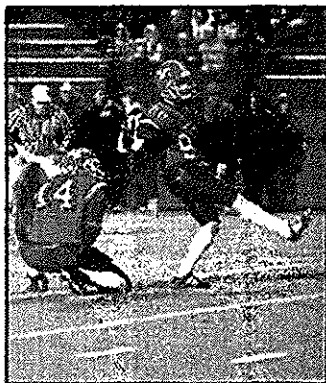


# the jambar

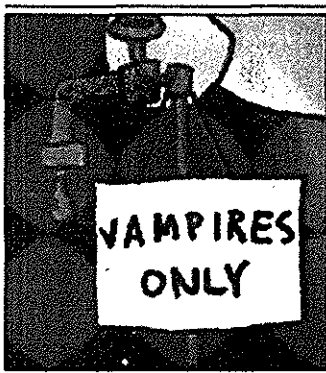
VOLUME 88, ISSUE 25 The student voice of Youngstown State University

Weather >> rain / snow  
46 | 37  
Wednesday: cloudy, 49/33  
Thursday: showers, 48/32

## Inside



► The Penguins put the boot to Missouri State Saturday.  
Sports | see page 7



► Bob Mackey is in rare form this week — a blood-sucking form.  
Entertainment | see page 8

## In Brief

### Global Diversity Discussion

The YSU Department of Human Ecology will present "Diversity: a Global Perspective" 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 26 in room 3112 of Cushman Hall. The program will include discussion of global customs and etiquette, foods from around the globe, and fabrics from India.

### Archaeologist Presentation

World-acclaimed archeologist James Adovasio, director of Mercyhurst Archeological Institute, will present "Strangers in a Strange Land: Some Biased Thoughts on the Peopling of the New World" 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 26 in Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room. The presentation is part of YSU Department of Sociology and Anthropology's Anthropology Colloquium.

### Jay Williams on Leadership

Mayoral candidate Jay Williams will speak on 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 26 in the Ohio Room of Kilcawley Center. The program, "Jay Williams and Black Political Leadership in Youngstown," is sponsored by YSU Africana Studies.

MORE NEWS, PAGE 6

**the jambar poll question**

Last question

Moustaches: Creepy or classy? 59% 41%

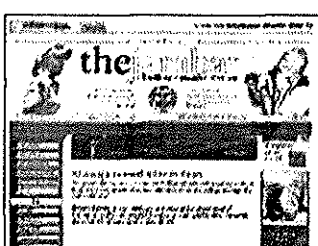
Creepy Classy

Today's Question: Are you excited about the opening of the convocation center?

vote online [www.thejambar.com](http://www.thejambar.com)

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## YSU HOMECOMING

# Spirits not dampened by weather

By: Cheryl Thompson  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Rain fell steadily Saturday, but briefly let up for the 2005 homecoming coronation ceremony. This year's homecoming king and queen were revealed to be seniors Janel Finch and Keith "2-Fly" Logan.

The crowd cheered as the five king and queen nominees, Bert Gestnecker and Sarah Vansuch, Jonathan Jenyk and Christine Franz, Jeremy Payne and Shannon Starr, Fred Burazer and Jessica Silvestri and Keith "2-Fly" Logan and Janel Finch, took their places on Beede Field at Stambaugh Stadium.

Logan was crowned king despite controversy regarding his "Vote or Die" campaign. His campaign fliers were removed by assis-

tant director of student activities, Greg Gulas. He took down fliers with the "Vote or Die" slogan because he deemed the message inappropriate.

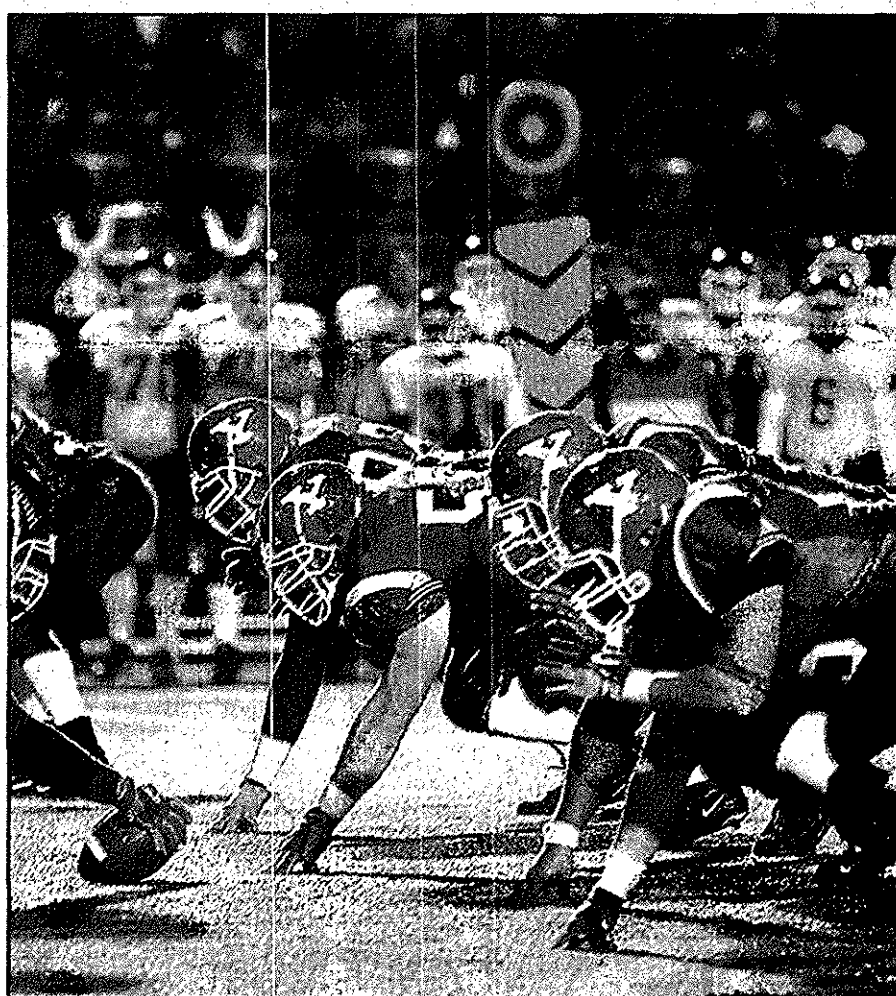
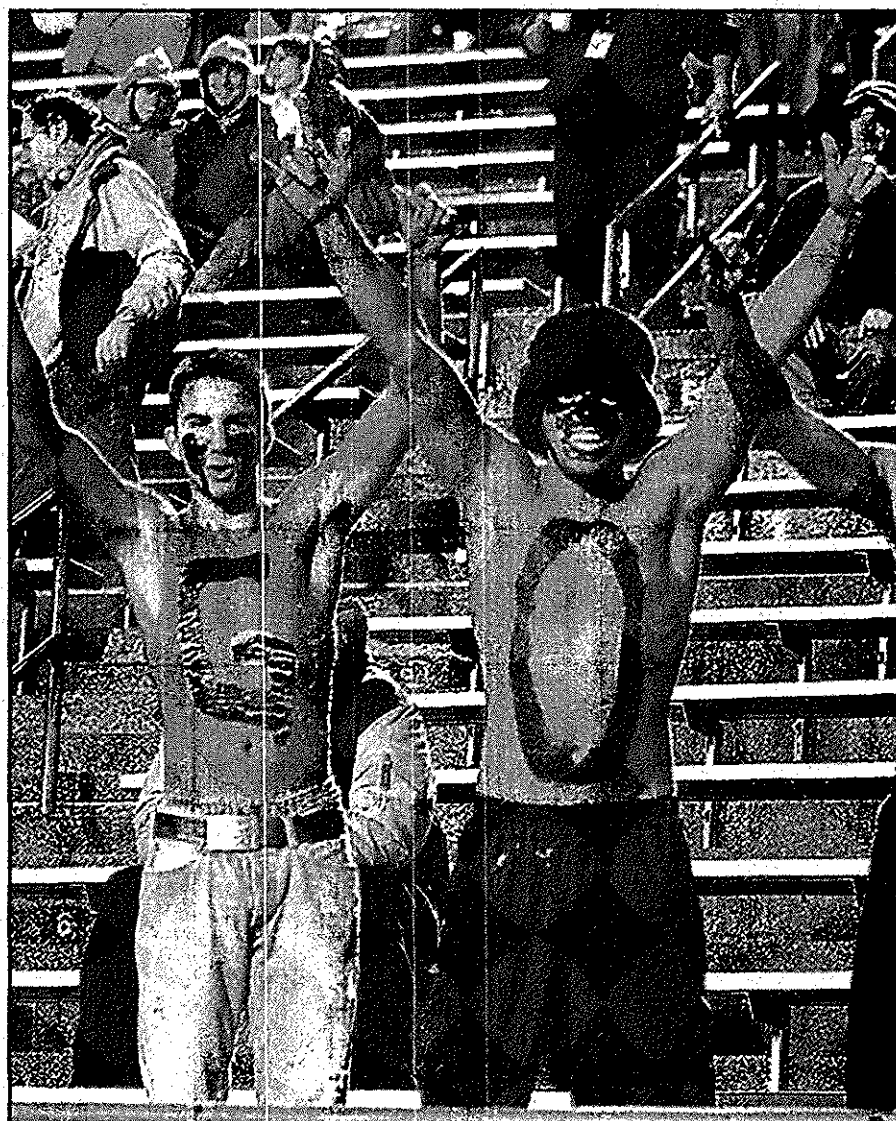
In response to the removal of the ads, Logan said he took the idea from rapper P. Diddy's "Vote or Die" campaign for the 2004 presidential elections.

"It's not like anyone's actually going to die," Logan told The Jambar in a story that ran Sept. 15.

Finch, who was voted prom queen at her high school, said winning something like this in college is a much bigger deal.

"It's all really surreal," Finch said. "I was just happy to see a lot my friends and family come out for support. It was a real shock." Finch said her crown and scepter were placed on the mantel in her living room.

"My mom please see SPIRITS, Page 6



Jambar / Ron Stevens  
TOP: Penguin fans got all painted up for Saturday's Homecoming game against Missouri State despite rain and chilly temperatures. ABOVE: The YSU defensive line waits for the snap Saturday. The Penguins rolled to another conference win, 31-7. LEFT: Homecoming King Keith "2fly" Logan and Queen Janel Finch were crowned at halftime of the game. MORE PHOTOS, PAGE 6.

## YSU

# Coffelt parking lot open for use

By: Bill Rodgers  
NEWS EDITOR

Youngstown State University's new parking lot lifted its turnstiles to the public on Saturday, a few months behind schedule, officials said. The new lot beside Coffelt Hall on University Plaza opened this weekend. The lot was part of YSU's Gateway Project of the Centennial Master Plan. John Hyden, YSU's director of facilities, said despite construction setbacks, the lot should be well within the \$1.5 million budget allotted



Jambar / Leonard Glenn Crist  
The newly remodeled parking lot behind Coffelt Hall on University Plaza is shown Monday night.

to its construction.

Joe Scarnecchia, YSU's director of support services, said that the project was scheduled to be operational at the end of August, barring some final details. Scarnecchia said the project was delayed a few weeks because of what lay underground.

"There were things in the

ground," Scarnecchia said.

"Historical nightmares." Scarnecchia said once the construction team began digging, they came across bad soil and remnants of former demolished homes, old cisterns and the remains of basements. He said that the housing leftovers

please see COFFELT, Page 6

## YSU

# Ehrenberg not hiding his age in campaign

By: Katie Libecco  
COPY EDITOR

Youngstown State University student Jason Ehrenberg, 22, isn't hiding his age while running his campaign for the Boardman Board of Education. He's using it to his advantage.

The motto for his campaign: "A proud graduate,

a youthful perspective, a positive voice."

Ehrenberg is a YSU business administration major, with a minor in criminal justice. He is also working on a certificate in entrepreneurship from the Williamson College of Business.

There are two incumbents and five newcomers please see SCHOOL, Page 6

## YSU / SGA

# SGA finalizes funding for free movie night at YSU

By: Katie Libecco  
COPY EDITOR

Youngstown State University's Student Government Association announced the finalization of funds for the proposed

movie night in Monday's general meeting.

SGA unanimously passed a resolution stating they received \$6,000 from the Student Activities Fee to go toward bringing please see SGA, Page 5

## Representatives from laws schools to be on campus for YSU's Law Day

By: Cheryl Thompson  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Representatives from several regional law schools will be in Kilcawley Center Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. as part of Youngstown State University's Law Day.

Representatives from Case Western Reserve, the University of Akron, Michigan State University, the University of Cincinnati, the University of Dayton and Duquesne University will be available to answer questions and help students understand the law school application process.

Paul Sracic, a political science professor who coordinating Law Day, said there are several misconceptions students have about applying to law school.

"Some students think they will never get in because they are non-traditional students or haven't taken law related courses," Sracic said.

While Sracic said many of the students who apply to law school take classes in fields such as political science or criminal justice, law school admittance is not only for students in these majors specifically.

"The key factors that law schools take into consideration are a strong

grade point average and high scores on the LSAT [law school admissions test]," Sracic said.

Sracic said one of the biggest myths about law school admittance has to do with the college a student graduated from.

"A lot of people think that they won't get in because they attended an open admissions college like YSU," Sracic said.

He said this isn't true.

"In the past ten to 12 years we have seen graduates go on to attend law school at Duke, Georgetown, the University of Michigan as well as regional insti-

tutions such as Ohio State and Case Western," Sracic said.

He said turnout has been good for the event in the past and hopes more students attend this year.

"This event is designed for anyone who is even thinking about going to law school, not just juniors and seniors who are certain they are going," Sracic said.

Helping to coordinate the event this year is the president of the Pre-Law Club, Matt Brouse, a senior political science major, who said he is excited about meeting with representatives.

"I'm thinking about applying to

six or seven law schools, but haven't made my final decision," Brouse said.

Brouse said Law Day is a good way to see what different law schools have to offer.

"It's a good chance to meet with the people in person who are going to be reading my applications," Brouse said.

One aspect of the event both Brouse and Sracic said they wanted to stress was the informality of the event.

"No one is going to be lecturing students, they can come and go and visit with the representatives as they please," Sracic said.

### REPLAY, continued from page 7

long, and it still won't be perfect, anyway."

Pencils have erasers. Computers have delete keys. And sports, more and more, are welcoming replay as they have embraced technological advances in equipment, facilities and training methods.

The NFL, NBA and NHL use cameras to settle close plays. Through six weeks of this NFL season, 102 plays have been reviewed and 33 overruled. The NBA uses video aid to clarify shots at the buzzer, and NHL coaches and officials can appeal to a replay judge who verifies whether the puck crossed the goal line.

Rugby and cricket use replay. Soccer, tennis and swimming are talking about introducing it.

Even college sports are going high-tech. This year, for the first time, nine of 11 Division I-A conferences are using video replay in football, as are all the bowl games. Thus far, 254 calls have been challenged, and 78 were overturned.

One of the only major-college games that did not use replay this season was Notre Dame-USC last weekend, because Trojans coach Pete Carroll is against it and as visiting coach had the option to turn it down.

Had officials been allowed to see the TV monitors, they might have spotted Matt Leinart's fumble out of bounds at the 2- or 3-yard line instead of the 1. They also might have seen USC running back Reggie Bush nudge Leinart into the end zone for the winning touchdown. Had either play been altered, USC might not be No. 1 in the BCS today.

But even though replay is becoming commonplace elsewhere, baseball is still holding out. Major-league general

managers split 15-15 during their last annual meeting on the idea of using it even on a limited basis. And not even a handful of questionable calls in recent weeks has swayed Selig's stance.

"I think the human element in baseball is very important," Selig said last week. "I'm a football fan, too, and I hate instant replay in the NFL. Football games are taking four hours. I don't know how we could use it to improve the job our umpires do."

Even Angels manager Mike Scioscia opposes the idea, despite the controversial Game 2 call.

"I'm not in favor of replay at all," he said. "There might be some replay that can come in on a home run, fair or foul, or fan interference, but as far as plays around the bases, or home plate, I don't think replay is anything we should bring into the game."

Astros manager Phil Garner said: "I can get as upset with the umpires as anybody, but on balance, they do a terrific job. These are our best umpires, and it's not an exact science. I don't know that you can make it an exact science."

Cardinals fans have spent the past 20 years cursing umpire Don Denkinger, whose blown call at first base allowed Kansas City to win Game 6 of the 1985 World Series. Baltimore fans still haven't gotten over Rich Garcia overlooking a 12-year-old fan turning Derek Jeter's fly ball into a home run in the 1996 American League playoffs.

Instant replay could have altered those plays, and the course of sports history, but Major League Baseball has resisted the urge to go technical in this age of instant messaging, iPods and digital

cameras.

"I'm a baseball person, and my feeling is that the human element of officiating is one of the beauties of the game," Marlins TV analyst Tommy Hutton said. "There have always been bad calls, and we accepted them. Now, there's more scrutiny because we see the play 15 times on SportsCenter, but that doesn't mean we should change our game. Even in football, I think it's a distraction to see a guy peering into a camera under a black cloth like it's some X-rated movie."

It was nearly 43 years ago, on Dec. 7, 1963, that revolutionary CBS producer Tony Verna changed the way America — and eventually the world — watched sports.

Verna believed there was too much dead time during football game broadcasts. "You could eat a ham sandwich in the time it took Norm Van Brocklin to get back to the huddle," he told reporters.

So, he came up with the idea of reshooting plays immediately after they happened. Until that point, replays were available only at halftime and postgame. Verna chose the Army-Navy football game in Philadelphia as a guinea pig because Roger Staubach was the hottest quarterback around.

He spent three quarters trying to get it right, at one point discovering an I Love Lucy episode where he had hoped a football play would be.

Finally, in the fourth quarter, he got it to work and alerted game announcer Lindsey Nelson, "Here it comes." Viewers got an immediate second look at Army quarterback Rollie Stichweh's 1-yard touchdown.

"This is not live!" Nelson screamed into the micro-

phone. "Ladies and gentlemen, Army has not scored again!"

Voilà! Instant replay. And, most recently, if Eddings had been permitted to see the footage of the questionable play that the home viewers saw, he might have seen that the pitch didn't appear to hit the dirt.

Still, many in baseball are not sold on the idea.

"Baseball has been played for 100 years, maybe longer than that, and they don't have it and I don't know the reason to do it now," White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen said.

Other sports, though, are ready to erase some of the imperfection. In tennis, 79 percent of the players on the men's tour voted in favor of instant replay, although top-ranked Roger Federer said: "I'm absolutely against it." The Hawk-Eye system, which determines the point of impact by the ball on the court, has seen significant improvements and could be unveiled in the next 12 months.

"I'm all for it," Martina Navratilova said. "People are worrying about the game slowing down; it's slowed down more by arguments than it would be by instant replay. They talk about margin of error of two centimeters; please let me have that."

Patrick McEnroe, TV analyst and Davis Cup captain, added: "If the chair umpire has a replay right there, even

if it's proven to be 99 percent accurate, it's probably still more accurate than some of the line calls we're seeing. It would be fun for the fans and good for the game."

Soccer is also warming to the idea. The topic heated up again early this year when Tottenham Hotspur failed to win an English Premiership game against Manchester United after a ref failed to see United goalkeeper Roy Carroll mishandle a shot and scoop it after the ball had clearly landed over the goal line. It ended in a 0-0 tie and set off a worldwide debate on instant replay.

"It's absolutely inevitable that video replay is coming to soccer," said Ray Hudson, the former Miami Fusion coach. "People better get used to it, because it's going to happen, as sure as night follows day. It is needed. But it is going to be a sad, sad day. Something very sentimental about our game will be taken away. The phrase, 'in the opinion of the

referee' will have to be junked.

"Our game isn't like any other — the movement, the continuity, the uninterrupted flow — but it has gotten so fast and the stakes are so huge that video replay is going to become reality, just like in the NFL."

Said Tottenham boss Martin Jol: "What really annoys me is that here we are in 2005, watching something on a TV monitor within two seconds of the incident, and the referee isn't told about it. Why can't we just stop the game and get the decision right? When that technology is available, why are we not using it?"

Though instant replay will solve some on-field disputes, Hudson predicts the debates will live on.

"The good news is, no matter what they put in, there will still be raging in the coffee bars and pubs," he said. "They'll blame the camera-men."

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the youngstown state university  
**Editorial & Opinion**

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

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

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**OUR SIDE**

**Students' voices needed in offices**

Every four years, as the nation revs up its political engine for another presidential election, student-targeted voter registration drives blanket college campuses.

Getting college-aged people to vote is a noble cause for sure, and a necessary one, as a new crop of potential voters comes of age every year. If young people are to have a say in the world around them, voting is a vital first step.

But an ambitious and empowering second step for young voters is to actually run for political office, as two Youngstown State University students are doing this fall.

The two students, David Sisk and Jason Ehrenburg, are vying for a spot on the Boardman Board of Education. There are three seats available with seven candidates running in that race, two of which are incumbents.

Sisk and Ehrenburg may be considered long shots, but regardless of the outcome on Nov. 8, their young voices and opinions will have joined the political dialogue and the experience alone should prove priceless.

However, one shouldn't discount the viability of either candidacy. Sisk and Ehrenburg are both recent graduates of Boardman High School. Who better understands the needs and problems faced by public school students today than someone who graduated just a few years ago?

Too often, politicians are old white men out of touch with the needs and concerns of today's youth. Young elected officials can offer fresh perspectives in government and provide real representation to their younger constituents.

Local school board positions may seem like small potatoes, but municipal office or the state legislature may be the ideal place for a young politician to cut his or her teeth.

Rep. Tim Ryan (D-Niles) ran for office at a young age, first for a seat in the Ohio Senate at age 26, then for a slot in the United States House of Representatives at 28. Now Ryan is a rising force in the Democratic Party.

Even if they don't win, Sisk and Ehrenburg likely have a bright political future ahead of them should they choose to pursue it.

More students — untainted by the area's embarrassing history of corruption — should consider running for political office in the Mahoning Valley.

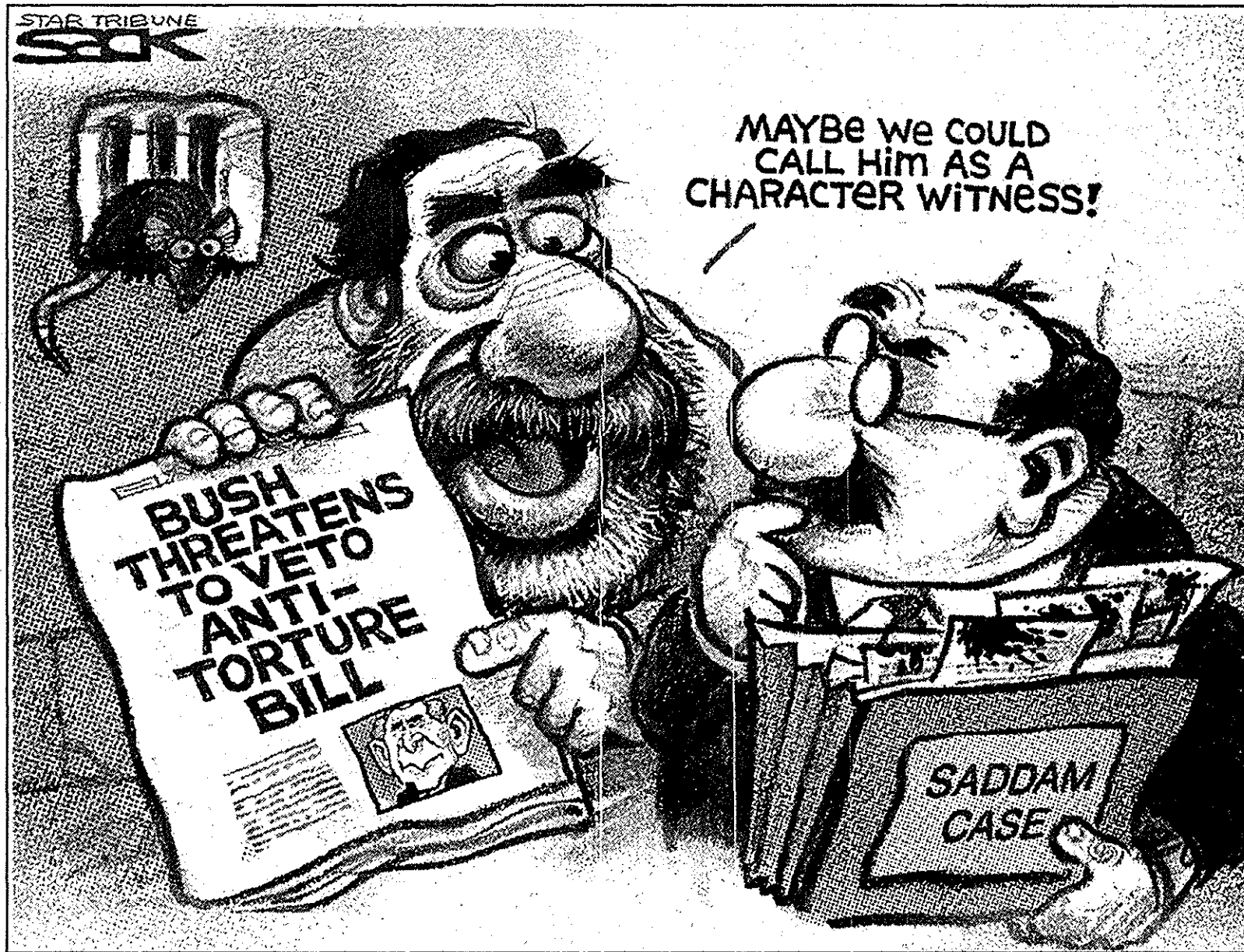
**EDITORIAL POLICY**

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

**LETTERS POLICY**

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

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



**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**Stance on Heacock raise hypocritical**

Editor:  
 First, let me unequivocally state my personal support not only for Coach Heacock, but also for his entire staff. The departure of Coach Tressel put the current football coaching staff in a "no win" position. Had the Penguins experienced immediately successful seasons, little credit would be given to Heacock, et al. since the team would have been seen as the remnants of the Tressel era. The lack of success, as had happened until this season, would have been (and was to some) seen as absolute failure on Heacock's part. The resulting judgments in both cases are wholly unfair. However, Heacock and company have now decidedly put into place their own program that is bearing the fruits of success for which they should indeed be appropriately rewarded. I fully endorse such action and hope that the efforts of the coaching staff are duly appreciated by others.

However, it is interesting to note the "Kerry"-like flip-flop recently emulated by The Jambar staff in its "Cut the Check for Heacock" editorial in the Thursday, Oct. 20 issue. At best, this editorial presents a stance seemingly diametrically opposed to past opinions espoused by the current Jambar staff. For the reasons stated in its editorial about Coach Heacock, the position taken by the Jambar staff borders, if not crosses, the line of hypocrisy when compared with other editorials over the past few months that have been highly critical of faculty and staff pay raises. In essence, both types of editorials tended to acknowledge the success and notoriety brought to YSU by these various individuals. Yet, apparently noteworthy achievements reached via academic, scholarship, and service activities of faculty and staff are not valued as much as a winning football season. I hope the Jambar editorial staff is mindful that championship football seasons and Pulitzer Prizes, as well as Nobel Prizes, have one thing in common — no matter how large the trophy, it will still take a \$1.50 to get a large coffee at Winslow's (and they don't take American Express).

Chet Cooper  
 Associate Professor  
 Biological Sciences

**Mackey leaves reader smiling**

Editor:  
 If I could draw as well as Bob

Mackey (and I'll never be able to do that), I would draw a picture of me reading The Jambar and smiling, because that is what happens every time I open a new issue and read Bob's latest column.

I don't doubt that at some point in the future, I will see Bob Mackey's work in a national publication. When I do, I will be able to tell people that he once wrote for The Jambar — and that his work here was just as good as what got him a national audience.

Keep it up, Bob. Your writing is very creative, clever, and entertaining. And your artwork is icing on the cake.

Bob Hogue  
 Associate Professor, Computer  
 Science and Information Systems

**Blaming Bush is convenient**

Editor:  
 Blame is convenience, and Bill Border is conveniently blaming President Bush for every shortfall this country has suffered. This being said, I feel it is my duty to conveniently respond.

Let us first look at President Bush's predecessor, Bill Clinton. Former President Clinton did absolutely nothing when our embassies overseas were bombed. The former president did nothing after the first World Trade Center attack. Clinton did nothing after the U.S.S. Cole bombing. To sum it up, Clinton turned the cheek time and again, and 9/11 ensued because of his lax approach.

For those of you who call Iraq an illegal war, let us further examine the bombing of former Yugoslavia. America was not under attack, nor was it going to be attacked, nor was it approved by the Security Council. Yet Clinton felt the need to go bombing a country that was essentially in a civil war. Furthermore, this was not even approved by Congress. As I recall, Clinton called for a need to prevent gross human rights abuse. Gee, I have heard this somewhere before. After all, Saddam committed a great many atrocities, probably more so than Milosevic. At least this time

around, intelligence said there was a legitimate threat to America and its allies. This was based on many international intelligence agencies. Going to war, in this case, was justified based on the intelligence (however right or wrong it was).

Regarding jobs Mr. Border, let's talk about the payroll center Youngstown was promised at the beginning of Clinton's second term. It never came here. Let's talk about John Kerry's wife, Ms. Heinz, whose company employs people overseas for twenty cents an hour. Gee, isn't she contributing to America's job loss? If you would take a little time to read about China not floating its currency, you would know that it's impossible to compete at the current wages in the U.S. The cruel reality is that America has been heading in this direction for a very long time, stemming back to Carter and the death of the steel industry under his watch (yes, the blame for Youngstown's demise falls squarely in the hands of the Democratic Party).

The legacy of Clinton will always be looked upon with rose-colored glasses for the simple reasons that the evil capitalists in the tech industry overheated the economy, and the Russians dumping oil, bringing the price down to under a dollar per gallon. Believe me, while a brilliant politician, Clinton brought little to the table to make America better.

So, let's blame Bush for the hurricanes that hit this nation (and the gas increases which he planned ahead of time), and the terrorists that popped up magically in 2000. Let's blame him for the rise in tuition that came out of thin air, and blame him for healthcare problems (which ironically also came about in 2000). We should blame him for not

waving his magic wand and making things better instantly. After all, it certainly is convenient enough.

Alex Mangie

**Sweet says thanks for Homecoming**

Editor:  
 Congratulations to all involved in the past weekend's Homecoming 2005 festivities. The temperature may have been low and the rainfall steady, but the Penguin spirits were high! Homecoming provides an opportunity to salute our YSU alumni success stories — and there are many. Edwin Thompson, Class of 1934, won the award for the oldest alumnus in attendance.

To those who planned the events of the week, organized the parade, walked or rode up Fifth Avenue in the rain, and the hearty individuals who stood in the rain to watch the parade, a grateful thank you. In particular, my appreciation goes out to Dr. Cynthia Anderson, vice president of Student Affairs, and the Office of Student Activities, lead by Greg Gulas.

To the Marching Pride for your continuing the tradition of an outstanding YSU marching band, to the Homecoming King Keith Logan and Queen Janel Finch and their court, a hearty congratulations. To our football players and coaches under the leadership of head coach Jon Heacock, what a great game and season — keep up the good work. Finally, for those who did not take advantage of the week's activities, you missed a great time — get involved next year.

David C. Sweet  
 President, Youngstown State  
 University



GRADUATE SCHOOL

# Updated GRE to debut in 2006

By: Eric Grosso  
FEATURES REPORTER

The Graduate Record Exam, the admissions test used by most graduate programs across the country, has gone through the most significant changes since its inception, including nearly doubling the length. The updated GRE will start in October 2006.

The test affects nearly 500,000 future graduate students, with the changes attempting to better predict graduate school readiness and more accurately predict how well students will perform.

The Educational Testing Service (ETS) had been working on the changes for the last four years, according to Ben Baron, vice president of the Kaplan graduate school program. Kaplan is the leading company in the nation in preparing students for the test and has been monitoring the changes made by ETS.

In addition to trying to better predict student readiness, the ETS is trying to make the test more secure. Citing problems of test takers memorizing and then posting the answers, ETS is changing the format of the test.

Older tests were adaptive in nature, meaning the set of questions given were determined upon the initial responses of the test taker. The new test will be in linear format, making the test bank

the same for each test, although there will be a much larger question bank, increasing the time to take the test to four hours from the old length of two and a half hours.

Some other changes include 15 fewer minutes for the written portion, more mathematical word problems, fewer geometry questions and paraphrasing text in the verbal section rather than choosing synonyms and antonyms.

ETS claims they changed the verbal sections would require "less dependence on vocabulary," according to ETS spokesman Tom Ewing.

"Rather than memorization, we want there to be an emphasis on skills related to graduate work, such as complex reasoning," Ewing said.

YSU uses the GRE test for students who wish obtain a graduate degree but have a GPA of less than 2.7, according to the YSU School of Graduate Studies web site. Students can also take the Miller Analogies Test or a graduate level subject-specific exam for admittance.

Mandy Stewart, finance major who is planning to attend graduate school for economics, thinks the change won't affect other students wanting to further their education.

"If a student wants to get into medical school, they sit through MCAT for like eight hours, law school kids go through the LSAT and that's

pretty long, too," Stewart said. "If someone wants to keep their education going, they're going to sit through whatever test they have to."

Stewart noted the changes would be good for graduate programs.

"If the test gets longer, and if it gets harder, there won't be as many people at grad schools. It will cut out the lower portion of the academic field because of the harder test, making the graduate school student body a little smarter as a whole" said Stewart.

ETS used feedback from graduate schools when making the changes to the test, according to Baron. Once the new formats start, Kaplan plans to gather feedback on how the changes affect students and graduate programs.

Kaplan is planning a free practice test for the general GRE test at YSU on Nov. 12. Students can register at www.kaptest.com. Baron cautioned students not to wait if they want to take a test in the old format before October 2006.

"From my past experience, there's usually a big rush of activity before a change like this," Baron stated. "You don't want to wait too long."

ETS testing centers are located throughout Ohio, including Columbus, Cleveland, Niles, Mentor, Strongsville and various other cities.

Call Eric Grosso at (330) 941-1913.

**POLICE BLOTTER**

A YSU faculty member reported two textbooks valued at \$243 were removed from her cubicle in Maag Library on Oct. 18. Police noted the books have not been

sold back to Campus Book and Supply. Two DVD players valued at \$100 were discovered missing on Oct. 19 from Maag Library. According to

police, only student tutors, Maag staff and Johnson & Gordon have keys to the room where the players were stored and that security cameras may be installed in the future.

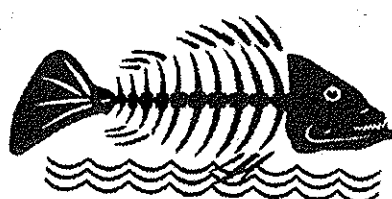
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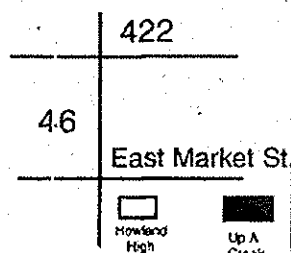
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[www.kc.ysu.edu](http://www.kc.ysu.edu)

## Youngstown State University Law Day

YSU Law Day will take place Wednesday, October 26, 2005 from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center.

Representatives from various law schools will be available to answer questions, distribute catalogues, applications and financial aid information, etc. for their particular schools.

This is a unique opportunity for students who are considering a career in the law to gather information about law school programs and to become acquainted with the representatives who will be reviewing their application.

This event is free and open to the public.

Sponsored by the Political Science Dept.

BOOK REVIEW

# Savage's book gives look at gay family

By: Charreah Jackson  
KRT CAMPUS

He may name bodily discharges after politicians and be brutally honest in his syndicated sex column "Savage Love," but Dan Savage lets his softer side out to play in his new book, "The Commitment: Love, Sex, Marriage, and My Family."

Released in September, the book is an amusing and eerily familiar memoir of Savage and boyfriend Terry's marriage dilemma as they approach their 10-year anniversary. Add into the mix the nation's recent focus on gay marriage, the couple's 6-year-old adopted son, D.J., who opposes his dad's saying 'I Do,' Savage's devout Catholic mother, and you have the makings of a great read.

Dan and Terry flip flop with the idea of marrying to the last page, even fooling some readers with "The Commitment's" twist of an ending.

"I felt compelled to write the book how (Terry and I) really felt," Savage said. "It could have just as easily ended the other way."

As the editor of Seattle's "The Stranger," author of four books, columnist, partner and father, Savage has his plate heaped high. Even so, Savage admits he and Terry are making plans to expand their family.

"When straight couples say they are gonna have another baby it usually means lots of sex," he said. "For us, it means a lot of paperwork."

Though Savage's quick wit and humor make him a sex-advice favorite for the curious — gay or straight — he is serious when he shares how much things have progressed for the gay community since he came out more than 25 years ago. According to Savage, when you came out back then you risked losing everything from your job to your family and becoming a social outcast.



Photo courtesy of skippingtowardsgommorah.com

"We've come so far, so fast. It's thrilling. It's disorienting," Savage said.

For many, the thought of baring their most-private moments and thoughts is terrifying. But for Savage writing "The Commitment" was business as usual and holds an even greater purpose than a mere tell-all.

"When people know gay couples personally, they are not so afraid of gay families," he said. "(But) maybe you don't live around gay people, so you can meet a gay family through the book."

Dan Savage may have to pay his son more money than he would like, as he and Terry agree to pay D.J. \$1 for each curse word they say in an effort to cut back on the habit, and

others may not think the couple's "property of . . ." tattoos as the best way to express their love, but throughout his book and in his daily life Savage is only out to live his life as he — and Terry, D.J. and Mom — see fit.

Savage's words often transcend sexuality: "You really have to listen to your body and heart. When people, and not just gay people, live a life that others want them to have, they only make themselves and (others) miserable. Only when you make yourself happy, can you make others happy."

Whether readers love or hate the book, "The Commitment" is Dan's story, and he chooses to let others inside the place closest to his heart — his family.

HEALTH

# Meningitis vaccine may have link to brain disorder

By: Laura Biel  
KRT CAMPUS

SAN FRANCISCO — Public health officials are investigating whether a new vaccine designed to help prevent meningitis, particularly among college students in dorms, could be linked to a rare neurological condition.

The vaccine, called Menactra, helps protect against certain strains of meningococcal bacteria. Produced by Sanofi Pasteur, the vaccine was approved for use in January. While another vaccine was already on the market, doctors had hoped that the new formulation might offer longer immunity.

Since Oct. 4, officials at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have received reports that five teenagers, all ages 17 and 18, developed symptoms of Guillain-Barre syndrome within six weeks of getting the new vaccine. About 2.5 million doses of the vaccine have been sold.

GBS is a disorder in which the body's immune system attacks part of the

peripheral nervous system.

While the number of cases is not apparently abnormal, officials are concerned because they occurred so quickly after the teens got the shots. Dr. Nancy Rosenstein of the CDC told experts gathered Friday in San Francisco for the annual meeting of the Infectious Diseases Society of America.

The CDC issued an alert Thursday night in its Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report that physicians should be acutely aware of any symptoms of GBS in patients newly vaccinated with Menactra. Because no link between the two has been established, officials are recommending continued use of the vaccine.

A similar vaccine has been used in Britain, where 30 million doses have been administered with only five cases of GBS reported.

In a statement, Sinofi Pasteur said, "No causal relationship has been established between Menactra vaccination and GBS, and there remain several possible explanations for the reported cases of GBS."

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[www.thejambar.com](http://www.thejambar.com)

SGA, continued from page 1

movies to campus.

The student affairs committee came up with the plan to show movies for students free of charge throughout the semester.

John Vogel, vice president for student affairs, said the first movie will be "The 40-Year-Old Virgin," and will be shown 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 3 in Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room.

Other items on this week's agenda included the results of a meeting held last Friday concerning the University Safety Committee's proposal regarding the painted rock outside of Kilcawley Center.

SGA president, Bob McGovern said, the meeting went well and the committee decided to go ahead with their communications/awareness proposal.

"We were thinking of using a catchy slogan such as 'Paint the rock, not the walk,'" McGovern said.

SGA Parliamentarian Chad Miller said the proposal for a United Way fund raiser involving a raffle of a

guitar, which was to be autographed by members of the band 3 Doors Down, ultimately fell through because they couldn't obtain permission for the raffle.

Miller said he spoke to Pat Shively, associate director of the center for student progress, about the possibility of raffling tickets to future concerts at the Convocation Center.

After missing three meetings and failing to turn in his contingency report, college of business representative Josh Sturges' SGA membership is up for review, SGA Chief of Staff Diana Awad said.

"I have sent him an email letting him know about the issue, and he has yet to respond," Awad said.

SGA decided to hold off on making a decision regarding Sturges' status until he is able to defend himself.

Sarah Vansuch, chair of the student affairs committee, said she has been in touch with Sturges and he told her his absenteeism was due to scheduling con-

flicts with work.

Joe Iesue, the chair of the academic affairs committee, asked about past instances of absenteeism.

"I remember last year, one of the graduate student representatives missing some days," Iesue said.

Vice President Amanda Mielke said intermittent absences were excusable, but that this wasn't the case with Sturges.

"It's okay to miss meetings sporadically, but not three in a row and two committee meetings," Mielke said.

During the meeting, SGA passed a bill to appropriate money to seven organizations for events including: \$210 out of \$1,850 requested by the Protestant Campus Ministry for their trip to the Holocaust Museum in Washington D.C. to pay for gas for the trip; \$317.40 out of \$500 requested by Alpha Kappa Alpha for the cost of renting lanes at Camelot Lanes in

Boardman; \$492 out of \$1,495 requested by the Residence Hall Association to pay for the registration costs of four members to attend the Central Atlantic Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls conference at Penn State; \$160 out of \$375 requested for RHA and Dance Club to defray the costs of their Halloween party at Peaberry's on Oct. 28; \$900 out of \$2,309 requested for Phi Kappa Tau to offset the cost of their second annual "Game of Hope," a celebrity basketball game that will benefit the Hole in the Wall Gang and the Rich Center for Autism; \$100 out of \$100 requested for Urban Dancers to pay for food for a Halloween Party at Peaberry's on Oct. 31; \$150 out of \$150 requested by the University Scholars to pay for security for their ShantyTown homelessness awareness event.

Call Cheryl Thompson at (330) 941-1913.

**Lose something?**

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[www.kc.ysu.edu](http://www.kc.ysu.edu)

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## COFFELT, continued from page 1

were't cleared away from the property when the former houses were demolished. Once found, they had to be removed.

"It was our biggest problem. If we didn't fix it, it would have come back as a problem," Scarnecchia said.

Scarnecchia said the budget provided for the removal of bad material from the ground, but they hadn't planned on finding so much. He said that if they had conducted test digs at the lot, they would have realized there was more material than they expected, but they would have still removed the material.

Scarnecchia said that the delays were ultimately in the best interest of both workers and students who would use the lot.

"It was easier to work with no cars in the lot. We had more freedom to move about and didn't have to shut down sections of the lot when we needed to do something," Scarnecchia said.

Hyden said the project, even with its setbacks would be within the lower end of the \$1.5 to \$1.7 million budgeted to the project. Hyden said he expects to have a final figure once the lot is totally completed.

Scarnecchia said construction on the lot could be completed without charging more money for a parking permit. He cited Akron as an example of a university that had to raise

parking rates in order to pay for construction work. Scarnecchia said it was good that the university didn't raise its rates in the wake of the construction, though that might happen in the future following newer projects.

What's left to be completed in the lot are landscaping jobs and the installation of items such as fences and emergency telephones. Scarnecchia said the lot could be finished in a week-and-a-half to two weeks, depending on the weather.

Scarnecchia said the lot was part of YSU's gateway plan, designed to be attractive to visitors as they enter YSU's campus core. The lot also makes use of a bioswell system as a method of collecting runoff rainwater.

Scarnecchia said that YSU parking had other projects it was working on over a period of years. He mentioned the M-2 parking deck on Lincoln, which will eventually be replaced as a lot because of repair costs.

"We use a consultant firm to check for repairs that the deck needs to remain safe. Is it safe? Yes. If not we wouldn't use it," Scarnecchia said.

He said the deck was getting close to the end of its useful life, though. As costs to repair the M-2 deck increase, Scarnecchia said it would be cheaper to simply build a new lot.

Call Bill Rodgers at (330) 941-1989.

## Martin Luther King III to visit

Martin Luther King, III, son of civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr., will meet with Mahoning Valley leaders at 8:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 28, in the Bresnahan Suites in Kilcawley Center. This invitation-only meeting will be followed by an open public reception at 10:30 a.m.

## Halloween Events at the Planetarium

The Ward Beecher Planetarium will feature Halloween-related events on Oct. 28, 29, and 30. Some of the events include the annual Halloween Show, Nightlights and Halloween Mars Madness. For more information, visit [cc.yzu.edu/physics-astro/planet.htm](http://cc.yzu.edu/physics-astro/planet.htm)

## Pink Ribbon Cheer Classic

Zeta Tau Alpha will host the fifth annual Pink Ribbon Cheer Classic 10 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 30 in Beeghly Center. High school cheerleaders will perform routines dedicated to women who have had breast cancer. The event raised nearly \$24,000 last year. Donations may be made by contacting Rebecca Muckridge at (330) 240-4752.

Call 330-941-1991 to tell us about your events.

## SCHOOLS, continued from page 1

running for the three open seats on the Board of Education, including fellow YSU student and Boardman graduate David Sisk. The top three vote-getters will get to serve on the board of education.

"I'm a proud second generation graduate of Boardman High School. I have a lot of pride and respect for the city and the schools," Ehrenberg said.

As a 2002 graduate, Ehrenberg is one year younger than Sisk, making him the youngest in the race for Boardman's Board of Education.

"This isn't something that I'm doing for experience, it's not something to put on a resume. That's the difference," Ehrenberg said. "My passion and will to go the extra mile will prove that."

While at Boardman, he was the vice president of the school's student government. He said that a lot of his leadership abilities came from running a restaurant in Campbell for four years, beginning when he was 17.

Through the Ohio Department of Education and working with the current board, Ehrenberg says he picked up things like numbers policies quickly. He also

noted those were just some of the things he had learned while campaigning.

"One thing I've noticed are people's intentions. As you start to get involved in politics, you start to notice a lot of hidden agendas," he said. "I have a genuinely positive agenda with a true desire for productivity and efficiency in Boardman schools."

Ehrenberg said one of his biggest concerns in the Boardman City Schools was the Adequate Yearly Progress Reports from the state and restoring Boardman Education to an excellent rating, while continuing the effort to remain at that level in the future. He cites a passive role by the board in the past as being ineffective and resulting in the new continuous improvement rating.

He said his other focus is the phasing out of a property tax in Boardman that provides about 10 percent of funding for the schools.

"That's a large portion of our funding, around \$40-45 million. We have to find a way to not cut curriculum," Ehrenberg said.

He said he plans to achieve his goals for financing the district by working with state legislation. Ehrenberg went to Columbus with current SGA president Bob McGovern and other students last spring to help raise awareness about tuition increases and try to

make changes. He said that helped him learn about the way state legislation works.

"There will always be shortfalls in funding for education in today's economy. We must not compromise the education of our students, and keep their best interests in mind," Ehrenberg said.

"I believe education is the core economic resource that drives our society. A local school board should be a cross-section of the community. I will bring diversity to the Boardman School Board with a positive voice and with an innovative, youthful perspective; a younger voice closer to the generation in school is both necessary and beneficial," Ehrenberg said.

He also sits on the executive board on the Ohio Conference of Teamsters.

Ehrenberg is also the advisor for Flood Aid by Boardman Students, which aims to raise money for the students affected by Hurricane Katrina. Estimates show that about 170,000 students in Mississippi and Louisiana have been displaced. The fundraising efforts will culminate with a concert.

For more information on the concert or Ehrenberg, visit [www.Ehrenberg4Board.com](http://www.Ehrenberg4Board.com).

Call Katie Libecco at (330) 941-3758.



Jambar / Ron Stevens

**ABOVE:** The Youngstown community came out in support of YSU's Homecoming for the parade. "One for the thumb" references the four National Championship rings already won by YSU. **RIGHT:** Some of YSU's female fans got all dressed up and painted for the Homecoming game Saturday against Missouri State. **BELOW RIGHT:** Not to be outdone, these YSU fans attended the game sans shirts despite the inclimate weather. Playoff excitement continues to spread across the campus after the Penguins beat Missouri State, 31-7, Saturday.



## SPIRITS, continued from page 1

is guarding it with her life," Finch said. "She won't let anyone touch it."

Pouring rain and 40-degree temperatures didn't dampen the spirits of fans attending Saturday's game where the Penguins came out victorious over the Bears in a 31-7 win.

The student section, located on the East Side of Stambaugh Stadium near the band, started to fill with fans. The stadium was virtual sea of red, white and black. Some students showed support by donning YSU sweatshirts, ponchos, t-shirts and jackets. Others showed school spirit by showing up with no Penguin garb, but instead painted on signs of support.

Several students showed enthusiasm for the penguins by painting letters across their chests and backs to spell out slogans such as "Go 'Guins!" and "Go YSU!"

Paul Wilbrink, a junior, who said he attended every home game this season, not only attended this game braving the nasty weather, but showed school spirit by going shirtless with a

red "S" painted on his chest.

"Going to the games has always been a blast," Wilbrink said, before he joined in with the crowd chanting "De-fense!"

Sophomore Bill Borrelli, another Penguins fan who went shirtless for the game, said this wasn't the coldest game he painted himself for, but it was close.

"It is very cold out, but I did this because YSU's looking tough this year," Borrelli said.

Leading up to the game was the homecoming parade which featured the YSU Marching Band, antique cars, Aut Mori Grotto clowns and floats crafted from various fraternities, sororities and student organizations.

Carrie Anderson, a graduate student who helped coordinate homecoming activities, said the disagreeable weather hampered audience participation, but there were still some spectators.

"Despite the rain, we had a pretty good turn out. All but one of the floats that were scheduled to be there

showed up," Anderson said.

Campus organizations represented in the parade by floats were Zeta Tau Alpha and Sigma Tau Gamma, Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Sigma Chi, Phi Kappa Tau and Delta Zeta, Phi Mu Alpha and Alpha Omega Pi, Alpha Phi Delta and Theta Chi, Alpha Xi Delta, Alpha Kappa Alpha and Students in Fashions and Interiors.

Winners of this year's float contest were Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Sigma Chi for best overall, Zeta Tau Alpha and Sigma Tau Gamma for most creative and Alpha Xi Delta for most spirited.

Keeping with this year's theme "March of the Penguins, in Search of the Fifth Ring," Stef Gott of Alpha Xi Delta said she made sure her sorority's float did plenty to represent YSU.

"The design for our float was a pirate ship that featured a giant treasure chest with a gold ring inside, we wanted to show a lot of YSU spirit," Gott said.

Call Cheryl Thompson at (330) 941-1913.



- ▶ 10/25 — Women's golf @ Cincinnati Invitational
- ▶ 10/28 — Soccer @ Detroit
- ▶ 10/28 — Swimming & Diving vs. Canisius, 4 p.m.
- ▶ 10/28 — Volleyball vs. Cleveland State, 7 p.m.
- ▶ 10/29 — Cross country @ Horizon League Championships

YSU FOOTBALL

# Mason, 'Guins run over MSU

YSU is now ranked No. 11 in Division 1-AA football

By: Justin Smolkovich  
SPORTS REPORTER

Following the Penguins' 31-7 victory against Missouri State Saturday night, Youngstown State starting tailback Marcus Mason probably wanted nothing more than a bed and hours of uninterrupted sleep.

"I'm really tired," Mason said after the game. Mason accounted for nearly 45 percent of the Penguins offense, toting the ball 32 times for 203 yards and a touchdown, giving him reason enough for wanting a nap. Mason has rushed for 100 yards in four straight games, the first Penguin runner to accomplish that since Tamron Smith in 1991. Mason also recorded the first 200-yard game by a Penguin since 2002.

Mason, however, was only one part of a prolific YSU offense that complimented a stingy Penguin defense.

Senior defensive end Justin Scholes, who had his own big night on defense with five solo tackles and two sacks, said that watching Mason run is quite a sight.

"He is a hard-nosed back," Scholes said. "It is exciting to see him break tackles."

After the halftime festivities the Penguins led only 10-7 behind a Brian Palmer 19-yard field goal and a Mason 26 yard run. The three-point lead did not reflect the way the

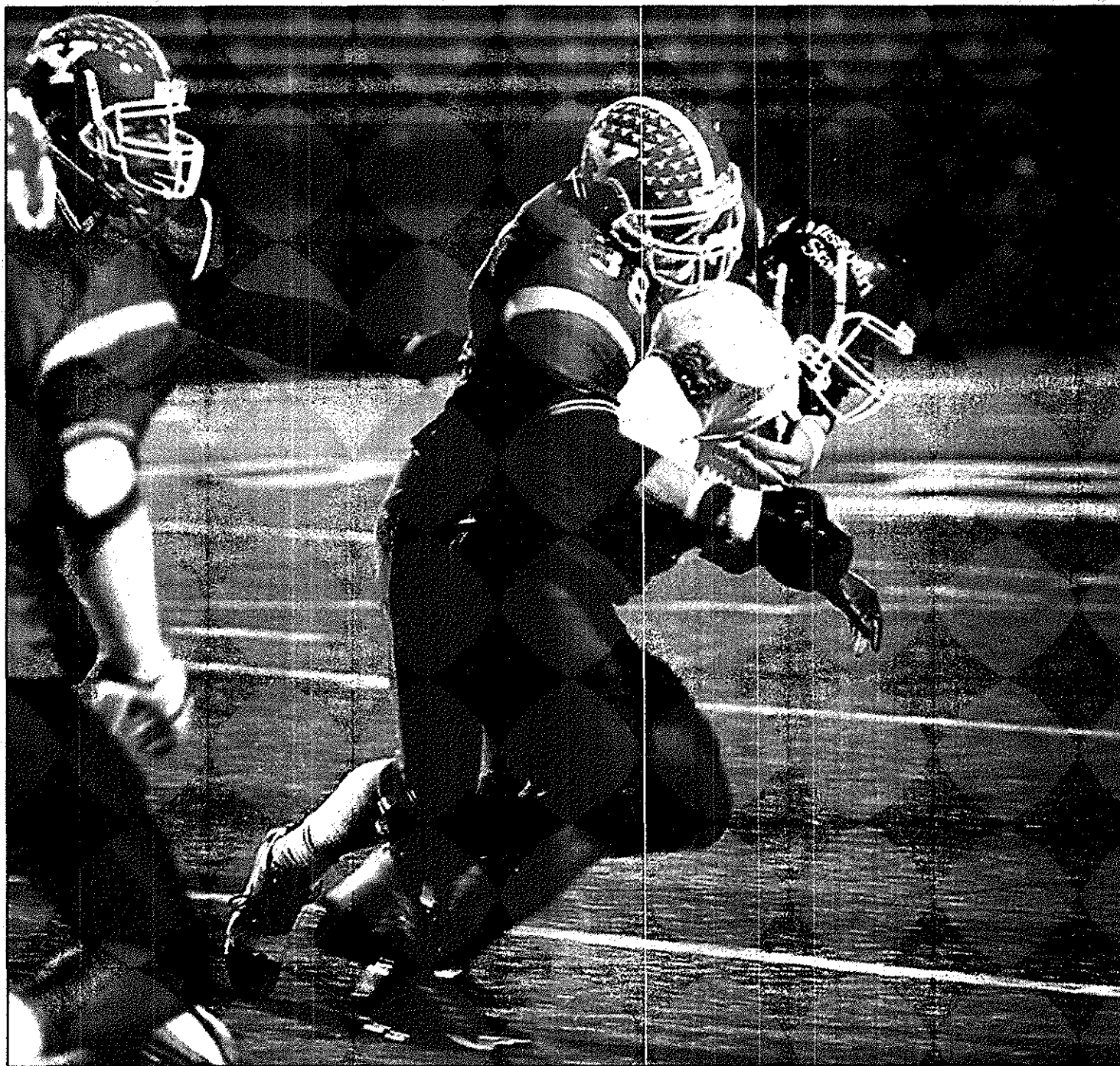
Team	Gateway	Overall
YSU	4-0	7-1
WKU	4-0	6-1
SIU	3-1	5-2
ILS	2-2	5-3
UNI	2-2	4-3
MSU	1-3	3-4
WIU	0-4	2-6
INS	0-4	0-8

Penguins were playing, evident by the 214 yards in the first half compared to just 89 for the Bears. The Bears also proved to be recipients of luck twice on special teams. The Bears blocked a punt and recovered a bobbled punt twice in the first half, but could only muster seven points despite the great starting position.

The second half proved to be a different story. After a scoreless third quarter, the Penguins offense erupted in the fourth quarter for 21 points behind backup quarterback Vince Gliatta.

Gliatta earned his first of two touchdowns on the night midway through the fourth on a seven-yard scamper.

Not to be outdone, the Penguins flexed their muscle and quickly returned the ball back to their cohorts on the offensive side of the ball. Codera Jackson picked off a Scott Carroll pass and returned it 17 yards to the 30 yard line. The junior's interception was his sixth of the season. The Penguins, as a team, last year only recorded seven interceptions.



Scholes said the interception is becoming a typical example of the grittiness of the defense late in the game.

Head coach Jon Heacock said that the Penguins were fortunate that his defense played as well as they did in the second half.

"We were blessed that our defense played like crazy in the second half," Heacock said. "I think we just played inspired football in the second half."

'Inspired' would be a perfect word to describe the Penguins' play in the second half, as the offense railed off 255 offensive yards to finish the night with 469 yards. The Bears however were limited to only 165 total yards for the night.

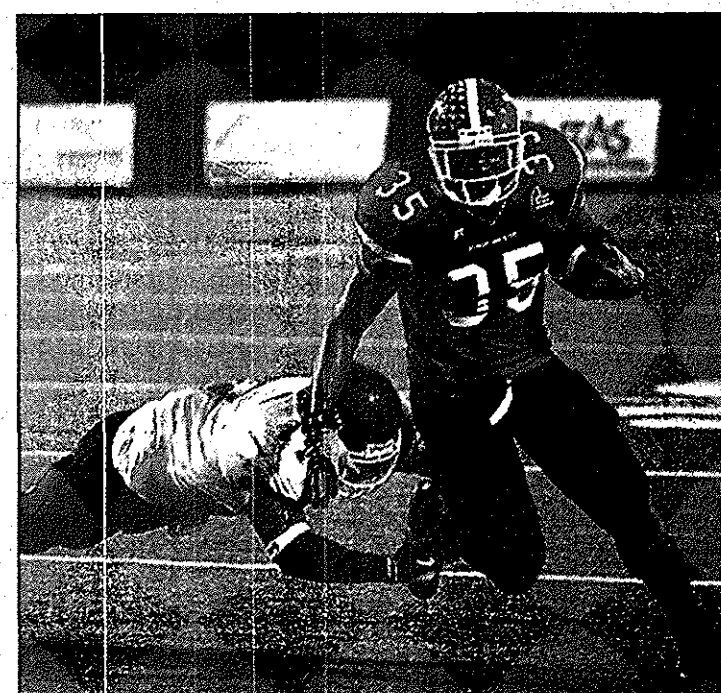
Gliatta struck once again following the Jackson pick, this time a keeper from 14 yards out.

The Penguins finished the game with a Justin Reams seven-yard touchdown run.

With the win the Penguins earned a No. 11 ranking in the Sports Network 2005 I-AA Top 25 Poll, moving up 4 spots from last week's No. 15 ranking. The Penguins are off to their best start under Heacock at 7-1 and 4-0 in the Gateway Conference. They are looking to surpass their 8-1 start in 2000.

The Penguins hit the road once again Saturday when they travel to the campus of Northern Iowa for a battle against a Panthers team that is reeling after a 38-3 shellacking last week to Illinois State. Kick off is set for 4:00 p.m.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758.



Jambar / Ron Stevens

**TOP:** Penguin linebacker Marty Hutchinson grabs ahold of a Missouri State ballcarrier during Saturday's game. **ABOVE:** YSU fullback Demetrius Ison breaks a tackle for a gain in Saturday's game against Missouri State.

YSU VOLLEYBALL

# Unfriendly weekend for YSU volleyballers

By: Justin Smolkovich  
SPORTS REPORTER

The weekend proved unfriendly for the Youngstown State University volleyball team as they dropped two games in two days.

The Penguins started the weekend on Friday night at Beeghly Center where they hosted Butler, who came in with an overall record of 8-11 and a 3-4 Horizon League mark.

The Penguins were outmatched, however, as the Bulldogs swept the Penguins in three games. The Penguins were competitive in the first game, as they traded leads with the Bulldogs five times. The Penguins lost the three games by scores of 30-26, 30-16 and 30-26.

Leading the way against the Bulldogs were two seniors, Katie Shea and Crystal Duncan. Both paced the Penguins with 12 kills and 10 kills. The Penguins were also aided in their efforts by fellow senior Angie Pasquinelli who recorded her fifth straight double-double with 38 assists

and 11 digs.

Saturday wasn't much better for the Penguins who after the loss to Butler Friday had their record drop to 7-14 overall and a 0-8 conference mark. The Penguins hosted Wright State in a conference battle. The results were similar to Friday's outcome.

The Penguins were bested in three games by scores of 30-24, 30-26 and 18-30.

Once again, the Penguins were paced offensively by Katie Shea who recorded 11 kills and four blocks. Fellow senior Abby Ettenhoffer led the Penguins in kills with 14 while Pasquinelli recorded 36 assists and 10 digs. With the 36 assists, Pasquinelli moved into second place in the Penguin's record book for career assists with 3,730.

With Saturday's loss, the Penguins dropped to 7-15 and 0-9 in the Horizon League.

The team returns to action on Friday when they host in-state rival Cleveland State at 7 p.m. in Beeghly Center.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758.

SPORTS FOCUS

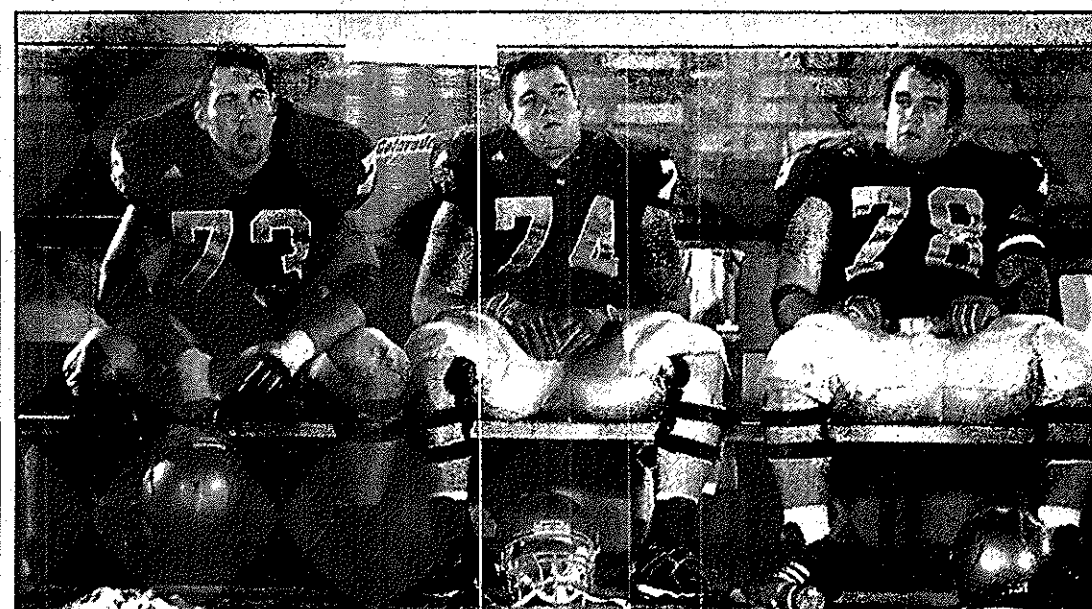


Photo courtesy of KRTcampus.com

Notre Dame's Mark LeVoi, from left, Dan Stevenson and John Sullivan sit on the bench in disbelief after losing in the final seconds against USC, Saturday, October 15, 2005, at Notre Dame stadium in South Bend, Indiana. USC won 34-31.

## Instant replay digging into other sports

By: Michelle Kaufman  
KRT CAMPUS

Upon further review, most baseball purists continue to resist instant replay.

They would rather debate for weeks, maybe months, whether Angels catcher Josh Paul trapped or caught the pitch that Chicago's A.J. Pierzynski swung at and missed in what could have been the final out of Game 2

of the American League Championship Series.

They analyzed television replays of that pitch from every angle. They dissected umpire Doug Eddings' hand motions and the puff of dirt that emerged from Paul's glove. But don't expect video replay to invade their hallowed, if imperfect, sport. Not as long as Bud Selig is commissioner, anyway, and maybe not after that, either.

"The game's good the way it is, so let's leave it like that," said former Florida Marlins manager Jack McKeon, reached at his North Carolina home.

"Human error has always been part of the game. We make mistakes, the players make mistakes, and the umpires make mistakes. If we start to challenge every call, the game will get too

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COMMENTARY

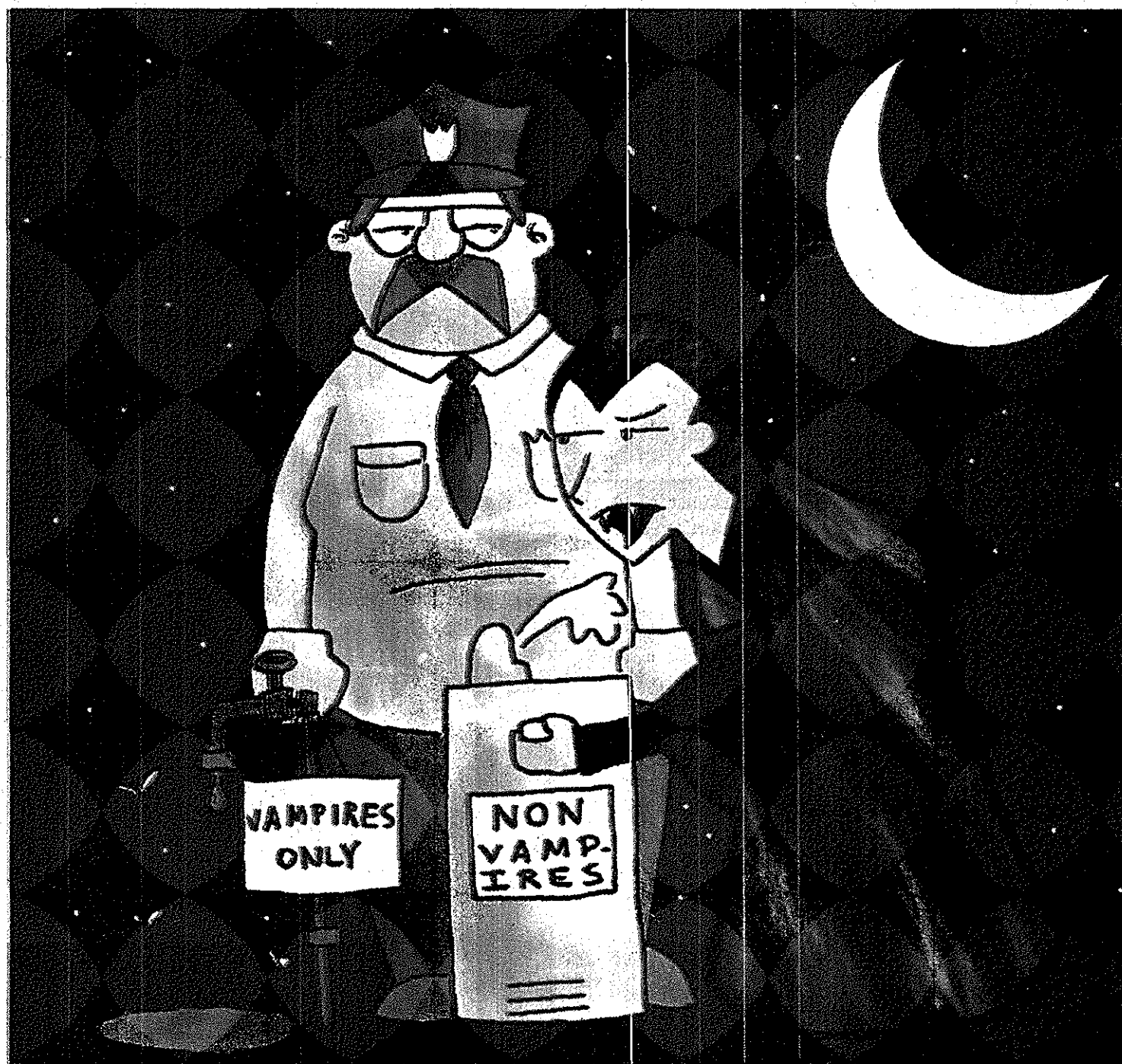
# It's like living 'Castlevania'

By: Bob Mackey  
COLUMNIST

I've been mulling this over for a while, and I think The Jambar is the best forum for the following shocking announcement: I am a vampire. Even at this point, it's hard for me to admit, but I guess now is the appropriate time, as the Halloween season is upon us. At first, I was in denial, and thought that my natural aversion to sunlight and fear of garlic were just the side effects of being socially challenged and being afraid of The Olive Garden due to its tenuous connections with Benito Mussolini. Later, still in denial, I thought I was turning into a goth; this idea was dismissed when I noticed that my taste in music was not deplorable and also because I've never ventured into the backwash of pop culture that is Hot Topic. It was only when I took a look in my bathroom mirror and saw absolutely nothing staring back that I came to the startling realization of my vampirehood. Yes, I had just taken a shower and that mirror was pretty foggy, but I'm just going to assume that behind the condensation, there was no reflection of a healthy, non-vampire young man.

With my new identity and fashionable cape, I've been taking notice and offense at the war cries of all of the anti-vampire lobbyists in Washington. They say vampirism is a choice. Well, I have to strongly disagree with this fallacy. Yes, maybe I did choose to go to the vampire party, and maybe I did choose to clean my neck at the door as they specified, and maybe I was pushing it a little when I chose to let the vampires hold me down. I have to admit, though, when the vampires asked me to sign both a waiver and a non-disclosure agreement, it may have not been in my best interest to go along with it. But the rest of it was out of my hands! I honestly thought they were kidding. Do you know how many parties I've been to where I've come home missing most of my blood? Dozens, literally dozens, and those times I never awoke the next morning a nosferatu. Why should I be held responsible?

Thinking about my future of living with vampirism, it seems that my romantic life will be as lonely as that of a ventriloquist or high school gym teacher. I don't know if any of you have seen the stats on the vampire race, but it's a total sausage-fest. And if you've ever met that Lestat guy, you'd just be creeped out by how much he talks about "friendly" spooning and watching Gilmore Girls with his "guy friends." Female vampires are harder to find than a person at a Kenny Chesney concert whose T-shirt is not tucked into his or her jeans. And even if I do find a vampire bride, the sad fact is that vampire weddings are only legal in Alabama, which begs the question, why would anyone willingly go to Alabama? Yet, my people do go there, and



every vampire wedding I see is always swarmed by angry Southern Baptists holding signs which has statements written on them, such as "god hates vampires" and "stop Northern aggression."

I think that we vampires need to win the hearts and minds of the people in this mostly-Christian country in order to get equal rights. Keep in mind I'm not using "win the hearts and minds of the people" in the military sense, which basically means "blow things up indiscriminately." I'm talking about a real campaign to let the god-fearing public know that god is as cool with vampires as he is with cancer (remember, he created it). Take a look at the Bible; not the Old Testament, which had a persnickety jerk of a god who sent bears to eat children, but the New Testament, where god chilled out and had his bearded socialist son tell everyone to take it easy, until they killed him. I believe it was somewhere towards the middle of the Bible where Jesus said, "As you do unto the least of my vampires, so

you do unto me." And wasn't Jesus also heard to remark, "I gotta believe!" Alright, maybe that was from Parappa the Rapper, but we can all agree that little hip-hop dog was spreading the teachings of the J-man.

Personally, I don't think that vampire rights can be too far off. After all, the recent movie "Land of the Dead" showed us all that zombies should be treated as equals. Even if that is one of the worst ideas ever conceived in the history mankind, vampires have a few things that zombies are missing: fashion, manners, and the complete use of motor skills. Also, when vampires bite you, they never tear off a chunk, and there's always a chance they could ask you to become a fellow immortal night stalker. That's downright neighborly! But really, it's only when society becomes comfortable with vampires that I can be comfortable with myself. Until then, the only thing that makes me happy is knowing that it's now socially acceptable for me to bite people.

Call Bob Mackey at (330) 941-1913.

YOUNGSTOWN

# Convocation Center set for first-ever concert

By: Katie Libecco  
COPY EDITOR

After years of planning, construction and over \$45 million, the Youngstown Convocation Center, 200 E. Front St., will hold its first concert this weekend.

3 Doors Down will be the featured act for the arena's first show on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Shinedown and Alter Bridge are slated as the show's opening acts.

3 Doors Down previously appeared at Youngstown State University's Beeghly Center to highlight YSU's 2003 Homecoming Week.

3 Doors Down consists of Brad Arnold as lead vocalist, Matt Roberts on guitar, Todd Harrell on bass and Chris Henderson on guitar. They were nominated for an American Music Award in the Pop/Rock favorite band/duo group category in September.

Although the band is rock, their Southern roots are revealed on many tracks. Their most popular and successful songs include "Kryptonite," "Loser," "When I'm Gone" and "Here Without You."

Their band's latest album, "Seventeen Days," was released in February. "Seventeen Days" went



Photo courtesy of 3doorsdown.com

platinum in its first week and debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard 200.

3 Doors Down calls Escatawpa, Miss., their hometown, which was one of the town's hit hardest by Hurricane Katrina. To help with the relief effort, the band bought and personally delivered three police cars and a fire truck for the city. The band has also worked with the Federal Emergency

Management Agency and the American Red Cross.

They have also raised money for relief efforts through the sale of their albums, tickets and by appearing in the "ReAct, Now: Music & Relief" special which aired on MTV, VH1 and CMT.

Shinedown is typically classified as alternative rock. They are known for their well-produced

melodies and powerful lyrics, including 2004's single, "45." They also released a video covering Lynard Skynard's "Simple Man" in 2004.

The four-piece Southern rock group's original rock style complements the Southern roots of 3 Doors Down.

October has been a good month for Shinedown, as their debut album "Leave a

Whisper" went platinum Oct. 21. Their second release, "Us and Them" was released on Oct. 4, featuring their new single "Save Me."

Also touring with 3 Doors Down and Shinedown is alternative metal group Alter Bridge, which includes former members of Creed.

Just weeks after singer Scott Stapp announced his departure from the group in

June 2004, the former members released the first Alter Bridge album, "One Day Remains." Alter Bridge band members include guitarist Mark Tremonti, drummer Scott Phillips and one-time Creed bassist Brian Marshall. Newcomer Myles Kennedy serves as the group's lead vocalist and is also a guitarist. Kennedy former performed with Mayfield Four.

Alter Bridge's first single was "Open Your Eyes," which went gold within a few weeks of its release. Although still melodic rock, the group's sound is much harder than previous Creed recordings.

Tickets for the 3 Doors Down, Shinedown and Alter Bridge show will be \$35 to \$37.50 at the Convocation Center box office. They may also be purchased by calling (866) 443-8849 or by visiting www.gettix.net.

Tony Bennett will appear Sunday, Oct. 30. Clay Aiken will perform his "Joyful Noise" holiday show Nov. 27 and the Barenaked Ladies are scheduled for Dec. 5.

The SteelHounds hockey team will play their first game Friday, Nov. 4. Call Katie Libecco at (330) 941-3758.