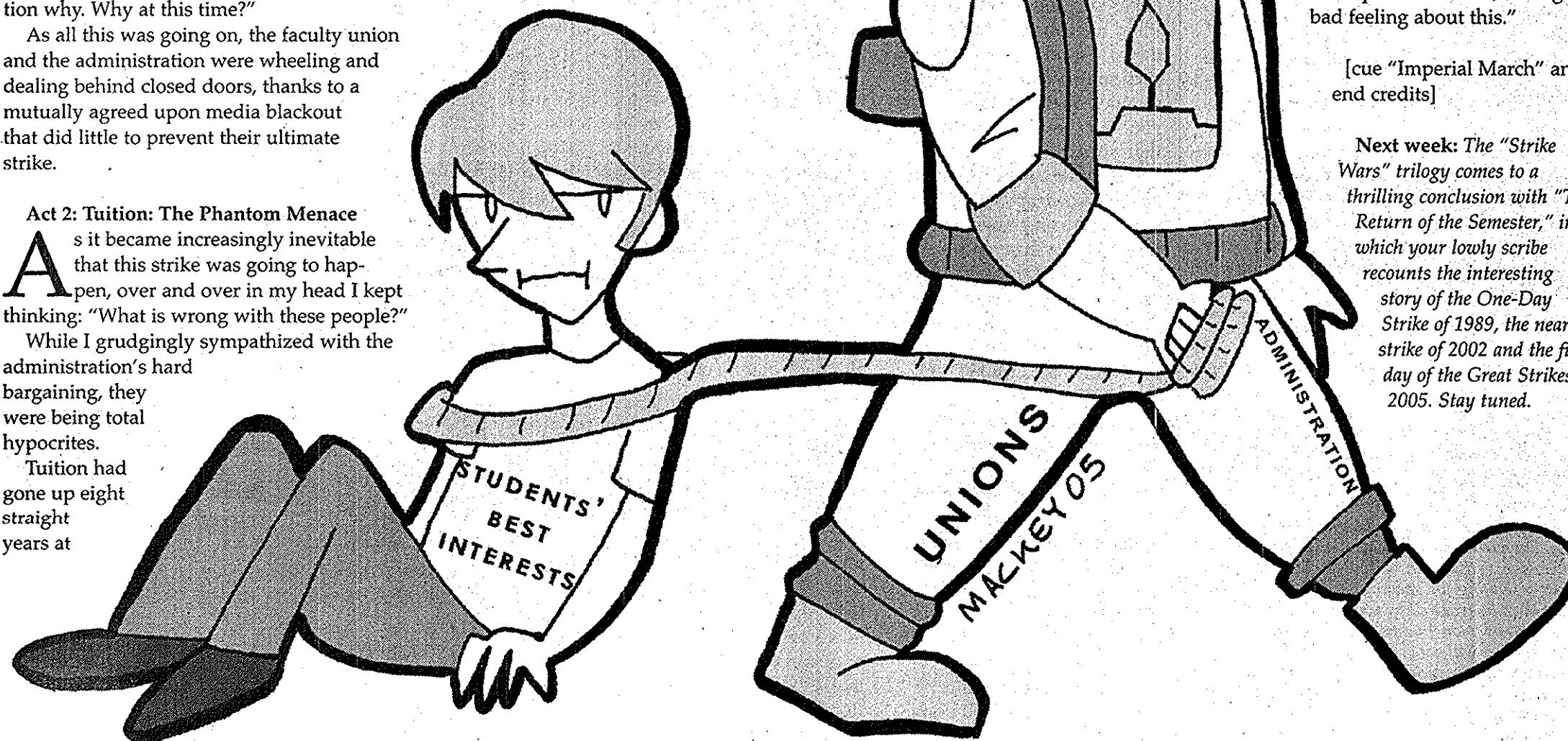
Like an emaciated anorexic girl who thinks she's fat, Sweet has a warped self-image when it comes to his extraordinarily privileged lot in life.

If David Sweet truly believes he is a member of the middle class, we may be in for a bumpy ride as the scrappy president claws and bites his way into the upper class he so desperately wants to join, by asking for more pay raises from the YSU's trustees, which will get the unions up in a tizzy, shouting "We want our Sweet deal," which will lead to more undeserved pay raises, which will further piss off Ohio's legislature, which will cause them to cut state funding even more, and the resultant strain on YSU's operating budget will ultimately lead to more outrageous tuition increases for students.

To quote Han Solo, "I've got a bad feeling about this."

[cue "Imperial March" and end credits]

Next week: The "Strike Wars" trilogy comes to a thrilling conclusion with "The Return of the Semester," in which your lowly scribe recounts the interesting story of the One-Day Strike of 1989, the near strike of 2002 and the final day of the Great Strikes of 2005. Stay tuned.



Homecoming candidates

KING



Fred Burazer
Senior
Music Education



Chris Dorris
Junior
Special Education



Bert Gerstnecker
Junior
Civil Engineering



Jonathon Jenyk
Senior
C.I.S.



Keith "2fly" Logan
Senior
Telecommunications



Jeremy Payne
Junior
Mech. Engineering



Justin R. Truitt
Senior
Accounting

QUEEN



Heather Baltic
Junior
Forensic Science



Kim D'Angelo
Senior
Music Education



Megan Deichler
Senior
Sec. Education



Angela Dlwgosh
Senior
Exercise Science



Janel Finch
Junior
Marketing



Christine Franz
Senior
Pre-Med



Lori Griffin
Senior
Accounting



Catherine A. Krupko
Senior
E.C. Education



Jennie Reynolds
Senior
Dental Hygiene



Andrea Sasse
Senior
Language Arts



Jessica Silvestri
Junior
Psychology



Jennifer Smith
Senior
Marketing



Angela Speece
Senior
Fine Arts



Shannon Starr
Junior
Biology



Elizabeth Tomsich
Junior
Pre-Business Marketing



Sarah Vansuch
Junior
Political Science

**Vote today and Wednesday
in Kilcawley Center
starting at 8 a.m.**

ENROLLMENT, continued from page 1

The full-time equivalent was 10,518 students in 2004 and 10,332 students in 2005. The decline is a decrease of 1.77 percent.

Lost students

"There was a significant number of undergraduate students who completed the application process but ultimately didn't register for classes," Anderson said. "We are going to send out personal surveys to those individuals."

Anderson said the number of people who were accepted but did not register for classes was over 1,000 in undergraduate programs and about 75 students in graduate programs. She said that the administration would look at data to determine how students made their decisions.

She attributed the high number of students who ultimately decided not to attend classes at YSU after being accepted to the current trend of applicants applying to more than one institution.

"A lot of people apply to more than one university, partly because it's so easy to do nowadays," Anderson

said. "We want to determine what some of the things were that made people go through the application process but decide not to attend YSU."

Strike

Maraffa also noted the strike may have had some influence on the enrollment decrease.

"Transfer and casual students may have been uncertain enough that the strike was enough to discourage them from attending classes. I will say that the strike may have been a part of it," Maraffa said. "We hope those students will come back in the spring."

"I don't know how we would ever determine if the strike played a part in the decline," Anderson said. "I wouldn't presume that is a reason until we've heard it from those people."

She also said the surveys YSU will send out may help determine how large of a role the strike played in the 2005 enrollment decrease.

"When something like this happens, it isn't only one thing. It is a whole bunch of things that lead to

it," Maraffa said.

Regional trend

"Kent and Akron had equal to, or greater, decreases in enrollment," Maraffa said. "Part of this is a regional trend."

Kent State University released information last week, which announced 23,622 students enrolled at the Kent campus for the 2005 fall semester, a decrease of 725 students from their 2004 fall semester. Enrollment at their seven other regional campuses dropped by 235 students since last fall.

In the statement H. Pete Goldsmith, vice president for enrollment and student affairs at Kent, said that they predicted the decrease after eight consecutive years of record enrollment. Kent's full-time equivalent number also decreased 1.43 percent

After the official enrollment number was released in 2004, Maraffa told The Jambar that YSU planned on increasing student enrollment to 14,000 by 2008 and that he saw achieving the goal as a reality.

Call Katie Libecco at (330) 941-3758.

HOMECOMING, continued from page 1

On the ballots are 16 candidates for homecoming queen and seven for homecoming king. Each of the candidates was nominated by a student organization. The nomination process began last March and allows each of the organizations to nominate one candidate for queen and one candidate for king.

Of the nominees, only the top five men and women will participate in the homecoming parade.

Assistant Director of Student Activities, Greg Gulas, said last year approximately 900 students voted in the elections, and that this year he hopes even more will be involved.

"The goal for this year is to get more than 1,000 votes. If we get that, then it will be a successful year," Gulas said.

Nominee Sarah Vansuch encouraged students to make the most of the voting situation.

"This is only one of two opportunities students get to vote," she said in a recent SGA meeting.

With the ballot box open today, the candidates are busy campaigning for votes by hanging flyers, wearing t-shirts with scanned images of the nominees, planning get-togethers and passing out candy, all designed to grab the attention of students.

Jonathan Jenyk, who was nominated by Student Government Association, has an unusual visage of himself in some of his ads. He dressed in cow suit.

"It's what I'm known for, being goofy, it's something people will remember," said Jenyk of the cow suit he keeps in his car.

Jenyk is not the only one with creative advertising. Fellow nominee Justin Truitt, who was nominated by the University Scholars, based his campaign around flyers featuring spiced-rum mascot Captain Morgan.

"It's something that college kids would find funny, so that's why I went with it. I figured I needed something after seeing the ads with the guy in the cow suit," Truitt said, who is confident that he will come out on top. "I'm definitely going to win by a landslide."

Some candidates try to win over voters

with clever catchphrases, fliers and candy. Others are taking a more laid back approach to homecoming campaigning.

Christine Franz, who was nominated by three organizations, the Interfraternity Council, the Pan-Hellenic Council and friends of I.A.N.D.s, said that, while it's an honor to be nominated, campaigning isn't on the front burner for her.

"This isn't the biggest thing in my life right now, but I will promote myself. I just want people to vote for me because they know and like me, not because I told them to," Franz said.

Being in the spotlight has some drawbacks. Heather Baltic says that she has endured some good natured ribbing by her friends.

"It's on account of my picture being in such a high traffic area," she said of the easel in front of the Watson-Tressel Reading Lounge in Kilcawley Center. "But it's nothing that I can't handle."

Sarah Miller, a freshman, was looking at the easel that contains pictures and biographies of each candidate. She said she doesn't know anyone who is running, so the bios are especially helpful to her.

"I plan to make my decision based on the activities and majors. I'm probably going to vote for someone in education or political science," she said.

Sophomore Domenick Delaney said he knows three homecoming queen candidates but won't reveal who he is going to vote for. He said this is his first time voting.

"Last year I didn't vote because I was new to campus, but now that I've been here longer, I feel more school spirit," Delaney said.

Homecoming week begins Oct. 19. It ends with the game against Missouri State and the crowning of the king and queen on Oct. 22. The event will include a host of student activities such as airbrush tattoos, Interactive Inflatables, wax and sand art along with the return of caricature artist Jodi Fleming and Jocko the Clown.

Call Cheryl Thompson at (330) 941-1913.

**Call The Jambar to give us
the scoop on your
upcoming campus events.
(330) 941-1991.**

Winning Gateway Conference tough task again

By: Justin Smolkovich
SPORTS REPORTER

Even though some people think the Youngstown State University football team's biggest game of the year will be this Saturday when the Penguins take on the Pitt Panthers, the real trek towards a berth in the Division I-AA playoffs through the Gateway Conference will take start when YSU battles Illinois State on Oct. 1.

The Penguins, 3-0 so far, have not reached playoffs since 2000, when they lost to Richmond in the first round, Jim Tressel's last year in Youngstown.

The Gateway Conference is a football-only league boasting three teams in the top 25, including Southern Illinois at the number one spot, Western Kentucky at number two and Northern Iowa at number nine. The Penguins rank just outside the top 25; they received 41 votes in the latest ESPN/USA Today poll.

However, the Penguins have an advantage — four of seven league games will be played at Stambaugh Stadium. They are looking to improve on a 2-5 conference record from last year.

The Penguins will get into the meat of their schedule Oct. 15 beginning a stint of four games against three top 25

opponents.

The Penguins look poised to outdo last season's seventh place finish. After three weeks the Penguins rank among the league's best in many categories, including second in rushing offense, rushing defense and first in turnover margin.

Returning names

The Penguins return only one player who was named to the first team all conference squad. Demetrius Ison was one of only two sophomores named to the first team, while Jeremiah Wright was named to the second team. Earning honorable mention and returning for the Penguins are Brandon Brown, Kyle Smith and Jason Perry.

The conference offensive player of the year Joel Sambursky from Southern Illinois returns and looks to guide his Salukis to another first place finish. Sambursky last year was a finalist for the Walter Payton award, given out to the nation's best Division I-AA player.

Playoffs outlook

There looks to be little shake-up in the standings of the Gateway from last year. The Salukis of Southern Illinois are without doubt the favorites, having dominated the league the past two

seasons and returning the offensive player of the year, senior Joel Sambursky, along with coach of the year, Jerry Krill.

The chase for the Salukis will be difficult as Western Kentucky will likely be in the mix once again. While the Hilltoppers are 2-0, they survived a 23-21 scare last week against Eastern Kentucky.

If all goes well for the Penguins, they could be in the second spot, nipping at the heels of Southern Illinois for first. Arguably, the Penguins have the best running game in the Gateway, averaging 238 yards on the ground with a stable of qualified backs to tote the ball.

Northern Iowa looks to be the question mark, despite returning a solid squad, their first two wins were against below average teams and last week lost big to nationally ranked Iowa. Northern Iowa holds a huge advantage in league play the only one a few teams that play their home games inside of a dome.

The bottom of the conference is anyone's guess as Western Illinois, Indiana State and Illinois State all finished at 2-5 last season. Indiana State has not finished above fourth in the conference since 1996.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758.

Penguin conference schedule:

October 1 Illinois state 6pm
October 8 @ Indiana State 1pm
October 15 Western Illinois 4pm
October 22 Missouri State (Homecoming) 4pm
October 29 @ Northern Iowa 4:07pm
November 5 @ Southern Illinois 4pm
November 12 Western Kentucky 1pm

Standings after three weeks:

Western Kentucky 2-0

YSU 3-0

Illinois State 2-1

Missouri State 2-1

Northern Iowa 2-1

Southern Illinois 2-1

Western Illinois 1-2

Indiana State 0-3

Last year's conference standings:

Southern Illinois 7-0

Western Kentucky 6-1

Northern Iowa 5-2

Missouri State 3-4

Western Illinois 2-5

Illinois State 2-5

YSU 2-5

Indiana State 2-5

Buzek leads cross country team

By: Justin Smolkovich
SPORTS REPORTER

Nearly every coach will tell you that talent and athletic ability will take you only so far. Intangibles, the aspects of athletics that you can't teach, are what separate winners from losers. Poise, ambition and — above all others — leadership are a few of the ingredients needed for a successful season.

The Youngstown State University cross country team knows and understands this, crediting its recent success to the leadership of its upperclassmen.

The Penguin roster only contains one senior this year, however, the team is dotted with juniors who assume senior roles.

Nick Buzek, the lone senior, understands that being the only runner on the roster entering a fourth year has some added responsibilities. He finished third overall at the Mel Brondt invitational last week.

"I believe that senior leadership is very important to this team," Buzek said. "I feel that Nick Smith, Dave Mealy and I do a good job of making sure the team stays together in workouts and races as much as possible."

Smith and Mealy are two of three juniors on the team. Last week, Smith finished seventh.

There may be no bigger proponent of leadership than a man who has acted as the leader for many of the successful cross-country



Nick Buzek is the lone senior on this year's men's cross country squad.

teams YSU has fielded in recent memory. Entering his 13th year as the head coach of the Penguins, Brian Gorby is quick to point out the gears that keep this team moving along.

"The three Nicks (Kruse, Smith, Buzek) are some great guys and give us some good senior and junior leadership," Gorby said.

Buzek said that the hardest part of being a leader is helping the rookies adjust to the life of a collegiate athlete.

"I think the freshmen are a little overwhelmed by the

long season at first, but they are tough and they will adjust," Buzek said. "I feel that my job as a senior mentor is very easy because our freshmen are pretty grown up and mature to begin with."

Buzek is speaking about the maturity of R.D. Goodright, Dan Nemergut and John Sheppard who are already playing an intricate role in the Penguins' season.

Goodright placed 16th overall while Nemergut and Sheppard finished 28th and 29th overall, respectively.

These young runners will be vital to the season Buzek said, as the Penguins are once again looking to make noise in the conference.

"This year's team is definitely capable of a top three finish at conference, and we could even surprise some people by finishing in the top two," Buzek said.

The Penguins return to action this weekend when they travel to Penn State where they will take part in the Spiked Shoe invitational.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758.

Giants take care of business at 'home'

By: Vinny Ditrani
KRT CAMPUS

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — The Giants took advantage of the Saints' hospitality Monday night, even though the New Orleans home game was played at Giants Stadium.

Scoring 17 points off turnovers, and another three after John Carney missed a chip-shot field goal, the Giants moved to 2-0 for the first time since 2000 by recording a 27-10 victory. The game, moved from the Superdome because of Hurricane Katrina, did not sell out, but attracted a crowd of 68,031.

"We're excited to be 2-0, but we know we can be better," said Giants coach Tom Coughlin. "But this is a great format to improve upon. The keys tonight were the [six] turnovers and keeping their offense out of the end zone."

The Giants held a 21-10 halftime lead, scoring touchdowns off a Saints' fumble on the opening kickoff and a Carlos Emmons interception. Jay Feely kicked two field goals in the second half, one after William Joseph's recovery of an Aaron Brooks fumble, the other after his counterpart, Carney, had his 29-yard field goal try hit the left upright.

Giants defensive end Michael Strahan, bothered by back spasms the previous two days, did some running prior to the game and pronounced himself fit to play. He led the other linemen onto the field for the pregame warm-ups and started at his customary left end position. He played the entire game and had five tackles including a sack. "If the game was Sunday, I couldn't have played," Strahan said. "If the game

was 1 o'clock, I don't know if I could've played. But I went out and stretched and it felt good. The only thing that surprised me is how much I played."

The Giants, as the visiting team, were introduced first wearing their white road jerseys. The modest crowd gave the Saints a modest welcome when they took the field wearing their home black jerseys.

Feely kicked off to open the game and kicked off again just 1:35 later after the Saints botched the first one. Michael Lewis came out of the end zone with the first kickoff, then handed off on a reverse to Fred McAfee, who was hit immediately by Nick Greisen and fumbled. The ball was recovered at the Saints' 10 by Giants rookie Chase Blackburn.

After two Tiki Barber runs put the ball on the 1, rookie Brandon Jacobs powered across for the TD. Feely added the extra point and the Giants had a 7-0 lead.

They doubled the lead on their second possession, going 76 yards on 11 plays while taking advantage of the absence of Saints starting cornerback Fakhir Brown. He was inactive for the game after colliding with teammate Darren Howard in practice Saturday. His knee swelled up overnight, so former Jaguar Jason Craft started in his place.

The Saints left Craft one-on-one with Plaxico Burress and Manning took advantage of that mismatch three times for 48 yards during that drive. The first was on a 17-yard hook-up off play-action that moved the ball to the Saints' 43. The second, a 16-yarder, was needed to overcome an illegal block in the back penalty against Burress that wiped out a 28-yard Barber run.

YSU Sports in Brief

Women's tennis: YSU fares well at invitational

Springfield — The YSU women's tennis team opened the 2005 fall season on a solid note at the Wittenberg Tennis Invitational on Friday and Saturday. The Penguins' competitors at the invite included Denison, Wittenberg, Dayton and Detroit.

Four of the team members finished 3-0 at singles play including Gina Peretti, Emily Thayer, Allison Day and Michelle Fuleky. Whitney Thomas and Andrea Dixon completed the weekend 1-2 and Irena Lanc went 0-3. Krystle Hively played the first singles round with a No. 7 spot victory.

The Penguins will be back in action as they travel to the Bowling Green Invitational on Sept. 24-25.

Men's tennis: YSU wins home opener

Youngstown — The YSU men's tennis team won 6-1 in their season opener against St. Francis (Pa.) at the YSU Tennis Courts on Sunday afternoon. YSU beat St. Francis in five out of their six singles matches and two out of the three doubles affairs.

In singles action at No. 1 Scott Katherly beat Andrei Sandu 7-5, 7-5, at No. 2 Brian Meek defeated Ajay Nune 6-3, 6-2, at No. 3 Ryan Trapp defeated Brent Keough 6-3, 6-1, at No. 4 Jason Trapp defeated Jeffrey SeEVERS 6-3, 6-2, at No. 5 Sarantis Karousis defeated Tyler Jones, 6-2, 2-6 and at No. 6 Mike Tucci beat Zach Landgraf 6-2, 7-5.

The Penguins will travel to Pittsburgh for their next match as they play at Duquesne on Oct. 7.

Courtesy of ysusports.com

COMMENTARY

King Me: Mackey makes his case

By: Bob Mackey
COLUMNIST

I am homecoming king. No, really. Did you think there was going to be an election? As far as I can tell, we've been going about this all wrong. After all, under a monarchy, does the man who desires kingship simply put up a bunch of poorly Xeroxed high school senior pictures around the area and wait for results? No, he gathers an army, sieges the castle

— possibly Tod Hall in this case — and puts a lot of heads on pikes. Glamour Shots be damned! Of course, there's always the slim possibility that the man who wishes to be the unquestionable ruler is actually the current king's eldest son, but the chances of winning this genetic lottery are about as slim as being born into a family of Somalian billionaires.

I guess I should probably give up this whole seman-

tic "king" nonsense. After all, we live under a democracy, meaning elections can be bought and stolen without the barbaric use of force people such as Commies have to resort to. God bless America! Since election stealing would require an elaborate social network of higher-ups on campus, I'm going to have to defer to the honorable tactic of losers: bribery.

This is where you, the readers, come in. Due to the

fact that I'm so "edgy" (I prefer to think that I have a Christopher Walken-like intensity), or perhaps because I never filled out the official forms and just found out about this a few days ago, I'm not "officially" on the ballot. This colossal oversight should not prevent you, oh holder of free newspapers, from writing my name on any available ballot blank space. You can also scribble in your choice of obscenities, but keep in mind this will reflect poorly on me.

So why, you may ask, should you waste your vote on me? Well, considering it's a vote for homecoming king, your vote is already wasted. Just consider me the lesser of the various evils. Getting back to the point, my reign as homecoming king will institute a trickle-down system of benefits, making Reagan-omics look like the ramblings of a crazy old man. With me, everybody wins!

Assuming that, as king, I have the power to appropriate millions of dollars from YSU's budget, a few campus accoutrements such as landscaping, maintenance, parking and frivolities like paved pathways and safety will have to be eliminated in order to compensate.

Professors should not fear, however; under my system, they will each get a respective raise. Yes, each and every YSU professional will get a "confidence stool," (having a retail price of over \$19.95) which, when stood upon, will put them a good two feet over their students. This should give them an almost pharmacist-like sense of superiority, and keep talk of future strikes to a minimum, or at least two feet higher.

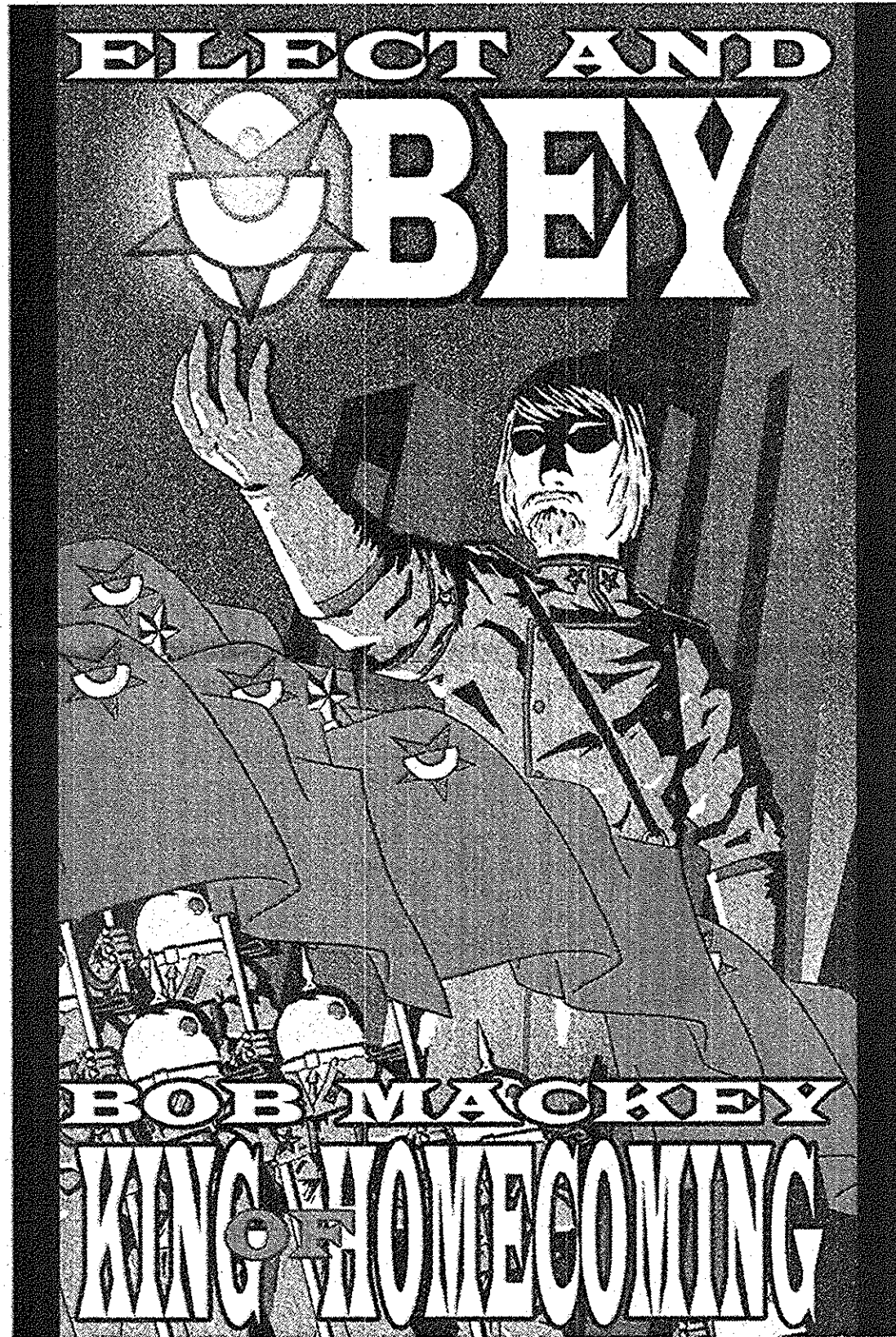
Students, I haven't forgotten about you. If elected, I will see to it that each and every full-time YSU student gets their own helicopter for

personal use. Helicopter flying lessons aren't part of the deal, however; I'm not made of money. This shouldn't be a problem, though; with the way young people like to work out and stay fit, they won't need to visit the new Wellness Center to get in shape. They'll be too busy running for their life with no escape from the nightmarish decapitating and eviscerating spin of falling helicopters. As a bonus, our University will go from "Y.S. What?" to "That campus that keeps exploding." Any kind of publicity is good publicity.

To further this publicity, I also plan on spicing up some of the on-campus events. Take football games, for example. Everyone is used to the same halftime show game after game, and most people don't even stick around for it, opting instead to use the bathroom, purchase a hot dog, or stick a fan of the opposing team with a homemade shiv. My plan to get people to stick around during halftime involves a 30 foot-high robot penguin rumbling onto the field, which will breathe fire and rip up precious AstroTurf. The band will not disappear; they will be chased by the giant transformer penguin, forcing band members to quicken their pace and play just a little bit faster, out of the fear of being crushed. And while the second half of the game plays out on the field, one lucky fan will have his car eaten by the mecha-penguin in the parking lot.

So there you have it. And while I haven't stated my views on abortion, you can assume that I'm either anti or pro; whatever works for you. Go out there and vote for me, and do it twice if no one is looking. Should you get arrested for fraud, I'll see that you get a fair trial.

Call Bob Mackey at (330) 941-1913.



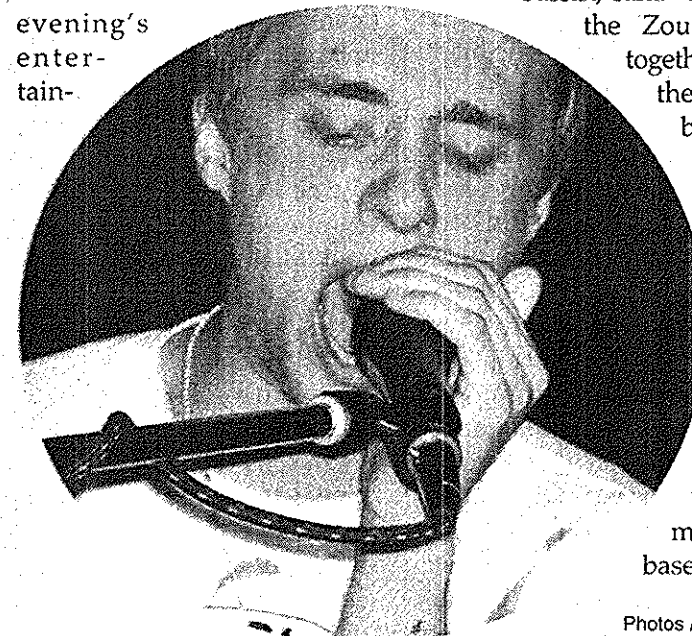
Nouveau breathes fresh air into Youngstown

By: Jeremy Lydic
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Cedar's Lounge played host to the third Nouveau Music Festival, a feast of musical delicacies.

Upon entering, an instant feeling of alternative nation brought names like the Ramones, the Stooges, and David Bowie to mind, and an incredible sense of anticipation for something different added to the excitement.

The Zou organized and hosted the Nouveau Rock Festival. They conducted the evening's entertain-



Photos / Leonard Glenn Crist

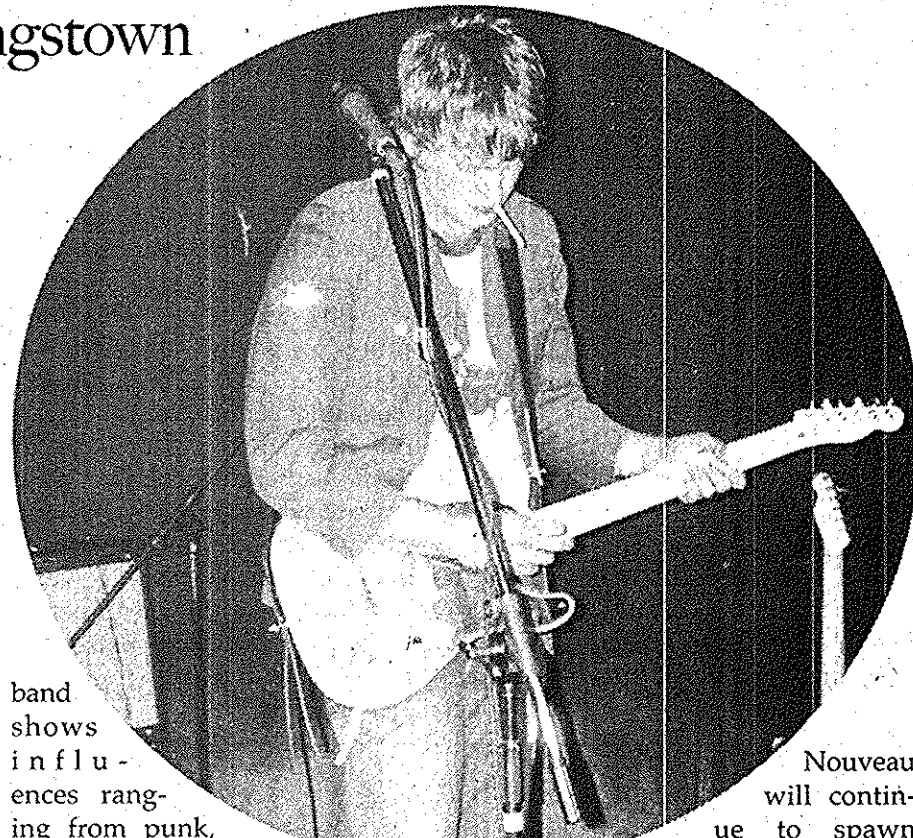
ment with the kind of swagger and style that is bred from experience, determination and grit.

The Nouveau Rock Festival began as a collaboration of friends to bring new and interesting bands together and celebrate music for art's sake. With the drawing power of The Zou, getting the ball-rolling wasn't difficult. Although The Zou headlines each band is respectfully given their due.

"The camaraderie in this festival isn't in much else in music around here," Rocco Difabio, Sam Goodwill bassist, said. "Khaled [Tabbara, of the Zou] wanted to put

together a show because there are so many bands that are around here that people don't know. Since [The Zou] have such a big draw, he wanted to help his friends."

Offering a wide spectrum of acts, Nouveau touched pretty much on all the bases. Music from each



Nouveau

band shows influences ranging from punk, alternative, pop, dance, and techno, just to name a few. Groups like Love Circuit and Third Class also bring the elements of performance art and concept music to the table.

It was also apparent that fans contribute to the future success and the growth and evolution of the festival. Along with paying a cover charge, the fans' support of the bands of

The Zou's current success and popularity lit the flame of Nouveau.

For those that have experienced Nouveau for the first time, they now understand that which those who have gone before know to be true. Put quite simply by Difabio:

"It's a group of friends, it's a trust, and it's about the music."

Call Jeremy Lydic at (330) 941-1913.

CD REVIEW

Rohan's new CD is bland

By: Eric Grosso
FEATURES REPORTER

Some recording artists just never find the creativity needed to make a thought-provoking, attention-grabbing record, while some are content with being perfectly average writers and performers. After hearing his latest release, "These Days," I can't decide which category Joe Rohan should belong to.

Sadly, his latest release offers listeners nothing in terms of uniqueness. You'll swear you've heard — and probably despised — most of his songs on your least favorite radio station. Thankfully, you haven't.

Before continuing my complaints about his newest record, I must note that Rohan has won awards for his music, including Cleveland Free Times Music Awards for Singer / Songwriter of the year in 2005 and American Roots Artist of the Year in 2004. Rohan has also played with James Taylor and Dave Matthews Band and has a following in Cleveland, New Orleans and San Francisco.

After playing shows in Alaska and the House of Blues in Cleveland, Rohan will be performing Wednesday at Peaberry's in Kilcawley Center at 11 a.m.

He uses some blues-inspired vocals on "Angeline," adding in some typical blues guitar work and a touch of harmonica. Rohan ventures into blues with a few other tracks on the album such as "Cold Winter Day." These add a somewhat enjoyable touch to the CD.

The problem, though, is that Rohan seems to mix his weakest tracks between these blues-influenced melodies, his strongest tracks.

Rohan might be more inclined to venture strictly into blues, as his lack of innovative lyrics combined with strong guitar skills and mellow attitude would suit him well. Instead of relying on his blues strengths, Rohan often switches to folk-driven songs, which fail to showcase his talents.

One minute you're listening to a blues album, and the next minute you're hearing a slow, acoustic ballad or sans-charisma pop song, ruining the passable with tunes that should have been left out. Rohan damages a perfectly-plausible song in "Lovestruck Romeo" by transitioning from a decent blues intro to mass produced pop chorus.

Rohan is perhaps best described for excellent story telling in his music. The problem is, especially with the college demographic, is that none of the stories are particularly interesting.

There is an enjoyable cover of Johnny Cash's "Ring of Fire" on the album, adding a fast tempo to the original.

Overall, the "These Days" isn't anything you need to purchase. It lacks a general flow and continuity that hurts the overall sound of the album. Rohan needs to play to his strengths of writing and performing blues rather than making attempts at acoustic ballads.

For more information and sounds clips of Joe Rohan, visit www.joerohan.com.

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