



# Celebrating Saudi Arabian Culture

PHOTO BY SAMANTHA PHILLIPS / THE JAMBAR

BY SAMANTHA PHILLIPS

The Saudi Student Organization and the International Programs Office hosted Youngstown State University's first Saudi Arabian Cultural Event on Saturday at the Debartolo Stadium Club.

Saudi Arabian music filled the air as people dined on Middle Eastern cuisine. A video detailing Saudi Arabian cultural elements, such as their cities and monuments, was shown to the audience of about 180 people.

Abdullah Khalil, a YSU human resource management student, helped host the event. He hoped it would bring positive attention to Middle Eastern culture, especially in light of Trump's travel bans.

"In the past, the Saudi student population was too small to have an event like

this," he said.

During the opening speech, Nathan Myers, associate provost for International and Global Initiatives, said the growing number of international students enrolling at YSU is making the campus stronger.

"The Saudi student population brings so much to us. Not only your academic contributions, but your cultural contributions," he said.

Rakan Alsulami, president of the Saudi Student Organization, said the goal of the event was to engage people with the Middle Eastern culture, despite negative media portrayals, and give the community a chance to meet Saudi Arabian people.

"People think that bad people are in the Middle East, they think we are unhappy and don't have fun," he said. "But this event shows who we are. We celebrate and have fun. We are peaceful people."

The key to learning about another culture is coming to events and meeting peo-

ple from different cultures, even if it feels uncomfortable, Khalil said.

"I think the secret of learning about our culture and being diverse is getting in your uncomfortable zone," he said. "If you're always comfortable then you're never going to grow or develop. But if you step outside your comfort zone, you try new things."

Khalil noted that many American students come to International Coffee Hour events and have become good friends with international students.

"That's what we would like for the community to do. Don't judge a book by its cover, get engaged with these events and give us a chance," he said.

Phyllis Beard hosted Khalil me back to attend college at YSU. Hosting students from different countries is an eye-opening experience, Beard said.

"Abdullah and his friends break the stereotypes. They were very similar to Amer-

ican students," she said. "To break these stereotypes, you really have to get to know people. Just love people and be accepting. Show them the best of America."

Amongst the guests, there were people from Akron, Cleveland and friends from Youngstown.

Sam Fabrizio, a political science administration student, said he came to support Khalil and his other international friends.

"Abdullah has always talked about Saudi Arabia and how great of a country it is, so basically, I just wanted to immerse myself in the culture for a day," Fabrizio said.

The event occurred a week after Saudi Arabian Prince Mohammed bin Salman visited the White House to talk to President Donald Trump about tackling terrorism in the Middle East. Hael Alyami, a speaker at the event, said the prince's efforts should bring positive attention to Saudi Arabians.



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# Lettuce Do Good

BY JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ

For those who live in a food desert like Youngstown, finding locally-sourced, fresh and organic food can seem impossible.

Two former Youngstown State University students are alleviating that problem with their indoor gardening company that teaches people how to grow fruits and vegetables all year.

Katie and Tom Phibbs created Lettuce Do Good in 2016 with the intention of selling hydroponic gardens that could be used at home, in the office or in a classroom. These gardens use LED lights and water to substitute for sun and soil.

Hydroponic gardening is a method that is used in climates that aren't sustainable for crops. The system ensures that crops can still receive essential nutrients and provide food throughout the year.

The couple started out working with the Lettuce People, an indoor garden in Youngstown where they grew greens for local

restaurants, farmer's markets and grocery stores.

The demand for produce was high, so they decided to start selling the gardens instead of vegetables and fruits, and they added a science, technology, engineering and mathematical teaching element.

That was the birth of Lettuce Do Good, and now the goal is to encourage schools to purchase these hydroponic gardens and teach children how to use them, Katie Phibbs said.

"We want schools to be able to grow their own food," she said. "A lot of times schools will have a garden during the summer when kids are not actually in school, so they'll get to start seeds but won't actually get to harvest what they grow."

Lettuce Do Good has been able to provide gardens to Brookfield Elementary, Campbell Elementary and schools in Liberty, Hubbard, Austintown and Chaney.

According to healthguidance.org, there are several advantages to indoor gardening. Indoor gardening doesn't require as much space as outdoor gardening and

is easy for beginner gardeners to use.

Phibbs said indoor gardening is important because it gives people peace of mind, knowing where their food came from. They can watch the process of the food being grown.

"This is a way for kids to understand that we can grow our own food, but also to teach sustainability," said Phibbs. "Hydroponic gardens use 98 percent less water, 70 percent less fertilizer and 90 percent less space than if you were to grow outside."

Weather can also be a factor when growing food outdoors, Katie Phibbs said. In Ohio, you may get four harvests a year growing outside, while with indoor gardening, Lettuce Do Good is able to get 21 harvests a year.

Anything can be grown hydroponically, but Lettuce Do Good sticks to growing leafy greens. There are currently 130 different varieties of lettuce.

Hydroponic gardens are also being used on YSU's campus. The Youngstown Environment Sustainability Society and the Student Government Associa-



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATIE PHIBBS

tion have been renovating the greenhouse in Ward Beecher and use some hydroponic gardening techniques.

"It's for academic purposes but [YESS] also wants to promote centralized growing for campus. It saves on costs and energy, and

is sustainable for the environment," said Gabriella Gessler, president of SGA.

Anyone who is interested in purchasing an indoor garden or a DIY classroom kit can go to <http://ldggardens.com/> for more information.

## Locally Grown Food Within Walking Distance

BY RACHEL GOBEP

The Lake-to-River Food Cooperative opened a food market in January inside of Cultivate: a co-op café on Elm Street, one block north of Youngstown State University.

More than 30 farmers and growers from Northeast Ohio and Pennsylvania sell their goods at the market, including fresh produce, eggs and jams. Jim Converse, founding member of the Lake-to-River Food Cooperative, said the localized aspect of the market is key.

"Knowing who your farmer is and how they grow their food has become increasingly important for people that are

health-conscious," Converse said.

Melissa Miller, president of the Lake-to-River Food Cooperative, said one of the main goals of the market is to serve as a resource for students on campus.

"There is a lot more interest in education about healthy eating and locally grown food," Miller said.

The market was placed on Elm Street to be within walking distance of YSU, Converse said. He said since there is not a grocery store located on campus, the market can fulfill grocery needs of students.

Precious Brown, YSU student and employee at Cultivate said this makes the market a perfect opportunity for the area.

"We are in the middle of nowhere and we have healthy food that is affordable," Brown said. "People from around here grow it, so it's like your neighbor is making your food."

The café incorporates locally grown produce from the market into items on their menu. Brown said she has felt ten times healthier since she started working there.

"Wherever you work, you usually eat the food there the most," Brown said. "I see a change in my appetite, what I will eat and what I won't eat."

More than one-third of the customers at Cultivate are YSU students, according to Converse. Plans to permit Pete's Points are underway, estimated to be usable by the fall semester.

The Lake-to-River Cooperative was started by farmers and food makers to protect local food markets from disappearing, something Miller said can be avoided with community support.

"[People] think that you can only buy farm products in the summertime, but

meat, milk and some of these locally produced items [such as granola and eggs] are available year round," Miller said. "We all need to work to engage with our local food makers."

The Northside Farmer's Market, also part of the co-op, is located across the street from Lake-to-River Market where community members can meet farmers who are growing their food.

Melissa Biscella, a local who recently took charge of her father's farm, sold produce at the Northside Farmer's Market on Saturday. She said having locally grown food available in the area benefits Youngstown's citizens.

"A little market like this brings fresh produce and fresh plants to a community that maybe can't get to the store to get that fresh product," Biscella said.

# YSU's Space Quest

BY JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR  
MORGAN PETRONELLI

Space is a vast place containing objects, occurrences, and forces so foreign to this world that new discoveries are being made daily. Astronomers are on a quest to find out more about the mysterious unknown located in the depths of space.

Youngstown State University is no stranger to harboring successful individuals whose accomplishments and accolades distinguish them from others, especially when it comes to a few research astronomers.

Particularly, two research astronomers who teach in the astronomy and physics department at YSU have earned the spotlight for their discoveries made in space.

John Feldmeier and Patrick Durrell are colleagues and friends that have made discoveries both together and independently by breaking the mold and utilizing their research capabilities.

Durrell, associate professor at YSU and director of the Ward Beecher Plan-

etarium, says his research specialization generally involves studying stars and star clusters in nearby galaxies, along with stars that get ripped out of galaxies sometimes referred to as "intergalactic stars" or "orphan stars."

"I study galaxies in a variety of ways to try to understand how they work, how galaxies form and how they evolve," Durrell said.

Durrell has made multiple discoveries over the course of his career as an astronomer, but he claims his most notable one was the discovery of a dwarf galaxy that gained some media attention in 2005.

Durrell and Feldmeier were a part of a team of astronomers who used their allotted time on the Hubble Space Telescope to study an area of a nearby cluster of galaxies called the Virgo Cluster.

He stated that this galaxy cluster is the closest in proximity to the Earth at an estimated 50 million light years away. Specifically, Durrell said the team was tasked with analyzing the space between the galaxies in the Virgo Cluster.

"Galaxies run into each other. When they do that, sometimes some stars get ejected because of gravity, and we were

trying to search for those stars," Durrell said.

When they retrieved the data, Durrell and the rest of the team were expecting little orphan stars, but instead found something quite the contrary.

"In the middle of our data, quite unexpected was a little dwarf galaxy right in the middle," Durrell said. "It's not a universe-shattering discovery, but it's one of those things where 'Oh we discovered a new galaxy by the sake of luck.'"

Durrell said they received a bit of local press after he and the rest of his team wrote a research paper on their findings and sent it to an anonymous "Referee", who reads through the paper in order to establish if it is written well enough to be published.

Feldmeier, associate professor at YSU, said he is currently working on a project called HETDEX where they are conducting an experiment in the search of dark energy. Aside from that, Feldmeier was a part of a project with fellow collaborators from Cleveland that discovered an exoplanet. Feldmeier described them as planets orbiting other stars.

Feldmeier discovered that one of the ob-

jects in his data was a planet by the transit method— when a planet passes in front of a star and the brightness of the star drops a tiny amount. By examining the object for months and calculating when it passes in front of a star, the diminished brightness can help determine if that object is a planet.

"The problem in the way you have to do this is you have to search for thousands and thousands of stars," Feldmeier said. "You have to take pictures of them constantly and wait for this magic thing to happen."

The Kepler project, which uses a telescope in space to find other stars, followed up Feldmeier's data and later confirmed it was a planet. He revealed that he named the exoplanet after his old dog Winston, which he and his fellow astronomers joked about until they finally settled on the name.

"It was a very exciting project because it's not very often that you get to lead a project where you can find planets around other stars," said Feldmeier. "You can do some pretty amazing science even at places like YSU."

## New YMES Guidelines For Emails

BY JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR  
TANNER MONDOK

New email guidelines have been put into place at Youngstown State University with the intent of refining and improving mass emails being sent to students, faculty and staff from the YSU Mass Email System.

The move comes as a response to emails at YSU becoming excessive according to those who receive them.

The guidelines are being put into place with the hopes that students no longer feel bombarded by the amount of emails being sent to them.

Ron Cole, YSU Public Information officer, developed the guidelines along with Information Technology Services. Cole said that the guidelines were developed because he wants to ensure that emails are properly formatted and wants to be able to control the amount being sent out.

"We want to ensure that whenever we're sending an email out on campus that it's properly formatted so that it's relatively clear that it's coming from the universi-

ty," he said. "We also want to ensure that there's not too many of them sent out and as a result people stop paying attention to them."

The biggest issue targeted by the guidelines is people receiving emails who aren't interested in the contents of the message and it ends up being ignored.

Cole said that he is working to ensure that emails are being sent only to the target audience and not all of campus.

"There have been occasions where an email has gone out to the entire campus on a subject that was pretty narrow. Those emails are the kind that we are looking at to see if it is necessary to send an email to all 13,000 students and 2,500 faculty and staff," he said.

Alex Kerchum, Web Application specialist, said that mass emails weren't being sent to the correct target audience and made it difficult for students to find relevant information in their inboxes.

"Faculty and staff were getting student emails and students were getting faculty and staff emails," he said. "The bulk of those emails made it hard for students to find emails from their professors and emails that were relevant to them would get lost in the mix."

Eddie Howard, associate vice-president of Student Ex-

perience, said that only 20 percent of mass emails sent out are actually opened by faculty, staff and students. He also mentioned instances where people would get upset about receiving so many messages and ask for the emails not to be sent to them anymore.

Howard said that the guidelines make it so the emails being sent out are neutral with no names attached.

"In the body of the emails, it mentions who you should contact if you want more information. I think that's excellent," he said. "My administrative assistant sends out email after email and folks associate the email with her, because it comes from her, that she has the information on that particular email."

There are currently nine sources which are able to send unsolicited YMES messages according to the guidelines. The sources are The President, Office of the President, YSU Academic Affairs, YSU Information, YSU News, Tech Desk, YSU Human Resources, YSU Student Experience and YSU Student Success.

The next step according to Cole is to move certain routine announcements from being sent via YMES and promote non-email services such as the already active PenguinAlert service to communicate on campus.

# 27 International Students Applied for Honors College This Fall

BY JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR  
NAMI NAGAOKA

The honors college of Youngstown State University has been trying to increase enrollment among international students. The number of international applicants for Fall 2017's honors college has been rising rapidly since last October.

Amy Cossentino, the director of the honors college, said 27 foreigners have applied to the Honors College — 23 from Nepal, four from Sri Lanka and one each from Nigeria and the United Kingdom.

Nate Myers, an associate provost at YSU, has been traveling abroad to recruit more international students to YSU, which explains the sharp increase in international students in the program.

Megan Evans, a senior majoring in sociology, English and linguistics, an office worker and president of the Honors Trustees, said being in the honors college allowed her to make friends and explore professional pathways.

"I personally really enjoy being involved in the honors college. That gives me a lot of opportunities to succeed and to lead and also to commit service in my communities," Evans said.

Evans said that adding additional international students to the honors college only exemplifies part of YSU's mission statement, "to foster an understanding of diversity, sustainability and global perspectives" and to advance the "intellectual and cultural life of the city, region and world."

"We want to help [international students] get more opportunities for more in - depth academic experience ..." Evans said. "It ... also represents the university as a whole."

The honors college is planning to be more connected to the international

groups such as iPals and International Students Organization next year. Recently, they hosted an international coffee hour to try to encourage engagement with foreign born students.

"It's exciting to see the future years when we are going to have more engagements with international students," Evans said. "It will really help to improve not only what YSU looks like now, but also to improve students' experience to be able to have better connection to international students."

Alanis Chew, a freshman majoring in business economics and mathematics, moved to the United States five years ago from Malaysia.

When she applied to YSU, she was looking for a scholarship on the university's website, found one from the honors college, applied and was accepted.

Even though Chew and the other honors students must do some extra assignments, volunteer in the community and keep a 3.4 GPA, she said the work is worth it.

"The requirements to be in honors just help you to get more involved in YSU," Chew said.

Ashwin Mishra, a freshman from Nepal majoring in computer science had a 3.5 GPA from high school and 1,800 on SAT score, which qualified him to be in the honors college. He decided to join because he wanted to expose himself to a new environment and meet new people.

"Being in honors, we definitely get to meet a lot of people with similar interests, similar majors," Mishra said. "When I was in Nepal, I didn't know that there was [such a thing]."

Mishra said being in the honors college allows him to find friends easily, something that can be hard for any new student.

"It makes us feel more involved in campus," Mishra said. "We are learning how to develop academically and also socially."

# Teachers Weigh in on First Year Experience

BY JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR  
LAURA MCDONOUGH

Whether they like the course or not, a handful of professors have been tasked to teach the new First Year Experience courses at Youngstown State University. The course requires they teach campus safety, career services and financial literacy.

Of those who returned requests for interviews, the response was typically positive. Most professors believe that the FYE courses are a step in the right direction to help freshmen succeed in college.

Donna Marie Walsh, the FYE professor for the business college, said these courses are beneficial to the students in the end.

"It's meant to help our freshmen make the transition from high school to college and give them the tools they need to make better decisions," Walsh said.

Some teachers reported that using Blackboard for the course was difficult during the first semester, especially for professors who aren't used to using it for their courses.

"Any time you try to roll out a big new program like this, there are bound to be kinks here or there," Walsh said.

Mary Lynn Janek, a part-time faculty member in teacher education, said she fully supports implement-

ing the FYE courses.

She has taken her students on field trips during the class where she shows them exactly where resources are, such as the Andrews Recreation and Wellness Center, the Writing Center and the Center for Student Progress.

Janek said it is important to teach financial literacy because they may not have learned how to manage money before because they haven't had to.

"I remember watching Oprah one time and college age and late high school age kids were on it," Janek said. "And they thought the expiration date [on a credit card] was when you had to start paying it back."

Karen Becker, the director of First Year Experience, has offered more structure to the courses since being appointed to the position in 2016.

"I think one of the biggest problems we had was that there wasn't really a director, and now there is," Janek said.

Janek said Becker helps make sure everyone is teaching the right material, and if someone sends her something they believe is helpful she can forward it to all of the teachers.

"There's a more directed information line now that Karen Becker is in there, and we didn't have that in the beginning," Janek said.

Sean-Michael Doty, who teaches an FYE course for human performance and exercise science, said he thinks the FYE course is

necessary for the students.

"I think it's something that while students may be frustrated with, having all this extra work, I think it's absolutely necessary for the long run," Doty said. "If [the class is] not something they immediately appreciate, I hope in the future they'll be glad they did it."

Pamela Jayne Heggins taught an FYE course for counseling last fall and echoed Doty, saying she hoped that students appreciated the extra help the FYE course provides.

"The reason why they don't appreciate it is the support system they're surrounded by," Heggins said. "YSU is aware that a lot of students are first generation college students and might not have an understanding support system."

She said she had students from different local high schools who all planned on going to college after high school.

"They were really into it because ... this was their plan to go to college, and it gave them a course of awareness for what to expect in the future," Heggins said. "They were a great group of students."

Heggins said her students expressed they enjoyed the course, made new friends and even joined Greek life because they were asked to attend campus events. She said that the course isn't all good or all bad, it's more neutral. She believes there are still kinks to be worked out, but that comes with anything new.



## Student Athletes Lead March for Meals

On Monday, student athletes and volunteers from Youngstown State University and the surrounding community released biodegradable balloons to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the March for Meals program. March for Meals is a month long

celebration and fundraiser for Meals on Wheels, a program that delivers hot meals to homebound citizens. Although many Meals on Wheels programs are lined up to be defunded, the Mahoning County sector will continue operating, funded by private donations, grants and fundraising events.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JENNIFER DOWNIE

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# Pete's History

BY JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR  
MARAH MORRISON

Why out of all things a penguin? Mascots could be considered symbolic for their universities and could have unique stories behind them. Diving into the history of Youngstown State University's mascot may not only be beneficial for students at YSU, but just may draw more people to the beloved penguin.

Brian Brennan, an alum who has been affiliated with YSU for 31 years, said that the mascot is definitely the face of the university.

"Presidents come and go, coaches come and go, students come and go," said Brennan. "But Pete remains constant."

Brennan said that the beginning of Pete the Penguin started back in the mid-1920s.

The Youngstown College basketball team at the time had an away game scheduled at West Liberty College in the middle of winter. The players had to take

the trip down to the game in an unheated bus and by the time that they got there, they were frozen stiff.

"They got into the locker room and it was unheated," Brennan said. "They suited up and went out to the court and they were jumping around trying to keep warm."

Brennan said that the coach of the opposing team had said that our team looked like a bunch of penguins and from that, YSU's penguin mascot was born.

When the university started the football program in 1938-1939, there was talk about changing the mascot to something more fierce.

"They wanted something that evoked action and that was tough," Brennan said. "But some people were sympathetic toward keeping the penguin."

Brennan said that very few places have a mascot that's a penguin, making Pete unique and bringing a sense of identity to the campus.

"Pete will always be in people's hearts," Brennan said. "Even if you're not an athletic

fan, you still see Pete everywhere in the marketing and that image is placed in your mind. It gives a friendly face to the institution."

Joanne Ellwood, a 1992 graduate of YSU, said that thinking of Pete and Penny Penguin always makes her smile.

"Pete is very recognizable," Ellwood said. "Because he's always in school colors; you'd never mistake him for the Pittsburgh Penguin."

Robert D. Ault, microform and information services librarian and history and political science librarian at Maag Library, said that we're the only college that has a penguin for a mascot, so we might as well flaunt it.

"I can recall going to Baltimore with a Pete the Penguin hat," Ault said. "And people coming up to say hi because they recognized the penguin."

Ault said that our mascot makes us very distinct.

"That's what makes it fun," Ault said. "Pete and Penny have impact and he's down in history. He's the brand."

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# Four Band Man: Justin Randall

BY AMANDA LEHNERD

Boardman, Ohio native and Youngstown State University student Justin Randall is majoring in jazz performance.

Randall started playing music in the fifth grade. He originally wanted to play the tenor saxophone, but got drawn into the trumpet and has loved it ever since.

During Randall's time at YSU, he has participated in four bands, one of which is his own creation.

"The Justin Randall Quartet is a group consisting [of] three of the most talented musicians I've met since being at YSU," Randall said. "Anthony Kunovic on guitar, Hobie Butcher on drums, and Tim Wilderoder on bass."

The Justin Randall Quartet is a band that plays a mix of jazz tunes in a funk style along with Randall's own music.

Another band Randall is a part of is the Cosmic Lemons. Cosmic Lemons began as an idea brought up between a few of the founding members.

The band performs an array of tunes ranging from jazz, funk, rock and fusion. They cover songs by bands such as Cake, Rage Against the Machine, and Snarky Puppy, along with some original music.

Cosmic Lemons has an EP titled Lift Off released in 2016. The band toured in the summer of 2016 around Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Michigan, Indiana and often in Youngstown.

"I was thrown into the mix, and the band blossomed into a very fun and successful group," said Randall. "We formed in May 2015 and are performing our final show April 1."

The band will be releasing their full-length album, "Freshly Squeezed," at their final show April 1, 2017 at Suzie's Dogs and Drafts downtown.

Randall has recorded two albums in the band's two year span.

The third band Randall is a part of is Filthy Foxes, a jazz/funk jam band.

"Filthy Foxes was founded by a buddy of mine, Mike Reardon," Randall said. "Currently, this group performs at Suzie's Dogs & Drafts downtown, hosting a weekly jam session Thursday nights from

9 p.m. to midnight."

Lastly, Randall is a member of The Bees Trees, a funk/rock jazz band that plays a mixture of jazz, roots rock, funk and blues along with some original tunes.

"The Bees Trees is a group founded by my good friend Liam Jones back when we were in high school," said Randall. "I have been with the band since this past summer."

The Bees Trees has performed in numerous cities in the eastern United States.

Randall finds passion in playing music. He enjoys having the opportunity to create music for others.

"I enjoy playing music because of how special it is to me and what it means to me," said Randall. "I'm very fortunate to be a musician and the fact that I get to make music each and every day is what makes life worth living."

A fun fact about Randall is that he has had the opportunity to perform with Josh Groban live in Pittsburgh.

Randall is also a composer and arranger and has recorded two student albums, a single with the band East 9th and his debut "Prism" while at YSU.

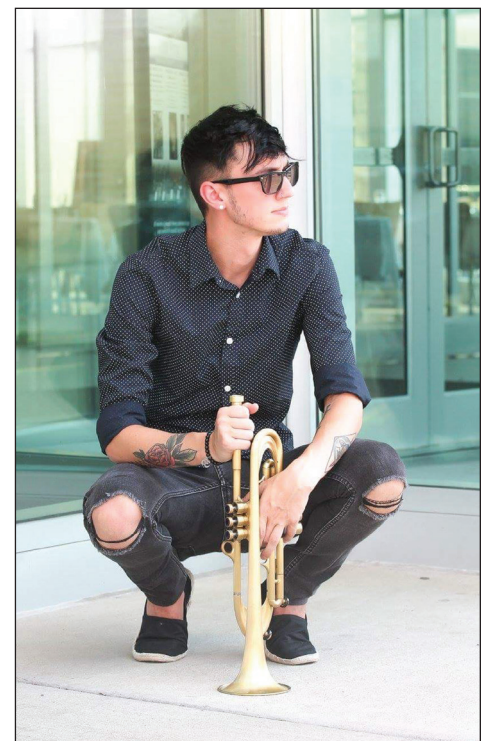


PHOTO COURTESY OF JUSTIN RANDALL

## A Timeline of Tyson's Mansion

BY JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

DAVID FORD

The former mansion once owned and abandoned by world heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson is being converted into a place of worship by a local church.

The 58-acre property, abandoned and later sold by Tyson during the late 1990s, is located in Southington. The property is located on 3737 state Route 534 which is approximately 35 minutes away from Youngstown.

In 2014, Living Word Sanctuary, a Protestant church led by co-pastors Mark Cohen and Nick Dejacimo, was given the property as a donation.

Ever since the property was given to the church, they have been working to turn it into a center for its worship and youth activities.

"Despite its wild history and abandonment, we believe that this location will allow us to hold our worships together and our activities and continue to grow as a

church," Cohen said.

According to a 2012 article written by The Vindicator, the first owner was Ted Vannelli, the former Trumbull County commissioner. Vannelli purchased the property in 1980.

Eventually, Vannelli was caught using county funds and the property was foreclosed upon, only to be purchased by Tyson several years later.

According to USA Today, Tyson purchased the property sometime in the late 1980s by Tyson so that he could be closer to boxing promoter and trainer Don King.

Over the course of a few years, Tyson added a basketball court, indoor swimming pool and an enclosure for his tigers to the property. Despite all of the additions he made, Tyson's stay would prove to be short lived.

According to a 1992 article by The New York Times, Tyson was convicted of rape and sentenced to 10 years in prison. The judge suspended the last four years of his sentence, meaning he would only spend six years behind bars. Tyson served a little less than three years of his six year sen-

tence before being released.

After being released, Tyson ran into severe financial problems, forcing him to put the mansion on the market. It was purchased by television marketer Paul Monea in 1999 for \$1.3 million.

According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's archives, Monea never lived in the home. In 2006, Monea attempted to sell the estate and a 43 carat golden eye diamond to a group of drug dealers from a South American cartel.

The dealers were revealed to be undercover FBI agents who arrested Monea. He later was convicted on charges of conspiracy to commit money laundering and sentenced to 13 years in prison.

Monea lost possession of the property, leaving it to sit abandoned for several years.

The property was purchased by local businessman Ron Hemelgarn in 2010 for \$600,000, according to WKBN. In 2014, Hemelgarn donated the property to Living Word Sanctuary.

Jake Hocevar, a student at Youngstown State University, and his family were re-

cruited by the church to watch the mansion and occasionally do lawn maintenance on the property since they live next door.

"We watch the property for the church because the house has been vandalized before," Hocevar said. "We met them when they had a Fourth of July party at the place."

Dejacimo said the date for the opening of the mansion-turned-church is unknown, but he hopes that it will be sooner rather than later. He added that he is excited about the project and hopes that the future opening ceremony will be a success.

Church members have made contact with Tyson about potentially coming down to the opening ceremony in hopes he will join them in worship. It remains unknown if Tyson will show up or not, but according to Cohen and Dejacimo, he is aware of the event.

As of right now, there is no set date for when the opening ceremony will take place.





PHOTO BY MARAH MORRISON / THE JAMBAR

# The County Mayo Irish Band

BY JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR  
MARAH MORRISON

Things were in full Irish swing on Belmont Avenue at Kravitz Delicatessen Inc. on March 16 in Liberty. The County Mayo Irish Band (William D. Lewis, Ted Miller, Marcy Meiers, Bernie Bonnie and Brad Campbell) has been putting on a show for the community for over 35 years.

Lewis plays a variety of stringed instruments and whistles, Miller is the group's lead singer and Meiers plays the flute and whistles. Bonnie plays bass guitar and Campbell, who is the newest member of the group, plays the keyboard.

Lewis, adjunct photojournalism professor at Youngstown State University, said that he and the rest of his fellow band members appreciate and enjoy playing music.

The founding group members had coincidentally met during a jam session taking place in Girard.

"Three of us met up there and thought that this was kind of fun," Lewis said. "So a band came out of it and we've been at it for 35 years."

The seasoned photojournalist for *The Vindicator* said that being a part of this band keeps him sane and that it is wonderful for his mental health. The musician also said that he enjoys sharing music with lots of people and seeing the positive impact.

Miller, YSU alumnus, went to the jam session in Girard as well.

"The first time I've ever sang in front of people, I thought that people liked it because they just liked Irish music," Miller said. "Then the musicians that were the pros at the time were treating me like I was something special and I thought that was nice."

Miller went to YSU two times — the first was before

he got drafted into the army and the second was when he got out. The current lead singer of the band ended up spending a total of six years at YSU.

Meiers, a 1987 graduate of YSU, got a scholarship to study in Ireland for six weeks and brought back the country's influence when she returned to the states.

"I picked up the whistles and picked up some books and came home," said Meiers. "I met up with Ted and eventually Bill and eventually Bernie through other bands."

The flautist, pipes and whistle player said that being a part of this band is a lot of fun, gives her a lot of fun, late nights and is way less expensive than therapy.

"They're like my brothers," Meiers said. "[Playing with the band is like] playing with your family."

To learn more about the County Mayo Irish band, visit <http://www.countymayoirishband.com/about-county-mayo.html>, which houses the group's music, tour schedule and contact information.

## 81st Annual Juried Student Art & Design Exhibition

BY AMANDA LEHNERD

The Youngstown State University Student Art Association presents the 81st Annual Juried Student Art & Design Exhibition at the McDonough Museum of Art opening March 24. The exhibition will run from March 24 to April 7.

The exhibition will feature an awards ceremony and reception Friday where artists will be honored. Current graphic design student, Lorenzo Devine, created the identity design for the exhibition.

"The identity of the show is about all these different paths meeting at the 81st Student Art & Design Exhibition," said Devine. "There are a lot of different student artists and designers here at YSU who have very different styles but ultimately

are all on the same linear path of getting to the end; I had a fun time trying to conceptualize this idea."

The idea behind the exhibition's identity all began with researching the meaning behind the No. 81.

"I wanted the 81 to be rather pronounced because in my research I learned that it is a number that represents philanthropy, efficiency, humanitarianism, balance, idealism and tolerance," said Devine. "I connected with those adjectives the most because I found them all to be important, the linear waves of gray that make up the shadow are representative of those linear paths I mentioned students take."

Stephanie Nussle, a student in the art department, stated that the exhibition is put on by the SAA.

"The SAA is the student art group," Nussle said. "The SAA has students submit their work, and the students don't

know if their work gets in or is chosen until the exhibition opening when the juror announces it."

The juror for the exhibition is Adam Welch. He is an artist, musician and curator who has exhibited regionally and internationally. He is the recipient of the 2009 Individual Artists Fellowship in Installation/ Sculpture.

President of the SAA Desmond Duque said that there have been a lot of students who submitted works compared to previous years.

"This year we had a large amount of submissions," Duque said. "This year we have a total of 67 works, with around 134 submissions from students."

The idea behind the exhibition is to showcase the work of the students and to allow students and locals to see what kind of work is being produced in the art department at YSU.

"We all work really hard, and this exhibition is a means to show off that hard work and be rewarded for it," said Devine.

The exhibition is meant to display all the different types of work from each different discipline within the art department, ranging from entry level to advanced.

"No one knows what exactly is in the show until opening night," said Devine. "I don't even know if my work made it in and I designed the identity for the show, so it'll be a fun surprise to see what made it and who wins awards."

According to Duque, the SAA would like a variety of people to attend the event.

"It is really nice to have not just students attend, but the faculty and alumni to come," he said. "It is a privilege to us for the community to want to be a part of the Student Art & Design Exhibition."

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# 81<sup>ST</sup>

## ANNUAL JURIED STUDENT ART & DESIGN EXHIBITION

**March 24 - April 7, 2017**

**Juror Adam Welch**

**Public Reception** March 24, 6-8pm

**Award Presentation** Starts at 7pm

**Accepted works and awards revealed at the opening!**

The **81st Annual Juried Student Art & Design Exhibition** sponsored by the Student Art Association features works by students enrolled in Art and Design programs in the Department of Art. This annual exhibition draws participation from hundreds of students and is an excellent opportunity to witness the strength, breadth and diversity of YSU's Department of Art.

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McDonough Museum of Art  
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DEPARTMENT



SAA

# The Jambor Column

## Why is the THAAD Missile Defense System Causing Young Chinese to Stop Listening to K-Pop?

BY JILLIAN SMITH

Yesterday, I attended a talk featuring former defense secretary William Perry and retired People's Liberation Army Major General Yao Yunzhu. The talk came on the tail end of Secretary of State Rex Tillerson's visit to Beijing in his "tour of Asia." Both speakers commented on the positive implications of the visit, but the true item of discussion was the oddly named missile defense system that seems to be throwing a wrench into US-China relations more so than anything else: THAAD (Terminal High Altitude Area Defense). From General Yao's comments, it was clear the missile defense system along South Korea's border with its neighbor to the north have caused major anxiety for the Chinese government, but upon more research, I found that displeasure over THAAD has extended to ordinary Chinese citizens as well, in surprising ways.

The vexation over THAAD's use seems to be felt across all levels, from Beijing's political elites to the everyday Weibo user. While the Chinese government unsurprisingly has said that it is "resolutely against the deployment of THAAD by the U.S. and the ROK in the ROK, and will take firm and necessary steps to safeguard our security interests," far less expected were the calls from ordinary citizens on social media for boycotts of Korean products such as department store Lotte's koala-shaped animal crackers and even Korean T.V. drama heart-throbs. Why should a missile defense system have any impact on whether a young Chinese

girl listens to K-Pop?

It has to do with the way the THAAD operates. As General Yao explained it, the defense unit uses something called an X-band AN/TPY-2 radar. The technology allows for the U.S. to electronically scan for ballistic threats across a wide range. In China's view, this potentially means that the U.S. could have surveillance data on its own weapons operations, particularly its strategic second-strike nuclear capability, which the U.S. could then use to deliver counter measures. In plainer English, China feels that the U.S. and Korea will upset the delicate military defensive regime in the region, thereby posing a near-existential threat to the nation.

Since the 1990's, the "Korean Wave," a mass consumption of Korean popular culture, has been slowly influencing Chinese determinations of "cool." Korean T.V. shows, music, barbecue and tourism have all had massive success in the Chinese market. With a growing nationalist sentiment among China's young, however, no trend is too popular to be reversed, and young women are even promising to give up their 'oppas', an affectionate term for a favorite Korean TV star, as a show of patriotism.

While China's boycotts on Korean consumer goods may or may not have an effect, the act clearly demonstrates that many Chinese citizens themselves feel threatened by a Korea too closely supported by the U.S. It also shows that even the influence of soft power in the form of popular culture may not be enough to assuage animosities. The tenuous peace that has long held in East Asia appears to be exposing its cracks. The diplomatic skill required to navigate such trends is significant.

# Editorial

## Your Degree is Worthless

It's been four years. You've taken all the classes, met all the requirements and even landed on the Dean's List a few times. You graduated.

But if you didn't bother getting experience through work or an internship, you're less likely to find a job in your field of study.

According to data from the Census Bureau and the Bureau of Labor and Statistics, 44 percent of college graduates were working in a job after graduation that didn't require a college degree. Out of that number, only 36 percent of them were employed in what could be considered as a "good non-college job", meaning they were paid around \$45,000 a year.

These statistics don't mean that education is worthless; that's far from the truth. Education is still an extremely valuable asset when searching for a career. It's just not the only thing employers look for.

Getting that degree is so important, but so are the experiences you gain while going to college.

According to the Chronicle of Higher Education, employers value a recent graduate's work experience and internships over their actual degree or GPA.

Let's say a newspaper is hiring a reporter and two people apply. One has a degree in journalism while the other one has a degree and multiple written pieces from an internship to prove that they can write. Who is getting hired? Person number two.

This isn't saying that the grades you earn or the degree you walk away with might be considered garbage. Those things are what qualify you for good internships or work study jobs, which in turn qualify you for good jobs.

There are thousands of people out there with the same level of education as anyone else, but what makes one stand out? What you do outside of the classroom. Put that education to work by doing an internship, volunteering or getting involved with the community.

Going to class and going home doesn't cut it anymore. Work has to happen during free time and when you're not getting paid if you want the degree in your hand to pay off in the long run.

Go above and beyond, make yourself tired, try and try until you don't think you can try anymore. Put in that effort and make yourself hireable. It is rough to juggle being a full time student, working a part time job, doing an internship and still finding enough time to sleep and eat.

People have different tips and tricks for making this time in life easier, but what they don't tell you is that it is supposed to be hard.

All those sleepless nights, coffee-fueled mornings and drowsy in-betweens where you're juggling work, school and extracurriculars is what's going to get you that job ... Just remember to practice self-care as well.

# The Press Box Perspective: Thoughts on UFC Fight Pass

BY DREW ZUHOSKY

If you are a mixed martial arts fan, can you call yourself a true fan of the sport without a membership for the UFC's Internet streaming service, UFC Fight Pass?

I guess you can call yourself a fan of MMA even without a UFC Fight Pass membership, but let me tell you, as a subscriber of Fight Pass for over a year myself, if you don't have Fight Pass, you, my friend, are missing out on something fantastic.

UFC Fight Pass is completely worth it. Let me explain.

A UFC Fight Pass membership, can be bought through one of three subscription plans: \$7.99 a month for one year, \$8.99 a month for six months, or a monthly \$9.99 subscription plan, which will give you access to live and archived UFC events throughout the UFC's 23-plus year history.

In addition, UFC Fight Pass offers exclusive preliminary fights, dubbed "Fight Pass Prelims," ahead of each FS1/ FOX UFC Fight Night and UFC pay-per-view event.

Moreover, UFC Fight Pass will present entire UFC Fight Night cards exclusive to its platform on occasion.

Most recently, Fight Pass streamed the March 17 UFC Fight Night 107 card in London, which saw heavyweight Jimi Manuwa defeat Corey Anderson by knockout in the main event.

A UFC Fight Pass subscription doesn't guarantee you just events from the UFC. Other promotions will stream their events on the platform, as well.

In Feb. of 2016, Fight Pass expanded its coverage to include the GLORY Kickboxing promotion. Portions of GLORY events are streamed on Fight Pass with other fights being broadcast on ESPN's platforms.

Also, UFC Fight Pass will stream the Eddie Bravo Invitational

tournaments, a Brazilian jiu-jitsu submission-only event.

As far as international MMA events carried by Fight Pass, Cage Warriors, a British MMA promotion, Australia's BRACE MMA and Japan's Pancrase can all be found on the platform.

UFC Fight Pass will also stream cards from TITAN Fighting Championships, a Florida-based promotion.

The next TITAN FC card will be May 19's TITAN FC 44, which features a possibly historic main event as Flyweight champion Jose "Shorty" Torres will attempt to become the first athlete in TITAN FC's history to be champion in two different weight divisions concurrently when he squares off against Bantamweight champion Farkhad Sharipov for the Bantamweight title.

Additionally, Fight Pass offers events from Invicta Fighting Championships, an all-female MMA promotion, as well as the Alaska Fighting Championship and Canada's TKO MMA and more, along with archived events from defunct MMA properties like Strikeforce.

Notably, a UFC Fight Pass subscription does not give you access to the pay-per-view main cards, although those can be purchased through a participating cable company or satellite provider or through ufc.tv.

It's all worth it, in my opinion. From time to time, I'll search what's coming up on Fight Pass to see if there's going to be anything they'll be running on a given day or weekend. If they do, I'll make a day or an evening of it.

I enjoy my Fight Pass subscription very much. As a fan of MMA for the last several years, having Fight Pass has really opened my eyes to the various MMA promotions throughout the world and helped me learn more about the sport as a whole.

Now, would I recommend UFC Fight Pass to one of my friends? Oh, you bet I would.

I'd ask them if they had Fight Pass and if they didn't, I'd tell them that they'd need to subscribe immediately. If you like fighting and MMA, you need this subscription.

## JAMBAR POLICY

Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Collegiate Press honors. The Jambar is published weekly during the fall and spring semesters and weekly during the first summer session. Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. The first copy of The Jambar is free. Additional copies of The Jambar are \$1 each.

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By: L. A. Bonté

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PHOTO COURTESY OF YSU SPORTS INFORMATION

Nehel Sahni returns a shot during a fall practice before a match at the Akron Invitational in September of 2016.

# Women's Tennis Hits the Midway Point

BY MARC WEEMS

With more than half the season gone for Youngstown women's tennis (6-7), it will be looking to improve on a pretty good start to the year.

"I feel like that we start late in the season," senior Nehel Sahni said. "I feel that we've been really good in the beginning of the semester. We've competed with really good teams. We beat good teams like Eastern Michigan [University]. As a team, when we start our semester, we start off super slow."

Sahni also said that in all her years, this is the best it has ever started.

She is right because last season, it lost its first six matches before Southern Utah University. This season, YSU won four out of its first five matches which including a 7-0 win over Niagara University.

"I feel like so far, the girls have been working very hard," Sahni said. "They have been competing well. We have a good workload with the team."

Although YSU's record is 6-7, it has played many close matches. YSU has lost three matches by just one set.

"It is actually a plus for the team," Sahni said. "We have three freshmen on the team and they are new to everything. When the situation became that they had to win for us to win, it was kind of hard. They managed to compete and be ready to go. They looked to win as many matches as they could."

Sahni also said that they would rather lose in a close match than to get blown out 7-0 constantly.

"We are at a point where we have already played some strong competition," YSU head coach Mickael Sopel said, "We have had some great wins so far. We played some tough matches against some very tough teams. A lot of the teams we

played, we have played before and they are hard to play."

Sopel also said that playing tough competition early on makes the rest of the season much easier to attack.

YSU is a team comprised of just two seniors, Sahni and Dominika Lackova. Both girls have been anchors for YSU's success thus far.

"It is kind of stressful at some points to be a leader," Sahni said. "They [freshmen] are all new and pampered. They are still very immature but they are very sweet girls that listen really well. It's all about the team. We will always have our ups and downs but everything is about the team. We all get along really well."

Sahni said that having many freshmen is nice because she, along with others, can teach and help them develop their game.

YSU gets to start Horizon League play as it hosts the University of Illinois in Chicago on March 24 and then Valparaiso University on March 25.

"We have some young players that just came in," Sopel said. "They are getting better and better every day. It takes some time to get younger players going. It is going well so far and it is very exciting to start conference play."

YSU has played much better this year and Sahni thinks there is a reason for that.

"We just help everyone else out," Sahni said. "We can't let each other not do anything. The seniors I had as a freshmen were great. I was probably like the freshmen feel now. Everything was so weird at first but now I get it. We can't worry about ourselves all the time, everything must be about the team. We are all internationals so it is hard sometimes."

Sahni said that their ability to play and win is because they see each other as a family since they are so far away from their own.

YSU hosts UIC on March 24 at 6 p.m. and then plays Valpo on March 25 at 6 p.m.

# Another Week, Another Great Performance: Lorenzo Arcuri's Turn



PHOTO COURTESY OF YSU SPORTS INFORMATION

Lorenzo Arcuri (9) makes contact with a pitch in a game against the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee last season.

BY MARC WEEMS

For the first time in nearly a month, Youngstown State University baseball (2-15 0-3 Horizon League) will be playing in Youngstown. It wouldn't have gotten there without the play of centerfielder Lorenzo Arcuri. From March 5-11, Arcuri put together some impressive statistics.

Arcuri batted 9-of-16 with five home runs, nine runs batted in and scored six runs. From that performance, Arcuri earned National Player of the Week by Collegiate Baseball. He also earned the Horizon League Batter of the Week.

"I'm really proud of that," Arcuri said. "Andrew Kendrick did it first. There are guys on the team that could've gotten that review too. That was just a stretch where everyone was hitting well. Although this is

nice, it is more important to win games."

YSU has struggled to get wins despite a much improved offense. Despite YSU's 2-15 record, YSU has already hit more home runs than last season. Last year, the Penguins hit just 12 home runs. This year, Arcuri along with Kendrick have 12 home runs combined and 21 home runs for the team.

"Lorenzo is doing a great job," YSU head coach Dan Bertolini said. "He was struggling a little bit early on. He had not hit a home run in his career and hit five in that week. It's pretty awesome to see him step up like that. He does things the right way."

Bertolini also said that guys like Arcuri are a part of the team's continued success.

This season, YSU has struggled to pitch well but the offense has been there in boatloads. It has scored 76 runs in 17 games which is nearly 4.5 runs per game which is nearly a run more per game than last season. YSU gives up almost 10 runs

per game.

"Obviously, the goal is to win every game," Arcuri said. "It is more about just playing good baseball. We've come out in certain games and played very good baseball without the result we wanted. We've also just not played as well as we wanted. Bottom line, we just want to play well on defense, offense and pitching."

YSU has lost four games by four runs or less. It has been in many games or has gotten itself in early holes it can't get out of.

"This just shows that we can do it," Arcuri said. "We have the ability to do good things. We've had Kendrick do it and have other people put good weeks together. We know that our offense is going to be there. We just have to have everything click at the same time."

Arcuri also said that having a team that plays as a unit is super important to good playing.

"Obviously it is great to have good in-

dividual efforts," Bertolini said. "They are helping the team succeed. Like I said, wins and losses are important but also having guys develop well is key. We are just trying to get better at-bats each time up and do the right thing."

YSU will be looking to get going much better with the start of its first home series.

"We try to really stress the importance of every pitch," Bertolini said. "Lorenzo [Arcuri] is one of those guys that bought into. Each count is important. Every part of being in the batter's box is important and everyone understands that now. I have always wanted them to see that they can succeed and that we will continue to work. Everything is a work in progress."

YSU will be home for the Horizon League play with a weekend series against Oakland University (1-16, 0-0 HL) on March 24-26 at Eastwood Field in Niles, Ohio.

# Eyes on the Prize: Men's Tennis Prepares for the Horizon League Season



PHOTO FROM YSU SPORTS INFORMATION

Mitch Maroscher returns a serve in a fall practice in preparation for the spring season.

BY RICK HENNEMAN

The Youngstown State University men's tennis team (12-5) will open up Horizon League play this weekend with back-to-back matches on March 24 and 25.

YSU has had a hot start to the 2017 season. It has won seven of their last eight matches while taking down teams like University of Dayton and Xavier University in convincing fashion. YSU senior Mitch Maroscher said that there were many factors to the team's success as of late.

"It's been the high quality training and recruiting good players," Maroscher said. "Everyone gets along on the team and we have positive energy. We pump each other up and are there for each other."

Maroscher is undoubtedly one of the

leaders for the Penguins as he is the only senior on the team this season. Along with being the only senior, this is Maroscher's first year at YSU after transferring from Grand Canyon University.

"It's a little different being a senior at a new school," Maroscher said. "I had some experience playing already so I was able to give the guys some good energy and help motivate them so far."

Maroscher also said that YSU head coach Mickael Sopol has helped him a lot this season with being the only player on the team from the United States.

"That is a very unusual and interesting situation for him," Sopol said. "The work he has done for this team is unbelievable. Mitch is a great tennis player and is already a number one player. I've never had someone who is as committed and works as hard as Mitch."

Sopol is impressed with his team's performance during the beginning of the sea-

son and believes that the Penguins this year are some of the hardest-working that he has ever coached.

"This is the most talented team I've had and the best team tennis-wise that I've had since I've been here," Sopol said. "It is also the best group of people I have had since I've been coaching. It has been a great adventure so far and I cross my fingers that this gets going all the way. These guys work as hard as they can and they are committed."

Sopol also said that the team is focused on bringing YSU its first Horizon League championship for men's tennis.

The fact that there is only one senior on the team might be a challenge for this season but Sopol is very optimistic about the future of YSU's tennis program.

"It's a great prospect having this dynamic going forward," Sopol said. "Having a group of such young guys is very exciting. We have such a good base and

it is exciting to look at the future and see what we can accomplish in the next few years. We will build on it and keep getting better."

The Penguins will face one of the hottest teams in the country on Saturday. Valparaiso University (14-1, 1-0 in Horizon League) has won its last 13 matches with the only loss of the season coming from Big Ten opponent the University of Wisconsin. Valpo has already defeated the University of Illinois at Chicago this season, the team YSU will play on March 25.

UIC (5-6, 0-1 HL) had a string of three straight losses in February but have gained momentum in March. The Flames will enter the March 25 match coming off of a two-match winning streak.

The match against Valpo will begin at 3:00 p.m. on March 24 while the match on March 25 against UIC will start at 9:00 a.m.