

## Salary cuts not an option, employees say

By LA'EL HUGHES  
The Jambar

University President David Sweet said salary raises help explain why YSU expects to be \$8.1 million in the red next year, but some employees said cutting those salaries is not the answer.

Sweet, in a telephone interview Monday, said he would review all options and

would wait until he receives final figures from the state before committing to salary cuts.

"We'll cross that bridge when we get there," Sweet said.

Sweet said Gov. Bob Taft's office would not have word about state funding until the beginning of January or February 2003. One faculty member, however, said the university should not depend

"We'll cross that bridge when we get there."

— DAVID SWEET  
University president, in regards to possible salary cuts for YSU employees



on state fund every time it faces a deficit.

"The university does not do enough grant writing," management professor Anne McMahon suggested. "Other

universities have an army of development offices at their institutions, and we don't have enough."

McMahon said salary cuts would hinder her ability to

donate to the university. Her donations, she said, would help the university more than a pay cut.

"I make donations to the university all of the time, and that is how I deal with that," she said. "But if there were salary cutbacks then I wouldn't be able to make donations to the university."

Faculty President Bob Hogue said he would not ask union members to give back

any of their pay raises.

"YSU's faculty were among the lowest paid faculty in the state, and giving back our increases would just push us further back," Hogue said.

Hogue, unlike McMahon, said YSU must look to the state for help.

"This de-funding of higher education has been going on for a long time," he said. "It is a pattern being caused by

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## Injuries are minor for student hit by truck

By REBECCA MARQUIS  
The Jambar

YSU police officers crowded the portion of Elm Street outside Fedor Hall on Friday morning, using a measuring wheel to map out positions of cars and trucks in the 30-minute parking spots.

About half an hour earlier, at 10:38 a.m., freshman Stephen Bair of North Canton, backed his blue Ford Ranger into junior Amber Tisdale of Niles as she walked along the road, police said.

The accident is the first of its kind to happen on the YSU campus for about fifteen years, said Sgt. Michael Cretella, the officer in charge of the investigation.

"We have a good track record," Cretella said, adding that since he joined the YSU Police Department in 1986, he could only remember three incidents similar to Friday's.

Tisdale was taken by ambulance to St. Elizabeth Health Center, where she was treated and released, a nursing supervisor said. Police have not yet cited Bair, although Cretella said the investigation is ongoing.

Bair's speed at the time of the accident, Cretella said, is unknown. Because Tisdale suffered only minor injuries, police do not believe Bair had been speeding excessively.

"You can tell by the lack of severity of the injuries that he wasn't going that fast," said Cretella, who also noted the absence of skid marks in the area.

Cretella said he has since spoken to Tisdale and she did not suffer any serious injuries.

University Crime Prevention Officer George Hammar said he was sur-

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Henry Gomez/The Jambar

MEASURING UP: YSU Police Sgt. Michael Cretella, center, uses a measuring stick to investigate as officers tried to determine how junior Amber Tisdale was struck as she walked down Elm Street outside Fedor Hall. Police say Tisdale was struck by the blue Ford Ranger at right.



## Center's director offers tips for lean job market

By JAMIE MERLO  
The Jambar

YSU's director of Career Services said graduates trying to find jobs are feeling the effects of the troubled economy.

"It has been very competitive," Bernie Cummins said. "The primary reason is employers are being cautious because they want an idea

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### The Office of Career Services' annual statistics show:

- 2000-2500 students and alumni seen annually for individual appointments (career exploration and job search)
- 40-60 in-class presentations made by Career Services staff annually, with 1500-1700 students in attendance.
- 60-70 seminars, workshops and programs presented by Career Services staff annually attended

by 1800-2000 students.

— Annual consortium job fair (10 participating colleges and universities) held in April with 90-100 school districts attending and 600-800 students and alumni from consortium schools participating.

— 300-350 users of the FOCUS II Career Planning Software annually.

— 800-1,000 graduating seniors and alumni registering annually to access online job listings

— 225-250 simulated (mock) interviews with students and alumni conducted annually.

Source: Career Services

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## Inside today's issue:

YSU football team wins third straight game to close out season. Page 6



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Buckeyes headed to Fiesta Bowl. Page 6



# Speaker describes experience as investigator during 9/11

By REBECCA MARQUIS  
The Jambar

With students, faculty and university guests gathered around, Dennis Dirkmaat described his experiences as an investigator during last year's terrorist attacks.

Dirkmaat, a forensic anthropologist from Mercyhurst College in Erie, Pa., visited YSU last week as part of the Dean's Lecture Series.

He gave a lecture on forensic anthropology, complete with pictures, Thursday in the Chestnut Room at Kilcawley Center.

Dirkmaat, one of the few forensic anthropologists in the country, cited his resume, which includes work done at the Sept. 11, 2001, plane crash site in Somerset, Pa.

Dirkmaat described his work in Somerset, which he called one of the longest held crime scenes in history. He discussed how he worked together with federal agents to find clues.

One of the clues Dirkmaat said he and his team found turned out to be instrumental in the hijacking investigation. His team discovered a driver's license belonging to one of the alleged terrorists.

Dirkmaat also spoke about using forensic anthropology in autopsies to help identify victims.

"There is a lot of information there; we can't just ignore it because it's disgusting," Dirkmaat said, with the image of a charred corpse with its tongue sticking out on the screen above his head.

Dirkmaat also gave the audience an idea of what it is like to work with the Federal Bureau

of Investigations.

"I have worked with the FBI on several cases and each case has to be considered on an individual basis," Dirkmaat said.

He added that federal agents, especially in the Somerset investigation, seem to be more disgruntled about his findings rather than learning from them.

After the program, students said they found the lecture entertaining and enlightening, but some said they were disappointed Dirkmaat did not show more slides of corpses in his presentation.

Junior Miranda Ruberto said she was surprised at just how much biology played a part in forensic anthropology.

"I thought it was very interesting how he applied the anatomy of the bones to sex and ancestry," said Ruberto, a biology major.

Ruberto's younger brother, Casey, a high school student from Girard, said he was interested in pursuing a forensics degree at YSU.

He said he thoroughly enjoyed the presentation and was not bothered at all by some of the grislier slides.

"Dirkmaat put it in a way that everyone would understand," he said.

Dirkmaat said that he plans to author his first book on forensic anthropology in the near future.

The next installment of the Dean's Seminar series is titled "What is this music called Jazz" and will be held Dec. 5 in the Ohio Room at Kilcawley Center.

Call Rebecca Marquis at (330) 941-1811.

# Financial aid hits the Internet

By KATRINA WEIZER  
The Jambar

It is the end of the semester and time to register. The Financial Aid office is quiet but filled with students full of questions.

A stone-faced student occupies every chair in the waiting room. All eyes look anxiously toward the door and then refocus on the walls as the students see another student, not a financial aid counselor, emerge at the door.

These students are a mere fraction of those who the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships sees over the course of a year. In the 2001-02 academic year, 12,129 students received some sort of financial aid.

Now, with the addition of the new YSU financial aid Web site, students may be doing a lot less waiting in the future.

"We are encouraging students to apply online whenever possible," said Elaine Ruse, director of Financial Aid and Scholarships.

The office unveiled its new Web site this fall with anticipation that it would make processing and receiving aid faster and more efficient.

Ruse said the new Web site is in response to other Ohio colleges making financial aid information available online.

"Other schools are having students do FAFSA (Free Application for Student Aid) online," Ruse said.

YSU students will have to wait until Jan. 1 to do their entire application online, but Ruse said that it would speed up the entire process when done via the Internet.

"The FAFSA Web site guarantees that the student will get their report seven to 14 days faster (online)," she said.

When done through standard U.S. mail, a student can expect his or her response in three to five weeks.

However, by doing it on the Internet, the estimated response time is one to two weeks.

Ruse explained that in order to do financial aid online, students need to request a personal identification number (PIN) from the U.S. Department of Education's Web site.

The PIN allows access to personal financial aid information. Students can use their PINs to make corrections to their FAFSA application, to

view their loan history and to access their processed application.

The PIN also acts as an electronic signature when applying for aid and their Master Promissory Note.

Ruse said that applying for financial aid online also reduces errors.

"There is extensive online help," she said.

The new site also offers many links to help inform students about the entire financial aid process.

A financial aid timeline, which explains the deadlines and important dates; an explanation of the application process; frequently asked questions; and direct links to financial aid counselors, along with their areas of expertise, are now all available to students.

The new Web site is not yet complete, however, Ruse said her office is in the process of adding a scholarship search so students can easily access available funds.

Ruse, who said she is very excited about the new addition to her office's services, hopes students will log on.

"Get on our site and see what's available online."

## SALARIES, continued from page 1

members of state government. Higher education is becoming less important, and I don't understand where this shift is coming from."

Some of YSU's top officials said shaving their own salary increases was not an option at this time.

Special Assistant to the President Thomas Maraffa said he did not know if he or any other administrators would consider such a plan.

"Well, we really haven't

talked about that," Maraffa said.

Maraffa and administrators were awarded raises ranging from \$3,000 to \$9,000 in September. If as a group administrators decided to give some money back, Maraffa said he would go along with it.

The administrators' raises followed similar raises given to faculty and classified staff members, whose unions negotiated raises for a 6 percent increase for their three-year

contract.

According to projections released last week, salaries will cost the university \$64,243,000 for the 2004 fiscal year, which begins July 1, 2003. That figure represents a \$2,284,000 increase from this year.

Sweet announced last week that raises awarded during the 2002 contract negotiations with faculty, staff and top administrators would be part of the reason for the projected deficit.

Sweet did, however, say that administrative salaries for fiscal year 2004 are not set. The university also has not finalized salaries for the YSU police union or the professional administrative staff.

Negotiations for these contracts will begin in the spring, and their salaries are not included in the salary projections for 2004. The only set salaries are for classified staff and faculty, Sweet said.

Victor Wan-Tatah, a pro-

fessor of philosophy and religious studies, said there was no chance he would offer his raise back.

"Why should I?" he asked. "The salaries were already negotiated and a compromised was reached. I have hope that President Sweet and his administration will find other alternatives and come to a proper resolution."

Call La'el Hughes at (330) 941-3523.

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prised incidents such as Friday were not more common.

"I see some of the students with a cell phone in their ear and their head down thinking everyone is going to stop for them," Hammar said.

Cretella said he did not know whether Bair would eventually be cited.

"Maybe a traffic summons will be issued if it is warranted," Cretella said.

Police say that neither drugs nor alcohol played a part in the accident.

Call Rebecca Marquis at (330) 941-1811.

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seem to be going well," he said.

YSPAN, along with the Youngstown Peace Action Council, is planning a protest against the war on Iraq for Dec. 10. Harver said YSPAN feels strongly about this protest because there is a correlation between the war in Iraq and higher education.

"It relates on a national level," Harver said. "Investments in the military could be going for higher education."

YSPAN will meet at 7 p.m. today to determine the time and place of the protest, which will be an international day of action.

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## Today's Editorials

### Administrators should pay, too

With \$8 million in red staring YSU in the face, administrators cannot simply warn students of an unavoidable tuition increase and accept kudos for brutal honesty.

Yes, early projections are just that — projections. But in meetings with the Student Government Association and the media last week, University President David Sweet was clear in his assertion that rising salaries will contribute mightily to next year's budget shortfall.

Administrators, faculty and staff combined will increase their salaries by more than \$2 million next fiscal year. To accommodate these pay raises and other budget items, the university will look to students to chip in as much \$6,896,000 toward an \$8.1 million deficit.

It seems awfully unfair that tuition rates could jump as high as 12 percent so Sweet has more cash to wine and dine at his Liberty home. It seems awfully unfair that YSU's top administrators — some who have spent less than two years in their positions — will receive more at our expense.

That is because it is, plain and simple, unfair. Administrators should give at least some of their pay raise back to avoid a high tuition increase.

We knew two months ago, when the 6 percent administrative raises were approved, that students — sooner or later — would pay for them. When the state announced it would reallocate \$1.3 million to YSU, we were spared a spring increase.

Now, as university officials tout their early budget projections as beneficial to students, they mask the blame that should fall on them. We applauded the administration for releasing early projections. There are, indeed, benefits to this.

But, when it comes down to it, the biggest benefit to this expanded time frame is that, perhaps, our administrators will do some serious soul-searching.

It is not fair that students — and only students — will bear the brunt of this deficit.

Administrators must now seize the opportunity they let pass by two months ago and set an example for students.

Are these raises as good of an idea as they were when administrators so enthusiastically accepted them two months ago? Were they ever?

### Congratulations, Tress

A talented team with two vital Mahoning Valley connections made believers out of an entire country Saturday.

The Ohio State Buckeyes football team, led by former YSU head coach Jim Tressel and Warren G. Harding graduate Maurice Clarett, stopped a late fourth-quarter drive by rival Michigan and procured a spot in this year's national championship.

Also Saturday, Tressel's predecessor, Jon Heacock, led the Penguins to a strong finish to another winning, but somewhat disappointing season.

We would like to congratulate Coach Tressel on his impressive 13-0 season with the Bucks and wish him and the team well against a tough Miami squad. We also would like to thank Heacock for demanding nothing but continued effort in a season that, for many Youngstown football fans, ended weeks ago.

The examples of both coaches show maturity, sportsmanship and skill. Tressel's handling of the injured Clarett, as well as his faith in gutsy quarterback Craig Krenzell show what we knew all along: Tressel knows how to win.

Heacock, although he has failed to deliver a playoff berth to YSU in his two years as head coach still, promised his team would not give up after it was written off from the postseason. He delivered on that promise, and as a result, he now boasts the best record of a YSU football coach after two seasons.

Not too bad, but perhaps not good enough for a team spoiled by the talents of Jim Tressel.

And, as for those talents, while we envy the Horseshoe faithful, we know Tressel is where he belongs. Well done, coach.

*The Jambar editorials reflect the opinions of The Jambar and its editorial board. Letters must be typed and should not exceed 350 words in length. Each letter must include a name and telephone number for verification purposes. All submissions are subject to editing for spelling and grammar.*

*The Jambar will not print letters that libel others or threaten harm to another party. The editor in chief reserves the right to reject letters that do not follow policy.*

*Opinion pieces submitted by students, staff and others outside the staff are welcome and should be no longer than 600 words. The newspaper reserves the right to edit or condense submissions. The views and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambar staff or YSU faculty, staff or administration.*

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## Katz dogs gays with his ignorance

### BETWEEN THE LINES



By Henry Gomez

One thought crept into my mind last Monday when I read what has now become the infamous letter from management professor Louis Katz.

"Is this guy for real?" When I read Katz' letter, which talks of homosexuality as if it is a Jobtime John, I could not help but feel sorry for a man who, obviously, so desperately clings to a moral that some would label homophobia.

But enter engineering professor Phil Munro, whose letter to the editor appears today on this page. Munro writes that it is wrong to label people who speak out against homosexuality as homophobes. That in itself, Munro argues, is just as insensitive as we say Katz is. Please!

As tempting as it was to not run Munro's letter, I did. While it bothers me that an educated man like Munro seems to draw acceptance of so-called homophobia

from a spiritual being, I believe in the free exchange of ideas.

Munro's idea just happens to be a troubling one.

How anyone could read Katz' letter and not be tempted to, like professor L.J. Tessier, label the man as homophobic is beyond me. Katz called the practice of homosexuality morally repugnant, odious and perverted.

If one finds something perverse, that certainly indicates a fear — on one level or another — of it. It sort of reminds me of a saying I once heard, if I may be permitted a cliché: "You have nothing to fear but the unknown, and that is a result of your own ignorance."

Perhaps Katz should spend a day with Tessier and her partner, Tara McKibben, as a Jambar reporter did earlier this semester. When an educated man — and an attorney no less — makes such a generalization about gays, it makes you wonder how and why he is teaching.

I wonder how the gay students in Katz' class feel knowing their teacher has no respect of their lifestyle choice. I wonder how Katz' gay colleagues feel knowing he would rather their partner suffer than benefit from a health care plan he finds morally wrong.

But from this comes the bitter irony of

"When I read Katz' letter, which talks of homosexuality as if it is a Jobtime John, I could not help but feel sorry for a man who, obviously, so desperately clings to a moral that some would label homophobia."

a right I so cherish: freedom of speech. Katz has a right to his opinion, his words and even his ignorant letter.

So, while I wholeheartedly support the homophobic label Katz has been assigned, I do not believe homophobia should be a damning assessment.

Katz needs to widen his narrow mind a bit more and find room for understanding a lifestyle to which he is averse. And I hope Katz opens his dialogue not just to faculty as he wishes, but to the entire university community.

He should listen to his peers when they call him and express concern. And he should be open to changing his mind or, at least, swallowing his pride and showing a little compassion.

Call Henry Gomez at (330) 941-1991.

## Letters to the Editor

### YSU-OEA stands for equality, not a social agenda

Editor:

I am writing to respond to the ongoing debate on domestic partner benefits.

I wish to add that I believe the YSU-OEA leadership has acted with due appropriateness on this issue, and that the university community, moreover, should welcome the open engagement of our faculty in discussing contemporary social issues that has come about as a result of the issue having been raised.

While I agree with Louis Katz that it is not the function of a faculty union to "push a social agenda," its function IS the representation of all its members. Since not all members have identical needs or life situations, compromises are in order.

While I DO support the extension of benefits to domestic partners, I myself require neither domestic partner benefits nor marriage/family ones at present.

I do, however, require considerable medical benefits (I have multiple sclerosis/MS), and to a great extent my remaining at YSU is linked to this continued medical coverage, since our national health care system at present has no universal benefits.

We as individual members of the union had the right to cast our individual votes on the fact-finder's report. I personally was confronted with a dilemma:

The report had acknowledged the legitimacy of our salary demands and other benefits which were very much in my personal interest but, knowing that Dr. Tessier's domestic partner, like me, suffers

from MS and thus has incurred many if not more of the same medical costs that I have, I felt free to vote my personal agenda, but not good about it.

On the other hand, I felt that casting a vote against the report in order to "push a social agenda" might be interpreted ambiguously and give the administration a free hand in cutting back on the salary benefits.

I thus cast a vote FOR the report, but felt compelled to discuss the matter with Dr. Tessier personally and to respond to her eloquent, well-reasoned, statements, essentially devoid of personal agenda, at the general faculty union meeting.

I advocated there, as here, that we take up the call as faculty to pursue the social agenda as part of wider public discussion.

There are many issues at YSU where we faculty, students, and administrators alike, get bogged down in infighting, when we might rather raise our voices with our legislators who are making the political decisions that have had such a negative impact on higher education in Ohio and nationally.

Therefore, getting faculty debates out of our meeting halls and mailing lists into the classrooms and the newspapers is indeed a critical step in demonstrating the value of higher education.

Melissa T. Smith  
Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures

## Homophobic label is resentful

Editor:

I resent the terms homophobic and insensitive when they are used toward those who speak against homosexual activity! Personally, I do not fear homosexual persons, and it galls me to see thinking people use that term.

As for the charge of insensitivity, my own degree of sensitivity is not connected to how I understand our universe and its people. Rather I am becoming more sensitive toward people due to age, experience, and most of all the leading of God in my life.

It is reasonable to ask whether there are those with heterophobia. We could ask whether their heterophobia is why the homosexual community lashes out with the words they sometimes use. But these terms serve only to detract from the intellectual questions and discussions we should be having.

We should also recognize that there are reasons for heterophobia. But we need

to keep in mind that there are reasons for many kinds of fear. Our world and the people in it are a fearful lot.

The real questions are whether we should learn to accept the world as it is, or whether we should assume we have abilities and real freedom to change it. We should be asking what are our intellectual bases for anything we think or do.

We might go on and extend the questions, asking why our world shows little or no ability to cease war and hate, and how we can explain the apparently twisted nature of things.

Without the intellectual framework of God who created humans with true freedom, and who has gone on to provide forgiveness and a relationship with himself for those who want it, I would be despairing of life, trying to understand the things that happen.

Phil Munro  
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

## Oil tanker tragedy toils in anonymity

By REBECCA MARQUIS  
The Jambar

I wish I could show you the pictures. I wish I had a twenty-page, full color insert to give you so you could see, probably for the twelve-hundredth time, what oil spills do to our coastlines and our wildlife.

Most of you have probably remembered or have heard stories about the Exxon Valdez, an oil tanker that tipped off the coast of Alaska in 1989.

That tanker spilled 10.8 million gallons of oil into the Alaskan coast.

Now, nearly invisible behind Homeland Security headlines, another oil tanker, the Prestige, is wreaking havoc off the coast of Spain.

So far, the Prestige has leaked about 20,000 tonnes of crude oil into Spain's coastal waters, 50,000 tonnes is still on the ship, which is now 3000 meters below the surface of the water. Representatives from Greenpeace say that at that depth, it's impossible to do anything but wait to see if the oil surfaces.

Let's put this in context: The Exxon tanker sank in 1989. A full decade later, The Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council reported that 5.8 kilometers of the Alaskan coast were still covered with oil. And that doesn't count sub-surface oil, which is where the real damage occurs. Nor does it take into account the common loon, the harbor seal, the harlequin duck or any other species that, according to the committee, are not recovering.

If the contents of the Prestige continue to leak into the water, the resulting slick would be more than twice the size of that created by the Exxon Valdez.

How prestigious it isn't. Even more appalling than these figures is the fact that students at YSU just don't seem to care.

Maybe it's because the coverage of the current disaster is playing second string to the coverage of Bush's Homeland Security bill.

Maybe students think that it is too far away to have any effect on them.

It most assuredly is not. College students do have a voice in this country! The Jambar has printed several editorials urging students to get involved with the university and the community. Now I urge you, get involved with your Earth!

Write letters to your representatives. Urge them to pass legislation enabling the new automobile technologies — which do not use oil — to thrive. Donate time or money to the clean up efforts. Join YESS.

College students across the country are looked upon as representatives of the changing times and social climate of the country. Stand up! Be heard!

Call Rebecca Marquis at (330) 941-1811.

## Rich Center to host auction

By ALICIA HOUSTON  
The Jambar

The Paula and Anthony Rich Center will be hosting its first Chinese Auction on Dec. 29 at the Eastwood Mall Community Booth.

The nonprofit center for the study and treatment of autism is committed to promoting research, teaching and public service related to autism.

Carrie Shockey, teaching assistant at the Rich Center, said that the goal of the auction is to help raise money for children in the community who need their services to provide scholarships and tuition assistance for autistic children.

The Rich Center is now accepting donations for the auction. Donations can be made in the English Department, Kilcawley Center and the Rich Center, located in Fedor Hall.

So far, the center has received auto-

graphed photographs from the Cleveland Indians, Cleveland Browns and NASCAR drivers.

The center also has received Eastwood Mall gift certificates, books, Italian food products and YSU basketball tickets, T-shirts, mugs and hats. The donated items will be put into baskets that will be raffled off for the auction.

Raffle tickets for the baskets will be sold Dec. 15-19 and Dec. 28 and 29 at the Eastwood Mall Community Booth.

Shockey said she expects the auction to be a success.

"So far, everything we need for the auction has been donated," she said.

"We haven't had to spend any money. We're hoping to raise enough money for tuition assistance and scholarships."

Call Alicia Houston at (330) 941-3758.

## OSU, continued from page 6

out.

"I just took off my headphones off with seven seconds left to go," Tressel said. "And I just told myself, 'Come on defense.'"

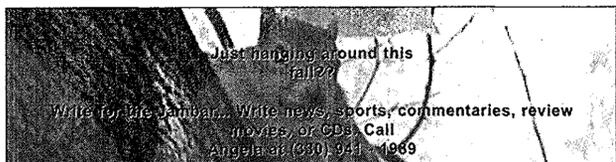
With fans rushing onto the field to celebrate, Doss knelt in prayer and shortly reflected on the season.

"That last series on defense, everything

was going so fast," Doss said. "When Will made the catch, I just started crying and knelted and said a little prayer."

That final minute was just the culmination of another typical OSU-Michigan game.

A record number 105,539 fans witnessed the Ohio State victory.



## DIRECTOR, continued from page 1

of where the economy is going.

"Until they have some sense of where the economy is going and what the implications of a possible war are, they are not really recruiting."

According to the National Association of Colleges and Employment (NACE) in its yearly survey, Job Outlook 2003, nearly two-thirds of the employers responding to the survey deem the overall job market for new college graduates as 'fair'; just 3.4 percent say it's 'poor' but even fewer say it's 'very good.' While acknowledging the economic challenges, Cummins said his office could help graduates market themselves more effectively.

He said people who are aggressively seeking jobs have a better chance of finding meaningful employment.

Cummins said there are two ways to look for jobs: an active approach and a passive approach.

A passive approach involves scanning want ads and conducting online job searches. The active approach, Cummins said, involves researching prospective employers, pursuing internships and getting involved with organizations related to one's prospective career.

"Many employers will never even advertise," he said. "They advertise only when the pool is not offering what they need."

Cummins said that through effective networking, a job seeker can tap into the "hidden job market," which is where the majority of jobs are found.

"Students should explore careers as freshman and sophomores through resources at Career Services," Cummins said. FOCUS II, a career exploration software service, current publications, and Web-based information sources are a few he named.

Juniors and seniors who are more certain of their career path, Cummins advised, can begin preparing resumes, participating in mock interviews, taking advantage of campus recruiting and searching job listings.

Theresa Pancoe, a December 2002 degree candidate in social work said she has been very diligent in preparing since she began her college career.

She is a member of the National Association of Social Workers and the Student Social Work Association. She had a research assistantship in the Department of Social Work, and she was a peer assistant in YSU's Center for Student Progress.

"I was trying to get as much experience and exposure in my field as possible during my education," she said.

Pancoe said she is having some luck. After sending out five resumes, she has had two interviews and one offer.

Cummins explained

because employers put their greatest effort into recruiting during the academic year through career fairs, job expos, campus recruiting and placing job listings, December grads - even those who wait until graduation to begin the job search - are entering a more active job market.

Kristi Somerset, a computer science degree candidate said she would explore internship options.

"A lot of students took internships last December at Eastern Software in Sharon," she said.

Cummins advised YSU grads to be more flexible geographically.

"If they are not geographically flexible, they'll reach a point that if they can't find meaningful employment," he said.

Paul Turner, a history degree candidate, whose intended field is historical preservation, said he tries to stay positive.

"There's not a real high success rate in this area, but I have found leads in Columbus, and I'm checking in Pittsburgh and Cleveland," Turner said.

Turner said he is flexible when it comes to relocating, and he knows he also has to be flexible as far as going back to school.

"Most jobs in this field require a master's degree."

## An Open letter to the YSU community:

Recently, on the campus of YSU, hateful words such as "odious", "morally repugnant", and "perverted" have been associated with homosexuality. However, I am certain that those of you who know me would not choose such words to describe me.

Words hurt. The pain I speak of lasts far longer and hurts much greater than the pain of physical wounds. Everyone at some point throughout his or her lifetime has suffered persecution, belonged to a minority group, or been the subject of a tasteless "joke."

Take a moment...close your eyes...remember the last instance you were the target of hateful speech. Was it because of the color of your skin? Was it because of your weight? Was it because you speak a language other than English? Was it because of your religious beliefs? Was it because of a physical or mental disability? Was it because of your age? Was it because of the clothes you wear? Was it because you're a man? Was it because you're a woman? Was it because you're rich? Was it because you're poor?

We all have experienced the same pain. The words of the late Martin Luther King Jr. come to mind, "The time is always right to do the right thing." Isn't it time all of us stopped hurting each other? There is no need to continue this ridiculous name-calling and verbal abusing. We must debate our issues and discuss our problems like the educated people we are.

My name is John Paul DeSimone. I am a 34 year-old junior at YSU. My majors are psychology and religious studies. I have a 3.29 g.p.a. and plan to attend graduate school. I currently reside in Poland, OH.

I am physically, emotionally, psychologically, and spiritually fit. I have family and friends that love me, as I do them. I have faced death both personally as well as have suffered the loss of those close to me. I care for an elderly aunt who is currently suffering from dementia. I travel back and fourth to The Cleveland Clinic to spend time with a dear friend as she battles a disease, Wegener's Granulomatosis, that eventually may lead to renal failure. I make time to talk with a close friend living in Chicago, IL who suffers from schizophrenia. As part of my psychology major, I'll be volunteering this spring at a local agency that cares for children who have been infected or affected with potentially fatal diseases.

How would you describe me? Morally repugnant? Perverted? Odious? The fact that these words have recently been associated with homosexuals like myself is inappropriate. I speak of tolerance, but I have reached my threshold when it comes to ignorance.

I consider words such as "morally repugnant", "perverted", and "odious" when used to describe someone's sexual orientation to be hostile and offensive. If this were the workplace, those words would fall under the category of sexual harassment, specifically, hostile-environment harassment. The hostile-environment form of sexual harassment in the workplace is defined as such: "When an employee creates working conditions for another employee that are hostile, intimidating, or offensive (EEOC, 1980)."

However, this is not the workplace and respectfully, The United States Constitution guarantees freedom of speech and freedom of the press.

My sexuality is a very important component of who I am. However, it is not how I define the entire essence of my being. First and foremost, I am John the human being. I am also John the son, John the brother, John the student, John the employee, John the manager, John the friend, John the caregiver, John the neighbor, and John the mentor.

In addition, I am John who enjoys the sunshine and spending time outdoors, I am John who likes to read, I am John who loves animals, I am John who enjoys Handle's cream, I am John who enjoys fast-food, I am John who enjoys movies, I am John who is monogamous while in a relationship, and I am John who believes in equality. And yes, I am John the gay man.

My point is that there are far more similarities than differences between all people. Why is it we have so much trouble getting beyond our few differences?

I resided in Chicago, IL for ten years prior to returning back home to Youngstown. I, like most Chicagoans, used public transportation. One of my fondest memories of Chicago is riding the bus; so many different people surrounded me.

On the bus, the wealthy in their fur coats and diamond rings sat next to the homeless drunkard that was sipping the last bit of alcohol from a bottle in a brown paper bag. The African Americans sat next to the Caucasians that sat next to the Hispanics that sat next to the Vietnamese that sat next to the Muslims that sat next to the disabled that sat next to the Asians that sat next to the Jews that sat next to the young that sat next to the Arabs that sat next to the old that sat next to the gays that sat next to the straights.

The best part of the ride was you could hear so many conversations taking place throughout the entire bus among all its passengers. People respected each other. People treated each other with dignity. Everyone got along. I miss Chicago.

I felt the need to share an article that was discussed in class by one of YSU's most scholarly professors during the fall semester of 2000. The article is titled: "Answers to Your Questions About Sexual Orientation and Homosexuality." The following words are highlights from the article; they are not mine:

"Homosexual orientation is not limited to a particular type of person. Gay men and lesbians are of all ages, cultural backgrounds, races, religions and nationalities. They work in all occupations and live in all parts of the country."

"Various theories have proposed differing sources for sexual orientation, including genetic or inborn hormonal factors and life experiences during early childhood. Many scientists share the view that sexual orientation is shaped for most people at an early age through complex interactions of biological, psychological, and social factors."

"Sexual orientation is not a choice. Sexual orientation emerges for most people in early adolescence without any prior sexual experience. And some people report trying very hard over many years to change their sexual orientation from homosexual to heterosexual with no success. For these reasons, psychologists do not consider sexual orientation for most people to be a conscious choice that can be voluntarily changed."

"Psychologists, psychiatrists, and other mental health professionals agree that homosexuality is not an illness, mental disorder, or emotional problem. Much objective scientific research over the past 35 years shows us that homosexual orientation, in and of itself, is not associated with emotional or social problems."

"Lesbians and gay men can be good parents. Studies comparing groups of children raised by homosexual and by heterosexual parents find no developmental differences between the two groups of children in their intelligence, psychological adjustment, social adjustment, popularity with friends, development of social sex role identity or development of sexual orientation."

"Another stereotype about homosexuality is the mistaken belief that gay men have more of a tendency than heterosexual men to sexually molest children. Actually, the opposite is true. Regardless of the sex of their child victims, most men who molest children are heterosexual in their adult sexual orientation."

"The people that have the most positive attitudes toward gay men and lesbians are those who say they know one or more gay person well. For this reason, psychologists believe negative attitudes toward gays as a group are prejudices that are not grounded in actual experience with lesbians or gay men, but on stereotypes and prejudice."

A photo of myself was made available to you so I can be easily identified. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to stop me when you see me. I am always walking around our beautiful campus. If you wish, you can also contact me by phone at (330) 518-5127. And finally, if you would like further information, please contact any of the following agencies:

National Gay and Lesbian Task Force  
320 17th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20009  
(202) 332-6483

National Institute of Mental Health  
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 7C02  
Rockville, MD 20857  
(301) 443-4513

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays  
1101 14th Street, NW, Suite 1030  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 638-4200

Sex Information and Education Counsel of the United States  
130 W. 42nd Street, Suite 350  
New York, NY 10036  
(212) 819-9770

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Goodchilds, J.D., Psychological Perspectives on Human Diversity in America, American Psychological Association, Washington, DC, 1993.  
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Herek, G.M., and Berrill, K.T., Journal of Interpersonal Violence, Vol 5, No. 3.



John Paul DeSimone

**Campus Calendar**

**Notices:** The Department of Physical Therapy will host an informational session on Dec. 2, 2002. Please join us between 11:30 and 1:00 in room B046 in Cushman Hall for answers to your questions about the physical therapy program. There will be a power point presentation, informational materials to pick up, and answers to your questions.

**Tongzhi - A Gay/Straight Alliance** will have a business meeting every other week, alternating with a social get-together in Peaberry's. Both will be on Tuesdays at 4 p.m. All LGBT people and straight allies are welcome to attend. The upcoming dates are as follows:

Tuesday, 11/26: Meeting in Bresnahan Reception

The **YSU InterVarsity Christian Fellowship** student group meets Friday evenings, 7:30 p.m., at the home of Dr. Phil and Carolyn Munro. For more information, 220-941-1748, 330-744-2393, PcMunro@cc.yzu.

The **YSU Dance club** offers free lessons in swing, ballroom, & latin dancing Lessons are every Tuesday from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in

**Classified**

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Rooms for rent - Students only. House close to YSU campus. \$200/mo. plus \$100 security deposit includes: cable T.V., all utilities. Safe quiet neighborhood. Call Paul at 330-744-4883.

One block from campus - Efficiencies, one-bedroom apartments, one 4-bedroom apartment. Credit check, security deposit. (330) 549-5518. Leave message.

One- and two-bedroom apts. One block from YSU campus. Starting at \$300 per month. Phone 330-747-0500.

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*with President David C. Sweet*

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DeBartolo Auditorium  
DeBartolo Hall

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# Sports & Recreation

## Penguins win third in a row to finish out season

By JOE SIMON  
The Jambar

The YSU football team closed out a turbulent 2002 football season with a 37-29 victory over the Samford Bulldogs.

On a typical freezing cold November afternoon in Stambaugh Stadium, YSU had its highest point total of the year, and P.J. Mays set the Gateway Conference career touchdown record.

The Penguins refused to give up on the season, even though they were dropped out of the conference title race and the playoffs for the second straight year. The squad ran off three straight victories to end the season after they were knocked out of the race back on Oct. 26 in a 19-0 loss to Western Illinois.

During Saturday's game, the Penguins suffered two second-quarter turnovers and five fumbles. The fumbles, along with an interception from quarterback Aaron Marshall, allowed the Bulldogs to stay within reach of the Penguins.

However, the team never trailed, as the defense forced four turnovers of their own and in the final minutes of the game stopped the Bulldogs twice on fourth down.

After the game, head coach Jon Heacock wasn't exactly thrilled with the sloppy play of the team, but did show gratification for the seniors who finished their careers with a win.

"Well, it wasn't pretty, but it allowed this senior class to go out winners in their final three games and I'm proud of them for that," Heacock said.

Junior cornerback Sherod Holmes had a career day, accounting for all four Penguin turnovers, recovering two fumbles and intercepting a pair of passes. Holmes,

"Well it wasn't pretty, but it allowed this senior class to go out winners in their final three games and I'm proud of them for that."



— JON HEACOCK  
YSU head football coach

who set the school record with his four takeaways, also had six tackles and two pass deflections.

"I was in the right place at the right time," The defensive Gateway Player of the Week said.

Along with Mays, 17 seniors concluded their final season at YSU with three straight victories and a 7-4 record. Mays and the Penguin rushing attack provided a large portion of the offense, accounting for two touchdowns and 276 of the team's 456 total yards.

Mays' second touchdown, a one-handed 51-yard screen pass, was the 45th of his career, breaking the conference record of 44 set by Jeff Stoval of Northern Iowa.

After the game, Mays said he was glad to finish his career at YSU with a win and believes the team should strive forward after positive ending to the season.

"It was great to go out a winner," Mays said. "And finishing the season strong with three wins is something that our underclassmen can build on for next season."

Mays finished the season with 1,476 all-purpose yards to lead the Gateway Conference. He was second in the conference in rushing with 1,284 yards as well as scoring,

averaging more than a touchdown a game, 13 in total.

Freshman quarterback Aaron Marshall continued to show progress with another impressive game. Marshall completed 10 of 18 passes for 180 yards, threw two touchdown passes and his first interception since his first start Sept. 28.

Marshall was 6-2 as the Penguins starting quarterback and steadily improved his game each week. During those eight games Marshall threw for over 700 yards, six touchdown passes compared to just two interceptions, and was the second leading rusher on the team, amassing over 400 yards on the ground.

Although Mays will not be back next year, the offense will return eight of 11 starters.

**MAYS PLACE IN HISTORY:** For his career, Mays will go down as one of the greatest Gateway Conference running backs of all time and is undoubtedly one of the best running backs in YSU history.

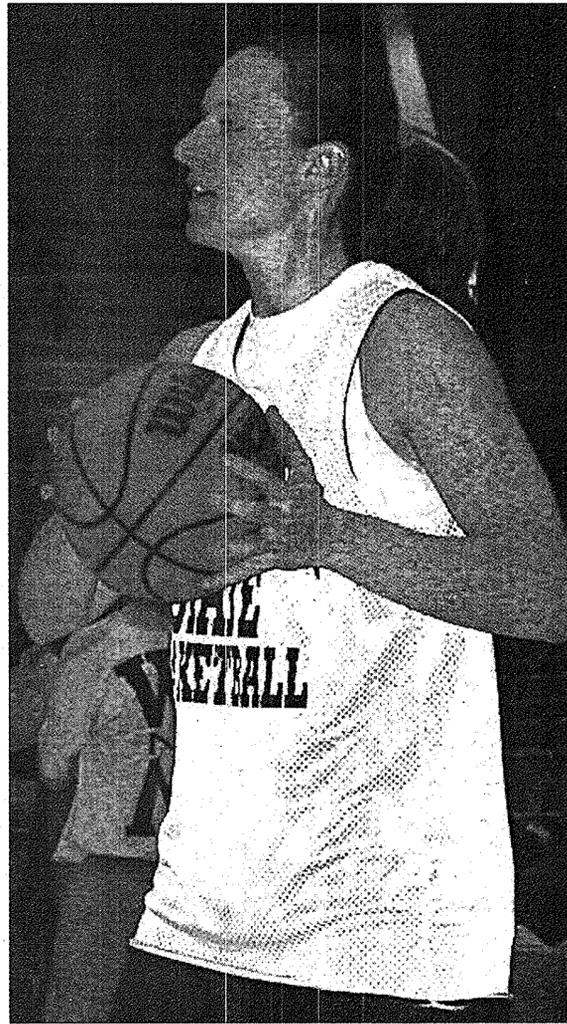
To go along with his record 45 career touchdowns, he ranks fifth in the Gateway in career rushing yards with 3,476 and is second in career rushing touchdowns with 42.

He accumulated more 200 yard rushing games, 4, than any other YSU running back, he ranks second in YSU history in regular season rushing yards, only behind the great Tamron Smith of the early 90s. Mays is also the first running back since Smith to have consecutive 1,000-yard seasons.

Other notable ranks for Mays include being second at YSU in regular season touchdowns, 45; rushing touchdowns, 42; and tying for third with 14 career 100-yard rushing games.

Call Joe Simon at  
(330) 941-3758.

### HOOPS



By Lisa/The Jambar

SET IT UP: YSU junior guard Jessica Forsythe gets the offense set during an intersquad scrimmage at practice Monday. The Lady Penguins opened up the season with a victory over Bowling Green and will host Niagara at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Beeghly Center.

### Sports Commentary

## Coaching staff, players deserve credit for finish

By DAVE DEVEREUX  
The Jambar

I give the YSU Penguin coaching staff, and especially the players, an awful lot of credit.

After the Penguins dropped back-to-back Gateway Conference games to Northern Iowa and Western Illinois, the team's record fell to 4-4 and all hopes of going to the playoffs were dashed.

It would have been very easy at that point to pack it in and start preparing for next season. Instead, head coach Jon Heacock took a different approach.

He did the exact same things as a coach that he would do if the Penguins were fighting for a playoff spot.

And the group of 18 seniors responded one more time, winning their final three games to close out the season and their careers on a high note, along with a respectable 7-4 record.

The coaches and players proved time and time again this season that there is still an awful lot of pride that comes with being a part of the Penguin program.

However, looking back now on the overall season that has just concluded, I would have to call it a so-so season for YSU football.

At most schools, finishing 8-3 and 7-4 over a two-year stretch would be considered an accomplishment, but with the level of expectation at this program, failing to make the post-season and appearing to be outmatched against playoff-caliber competition gives reason to sound the alarm.

In a recent poll conducted by The Jambar online, the question was asked: "Has YSU Head Coach Jon Heacock been a disappointment?" Out of 31 responses, 77 percent voted "Yes."

Now, granted, it would be far-fetched to think that these 31 people represent all YSU Penguin football fans. However, it is also difficult for Heacock to escape the undeniable criticism that he might not be the right man for the job.

Despite Heacock winning 15 games in his first two seasons - more than any other coach in Penguins history - fans are beginning to wonder whether the program is heading in the wrong direction, or is it just leveling out.

During his news conference prior to the Samford game, Heacock discussed the state of the program.

Often times in the past month, Heacock has kept the attention on this season and his 18 seniors, and nobody could blame a coach for doing that. But at the same time, Heacock said he understands the reality of where YSU football has gone and what challenges they face as they attempt to right the ship.

"I think the program itself is still among the nation's elite," Heacock said. "But I think what we have to understand is that through the 90s, which I was a part of, we won a bunch of football games and everyone put a bulls-eye on Youngstown State. They all said, 'We want to be like YSU.' And they've all stepped it up."

Heacock commented on the Penguins' championship success under former head coach Jim Tressel, saying that what was once enough is not enough now.

"What we have to understand now, as the head coach and as assistant coaches and as players, is that the things we used to do, you know 'That's what we did when Coach Tressel was here', well those days are gone," Heacock said.

Despite the Penguins failing to reach the playoffs for the second straight year - and again failing to capture that elusive first Gateway Conference title - Heacock said he does not want the expectation level to change.

"I've been to a place where they don't care whether you win, and that isn't any fun," Heacock said. "I don't come here for these kids, or myself, or this staff, to not be in the playoffs."

I expect to win conference championships and national championships," he said. "So please don't ever stop expecting us to win it all."

Call Dave Devereux at (330) 941-1811.

## OSU headed for Fiesta Bowl

By MATT DUVAL  
The Lantern (Ohio State U.)

(U-WIRE) COLUMBUS, Ohio — Thirteen proved to be the luckiest of numbers for the Ohio State football team on Saturday.

In their 13th game of the 2002 regular season, the Buckeyes held off a late charge by archrival Michigan to finish the regular season undefeated with a 14-9 win over the Wolverines.

"The biggest thing about this game was that it was Ohio State-Michigan," said OSU football coach Jim Tressel. "We can enjoy this game, the fact that we won a share of the Big Ten championship and finished our season undefeated."

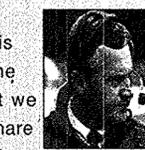
After the win, Tressel and the Buckeyes officially accepted an invitation to play in the Fiesta Bowl for the Bowl Championship Series national championship on Jan. 3.

"I'm just glad it's finally over," said senior safety and co-captain Mike Doss. "We worked so hard for this and had one goal in mind this season. I'm really proud of my teammates and I think this season proves Ohio State can play with anyone."

The Buckeyes also wel-

comed back another No. 13 to the backfield — tailback Maurice Claret. Claret, who played only sparingly in the past few weeks due to a shoulder injury, seemed back to his old form against the Wolverines. After sitting out the first series, Claret got a majority of the carries and finished the game with 119 yards

"We can enjoy this game, the fact that we won a share of the Big Ten championship and finished our season undefeated."



— JIM TRESSSEL  
OSU head football coach

on 20 carries.

"I never got to win anything in high school," Claret said. "I really just don't have the words for it right now. I am surrounded by great teammates and we made the plays when it counted."

In a season where the Buckeye defense has made up

for the shortcomings of the OSU offense, it shouldn't have been a surprise that the biggest play of the day came from the defense.

After OSU took a 14-9 lead on Maurice Hall's fourth-quarter option touchdown run, the Wolverines had one final shot at spoiling the Buckeyes' dreams. With 58 seconds remaining in the game, the Wolverines had to go 80 yards to get a touchdown.

After three straight incompletions to start off the drive, Michigan quarterback John Navarre completed a fourth-down strike to wide receiver Braylon Edwards for an 11-yard completion.

Two completed passes to wide receiver Ronald Bellamy brought Michigan down to the OSU 24-yard line and the Wolverines seemed poised to dash OSU's unblemished record.

After spiking the ball to stop the clock on first down, Navarre just missed Edwards on a slant pattern inside the Buckeye 10-yard line. With one second left on third down, Navarre again looked to the end zone, but OSU cornerback Will Allen stepped in front of the pass and fell to the turf as time ran

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