

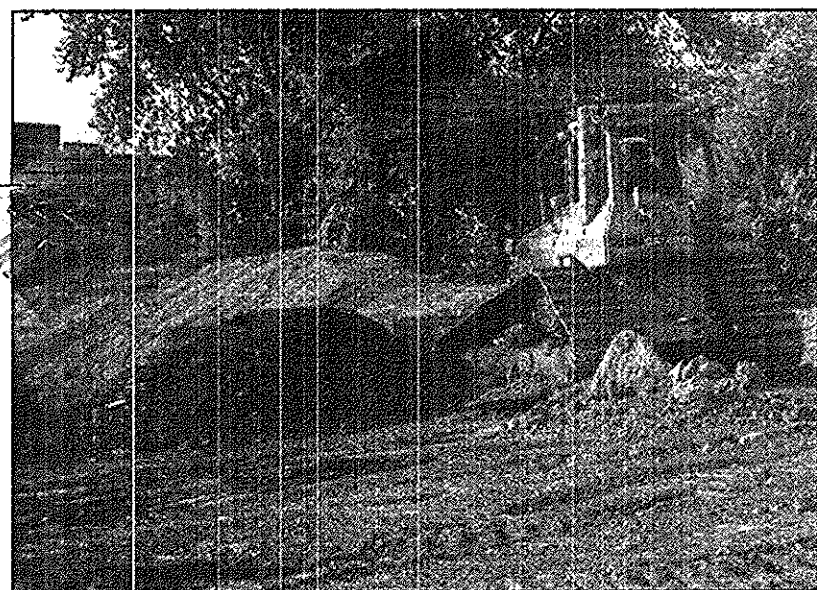
REGROUPING
The Penguins gear up to take on McNeese.
Page 5

BEDROOM TUNES
Some fans listen to his sensual guitar playing to "get in the mood."
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VOLUME 74, ISSUE 18 • WWW.THEJAMBAR.COM • YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY • >>FREE<<

Property purchase poses problem

Land worth \$3K purchased for \$46K



▲ A bulldozer spreads soil excavated from other YSU construction sites over a recently-acquired university property on Adams Street in Smoky Hollow. Bliss Hall is seen in the background.

LEONARD CRIST | The Jambar

At a recent Mahoning County sheriff's sale, a private investor bought 10 vacant lots in Smoky Hollow, an area that Youngstown State University has expressed interest in developing. Now administration officials are asking the YSU Board of Trustees for more freedom when purchasing land.

The investor, Jerome Williams, a Mahoning County sheriff's deputy from Youngstown, purchased the 10 tax-delinquent properties for a total of \$46,154, according to the Mahoning County auditor's Web site. The parcels have a combined appraised value of \$3,000,

the records state.

James Mineo, head of land acquisition for YSU, said the university was unaware of the August sheriff's sale until after it occurred. In the past, YSU had been notified of sheriff's sales, but this time they were not, he said.

Williams, in a phone interview, described himself as a speculative investor. He said he would be open to selling the land, but would also consider building on it.

"I'm leaving my options open," he said.

Vice President for Administration John Habat said YSU already has plans for the



JOHN HABAT

property. YSU's campus master plan calls for the land to be used as a long term parking solution, Habat said.

Additionally, the Smoky Hollow area has been the target of a revitalization campaign spearheaded by YSU and Wick Neighbors, Inc. The plan calls for the development of new housing, streets, parks and commercial space by 2008.

No action is planned for the near future, but as a need arises for the 10 properties, YSU will

see PROPERTY, page 2

Apathy reigns in Homecoming vote

Less than 6 percent of student body voted in this year's election

BILL RODGERS | The Jambar

Students appear to be casting their votes for apathy rather than for homecoming court.

On Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, Youngstown State University students had the opportunity to vote for their favorite homecoming court candidate. However, as students passed through Kilcawley Center some seemed rather indifferent to the process.

Greg Gulas, the assistant director of student activities, was working at the voting booths both days. Gulas said this year's voting was originally supposed to be electronic, but due to technology problems earlier this semester, the decision was made to use paper ballots.

After tallying the votes, the final count of students who voted was 730. Gulas said this number can be attributed to the fact that when it comes to which groups are most dominant in voting, it depends on the candidates.

"The Greek organizations usually have a strong presence in these elections. But it also depends on what organization nominated a candidate and what other organizations that candidate is in," Gulas said. "The more people a candidate knows, the better off he or she is."

Students passing by the voting booths personified Gulas' statement.

"I'm new here. I don't know any of the candidates. I don't

see VOTE, page 4

Library hours on agenda

CHRISTINA POE | The Jambar

Youngstown State University's Academic Senate is checking out the idea of extending library hours during finals week.

The Student Government Association began their second general meeting Monday by passing a resolution regarding library hours that will be sent to Academic Senate for further speculation.

Student Affairs Committee chair Amanda Lewis presented the resolution requesting Maag Library extend hours from 10 p.m. to midnight during the last two weeks of each semester.

Vice President for Student Affairs, Shivani Jindal, said additional hours would give students access to study tools they may

not be able to find outside the university.

Lewis reassured the body that Vice President of Student Affairs Cynthia Anderson said such a change to hours would not raise tuition, assuring the committee that sufficient funds were already available.

During the course of the meeting, the body also discussed the new wYre internet radio station, mass e-mailing through CUE-mail and the upcoming Northeastern Ohio and University Summit meeting.

WYre

Vice President for Financial Affairs, Bob McGovern, said preliminary airing for the wYre Internet radio station is set to

see AGENDA, page 4

FROM DEMOCRACY TO MONARCHY



▲ Polls in Kilcawley Center's arcade drew voters for the YSU homecoming court, but some students maintained casual attitudes toward this year's contest.

Liberty Twp. focus of beautification plans

CHRISTINA POE | The Jambar

Youngstown State University has been working with at least one local community in efforts to beautify the Mahoning Valley.

University President David Sweet said he has been in contact with Liberty Township Trustee Pat Ungaro to discuss improvements in various areas of the nearby community.

Sweet said the concentration would be on Belmont Avenue and Gypsy Lane, which are main connections between Liberty and Youngstown.

Sweet added that the university has an ongoing relationship with Liberty that began before he arrived at YSU and continues today. He said such activities as the Liberty High School involvement with the

Penguin Parade project illustrate that relationship.

"We both have a shared understanding of the importance [of] beautification of the surrounding corridors in regards to Liberty's future and the perception of YSU," Sweet said.

Although Sweet said he and Ungaro have only exchanged

see LIBERTY, page 4

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NEWS IN BRIEF

▶ Sexual harassment workshop Sept. 17

A sexual harassment workshop is being held from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Sept. 17 in the Kilcawley Center Gallery. The goals of the workshop are to help people understand what sexual harassment is, to recognize it in the workplace, to create a positive work environ-

ment and the steps to take if one is harassed. Space is limited. To register, call Rita Roberts in Human Services at ext. 3470 or e-mail her at: rrmroberts@ysu.edu.

▶ Bins to collect cell phones for recycling

Unwanted cell phones can now be placed in recycling bins on campus. Bins have been placed on Kilcawley's first floor, the north entrance of Maag Library and in the Cafaro

and Lyden lobbies. Working with Austintown Township Trustee Lisa Oles, the Youngstown State University recycling department was able to provide this service. All models and brands are accepted. For more information, call YSU Recycling at ext. 2994.

▶ Human resources to host "lunch" series

The training and development group of the human resources department at Youngstown State

University is sponsoring the "Brown Bag Lunch Series." The program teaches supervisors of students or new workers how to work with their employees. The program will be held at noon Sept. 20 in Breshnahan Suite I. Those attending are asked to bring a lunch. The drinks and conversation will be provided. For more information, contact Rita Roberts in Human Services at ext. 3470 or e-mail her at: rrmroberts@ysu.edu.

Weather >> Isolated Storms



the jambar poll question

Did you vote in Homecoming elections?

vote online
www.thejambar.com

PROPERTY
FROM PAGE 1

approach Williams, Habat said.
Last December, the administration received pre-approval from the board to acquire nearly every parcel of land in Smoky Hollow. The approval process is two tiered and officials would have to return to the board for final approval after certain steps have been taken.

Eminent domain
YSU's policy is to negotiate with an owner first. If good faith negotiations break down, the university has the option of acquiring any property within campus bounds, as laid out by the Ohio Board of Regents, through eminent domain, the government right to acquire private property without the owner's consent.

If YSU utilizes eminent domain, it would provide monetary compensation at appraised value, regardless of the price Williams paid for the property, Habat said.

The average appraised value for each parcel of land purchased by Williams was \$300, but the average price paid for each parcel, because of the outstanding tax debt,

was \$4,615, meaning Williams could potentially lose money if eminent domain is utilized.

"He took a risk," Mineo said. "That's what an entrepreneur does. They take risks."

Williams noted that the current appraisals are old and the property is worth more since the

dealt with that when we go to court," Williams said. He said university officials have yet to talk with him.

"I'm 100 percent for Youngstown. They never came to me and said anything," Williams said. "I guess they figure, 'We're big poppa, we don't have to.'"

things done," Mineo said. "That presents the challenge."

To help solve this problem, YSU administration is currently drawing up a proposal for board approval to gain authorization to purchase property that becomes available at sheriff's sales.

The proposal may be

"That's [YSU's] practice – 'We want something for nothing, but if somebody gets it, we get mad.'"

– Jerome Williams

University Courtyard apartments were built.

Before an acquisition of the land is made the university would have it re-appraised.

Habat said the university is not looking for anyone to go through "any unnecessary expense," but will pursue attaining the property.

Williams said if YSU decides to utilize eminent domain, there is nothing he can do about it.

"If they want to go that route, then we have to

Policy changes

Mineo said the university currently has no process to buy land at sheriff's sales.

In order to purchase land under the current policy, the administration must first have pre-approval from the board. Then a title search, an environmental study, and a re-appraisal just be completed, followed by final approval from the board.

"If we go to the sheriff's sale, obviously we can't have any of those

ready for board approval as soon as the Sept. 24 trustees meeting, Mineo said.

Habat said the current policy worked well for YSU when nobody wanted the land, but the new development in Smoky Hollow is bringing more demand and new policies must be devised.

Though YSU officials did not know about the August sheriff's sale, had they known, they probably would not have bid on the property, Mineo said. The

outstanding tax lien exceeded the appraised market value and, according to Habat, the university rarely purchases properties for more than 110 percent of market value.

Mineo said if nobody had bid on the properties, eventually the city land bank would have assumed ownership, enabling the university to purchase the land for a nominal fee.

"That's their practice," Williams said of YSU. "We want something for nothing, but if somebody gets it, we get mad."

Williams said YSU never called him and asked him about his intentions.

He said, "I'm all for the progressive, positive things in Youngstown. I'm a lifelong resident. I love Youngstown."

Mineo said contacting Williams is something the university needs to do. He said the university would treat him as if he were a long established owner of the property.

"If he wants to build, then it would be in his benefit to join in concert with Wick Neighbors and become a partner in it. If he wants to be that type of investor, I would say that's the approach he should go," Mineo said.

LEONARD CRIST | 330-941-1989

POLICE REPORTS

• On Sept. 11, the fourth floor of the University Courtyard apartments was full of smoke. Several packs of fireworks were set off in the hallway around 8 p.m., according to a police report. The officer found an unexploded pack of fireworks and confiscated it for placement in the evidence lockers of the police station. The possible suspects are residents of room 2413, according to the police report.

• An intoxicated male with blood all over his body flagged down an officer at Madison Avenue and Elm Street on Sept. 12. According to a police report, the intoxicated male told the officer he was beaten by multiple suspects who stole his pants and shirt. He was transported to St. Elizabeth Hospital, according to the police report.

• A male refusing sex offers was taunted by a group of females calling him "slow," according to a police report. Terrance Williams, not a current Youngstown State University student, was on campus using computers in Kilcawley Center on Sept. 13. According to the police report, after Williams explained the situation to an officer, the officer was notified that Williams had had several previous trespass warnings and criminal trespassing arrests on YSU property. Williams was arrested and transferred to the Mahoning County Justice Center according to the police report.

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Penguin Power at the Polls

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opinion

- an editorial -

Woman's right to choose is safe - for now

Just over 31 years ago, the United States Supreme Court made a monumental decision.

This ruling, however, was different. This move served as one of the single most pivotal actions in the women's movement of the 1960s and 1970s.

In January 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Texas' strict anti-abortion laws, thereby legalizing a woman's right to an abortion in all 50 states.

The magnitude of the *Roe v. Wade* decision is undeniable. It not only made essential a woman's right to privacy, and the ability to choose what she wanted to do with her own body, but it trumped the right to privacy for all individuals.

Norma McCorvey, or as she was known for the duration of the case "Jane Roe," was the catalyst in this movement. She was the motivation behind getting the *Roe v. Wade* case all the way to the Supreme Court. Her case was the final step in legalizing abortion and advancing women's rights.

McCorvey is now avidly pro-life. In fact, McCorvey had taken steps in the past few weeks to overturn the landmark decision, bringing the information that abortions may cause emotional harm to women before 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans.

It is fortunate for the American people that the three-judge panel dismissed her motion. A woman's right to choose is once again safe—for now.

Her efforts were futile in this instance. Unfortunately, there are others that share her paternalistic philosophy that would like to sweep away the right to choose and replace it with their own moral agenda.

After decades of suppression, an entire generation of women has been comforted by the knowledge that they are in control of their own bodies and their own destinies. It is naive to believe that with the stroke of a pen the government can take away what should be a basic freedom.

The fact is that before abortion was legalized, women still found a way to terminate their pregnancy. If abortion is made illegal today, they will continue to find a way.

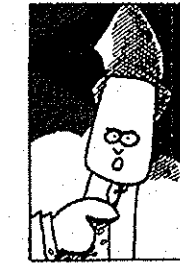
McCorvey cited long-term emotional harm as the reason to overturn *Roe v. Wade*. What she and her followers have failed to see is that the issue is the freedom of choice.

There are many risky choices we can make. The government cannot arbitrarily retract our rights because they carry with them the risk of emotional harm.

The Jambor editorials reflect the opinions of The Jambor and its Editorial Board members. Those wishing to schedule meetings with the Editorial Board should call the editor-in-chief. 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 and grammar. Letters must be received by noon Friday for Tuesday's edition and by noon Tuesday for Thursday's edition. The Jambor 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 do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambor staff or YSU faculty, staff or administration.

NEW TERROR ALERT:

We have new information about an imminent attack on the United States.



It said, "One if by land, two if by sea."

© A Bateman Drawing ©mmiv scott@batemania.com

Hammer and Sickle Democracy*

DANIEL GRIESEMER | The Jambor

There is a leader of a powerful nation who is utilizing his power as president to destroy fundamental democratic freedoms. In response to a terrorist attack and under the guise of 'homeland security,' he is exploiting his party's control of the legislature to push through laws that will weaken the voice of the people and strengthen his already tight grasp on all branches of government. He labels critics of his plan as unpatriotic and dangerous to the safety of his country.

Astonishingly, the man is not George W. Bush.

Russian President Vladimir Putin announced plans Monday to drastically restructure the electoral system in Russia by ending the popular election of all governors and legislators within the country's 89 provinces and regions. Instead, Putin would appoint all governors, and Russians could only vote for political parties rather than individual candidates.

Putin's plan must receive approval from the parliament—a meaningless constitutional check, considering the Kremlin controls more than two thirds of the legislature.

The intentions of Putin's proposition are glaringly obvious as being yet another step toward restoring totalitarian rule. Since taking office at the end of 1999, Putin's government has either taken over or shut down all independent national television channels, asserted control over the nation's energy industries and has established impervious control in both the upper and lower houses of parliament.

We've heard of managed economies and managed industries. Putin's calls his bastardized structure a "managed democracy." It's devious terminology. It's a façade of freedom. It's democracy with an asterisk and a fine-print disclaimer hidden toward the bottom.

One year ago, while the echoes of the hammer and sickle were start-

ing to resonate from the Kremlin, Bush praised Putin's vision for Russia, summarizing his plans as working toward a "country in which democracy and freedom and rule of law thrive." If Putin's perverse breed of democracy is one that Bush esteems—a "democracy" in which citizens are unable to effectively influence the creation of law—then I may quickly begin learning the lyrics to the Canadian national anthem.

"It's democracy with an asterisk and a fine-print disclaimer hidden toward the bottom."

Why is Bush, who has repeatedly pledged to "spread liberty" to oppressed nations, remaining silent on Putin's unconcealed slap in the face to democracy?

Putin (quite brilliantly) evoked the magical word that Bush uses as an ace card.

"Terrorism."

Following the terrorist attack two weeks ago at a school in the Russian city of Beslan, Russian officials strategically stated that the Chechnyan separatists were "philosophically aligned" with al Qaeda. Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, in a foolish move for the White House, connected Putin's conflict with Chechnya to the U.S. effort

in Iraq. "The civilized world has to stay on the offensive," he said.

Putin is a not a comrade in the war on terrorism. The slaughter of innocent children in Russia does not justify Putin's tyrannical legislation, just as the tragic Sept. 11 attacks did not justify the overreaching PATRIOT Act.

The New York Times quoted an unnamed White House official as calling Putin's reforms "a domestic matter for the Russian people," to address. What then separates the Russian people from the Iraqi people? Under this logic, would it have not been a domestic matter for the people of Iraq to address Saddam Hussein's tyranny, and not a matter for U.S. intervention?

"But there's a difference," you say. "The Russian people have elections and a legislature." A puppet legislature and tainted elections make Russia a "democracy" about as much as placing a crown on Bush's head would make him America's king.

If our president turns a blind eye to Putin's egregious attack on the freedom of Russian citizens, he will be guilty of blatant hypocrisy, and will have de-legitimized U.S. actions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The time to speak out is now. The time for our president to throw around his weight on international affairs is now. Not after November. Not after Putin's measures have been passed by Russia's pseudo-legislature. Now.

The U.S. cannot and will not align itself with a fascist Russia. "Soviet" voices are growing unmistakably louder. If our two nations once again become philosophical dipoles, political posturing may place us on opposite sides of violent international disputes. Read: Iran, Eastern Europe, North Korea.

And what's the difference between a fascist Iraqi leader and a fascist Russian leader? Russian WMD's are a reality—not CIA fairytales.

DANIEL GRIESEMER | 330-941-1807

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Anti-piracy laws protect artists and consumers

Editor -

Imagine this scenario: A group of college students (let's say five) go into a local restaurant, order drinks and all of them decide to have a T-bone steak for dinner. For arguments sake, let's say individually their bill totals \$12.99.

For those keeping score, the whole bill comes to \$64.95. Not too bad considering all the effort that goes into creating this meal. You have the servers who bring you everything you need, you have the cooks perfectly

cooking your medium to medium-well steaks, you have a nice vegetable on the side and even a complementary soup and salad bar.

Sounds like a very nice meal doesn't it? It was fully enjoyed by all five students, and at the end of the meal, they all get up out of their chairs, say thank you to the server and walk right out the door without paying. Some may call it a "dine-n-dash." What it really is: theft. A lot of hard work went into creating that meal for those five college students. And for what? To not be paid. People's lives depend on the money from those meals. You have servers, cooks, prep people, dishwashers, bus people, cashiers, managers, delivery people, people in

the packaging plants and all of their supervisors all the way to the farmer. Wow, that sure is a lot of people who depend on getting paid from that one \$12.99 steak dinner.

What does a steak dinner happen to do with anything relevant in this paper? A lot, actually. I am referring to the music industry. People nowadays take music for granted, especially from the "big stars."

Piracy loosely means theft, and does not refer to Black Beard either. There are reasons for copyright laws, so that the artist gets what is rightfully theirs and to prevent people stealing their original ideas, songs or song beats (see Vanilla Ice, or Puff Diddy or what ever he's called now). This all boils

down to childish circumstances: don't take what's not yours because it's wrong, people get hurt in the end.

You may be saying to yourself, "but it's art, I should be able to enjoy it all for free," and to that, I say you're a very narrow-minded person. Would you go and take the Mona Lisa from its rightful spot without paying for it just based on the fact that it's art? I didn't think so. The same thing goes for recording artists.

Think about it, when you download songs from a program like WinMX, you are taking away money from the music industry. You may not think that your one download is much, but when you add in everyone that's doing it, it's catastrophic.

The recording artist does not make a ton of money from selling CDs. Why do you think they take on sponsors, go on tour, do photo shoots, sell merchandise?

They have bills to pay as well. And all of that money does not go to them.

There is management, producers, production of the physical CD itself, promotions for the CD, the booklets have to be printed, the artist has to have instruments to play with and they need to rent a recording studio, just for starters. Then you say to yourself "well they make a ton of money when they go on tour," but again you'd be wrong. There are tour managers, roadies, the supporting band, assistants, the instruments they use, the stage, the

set, none of that is free and they have to pay for it somehow.

Then you may say to yourself, "but that's all that's affected, nobody that I know," but do you know anyone that works at Target or FYE? They rely on selling CDs to pay their employees. There is probably a poor college student at FYE working as a cashier somewhere going to get laid off and now he won't be able to pay for college because all of his friends download their music instead of buying it for a measly \$12.99. In the end, don't you think it's worth it to pay for something you enjoy?

-Matt Watts
Hospitality Management

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VOTE
FROM PAGE 1

know any of the candidates. I don't think it's fair to vote on someone just because of what I read about them on their profiles in Kilcawley," Freshman Megan Cumming said.

Another freshman, Bill Baron, said he also was not going to vote because he did not know one person running.

"So there was no good reason for me to vote," Baron said.

The students that did vote usually knew the candidates from somewhere on campus.

Some students came out to support their friends and organization members.

"I voted for one of my friends for king," sophomore Emily Mercer said. "He's hot."

Junior Hayley McEwing said she had never voted for the homecoming court in the past, but voted this year.

"I knew some people running and they were all-around friendly, devoted and super-nice individuals," McEwing said.

McEwing added that, like most other students, she did not vote in past elections because she was unfamiliar with the candidates.

"If I don't know the person at all, I don't think a minimal amount of words on a piece of paper and a picture would validate them as worth voting for," McEwing said. "Why vote unless I know who I'm voting for?"

Junior Bob McGovern, one of this year's homecoming king candidates said he's never missed a homecoming election in the three years he's been at YSU because he usually knows someone who is running.

McGovern added that other students are usually supportive of the candidates they know.

"I make sure to show up and support them," McGovern said. "I don't know anyone who's adamant about not voting."

However, senior Karen Wennberg's experience has been a little different.

Wennberg, an art major and a candidate for the court, noticed that some of her fliers in Bliss Hall were defaced with words such as "sellout" and "pretender."

"I don't know what they have against me," Wennberg said. "I have no ulterior motives. I was just nominated and just went with it."

BILL RODGERS | 330-941-3758

AGENDA
FROM PAGE 1

to begin next week for testing purposes.

McGovern urged SGA members to access the station and report any troubles or comments on the station's America Online Instant Messenger screen-name "wyreysu."

"If any student wants to hear something, they can drop MP3s off in my Student Government mailbox," McGovern said.

The station is open to the musical requests of the student body, as long as they comply with American performing rights organizations BMI and the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers.

McGovern added that no disc jockey positions have been filled yet and applications are available on the wYre Web site.

Other Business
Vice President J.T. Holt updated the SGA

body on the status of the Northeastern Ohio College and University Summit meeting.

Holt said that since the last meeting, state senators Eric Fingerhut, Marc Dann and Robert Hagan have confirmed as speakers, joining senator Kevin Coughlin.

"It's coming together quite nicely," Holt said.

President Angela Mavrikis updated the body on efforts to secure SGA mass e-mailing to students through university CUE-mail accounts.

Mavrikis and Holt met with Anderson to discuss guidelines, one of which would require any SGA e-mail to be sent to the Student Affairs office for approval before being sent.

The purpose of mass e-mailing would be to keep the student body informed of issues and legislation in SGA that concern them, Mavrikis said.

CHRISTINA POE | 330-941-3523

LIBERTY
FROM PAGE 1

ideas about the beautification process, he anticipates the project will be a significant step toward revitalizing the valley.

Prospective students are subject to a "windshield survey" when they pass through neighboring communities on their way to YSU. Sweet said the presence of well-maintained greenery and roads as opposed to deteriorated landscape would make a better impression on these visitors.

Ungaro said the trustees have been speaking to the geography department to create a study on Belmont Avenue businesses which would assess issues such as the condition of the buildings, the number of empty structures, zoning and possible owed taxes by

owners.

Pending plans would result in \$2 million worth of improvements on Belmont, including fixed curbs and building renovations.

"This corridor is a hot zone for economic development," Ungaro said. "We need to identify empty land in Liberty and utilize it in a way that would benefit our township and the valley."

Steve Stoyak, president of the Liberty Business Association, said the association has a meeting with Ungaro Tuesday to discuss the demographic survey of the area.

Stoyak said the survey is vital to assessing what improvements are needed in the areas on and south of Belmont Avenue, such as flood control and pavement.

"In order to move forward, you need to know


where you are," Stoyak said. "This survey will provide a snapshot of the community so we and the university know what needs to be done."

Stoyak said his association has worked with YSU before by establishing a planning committee with the office of urban development as part of the 2010 project.

Improvements in Liberty reflect Youngstown 2010, which has shown the community the opportunities they have to move ahead, he said.

The first phase of the connector construction between state Routes 7 and 11, which will connect Gypsy Avenue and state Route 11, would bring in more visitors, making revitalization of the area even more important, Stoyak said.

CHRISTINA POE | 330-941-3523

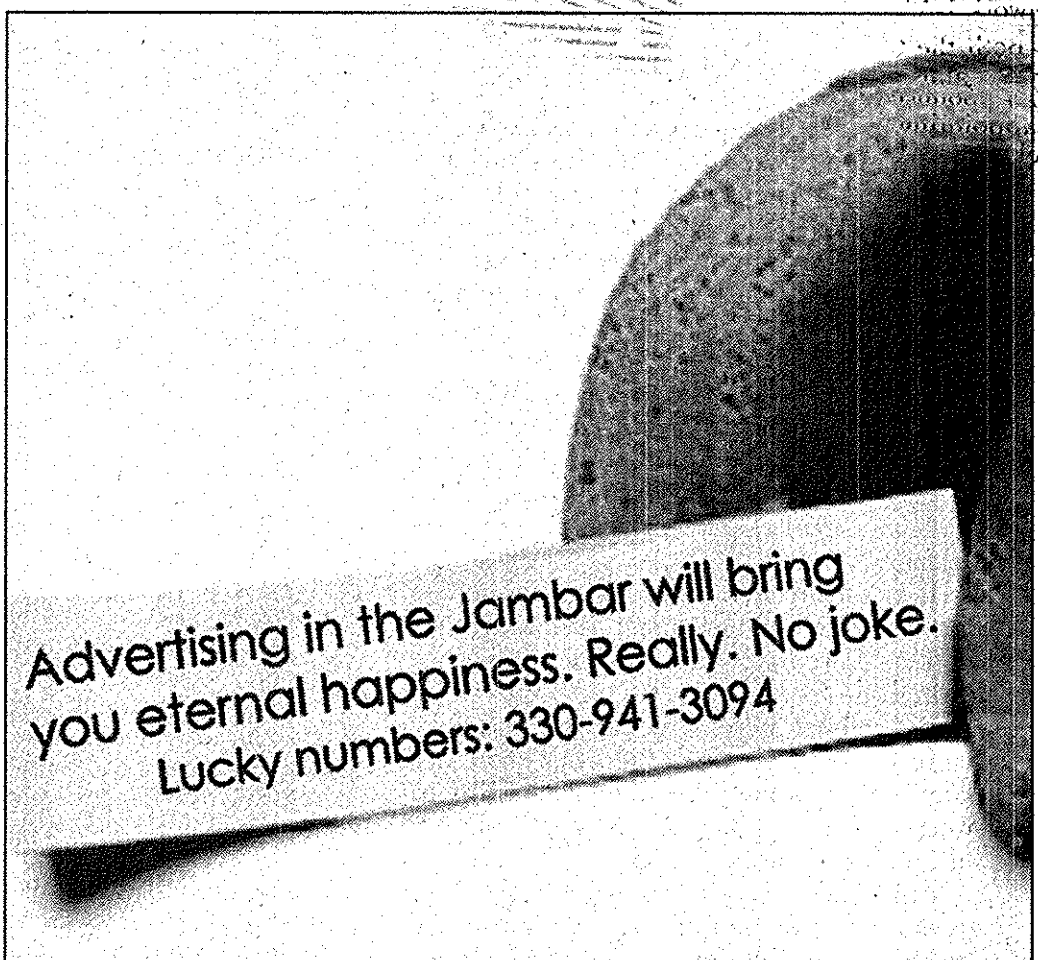


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FALL 2004

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Thursday	9/16	Major
Friday	9/17	Etiquette
Monday	9/20	Money

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Thursday, Sept. 30, 2004
Kilcawley Center
Chestnut Room
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

sports

Penguin focus turns south

DANIEL GRIESEMER | The Jambor

Take a developing team coming off a disappointing overtime loss, put them up against a ranked team, factor in a predicted 94 degree temperature and what do you get?

"We better go get ready for this McNeese team really fast, because they're [ready]" concluded Football Head Coach John Heacock at Tuesday's press conference.

Saturday night the Penguins will face their first road opponent at McNeese State in Lake Charles, Louisiana, battling the Cowboys, who ranks 17th in the Sports Network-1-AA poll.

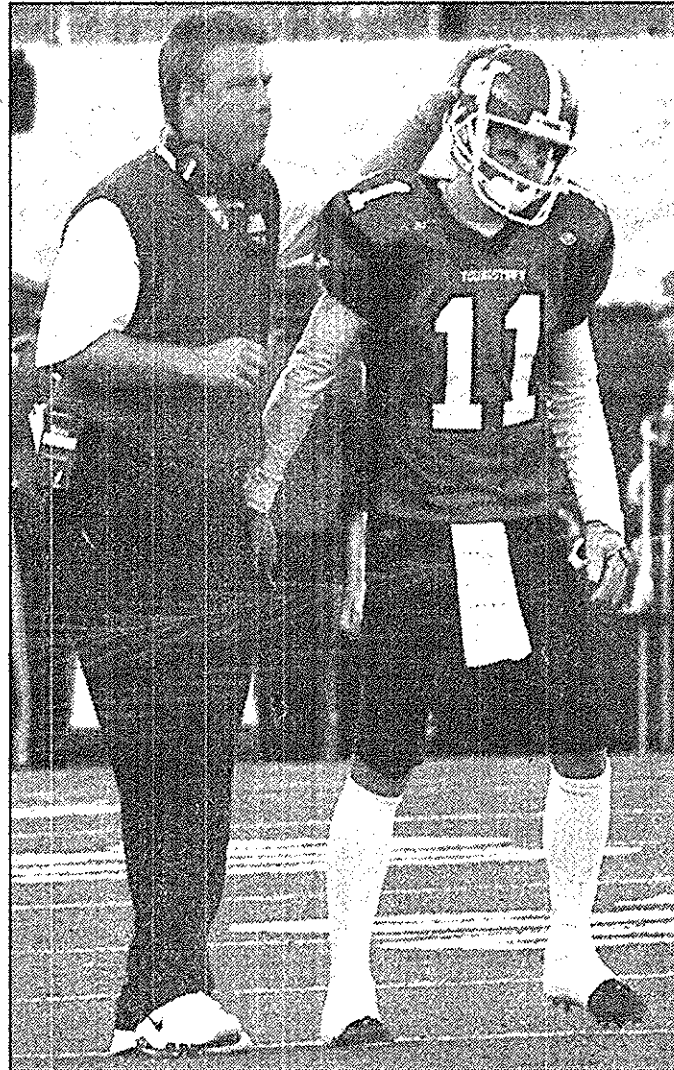
Both the Cowboys and the Penguins will be looking to bounce back from disappointing losses last week. McNeese dropped its last game to Southeastern Louisiana by a score of 51-17. The Penguins fell in overtime to Florida International 22-16 after leading at the half 13-0.

"You just keep looking for some glaring, critical, major let down and I don't know that we had it — we made some good plays in [the fourth] quarter, they made a few more and that's where it ended up," Heacock said.

Heacock said he has observed that the team has remained focused despite the loss.

"Every minute you waste worrying about the last [game] is a minute you're going to get your brains beat-in in the next one," Heacock said.

Center Ryan Jewell said he is pleased with the strides the team has made in the first two games. "I



▲ Penguins Head Coach Jon Heacock gives wide receiver Kyle Smith some last-minute encouragement.

think we're improving just like we should — we're right on schedule," Jewell said.

Heacock commented on the success the Cowboys have had in recent years in the Southland Conference and acknowledged the standout players on the team including quarterback Scott Pendarvis and defensive tackle John Paul Jones. "They've had great success the last few years in the South Conference and they've got a great program," Heacock said.

He also noted, however, that the offensive style of the Cowboys is very similar to YSU's, and that the only major difference between the McNeese and Florida International is that McNeese possesses a stronger defensive line. Heacock also discussed the predictability of the offense.

"Their quarterback traditionally has one favorite receiver. It's what they do on offense— They'll have a guy... But I think they've always had a guy as you

look back through the years, and that guy's usually been the returner," Heacock stated.

Sophomore punter Joe Bishop elaborated, and discussed part of the Penguin's goals for Saturday night. "McNeese has a good returner. We've got to keep the ball away from him— take him out of the game," Bishop said.

The team has also had to prepare for the predicted 95-degree temperatures during Saturday's game. Though Heacock said the team has done extra running to improve their conditioning for this game, the coaching staff has to be careful not to overwork the players before such a physically exerting contest.

"To climatize in one week — anything you do this week, really, to a certain extent, takes away all the carbohydrates and the sodium — and all that loss now doesn't help you when you get to game time."

The YSU squad will also be without former team captain Yancey Marcum, who will be out for the remainder of the season due to an injury obtained during weight lifting. "The thing you can't replace is experience — You lose leadership, poise — you lose that extra guy in the huddle who can say, 'settle down, we're going to be ok,'" Heacock commented. "And to a coach, that may be as important as the guy who actually makes the tackles."

The Penguins and the Cowboys will square off at 8:00 p.m. Saturday at Cowboy Stadium in Lake Charles, Louisiana.

DANIEL GRIESEMER | 330-941-1807

Cross-country teams 'hopeful' despite injuries

JUSTIN SMOLKOVICH | The Jambor

The Youngstown State cross-country team traveled to State College, Pa., Tuesday to throw their hat in the ring at the Spiked Shoe Invitational and left with a few welcome surprises.

For the women, junior Emily Schnitkey, who ran competitively for the first time in nearly two years, made Coach Brian Gorby very pleased.

Schnitkey returned Tuesday, after suffering a hip stress fracture, finishing 12th with a time of 22:46.

"This is definitely a great confidence builder and something she can work off of later in the season," Gorby said of Schnitkey, who was rated as high as 46th in the country in the Steeplechase during her sophomore season.

Schnitkey, along with Kim Jendre (23:25), sophomore Lisa Davies (23:30), senior Lindsay Wojciak (23:58) and sophomore Marielle Glanz (24:23), helped guide the women to a seventh place finish out of 17 teams.

Gorby cited toughness as a main point to their success. "Were not really deep in numbers, but boy are we tough," said Gorby.

On the men's side of the action, Gorby said despite injury, the seniors

are the leaders and backbone of this year's squad.

"Our top three seniors are looking phenomenal, and these guys are tough. We have Nick Smith back who set the school record in the 3,000," Gorby said.

On Saturday, the men's team pulled in a 14th place finish, led by seniors Jeremy Riehm (27:05) and Matt Paullin (27:24).

Personal pride is also something coach Gorby cited as to what will motivate the men once the season starts rolling along.

"We haven't finished below third in the state of Ohio in 12 years, and I'm sure that the team and especially the seniors don't want to be the first to break that cycle," said Gorby.

Despite having injuries on both the men and women's teams, Gorby was pleased at how things went and believes that this team will make others take notice.

"I have a lot of confidence that this group will surprise a lot of people. The results themselves were a little disappointing, but we definitely maximized our effort," said Gorby on his 2004 team.

The Penguins will return to competition Saturday when they travel to Toledo to take part in the Central Collegiate Championship.

MAYSOON ABDELRAJUL | 330-941-1913

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Men's Golf

The Youngstown State men's golf team opened up their season on Tuesday with a 12th place finish at the Bowling Green State University Piper inter-collegiate meet.

Leading the way for the Penguins was Nate Kosma, who paced the team with a 22nd place finish and shot rounds of 70, 74 and 77. Team wise, the Penguins posted a 904, shooting rounds of 297, 300 and 307. Marquette took home the victory, scoring 852.

Women's Golf

The 2004 Youngstown State University golf team posted a 14th place finish out of 17 teams Sunday at the Ball State Cardinal Classic.

Senior Gina Abruzzo leads this young YSU team, taking home a 24th place finish, shooting rounds of 76 and 80 to finish with a 156. The Penguins two-round score was 673— the Penguins shot a first round of 333, and a second round of 340. Western Michigan took home the win, followed by Ferris State.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Tennis

The Lady Penguins Tennis team opened up their season on a high note as they put away Duquesne 6-1 Tuesday afternoon at Youngstown State University.

The Penguins took five of six singles matches. At the number two spot, Heather Hagood beat Andrea Sailer 6-2, 7-5. At the number three spot, Karen Najbert beat Johanna Bezjak 6-4, 6-1. At number four, Gina Peretti beat Sarah Shanahan 6-4, 6-0. At the number five spot, Nicole Muzechuk defeated Alicia McNamara, 6-3, 6-1.

Doubles action saw Najbert and Michelle Farley post an 8-1 win at the number one spot. The YSU team will travel next to the Whittenburg Invitational this Friday.

Volleyball

The Youngstown State University volleyball team fell to .500 for the year as a loss at Ohio State dropped their record to 4-4. The Penguins fell three games to zero as they kicked off a seven game road trip in Columbus against the number 25 ranked Buckeyes. The Penguins fell 11-30, 25-30 and 20-30.

The Penguins were once again led by their freshmen duo of Brittany Able and Jessica Fraley who each tallied five kills apiece. Junior Angie Pasquelli paced the team with 20 assists.

The Penguins next game pits them against Maryland-Eastern Shore on Sept. 17.

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entertainment

Hubbard hip-hop hits hard

By Bill Rodgers
The Jambor

After going to school full time and working a number of odd jobs, Steve Pompili said the recent release of his first demo CD was something of a milestone for him.

"I've been working on this over a year now," said Pompili. "It's time to work."

Pompili, a local rap musician known as S-Pomp, is a junior at Youngstown State University. He and his friend Matt Allen are the members of the two-man group, the UnderDawgs. The two plan to release a collaborative, full-length CD next semester.

The Hubbard native said the recording project was prompted by his love of rap and hip-hop music. He began rapping as soon as he graduated high school, though he wrote his first rap song in the seventh grade.

"It really wasn't anything special," Pompili said, laughing as he recalled the first song he wrote.

Pompili said mainly two rappers influenced him: Tu-Pac and an underground artist named Talib Kweli.

"I like Tu-Pac because of his versatility. He brought it from every angle with a lot of different styles. I like Talib Kweli because he came from the underground and he was a true lyricist," Pompili said.

Pompili said he tried writing some lyrics for the demo that had a greater meaning. Some of his lyrics deal with social issues such as poverty and religion. His favorite songs on the CD are "So Far" and "The Inner Mind's Eye (Time)."

All of the music and production work was undertaken by Pompili. He produced, mixed, recorded and wrote all of his own material that came out of his home studio he calls "The Kennel."

The toughest part, the local rapper said, was learning how to mix what he'd recorded.

"I taught myself how to mix," said Pompili. "I had to make sure everything played smoothly and that there weren't any skips in the recording."

Pompili's recording equipment cost him over \$4,000. He said he saved up for the equipment for two years, working at UPS and as a stock boy at Shop 'N' Save.

Pompili said he released the demo as a step toward his dream of going big time with his act.

"We've been giving this CD away for free. We've really been pumping and promoting this. I'm just waiting on a break," Pompili said.

Pompili has been giving his demo to local club owners in an attempt to be booked for performances. So far, he's due to perform at The Dome and The Cell, though no definite dates have been announced yet.

The local rapper said he geared the songs on the demo to fit in with mainstream rap so more people may respond to the sound. Although, he said he tries to keep an element of the underground scene in his music.

"Underground artists have a hunger to their music that you can feel. They don't rap to make money, they do it because they just love music," Pompili said.

Bill Rodgers | 330-941-3758



Chuck Rogers | The Jambor

▲ The music of guitarist Dominic Gaudious is an eclectic mixture of classical, jazz and rock styles, often performed at lightning speed. He played to a small audience Thursday at Peaberry's Café in Kilcawley Center.

Rhythms of the bedroom

By Maysoun Abdelrasul
The Jambor

Coffee wasn't the only thing brewing at Peaberry's Café Thursday.

Dressed in a brown button-up shirt, khaki pants and tennis shoes, Dominic Gaudious serenaded a small audience with his pearlescent-white guitar.

Though a smaller audience might discourage some performers, Gaudious said he enjoyed the setting. Everything from the lighting to the smell of the food from the café contributed to a uniquely serene atmosphere in Peaberry's Café that he said helped him feel relaxed and less nervous during his performance.

It's no surprise, considering a mellow atmosphere seems to complement his music perfectly. Alternating between fast and slow tempos, his music — which he classifies as new age — possesses a sensual and earthy feel that puts the listener at ease.

"Music moves people in a different way and my

music is a sensual way," he said. So much so that Gaudious said couples have come up to him and told him they make love to his music.

What is it about his music that drives some listeners to do the dirty, you ask? His songs hold a hypnotic quality, created by a seamless blending of classical, rock and jazz guitar with musical styles from around the world. It's eccentric. It's exotic. It's erotic. His song titles tell the tale: "Bareback," "Slap Me," "Naked Arabians," "Tongue of the Ocean," "Micro Jet," you get the idea.

And in a way, watching him perform is like watching him make love to his guitar. Gaudious said most of his ideas for songs come to him at night in his hotel rooms — yet he tries to only touch the guitar while he's performing. As a result, each performance is a little different. His sets are a series of prewritten songs and experimentation, with a little ad-libbing in between.

Every so often you can

also hear the slightest hints of his heroes creeping into his style — acoustic guitar players Phil Keaggy and Michael Hedges, and electric instrumental rockers Steve Vai and Joe Satriani.

Though he said he has

fallen in love with his instrument at the age of 12 when he saw his neighbor playing the guitar. It was then, he said, that he knew playing the guitar was what he wanted to do with his life. "I thought it was the coolest thing," he said.

released in 2004 entitled "Live at Variety Playhouse," which was recorded at one of his favorite venues in his hometown of Atlanta.

While listing the DVD project as a highlight of his career, the musician said he hopes to eventually play to capacity crowds in concert venues around the world.

Touring does take its toll, however, even on young, talented musicians with libido-lifting melodies.

Gaudious noted that for him, traveling is harder than performing. He estimated that within the last year he had taken 150 flights to reach his performance destinations. His final analysis: One must really love playing the guitar to justify traveling all over the country at a break-neck schedule, performing gigs in coffee houses until one's fingers ache.

"You have to be absolutely driven by the love of music, otherwise the road will take you down," he said.

Maysoun Abdelrasul | 330-941-3758

"Music moves people in a different way and my music is a sensual way."

—Dominic Gaudious

taken lessons off and on, Gaudious is a predominantly self-taught musician who learned his art through reading books, picking up pointers in magazines and watching videos. The result is an intricate, two-handed technique that simultaneously keeps a rhythm going with a bass line while he finger picks a melody in the treble range.

Gaudious recalls first

His career started in the late '80s playing lead electric guitar for a metal band named "Saboteur," but in 1995 he decided to switch musical directions and picked up the 12-string acoustic guitar.

He hasn't looked back since.

In 1996, Gaudious produced his first CD, "Where I Stand," and has since released three additional albums. His most recent project was a DVD

"Super Crappy Open Mic Night" anything but

By Bill Rodgers
The Jambor

Nyabinghi's newest attraction, "Super Crappy Open Mic Night," is making some kind of splash. It's just too hard to tell what kind.

It's an event that seems so laid back, to see it in action makes you feel like you've wandered into a group of people messing around onstage for kicks. That's the true spirit of the open mic night at Nyabinghi.

Matt Celio started the weekly gathering over the summer and continues to organize the event. He also brings his own instruments onstage so performers don't have to bring their own.

"Nyabinghi already

hosts a karaoke event called Crapaoke," Celio said. "The open mic night was the next natural step."

The event attracts a weekly group of regulars that includes music majors who want to play their music for fun for a change.

"We also get spoken word performers who sometimes read their work to music," Celio said.

Celio said the weekly regulars takes the pressure off of performing, allowing the artist to be more creative.

"It creates a good atmosphere," he added.

His comments about the regulars could be seen in action this past Monday. There was a prevailing sense of community about the stage, and it

wasn't uncommon to see someone come onstage in the middle of someone's act to jump in on the drums or bass guitar.

Monday's gathering had a few different musical performances. Celio started the evening by playing random songs on the guitar before more people started showing up.

Youngstown State University senior Nick Chiarella read poetry onstage while a band with traditional rock instruments, as well as an alto sax and an accordion, played behind him.

The performance wasn't for the faint of heart. Disjointed and random noises from the players backing up Chiarella made the act smack of

performance art. It grated on the eardrums at times, but was interesting to watch overall.

Later in the night, a performer named Rocko, a musician with a denim jacket and brown hair hanging in his eyes, did a cover of Johnny Cash's "Folsom Prison Blues." It was an upbeat rendition that featured a guitar solo, an excellent cover that would've pleased the 'Man In Black' had he been around to hear it.

Greg Barrett, Nyabinghi's owner, admitted that he had no strong feelings about the event, but he said he likes to have a performance night with no restrictions and where people can play whatever they want.

When asked about

locals participating in the event, Barrett said, "We live in a town full of kids who are content to stay in their parent's basements every night. The mentality of everyone here is to be nothing and to go nowhere except the mall."

Barrett continued, "You can't be an individual by shopping at the Hot Topic."

Nyabinghi hosts "Super Crappy Open Mic Nite" every Monday and "Crapaoke" every Wednesday night. The bar also hosts local bands on a weekly basis. For a calendar of events go to www.nyabinghi.com.

Bill Rodgers | 330-941-3758