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I THINK I CAN BEAT MIKE TYSON

Kevin McBride thinks he can, and will try to put his money where his mouth is in yet another Tyson comeback. **See page 6.**



FLORAK'S HEALTH BATTLE

YSU head baseball coach Mike Florak pens book about battle back from Crohn's disease, depression. **See page 4.**

VOLUME 74, ISSUE 61

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the jambar
Youngstown State University

Also Inside



Two-piece rock band brings own style to Cedars Lounge. **See page 6.**

News Briefs

Relay for Life set for Friday

Youngstown's Relay For Life will begin at 6 p.m. Friday in Beeghly Center at Youngstown State University. Radio personalities A.C. and Kelly will kickoff the event.

The event will run until noon Saturday.

The event raises funds for the American Cancer Society, raises awareness that there are more people surviving cancer and informs the community about the free program and services. The event is in its fourth year and has allowed people to meet cancer survivors.

Applications for Homecoming Chair

Applications are being taken from students enrolled for the fall semester who are interested in becoming this year's Homecoming Chair. Students are encouraged to submit a letter of interest along with a short resume detailing their qualifications to Greg Gulas, assistant director for Student Activities by 5 p.m. Friday, April 15 in the Student Activities office, room 2100 of Kilcawley Center. For more information, call (330) 941-3580.

Send your news and sports briefs to thejambar@hotmail.com

Weather >> Sunny

58 | 33

the jambar poll question

Last question
Will McGovern and Melinda do a competent job as SGA president and vice-president?
Yes 83% No 17%

Today's question
Did you agree with the decision to hire Jerry Slocum as men's basketball coach?
vote online
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INTODAY'S JAMBAR

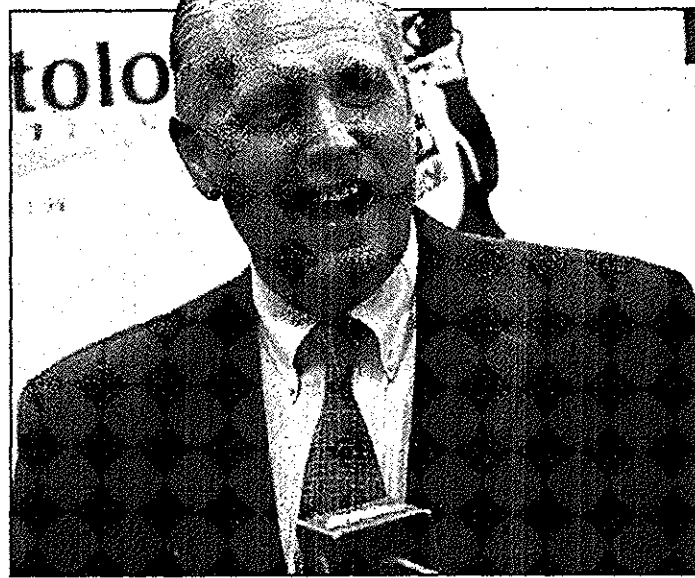
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- ▶ Sports | 4

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YSU

We will work our tails off

Former Gannon head coach Jerry Slocum tapped as new leader for the YSU men's basketball team



New YSU men's basketball coach Jerry Slocum speaks to the press during his interview at YSU campus Friday. Slocum, the former head coach at Gannon University brings 30 years of head coaching experience to the Penguins. (Jambar photo by Chuck Rogers)

By Justin Smolkovich
The Jambar

After nearly a month of searching for a new leader, the Youngstown State University men's basketball team has their man. Jerry Slocum will take the reins as the next coach of the Penguins.



Before a crowd of several hundred fans, the newly appointed head coach addressed the media and the Penguin basketball community Tuesday afternoon in Beeghly Center. Slocum, 53, comes to YSU with 30 years of head coaching experience, including a recent nine-year stint at Gannon University where he established the Golden Knights as one of the winningest programs in Division II schools.

"I am one of the luckiest men alive," Slocum said after receiving an ovation from the crowd after YSU President David Sweet's introduction. "When the call came, it was

"You are not going to see a team that is outworked."

Jerry Slocum, YSU men's basketball head coach

with excitement," Slocum said of the phone call telling him he had been chosen to lead the Penguins next season.

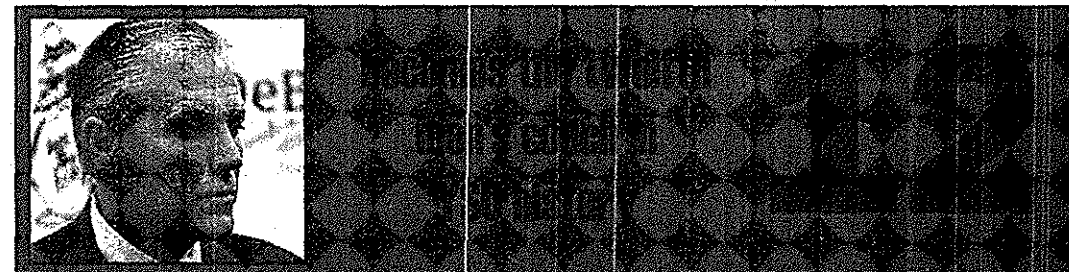
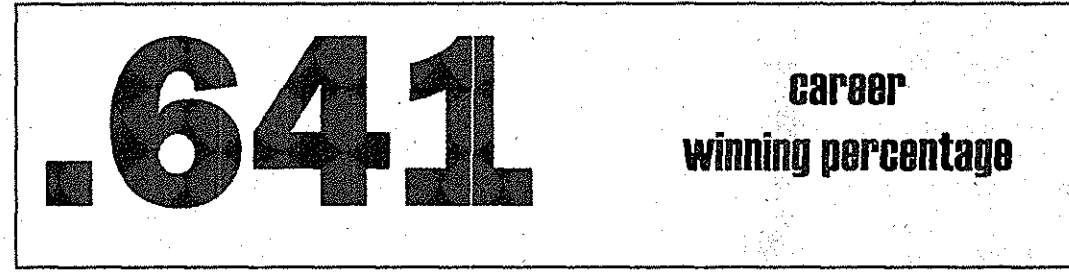
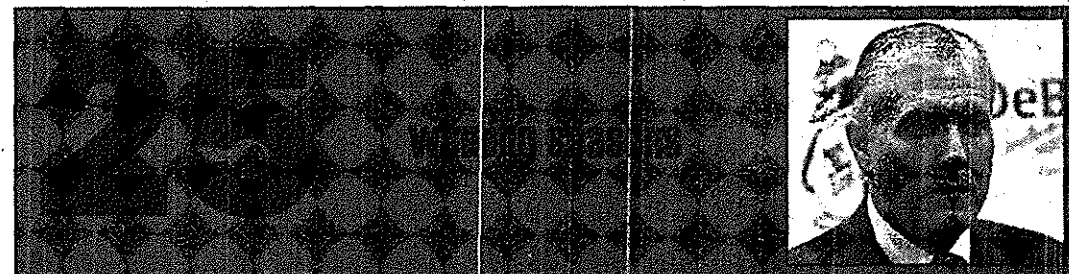
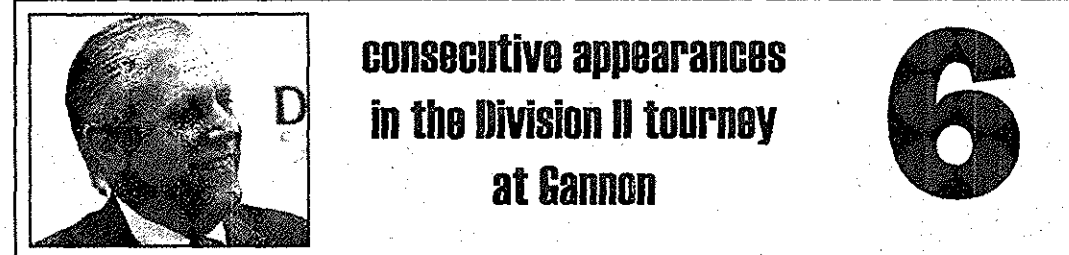
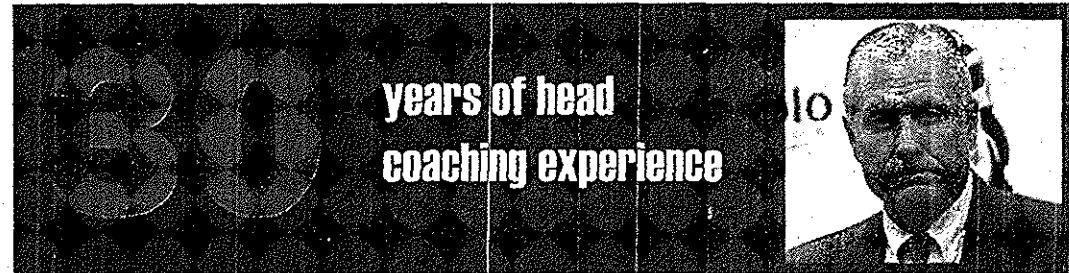
Slocum, who has only five losing seasons in his career of three decades, will waste little time, as he becomes the 12th head coach in Penguin history.

"I'll be in the office 7:30 tomorrow morning," Slocum said. "I gave my wife a kiss and said I'd see her in two months," Slocum said, smiling at his wife Kim who was seated near the players.

Hard work, said Slocum, is the only way the perceptions of the YSU basketball program will change. He said he expects in less than one year fans coming to Beeghly will notice.

"We are not going to take a shortcut, we will work our tails off," Slocum said.

please see **COACH**, Page 4



New YSU men's head basketball coach Jerry Slocum brings an extensive track record with him from Gannon University. He hopes to rebuild the Penguins into a Horizon League contender. (Jambar photos by Chuck Rogers)

YSU

Official says Hawaii trip worth the cost to YSU

By Leonard Crist
The Jambar

Responding to a column in Sunday's Vindicator criticizing the \$33,000 price tag for 11 Youngstown State University employees to attend a technology summit in Hawaii, the university's interim chief technology officer says the trip was worth it.

The summit, an annual event hosted by Sungard SCT was held March 6 through March 9 in Honolulu, Hawaii. About 5,000 SCT product users attended the conference.

YSU contracted Sungard

please see **TRIP**, Page 5

YSU

Restraints put pressure on libraries

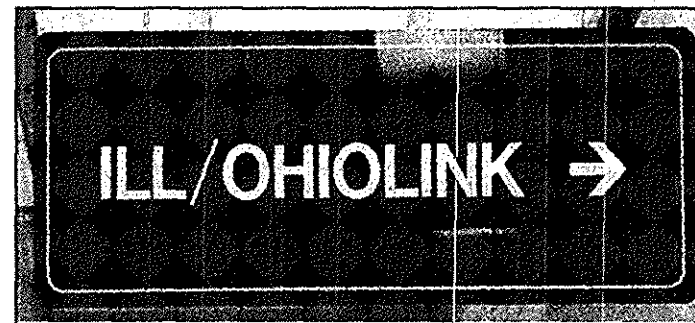
Higher education cuts put libraries in tough position

By Christina Poe
The Jambar

Recent statewide higher education funding cuts and additional costs for a significant research source are putting pressure on public and private universities across Ohio. The Ohio Library and Information Network, OhioLINK, offers services such as electronic books, a digital media center and an electronic journal center to more than 600,000 people at 85 institutions.

The capital bill for fiscal year 2005-06 was passed in January by the Ohio General Assembly and includes \$405 million for higher education, an amount \$100 million lower than the last capital budget.

Candi Clevenger, OhioLINK communications manager, said the combined



This Maag Library sign for interlibrary loans (ILL) and OhioLINK takes on new meaning since state budget cuts have forced the electronic media provider to increase fees and reduce services. OhioLINK has cut almost 500 periodicals from its resources. (Jambar photo by Chuck Rogers)

annual funding for the service has remained at \$11 million since fiscal year 2002.

Clevenger said a membership fee, which varies by the size of the institutions, is being instituted for the first time this year because of this "flat funding."

In the past, OhioLINK has had to use reserve funds and

please see **LIBRARIES**, Page 3

YSU

Carano takes part in SGA meeting

The state rep discussed the Ohio budget and the benefits of a casino in the Valley

By Christina Poe
The Jambar

For the most part, Youngstown State University's Student Government Association took it easy at their first general meeting since the presidential election.

Besides being visited by state representative Ken Carano, the group discussed Maag Library hours, higher

please see **CARANO**, Page 2

CARANO continued from page 1

education funding and a new student Web site.

Carano spoke to the group about issues such as Ohio's budget and the benefits a casino would bring to the Mahoning Valley.

Carano said the philosophy in Columbus revolves around protecting big businesses when "things are bad" economically.

Although Carano said he agrees with his peers that these business run Ohio, he knows that the current proposed budget hurts small businesses.

Carano said this factor has put responsibility on individual communities to raise needed funds without much help from the state.

Although Carano admitted that most YSU graduates leave the area upon their graduation, he told the body that legislators believe youth staying in the area could help rebuild the valley.

"We want you to stay here to be entrepreneurs and get involved," Carano said.

Carano added that many of the student representatives could be in his position one day and would find everything is governed by politics.

In light of talk of casinos coming to the area, Carano said the idea would be prosperous.

Opposition includes gambling addictions in residents, but Carano said those who have one would go somewhere else anyway and take possible revenue away from Ohio.

He added Ohio has the largest population of gamblers in the country. A casino could eliminate its deficit in two years.

Carano said unlike casinos on Indian reservations who keep all the profits, the proposed one of the Shawnee tribe for one in Trumbull County would have them paying taxes to the state.

Facebook

SGA Vice President for Student Affairs Shivani Jindal said YSU students can now be part of the Facebook Web site.

Facebook, a network between Ohio colleges for students to place a profile and interact with each other, had 500 YSU students signed up since last Thursday.

Jindal added she planned to talk to Vice President for Student Affairs Cynthia Anderson about a mass CUE-mail to inform the entire stu-

dent body.

Library Hours

Maag Library will be open an additional two hours per day May 1 through May 11 to facilitate finals week studying.

Higher Education

Vice President for Financial Affairs Bob McGovern updated the body on the status of the higher education ad hoc committee.

McGovern said the committee was continuing to look into the idea of audits for all universities in Ohio, adding that he was using information from a meeting with Vice President for Administration John Habat on the cost of YSU's audit a few years ago.

"We want to use that to get an idea of how much this would cost the state," McGovern said.

McGovern added the committee would also look into the gambling idea brought up by Carano.

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JAMBAR ADVERTISING MANAGER

PIRATES, continued from page 6

"duty" to her father. The cast also includes a flock of swooning maidens and a cowardly Major General.

Vosburgh said the show was one of Gilbert and Sullivan's most popular, and that it would still resonate well with audiences today.

"It has a very good score and Gilbert is an expert humorist. The humor still stands up today," Vosburgh said.

The show is part of an opera workshop class. Allan Mosher, who coordinates the opera, said an opera is performed every year at YSU, and that "Pirates..." was in the works for almost a year.

Mosher said they had to select this year's opera based on the vocal abilities of the students entering the music program at YSU.

"We had to know who would be in the building for this year. With plays you have a bit of leeway with

who can act in them, but with operas you need trained voices. You can't ask a voice to do what it can't," Mosher said.

Mosher said the play's double casting was to give many students the opportunity to perform.

The music and theater students onstage won't be the only ones enjoying the spotlight. This production of "Pirates..." draws on talents from students from every walk of Bliss Hall. In addition to the students onstage, Stiver wrote an original arrangement of show's music that will be performed by Dana musicians.

Students from the Art Education/Secondary Schools Art students designed a large display in honor of the show. The display is on the second floor of Bliss Hall and it includes pirate flags, treasure maps and pirate marionettes

aboard a pirate ship.

Show dates and times are at 8 p.m. April 15-16 and 8 p.m. April 22-23 and 3 p.m. April 17 and 24.

Ticket prices are \$15 for adults, \$10 for YSU faculty/staff, senior citizens, non-YSU students, groups of five

or more, YSU students, and season ticket holders are \$5. Tickets can be reserved through the University Theater Box Office at (330) 941-3105.

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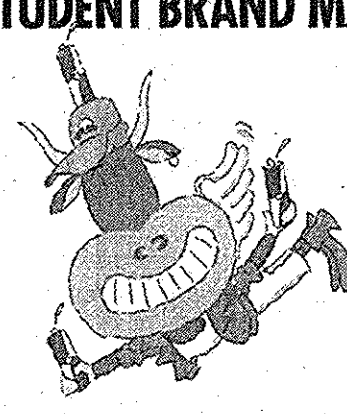
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thejambar
Youngstown State University

Editorial & Opinion

Thursday, April 14, 2005

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The Jambar is published twice weekly during the fall and spring semesters and weekly during the summer sessions. The first copy of The Jambar is free; each additional copy is five cents. Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Collegiate Press Honors.

OUR SIDE

Trip to Hawaii not necessary

Last month, 11 Youngstown State University staffers traveled to Honolulu for a four-day training summit.

The training excursion was focused on the implementation of the brand new SCT Banner software project that is gradually being put to use here on YSU's campus. The software is state-of-the-art and is necessary to bring YSU up-to-date in terms of technology and to organize the large YSU computing network.

After evaluating the software and its possible costs, university officials set the budget for this particular program at \$12 million. This allotted a \$1.5 million contingency that could be used in those "just in case" situations that could pop up over the next few years of implementation.

The software is necessary. Training to use the software is necessary. Is spending \$33,000 to send those 11 trainees to learn about the software under the bright skies of Hawaii necessary too?

Absolutely not.

The trip raises a number of valid questions.

A SunGuard representative, the company that manufactures the software, said a cost analysis was done of other possible locations the conference could be held. The representative said the Honolulu destination was comparable in cost to any other number of locations.

Did the company take into consideration the distance certain representatives would have to travel? The economic climates of most higher education facilities, or the possibility that more central locations could be chosen in order to keep cost at a minimum?

Why not send only a few YSU representatives? When those few returned, they could have then networked with the other people who would be using the software.

This would have reduced the cost significantly.

These things were not taken into consideration and YSU officials chose to let the university foot the bill for their "vacation."

Donna Esterly, interim chief technology officer, said because of the training and networking opportunities available at the conference, there was no way to put a price tag on such an experience.

For an urban university stuck in the rut of lacking higher education funds, a way must be found.

The Jambar editorials reflect the opinions of The Jambar and its Editorial Board members. Those wishing to schedule meetings with the Editorial Board should call the editor in chief.

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

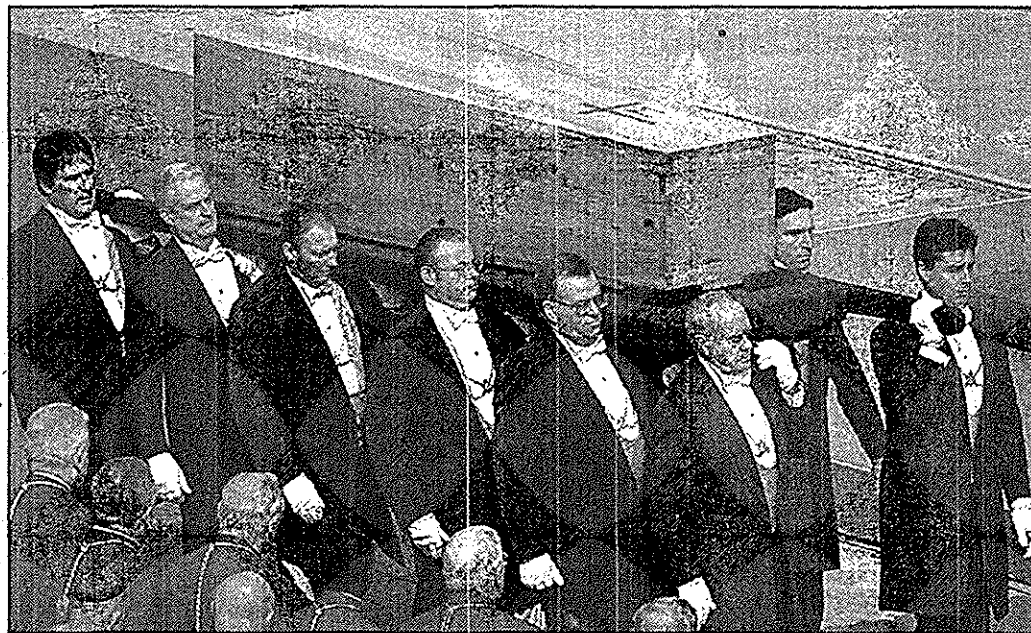
Pope John Paul editorial 'unfortunate'

To the Editors:
It is truly unfortunate when the death of a great man evokes editorial comment in a university student newspaper that can only be described as floundering in historical and philosophical ignorance at best, and cavorting, however indirectly, with the crudest anti-Catholic bigotry at worst. Please consider the following:

On Friday, April 8, 2005, the body of a man with no surviving family members, with no personal property of any note, and a humility that ordered the destruction of remaining personal notes and papers, was laid to rest in a wooden box notable only for the symbols on the coffin lid, signs of a simple life lived with a tremendous integrity and faith beyond the ken of most Americans.

The Roman Catholic Church is hardly the centralized institution of worldly power imagined and criticized by most secular and cynical Americans. The Vatican museums certainly contain a "wealth" of artistic treasures, but they are maintained there for the aesthetic enjoyment of all humans in the world and are not exploited at the auction bloc or investment house. Most money associated with Catholic charitable efforts is not under the "control" of the Vatican. Every day, hundreds of thousands of Catholics worldwide offer voluntary contributions to local charities (including Catholic, other religious, and secular organizations). Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is the global lay agency of the (North American) Church and is one of the most efficient and accountable of worldwide relief agencies, an organization within which both Catholic and non-Catholic persons work. The Pope has organized special charitable funds for particular projects, but he is a bishop among bishops when it comes to organizational efforts, and most clerically organized Catholic fundraising is done (and remains) at the parish and diocesan level. Catholics have given, and will continue to give, donations to a multitude of causes, both local and worldwide, regardless of whom his pope (but probably because of this particular Pope, future giving will likely increase).

Some of John Paul's teachings have been criticized, and will in all likelihood continue to be criticized, especially those that appear as illogical to persons who claim to "understand" the "realities" of contemporary "culture", one that in Europe and North America is largely hedonistic and bordering on sexual pathology and hysteria. Some observations are in order to help sort things out. Firstly, the Pope's teaching against artificial contraception, including condom use, does NOT "cause" or "promote" overpopulation or the spread of AIDS. Please note that the areas of the world most characterized by "overpopulation" are historically non-Catholic ones; particular human sexual practices and intravenous drug use largely "cause" the transmission of the AIDS virus(es), regardless of the presence or absence of "condoms." The Pope's



VATICAN CITY - Pallbearers carry the coffin into St. Peter's Square during funeral services for Pope John Paul II, Friday, April 8.

teachings in these areas are hardly "conservative", but rather radical: They challenge all people, of religious faith or none, to reflect deeply on personal and interpersonal behavior, and to ask what attitudes and behaviors are really constitutive of health and the "fulness of life," rather than of self-deception, disease and death. Sex is one of the most beautiful, compelling and creative aspects of life; however, it is also dangerous ("safe sex," anyone?) in many contexts, and tends to make many people, especially many men, dishonest and stupid. I submit that it is NOT the Pope who has thought and behaved either dishonestly or stupidly here. Secondly, the Pope's teaching on ordination to the priesthood and "women" in the Church may or may not be conceived of as "discriminatory." I will only say that this issue is left for the future. John Paul's papacy was preoccupied with a particular and complex agenda, one arguably more historically significant than "contemporary" Western agendas fixated on gender and other notions of "equality," all papacies are historically limited propositions (that limitation shapes the earthly humility of papal leadership). One should notice, however, that women have taken up significant leadership posts in the Church under John Paul's papacy (teaching, administrative, and consultative posts at the highest levels of Church organization, even if not clerically invested), and that women as baptized members of the Body of Christ belong (as do all such men) to the "priesthood of all believers"; this theological formulation is readily understandable to people of faith but it remains a stumbling block to persons who dismissively resist such insight, or are ignorant of it.

Finally, there is the issue of political representation at the Pope's funeral. The U.S. presidential and congressional delegations, as well as other for-

eign missions, were entirely appropriate. That is because of a simple fact: Vatican City is a sovereign state with a full panoply of diplomatic relations; the Pope is a head of state, not just a "figurehead" of Catholicism. The presence of President Bush (our "chief diplomat" according to the Constitution) and former presidents Clinton and Bush is more than a mere "diplomatic gesture"—it is expected and the right thing to do. Congressional representatives have constituencies whose "opinion" will likely endorse their presence in Rome. Please note also that Congress is normally not in full session from Thursday through Monday (the "Tuesday to Thursday Club" as the House is often called). Weekend trips, whether domestic or international, do not cause Congressional business to "grind to a halt"—they're the normal state of affairs. One should not worry as well about some kind of "religious" infection stemming from such behavior (American politics is far too complicated and compromised for that).

Much more important, however, is the fact that the Pope's agenda (FREEDOM) was supported by consecutive American presidents, and that his personal efforts in conjunction with Western inter-state diplomacy—efforts that went far beyond "igniting" the Solidarity movement in his homeland—contributed mightily to the fall of an evil empire and the liberation of peoples. For this heroic man and his Author, there are only two words: THANK YOU! May we never forget those words and this man. Let his successors worry about unfinished and new business.

— Keith John Lepak, Ph.D.
Associate Professor for Politics & International Relations

NEWS

LIBRARIES, continued from page 1

state are also facing limitations.

Although they are not losing money, a lack of increased funds has caused OhioLINK to also cut 490 electronic journals, with the possible loss of 800 or more in 2006, Clevenger said.

Clevenger said the fees will raise \$200,000 and help keep OhioLINK afloat, but will not come close to covering estimated costs.

"There is a \$1 million shortfall between what we think we are going to get and the cost to keep what we have," Clevenger said.

Youngstown State University and Kent State University are two of the many Ohio universities scrambling for ways to make up for the increasing cost and loss of educational resources.

Paul Kobulnicky, director of Maag Library, said OhioLINK cannot compensate for their monetary needs the way universities often do by raising tuition.

Kobulnicky said OhioLINK gets half of their funds from the Ohio Board of Regents and half from member universities.

Kobulnicky said YSU will pay \$5,000 to OhioLINK as a result of this new membership fee and added the university may have to pay for additional

databases themselves if necessary.

Kobulnicky added that inflation of costs of books and periodicals — about 10 percent annually — also affects the amount of materials the library can purchase and provide to students.

"It's important to be able to maintain," Kobulnicky said. "That affects our ability to be really responsive for the students."

Associate professor Martin Cala, chair of the library committee of YSU's Academic Senate, said a proposal to add more money to the library's budget passed at the meeting last week.

According to the proposal, the total increase will be \$330,000 and includes \$10,000 for OhioLINK, \$5,000 for the membership fee and \$15,000 to account for book inflation costs.

Cala said a motion passed last year to increase the library's budget by \$1,000 each time one of the six colleges receives approval for a new program will now be implemented.

Cala said both will aide the library in overcoming a possible shortcoming of new books in its inventory.

"If there is a weakness, it's in the freshness of books," Cala

said.

Mark Weber, dean of Libraries and Media Services at KSU, said the state's cuts have taken money away from the budgets of KSU and other universities.

"We have had to return some money to the university to cope with its downfall," Weber said.

In response, Weber said KSU's Faculty Senate has sent a letter to university administrators to appeal for greater support of the library's collective budget.

Weber said KSU would pay a little more than \$14,000 to OhioLINK in response to their requested fee.

Weber said the cuts to Ohio's higher education budget have also put the responsibility of covering the costs of new databases and materials OhioLINK can no longer provide on the libraries.

Kobulnicky said almost half of Maag Library's budget comes from university funds for OhioLINK.

The 2005-06 capital bill is not final, but expected to be passed when it goes before Ohio legislators.

Call Christina Poe at (330) 941-1913

POLICE BLOTTER

Youngstown State University police officers discovered a female lying down next to a vehicle behind Slambaugh Auditorium on April 9. The officers stated in the police report that the woman, Shelly Venneri, 46, of Youngstown, was disoriented. She told officers she was slapped by a male in the auditorium. The police report stated she was trying to open a vehicle that was not hers and then she admitted to having several drinks. She lied about being assaulted to keep from being arrested. She was issued a minor misdemeanor for public intoxication.

BRIEFS

'Making it Big'

"Making it Big," an event for students interested in careers in communications and theater will be held from noon to 2 p.m. Monday April 25 in Kilcawley Center.

YSU Alumni will discuss their careers, desired skills and qualifications in the communications field. Students will have an opportunity to network with graduates and learn job search techniques.

Lunch will be provided. Advance registration is required. Please contact Dr. Dan O'Neill (330) 941-3631 or Joanne Gallagher (330) 941-3569.

Cheerleading clinics

Clinics for tryouts for the 2005-06 Cheerleading and Mascot positions will be held from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Monday, April 18 through Friday, April 22 in Slambaugh Stadium Gym C.

Tryouts will be held at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 23 in Beeghly Center. All YSU students in good academic standing are encouraged to try-out as well as seniors in high school who will be attending YSU in the fall.

For more information contact Rick Love at (330) 941-7227 or rlove@ysu.edu



HEADLINES

◀ *Selling his sock?*
Boston Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling is considering auctioning off his bloody sock from the 2004 World Series.
▶ *Celtics in good shape*
The Boston Celtics took control of the Atlantic Division as they moved closer to clinching the division title Tuesday night.



Thursday, April 14, 2005

www.thejambar.com/jambarsports@hotmail.com/330-941-3758

Page 4

YSU

Baseball coach battles back from disease

Mike Florack chronicled his struggles with Crohn's disease in his book "Healthier Than Normal"

By Justin Smolkovich
The Jambar

Eight surgeries, four blood transfusions and weight loss. These sound like a laundry list of procedures and ailments a person in the most dire of situations would require. However these procedures are part of a painful resumé of a vibrant and energetic baseball coach.

Mike Florack, 35, is head baseball coach at Youngstown State University. He has endured doubt, depression and the stark reality of his own mortality staring back at him.

Florack suffers from Crohn's disease. Crohn's disease is one of three inflammatory bowel diseases and can cause bleeding, skin problems, drastic weight loss, fever and even anemia. Florack has seen them all.

Not only has Florack gone on to lead a relatively normal life, he has also recently penned "Healthier Than Normal," a book that chronicles his battle with the debilitating disease and aims to educate others who may be afflicted with Crohn's. Florack is excited at the opportunity to show others that they are not alone.

Florack's book, which retails for \$15 and can be purchased at his Web site www.MikeFlorack.com, chronicles his journey from youth to becoming the youngest Division I baseball coach in the country, all while battling Crohn's.

"It's been very exciting from the standpoint that my story will have an impact, seeing how bad off I was. If this guy can pick up and move on, so can I. There are a lot of bedridden people with Crohn's, I just want to let people know there is hope, I want to be able to tell them to get up and get on with their life," Florack said.

The reason to educate, Florack said, is that many are afflicted with Crohn's, but are either embarrassed or are just ignorant toward the disease since little is known about it. The cause of Crohn's disease is still unknown and

many symptoms such as fatigue or diarrhea are sometimes shrugged off.

The Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America estimates that nearly one million suffer from an inflammatory bowel disease.

"The first year I was just getting run down," Florack said. "One day I just woke up and was really sick, what happened after was eight years of hell."

These eight years of hell for Florack began when he was still a college baseball player attending Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, where he was initially diagnosed with Crohn's. Not only was Florack diagnosed with Crohn's, many doctors agreed that his case was the most severe case of any the doctors had encountered.

After the initial diagnosis, Florack suffered through many "flair ups," symptoms that return after being dormant for some time.

"The symptoms can be quiescent for a while," Florack said. "Flair ups can last for months at a time."

The flair ups left Florack a wreck, sometimes losing up to 60 pounds and left him looking sickly.

"I looked like someone who had cancer very bad," Florack said of the dramatic weight changes.

However Florack, along with talented doctors, decided to fight rather than submit to the disease.

"Number one, I got along with a lot of prayers. It is true that what doesn't kill you only makes you stronger," Florack said.

Florack, who is now in his sixth season as the Penguins skipper and boasts 150 career-wins, firmly believes that while coaching baseball can be tough, his experiences with Crohn's and depression have forged his spirit and his will.

"Some of the ups and downs are tough in coaching, but I feel there is nothing I can't overcome," Florack said.

The present is what Florack is concerned with, and as of now he is feeling just like the title of his book, healthier



Back in the game

YSU head baseball coach Mike Florack chronicled his battle with Crohn's disease and depression in his book "Healthier Than Normal." (Jambar photo by Chuck Rogers)

than normal. With more being discovered about the mysterious disease, Florack can only hope for a brighter future for himself and those afflicted. Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758

COACH, continued from page 1

"You are not going to see a team that is outworked," Slocum said.

Slocum who owns a 580-325 overall winning record in 30 years for a .641 winning percentage said the jump from Division II Gannon to battling for a NCAA tournament bid at YSU will not change the way he goes about his job as a head basketball coach.

"I know I can't work harder than I do everyday," Slocum said.

Slocum's Golden Knights never finished below second place in the competitive Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference under his nine-year watch.

While the 2004-05 Penguins struggled to a 5-23 mark, Slocum said the talent and ability is here to make a legitimate run at both a conference championship and a tournament bid.

When asked what type of player he would need to recruit to win, Slocum simply pointed to his right where the returning Penguin basketball players sat and said "The players we have over there."

Slocum will have a decent core returning as this past Penguin team boasted only three seniors.

Athletic Director Ron Strollo said bringing in a coach who was willing to delve into the school and community was what they looked for during the interview process and Slocum fit the bill.

"We wanted someone who wants to become a part of this community," Strollo said.

Slocum told the crowd gathered in Beeghly what to expect of his time as head coach and what he expects of the team.

"I don't do losing well, we gotta get it done," Slocum said.

Slocum also wasted little time in bringing his staff as he currently has two of three positions already filled. Slocum will entrust Brian DePaoli, formerly with Gannon, and Mike Wernicki, who comes from Canisius, where he served as the recruiting coordinator.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758

Sportswire

Information taken from the YSU Sports Information Web site (ysu.edu/sports) and wire reports

Ross Beal Ties for Second at Joe Cole/CSU Invitational

Avon, Ohio — Sophomore men's golfer Ross Beal tied for second with the Detroit's Sean Hutchinson at the Joe Cole/Cleveland State Invitational which concluded on Tuesday at the Red Tail Golf Club. Beal and Hutchinson finished with three-round scores of 230, but Oakland's Brian Stuard was too much for both players winning the event with a 22

Tennis team falls

Chicago — The Youngstown State men's tennis team (8-6, 2-2 Horizon) suffered a 6-1 loss against Illinois-Chicago on Saturday morning at the UIC Tennis Courts.

Freshman Scott Katherly was the solo winner for the Penguins at No. 3 singles defeating Paul Glendenning, 6-4, 6-1.

WASHINGTON

Tyson promises 'train wreck' for June fight in D.C.

By Howard Fendrich
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mike Tyson simply laughed after he listened to his next opponent's manager promise an upset.

Then, after standing toe-to-toe with Kevin McBride to pose for photos, Tyson clasped the Irish fighter's hand, patted him on the back and winked.

Is this a kinder, gentler Iron Mike?

"I don't get into the stare-downs and the talking trash. I'm older, so I'm not really too much into that," Tyson said Tuesday. "I don't want to punch a guy in the face before the fight starts."

This from the man who brawled with Lennox Lewis three years ago at a news conference announcing a bout, who vowed to eat Lewis' children, who bit off a piece of Evander Holyfield's ear, who was convicted of rape in 1992.

On Tuesday, in town to announce his fight at the MCI Center on June 11 against McBride, Tyson seemed to alternate personas.

At times, he was introspective or doted on his three children who joined him on stage. At others, he came close to being the Tyson everyone has come to expect: the curiosity promoters hope can still sell tickets and pay-per-view buys

even though he's 38 and lost two of his past three fights.

He talked about sinking into depression, called McBride "real cute," labeled himself "probably the worst husband in the world," and told a PR person running the show to "chill out" when she pointed out it was time for more posed photos.

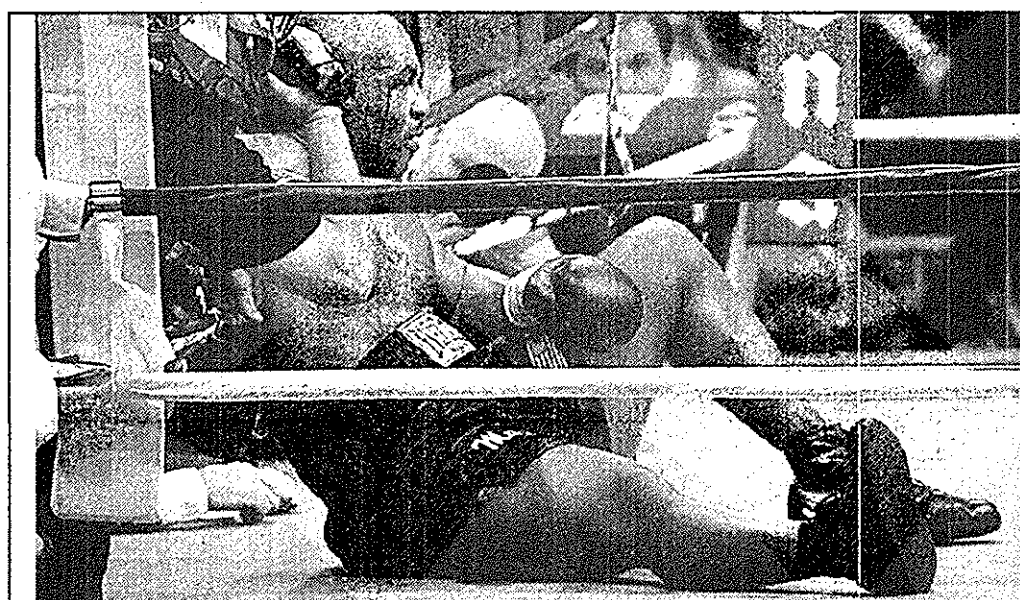
"I just hope these people of Washington, D.C., are prepared to handle this," Tyson said. "It's going to be a train wreck."

It will be the former champion's first fight in nearly a year, and just his second in 28 months. In his most recent outing, at Louisville on July 30, he was stopped in the fourth round by Danny Williams after tearing cartilage in his left knee. Tyson had surgery — the knee is fine, he said Tuesday — and he's been training in Phoenix for three weeks.

The 6-foot-6 McBride, 32-4-1 with 27 knockouts, was originally supposed to be Tyson's opponent for that July bout. Make no mistake, though, this fight is entirely about Tyson.

McBride's name wasn't even uttered by master of ceremonies Rock Newman until nearly 20 minutes into Tuesday's event.

"It's a no-win situation for me," said Tyson, 50-5 with two no contests and 44 knockouts.



Mike Tyson lays bleeding in the 4th round as referee Dennis Alfred directs Danny Williams to a corner during a match at Freedom Hall in Louisville, Kentucky, on Friday, July 30, 2004. (KRT Campus)

"If I knock him out in two seconds, he's a bum. If he gives me a shellacking, I'm a bum."

For his part, McBride vowed at least three times: "I'm going to shock the world."

"You have to respect every heavyweight in the business, because all it takes is one punch — and I have that punch. I have no fear of Mike Tyson," McBride said.

His manager, Rich Cappiello, was more specific.

"If people are thinking we're coming to lay down ... we are coming out to knock Mike Tyson out. He had his day. His day's gone,"

Cappiello said. "I think Mike Tyson gets knocked out within five rounds. We are going to stop Mike Tyson and hopefully end his career."

Tyson has been more than \$30 million in debt, and when asked how much longer he thinks he'll keep fighting, he answered: "Long enough to take care of my children — a long time."

While he said he doesn't want to think about another title shot, and said sports fans will decide his legacy, Tyson didn't hesitate when asked who the best heavyweight is right now, saying: "Me."

He also discussed how

down he was after knee surgery.

"I was in that little square-box room, and I was on crutches, and it was a very depressing atmosphere."

"I just fell into a deep depression," Tyson said. "Once those painkillers wore off, it was horrific. I didn't know what to do. I was just like a little spoiled brat. I was at my worst self."

He paused, before adding: "I'm just so happy that I'm happy again."

And then he cackled, a high-pitched squeak that reverberated off the walls of the Lincoln Theater.

TRIP, continued from page 1

SCT last spring to provide, implement and maintain the \$12 million administrative computer software program SCT Banner over the next three years.

According to a university press release, the summit featured educational workshops and provided YSU's SCT project leaders "with valuable information and insight that is critical to successfully and efficiently implementing the software."

Conference costs, "including airfare, accommodations, meals, registration and other expenses" totaled about \$3,000 per employee for a total of \$33,000 for the 11 employees, according to the press release. YSU used roughly \$7,150 in donated funds to defray travel costs. In Sunday's Vindicator, columnist Bertram de Souza lambasted the university for sending employees on the taxpayers' dime to a tourist location such as Hawaii.

"Want to become familiar with new computer software, but grungy Youngstown isn't conducive to intense concentration?" de Souza wrote. "Go to Hawaii. Don Ho's singing 'Tiny Bubbles' will certainly put you in the proper frame of mind."

"Had the folks in higher education made it clear that they could not justify spending thousands of tax dollars on what amounted to a working vacation, the company would have found a less expensive and less pristine setting. Ocean breezes aren't necessary for clear thinking," he wrote.

But Donna Esterly, YSU's interim chief technology officer, said the trip was an important investment in the implementation of the new software.

"It is worth the money to develop the staff and invest in the staff that are going to have overall responsibility for maintaining and using the software," Esterly said. "It [the software] is a very complex environment and an environment that YSU for one is not really used to because we've never done it before. Many other institutions have."

Though most training for the new software is conducted on campus, the Hawaii summit provided the opportunity for team leaders to meet with other SCT Banner users who already have experience with the program, Esterly said.

YSU has already capitalized on this experience, Esterly said. Since returning from the summit, YSU has received scripts from other institutions, saving the university time and money spent on programming, she said.

"When you look at it in terms of time that's being saved by capitalizing on things that have already been done [by other institutions] and will work for YSU, that's a huge benefit. If you looked at it dollar for dollar, I'm sure in the long run it saves significant dollars. Because that will allow us to focus on other things as opposed to writing some of these scripts," Esterly said.

Laura Kvingle, a Sungard spokeswoman, said the company investigated the cost of holding the summit elsewhere, and found the price for Hawaii competitive, if not less expensive, than other cities in the continental United States. Last year's summit was held in Philadelphia; next year's summit will be held in Orlando.

Because Hawaii is considered a vacation hotspot, the state suffers from a certain stigma, she said. If the conference was held in Cleveland, there wouldn't be any public outcry, though the cost of airfare and accommodations would be comparable to Honolulu for clients on the West Coast, she said.

Esterly said the \$12 million budget for the new software accounts for training and travel, so the Hawaii trip is covered under that budgetary umbrella, not in addition to.

The 11 employees who went on the trip are Marianne Anderson (finance), Catherine Cala (advancement), Jeanne Hermann (student services),

James Stanger (financial aid), Donna Wainio (training), Troy Cross (technical support), Eileen Greaf (project manager), Dona Madaesi (project manager), Mary Noble (finance), Mary Jo

Repasky (human resources) and Sandra Stanhope (database). Six of the YSU employees attended pre-conference sessions on March 4 and 5, according to a university press release. A couple

of employees extended their trip by using vacation days, Esterly said.

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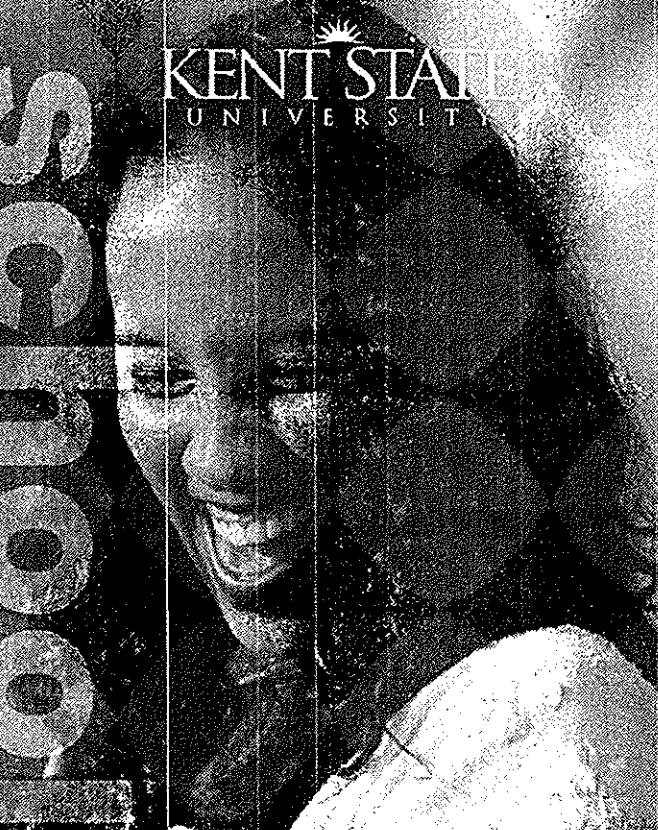
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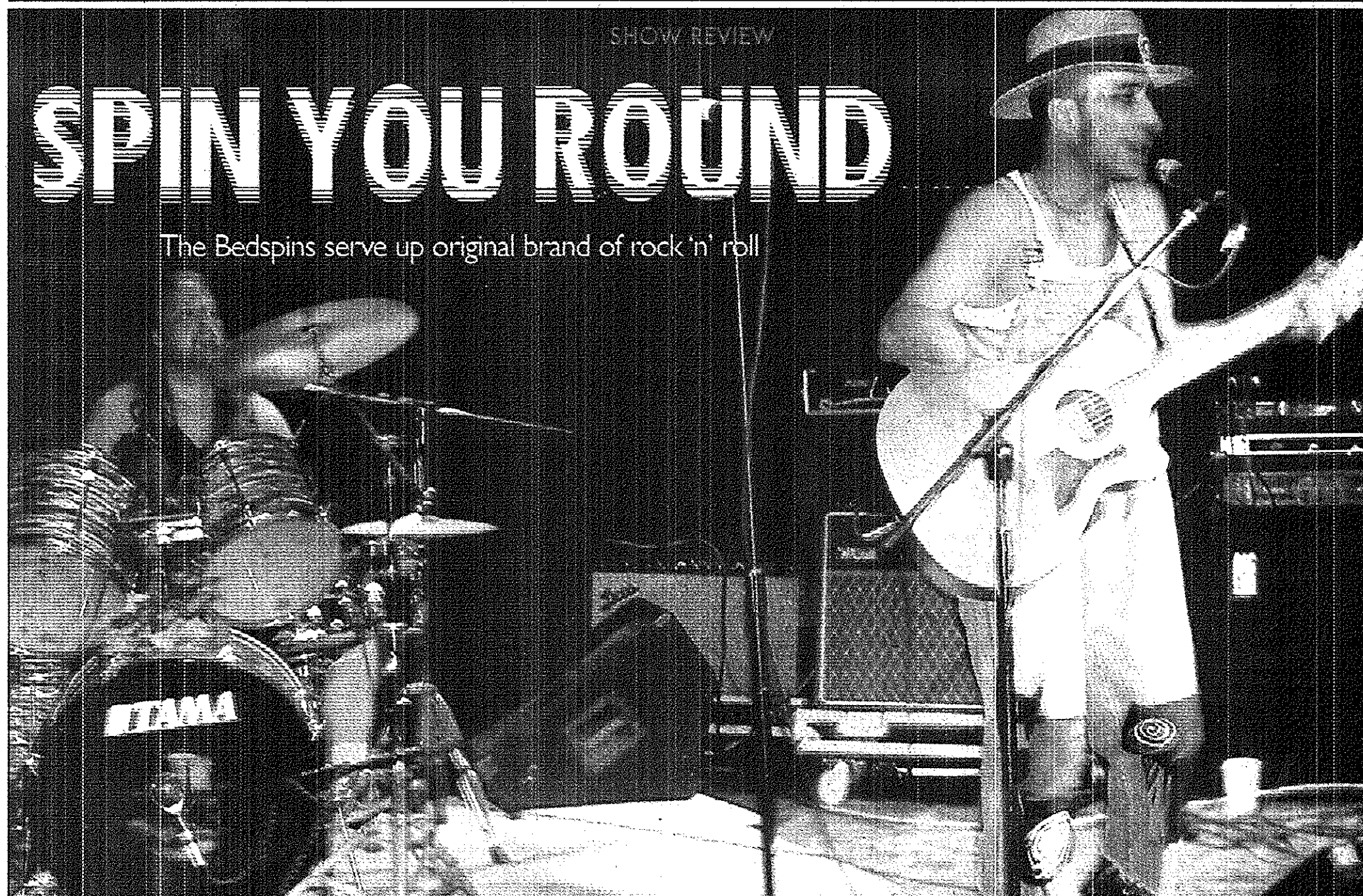
HEADLINES

► *Britney pregnant*
 Britney Spears announced on her Web site that she and husband Kevin Federline are expecting their first child. Federline has two children by an ex-wife.

Thursday, April 14, 2005

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SHOW REVIEW
SPIN YOU ROUND

The Bedspins serve up original brand of rock 'n' roll

Bedspin fever

The Bedspins, a local collaboration featuring P.J. Rosenburg (left) and Don DoPiero, recently played its brand of infectious rock at Cedars Lounge. The band has made frequent appearances there and plans to return soon. (Jambar photos by Sara Tkac)

By Sara Tkac
 The Jambar

If a live band review that begins by being transcribed from cocktail napkins shows promise, then a review that was interrupted by a finite supply of said napkins, causing the writer to slink behind the bar to steal a server pad to continue her writing, must have got magic.

The Bedspins, a local collaboration consisting of P.J. Rosenburg on drums, vocals, sitar strums and random thoughts, and Don DiPiero on vocals, guitars, music, words and lyrics, performed recently at Cedar's Cafe on Hazel in downtown Youngstown.

I can only describe them as one of the best cover charges you can pay to see a Youngstown band -- a culmination of musical styling similar to what would happen if the Violent Femmes invited the Dead Milkmen to join them on stage --

or a scenario involving Lou Reed talking alien conspiracy theories with Rodney Dangerfield.

If you can't get any kind of mental picture from the above description, you should be immediately executed, no questions asked. With all that said, now to the music review. The Bedspins sport a high charged, energetic sound that, at first listen, seems a bit recycled. But after further consideration, I heard a blend of many genres of music -- punk influenced, but melded into something entirely new.

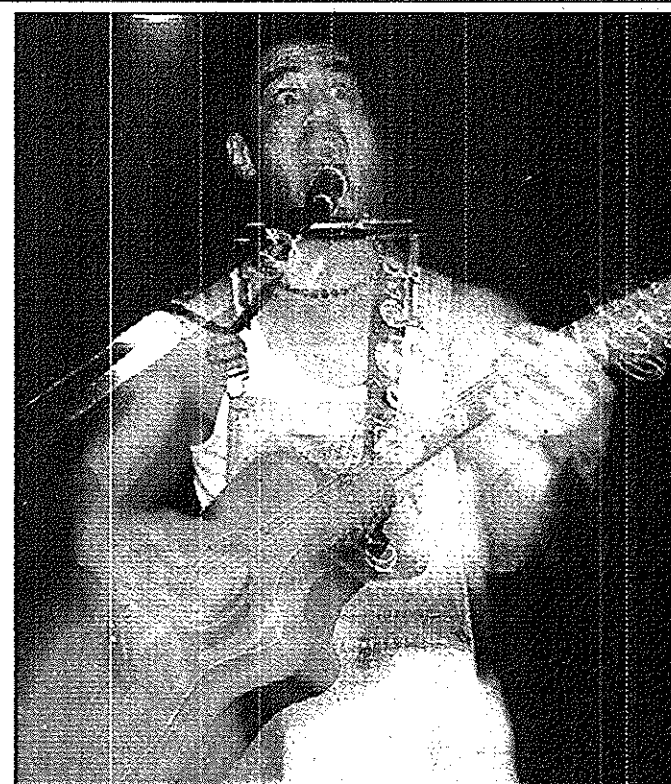
The amount of energy expelled by these two performers is greater than any five-piece group I have ever seen. The mood stayed high energy and upbeat throughout the rest of the night. The people who weren't dancing wanted to. They were doing that particular barstool dance with the wiggling butts and the tapping feet. The sound was infectious.

A song that has Donny singing,

"Psycho Sherry Wants to Marry Me," made me giggle immensely -- partially due to the pure vodka running through my veins, but mostly because it seemed that the jokes just didn't stop coming.

The entire set consisted of rocking, upbeat, fanciful tunes; one such tune included the lyrics "I hate girls," to which I giggled even more. But by this point, my blood alcohol level was no longer the amount of alcohol in my blood, but instead the amount of blood left in my alcohol. I overheard someone sitting next to me say, "These guys are the reason Ritalin was invented." Significant indeed.

The band can be encapsulated in the following five words: Punk rock is not dead. Any group that comes to the stage with such energy and intensity demands respect. Rock 'n' roll at its roots, and finally a band that's far more interesting than the gaggle of stupid conversations that drunken people insist on having in bars.



YSU

Poetry reading set for Friday

William Heyen and H.L. Hix will read in Kilcawley Center

April is National Poetry Month and on Friday, the Youngstown State University Poetry Center will present a poetry reading by Etruscan Press poets H.L. Hix and William Heyen.

The reading, part of the Northeast Ohio Master of Fine Arts Distinguished Visitor Reading Series, is slated for 7 p.m. Friday in the Kilcawley Center's Art Gallery.

Hix has written four books of poetry and four books of criticism. His latest book from Etruscan is "Shadows of Houses."

He is vice president for academic affairs at the Cleveland Institute of Art.

Heyen, the author of 17 books of poetry and five books of prose, most recently wrote "Shoah Train" for Etruscan. "Shoah Train," a collection of Holocaust-themed poems, was a National Book Award finalist. He is an English professor and Poet in Residence Emeritus at SUNY Brockport.

In celebration of National Poetry Month, and in an attempt to do something a little different, the Jambar presents a poem each from Hix and Heyen:



HEYEN



HIX

Suspended by a strand of spiderweb, seedburst hovers and swings, counting out time, scribbling its sign that this world is cursed with repletion, blessed with waste. One wind shift, and light gray fence rails darken with rain. God gets to assign meaning to the three gray cats crouched at an open door looking out through the screen, to round rocks clattering, to the fly that insists on returning to my arm again and again. Even dry months host a luxury of moonlight, a sybaisis of dry leaves, of sprinkler spray blown onto a neighbor's yard, of last plums picked at by thirsty birds, paving stones tree roots lift and splay, holes eaten into leaves at even intervals and straight, sons following fathers, swinging their arms the same way.

Summer
 By H.L. Hix

Evidence
 By William Heyen

Before the Nazis entered Warsaw, Janina Bauman had to burn *The Brown Book* which documented persecution of German Jews in concentration camps. The book was bound in hard dark cardboard. Always,

she'd remember how it hurt her fingers to tear this evidence, which took a long time to burn, but, page by photograph by page, did. Then she cleaned out the stove, & spread these ashes in her family's autumn garden.

YSU

Pirates show to debut at Bliss Hall

'The Pirates of Penzance' starts Friday

By Bill Rodgers
 The Jambar

International "Talk Like a Pirate Day" was on Sept. 19, but the pirates are just starting to invade the Ford Theater of Bliss Hall for the Gilbert and Sullivan operetta "The Pirates of Penzance." The show is a musical farce, making it about as much fun as one can have with pirates without any danger of getting keelhauled.

Youngstown State University adjunct professor David Vosburgh of Youngstown directs the show and adjunct professor David Keith Stiver directs the musical score. The cast features students from the theater program and the Dana school of music. A large rotation of theater and music students will be taking the stage to perform over the show's run, the show is double-cast with some parts triple-cast.

"Pirates of Penzance, or The Slave of Duty" dates back to 1879 when it first attacked audiences in New York City. The show is an operetta, combining spoken lines as well as singing entirely in English. It combines equal parts of music and humor, telling the story of an unfortunate young Victorian man who struggles with his sense of duty after his deaf nursemaid accidentally apprentices him to a gang of pirates



Pirates have invaded Bliss Hall as the theater department prepares hoist sails on Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Pirates of Penzance." Art education students from professor Joseph Babisch's class created "Pirates"-inspired figures, flags, and a sailing ship. (Jambar photo by Chuck Rogers)

instead of a ship pilot.

The gang of uncharacteristically soft-hearted pirates are pursued by a troop of bungling policemen while a beautiful young daughter struggles with her love of the young man while still maintaining her

please see PIRATES, Page 2