

Brick campaign announced for Stambaugh

PEGGY MORE
News Editor

"Each brick is a giant step for the future of the Mahoning Valley and this University," said Clarence Smith, chairman of the board of Compro Metal Products of Youngstown, and co-chair of the Stadium Division of the Capital Campaign, at a press conference held to kick off the named brick fund-raising campaign to aid in the expansion of Stambaugh Stadium.

The press conference was held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, August 21, in front of the stadium's towers on Fifth Avenue.

The bricks, which will be located on a walkway in front of the existing side of Stambaugh Stadium, will be called the Penguin "Walk of Pride."

"I'm proud that the bricks for this walk will be made and manufactured locally," said Paul McFadden, director of development for athletics.

Summitville Tile Inc. of Columbiana County will be supplying the bricks.

The bricks, costing \$100 each, may contain two lines of inscription, 16 characters per line. They may be inscribed with the name of a loved one or a family member to

commemorate an event or occasion of the donor's choice.

"These bricks can recognize families, individuals, large donors, and most importantly, everyone in the valley can have a role in this campaign," said President Leslie Cochran.

This will be the first major expansion of the stadium, which was built in time for the 1982 football season. The current seating capacity of 17,000 at Stambaugh Stadium will be increased to 23,000 with the planned expansion project.

"Our Capital Campaign goal is \$22 million, and last night we hit the \$13.2 million dollar mark," said Cochran.

The stadium expansion is expected to cost \$5 million, and to date, \$1.9 million has been raised, said Cochran. He said that he felt that the brick campaign will be significant in raising the remaining \$3 million.

"It will be an awesome sight, 25,000 or more bricks with the names of athletes, fans, and everyone who wanted to make this possible," said Jim Tressel, director of intercollegiate athletics and head football coach at YSU.

"It will become a tourist attraction that can be tied in with the



Coach Jim Tressel, Clarence Smith, Bill Knecht and YSU President Leslie Cochran pose with bricks that will be included in the Penguin "Walk of Pride"

memorial in front of Beeghly," Tressel added.

Bricks will be sold over a two-year period. Orders received by February 1, 1997, will be in place in the "Walk of Pride" in time for the Homecoming celebration for the 1997 football season.

"I can't wait to bring my grandson down here and let him find his name," said Bill Knecht, president of Wendell August Forge, and co-chair of the Stadium Division of the Capital Campaign.

"We've sent out fliers, now it's up to the people to spread the

gospel and help this to become a reality," Knecht added.

For additional information about the named brick campaign at YSU, contact the Office of University Development at (330) 742-3119 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.