

TUESDAY March 18, 2003

Cloudy HIGH: 57 LOW: 39

Youngstown State University

Issue 43

Memos shed light on investigation

By Henry Gomez & Angela Olin The Jambar



"Client's call just like any other. But two

received the work order at 8:46 a.m. Nov. 5, for the Computer Services

Ron Krauss for Administration John Habat. Krauss, a troubleshooter

Help Desk, responded to the

different view on why

"He [St. Patrick] drove the

pered with thoughts of

the TV, which played a

news story about the

But for others, the

international events

didn't dampen the St.

Patrick's Day spir-

its of a local bar's

customers. Buffalo

Wild Wings

"We usually open our

Doug

doors at 11 a.m.," said

Esenwein. "But 5:30

[a.m.] is the earliest we can

Giveaways such as beads,

beer basketball game

were part of the fes-

tivities at Buffalo

Wild Wings, along

with green beer,

corned beef and

cabbage and Irish

See IRISH, page 4

and tickets to a Rolling Rock

downtown

Youngstown opened its

doors at 5:30 a.m. Monday to

greet almost a dozen cus-

tomers ready to celebrate St.

U.S. and Iraq, Walters said,

an impending conflict

While watching

people celebrate the day.

overseas.

strange day."

Patrick's Day.

manager

serve liquor.'

laptop lights up but nothing days later, on Nov. 7, he sent an comes on," the detail report e-mail to Professor Gabriel read. "Client suggests it may Palmer-Fernandez, director of the Dr. James Dale Ethics need a new battery." The client: Vice President

"I am facing an ethical issue and would like to briefly meet with you to get your opinion about how or if I should [proceed]," Krauss fessor James Morrison — to

wrote in the e-mail. Now, more than four months later, Krauss and Palmer-Fernandez are witness-

es in an independent committee's investigation of Habat. University President David Sweet has ordered the committee - led by psychology pro-

determine whether Habat used the laptop to access pornographic materials online.

Habat, who makes \$129,500 a year, has denied using the computer for pornography. He said he would cooperate with the

See HABAT, page 2

Irish eyes on



By Alicia Houston & REBECCA MARQUIS The Jambar

snakes out of Ireland," Brooks Freshman Sean Toohey This March 17, however, has been celebrating St. some celebrations were tem-Patrick's Day

Friday. "I'm Irish, so St. Patrick's Day is every day," he said as he sat in Peaberry's Café on Monday morning to do homework and drink a bottle "The international affairs and of Killian's Irish Red. St. Patrick's Day make for a

He said he usually celebrates the day with his friends and family at someone's home where they drink and have fun.

Freshmen Jason Spahlinger and Erin Duffy also were sitting in Peaberry's socializing.

"It's my best friend's birthday today," Duffy said. "We'll get beer and food-color it, if you can do that." "It's all about the

spirit," Duffy added. Terry Walters,

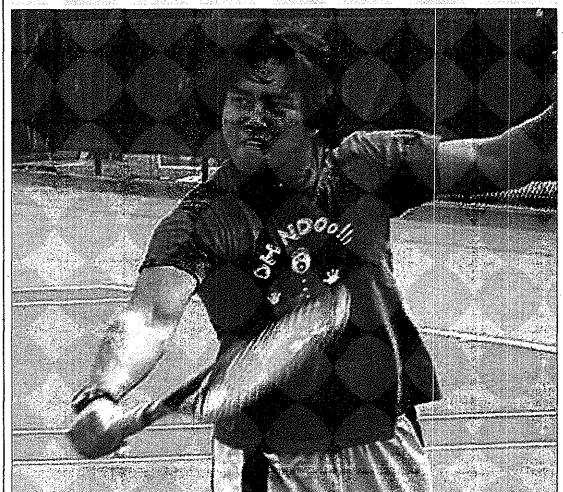
fifth-year undergraduate student and a bartender at Quaker Stake and Lube in

Sharon, Pa., also was at hats, necklaces, beer glasses, Peaberry's Monday morning. "I'll probably be working form two to two," he said.

"Americanized Patrick's day is like St. Valentine's day," he said. "I think they just needed a holiday for the month of March."

Senior Larry Brooks had a





BJ Lisko/The Jambar

ALL THE ACES: Peguin tennis players R.J. Pepino, senior, (above) and Mark Kosta, freshman, (right) practice at the YSU tennis courts Monday. The YSU men's tennis team will host Robert Morris March 29 on campus, while the women will host Detriot Friday at the Boardman

Tennis Club.



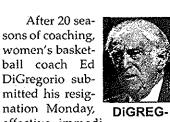
DiGregorio calling it quits



BJ Lisko/The Jambar

REACTION: Senior Lady Penguins Jessica Forsythe (left) and Devon Novac fielded questions Monday about thier reaction to head coach Ed DiGregorio's resignation.

By JOE SIMON The Jambar



effective immedi- ORIO

In a written statement released Monday, DiGregorio gracefully verified the decision

to step down, expressing to many, took over as the thanks to the YSU community. He also praised the women he has coached over the years.

"They have brought great recognition to our great university, our community, their parents and families, but above all they can walk tall and be proud of their accomplishments," DiGregorio said. "I only hope that I have touched their lives in some small way

as they have touched mine." Coach D., as he is known

Penguins coach in 1983 and in his 20-year career compiled an overall record of 313-219. DiGregorio guided the Penguins through the best and

worst of times. Yet, he is the coach who created the "best" of times. He guided the team through three league changes, and during his time in the Mid-Con conference, dominated the league. His record of 98-50 is the

See COACH, page 6

Officials: Policy changes unlikely

By Dave Devereux The Jambar

Two of YSU's top computer technology experts 'said they do not foresee any major policy changes as a result of allegations that John Habat used his university laptop to download pornography.

YSU's computer usage policy states computers are not to be used for such purposes as "obscenity, child pornography, and indecency; sexual, racial, and other forms of harassment."

The policy also states that students face disciplinary action if they violate federal, state, and other applicable laws, all applicable university policies, procedures and regulations.

University President David Sweet appointed a three-person committee last month to investigate allegations that Habat, vice president for Administration, violated the policy.

Faculty union President Bob Hogue, also an associate professor of computer science and information systems, said he believes Sweet is doing the right thing.

"Dr. Sweet did exactly the right thing by appointing a panel," Hogue said. "The prior administration didn't do that, but he took action quickly and look forward to getting a response."

Hogue said he was involved in drafting the current computer usage policy and is comfortable with it.

"It generally makes a fair amount of sense," Hogue said. "The main aim is to understand it is a university and the resources must be used responsibly."

Donna Esterly, interim chief technology officer, agreed and said the university's rules regarding computers and pornography are continually monitored.

"Our policies are constantly under review but I'm not sure if that can be tied to these allegations," she said. "But we do look at them regu-

Esterly, did not comment specifically about the ongoing investigation concerning Habat, but said she believes the current policy serves its

"One problem we face is people using resources that interfere with resources," Esterly said. 'We've developed that policy and revised that policy to try and establish acceptable procedures and policies which constitute all computing at YSU."

See POLICY, page 4

Peek News . . . 1, 2, Classifieds

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Read The Jambar online @ www.thejambar.com

Inside today's issue:

YSU track athlete named All-American. Page 6



thejambar.com poll question:

LHE AMBAR

Did Ed Digregorio make the right decision by resigning? Vote @ www.thejambar.com

Officials comtemplate security issues for the new Courtyard apartments. Page 4



GRADUATE, continued from page 1

investigation. Walt Ulbricht, executive director of Marketing and

Communications, said Habat continues to perform his daily duties and has not been asked to resign.

RECORDS REQUEST

Concerns about Habat's computer use first arose last fall, according to e-mails and other inter-office correspondence obtained by The Jambar. In the documents, which university officials provided after a public records request, it is revealed that:

• Habat reported problems with his laptop in November 2002. Help Desk employees, including Krauss, responded to the service

• Palmer-Fernandez is the professor who informed Sweet of the allegations.

· Krauss is cooperating with Morrison and the committee in its investigation.

"Please let me know if I can be of further help in this matter," Krauss wrote to Morrison in a March e-mail, in which he discussed his cooperation with the investigation.

 Sweet first learned of allegations that a "top-level" administrator used a computer for pornography as early as lanuary.

• Sweet did not order an

investigation until a Feb. 19 email from Palmer-Fernandez named Habat as the administrator suspected of accessing the pornography.

The report is that John Habat has been using a university-owned laptop computer to access pornography Web sites in clear violation of [Board of Trustees] policy," Palmer-Fernandez wrote on Feb. 19.

Palmer-Fernandez, however, first informed Sweet of the allegations without providing any names in a Jan. 16 e-

Monday, Sweet refused to say why he did not call for a probe sooner.

name, I ordered the investigation," Sweet said. Two days after Palmer-Fernandez named Habat in

February's e-mail, Sweet

responded.

"When I found out the

"In regard to the allegation of a violation of University Policy 4009.01 by John Habat, I have asked Professor James Morrison to lead an independent panel to investigate these allegations," Sweet wrote in a Feb. 21 memo to Palmer-Fernandez. "The panel is to provide me with a report of their findings and any recommendations they may have regarding the appropriate

administration." The university did not

response by the University

release a public statement on the investigation until March 5, after a Jambar reporter learned of the allegations and questioned Sweet and Habat.

THE INVESTIGATION

"We are meeting and will

Morrison said the committee is prepared to complete the investigation by March 24.

continue to meet from time to

time as necessary to collect and evaluate information and then ... draft the final report to the president," Morrison said. "Our charge is to do a complete investigation into the matters of concern and we are proceeding as rapidly as is pos-

time as is necessary." Palmer-Fernandez testified before the committee Monday. He said three people approached him last fall concerning the contents of Habat's laptop files. The allegations, he said, dealt with pornography,

but said he would not reveal

his sources.

sible, but will take as much

Sandra Denman, general counsel for the university, said Habat's C-drive, where any downloaded pornographic documents would be stored, has been given to the committee for its investigation.

The Jambar requested the contents of the C-drive in a public records request, but Denman said copies of the con- being frankly suspicious of from a Computer Services

tents would not be available until the investigation is com-

Palmer-Fernandez said he never wanted to be mentioned or involved in the investigation. He said he reported the allegations to Sweet because he felt responsible to do so.

"I pursued a formal complaint on this matter because I took it as my responsibility," Palmer-Fernandez Monday. "And because we have a university policy .against it."

Also contained in the public records provided by the university is a March 10 e-mail from Morrison to Krauss, in which Morrison complained about the public records requests.

"If someone is trying to run a parallel investigation I'm going to be pissed - if someone in Tod is just trying to do some a** covering for themselves, I'll just be annoyed," Morrison wrote.

Last week, however, Morrison downplayed the comments. He said no one from the administration has tried to interfere with the investigation.

"Absolutely not," Morrison said. "It was a comment in response from an email ... in which I did not understand what was going on. I made a lot of comments -

everyone — and not any of which may end up having any type of reality."

SUSPICIONS

Palmer-Fernandez, however, said he is not convinced the administration is committed to a fair investigation. He said Sweet called a meeting between the president, himself and Denman after receiving the Feb. 19 e-mail.

"I was disturbed by that because he should have extended the simple courtesy to me of having my counsel present," Palmer-Fernandez said. "I didn't know they were going to interrogate me."

Also, Palmer-Fernandez said Sweet told him the committee would include one member from the local community. In addition to Morrison, music Professor Darla Funk and retired Counseling Center Director George Letchworth sit on the committee.

"I'm suspicious of the administration's intent on this matter," Palmer-Fernandez

Sweet on Monday said he would not make any further comments on the investigation.

The committee also has a copy of an unsigned, undated letter addressed "to whom it may concern." The letter is

troubleshooter who wrote about concerns regarding material found while inspect-

ing computers. "As has been the case up to this point, I am still trying to learn what my responsibilities are where it involves the observation of what might be construed as 'improper use' of university facilities or equipment," the letter said.

'Habat's name is not mentioned, but the writer acknowledged e-mailing Palmer-Fernandez in early November and speaking to him Feb. 19.

Denman said she did not know who wrote the letter. Krauss, when asked to comment about his role in the investigation, declined, saying it would be unethical at this

Habat, who came to the university in July 2000 as a special assistant to Sweet, denied was the person who accessed pornography on the laptop. He did, however, acknowledge that there was porn on the computer.

The vice president, a longtime friend of Sweet's, said he is confident the committee will exonerate him.

Call Henry Gomez at (330) 941-1991 and Angela Olin at (330) 941-1989.

SEARCHING FOR ANSWERS ...

University President David Sweet first knew of pornography allegations against a top administrator two months ago, according to correspondence obtained by The Jambar. He did not order an official investigation, however, until late February, after he learned the alleged was Vice President for Administration John Habat. A timeline of events:



JUNE 2002: Sweet draws criticism for electing Habat as vice president for Administration without a national search.



NOV. 5, 2002: Employees with Computer Services begin working on Habat's laptop. Habat complained the computer would not come on.



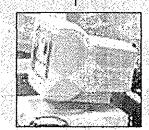
Krauss leaves Habat a phone message saying the laptop is not worth fixing.





Habat joins YSU's administrative staff as a special assistant to Sweet. his longtime

SEPTEMBER 2002: Sweet and his top administrators receive pay raises. Habat's salary es to \$129.50



NOV. 7, 2002: Services employee Ron Krauss emails professor Gabriel Palmeran "ethical issue."

JAN. 16, 2003: Palmer-Fernandez sends a memo to Sweet, in which he mentions a "top-level adminof viewing porn

month after his first memo, Palmer-Fernandez files a formal complaint, this time naming Habat.

FEB. 19:

More than a

FEB. 21: Sweet responds to the complaint and asks Professor James Morrison to lead a committee

that will

investigate the

accusations.

MARCH 5: as Shipka, chair of the Academic Senate, tells the Senate's executive committee that he is pleased with

> Meanwhile, the university makes its first public statement about the investigation - two weeks after it began and one day after a Jambar reporter learned of it.

Sweet's response to the

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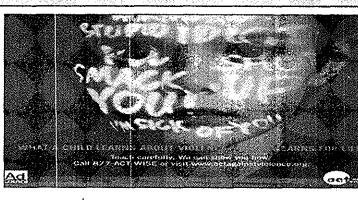
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Today's Editorial

SGA in need of some new blood next year

Elections for next year's Student Government Association officers are approaching — however, some key elements for a successful election are missing.

Before the polls can open, the university needs qualified candidates for president to emerge and step up to the task.

This year alone has proven that as president of SGA, one has to face many challenges and make many difficult decisions on issues ranging from a campus level to an international one.

From answering student inquiries about the university administration to making a difference in state budget cuts to having a voice in the war on terror — anything is game for the duties

As president, someone must be level-headed and rational, often acting as the liaison between students and administration in an effort to resolve student qualms, which can range from parking and housing to labs and tuition fees.

The SGA president is also someone who needs to be active in and knowledgeable about the city of Youngstown, as well as the Mahoning Valley. The president has to determine what the student voice is on community issues and speak that voice.

Projects such as construction of the rec center, and implementing other elements of Youngstown 2010 will largely effect the students at YSU. A president needs to be aggressive and take an active part on these issues — and represent the student body as a whole.

This year, President Jeff Parks and Vice President Emily Eckman led SGA in taking effective steps and putting forth a strong effort to make changes. They passed a resolution accepting domestic partner benefits. They also created student forums, giving students an outlet to speak, and offer answers in return.

Together, Parks and Eckman have created a stepping stone for a future leader. Now, someone needs to be aggressive, build upon what they have started, and take the next steps.

And, while the role of president may not be an easy one we believe there are students at YSU that are qualified, devoted, wise and ambitious enough to make the changes that students

We encourage these students to come forward and run for president. Because, unless these students come forward, and engage in a true political race, the student body at YSU will not have the leadership they need for 2003-04.

YSU deserves a student leader who will preside over the student body and represent their best interests, and qualified candi-

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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 herin do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambar staff or YSU faculty, staff or adminis-

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Sweet Fantasia



Quite a year for racial insensitivity



Between The Lines

Henry Gomez

It was embarrassing enough several months ago when Trent Lott brought shame to the U.S. Senate with his ignorant comments that hinted at closeted racism.

But now such racial degradation has hit even closer to home. While we have taken the 14th Amendment for granted in our history, political science and criminal justice classes, it seems our lawmakers in Columbus hadn't always viewed it as such a sure shot.

More than 140 years have passed since other states first began ratifying the 14th Amendment, which provides equal protection to U.S. citizens regardless of race. But up until last week, Ohio's legislators still were debating its merits.

Stunning? Indeed. But even more so is the fact that some actually expressed uneasiness in the ratification. None, how-

ever, went as far as state Rep. Timothy race during a campaign. It becomes a quiet Grendell, R-Chester Township.

In an interview with a newspaper reporter last week, Grendell blasted state Sen. Mark Mallory, D-Cincinnati, the primary proponent of ratification. Grendell said Mallory should read the 1896 case Plessy v. Ferguson, which established the separate but equal clause.

But Grendell didn't stop there. He race? insinuated that Mallory, who is black, probably wouldn't be able to understand

"He's the only reason I might support the OhioReads program," Grendell told the

How can a man, his district's representative, so viciously argue against something that for years we have taken for granted? Needless to say, several of Grendell's

colleagues have called for apologies or even a resignation. But the individual solution aside, how is it that we still have such problems with our elected officials and their closed-mind-

Problem is, no one likes to talk about

issue, unless of course the candidate is pandering to a particular group. Does anyone else remember George W. Bush at the 2000 Republican National Convention proudly boasting his connections with minorities? Talk about lip service.

When can we finally have a meaningful - not superficial - conversation about

It is time we demanded more of our leaders and challenge ourselves to know more about them. We pretend to care about the things we don't know a lot about things like deficits, surpluses, tariffs and fiscal policy. But what we fail to do is talk I couldn't believe what I had read. about what we really need to know.

Candidates need to be more of honest and up front about their social beliefs. This is the only way we can assess their true character without getting too far immersed in private gossip.

But we need to demand it of them. We need to bring them back to reality.

Maybe then they'll stop seeing things solely in black and white.

Call Henry Gomez at (330) 941-1991.

READERS' LETTERS

'No good reason for war with Iraq'

There is no good reason for war with Iraq.

My opposition stands on general anti-war sentiments and beliefs, and the fact that none of the arguments for war in this case

We could be living in George Orwell's 1984 as we are told that Iraq is the greatest threat the world faces in these times; that deterrence, containment, and inspections have not worked for the past 12 years; that Sadaam Hussein was behind the 9/11 atrocities; that war will lessen the likelihood that weapons of mass destruction will be unleashed on the world; that countries working on peaceful resolutions to this crisis are making the United Nations "irrelevant;" that international law allows the United States to attack another country without direct provocation.

How is Iraq the greatest, most imminent threat to the United States and the world today?

North Korea speaks menacingly about nuclear war; Iran has an advanced nuclear program. Pakistan — not the most stable of governments — not only has the bomb, but is the source for much of North Korea's nuclear information and technology,

And what about all the nukes in Russia, China, Israel, India, the United States, and the other nuclear powers? We should be working on total nuclear disarmament. As long as some have nuclear weapons, there will always be others trying to get them.

Deterrence, containment, and inspections have worked well enough in Iraq. What is different about today compared to eight, five, or even two years ago? It can't be 9/11 — there is no evidence that Iraq was involved. It can't be Iraq's military strength -Iraq's military might is a fraction of what it was before the Gulf War, and 1/100 the size of that of the United States. It can't be a request for aid by Iraq's neighbors — they are far less concerned about Iraq than is the United States.

Sadaam Hussein, whose primary interest over the years has been to retain power, would be a fool to use a weapon of mass destruction. He knows he would be obliterated if he used a nuclear device — if he even has one.

He is much more likely to use such a weapon if he is cornered, in a situation with nothing left to lose, such as facing an invasion by an overwhelming force.

Why is our government ridiculing countries and the United Nations as they work on diplomatic resolutions to this crisis? I

don't understand the bellicosity. I thought the United States was supposed to be the model for peaceful responses to the world's problems.

A war on Iraq is not going to make the world safer. The world will not become less violent or a less threatening place as a result of this war. War can only breed more anger, more hatred. Trailing in the dirty wake of war will only be death, destruction, and resentment - not security and general well being.

We are sadly deluding ourselves if we believe that peace will be the outcome of this war. Will this war rectify the great dispar-

ity between those who have much and those who have little? Will war lessen the desire of the non-nuclear countries to join the nuclear club?

Will war lessen the resentment of the exploited countries and peoples of the world? Will it lessen the arrogance of the power-

Will war lead us to a better understanding of the interrelatedness of all life? If it doesn't, there will be no peace.

Peace will only grow out of dialogue and compromise, understanding and sharing, humility and respect. Peace comes from the realization of our shared humanity, from the knowing that a family in Baghdad is the same as a family in Youngstown, Ohio.

There was a sign at the anti-war rally in downtown Youngstown a few weeks ago that read, "Who would Jesus bomb?" We usually brush such questions aside. But take a moment and look deeply at this question. Who would Jesus bomb? What if we lived our religious or spiritual practice down to the very fiber of our being? Who, then, would we bomb?

What will be left once the war fever has been satisfied? Once the cities of our enemies are rubble? Once the civilians and the soldiers have been buried?

Once the environment has been ravaged? Once the mighty stand triumphant? What then? What has been made better? How many fires were ignited while this one was being put out? Have the real, underlying problems been solved, or have they been made worse? Have we convinced anyone of the justness of our position? Have we made friends, or just more enemies

Gary Sexton Director, WYSU-FM Youngstown, Ohio

Courtyard Apartments will have multiple layers of security

By Rebecca Marquis
The Jambar

Students who are planning to live in the University Courtyard apartments after the project's completion will pass through several layers of security to reach their rooms.

YSU Police Chief John Gocala said because the apartments are on YSU campus, the YSU police department will patrol and protect the area. Gocala, however, said he had not personally discussed specific security measures with representatives from Ambling Inc., the contractors of the apartments.

In addition to police, the new apartments will also have several other forms of security.

In an e-mail to The Jambar, Beth Horner, a representative from Ambling Inc., said the complex would be a gated community - accessed with a

magnetic swipe card. The parking area, too, would be gated.

The building entrances and the entrances to individual apartments would also be accessed with the swipe card, Horner said.

"I believe it will be all one key card [to access each lock]," she stated in an e-mail last

Both Horner and site manager Ryan Baker said that a key lock would secure each bedroom within the apartments. Horner said even the one-bedroom apartments will have an additional lock on the bedroom door.

"It will be just like the twoand four-bedroom apartments," Horner said.

Security cameras are planned to monitor the parking lots; however, it is unclear on whether or not the apartment buildings themselves

ple layers of security
magnetic swipe card. The will be equipped with cameras.

The apartments, which range from \$415 to \$600 per person per month, would have been just slightly less expensive had the security measures not been taken, Horner said.

Each apartment will be furnished with furniture, beds, microwaves, stoves, refrigerators and dishwashers. Utilities will also be included in the monthly rent.

Horner said that as a result of 9/11 and the war on terror, everyone's perceptions of security has changed, but the security for the University Courtyard apartments has been planned from the beginning of the project.

"It has been a joint effort between all parties involved in this partnerships since the project's inception."

(330) 941-3523.

Call Rebecca Marquis at

Advertise in The Jambar, call (330) 941-2451

POLICY, continued from page 1

Hogue said some have suggested the one-page policy should be shortened to read: "You can't use computers for personal reasons."

Hogue, however, said that idea is "silly." He added that he is currently writing a book with a professor at Texas Tech University, and often must send him e-mails back and forth. If there were a policy barring personal use, Hogue said he would not be allowed to communicate with the coauthor by e-mail.

"That policy did not prevail," he said of the "no personal use" policy.

Hogue said the union has not yet taken a stance on the Habat investigation and will wait until the committee issues a report, expected to be complete by March 24.

"My feeling is the panel they appointed is made up of people who have a great deal of integrity and are very trustworthy," Hogue said. "I would like to wait for the investigation to finish."

Call Dave Devereux at (330)

inued IRISH, continued from page 1

Inner Circle Pizza took a less extravagant approach to the holiday. Corned beef and cabbage sandwiches were served for lunch, but the pub

music on the jukebox.

had no green beer. "It's not really Irish," said jjunior Rebecca Bowen.

But green drinks were still served, although they were non-alcoholic.

Freshman Ashley Bowen sat at the corner of the bar drinking a green fruit punch made with pineapple juice and green food coloring.

She said she didn't have plans to celebrate any further, however.

"I work and have classes all day," Bowen said. Wade Crosgray, sat at the

opposite end of the bar, wearing a green T-shirt and jeans, drinking Killian's, a popular Irish red beer.

"The name [Cosgray] has this article.

Irish roots," Crosgray said.

Although he said wearing green was not a necessity, "It's in the blood."

Whether the customers are dressed in the traditional green or not, bars of all kinds were

busy this holiday.

"St. Patrick's Day is definitely popular for any place that serves beer," Esenwein said. "We go all out for St. Patrick's Day, but we do the same for other holidays like Christmas too."

"Everyone wants to be Irish on St. Patrick's Day and the Irish are known for drinking their share of beer," he added.

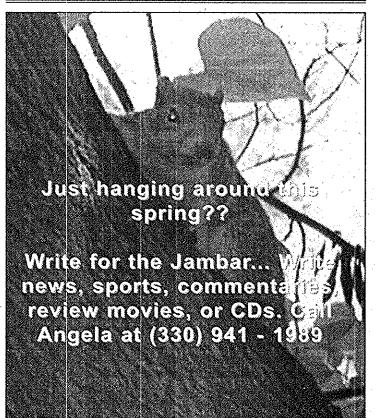
Graduate student Rob Wardle said he takes St. Patrick's Day as a day to relax and catch up with friends.

"I make sure I have nothing on my calendar," Wardle said. "I just take it as a personal holiday and drink all day."
"It's an Irish thing."

Paul Mauch contributed to

Call Alicia Houston at (330) 941-3758 or Rebecca Marquis at

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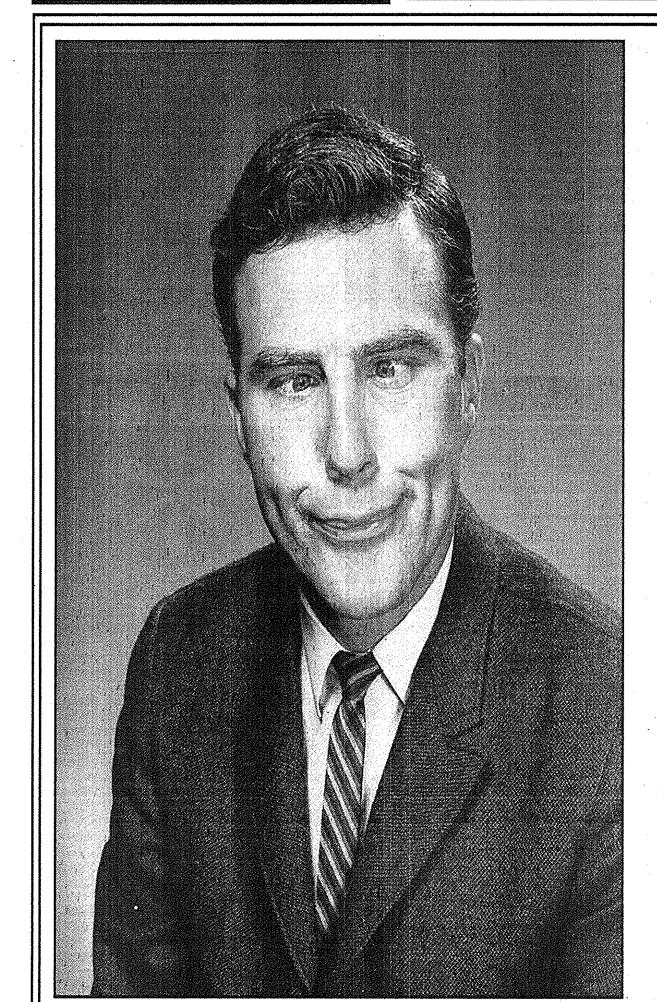
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Campus Calendar

Tuesday: YSU InterVarsity Christian Fellowship meets Tuesdays at 3 pm in Kilcawley. See the Kilcawley list for room. All students are welcome. Contact Dr. Phil Munro for more information, 330-941-1748, PcMunro@cc.ysu.edu

Wednesday: The History Club will meet at 12 noon in Kilcawley Center, Room 2069. Dr. Beelen, History, will talk about his recent trip to Cuba. All are welcome. Please feel free to bring a lunch.

The Non-Traditional Student Group has a weekly meeting at 3:00 p.m. in the Office of Student Progress, Kilcawley Center. For more information contact Angie at 330-941-

Notices: Are you having problems in your Math course? The Mathematics Assistance Center may be able to help you!. We offer: tutors, video-assisted instruction, answer/solution manuals, handouts, computer-assisted instruction. Our hours are: Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., Friday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. We are located on the 3rd floor of Cushwa Hall, Room 3090. No appointment necessary! Please have a valid YSU ID. For more information call 330-941-3274.

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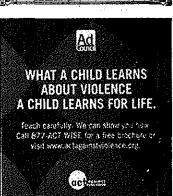
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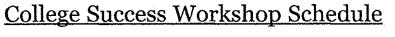
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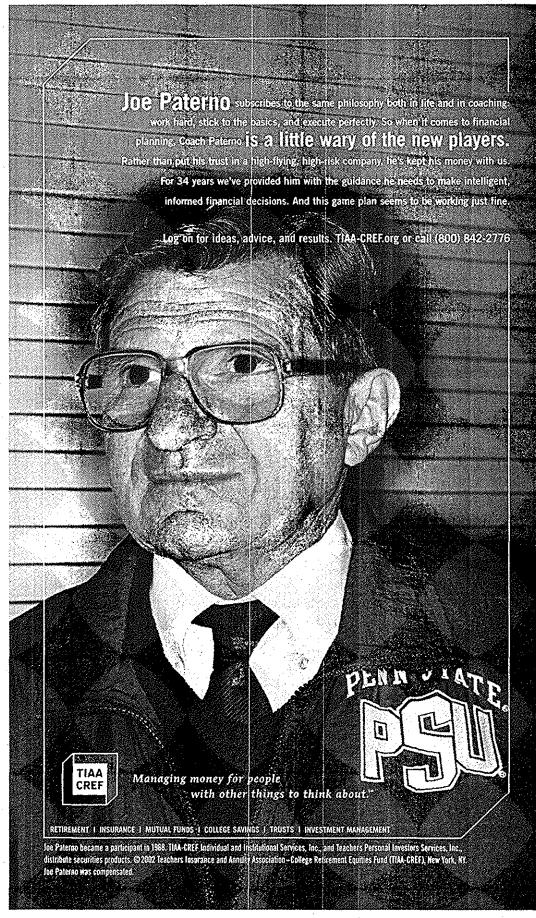


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Sports Recreation

Penguins close out hoops campaign

It was the first time in coach John Robic's tenure that YSU advanced in tournament play.

> STAFF REPORT The Jambar



men's basketball team finished up its season over spring break. The team beat University

of Wisconsin-ROBIC Green Bay 65-61 in round one of the Horizon League Tournament.

The Penguins advanced in the tourney for the first time in head coach John Robic's fouryear tenure. With the win the team also snapped their 29game road-losing streak.

In their second round contest against Illinois-Chicago the team lost 79-59. The Penguins finished the season with an overall record of 9-20.

UW Milwaukee won the Horizon League tournament with a 69-52 victory over Butler. The win gave the Panthers an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

The No. 12 seeded Panthers will face off against No. 5 Notre Dame. Butler, however, avoided being an NCAA snub this year and earned an at large bid into the tournament.

The Bulldogs boasted an impressive 25-5 record and captured the Horizon League regular season championship for a record fourth straight year. Butler, No. 12, squares off against No. 5 Mississippi State on Friday at the Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center in

Birmingham, Ala. The UIC Flames, which eliminated the Penguins in round two of the tourney, will compete in the National Invitation Tournament. The flames had a 21-8 record and finished third in the confer-





Michaelis earns All-American ho



Photo courtesy of Sports Information

ALL AMERICAN: Senior track and field runner Kurt Michaelis became the first YSU athlete to earn Division I All-American honors.

The Jambar

Senior track and field runner Kurt Michaelis granted YSU its first ever Division I All-American this Saturday at Randal Tyson Track Center in Arkansas.

Micahelis competed in the mile at the 2003 NCAA Division I Indoor and Field Championships and was the seventh American to

cross the finish line. GORBY Michaelis finished just 2.9 seconds behind Arkansas junior Chris Mulvaney, winner of the race, ' with a time of 4:07.79.

"Kurt took it to the next level," coach Brian Gorby said. "He represents everything that we've been preaching here at YSU."

Michaelis, the current school record holder in the mile (4:02.71), finished ninth overall and continued his extraordinary season with the Penguins.

"It really hasn't set in yet," Michaelis said in an interview

"It's always been a dream of mine to be an All-American and to be YSU's first, it's just an amazing feeling," Michaelis told reporters after the race.

The soft-spoken All-American said he was surprisingly calm before

"I've never felt so relaxed before a race in my entire life," said Michaelis. "I was ranked twelfth entering the race and the rest of the (competitors) had the pressure of winning it all. I didn't feel the pressure. In my mind I had nothing to lose and everything to

Gorby, still ecstatic from the accomplishment, said that he and the coaching staff would continue to strive to an ultimate goal of a "national championship."

"Kurt made the unbelievable believable and he took a step on Friday that even I was surprised by," said Gorby. " (Kurt's) an unbelievably hard worker, he maximizes all of his talent and continues to drive for-

The indoor track and field season is now over, but Kurt doesn't intend on quitting with just an All-American

Both Michaelis and Gorby believe that he now has a legitimate shot to qualify for the Olympics. If Michaelis is to finish in the top three this year, or next in outdoor track and field championships, he would get that chance.

"(Qualifying for the Olympics) has always been in the back of my mind, it's something I've dreamed about and now it seems like more of a reality."

Gorby said he is thrilled thatsomeone from YSU has a serious shot at the Olympic trials next year.

"For someone at YSU to have a chance to qualify for the Olympics is absolutely amazing and it's beyond even my expectations," he said.

Earlier in March, the indoor team captured YSU's first ever Horizon League Championship. The Penguins put on a dominating performance, finishing with 116 points; the next closest

team was Loyola with 99. Michaelis was a major part of the championship as he seized a victory in the mile, a third-place finish in the 1,000-meter run and a fourth-place finish in the 800.

A very humble Michaelis said the season has been like a fairytale and strongly emphasized that much of the credit needs to be given to his team-

"I wouldn't be where I am today if it wasn't for my teammates, they push me everyday and it's what constantly drives me," Michaelis said. "This senior season has been like a storytale for me; my team and I winning the Horizon League, becoming an All-American, it's been great."

When asked about reaching the prestigious four-minute mile, Michaelis looked at me and, in a very sincere voice said, "I can see me doing it, it's just a matter of timing. I think it can happen this season in outdoor."

Gorby echoed Michaelis' comments and hopes the team's accomplishments will be followed by other YSU sports.

"The past two weeks couldn't have been scripted any better," said Gorby. " I feel like we've broke down barriers for the rest of the athletic organizations, and hopefully it's a sign of things to come.

Call Joe Simon at (330) 941-3758.

COACH, continued from page 1

best of any coach in the conference's history as is his 140 wins. He led the team to five consecutive regular-season league championships, five straight 20-win seasons, three conference tournament titles, three trips to the NCAA tournament and an appearance in the second round of the "Big Dance."

Yet after three straight losing seasons, DiGregorio and university officials felt it was time to go in a different direc-

Athletic Director Ron Strollo said it was tough to let

"Mutually, it was a very difficult decision to make," Strollo said at a Monday afternoon news conference. "[DiGregorio] has been a father figure in the athletic department for years and will contin-

ue to be." Strollo said the decision tuated that this was not a firing

but a resignation.

"This was a decision made by coach, and now we need to move forward," Strollo said.

Strollo said the Athletic Department has not put a timetable on the hiring process, but did mention that there would be a search committee assembled and that the candidate should have past experience in college coaching.

Junior , players Jessica was made last night and accen- Forsythe and Devin Novak spoke at the news conference.

"[The team's] reaction, of

course, was that we were very saddened by his decision, said Forsythe, a forward who has played for DiGregorio for three seasons. "We're sad to see him leave after being here for so long."

Novak said she hopes the team can adjust to a new coaching system.

"I would say we were all surprised by his decision," Novak said." I think we'll be able to adjust to a new coach-

ing staff, but it's going to be difficult."

Strollo said the three losing seasons did play into the decision, but that it was not the determining factor.

DiGregorio is one of just 58 women's basketball coaches in Division I history to record 300 career wins and is a lifelong resident of Youngstown.

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