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## Sweet times

## President talks past and future of YSU

Sarah Sole News Editor

With a centennial theme of "a proud past and a promising future," Youngstown State University President David Sweet welcomed back faculty, students and staff to the start of the fall semester during his state of the university address.

While outlining future plans amidst a backdrop of past and present achievements, Sweet spoke of the necessity of YSU's involvement in a community college and developing a Mahoning Valley P-16 council as a way to reduce the need for remedial classes at YSU.

Sweet also answered critics, referring to previous "internal attacks" and saying that in the future, "those who engage in these activities will be compromising the university as a whole."

#### Promising future

Sweet said that Eric Fingerhut, Ohio Board of Regents chancellor, wants to increase the number of students attending universities who have completed high school core classes while reducing the number of students who need remedial classes, Sweet said.

**CAMPUS DINING** 

He suggested collaborating with local school districts to encourage high school students to attend college.

The P-16 council would increase preparation for high school students. While he is not sure of the planning, he said the council would increase the number of students that go on to college. "We need to work to increase the college-going rate."

Sweet believes part of that problem is the lack of a Mahoning Valley community college, which creates an educational gap, Sweet said. The plan for implementing a community college should have YSU as its center, he said.

If YSU is not a part of the proposed community college, then it will present a major challenge to the university, Bege Bowers, associate provost said. YSU's involvement with the community college will be easier for us as an institution, she said.

A new area college could present YSU with competition.

People in the area have a need for a community college, said Frank Castronovo professor and director of theater. "We should make every effort to provide what they need. Growth is not a bad thing."

Castronovo was also impressed with the speech, which he called

"upbeat." "I think we have a lot to look

forward to," Castronovo said. Stressing the importance of

keeping students at the center of all plans, Sweet said, "This institution has a proud history of adapting its programs to the needs of our students." He stated his goal of engaging more students in research projects and academic internships.

The new semester brings with it new academic opportunities for students, such as the foreign language department's offering of Arabic and Mandarin.

#### Proud past

The university has obtained \$32 million of the \$43 million goal for the Centennial Capital Campaign that will go towards programs and scholarships. Additionally, there was a 3 percent increase in enrollment last year, the highest since 1995.

The centennial archives will be dedicated this fall at Maag Library.

Sweet credited other positive changes to the late Provost Robert Herbert.

Herbert's work with CLASS

please see Sweet, PAGE 2



### Highlights

**On university infighting:** 

"Those who engage in these activities will be compromising the university as a whole."

On YSU's place in the community: "We can be proud that the region looks to us for leadership."

On the centennial year:

"Our future is as challenging as any time in our 100 year history."

YSU

## Pete's place prepares for fall opening |Fe

#### SBDC seminars at YSU Metro College

TO THE POINT

The Ohio Small Business Development Center at Youngstown State University will hold business seminars in September at the YSU Metro College.

The cost for each seminar is \$25 or \$80 to attend all four and reservations are required. Dates for the seminars are Sept. 6, 13, 20 and 27.

#### Playhouse Auditions

The Youngstown Playhouse will hold auditions for Disney's Beauty and the Beast Sept 3-5 at 6:30 p.m. at the Youngstown Playhouse. A one to two minute song is requested.

#### Sarah Sole News Editor

When she saw the lemon triangle, Rachel Wightman told herself she could still have the dessert, since she had organic dressing on her salad.

Evidently, the dessert was worth the rationalization.

"It was amazing," Wightman said. Wightman was just one of many YSU students employed in Kilcawley Center who took part in a complimentary lunch served Wednesday at Pete's Place, the new campus restaurant formerly known as Noodles. Aside from a new look, Pete's Place will offer a buffet featuring healthier options when it opens today.

Students need healthy options on campus, and Pete's Place aimed to address that need, said Tomdd Totterdale, general manager of the YSU Ddining service Services.for YSU. Those preparing the menu for Pete's Place met with the nutritionist at Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center.

Andrew's Wellness and Recreation Center.

Totterdale said Pete's Place offers

CAMPUS LIFE



**Above**, Kilcawley students sample the new menu offered at Pete's Place during a preview lunch held Wednesday.

*Right*, *Executive Chef Clint Kifolo sits down for lunch in Pete's Place Dining Room, photo by Sarah Sole, The Jambar.* 

unique food, and its buffet- style dining helps students get in and out of the restaurant quickly.

"It kind of does a little bit of everything," he said. "It's a much better

please see Pete's, PAGE 3



## Foley appointed trustee by Governor

Chelsea Pflugh Reporter

Stephen Foley, a junior Political Science and Psychology major, was recently appointed by Governor Ted Strickland as a student trustee to the YSU Board of Trustees.

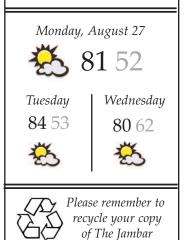
Foley was selected from several applicants at YSU and had to meet extensive requirements to be considered. His application was processed by several state board administrations, and was officially appointed by Governor Strickland.

Foley will represent the entire student body at YSU when he attends each Board of Trustees meeting. When he applied for the position, Foley said he realized the great responsibilities that come with the job and how difficult it will be to represent every student.

"I plan to attend every meeting, stay close to the Student Government Association, and I hope students contact me and voice their comments and concerns", Foley said.

Foley said that he is here for every student. He realizes that student opinion of the university or administration may be bleak at times, but he plans on improving it.

He wants to boost the morale of those in contact with students, such as faculty and administrators. Foley's main goals during his time on the Board of Trustees will be campus and downtown development.



## Saddle up for Wild West Welcome Week

Elizabeth Boon Reporter

With a new school year kicking off, Youngstown State University wants students to have some fun. Welcome Week is meant to provide students with activities that allow them to meet new people and help them get into the swing of things for the new semester.

Sponsored by Campus Rec, Student Life, YSU Housing and Residence Life, Center for Student Progress, and Student Diversity Programs, the entire first week of school is packed with all kinds of events that cover a wide variety of interests.

Welcome Week coordinator Melanie



Koontz said this week shows students what YSU has to offer.

The newest addition to Welcome Week is a mechanical bull that will be available for rides on Monday at the campus core from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. If there is rain, the bull will be in the Chestnut Room in Kilcawley. Koontz said the bull is something new and fun for the students to try.

Monday will also offer video games, henna branding and caricatures. These activities are located on the campus core and in the lower arcade of Kilcawley Center.

Students can also sign up for the fan bus on Monday. The bus will be going to the Ohio State game on Saturday. To ride the bus, students must go to Bytes 'N Pieces and put down a \$15 deposit, which ensures a seat on the bus and which afterward can be returned.

Maag Library will also be celebrating Welcome Week on Monday and

please see Welcome, PAGE 2

#### 2 | The Jambar

#### From Sweet, PAGE 1

## HOUSING More residents means change

#### Adrienne Sabo Editor In Chief

The number of Youngstown State University students living on campus is slightly up this year, according to the Office of Housing and Residence Life, and the increased amount of students has translated into dormitory modifications.

Danielle Meyer, associate director of Housing and Residence Life, said the number of registered residents is "just ahead of where we were last year."

This year two student lounges in Lyden House were converted into triple rooms. The students in those rooms were contacted in advance of the decision.

"Tripling rooms is an option we consider," Meyer said.

"We don't turn students away. We house students to the best of our ability," she said. "If there is a continual want,

there will be a point when we have to say 1 to Sept. 1. we want more beds."

She said in addition to the two converted rooms, there are other rooms in

Lyden that were designated as triples when the dormitory was built.

Bill Sperlazza, director of Housing

"We don't turn students away. We house students to the best of our ability...If there is a continual want, there will be a point when we have to say we want more beds."

#### Danielle Meyer, Associate Director of Housing -

and Residence Life, said that students will continue registering for housing during the week.

Meyer said she is on her fourth draft of a resident's list as of Thursday. She said the process is "constantly in motion." The registration process lasts from Feb.

The start of the new school year brings change to Housing and Residence Life at YSU. The newly renovated Christman Dining Commons will be open for students. Erin Driscoll, assistant director for Residential Education, said that "every-

> thing I've heard is positive" and that students have commented on how the dining hall feels like a new place.

Driscoll said she's excited to have the returning residents use the dining hall.

Residents had a weekend of events planned to coordinate with the Wild West theme of Welcome Week. On Saturday and Sunday, shuttles bused students to Boardman

to pick up any necessities. The weekend concluded with a movie on the lawn in between Lyden and Cafaro houses.

Driscoll said the events are a good chance for students to meet other residents and meet the staff that will be around all year to help them.

and STEM set the stage for future development at the university, Sweet said. "Bob made a lasting contribution."

Sweet said the university will conduct a self-study this semester in preparation for a February visit. "I ask each of you to reflect on your own time here and your own accomplishments," he said.

Regional accomplishments, such as city beautification, were also mentioned.

City development through the beautification of neighborhoods near campus is also important, Sweet said, and Youngstown needs the energy of young adults. "We can be proud that the region looks to us for leadership," he said.

#### Looking ahead

Stephen Foley, student trustee, believes future involvement with programs such as city beautification and

a community college will benefit YSU.

Foley said the community college will help YSU lead the community. The university's involvement in neighborhood revitalization will not distract attention from students, he said.

"Most of the focus is going where it needs to be," Foley said.

In addition to achievements, Sweet spoke of overcoming obstacles.

Sweet said communication is key in dealing with campus issues, as the entire campus has a stake in the discussions, Sweet said he wants to create a new position, director of staff relations, to help in human resources. The first of the open campus conversations will be held Sept. 14 at Pete's Place (formerly Noodles).

"Our future is as challenging as any time in our 100 year history," Sweet said.

From Welcome, PAGE 1

Tuesday with prize giveaways that include an iPod and a digital camera. There will also be free popcorn, candy and gifts.

The Foam and Dance Party, one of the biggest and most popular events of Welcome Week, takes place on Tuesday. The party is from 7 to 10 p.m. in the Rec 5 area, which is the athletic court area across from Pete's Place (formerly Noodles).

Kollin Rupert, who has been planning the party, said this year's event is bigger and better than ever. There will be a foam pit, DJ, dunk tank, corn hole, football toss and bouncy boxing, which takes place in an inflatable boxing ring.

Rupert said there will also be many great giveaways including two pairs of tickets for the YSU vs. OSU game and two pairs of Cleveland Indians tickets. Vouchers will also be given away for the next Penguin Productions concert. Gift certificates for University Pizzeria and Inner Circle will be up for grabs, as will a gift basket from The Beat coffee shop.

Free pizza, pop and ice cream from Rita's will be given away during the party.

Last year's foam party saw 900 people, but this year Rupert said they are hoping for 1,000. Students need to bring valid YSU ID to gain entry

The foam party is just one of many social events.

## Welcome Week Calendar

Monday	Foam and Dance Party	Thursday
	Rec 5 Area	
Mechanical bull rides	7-10 p.m.	Christman Dining
Campus Core		Commons Grand Re-
11 a.m 2 p.m.	Wednesday	opening Celebration
		Christman Dining
Henna branding,	Black Jack and Texas	Commons
Caricatures	Hold 'em	4-8 p.m.
Campus Core	Kilcawley Center	
11a.m 3 p.m.	11 a.m 2 p.m.	Penguin Pre-party
		Peaberry's
Tuesday	Line dancing	7-10 p.m.
	Campus Core	
Maag Movie Night	11 a.m1 p.m.	Friday
Multimedia Center,		
Maag Library	Greek Cookout	Party on the Plaza
6 p.m.	University Courtyard	Buffalo Wild Wings,
	Apartment Recreation	downtown Youngstown
	Area	5-10 p.m.

5-8 p.m.

Maag's movie night on Tuesday will feature free popcorn and the film "The Prestige."

On Wednesday, students can test their casino game skills with Blackjack and Texas hold 'em in Kilcawley Center from 11 am to 1 pm. If students have never played before, experts will be there to teach them.

Thursday will be the kickoff for fall sports. Students who come to the campus core between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. can meet members and coaches of various teams and see Pete and Penny. The YSU marching band and cheerleaders will also be in attendance. Free food and prizes will be available.

Welcome Week will end with Party on the Plaza at Buffalo Wild Wings in downtown Youngstown from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. Hern Brothers and Hindsight will provide live music.

There's still plenty to do on Saturday, including taking the fan bus to Ohio State University to watch the Penguins play the Buckeyes. If students can't make it to the game, there will be a party at Buffalo Wild Wings that includes beverage specials, food, prizes and, of course, televisions to watch the game.

Koontz said she hopes for a great turnout for all of the Welcome Week activities. Students should attend events to meet new people and get acquainted with the university, she said.

#### Monday, August 27, 2007



#### Monday, August 27, 2007

## DINING Christman renovation: new look still hot from the oven

Elizabeth Boon Reporter

Junior Ian Peshel says that Christman dining hall looks ten times better today than it did last semester. "There's more of a friendly atmosphere," he said.

Over the summer, Peshel and other workers completely transformed Christman Dining Commons. Instead of plain tables and chairs, the cafeteria now features booths, big screen plasma televisions, and a sports bar-like area.

In addition to the new furniture and televisions, a huge neon Pete the Penguin has been hung on the wall. Sophomore Maddie D'orio



says that she loves the penguin, as well as the cafeteria's improved look.

D'orio says that Christman now has a café feel to it. "It's more like a place where you can hang out, rather than just go and eat," she said.

Peshel also thinks that more students will be attracted to the new look and feel of Christman. "People will like the atmosphere better," he said.

Peshel thinks people will be willing to make longer trips across campus to the new Christman - himself included. Peshel lives in the Courtyard Apartments.

While D'orio has her doubts about a huge group of new students coming to Christman,

> she thinks the new look could attract some that might not have come before.

"I think the biggest problem will be getting people into it in the first place. You will have the people who always go there enjoying it, but some people may still shy away," she said, "because it's 'Christman.'"

Christman manager Jeff Flauto said that commuter students or those who without a meal plan should check out the newly transformed dining hall. He said that Christman offers a great convenience and value for students.

intrigued by the renovation, despite the fact that her residence, Buechner Hall, has its own cafeteria. Estell ate at Christman a few times during



Over the summer, workers completely transformed Christman Dining Commons. Instead of plain tables and chairs, the cafeteria now features booths, big screen plasma televisions, and a sports bar-like area, photo by Elizabeth Boon, The Jambar.

Now she might.

"I'd definitely be willing to check it out and Junior Sierra Estell is if I liked it I would hang out there. There isn't a lot to do on campus so I'd be very willing to check it out," said Estell.

> Because of the more casual atmosphere, students say they feel like it's a place to kick back and relax. "It's more like a place where you can

her freshman year but hasn't gone back since. hang out rather than just go and eat," said D'orio.

> An all-you-can-eat meal at Christman costs \$5. The food quality is good for a cafeteria setting, Flauto said.

> A ribbon cutting ceremony will take place on Thursday, Aug. 30 from 4 to 8 p.m. The grand opening will include music, food samples and prize giveaways.

#### CAMPUS LIFE

## **Upperclassmen:** I wish I knew then

John David Foster, senior

#### Christi Williams Jambar Contributor

Welcome to Fall Semester 2007. The sun is shining, the birds are singing and all over campus freshmen are wandering, lost, confused and a little anxious.

Senior Tom Kusiowski wishes he would have met with an academic adviser.

Talking to an adviser would have made his time at school more economized. Kusiowski said. "I didn't think that I needed them. Boy,

was I wrong."

From Pete's, PAGE 1

improvement from last year." Candy Counter employee One student agrees.

Elina Rios, candy counter employee, agrees. She said she thinks Pete's Place will attract more than customers

Monday - Friday

Noodles did. "Noodles was kind of dingy," she said.

> Gauging the prices at Pete's Place to be about equal to other

Clint Kifolo, eExecutive Chefchef, is putting emphasis on made-fromscratch items like various soups, whole- wheat pastas and pizzas.

For \$5.79, students can get a salad, pizza, soup, bread and beverage from the buffet. **Pete's Place Hours** 

Sandwiches and Entrees entrees are also available as addons

Kifolo also paid

"Hey. Hey. ... Can you tell me where Meshel Hall is?'

"There are two Beeghly buildings! Two! Which one is mine?"

And then, endearingly, the wandering freshmen arrive at their 8 a.m. classes half an hour early. As upperclassmen, guiding our new friends to success should be a priority. After all, we were freshmen,

too, once.

The Jambar found some upperclassmen willing to share some of the tricks, tips and loopholes they wish they'd discovered as freshmen.

Junior Jon Penick had a good freshman year, but he wishes he would have been more frugal with his spending money.

"I had a workstudy job freshman year, I would get

paid every two weeks, and the money would be focus more on social activities, she said. gone in two or three days," Penick said.

Aside from wallet worries, many students wish they would have studied harder, studied during summer semesters or studied just enough to pass credit/no credit classes.

High school classes were conducted at a slower pace than college classes, junior Mychal Savage said. He could often pick up new concepts with ease. In college, Savage said, students cannot always digest all the information delivered in lectures.

"I didn't study at all in high school, and still managed to be a straight-A student. If I don't study now, I have a serious problem on my hands," Savage said.

Kelli Kolcun, a senior studying secondary education, missed out on summer classes.

"I wish I had known to take summer classes, so I could graduate sooner," Kolcun said.

Senior Allison Huck said, "I wish I had known about credit/no credit grading for your General Education Requirements. I didn't learn about it till I was a junior!"

Kolcun offered additional advice to incoming students.

"Oh! And parking, you have to come early to get a parking spot. Especially if you have any classes after, like, 10 a.m.," she said.

The same goes for Ariel Benes, a graduating senior and music-turned-psychology major.

"I wish I had known that banner in DeBartolo Hall wasn't lying. Your adviser is your friend," Benes said.

In addition to meeting with academic advisers, students recognized the importance of meeting with classmates.

Talking with classmates about study groups and lecture notes would have been beneficial to John David Foster, a

senior.

"I enjoyed freshman year, but I do wish that I knew how important and benefiting it would have been if I were more social in my classes," he said.

Balancing a social life with academics is something that senior Velissa Vaughn wishes she had paid more attention to when she was a freshman. Typically, students

"You need to have a social life, but remember which one is more important," Vaughn said.

Soccer player and junior Keeley Rice only spent time with the soccer team her freshman year. Joining a club would have helped her find more diverse friends, she said.

"Freshman year I wish I would have broadened my horizons," Rice said.

Ashley Holt, a junior business major, said, "I wish I had known about Greek life earlier so I could have gotten involved sooner. And that high school cliques don't mean anything once you graduate."

Juniors Brandi Veigh and John Cutlip wish they'd picked a major sooner. Veigh switched from nursing to English to business and, finally, back to English.

Cutlip said, "I wish the engineering department had sold me on the program better, so I hadn't switched majors."

But junior Sade Tate thinks students just need to relax.

"Man, I wish that I knew that you don't have to know what you're going to do for the rest of your life," Tate said. As a freshman, Tate felt pressured to choose a major and figure out a career path. "I learned that you should just let it flow, and it will come to you," she said.

Breakfast: 7:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. campus eateries, Rios said she liked the Lunch: 10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. pizza more than the Wednesday Night Dining 3:00 – 7:00 p.m. salad, because she dislikes organic salad dressing.

Other students had their ownshared their department to serve organic items that are opinions about the food.

Jason Lisko, Student student Director director at Kilcawley Center, spoke highly of the food and said he would definitely come back. "I think the menu's a little more upscale," he said.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT SGA prepares for coming year

#### Ashley Tate Reporter

As the fall semester falls into action, Youngstown State University's Student Government Association has a few changes in mind and a list of activities on its agenda - but nothing quite set in stone.

President Dave Spatholt said that a lot of SGA's agenda is decided by the legislative body and what they do depends on committee interest.

"We are happily involved with the programming board via student representation ... and we have even become involved in Welcome Week, providing funding for a charter bus traveling to the OSU game," Spatholt said.

Graduate student Bob McGovern described a few of the events that have been successful in the past and said that he hopes to see continue, including extended library hours before and during finals week.

"Another successful event has been pizza with the president, which was started two years ago. I hope that continues because it has been able to bring students, faculty and staff together to discuss wide-ranging issues," McGovern said.

Junior Samantha Basile said that she would like to see pizza with the constituents and concerts planned by SGA, and is looking forward to Spatholt and Cross following up on a lot of their ideas.

Spatholt and vice president Erica Cross said they have spoken together about changing SGA up a bit, but keeping the same structure, which has worked in the past.

"We saw places where the finer details could be manipulated to better stimulate the student body as well as the representatives themselves. Some examples of these include the reintroduction of representative hours, changing up the seating order of reps at our general meetings, as well as reworking the arrangement in our office to provide for increased interaction within the SGA office itself," Spatholt said.

"This will instantly affect students as they will be able to more easily express their feelings to SGA," Spatholt said.

A challenge that Spatholt said he will face as president is "staying prepared enough to tackle any issue that arises.

For vice president Cross, she said her challenge will be in "raising the standards of our work in academics while also being involved in SGA's entire agenda."

President Spatholt said his main goal is to "live up to the platform that Erica and I set forth while also completing the projects proposed by various committees."

Cross' main goal is increasing awareness of SGA and promoting collaboration with student government.

An option that Spatholt said to get more students involved in SGA and other student activities is the introduction of presidential liaisons. These look for ways to better involve centers of activity on campus with SGA.

Basile said that it is important for students to be involved "not only to voice their opinions, but to feel like they got the most out of their time in college. We have a great campus and getting involved showcases all the wonderful opportunities YSU has to offer."

McGovern agrees with Basile about students voicing their opinions and said that student involvement in other activities is also important.

"[It's important] so that students can broaden their horizons, learn about and experience things they otherwise would not have, and -for academic organizations in particular - participate in something outside of class that will help them with their careers," McGovern said.

close attention to the menu's nutritional value.

Pete's Place worked with the YSU's nutrition

vegan and vegetarian friendly, Kifolo said. A majority of the food contains no trans fat.

"It was a little bit difficult for students to find [nutrition] values at Christman [Dining Commons]," Kifolo said.

"I enjoyed freshman year, but I do wish that I knew how important and benefiting it would have been if I were more social in my classes."

# Opinion

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Monday August 27, 2007

#### THE AMBAR Phone, 330-941-3095 Fax, 330-941-2322

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**

## **Tribes unite**

Sometimes, it looks like Youngstown State University is a campus divided: commuters, residents and international students, each group further split into tribes from each town, each residence hall and each country.

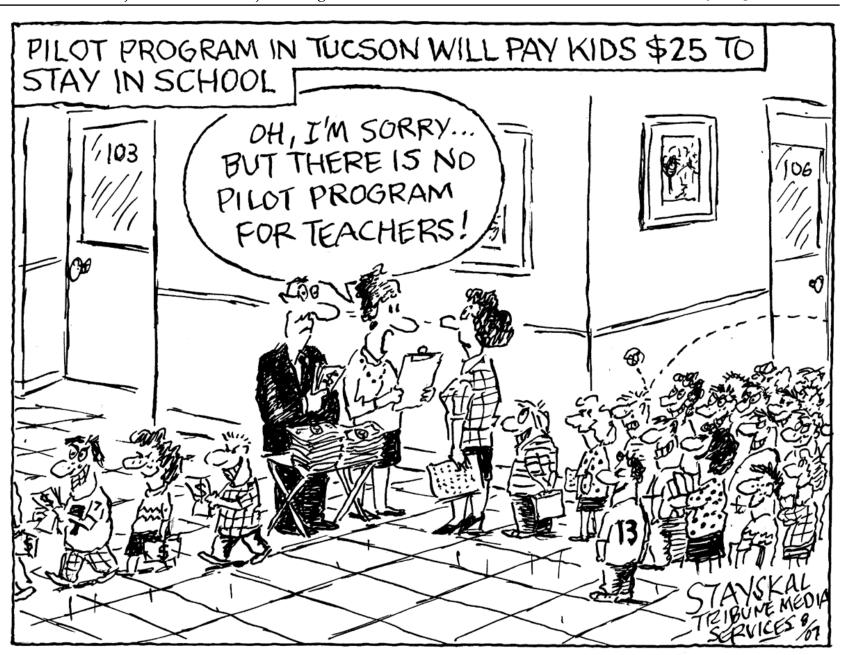
Little by little, the university is striving to make campus cliques more aware of each other.

Like any social scene, the campus community is not immune to the us-and-them mentality.

Our cliques may not be as pronounced as those you might have come across in grade school: the commuters, the residential students, and the international students.

Commuters, it has been said, often feel separated from campus life because they don't call the university their home.

But now, steps are being taken to will give different students a chance to get to know one another.



#### A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

#### Welcome to all students to a new and exciting academic year!

This year, YSU celebrates its Centennial anniversary. From a class of nine men in a commercial law course at the YMCA in downtown Youngstown to over 13,000 students from across Ohio, the nation and the globe and a curriculum of over 100 majors and certificates, the 100-year history of YSU has been extraordinary. I invite This is your university. I encourand encourage all students to participate in the various centennial events planned for this academic year, starting with homecoming on Saturday, October 20, featuring the annual homecoming parade, the Centennial Celebration clock

countdown, special Centennial music and banners, and much more.

I also encourage students to get involved. Engage yourselves in activities and student groups. Attend a special lecture, a campus sporting event, a the-

atrical or musical performance. Work in a lab. Get to know faculty members. Seek out an internship. Research. Explore. Learn. Enjoy. age you to take advantage of its many, services, and opportunities both in and outside the classroom and the hundreds of dedicated and talented faculty and staff. those opportunities have found

great success and made their mark. For instance, four mathematics students recently won prizes at a national competition in San Jose, California. In each of the last three years, YSU students have been awarded prestigious national Goldwater and Phi Kappa Phi scholar-

ships. And, over the past several years, YSU engineering students have built a stellar reputation at competitions across the country. Youngstown State has been transformed through the leadership of its students. Examples of recent student led initiatives include 9/11 Memorial located near Kilcawley Center and the Students who have seized upon Diversity Banners and Diversity Circle. Students have also been

actively engaged in the development of programming for the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center, the planning for renovation of Kilcawley Center, and the planning for the new building for the Williamson School of Business Administration. Most recently, the YSU Student Government has taken the lead to restore the Victorian Gardens adjacent to the Wick Pollock Inn. Go and take a look, it is worth a visit!

As we move into YSU's second century, you represent our next generation of YSU success stories. Have a great year!



Two campus eateries have undergone makeovers. Christman Dining Commons is aiming to shed its image as a residents-only cafeteria, and the former Noodles is now Pete's Place.

Both dining locations offer more than food. Students from all walks of life have a chance to mingle, or at least observe the other tribe from across the buffet.

This year, the university is doing more to invite international students to the table. Recently revived, the host family program helps students from overseas to meet local host families.

More could be done to give international students a way to enter mainstream student life.

After all, the cultural exchange is almost more important for the local student body than it is for the international students. Often, local students are not aware of international students unless they go out of their way to become involved with related activities.

All students need to be encouraged to get involved with university groups and activities.

No matter whether they live on campus or drive to class every day, the students of YSU have the school in common.

One of the best learning opportunities afforded by a college education is the chance to learn about people. Staying within the fence of one tribe — and never pushing outside your comfort zone - is like robbing your own education.

The Jambar editorials reflect the opinions of The Jambar and its Editorial Board members. 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 letters that do not follow policy. The views and opinions expressed in published letters do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambar staff or YSU faculty, staff or administration.

Sincerely,

David C. Sweet President

#### COMMENTARY

## Family Ties' - it's more than the title of a TV show

#### Linda P. Campbell MCT

Back in the summer of 1971, the narrator was saying, he, 15-year-old Kevin Arnold, had experienced more vacation-imposed family togetherness than his teenage soul could stand.

The protagonist of "The Wonder Years" wanted nothing more than to escape the suffocation of his parents and learn for himself one of those disquieting realities: At some point, all roads don't lead home anymore.

TV it might be, but that's the image we've come to expect of teenagers. You know them \_ you might have one or more living in your house. They disappear into their rooms without so much as a "see you later," balk at mandatory family events, text-message their friends incessantly, offer the woefully unsatisfying "OK, I guess" when asked how their day went.

Now comes MTV, trying to tell us that family makes teenagers happy.

That's not a fake news show concoction but rather the result of a survey of 1,280 young people ages 13-24 interviewed for an MTV/Associated Press study.

When asked, "What one thing in life makes you most happy?" 20 percent said spending time with family. That outranked friends, spouses, God, pets and even listening to music. Only 1 percent said money. "My MTV" wasn't even on the radar screen.

And when asked separately about degrees of contentment, 73 percent said their relationship with their parents made them very or somewhat happy; 76 percent said the same about their relationship with family. That was behind listening to music (88 percent) but ahead of boyfriend/girlfriend (39 percent), money (37 percent) or "stuff" (71 percent).

If you're wondering about the "sex life" question, only 29 percent said they were very or somewhat happy with theirs. That's because 45 percent said the question didn't apply to them. I guess that should be reassuring.

"Parents are seen as an overwhelmingly positive influence in the lives of most young people," MTV's online report says about the study.

Even better, the list of heroes is topped by Mom (29 percent), Dad (21 percent) and Parents (16 percent). Presumably that's for more than willingness to provide taxi service on demand, buy frivolous wardrobe items, help with the fundraising projects and not hover when friends come to the house.

And though Bob Marley, John Lennon, Tyra Banks and even Marilyn Monroe get brief mentions, nowhere to be found are the superstars or wannabes of pop culture.

MTV, which supposedly has its finger on the youth pulse, calls the results remarkable. But should they be?

Just because teenagers want independence doesn't mean they crave the chaos of being plunked onto some deserted island to start their own society. (Oops, wrong network - that's CBS doing what critics are calling "Lord of the Flies" TV.)

Just because they don't respond effusively to interrogation, friendly or otherwise, doesn't mean they don't want their opinions considered.

Just because they want privacy doesn't mean they don't appreciate support, a sympathetic ear, a place where they can be themselves.

Just because they appear to ignore almost everything you say doesn't mean they aren't soaking it up for later use.

Just because times have changed doesn't mean the fundamental value of family has.

Sometimes I worry about not doing the oldfashioned Sunday dinner together that's still traditional in many families. Instead, we steal family time on long drives to baseball games, soccer games, you-name-it games and the meals afterward. On the multiple short drives to and from school. On occasional afternoons or evenings when we magically find down time.

When the iPods are off and the conversation seems random, that's when the most enlightening revelations occur. You learn about the bands they like and don't, details about their friends, events at school they never thought to share, places they went without telling you, things they've heard and seen that they knew you'd find inappropriate, their views about the world and their place in it.

And if you listen well, it shouldn't be surprising that family matters to them as much as it does to you.



#### Monday, August 27, 2007

#### CAMPUS LIFE

# Resident is making most of roomate experience

#### Christi Williams Jambar Contributor

For incoming freshman going away to school for the first time, often think about what it's going to be like living in a residence hall. Living in the residence hall is an important and exciting part of college life, yet sharing space with another person can bring its challenges.

Filling out the personal profile is a crucial first step, which allows roommates to be paired up with someone compatible.

To create an enjoyable experience and atmosphere for incoming freshman, Erin Driscoll, Assistant Director for Residential Education, made a few suggestions for first time roommates.

She suggested that residents come into the experience with an open mind and create a roommate contract to help layout the ground rules. She also recommends that students get to know their resident assistant.

"One of the most important points to keep in mind is communication. If there is a problem

you need to get to the root of it. Getting along with different personalities is difficult but is a part of the real life experience." Driscoll said.

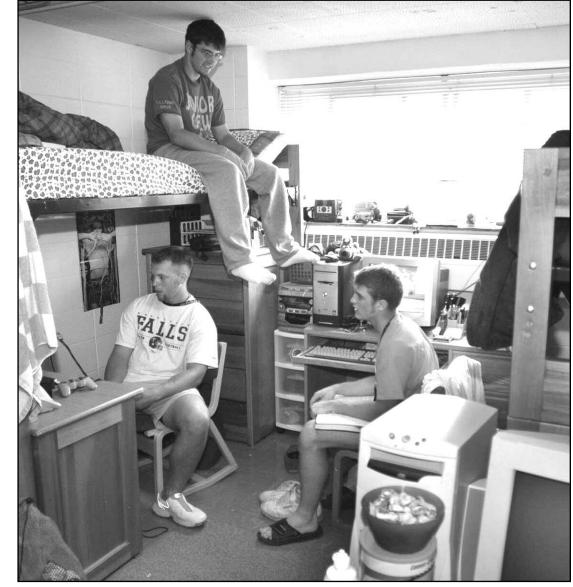
Director of Housing and Residence Life Bill Sperlazza three key to living in a residence hall."

"Maturity, levels of maturity are different. Some people are mature and some aren't. Respect, it is important to respect yourself, and respect others. Attitude, come in with a good attitude and an open mind."

Sperlazza said student should keep in mind that "living together is a two-way street. Living in close quarters isn't always an easy thing to do at first."

Sperlazza described the adjustment of sharing personal space. Roommates usually become privy to each other's personal lives. "That's a huge hurdle to overcome," Sperlazza said.

Living in a Residence Hall is a time when people make life-long friendships. However, it is important to maintain and open and honest relationship, with constant communication. This will help resolve and differences, and will lead to a happy and healthy living situation.



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# Campus Life

Monday, August 27, 2007

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STUDENT LIFE

## International dinner welcomes exchange students

Sarah Sole News Editor

Vytas Sulskis is learning about American food: fast food, to be exact.

"In Lithuania, all I eat is my mom's cooked food," Sulskis said. Sulskis was just one of many international students who attended the international welcome potluck dinner at the First Presbyterian Church in downtown Youngstown on Aug. 25. The host family committee and the United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNAUSA) coordinated the event to help international students meet host families. They hope students like Sulskis will learn more about American culture while teaching others about their own cultures.

The friend and family program was popular in the early '90s but then faded away, former campus minister Jim Ray said. This dinner is the first for the program in recent years.

"We're trying to get it back," he said.

The dinner helps international students to join up with host families. These students live in Youngstown State University residence halls, but spend time with local host families who introduce the students to American living.

Locals invite the students to their homes to eat family dinners and have genuine interaction with Americans in an informal setting. Besides downtime from school, students spend time watching the Super Bowl or taking in regional theater and performing arts.

"It's a cultural mixing," Ray said.

Nitin Sood, an international student from India, agrees.

"It's a nice experience getting in touch with different people," Sood said.

Sood said he chose YSU because his aunt lives nearby and also because he likes the area's climate. Sood studies physical therapy and is in his second year at YSU.

Although campus is a nice place to study, there are some downsides, Sood said.

"It's a boring place. We look forward to functions like these," Sood said.

Initially, Sood was homesick. He knew, though, that opportunity comes with knowledge. "I was interested in studying more," he said.

Other students had similar reasons for studying abroad.

Hailing from India, international student Danish Shakeel came to YSU to study physics, mathematics and computers, and for

#### STUDENT LIFE

## In Argentina, too busy to be homesick

Dinner hosts, Carl and Sandra Barger, enjoyed dinner with the inter-

Youngstown's low cost of living.

"I want to build some new technology for the benefit of society," he said.

Shakeel said he was interested in learning about the American culture, like the clothing and food.

"I wanted to learn. That was the reason behind all of this," Shakeel said.

Those involved with the event expressed the importance of cultural sharing.

Jef Davis, director of the Center for International Studies and Programs, spoke to the audience about the importance of the host family program.

"Students who were graduating had never visited an American family," he said, explaining that international students can get a taste of American culture through visiting with American host families.

Community organizations help to put information out to the public about becoming host families, said David Porter, president of the UNAUSA.

food at the International Dinner. Photos by Sarah Sole.

"This is a great example of the community and the university working together," Porter said.

Carl Barger said he became interested in becoming a host after reading an ad about it in the newspaper.

Last December Barger and his wife became a host family for Saif Ahmed, a student from India. Ahmed and four or five of his friends came over for Super Bowl Sunday, Barger said.

"They asked us questions about football. It was fun; it was interesting," Barger said. "They come here with no prejudices. A person is just a person to them."



Danish Shakeel, an international student from India, serves himself

Page 6

Rudi Whitmore Features Reporter

Andrew Emig had always wanted to study abroad. So last semester he went online to find out as much as he could — and found himself in Buenos Aires for six and a half weeks this summer studying Spanish.

"I guess I always wanted to go abroad," said Emig, a junior electrical engineering major. "Ya know, out of the country. We have the International Studies office on campus, so I went down there."

Getting the ball rolling on his trip to Argentina involved "overwhelming paperwork," Emig said. "Annette Al-Hayek, the director, was really helpful with everything."

The hardest part was deciding where to go. "The main reason I picked Argentina was because it was very affordable," he said, "as opposed to Europe or the UK or Ireland. I had always wanted to go to Europe, but it was half the cost [of the program] and once you're there, the money you have to spend on top of that, in Europe,

as opposed to pesos which are much cheaper than the dollar."

Having taken Spanish in high school, Emig wants to be fluent enough to eventually be able to hold a conversation. "I learned a lot where I was at. There's still a ton left to learn. I still can't have a conversation ... " Emig trailed off, laughing, "Well, not a good one anyway."

Emig can't really point out much bad about his trip. "The only thing that was kind of discouraging was the first day. I landed in Buenos Aires; I was from traveling, and trying to find my way

and a taxi to where I was staying. I realized, they can't understand anything I say to them, and I can't' understand anything say to me!"

"I kinda lost my confidence a little bit," he admitted. "But I was tired, when I woke up the next day, it was alright."

Jason Michael Carroll

The Wedge

When asked about a best experience, Emig floundered: "Just one? Um... Well, of course the people. That's number one, all the great people.

Americans doing the same thing I'm doing, the porteños [what people from Buenos Aires call themselves], a ton of peo-

ple from Europe traveling."

Emig didn't have much time for homesickness, but when he missed friends or wondered what they were up to, there was always the Internet. "It wasn't hard. I could get online, get emails. I wasn't home for the fourth of July and that was weird. They

were probably wondering more about what I was doing!"

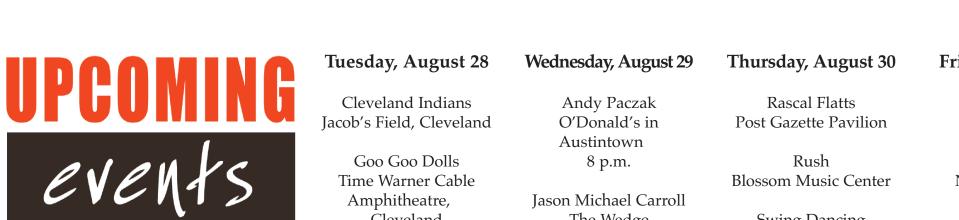
Emig advises anyone who wants to travel abroad to do it, and pack light. "Always pack less than you think you need," he said. "And plan ahead of time, especially if you don't have a passport and have to do the paperwork for everything. Just take it in, do as much as you can. You never know when you'll be there again."



Amphitheatre,

Cleveland

Junior Andrew Emig skiing with Argentines he met on a trip to the Precordillera, the lower mountains of the Andes. While the snow wasn't the best for skiing due to the region's unpredictable weather, and his rented ski pants were dirty and too short, Emig made new local friends, and even stayed with them for three days. Photo courtesy of Andrew Emig.



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Andrew Emig,

as you can. You never know

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# Off campus dining

Besides going south of the boarder or taking the "subway" to those golden arches, where else is there to go to eat on, or near campus? How much of a variety do YSU students have to choose from?

### The Beat

Breakfast Breakfast Special Fiesta Scrambled Eggs Scrambled Eggs Croissant Sandwich

#### Sandwiches

BLT Club Sandwich or Wrap Chicken Breast Chicken Salad Croissant Turkey & Swiss Salami and Provolone Blackbean & Colby Marinated Eggplant Tomato & Presto Tuna Salad or Egg Salad Honey Mustard Chicken Humus & Pita Columbian Beans & Rice Half of a sandwich Wraps Mexican Eggplant Humus Garden Chicken Club Salads

Pita

Broccoli Salad Potato Salad Nacho Salad Chicken Salad Tossed Salad Home Made Soup of the Day Baked Goods Muffins & Scones

Cookies No Bake Cookies Bagels Croissant Bread Pudding Texas Sheetcake Specialty Desserts Specialty Coffee & Drinks **Regular** Coffee Hot Tea Espresso Mocha Latte Cappuccino Red Eye Café Aulait Hot Chocolate Steamers Mystic Chai Italian Soda Creamosa

## **Mighty Moe's**

#### Appetizers

**Baked** Potato Cheese Sticks Veggie Basket Jumbo Shrimp Shrimp Basket Veggie Eggroll Shrimp Eggroll Chicken Eggroll Chicken Quesadilla Roll Broccoli & Cheddar Bites Chicken Strips Popcorn Chicken Mini Chicken Taco Cajun Chicken Strips **Cream Cheese Poppers** Mini Beef & Bean Burrito Breaded Jalapeno Ravioli Bites Olive & Asiago Cheese Cheesehead Chicken Wedges Salads Breaded Chicken Grilled Chicken Grilled BBQ Chicken Grilled Cajun Chicken Grilled Fajita Chicken Grilled Italian Chicken Grilled Teriyaki Chicken Grilled Buffalo Chicken Grilled Chipotle Chicken Grilled Bourbon Chicken Grilled Garlic Herb Chicken Grilled Sweet & Sour Chicken Grilled Honey Mustard Steak Fajita BBQ Steak Fajita Cajun Steak Fajita Teriyaki Steak Fajita Buffalo Steak Fajita Bourbon Steak Fajita Tuna Turkey Gyro Chicken Gyro Soup & Chili Pitas & Wraps Kibbie Baba Ghanouj Spinach Hummos **Original Hummos** Vegetable Hummos Jalapeno Hummos **Roasted Red Peppers** Hummos Falafl Tuna Salad Chicken Salad Seafood Salad Caesar Chicken Salad Buffalo Chicken Salad Lemon Pepper Seafood Salad **Specialty Pitas & Wraps** Breaded Chicken Grilled Chicken Grilled BBQ Chicken Grilled Cajun Chicken Grilled Fajita Chicken Grilled Italian Chicken Grilled Teriyaki Chicken Grilled Buffalo Chicken Grilled Chipotle Chicken Grilled Bourbon Chicken Grilled Garlic Herb Chicken Grilled Sweet & Sour Chicken Grilled Honey Mustard Steak Fajita

**BBQ** Steak Fajita Cajun Steak Fajita Teriyaki Steak Fajita Buffalo Steak Fajita Bourbon Steak Fajita Hot Dogs Hot Dog Chili Dog Cheese Dog Chili Cheese Dog Jumbo Hot Dog Jumbo Chili Dog Jumbo Chili Cheese Dog Jumbo Cheese Dog Hot Sandwiches Philly Steak Chicken Philly Steak Hoagie Smothered Chicken Hot Roast Beef Hot Pastrami Portobello Mushroom Mushroom Burger Garden burger Buffalo Burger Cheeseburger Bacon Cheeseburger Fish Gyro Chicken Gyro Breaded Chicken Grilled BBQ Chicken Grilled Italian Chicken Grilled Teriyaki Chicken Grilled Buffalo Chicken Grilled Chipotle Chicken Grilled Bourbon Chicken Grilled Garlic Herb Chicken Grilled Sweet & Sour Chicken Grilled Honey Mustard Steak Fajita **BBQ** Steak Fajita Cajun Steak Fajita Teriyaki Steak Fajita Buffalo Steak Fajita Bourbon Steak Fajita Chicken Parmesan **Eggplant** Parmesan Veal Patty Parmesan Meatball Parmesan **French Fries** Chili Cheese **American Dinners** Stuffed Pepper Stuffed Cabbage Potatoes & Cheese Pierogies Salisbury Steak Green Pepper Steak Tuna Noodle Casserole Beer Battered Fish **Italian Dinners** Spinach Ravioli Cheese Ravioli Beef Ravioli Spaghetti & 2 Meatballs Cavatelli & 2 Meatballs Fettucine Alfredo **Italian Specialty Dinners** Meat Lasagna Chicken Marsala Chicken Parmesan Egg plant Parmesan Veal Patty Parmesan Chicken Fettucine Alfredo Middle Eastern Dinners Kibbie & Hummos

Falafel & Hummos Grape Leaves & Hummos Dolma Cabbage Dolma Eggplant **Dolma Bell Peppers** Shish Kabob Chicken Kabob Khoresh Ghormeh Sabzi Khoresh Gheimeh Khoresh Curry Khoresh Bademjan Khoresh Fesenjon Khoresh Karafs Khoresh Bamieh **Vegetarian Dinners** Vegetable Lasagna Eggplant Lasagna Portobello Mushroom Lasagna Broccoli Cheese rice Casserole **Specialty Pizza** BBQ Gyro White Garden Spinach Spinocoli Chicken Gyro Grilled Chicken Jumbo Buffalo Wings Plain, Ranch, Greek Garlic, Hot Garlic, BBQ & Hot Pizza Rolls Spinach Rolls Pepperoni Roll Calzones Steak Veggie Chicken Meatball Strombolis Steak Garden Chicken Regular Snacks Salsa & Chips Nachos & Cheese **Gourmet Cookies** Ice Cream Floats Shakes Sundaes **Banana Splits** Mighty Moe's Flurries Soft Served Ice Cream Cones Fruit Smoothies Fruit Iced Drinks Brewed & Specialty Coffees Espresso Mighty Moe's Coffee on the Go Caramello Razz-Ma-Tazz Mocha Mound Bar Flavored Cappuccino Hot Cocoa Latte Mocchiato Almond Joy Mega Mocha Oregon Chai Milky Way Latte Steamers

## **University Pizzeria**

Pizzas New York Style Chicago Style Specialty Pizza Briar Hill White with Hot Peppers Pineapple & Ricotta w/ Raisins & honey Potato, Bacon, Onions & Cheddar Eggplant & Ricotta Spinach, Tomatoes, Romano, Olive Oil, & Garlic Greek w/ Olives, Spinach, Tomatoes, Onions, Feta, & Herb BBQ Chicken, Onions, Tomatoes & Cheddar Meatballs & Hot Pepper Buffalo Chicken w/ Onions, Tomatoes, & Hot Peppers Pasta Rigatoni Penne Penne & Pink Vodka Sauce Stromboli Regular Deluxe Calzone Wings BBQ, Garlic, Hot, Mild, or Ranch Paninis Porchetta

### **Inner Circle Pizza**

Pizza Original, Briar Hill, White, Thin Spinocoli, Spinach & Tomato, Spinach **Calzones & Stombolis** Pepperoni, Sausage or Mushroom Pepperoni and Mushroom Pepperoni and Sausage Loaded Fish Calzone Special Calzones Chicken, Spinach and Broccoli Veggie Steamer Spinach Buffalo Wings Regular, Garlic or BBQ Mild, Hot or Kamikaze Chicken Tenders Pasta Salad Steak Salad Grilled chicken Our Famous Circle Salad Roasted turkey Spinach Salad with cheese Bread Stix Buffalo stix Soup Wedding Soup Soup of the day Subs IC hoagie Ham & Cheese Salami & Cheese All Cheese Club Sub Combo Fish & Cheese Hot Sandwiches Steak hoagie Special Steak Hoagie Marinated Chicken Meatball Sandwich Hot Sausage Sandwich Hamburger Cheeseburger Circle Burger Side Order French Fries **Italian Fries Roasted Garlic Mushrooms** Fried Cheese Sticks Hot Chips Mini Corn Dogs Desserts Cinnamon Dip Cinnamon Elephant Ears

The Roman The Italiano Tacchino Tuna Mediterranean The Brutus Verde e Pollo **Black Angus Burgers** Cheeseburger Black & Blue Mushroom Jalepeno Meatball or Sausage Sandwich Sandwiches Salads Caesar Cranberry Walnut Tuna Mediterranean Chef Salad Greek Salad Chicken, Steak Salad or Burger Breakfast Paninis Egg & Bacon or Sausage w/ Cheese Egg Potatoes & Peppers w/ Cheese Egg Spinach & Tomatoes w/ Cheese Fries Idaho Spicy Sweet Potatoes Baked Goods Brownies Cookies Cakes & DesertsBiscotti

### M.V.R.

Appetizers and Sides Italian Greens Fried Hot Peppers Fried Cheese Mozzarella Sticks M.V.R. Hot Chips French Fries Cheese Fries **Onion Rings** Fried Mushrooms Fried Zucchini Fried Cauliflower Fried Pepper Rings Veggie Combo **Breaded Wings Chicken Brest Tenders** Garlic Bread Penni or Spaghetti Cacatelli Meatball Salad Tossed Dinner Salad Spinach Salad Antipasto Salad M.V.R. Chicken Salad Sandwiches Hamburger Meatball Splash Meatball Sub Grilled Chicken Buffalo Chicken Sandwich Coach's Cajun Chicken Italian Chicken Sandwich Chicken Parmigiana Sandwich M.V.R.'s Italian Melt Sausage Sandwich S.P.S Lefty Special Tuna Melt Pepper and Egg Sandwich on Italian Fish Sandwich Grilled Cheese Veal Splash M.V.R. Favorites Chicken Cacciatore Chicken Diablo Chicken Parmigiana Chicken with Greens Stuffed Shells Whitefish with Greens Whitefish with Artichokes Whitefish Diablo Past with Chicken & Marinara Eggplant Parmigiana Veal Parmigiana **Famous Pastas** Spaghetti or Penne with Meatballs Cavatelli with Meatballs Ravioli Stuffed Rigatoni and Greens Tressel Tortellini Carmine's Pasta Linguine with Greens Marinara Linguine with Red or White Clam Sauce Papa Joe's Pasta Gnocchi Homemade Lasagna Fettuccine Alfredo Spicy Bow-Ties

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# Sports

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Page 8

#### FOOTBALL

## **Peguins set to defend Gateway title**

## A rebuilt team and strong conference will make a return trip to the playoffs challenging

GATEWAY FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

#### Andrew Berry Sports Editor

Back-to-school season means college football fans can also return to cheering for the hometown football squad that produced one thrilling game after another on the gridiron in 2006.

Fueled by the unstoppable running back Marcus Mason and a defense that kept opposing offensive coordinators up at night, the Youngstown State University football team marched on to a 9-2 regular season record, two home playoff wins packaged with national television coverage, and an exhausting list of accolades and awards.

Unfortunately, the dream season came to a screeching halt as the Penguins fell just one game short of their first national championship appearance since 1998.

After losing 49-24 to eventual champion Appalachian State University in the semi-finals of last year's playoffs, the Penguins recharged during the off-season and are set to defend the team's first outright Gateway title and earn another trip to the playoffs for a shot at the national crown.

However, that may be easier said than done following the graduation of 26 players, the most the team has lost since 2000.

The Penguins will have to do without the aforementioned Mason and his 1,847 yards and 23 touchdowns that earned him Gateway Conference Player of the year.

Also departed are All-American cornerbacks Jason Perry and Codera Jackson who combined for 126 tackles and eight interceptions. Outside Linebacker Marty Hutchinson, the team's leading tackler with 111 stops, has also moved on.

Graduation may not have been nice to the Penguins, but that doesn't mean head coach John Heacock is without

options. Back under center the for Penguins will be

tenured quarterback Tom Zetts. The senior signal caller lit up opposing defenses in 2006, throwing for 2,086 yard and 14 touchdowns.

05

The true leader in Zetts should become apparent in 2007 as he has a new supporting cast to work with, but the team must gel quick-

## **Conference outlook**



#### Northern Iowa 2006 Finish: 7-4

The squad tied for second place in the conference and missed out on the playoffs, but the Panthers have enough returning talent to make a serious title run. Senior quarterback Eric Sanders has most of his weapons back on offense, including junior tailback Corey Lewis who gained 894 yards and 10 touchdowns. The holes on defense are even smaller with just two key players lost to graduation. With experience plentiful on both sides of the ball, the Panthers are definitely the team to beat in this year's Gateway lineup.

ly if offense hopes to put up the point totals it did last season.

On defense, first year coordinator Jeff Mills will have to overcome the loss of six starters from last year's squad.

The front seven should be strong for the Penguins with junior Mychal Savage anchoring the defensive line and senior linebacker James Terry coming back from injury. Terry, who was given a medical redshirt for 2006, saw his season end in the team's third game at Penn State.

> Strong play by the secondary

was a big part of the Penguins success a year ago, but with

senior Dorian Chenault as the only returning starter, pass defense is suddenly a major concern.

Winning the Gateway outright will be even more challenging this season. The conference sent three teams to the playoffs last year and is loaded with enough talent for more postseason participation this year.

With the 2007 season marking the 25th anniversary of Stambaugh Stadium, the Penguins will play seven games in front of the home crowd. The bad news is the team must travel to face conference favorite Northern Iowa for an Oct. 27 game that will have major influence on the Gateway's final standings.

The rest of the schedule will be just as tough with the Penguins opening the season in Columbus against Ohio State.

The game will mark the first time the Pengins face their former head coach Jim Tressel as they do battle with the Buckeyes at Ohio Stadium.

Absent on this year' schedule is Western Kentucky. The Hilltoppers are currently in transition after leaving the Gateway and are headed for the Football Bowl Subdivision. Filling the void left by the Hilltoppers departure will be Southern Utah.

Under Heacock, the team has seen its winning totals increase significantly every year since 2004. For the Penguins to recapture the magical season that was 2006, the team will have to stay healthy, focused and determined to defend its conference crown.

## **Players to watch**

### **Tom Zetts Senior, Quarterback**

Able to thrive in an offense that produced over 2,000 rushing vards, Zetts showcased excellent field general skills las



#### Illinois State 2006 Finish: 9-4

The Redbirds successful 2006 campaign would have been better had they figured out a way to beat the Penguins, losing to YSU in the regular season and playoffs. Quarterback Luke Drone may want to call Tom Zetts for advice as All-American running back Pierre Rembert took his 1,743 yards and 16 touchdowns and graduated. Also gone is All-American

linebacker Cameron Siskowic and receiver Laurent Robinson, now an NFL pass-catcher. Despite losing such playmakers, the Redbirds will battle Northern Iowa and YSU for the top two spots in the conference.



#### Southern Illinois 2006 Finish: 9-4

Earning a fifth straight trip to the postseason in as many years will not be easy. The departure of perennial runner Arkee Whitlock concludes the exit of the conference's trio of top backs from 2006. Whitlock amassed 1,828 yards and score 25 touchdowns in his final season. With

his departure, Southern Illinois will become a pass-heavy team with senior quarterback Nick Hill having three senior receivers at his disposal. What will keep the Salukis out of the playoffs, other than no Whitlock, is the loss of six starters on defense.



### Western Illinois

2006 Finish: 5-6

After two straight losing seasons, things may begin to turn around for the Leathernecks. Junior running back Herb Donaldson becomes the conference's top ball-carrier after rushing for 1,417 yards and 18 scores last year. Donaldson will have to carry much of the load as junior Will Ducey

takes over at quarterback after throwing just six passes in 2006. Expect the defense to pick up any slack as the Leathernecks return Jerome Bennett and Jason Williams, a linebacker duo that combined for 194 tackles, four sacks and two interceptions.



#### Missouri State 2006 Finish: 2-9

The Bears struggle to stay afloat will continue well into 2007. The team has a new offensive coordinator, no sure starter at quarterback, no returning starters at running back, and a Swiss-cheese defense. Missouri State had trouble scoring points, posting more than 20 only three times

in 11 games. Senior receiver Jerry Nicholson is the best option on offense catching 27 passes for 381 yards and four scores last season. Having to replace the entire defense after graduating 12 letter-winners means the Bears will hibernate in the Gateway's basement this season.



### Indiana State

2006 Finish: 1-10

You can blame the defense for the Sycamore's unimpressive 1-21 record the last two seasons. Even though the defense returns most of its starting unit and top players, it's the same group that surrendered almost 45 points a game in 2006. The offense is in good shape with sen-

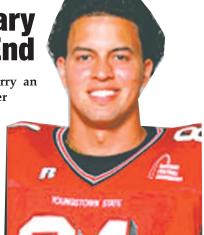
ior quarterback Reilly Murphy and senior runner Tony West back. Unfortunately, the loss of three productive senior wide-outs means the team won't be winning any shoot-outs. Expect the Sycamores to wrestle the Bears for last place in the conference.



offs. What makes the senior so deadly is his ability to scramble and move the chains with his legs if neces sary. Being set at the quarterback position will help the Penguins as the team rebuilds the offense around the senior quarterback. If Zetts improves on his 2006 numbers, the offense will continue to run like a well oiled machine.

## Louis Irrizary Senior, Tight End

His size and ability to stretch the field make Irizarry an immediate impact player. The All-Gateway Newcomer selection caught a pass in every game and was the Penguins third leading receiver with 304 yards and two touchdowns on 25 receptions. If Irrizary puts together a soild season, don't be surprised if scouts push his stock for the NFL Draft through the roof. Expect the passing game to be explosive if Irizarry can increase his production from last season.





### **Da'Michael Horne Senior, Wide Receiver**

With the team's leading receiver T.J. Peterson gone, Horne has his chance to step in and become Zetts' new favorite tar get. The 5'11" wide-out caught six balls for 61 yards and Penguins work out the kinks in the run game for the firs few week, getting a rythem in the pass offense will b crucial. Horne has the tools to become a top-notch receiv allowing Horne more opportunities to catch on.

### **Brian Mellot Sophomore, Center**

Two starting lineman are gone from the offense, meaning the Penguins must replace All-American center Ryan Jewel. Moving over from the defensive line, Mellot gets his shot at being the solution for the departed Jewel. If Mellot can make smooth transitions to both his new position and Zetts, the offense will execute efficiently. The revamped line should allow the Penguins ground attack to take off.

