

# Campus medical museum opens

By KELLY WALSH  
Jambar Editor

Open wide and say "Aaah." YSU's new medical museum is a lot to take in with just one bite.

The Rose Melnick Medical Museum, which is located on Wick Avenue across from the Arms Museum, had its grand opening Monday. The historical museum, filled with odd gadgets and interesting equipment, offers a plethora of information dealing with the evolution of the medical field from the 1700s to the present.

Visitors are able to see many old devices once used in medicine — some which are down right frightening. Blood-letting tools, an iron lung and old amputation kits containing rusty saws are among some of the items in the museum.

Many of the pieces on display

come right from the Mahoning valley. "Many of the items deal with local history, and people in this area are really in touch with the past of their community," Victor Fleischer, the museum's curator said.

Along with each exhibit are informational postings that give the background and history of the pieces. There are also videos explaining some medical phenomena like polio. Also displayed in the museum are recreations of doctor and dental offices, which are based on old photographs.

Currently, the museum's featured exhibit is "When the President is Patient," and it will be on display throughout the year until August. The installation came from the Mutter Museum of the College of Physicians in Philadelphia, and it contains photographs and informational pieces about the ailments of

all the presidents up to Bill Clinton. Replacing this exhibit in August will be one dealing with the history of autopsy.

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— VICTOR FLEISCHER  
Rose Melnick Medical  
Museum Curator

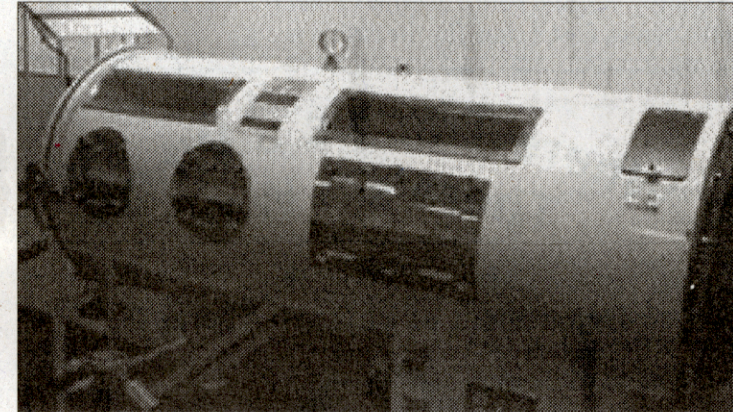
Dr. John Melnick, a local radiologist, founded the museum when he began collecting these medical artifacts in 1972. He brought everything together for the public to

experience in one museum because he wants to cultivate an interest in medicine and its history among students, physicians and the general public.

Fleischer commented, "The museum gives us a sense of the past. It shows us where we have been but also where we are going. This stuff seems outdated, but in fifty years we'll probably look back at some of our practices like chemotherapy and wonder what the hell we were thinking."

Containing around 20,000 articles on the subject of medicine, the museum is a great place to do research at. It should truly be taken advantage of, especially since it is among a few legitimate historical medical museums exist in the nation.

The museum is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.



JOSE GONZALEZ/ THE JAMBAR



**MEDICAL HISTORY:** An iron lung, created soon after polio outbreaks, and old nursing uniforms are among many of the items on display at The Rose Melnick Medical Museum.