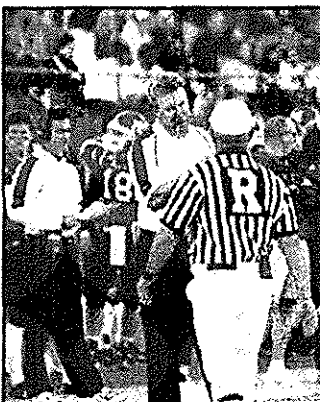


the jambar

VOLUME 88, ISSUE 24 The student voice of Youngstown State University

Weather >> mostly cloudy
56 | 39
Friday: showers, 57/44
Saturday: showers, 57/41

Inside



▶ Jon Heacock has earned a contract extension this year.

Editorial | see page 3



▶ Look out! The moustache is back.

Entertainment | see page 6

In Brief

Near-Death experts to speak

Friends of the International Association for Near-Death Studies group is sponsoring speeches by Charles Swedrock and Dave Bennet 4 p.m. Monday in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center. The two experts in the field of near-death experiences plan to show a video and then answer questions from the audience. For more information, visit www.iands.org.

Photo exhibit opens Thursday

"City Scenes: Places and Spaces" photo exhibit will open Thursday with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Rose Marie Smith Gallery in Tod Hall. The exhibit will feature images from local photographers. This year's theme is "Places and Spaces," which focuses on buildings, skylines, seasons and nature from Youngstown. For more information, call Jean Engle at (330) 941-3519.

MORE NEWS ON PAGE 4.

the jambar poll question
Last question
Do you feel the need for a college students' Bill of Rights?
41% YES 59% NO
Today's Question: Moustaches: Creepy or classy?
vote online www.thejambar.com

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YSU

OEA pact hits snag

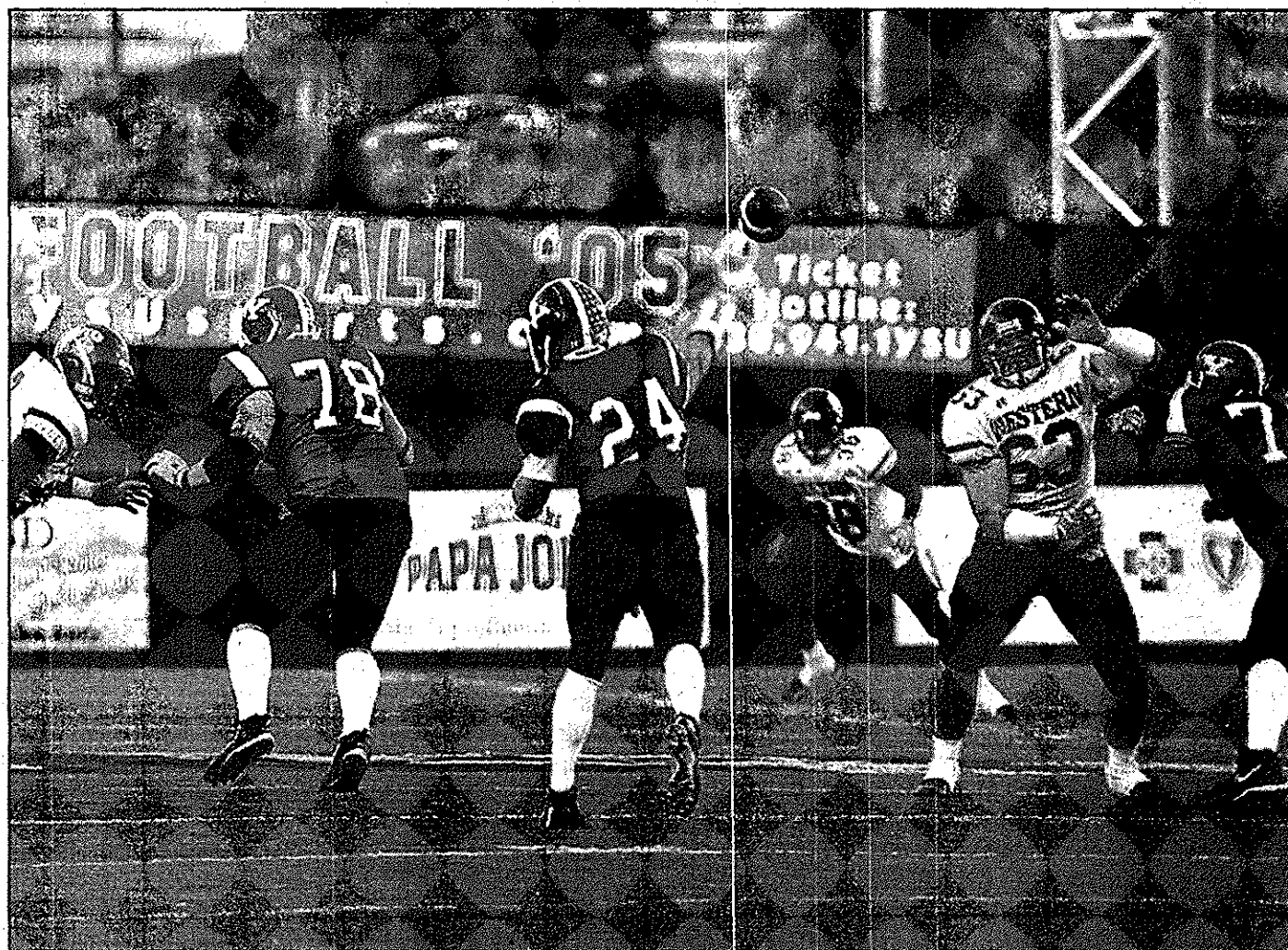
By: Bill Rodgers
NEWS EDITOR

Faculty, employees and administration negotiators ran into a snag with their contract agreement this week. The faculty union of the Ohio Educators Association (OEA) has filed a pre-grievance with Tom Maraffa, special assistant to President David Sweet, who has handled contract negotiations with the union.

The pre-grievance was sent expressing the faculty's concern about the procedure forms required when filing for spousal health care coverage. The faculty claims the forms request too much and inappropriate information. Union president Julia please see **GRIEVANCE**, Page 2

YSU FOOTBALL

Pocket protectors



Youngstown State University quarterback Tom Zetts (24) gets good protection from his offensive line and fires the ball downfield Saturday against Western Illinois. The Penguins' Homecoming game is this Saturday, when YSU will put its 6-1 record on the line against Missouri State. The Penguins are currently atop the Gateway Conference standings and pushing for a postseason berth. SEE STORY, PAGE 5.

YSU

Dann speaks at Kilcawley

By: Cheryl Thompson
REPORTER

State Sen. Marc Dann (D-Liberty) addressed a small crowd in Youngstown State University's Kilcawley Center Monday about the far-ranging affects of corruption in Columbus.

Dann said when money is tied up in scandal it cannot be put to good use such as lowering rising higher education tuition costs.

"This is why it is more affordable for someone to enroll as an out-of-state student at the University of New Mexico than it is to attend an Ohio university," Dann said.

When asked whether students with little money would have any weight to their political requests, Dann cited the "pay-to-play" culture of politics in Columbus and said people who don't donate money to candidates often won't get their issues heard.

He also responded by saying even though politicians are more likely to push for legislation favored by those who give money, there are other factors which influence how politicians vote.

In regards to representatives of the Student Government Association please see **DANN**, Page 9

YSU

YSU poli-sci major seeks seat on Boardman board

By: Katie Libecco
COPY EDITOR

Youngstown State University political science major David Sisk has a lot of motivation to run for a seat on Boardman's Board of Education this November.

He is a 2001 Boardman High School graduate who attended Boardman schools his whole life, one of the reasons he is interested in running for the office.

"I'm a product of that system. That's a huge part of the reason I am running for this office," Sisk said. "I was there recently and I know the policies. I know what worked well for me and I know there are some things that didn't."

Not only does Sisk understand what Boardman schools were like through 2001,

his younger sisters offered further insight.

His sister Ashleigh graduated from Boardman in 2004 and currently attends YSU. Jacklyn graduated in 2005 from Boardman has enlisted with the Air Force.

Sisk is an elected precinct committee person in Boardman, where he owns two homes. He is a member of the Mahoning County Young Democrats and the YSU College Democrats, among other groups.

"I like to believe that while I would bring youth to the board, I would also bring a lot of experience," Sisk said.

There are six candidates running for the three open seats on the board.

"The campaign is going really good so far," Sisk said. "I didn't do as well as I wanted to in the debate last week, though, because I was very nervous. For some reason, I just wasn't myself and I don't think I



SISK

please see **BOARDMAN**, Page 9

YSU / HOMECOMING

Prize Patrol prods Penguin Pride

By: Cheryl Thompson
REPORTER

Freshman Stephanie Hachenburger showed up to class Wednesday wearing red feather boas, beads, a red lei tied around one of her legs, red fishnets under a black skirt and a Pete the Penguin tattoo on her cheek.

The get-up was part of a plan to win a prize from the Coca-Cola sponsored Penguin Prize Patrol. Hachenburger said she had even more Pete items to add to the ensemble.

"I heard the patrol coming and didn't get a chance to put it all on," Hachenburger said.

The Coca-Cola sponsored patrol group toured campus ringing cowbells while on the look out for students



Members of Phi Mu Alpha, Sinfonia play at the campus core recently as a part of YSU's Homecoming Week events.

dressed in red and white university apparel and drinking 20-ounce bottles of Coke products. They surprised these students and awarded them with balloons and YSU backpacks. They patrolled Kilcawley Center from 9:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. surprising six students each hour. If students weren't accosted by the Penguin Prize Patrol, they had the opportunity to register to please see **PATROL**, Page 2

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

Biosafety lab opens on Kent campus

By: Tracy Wheeler
KRT CAMPUS

In an era when avian flu, anthrax, SARS, smallpox and other biological hazards have grabbed headlines, the public health work force that will fight those threats faces a loss of personnel.

An aging work force, early retirements and better salaries at private laboratories are expected to zap public health laboratories of many workers in the next five years, said Dr. Ed Thompson, chief of public health practice at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. At the same time, demand for public lab

services is heavier than ever.

That's why the opening of Kent State University's new biosafety training laboratory was important enough to draw officials from the CDC, the Army Medical Research Institute and the Ohio Department of Health.

The lab will train students to handle dangerous biological threats such as smallpox, plague, anthrax, botulism and influenza.

The lab will not contain the pathogens, but rather similar biological agents that mimic their reactions. The entire lab will be fitted with cameras, even on the microscopes, said Chris please see **BIO SAFETY**, Page 9

BIOSAFETY, continued from page 1

Woolverton, a researcher and faculty member of KSU's department of biological sciences. The video will be stored on a computer server so students can access their training via the Internet, as a way to brush up on their lessons.

The lab also will train workers from private and public labs throughout the region. Only one other

school — Emory University in the CDC's hometown, Atlanta — has a training lab set up to teach students and lab workers how to handle such dangerous substances.

The 900-square-foot lab was paid for with a \$698,000 CDC grant, which U.S. Rep. Ralph Regula, R-Navarre, helped secure.

During his tour of the facility, Regula said it would

be difficult to get the grant approved in Congress' current climate, joking: "This is a piece of pork, theoretically."

"We have a different label for it," KSU President Carol A. Cartwright said. "Essential investment."

The lessons of the past few years — from anthrax and smallpox scares and flu vaccine shortages — have taught everyone in public

health that emergency response is part of the mission, not an interruption, Thompson said. It's also clear that infectious diseases will always be part of public health work.

Public health is the first line of defense, he said. "There's nothing people can do to protect themselves," Thompson said. "They have to rely on us."

DANN, continued from page 1

traveling to Columbus to fight tuition increases, he said that if students want to make their case for lowering tuition and raising state aid, then it is important to get an early start.

"It's better than not going at all. If a young person comes to us and articulates their concerns, we will listen to them and try to help them out. But if the money isn't available due to being tied up in scandals, then that doesn't do any good," Dann said.

Gabriel Palmer-Fernandez, a professor of ethics at YSU, echoed Dann's sentiments.

"This creates a narrow

budget, one that doesn't have enough room to properly fund education," Palmer Fernandez said.

One of the major scandals to hit the Ohio political scene has been the misuse of \$50 million in funds from the Bureau of Worker's Compensation.

Dubbed "Coingate" by the press, it was revealed that the money was given to Tom Noe, a major campaign contributor, to invest in rare coins that would benefit his former rare coin business in Toledo.

Weeks after Ohio Governor Bob Taft approved the plan to invest in rare

coins, Noe sent him a \$2,000 campaign contribution.

After the money was mismanaged, losses of up to \$300 million from the BWC were uncovered.

"This 'pay-to-play' culture in Columbus is causing the long, slow destruction of our state," Dann said.

Dann added that he has been in the political arena for quite a few years, but the situation in Columbus exceeded even his level of cynicism.

"It's shocking how systematic and reflective the corruption is. It's to the point where nobody thinks what they are doing is wrong," Dann said.

Efforts to reform campaign financing are being championed by Dann and other Democrats who want to amend the Ohio Constitution.

Five new amendments are being proposed for Ohio's constitution including adding policy limiting the amount that state contractors can give to campaigns to \$250 down from \$1,000.

Dann was invited to speak at YSU by the Political Science Department, the James Dale Ethics Center and the Mahoning Valley Women's Political Caucus.

Call Cheryl Thompson at (330) 941-1913.

GRIEVANCE, continued from page 1

Gergits has asked for a meeting with the administration to discuss the complaint.

Association of Classified Employees President Christine Domhoff said her bargaining unit had similar problems with the forms. Domhoff said that she sent the university a cease and desist request, asking for the university to meet with the group to discuss the forms. She said that her bargaining unit was advised not to fill out the forms.

The groups seek to simplify the procedure and to take out language that they say requires them to provide the university with "inappropriate information."

Domhoff said that her unit's agreement didn't have language allowing for pre-grievances. If ACE cannot settle the dispute with the university, they would have to file a grievance to be reviewed by Hugh Chatman, YSU's executive director of human resources.

Domhoff said she has not received a response from the university.

The disagreement involves the way

YSU collects information from employees who wish to put their spouses or partners under YSU's health coverage in a coordination of benefits plan. If an employee's partner or spouse works at least 32 hours a week for another employer and has access to that employer's health insurance, the spouse or partner can receive YSU's health plan for a \$100 a month.

The forms that the university requires to request this information ask specifically if the spouse or partner's employer provides dental, optical or prescription drug insurance. Domhoff said that the contract only calls for medical insurance when coordinating benefits.

"They don't need that information," Gergits said.

Gergits also said there was part of a form that a spouse or partner's employer was required to fill out. Gergits said that this was unnecessary.

"They don't need to do that at all," Gergits said.

Gergits said that the administration recently removed a part of the form that said there would be repercussions for employees who didn't turn in the form in a timely manner. Gergits said that there was a system already in place to assure that.

Gergits said she had an alternate, simpler form that could be used, which simply declares whether an employee is opting in or out of the coordination of benefits package. She said there were problems with the simpler document; it doesn't cover some families who might seek out the benefits.

Maraffa said that he met with Gergits on Monday to discuss the forms. He said a formal meeting hadn't been scheduled, but hopes the faculty and administration can work out their differences on the issue.

Gergits said she hopes the disagreement wouldn't come to a grievance procedure.

Call Bill Rodgers at (330) 941-1989.

PATROL, continued from page 1

win the grand prize tailgate package and other prizes such as gift cards to Best Buy, Dick's Sporting Goods, the YSU Bookstore and the Southern Park Mall. The event will give over \$1,500 in prizes.

The Penguin Prize Patrol was a part of Youngstown State University's homecoming week festivities. School spirit abounded as students took part in numerous activities offered to rally excitement for the upcoming homecoming game this Saturday.

Other activities this week included eating contests, balloon animals, sand art, caricature drawings and performances by comedians, Al Katz and Charlie Wiener.

Wednesday students had the chance to create wax hand trophies. To make the trophies, students have to dip their hands into vats of melted wax.

Freshman Angela Monico, showing off her neon pink hand trophy, said the process seems scarier than it actually is.

"At first I wasn't sure if I wanted to dunk my hand in the hot wax, but they made me put my hand in ice water first and it wasn't bad at all," Monico said.

Lynn Haug, the retail operations manager for Kilcawley Center, said student participation was at a peak this year.

"Word of mouth and promotions have helped this year, but the winning football team definitely generated a lot of excitement," Haug said.

The Penguins have won all but one game this year leading up to Saturday's 4 p.m. homecoming match-up

against Missouri State University at Stambaugh Stadium.

YSU's homecoming king and queen will be revealed during the half-time show. This year, the homecoming court consists of five king and five queen finalists.

Homecoming queen finalist Janel Finch said she isn't sure if she's going to win and is eager to find out the winner.

"It's been a long wait

since I found out I made court back in September," Finch said.

Finch said she hasn't decided what she is going to wear, and is looking for a nice dress suit.

"It will probably be red, because my sorority sisters have traditionally worn the color when they made it to court," she said.

There are more events scheduled for the week including Bungee Run and

Bouncy Boxing, the Homecoming Housing Murder Mystery and a wing-eating contest today and Gladiator Joust and Buffalo Wild Wings party on Friday.

Call Cheryl Thompson at (330) 941-1913.

Classified

Help Wanted

Students who are in good standing and interested in working for the Grounds Department during "Snow Removal," please contact the Grounds Department, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. weekdays. For information, call 330-941-7200.

Attention Education and Early Childhood Development students. Would you like to earn up to \$10/hr? Have flexibility around your school schedule? If so, and you enjoy working around children, please contact Lorrie at 330-716-4747.

The Office of Career and Counseling Services is looking for four student telephone survey assistants. Applicants will obtain career information from recent YSU graduates.

Applicants should be organized, excellent communicators, who are comfortable making phone contacts and able to troubleshoot any problems. Request applicants that have clear, legible handwriting and are available to work most hours and days indicated: Monday through Thursday, October 24 to November 3 from 5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. \$6.10/hour. Please contact 330-941-3515 or room 1034 in Jones Hall.

Chrystal Catering now hiring part-time caterers, flexible hours, will work around schedule. For information call 330-

743-8062.

Bartenders wanted! Up to \$300 a day, no experience necessary, training provided. 800-965-6520 ext 287.

Housing

6 to 8 bedroom house for rent. 3 bathrooms, central air, walking distance to YSU, secure parking. Includes all appliances and washer/dryer. Call 330-518-4382.

Rental Specials: 1 and 2 bedroom apartments, \$200 security deposit, 1 month free. 330-270-1781.

Miscellaneous

Pray for the campus. Mondays at noon. Stambaugh room, Kilcawley center. All welcome.

Reach the whole campus. Call 941-1990 to place a classified ad in The Jambar.

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UP A CREEK TAVERN
SPECIALS EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK

Monday: Coors Lite Nite, \$2.00 24oz drafts, 1/2 off appetizers, 7pm-close
Tuesday: HAPPY HOUR DOESN'T STOP! 3pm-close, \$1.00 16 oz drafts, \$1.50 bottle beer, 50 mixed drinks, 30 wings
Wednesday: Burger and Beer Nite: All day all 1/2lb. burger & fries baskets are \$5.00, \$1.00 "Skinny Burger" (All Day), \$5.00 pitchers of Miller Lite & Coors Lite, and \$7.00 pitchers of Margarita (7-close)
Thursday: Karaoke with "Simply Ed" \$4.00 bombs
Friday: \$2.00 shot specials after 10pm, \$5.00 1/2lb. Peel-n-Eat Shrimp (All Day)
Saturday and Sunday: 1/2 slab rib dinner \$7.99, whole slab dinner just \$12.99, \$5.00 Martin's, \$4.00 Long Island Ice Tea (All Day)

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thejambar
 Excellence in Journalism since 1931

Editorial & Opinion

Thursday, October 20, 2005

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thejambar
 Excellence in Journalism since 1931

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OUR SIDE

Cut the check for Heacock

In politics, they call the free-agent year a lame-duck period. In that last year under contract, politicians in seats with term limits are usually halfway out the door before halftime. They're likely to either be working on a book deal or looking toward their next seat in office.

Sports are curiously similar, though the mechanics work a little differently. Average athletes will have tremendous statistical years, playing themselves to an inflated value in the market. They will be overpaid and never have another year as good as the one they had to earn the contract. It happens all the time. It works the other way, too.

Athletes who have toiled in bad situations — lack of playing time, personal problems with the coach, losing teams — will break out in a free-agent year, earn their trip somewhere else and have successful careers.

We've been watching Youngstown State University's most intriguing free agent this year, and we've been impressed.

Head football coach Jon Heacock is in the last year of his contract, a tenure that has been disappointing to some and unacceptable to most considering the success of the man who preceded him, Jim Tressel.

Something has happened this year, though. The Penguins are winning again, in contention again, chasing a conference title and inching closer to the post-season with every tough Gateway Conference win. More important than that, however, is that football is relevant on campus again. There is a tangible excitement on campus. Students, faculty and the community are fired up — our one-time source of bragging rights has found its way back to campus.

And it hasn't been easy for Heacock. He was put in a situation primed for failure. Following a dynasty and perhaps this generation's most popular Mahoning Valley sports figure in Tressel, nothing would have been acceptable for Heacock in the first four years. He would have needed to win a I-AA championship every year to keep the critics quiet. They loved Tressel, and Heacock isn't the quote machine Tressel was. He doesn't have that all-inspiring public speaker-like demeanor. He's just a football coach.

But if dealing with those struggles and coming through with the success of this season says anything at all for Heacock, it's that he's a darn good football coach.

Nothing shows this more than the team's games on Sept. 17 and Oct. 1.

On Sept. 17, the team went on the road for a game against the Liberty Flames and rolled to a 42-0 victory. Two weeks later, they held on in a tough game against Illinois State for a 20-17 victory.

What's notable here is the game that took place between those two teams.

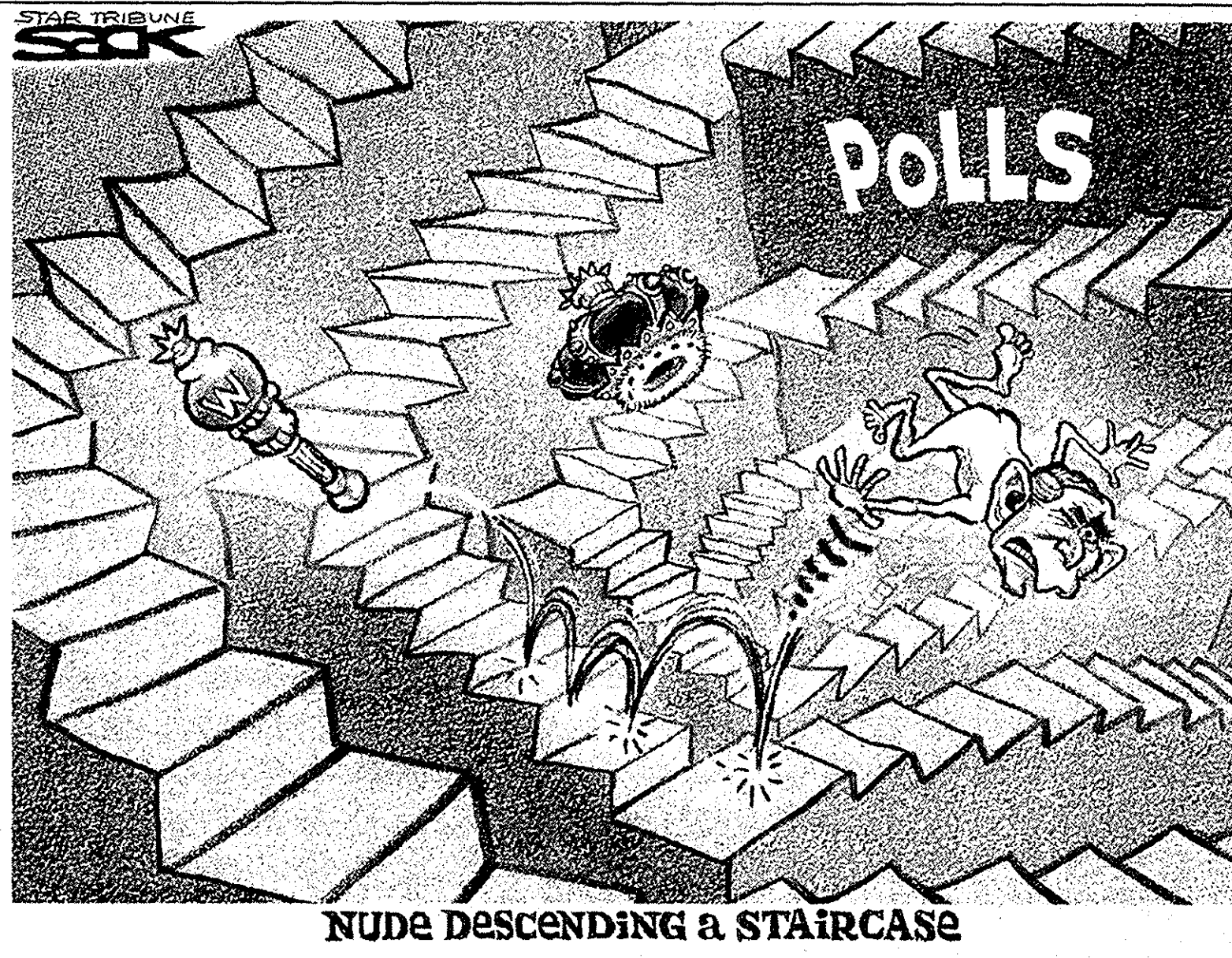
YSU traveled to Heinz Field and was pounded by the Pitt Panthers, 41-0. But they weren't supposed to win, and few people were surprised when Goliath stomped David. But in the week before, knowing what loomed ahead in the coming week, the Penguins were sharp, didn't look past Liberty and tacked the win on the board in convincing fashion. They were focused on the game at hand. The week after the Pitt loss, YSU could've suffered from a lack of confidence, came out flat and folded in the closing minutes of a close game. They didn't. They eked out the win.

Those wins reflect leadership. They reflect Jon Heacock and his staff. They show a coach capable of leading his team, of keeping them focused. They show a winner, taking what's been coming to him for five years.

Heacock has something else coming to him — a payday.

The success of this season, the fact that he's dealt with unrealistic expectations with determination and focus, and the renewed relevance of the football team, along with the excitement surrounding this season, all prove that Heacock is a valuable asset for this campus. This is no lame-duck coach looking at his next move, planning a book deal, as it were.

The YSU Athletic Department, regardless of what happens from here on out, needs to show they understand this and cut the check. It's payday for Jon Heacock.



NUDE DESCENDING A STAIRCASE

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'King George' has failed our country

Editor:
 It seems every time someone says George Bush has failed as president someone runs to his defense with strange and bizarre justifications. The reality is that George Bush has put our country in an economic and emotional mess. The only defense I ever hear is some ridiculous response of Clinton having oral sex. The fact that Clinton and Monica did what they did has nothing to do with Bush's performance. Lets look at Bush's track record.

Before becoming president or governor for that matter, he bankrupted every business he ever owned or ran. Then as governor of Texas he destroyed that education system, put the state's finances in a deficit for the first time in the states history, and decided to run for president. In case you were not aware, this was Bush's only political office before his presidency.

I'll be the first to admit that the stock market was on a downward spiral when King George entered the Whitehouse. But it always is when a republican enters office. Even the people with money that put them in office are aware of that. Anyway, the Wiener enters office and declares tax cuts. The economy gets worse. The only people that received a tax break was those that make over \$100,000 a year. Those with a salary below this magic figure were taxed higher.

Then our country is attacked. He sits and messes his pants before he can respond. Oh, he didn't want to traumatize the kids. Then he jumps on a plane, tells Dick, an appropriate name, to run and hide. And to this day has still not done anything about it but put our country at great risk of further attacks, spend gross amounts of money on a war that leads to no resolution, and create a great deal of partisan bickering among the citizens of this country.

The war has been extremely beneficial to Halliburton. For some reason they are the only company that could do the job, and they were Dick's, there's that name again, former employer. By the way, they are still paying him. Hummmmm!!!! Somehow no jobs were created out of all of this. In fact, people continue to lose jobs. I'm sure this has something to do with Bill and Monica.

So let's look at where we are as a country today. Neighbors are unable to help each other because

they are all struggling to make their own ends meet. Gasoline increased 300 percent because of the hurricane possibly disrupting refining, it didn't but prices didn't go back down. Natural gas just went up over 40 percent because of the hurricanes. Our major car manufactures are going bankrupt, but then again no one in Bush or Cheney's family has major interest there.

GM, Ford and Chrysler are three of the largest employers in the country. They have historically paid their workers a fair wage. Now they are slowly going under. Unemployment is the highest it has been since, Hummm, the Reagan administration? Oh, I did it, I counted the people whose unemployment has run out. I forgot they aren't part of the unemployment statistic.

I could go on, welfare, education cuts, yep, your tuition, health care, Medicare, Social Security, pensions, bankruptcy reform for the wealthy. This is all to depressing to continue. Bill should have never let Monica in his office. Then we would all be fine.

Bill Border
 Coordinator, Academic Achievers

Mackey's Barry-like writings 'insightful'

Editor:
 In the Oct. 13 issue, Joan Izzo takes a certain offense to Bob Mackey's column. Yet the rant only contains Ad Hominem attacks and name dropping, containing not a drop of reasoning beyond an apparent assumption that her word carries weight. I personally find Bob's column to contain both humor and a type of inventiveness that takes time to create and insight to appreciate. It is along the same vein as popular humor columnist and Pulitzer Prize winner Dave Barry, Google him to see why.

I mention Dave because he is more of a contemporary that can be directly compared to Bob, and he is also still alive. Ms. Izzo seems to have an obsession for those that are deceased. One of which has not been on this plane of existence since 1745, and therefore not exactly good material for accurate comparison. Furthermore she mentions the great Mark Twain. Who, if she knew more about him than just his name to drop, would have been the first to support such satirical writing. Instead of simply trying to quell it. Bob's writing makes one reminisce about certain details, and then he twists it using his own insight and our own knowledge to

point out the absurd. As Mark Twain once said; "Education: that which reveals to the wise, and conceals from the stupid, the vast limits of their knowledge." A wonderful statement that seems to precisely illustrate Ms. Izzo's problem. Now since she seems to only understand Ad Hominem arguments, and that she believes that threatening someone else's life is acceptable (eradicate does not mean group hug) when you simply do not like them, I have the following words: Ms. Izzo has gone to great, painful lengths to show her incredible envy and desire for Bob Mackey. How else could one explain her sudden fixation and inquisition of him? She simply wants what she cannot have and can never attain. Her desire to end his life only affirms her dedication to only dead men. I call upon the Jambar to end her necrophilia and defenestrate her post haste! Perhaps if Ms. Izzo was truly an admirer of Mark Twain she would have remembered his warning: "It is better to keep your mouth closed and let people think you are a fool than to open it and remove all doubt."

G. Diamantis

Williams' requests are 'ridiculous'

Editor:
 Last year Mr. Ted Williams' letters to the editor served as entertainment to my hectic and strenuous schedule. This year they serve as a warning sign that needs to be addressed. It is plain to see Mr. Williams' total disregard for human life in the way that he specifies which groups of people he longs to act like Hitler in "going after these people," a reference of great concern. We all have talked about the warning signs of school shooters, and it is possible that this attitude of the modern Hitler could fall into it. My fear is for the students of Youngstown State University, and their protection against someone who so blatantly has a misconception of the world and God and is seeking to rid the world of people who disagree with him or believe in something contrary to his belief.

It is clear he does not believe in God, or at least a God that is perfect in striving for Justice. Out of anyone, Mr. Williams, I myself have had my fair share of problems with God, losing some of my best friends to a death they did not deserve, at a time that no parent should have to lose a son or daughter and no friend his confidante. I have watched as those I

loved died and that has forever affected my faith in a negative way, and my understanding. I have questioned if God is merciful, and how can God let such things happen?

Yet, I have grown to realize that it is not God, which does evil deeds; people do, and that we are stewards of this planet, given tests and trials in order to make us worthy of God's grace. He is merciful because he loves me through all of my sins, and has seen fit to leave me on this planet and give me the drive and the vision to accomplish things for not only my community but for the world so as to make their deaths not in vain.

I know you do not believe one person can make a difference or that God is there to help you through your day, but explain to me if you are bitter from watching TV or have you actually lived through it as I have. I have been the one to cry myself to sleep, or to go about every day with a smile on my face, and help those in need, even when my own life came crashing down. I am still a human with human emotions, contrary to whatever belief you might hold. I was the one who experienced the pain of losing my mentors, my role models, and most of all my friends and brothers.

There are many out there with worse stories than myself, most especially in China, Pakista, and New Orleans. Mr. Williams, I think that you attacking that sense of pain to use it for a twisted radical, racist motive, and have no true concept of what the pains of the world truly feel like. We cannot help everyone, that is a certainty but we can try, and rappers have a place in this world just like you do. If you want the world to be rid of blacks, rappers, Christians, and apparently the whole of America by wishing a deadly disease such as the Avian flu upon us, then you shall be waiting a long time. All of those categories I have just mentioned that you slandered have been courageous in the face of adversity of one kind or another, and they will continue to do so despite your ridiculous and dangerous requests.

Joe Ilesue

Correction:

In an Oct. 18 letter to the editor from Jack Labusch headlined "What's wrong with Ohio Republicans" the sentence "If you picked number five, you'd be right," was erroneously added. Jack Labusch did not author that sentence.

YSU kicks in free tuition for 'Extreme Makeover' family

By: Katie Libecco
COPY EDITOR

President David Sweet announced yesterday the three daughters of Jeff Novak, the local man who will be featured in an upcoming episode of ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition," will receive free tuition scholarships to Youngstown State University.

The show wrapped up filming in Boardman on Wednesday, when the house was presented to the family.

"We were approached very early on, but I was unfamiliar with the show. I hadn't watched it before," Sweet said. "As the story began to unfold and we heard about the situation, we wanted to help."

The Novak daughters are six-year-old Zoey, two-year-old Harley and six-month-old Presley. They were selected by producers when their mother, Jackie Novak, died on Mother's Day from a blood clot on the lung. The last thing the family did together was watch "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition."

Jackie Novak was a teacher at Jackson Milton High School, and Jeff Novak is a special-education teacher at South Range Middle School.

Youngstown State University and the YSU Foundation are establishing an endowment fund to provide the tuitions for Zoey,

Harley and Presley.

"This show has brought a lot of nice attention to the area, and we feel that it's rightful to join the community in this effort, this celebration," C. Reid Schmutz, president of the YSU Foundation, said.

A press release sent out by YSU Marketing and Communications said Sweet announced the scholarships fund to Ty Pennington, the host of "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" during a visit to Tod Hall last week. The presentation was videotaped by the show's crew.

"We wanted to do this especially because Mrs. Novak was a YSU graduate and part of the YSU community. We thought that we would like to be a part of the show and help out," Sweet said.

Jackie Novak graduated in 2001 from YSU's Beeghly College of Education.

The press release also said Pennington, Paige Hemmis, the show's designer, and the Novaks were presented with YSU apparel and memorabilia during their visit to YSU.

"We're doing this because President Sweet asked us and we think the family and their situation have touched a lot of heartstrings here," Schmutz said.

The press release said the episode featuring the Novak family is tentatively set air on Sunday, Nov. 27.

Call Katie Libecco at (330) 941-3758.

BOARDMAN, continued from page 1

got my voice out there." Through older family members, Sisk said he was exposed to politics for as long as he can remember.

"I was taught that if you want to see changes, you have to make them happen yourself and I believe that politics is the best mechanism to achieve those changes," he said.

One of the reasons that Sisk said prompted him to run for office was the recent loss of Boardman's "excellent" status by the state.

"It is very important to me that Boardman returns to excellent status and set a standard for nearby communities to follow," Sisk said.

He mentioned that the current board has a short-term term plan to return to excellent status, but no long-term plans to keep that status.

"One of the reasons I'm doing this is because I'm planning on starting my family in Boardman in the near future. I want to ensure that my kids will have the resources I had when I grew up in Boardman," Sisk said.

POLICE BLOTTER

Police responded to a poster on fire outside of Peaberry's Café on Oct. 17. According to the report, a Peaberry's employee said he found a poster on the bulletin board on fire after customers smelled smoke. The employee pulled the poster down and smothered the flames. The police report noted the employee heard a nearby male saying "Did you see that asshole put out that paper?"

email us at
thejambar@gmail.com

Speaker discusses 1993 prison riots

The author expoused on the Ohio prison system

By: Eric Grosso
FEATURES REPORTER

Author Staughton Lynd presented his thoughts on the 1993 Lucasville Prison riots and their Youngstown connection. Lynd's speech on Tuesday offered insight into the Ohio prison system, its prisoners and the human spirit.

Lynd, a scholar, activist and attorney for more than 50 years, recently released "Lucasville," which delves into the controversial issue of inequality in the American prison system. The 1993 uprising at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility in Lucasville left nine prisoners and one hostage dead after 11 days.

The five men were convicted and sentenced to the death penalty for the murder of Officer Robert Vallandingham, a guard they took hostage during the uprising. They were known as the "Lucasville Five," and are argued by Lynd to be innocent with compelling evidence he gathered in his book.

"Lucasville" also dealt with larger issues like cooperation. The Lucasville Five consisted of members of Muslim faith, the Aryan Brotherhood, the Black Ganger Disciples and other groups often at war with one another. Lynd stressed that members of those groups working together was a feat within itself.

He also showed pictures of the prison after the riots, noting graffiti on the walls that was never shown by media sources. Images included the words "black and white together," "convict unity," and "convict race," on prison walls.

Youngstown's Connection

Lynd was quick to point out that the riots have a number of quick connections to Youngstown.

"You might be saying 'What does this story have

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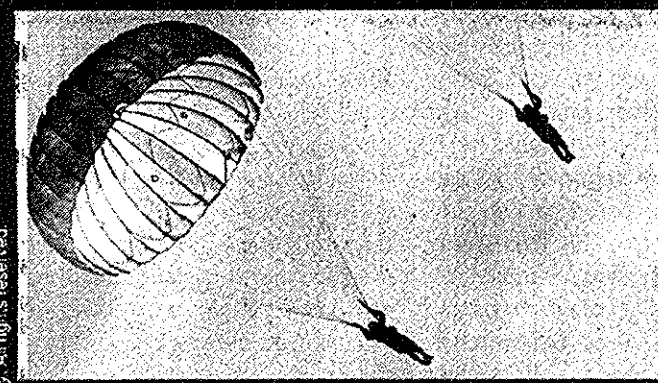
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to do with you?" Lynd said to the audience. "This story is really about you."

Lynd contends the Ohio State Penitentiary, a super-maximum security prison built in Youngstown in 1998, was built as a response to the Lucasville riots.

"It was a message to the world from prison administrators," said Lynd. "They were saying 'no one escapes, no one dictates what goes on besides us.'"

The facility houses about 230 inmates, including 30 death row inmates relocated there from Mansfield Correctional Institute this week. The supermax can hold more than 500 prisoners, but has never operated at full capacity.

Inhumane Treatment?

Youngstown's supermax doesn't have a traditional recreation yard and inmates were locked up for 23 hours of the day. When they would leave, they were always shackled and were strip-searched every time they left and entered their cells.

Those treatments lead Lynd to head a class action suit against the prison system claiming that treatment is harsh, unfair, and is based on reaction the Lucasville

riots and not actual security needs. In 2002, U.S. District Judge James S. Gwin agreed with Lynd, commenting on the prison during his ruling.

"This prison has 504 cells, but it was built for only five people [the Lucasville Five]," said Gwin.

An important debate in that case was the moving of death row prisoners to Youngstown from Mansfield. The inmates had moved from Mansfield to Lucasville in 1995.

Lynd says prison administrators testified prisoners were moved from facility to facility, not for security reasons as they law says they should be. Lynd claims prison administrators say that death row inmates are very relaxed and cooperative compared to other inmates. Lynd says that these inmates and prison officials often create a bond which makes it hard for

prison officers to send inmates to be executed. This bond is the reason for the transfer of prisoners to Mansfield and then to Youngstown, Lynd claims.

Lynd insists that the relationship between prisoners and security are major failures in the prison system.

"Officials don't see prisoners for who they are, they don't see them as humans. The only thing they see is a workforce created by housing the prisoners," said Lynd.

Lynd closed by saying his ideas aren't necessarily always right, but he hopes they continue to inspire thought.

"I put these ideas on the table," Lynd said. "Hopefully, they get you to think about opening your mind to creative thought on the subject."

Jeremy Lydic contributed to this story.
Call at Eric Grosso at (330) 941-3758.

They were saying, 'no one escapes, no one dictates what goes on besides us'

— Staughton Lynd

NEWS IN BRIEF

Law Day set for Wednesday

Law Day, an event that provides law school information, will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday in the Ohio Room of Kilcawley Center, featuring representatives from Case Western Reserve University, the University of Akron, Michigan State University, the University of Cincinnati, the University of Dayton and Duquesne University to answer questions. For more information, call Paul Sracic at (330) 941-1672.

Geography students present papers

YSU geography students will present papers at the annual meeting of the East Lakes Division of the Association of American Geographers at Bowling Green State University on Saturday entitled "Existing Structural Evidence of Ethnic Enclaves in Youngstown, Ohio" and "Tracing the Path of the Beaver and Sandy Canal."

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- ▶ 10/20-23 — Men's tennis @ ITA Championships
- ▶ 10/21 Volleyball vs. Butler, 7 p.m.
- ▶ 10/22 Volleyball vs. Wright State, 2 p.m.
- ▶ 10/23 Soccer @ UW-Green Bay

YSU FOOTBALL / HOMECOMING GAME

Penguins look to slow Bears' offense

By: Justin Smolkovich
SPORTS REPORTER

After seven weeks, the Penguins are believers. Despite being put in tough situations for the second straight home game, the Youngstown State University football team has reeled in another victory.

"I think they believe they can win," head coach Jon Heacock said of his 6-1 Penguins.

YSU is ranked number 14 in the ESPN/USATODAY poll and are off to their best start under Heacock.

Following last week's nailbiter against Western Illinois, Heacock said his team knows what they need to do and where they need to get better when they host Missouri State. The Missouri State Bears are off to a 3-3 start, which included several tough games against some of the Gateway Conferences powerhouses.

"I think we know where we need to get better," Heacock said.

The Penguins will need a strong defensive effort this week against a very high-powered Bears offensive unit that seems to only get better as the game progresses.

"They are as good of an offense I would guess we have seen to date with exception to probably Pitt," Heacock said. "They are a team that continues to play and play. Their fourth quarter performances are really something."

The Bears are coming off a tough loss to a top ten team, Western Kentucky, 37-28, in a game that saw the Bears score 21 fourth-quarter points.

The Penguins defense will have the task of lim-

iting the Bears ability to once again put up huge fourth quarter numbers, and so far this season, the Penguins' defense has only gotten better once the final stanza begins. Through seven games, the Penguins have only allowed 23 points in the fourth quarter.

Not only have the Penguins limited the time opponents get into the end zone, but they also have limited the time opposing quarterbacks stay upright. Last week, the Penguins recorded seven sacks for 46 yards in losses.

Offensively, the Penguins are hitting on all cylinders as of late. They tallied 321 yards of offense last week, but will have to play near-perfect football to grab a win.

"They just play well," Heacock said of the Bears defense. For the last three weeks the Penguins have roughed up the opposing defense behind the efforts of tailback Marcus Mason who has rushed for 100 yards in each of three consecutive games. The Penguins are 5-0 this season when they have a back reach numbers over the century mark.

The Penguins are also proving tough for defenses through the air. Quarterback Tom Zetts has thrown a touchdown in 10 of his last 12 games. Zetts went 15 of 32 through the air for 202 yards.

That task will be much harder this week due to the scrappy Bears defense that held a Hilltoppers offense to 312 yards.

"We are just going to have to find some ways to move the football and keep moving those chains," Heacock said.

The game against the Bears

Saturday is the culmination of Homecoming week for the Penguins. The Penguins have won eight of nine against the Bears including a perfect 4-0 record at home, but Heacock said that this game would prove to be a tough test for the Penguins.

"It will be everything you want it to be," he said. Kick off is set for 4pm.

Keys to the game

Defensive Pressure: The Penguins recorded seven sacks last week to highlight their aggressive defensive scheme. The Bears last week gave up five sacks for a loss of 39 yards.

Punt Return Perry: Last week the Penguins were given excellent field position off punts from the Leathernecks. Defensive back Jason Perry returned three punts for 72 yards.

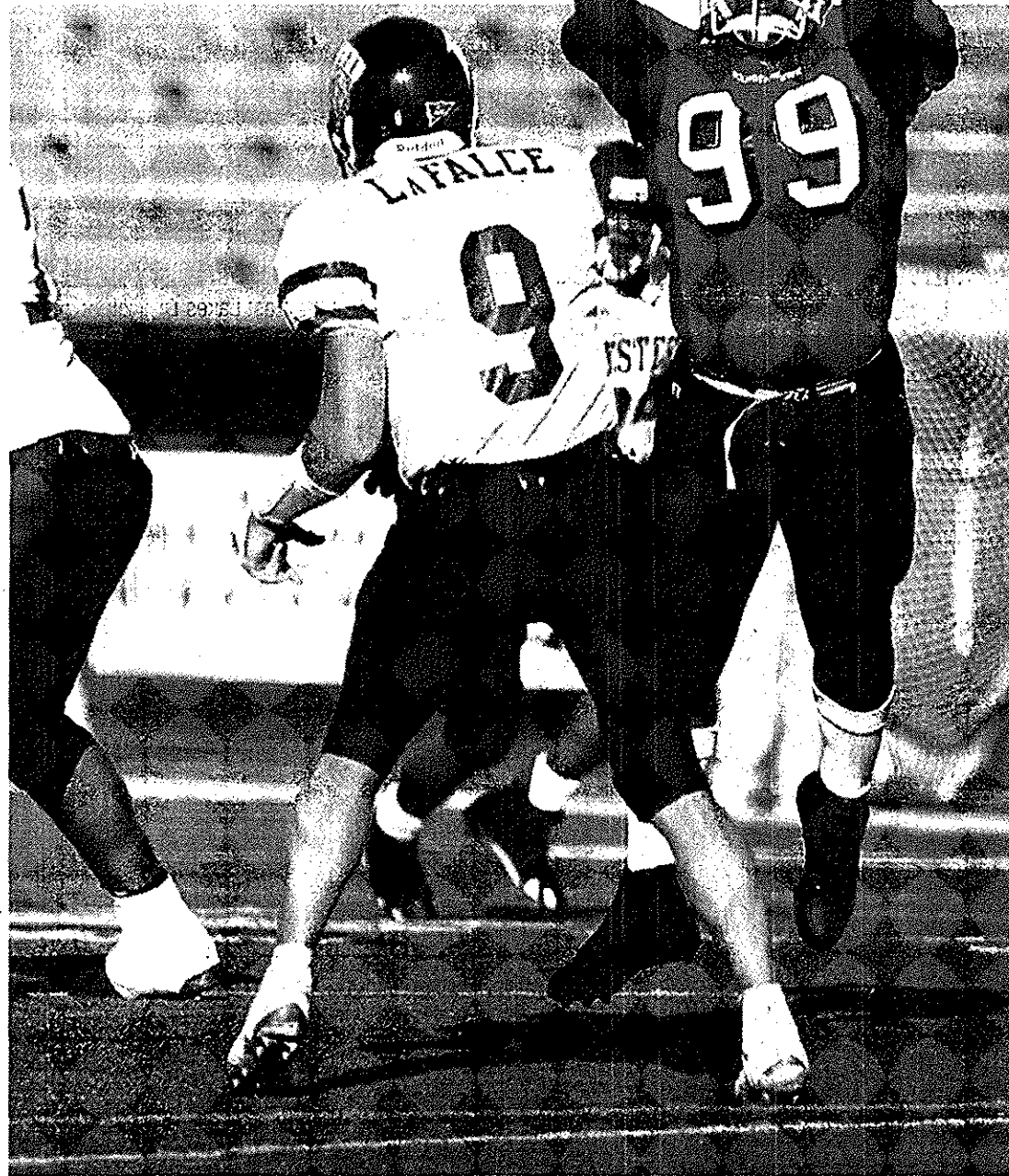
Win back the clock: Keeping the Bears offensive unit off the field will be a big task for the Penguins' offense. Last week the Penguins were out gained on time of possession 33:36 to 26:24. The Penguins best defense this week may just be their offense.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758.



Jambar / Ron Stevens

ABOVE: Senior linebacker Brandon Brown (99) crushes a Western Illinois ballcarrier during last week's game. **BELOW:** YSU Marching Pride band members form a human pyramid during the halftime festivities of last week's game. **LEFT:** Brown leaps high to try to deflect a pass during last week's game. This week, Brown and the rest of the Penguins' much-improved defense will have to play big for YSU to win the Homecoming game. The Missouri State offense has been tough all year, and last week the Bears scored 21 points in the fourth quarter of their game against Western Kentucky.



YSU WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Hill inked to four-year extension

By: Justin Smolkovich
SPORTS REPORTER

The Youngstown State University Women's basketball team will have a familiar face guiding them for another four years.

Head Coach Tisha Hill is entering her third season as the helm and was recently rewarded with a four-year contract extension through the 2008-09 season. Hill's contract was set to expire after this season.

The strides that Hill has made are what earned her extension.

"Coach Hill is well deserving of this new contract," YSU Athletic Director Ron Strollo said in a press release. "Not only has she improved our program's competitiveness in a short period of time, she has worked diligently to lay the groundwork for future successes for the Youngstown State women's basketball program."

The groundwork started earlier in Hill's career. Hill inherited a team that went 6-22 in 2002-2003 and spurred the team forward

finishing last season with a mark of 12-16, ranking 24th nationally in 3-point percentage with 36.3 percent

Hill said she was grateful to continue her career at YSU.

"Coaching at Youngstown State has been a wonderful experience and I am grateful to the administration for the opportunity to continue to be the head coach at YSU for the next four years," Hill said.

The Penguins finished in sixth place in the Horizon League last season, exceeding an expectation of dead last by most people.

Hill also helped guide Jen Perugini, the first Penguin ever to be named First Team All-Horizon League. Perugini also garnered ESPN the Magazine/CoSIDA Academic All-District IV First-Team.

The Penguins this season are tabbed to finish seventh in the preseason poll. Last season the Penguins were tabbed to finish ninth but moved up three spots to finish at the sixth spot with a 6-10 league record.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758.



Photo courtesy of ysusports.com

YSU head women's basketball coach Tisha Hill gives instruction to a player during a game last season. Hill, whose team went 12-16 last season, signed a four-year contract extension to lock her up through the 2008-09 season.

COMMENTARY

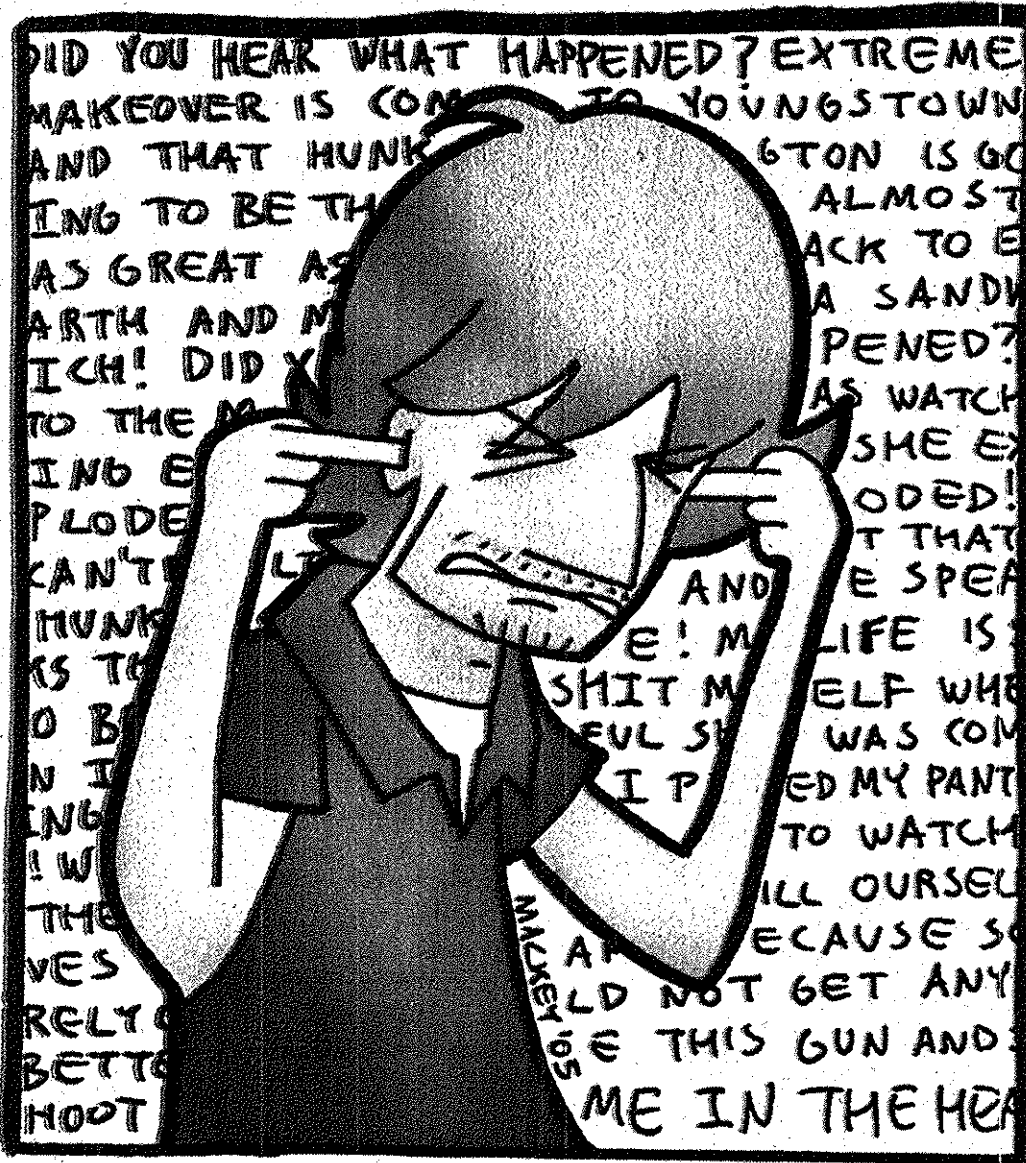
Stop talking about 'Extreme Makeover' — now

By: Bob Mackey
COLUMNIST

I'm not sure if anyone is aware of this, but the television show "Extreme Makeover Home Edition" has recently landed in our fair little valley of Mahoning. I honestly had no idea this was going on until recently, when every third word spoken on campus was one of the following: "extreme," "makeover," "home," and/or "edition." I also heard the word "jerk" a lot, but this was mainly spoken from afar by groups of people who could not sympathize with me and my apathy towards both "Extreme Makeover" and reality television in general. Just to make sure I really was the odd man out on this one, I hit the Internet and booted up one of local news sites. There, I saw a banner: "Extreme Makeover Home Edition is in The Valley." This was stated as if the President's corpse was hitting our town, and everyone was psyched to get in line to touch that star-spangled grave blanket. My suspicions were confirmed: the entirety of Youngstown had "Extreme Makeover" fever.

The disease-carrying mosquito in this case is TV's Ty Pennington, the man women want to be with and men want to pummel. I know very little about him, except for the fact that women find him irresistibly sexy in the same way they find Johnny Depp sexy; one exception to this comparison is that if you took away Ty's celebrity status, he would look like a normal guy and not a well-dressed pedophile. If you're a woman, I fully expect you to know who Ty is. If you're a man and don't know who Ty is, then you probably don't have a girlfriend or common law wife who forces you to watch shows like "Extreme Makeover." It's a total girlfriend show, and it makes me think back bitterly at the times I was forced to watch shows like "Trading Spaces," "7th Heaven," and occasionally, "World's Scariest Police Chases."

"Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" is much more deceptive than the aforementioned "Trading Spaces," though, mainly because of Ty. At least with "Trading Spaces," boyfriends the world over could



leer at the cute-as-a-button Paige Davis while all of the decorating was transpiring. This is not so with "Extreme Makeover," even though an attractive woman is presented to the viewers, she's no Paige Davis. To make things even worse for men, "Extreme Makeover" presents the female viewer with the pinnacle of all manhood. Not only was Ty Pennington created in a lab to be the perfect man, he also had to build the lab first using only nails and particle board; he's that good. Truthfully, I'm

genuinely impressed with the power "Extreme Makeover" has to emasculate in two different ways. My guess is that during the next season, a prompt will precede every episode, telling all male viewers to put on their pretty pink dresses.

Although they haven't mentioned this future transvestitism, local news stations have hitched their wagons to the "Extreme Makeover" Express, and they're hoping they don't run out of coal to feed its Ty-powered engine. I've personally seen their most triv-

ial updates on the status of the newly constructed "Extreme Makeover" house. Just the other day I had mistakenly left the local news on, and while I was shouting "Noooooo!" and frantically looking for the remote, I heard two different news reports about how Ty's abs were glistening in the sun while he was walking around with his no-shirt. At first I was horrified, but then relieved to see that they weren't showing that damn water-skiing squirrel footage as often as they tend to do. I know they call it "the lighter side of the news," but that squirrel doesn't want to be there; look at the fear in its eyes, people.

This slavish devotion to the "Extreme Makeover" phenomena makes me wonder if people really know that the show is eventually going to leave town. Yes, I'm sorry if this is news to some of you, but Ty and Company hold no loyalty to our burg. I know he may have tried your peach cobbler, and possibly impregnated a few of you, but I assure you he was only trying to adapt to the atmosphere of uncomfortable hospitality. When the building of this house is over, he'll move onto new towns with different cobblers and more loose women. This fact hasn't gotten through to a lot of people, though. I could have sworn that I saw a local news anchor groveling at Ty's feet, screaming, "Don't leave! We have nothing else! Nothing!"

This whole "Extreme Makeover" thing has made me feel like I'm living in an alternate reality, where The Beatles landed in Youngstown as opposed to New York, and they're a boring reality show instead of a rock band. Maybe this being the biggest thing to happen to our town is profoundly sad, or maybe it's just that I watch too many cartoons and not enough broadcast TV. I am a hypocrite though, because if a celebrity like Youngstown's own Ed O'Neil came to town, I would be going as ape shit as the "Extreme Makeover" groupies. And if he's reading this, I have a message for him: Al Bundy, we miss you, and we want you to come home.

Call Bob Mackey at (330) 941-1913.

YOUNGSTOWN

What to do, where to be this weekend

Thursday

► "City Scenes: People and Places" art exhibit from 5 to 7 p.m. on the second floor of Tod Hall. City Scenes features the best of submitted photographs from area artists.

► Swing Dancing night at Cedars.

Friday

► "Doorn" featuring the Rock, opens this weekend at Cinema South in Boardman.

► The Clarks with Good Brother Earl at The Cellar in Struthers.

► Fat Albert Ensteln at Cedars.

► Triple Threat at Salty Grogs in Boardman.

Saturday

► Homecoming Parade at 2 p.m. starting on Wood Street. It will progress to Fifth Avenue toward the Stadium. This year's theme is "March of the Penguins" and there will be tailgating parties throughout the day. Game starts at 4 p.m.

► Youngstown Convocation Center ribbon-cutting and grand opening ceremonies with local entertainment from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., featuring December Son.

► Povertyneck Hillbillies at The Cellar in Struthers.

► November Loop at Cedars.

► Disco Inferno at Salty Grogs.

► Olga Kern, world-renowned pianist and winner of the 11th Van Cliburn International Piano competition, performs at Powers Auditorium.

ENTERTAINMENT FOCUS

The march of the mustaches

By: Leslie Gornstein
KRT CAMPUS

Check out the new mustache crop in Hollywood. It's like a fur forest out there.

Between Jason Lee's dueling face caterpillars on "My Name Is Earl," Jim Dangle's obsessive channeling of Tom Selleck on "Reno 911" and that random "Veronica Mars" deputy who would be faceless if he shaved, upper-lip hair is back, boy golly. Even MTV has found a new way to communicate too-cool-fer-school irony—without the burden of, like, a lot of words—by hiring a guy who looks like Yosemite Sam to decorate double-wides on "Trailer Fabulous."

It's a trend. Really. If there's still doubt festering in your heart, check out the ladies of "CSI" on the high def. Frida Kahlo is not only back from the grave but dusting for prints alongside William Petersen.

Mustaches: They're no longer reserved for Geraldo, Pat O'Brien and overheated Club Med prowlers in unbuttoned Hawaiian shirts.

They're also no longer a shortcut for "dastardly chap here" or "sexual threat alert." Lip fur—particularly the pencil-thin shapes currently championed by John Waters—used to be de rigueur for the kinda effeminate enemy who ties the virgin to the railroad tracks and then slides out of the movie frame, cackling like a guinea hen. Mustaches were also used as signposts to help audiences pick out the fey landlord who poured out of the inky blackness to intone something like "You must pay the rent," before some feverishly plucked blonde leaned out the window and lilted; "I can't pay the rent!"

Later, mustaches indicated the fella that the ladies in the audience were supposed to adore. Just in case women got too distracted, trying to keep a handle on their hip flasks or foot-long cigarette holders, they could always just look for the gent with the facial hair. That was the guy they were supposed to want to



Photo courtesy of nbc.com

marry and maybe — ooh, 23 skidoo! — flash a little ankle at under the table. The exception of course was the Little Tramp, who, unlike his real-life alter ego, never seemed to get any.

But now mustaches have been re-assigned to a new genre. Instead of cowering or cooing, we're supposed to laugh. Facial hair is the sight gag of the new millennium—the rubber chicken of the space age, the wakka wakka of 2005.

Even "Saturday Night Live," which usually takes a good six months to lumber out of hibernation and figure out what's hep, has discovered that clean-shaven humor is out.

That's why recent "SNL" guest host Jon Heder played a moron who thought he was a werewolf. The man actually just sprouted a Billy Dee Williams every time the moon came out. Get it? Americans don't equate mustaches with sexual prowess or nefarious intentions anymore. They just think lip fur is silly. Lee's mustache on "My Name Is Earl" practically deserves an Emmy nomination for best supporting actor; all our sweet-

natured corn-cob has to do is stand around looking purposeful and let his upper lip play for laughs.

Yes, the mustache still serves as the occasional beacon of evil. Take Campbell Scott in the "Exorcism of Emily Rose." The prosecutor and his performing mustache radiated malice like Snively Whiplash after a uranium bath.

But for the most part the mustache is the new signal indicating "amusing rube here." (And before I get a ton of nasty letters: I love all flavors of unsophisticated peoples—hayseeds, mulleheads, red-necks—they're great, every single one of 'em. The only thing I like better than a buck-toothed hick is a gap-toothed hick. So spare the overheated red state outrage.)

Well, I take that back. I suspect "CSI" isn't purposefully gunning for laughs. But I'd hate to see those ladies reach for the hot wax. I've gotten used to seeing Frida Kahlo, leaning over a microscope or reaching for something sticky with her tweezers, busting the bad guys.