

MATERNITY LEAVE CHALLENGES FOR FACULTY: WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU'RE EXPECTING

KELCEY NORRIS

When an expectant mother and faculty member at Youngstown State University welcomes a new life into the world, her road to maternity leave may not be as smooth as it seems.

Diana Awad Scrocco, an associate English professor at YSU and mother of three, is currently on maternity leave with her newborn child. While the university provides expectant mothers with six weeks of paid leave, they have the option to take an additional three weeks of paid sick leave.

This gives mothers nine weeks of paid leave to be with their children, and Awad said taking sick leave after giving birth can be concerning.

"In the calendar year, what if I need to take that sick leave later? I now have used it up to be with this baby," Awad said.

According to Awad, expectant mothers have the option through the Family and Medical Leave Act, termed FMLA, to take an additional three weeks of leave, which brings it to a total of 12.

Amanda Fehlbaum, a sociology professor at YSU, said there are potentially damaging effects of the current standards for maternity leave.

"By combining them both, it's taking away security. If some medical crisis happens, then you're out of time," Fehlbaum said. "Fertility levels are so low in America because we say we ... need more children, but then we don't provide the services and the backup, the safety net, that would make it easier to have and take care of kids."

Fehlbaum said taking unpaid leave after the initial six weeks is often a financial burden for parents.

"Personally, I think it needs to be paid," Fehlbaum said. "Your family has just grown, and you need to be able to support that

family. That's hard to do when you're not getting any money."

Stacey Luce, manager of employee benefits at YSU, said protections do exist for employees who take leave for specific medical and family situations.

Under FMLA, eligible employees who meet certain criteria are offered unpaid leave without fear of losing their positions. An employee must have been with the company for at least one full year and worked 1,250 hours during the year.

"FMLA is job protection. So, after those 12 weeks ... they come back to the same exact position, same exact schedule that they would've come to if they'd never left," Luce said. "No harm comes to them if they have taken FMLA."

Within Article 7 of YSU and the Ohio Board of Education's 2017-2020 agreement, maternity leave and medical leave being placed in the same category leaves the topic up for debate.

"That is why an employee would use sick time or vacation time if they have it. If they don't have it, they have to take leave without pay," Luce said.

In Awad's opinion, families may be dependent on this source as a reliable and steady income.

"I know people who can only get six weeks off because they can't afford the FMLA unpaid time off," Awad said. "They end up going back to work prematurely and it often interferes with their ability to continue breastfeeding."

Awad also noted the structure of her leave interferes with her daily classroom operations when she has a newborn in the beginning of the semester.

"It doesn't make a lot of sense for me to come back into the classroom in the first and last three weeks of the semester," Awad said. "Then have a sub for twelve weeks the students have grown used to," she said. "It just seems awkward and unfair to students."

Additionally, faculty members are required to submit their application for maternity leave to YSU's human resources office at least 30 days before their expected due date.

Awad said she experienced frustrations during this part of the process.



Pictured: Diana Awad Scrocco, associate English professor at YSU, and family. Awad recently gave birth to her third child. Photo courtesy of **Jenna Domer of Jenna D. Imaging**

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TRESSEL ACCEPTS ONE-YEAR CONTRACT EXTENSION THROUGH 2021

The Youngstown State University Board of Trustees approved President Jim Tressel's one-year contract agreement through June 2021 during a Dec. 5, 2019, meeting.

Tressel was sworn in 2014 as the ninth YSU president.

During his presidency,

several off-and-on road construction projects have started and residence halls have reached maximum capacity, along with two privately funded apartment complexes opening on campus in four years, according to the YSU News Center.



Photo courtesy of **Jambar Archive**

PARK AVENUE CVS CLOSES

The CVS Pharmacy on Park Avenue in Youngstown closed its doors Jan. 11. The pharmacy was within walking distance of Youngstown State University.

The signage has also been removed from the building.

The nearest CVS is now located at 2846 Mahoning

Ave. in Youngstown, which is about 3 miles away from YSU.

According to The Vindicator, the store closed after a review of its financial performance.

Read more about the impact of the closure in next week's edition of The Jambar.

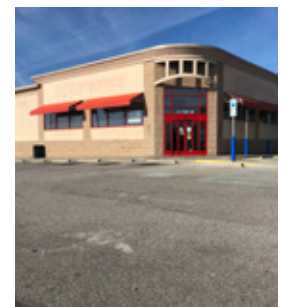


Photo by **Brianna Gleghorn/The Jambar**

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THE ANATOMY OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2020 BUDGET

A Youngstown State University Board of Trustees meeting was held on Dec. 4, 2019, in the President's Suite of Kilcawley Center. Photo by **Amanda Joerndt/The Jambar**

AMANDA JOERNDT

Youngstown State University's Fiscal Year 2020 Operating Budget showcases an overall 2.1% increase, \$3,785,228, from the previous fiscal year's budget.

Neal McNally, vice president of finance and business operations, said the budget is handled with the "university's overall financial health in mind" at a YSU Board of Trustees meeting Dec. 4.

"We think in order for the trustees to exercise their responsibility, we need to manage the overall finances of the university in such a way to ensure a balanced budget," McNally said.

YSU student wages and faculty labor agreements per the Ohio Education Association are two categories that fall under Provost Brien Smith's budget.

McNally said funds are assigned accordingly when departments request various actions in the budget.

"The department chairs will bring requests to the deans, the deans would take the budget requests to the provost and typically those requests want to increase the number of faculty or they may have a retirement in one department," he said.

McNally said a portion of the provost's budget is "almost exclusively tied to the labor agreements, particularly for faculty," resulting in a total of \$693,147 allocated dollars for Ohio Education Association labor agreements, according to the Fiscal Year 2020 Operating Budget.

"We have a three-year labor agreement for the faculty union, which is the Ohio Education Association, and their

salary went up about 2.5% this year," McNally said. "If we've hired somebody, we're committed to covering their salary and benefits."

John Jakubek, a YSU Board of Trustees member, said some smaller variations in the budget don't always have to get approved through the board.

"We don't have to approve each and every one of them, but the actual budget every year we do," he said.

Jakubek said having a shared governance is the most important step when having open communication with different departments.

"I think when you look at the strategic plan that's being put together and so forth, we have to align the strategy, what we need to accomplish and the dollars that we have and how we can best use those dollars to achieve those goals. ... Shared governance plays a big part in that," Jakubek said.

Additionally, the Ohio minimum wage increased from \$8.55 to \$8.70 in January 2020, and according to McNally, the university plans to adjust to the increase through hiring fewer students or having students work fewer hours to manage the budget.

Appendix C of the Fiscal Year 2020 Operating Budget states graduate assistants that work for the STEM department receive a stipend of \$10,000 and graduate assistants in all other departments at the university receive a \$7,500 stipend.

According to McNally, there was a need "to create a differential to respond to the market."

"That's pertinent for STEM because I guess there's a lot

more opportunities in places like the Youngstown Business Incubator and America Makes that could really benefit from some of our graduate engineering students," McNally said.

Nico Lucarelli, adjunct STEM faculty member, said although student wages may be differential, he believes the compensation for STEM graduate assistants is fairly balanced.

"Graduate assistants, like other student employees, are allowed to work a maximum of 20 hours on teaching assistant-related jobs," Lucarelli said. "Balancing coursework, research, thesis writing and a full 20 hours of grading a week can be quite difficult."

According to Lucarelli, his time as a graduate assistant was focused on engaging with students and performing engineering experiments.

"I was also able to serve as an instructor for a few labs, which went a long way in developing public speaking skills as well as getting more familiar with laboratory equipment and practices," Lucarelli said. "STEM GAs [graduate assistants] definitely earn the stipend they receive with the workload and responsibilities they have."

According to McNally, the operating budget has not seen any kind of "wobble room" in the last 20 years.

"This is not uncommon in a public university," McNally said. "Since we're public, we're not really expected to have a big margin or profit. You typically will see break-even budgets with public entities and our revenues are just about right at our expenses."

CONNECTING THE WORLD THROUGH LANGUAGE

BRANDON BROWN JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

The Department of World Languages and Cultures at Youngstown State University is one of the most culturally diverse departments at the university, offering students the opportunity to learn over 10 languages.

The department offers classes in Spanish, French, Arabic, Chinese, Italian, German, Greek, Latin, American Sign Language and hopes to offer Hebrew in the future.

All languages have one-year curriculum plans, and Spanish and Italian are also offered as individual majors. The department also offers Spanish and Italian education as majors.

John Sarkissian, chair of the Department of World Languages and Cultures, is excited about the department's growth in the past few years.

"We can't pretend that studying foreign language is not a challenging undertaking for students, but it can be very rewarding and fun in the end," Sarkissian said. "You learn other forms of expression, thought and communication in the end."

He said the department offers many languages, but it's limited in the amount of majors it can offer because there are so many languages taught.

Madeleine Clendenin, a French and Arabic professor at YSU, encourages students to take a language course because of how the classes engage them.

"Foreign languages open people's minds to language, culture and people of other nationalities," Clendenin said. "Studies show being bilingual also expands brain function."

The department recently brought back German courses

after not offering them for the past 10 years.

Rachel Faerber-Ovaska, a German professor at YSU, is trying to change the way teachers teach and students learn to help classes engage better. She wanted to try new things because she said she believes literacy no longer means just reading and writing.

According to Faerber-Ovaska, digital and media literacy are necessary in an evolving learning landscape, and including audio and visual media is critical.

"We are moving away from the textbook and really customizing the learning experience," she said.

Her classes are implementing real world materials such as virtual reality 360-degree videos, news stories, photographs and more to be in step with modern literacy practices.

Faerber-Ovaska said she hopes embracing new teaching skills will increase enrollment in the world language classes.

Clendenin said she has noticed enrollment dropping in her classes, especially in her Arabic classes.

While this could be attributed to the overall decline in university enrollment, Clendenin believes this issue runs deeper.

"We live in a global economy now, so it is becoming even more important we are ready to adapt to how the world is changing," Clendenin said. "Arabic is seen as a difficult language to learn, and I would say it is different, not difficult."

Faerber-Ovaska said she believes enrollment issues run even deeper.

"We need more understanding in the United States for other ways of thinking and respect for all the different cultures we have," she said.

"Foreign language is steroids for a student's capacity to respect and understand other cultures here in the United States," Faerber-Ovaska added.

Enrollment in a foreign language course is not required by all majors at YSU. Those studying for a Bachelor of Arts are required to take one year of a language, while students obtaining a degree in business or engineering are not.

Taking language courses is defined as a degree requirement and not a university general education requirement, so it is not mandatory for all students.

"It is beneficial for students to seek out taking a foreign language, but with such rigid course requirements, it is sometimes difficult for students to fit those classes into their schedules," Sarkissian said.

Across the board, the department would like to see a foreign language required for all students entering YSU.

"On the practical side, a foreign language can be a benefit in employment and in some cases can directly affect someone's attraction to employers in the job market," Sarkissian said.

Clendenin said it's popular for students in the world language education programs to go to other countries to teach English, and even one year of taking a world language could be beneficial for adapting to an unfamiliar culture.

Last year, the department's name was changed from foreign language to world languages and cultures.

"Other languages should not be foreign. They are just world languages, and by learning them we get connected to the world," Faerber-Ovaska said.

Those interested in taking a language class can visit YSU's various language clubs or go to international coffee hour every Friday at 5 p.m. in Jones Hall.

CONT. MATERNITY LEAVE (PAGE 1)

"You know how doctors' offices are. They didn't send my note in right away. ... I got this email from HR saying that I had a deadline of Jan. 6 to get them that note, and I didn't quite understand that," Awad said. "If they didn't get the note, does that mean I don't get my maternity leave? I mean, of course we have to have deadlines. ... But to me that didn't make a whole lot of sense."

Awad said she is appreciative of the maternity leave, which allows her and other new parents to bond with their children and start the first few weeks off on the right foot.

According to Awad, spending time with her newborn is vital.

"For me, it's about breastfeeding," she said. "If you want to breastfeed ... it's critical to have those first 12 weeks to establish your milk supply, to establish a good latch and feeding habits with the baby. Twelve weeks is just the minimum of what is necessary, to me."

Awad also has experience with systems for pregnant faculty members at other universities.

According to Awad, class schedules are lenient and

flexible to accommodate for the maternity or paternity leave.

"At [Carnegie Mellon], the university I worked at previously, whatever semester you were due in, you just didn't teach," Awad said. "They gave you other responsibilities and didn't assign you any classes. To me, that just makes more sense."

Faculty members seeking paternity or familial leave are recommended to seek advice from YSU's human resources department.



CAMPUS LOFTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION FOR FALL 2020

The Campus Lofts apartment complex is expected to be complete late in the summer of 2020, which is just in time for the fall 2020 semester. Photo by **Kameron Meyers/The Jambar**

BRIANNA GLEGHORN

A state-of-the-art fitness center, tanning beds, bike storage room, coffee bar and an Amazon package center are only some of the amenities Youngstown State University students can expect through a new off-campus housing facility.

Campus Lofts will give students a new housing option for the fall 2020 semester, located on the corner of East Rayen and Wick avenues on the outskirts of campus.

The 190-bed apartment complex will have a variation of unit sizes.

James Sabatine Jr., owner of Trilogy Realty & Development and the Campus Lofts, said he's hoping to fulfill a need for student housing with the complex project.

"YSU is local; we're local. I went to YSU, and there was a need for student housing, and it just made sense," Sabatine said. "We liked everything we saw about YSU and where they're heading."

According to Sabatine, providing this housing option to students will help YSU grow by attracting local and nonlocal students.

"I think the university, to grow, needs to attract students from out of town along with giving living options down on campus to people that are from the area or if you're from out of town," Sabatine said.

He said the Campus Lofts are different than anything YSU or other universities have regarding student housing.

"I think a lot of students graduating high school are going to say, 'These are nicer than what I can live in at Kent [State

University] or [University of] Akron.' And I think it'll help them make YSU their choice to go to college here," Sabatine said.

According to Sabatine, the price of the units will be "pretty much in line with what [students] pay at the other properties down there."

Sophia Harakal, a YSU alumna and property manager of the Campus Lofts, said being a recent graduate from the university has helped her provide a student perspective in the planning process.

"I think it's helpful I was a student because I get to be a part of something that's new on campus, and since I just graduated, I still think like a student," Harakal said.

She said the attention to detail within the units will make these apartments unlike anything constructed in the Youngstown area before.

"The quality and the time that everyone has put into making it seem like the nicest place you could possibly live in this area," she said. "There's nothing downtown like the lofts."

In Sabatine's opinion, Strollo Architects was the best company for the project because it is staffed by Youngstown natives.

"We brought the project to Strollo [Architects] because we wanted to hire a local architect, and they're one of the best, if not the best, local architects. ... That was important," Sabatine said. David Roose, project manager at Strollo Architects, said the location of the complex gives residents

easy access not only to YSU but also to the luxuries of downtown Youngstown.

"You have access to everything. The library is across the street. The university's across the street. You have food, restaurants, entertainment available and have the downtown within a block," Roose said.

According to Roose, the complex is unique to student housing and nonstudent residential housing in Youngstown with lofts on the fourth floor.

"Some of the loft spaces are really dynamic in the way that the space is treated in the kind of large open areas with lots of ceiling space and lots of natural light, great views," he said. "There's no student housing I know around YSU that has anything like this."

Roose said although high-ceiling lofts are only located on the fourth floor, the lower levels are spaced out and carefully configured units.

Additionally, Studio Oxygen in Canfield and the Campus Lofts partnered to provide free yoga classes to YSU students, including this benefit in the monthly rent.

Residents can also receive a technology package to watch premium channels outside of their unit on a laptop or phone. A computer lab with a printer will be available in one of the three study rooms.

Students interested in leasing a unit can apply online at ysucampuslofts.com, stop in to the temporary leasing office on the third floor of the First National Bank building in Youngstown or call its office at 330-717-2992.



THE WOMEN AT YSU

Penguins volleyball coach Aline Scott speaks to the team intently during the last practice of the season. Photo by **Mary Rodack/Jambar Contributor**

MARY RODACK JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

Youngstown State University follows the national trend of more women attending universities.

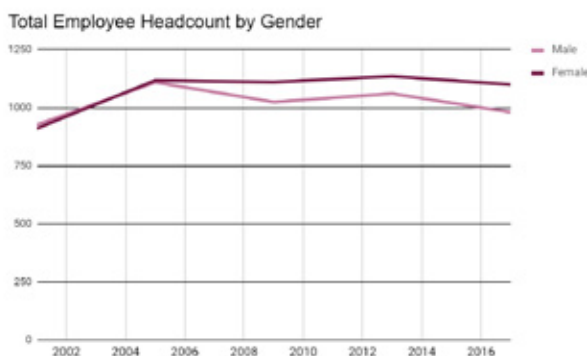
From fall 2014 to fall 2018, about 53% of students enrolled at YSU each year were female. This falls slightly under the national average of 56.5% of those enrolled in postsecondary institutions being women, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

In the U.S., more women attend college and receive bachelor's degrees than men. However, men fill most senior-level positions in higher education.

Betty Jo Licata, dean of the Williamson College of Business Administration at YSU, said there are many challenges for women in the professional world.

"There are still some of those traditional roles at home that may affect a woman's ability to move into higher level positions," she said.

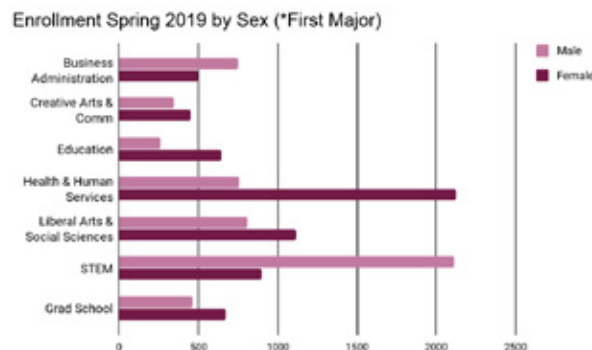
"We have far more female faculty members in the college of business than we ever have before," Licata added. "Forty-six percent of faculty are female."



Information courtesy of YSU Office of Institutional Research and Analytics. Male to female employee ratio has remained relatively close since 2000.

She said she wishes more female students would major in business. In spring 2019, 494 female YSU students were business administration majors compared to the 752 male majors.

"It's important to have female faculty members who can be strong role models for the female students," Licata said. "The whole empowerment piece is an important part of higher education whether its male or female."



Information courtesy of the YSU Office of Institutional Research and Analytics. The total enrollment in spring 2019 was 11,900.

WOMEN IN SPORTS

As a child, Aline Scott, head coach of the women's volleyball team at YSU, used to dream of going to the Olympics.

"Volleyball has been my biggest love for a long time," Scott said. "It's just been a huge part of my life."

She went to college to be a diplomat on a volleyball scholarship but decided to stay with the sport once she found coaching during her master's program.

"I realized there's another way to stay involved with the sport that I love," Scott said.

She said most volleyball coaches are male, and the higher a team is ranked in the division, the less likely there is to be a female coach. Scott also said finding a partner who understands the difficult coaching schedule is harder for women.

"It is much harder for a woman to have both like I did," Scott said. "Culturally, as a whole, the women are supposed to be at home taking care of the kids and cooking dinner. We've come very far from the '60s and '70s, but there's still a certain expectation."

Ron Strollo, executive director of athletics, said attracting quality female coaches is difficult.

"There are times when we'd post for assistant soccer coach and not get one female," Strollo said. "It's a challenge across our industry to attract quality female candidates for those jobs."

Scott said the majority of applicants for her assistant job were men as well, and women tend to not apply to jobs unless they think they are completely qualified, while men will apply and think they can figure it out.

"That's just a reflection of the culture," Scott said.

"We need to be building each other up, and we need to stick together," Scott said about the culture of women in the U.S. "We have a lot to contribute and to say and to give."



Aline Scott gives tips to the team and referees during a practice drill. Photo by **Mary Rodack/Jambar Contributor**



‘WE SEE TOMORROW’ CAMPAIGN FUNDS BIOMEDICAL LAB

Justina Stanislaw works in a lab in Moser Hall. Photo by **Kameron Meyers/The Jambar**

TINA KALENITS

The Youngstown State University Foundation has reached its \$100 million goal 18 months ahead of schedule, making it the most extensive fundraising campaign in the organization’s history, according to Heather Chunn, vice president of the YSU Foundation.

A \$1.5 million donation from Eleanor Watanakunakorn will allow students to perform research in the biomedical field in the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics for the YSU Summer Undergraduate Research Program.

The lab will also provide students with hands-on experience in their designated area of interest.

Chunn said Watanakunakorn’s donation helped exceed the final goal of \$100 million.

“We’ve received many wonderful gifts from very generous donors throughout the time we’ve been in the campaign since 2014,” she said.

Chunn said she’s looking forward to seeing the first group of students take advantage of the lab services.

“I’m excited to see the students in the lab,” Chunn said. “It’s going to bring a lot of interest to that area of study and help our students.”

Gary Walker, professor and chair of biological sciences, said in addition to state-funded dollars gifted to the lab a year and a half ago for renovations, Watanakunakorn’s donation will go

toward a summer program for undergraduate research.

“We’re going to invite biomedically oriented students to do summer research on a variety of projects related to medical research,” Walker said.

The lab originated from a group of researchers within the biology department called the Proteomics/Genomics Research Group, which started with individual labs spread throughout the building.

Walker said when Martin Abraham was the dean of the STEM college, he moved the researchers to a location now known as the proteomics research group corridor.

“About a year and a half ago, we got state monies to totally redo the lab, so now we call it the research corridor, and that is going to be where this program is housed in the future,” Walker said.

Paul McFadden, president of the YSU Foundation, said the campaign will benefit students, teachers and classrooms and will ultimately “transform YSU.”

“It’s been successful beyond our wildest dreams,” McFadden said. “We reached our goal a year and a half earlier than our plan, although we’re going to continue the campaign.”

According to McFadden, the campaign has helped the university provide student scholarships and support faculty endowments.

“It’s been astounding how much it’s helped our campus,”

McFadden said.

Endowed chairs or professorships provide distinguished faculty members with additional dollars for scholarly activities.

In 2014, there were three endowed professors. As of 2019, there are 12.

The campaign has raised \$54 million for student scholarships, more than doubling the original goal of \$20 million. A press conference is scheduled for Jan. 29 at 10 a.m. in Melnick Hall to chart the last 18 months for the campaign. Donations have reached a total of over \$101 million as of Dec. 31, 2019.



The YSU Foundation met its \$100 million goal. Photo by **Kameron Meyers/The Jambar**



YSU STUDENTS OPEN DOORS TO CREATIVITY THROUGH SMARTS PROGRAM

Claire Lyons, a YSU student assistant at SMARTS, demonstrates on her violin while students learn about the instrument. Photo courtesy of SMARTS

FRANCES CLAUSE

While Youngstown State University students are preparing for the spring semester, some are also preparing to teach spring classes at SMARTS, a community art school opening doors to creativity in the Valley.

SMARTS, which is short for Students Motivated by the Arts, provides curriculum-focused programming for music, dance, theater, visual arts and creative writing. It has been serving the youth of the Mahoning Valley since 1997.

According to Natalie Wright, SMARTS' staff administrator, YSU student assistants and those enrolled in their classes benefit from the school's experiences in different ways.

"Students who go through SMARTS here get a quality arts education and access to different art classes they may not have had in the past," she said. "And [YSU] student assistants get a great experience here to not only see those children learn and grow, but they also get teaching experience, as well."

Dagmar Stahl, a junior dance management major, was 7 years old when she enrolled in classes at SMARTS, and she now teaches classes of her own.

"I think as someone who's an art major of some form, [SMARTS] really allowed me to explore all of my interests in art before picking something I knew I wanted to do," she said. "Even though I loved to dance growing up, it was still so nice to be able to explore visual art, music and all of these

different things so that I wouldn't feel I was missing out."

Stahl said returning to SMARTS to teach was always in the back of her mind, and it was refreshing to have a job working alongside other art majors from YSU.

"I don't really get to see [other art majors] that much during the day on campus, so it's nice to be able to create relationships with artists that are different than me but still artists at the same time," she said.

Sarah Schwenke, a senior music performance major, has been a student assistant at SMARTS for two years and is currently teaching an inner rhythms class, where her students experiment with hand drumming.

"Overall, I just really hope that I can help instill a love of music in my students that will stay with them well after they leave my class," she said.

One of Schwenke's favorite experiences through SMARTS has been its annual "Art You Can See" and "Art You Can Hear" programs that take place when students finish their classes for the term.

"These programs give the students an opportunity to showcase what they have been learning in their classes and perform for their parents and the community," she said. "It's really special to see young students go up in front of the audience and rock their piano solos, rock band performances, compositions and so much more."

Schwenke said that for many students in the Youngstown

area, SMARTS serves as their only way to access a quality arts education.

"Being that SMARTS classes are completely free, it bridges many gaps by providing equal access to a quality arts education to all students," she said.

Max Franko, a junior music composition major, echoed Schwenke and believes the amount of students that continue to register for SMARTS database proves interest in the arts isn't gone.

"It is a wonderful thing to be able to provide writing, theater, dance, music and visual art to kids that cannot access it through their schools," he said. "And to think they can get all that and more for free is very unique."

Franko has been teaching at SMARTS for almost three years and leads his students through piano lab classes.

"[My] students should leave knowing they have the ability to pass their new knowledge and culture in a way that lifts people up and brings them together," he said. "While not everyone will grow up to become a rock star pianist, the hope is that they stick with it enough for it to shape them and those around them for the rest of their lives."

To become a student assistant, volunteer or SMARTS student, see the applications available at www.smartsartschool.org.



THE GROWTH OF THE BUTLER INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN ART

The Butler Institute of American Art celebrated its 100-year anniversary in 2019. Photo by **Kameron Meyers/The Jambar**

TINA KALENITS

As America has grown, the Butler Institute of American Art has grown with it, making it a place for art pieces of American culture to be displayed at Youngstown State University.

Louis Zona, executive director of the Butler Institute of American Art, said its founder, Joseph G. Butler Jr., would be pleased to see how much the museum has grown.

“He was a steel man who made his fortune in the steel industry and was one of the first serious collectors of American art. While his contemporaries were going to Europe and buying impressionists’ work, he was here in America buying American art,” Zona said.

Since 1919, the museum collection has grown from 30 art pieces to more than 22,000.

“What we try to do with our permanent collection is we try to represent every philosophy and every art movement going back to the very beginnings of American art,” Zona said.

Joseph “Josh” Butler, great-grandson of the museum’s founder, said his father, grandfather and great-grandfather were heavily involved in collecting American art.

Some from these collections are paintings from the Ashcan School, a group of painters focusing on realistic art.

“When my great-grandfather opened the museum in 1919, he stipulated it would be American art,” Butler said. “The Ashcan School was a distinctly American school, so it fit in perfectly with the collection.”

According to Butler, his great-grandfather’s house burned down in 1917.

“All of his art collection in the house was lost, but a couple of parts of the collection, including the American Indian collection, were out of the house at the time, and so were not lost to the fire,” Butler said.

Henry Butler, Josh Butler’s father, contributed to the collection now owned by the museum.

“My father was also responsible for Albert Bierstadt’s painting ‘The Oregon Trail,’ which was a 19th-century painting,” Josh Butler said. “When he bought the painting, he used his own money.”

Joseph G. Butler Jr. died in 1927 at 87.

“He loved things American; he was one of the early people who wasn’t on the train of everything European is better,” Butler said.

He said several of his family members were involved in

the museum’s operations over the years. Zona, an adjunct art instructor at YSU, has been its director since 1981.

Alan Heck, a recent visitor to the museum, said he enjoys it and is surprised that a small town would have such a wide collection.

“They have several examples. ‘Hudson River School,’ which I am a fan of,” Heck said. “I personally was a science major, and being able to go to gallery spaces and see what the other side of the brain works with was really wonderful and expanded my vision of what we needed to do in the world.”



A woman pictured above observing a piece of artwork at the institute. Photo by **Frances Clause/The Jambar**

STARTING FRESH AND KEEPING SANE FOR THE SPRING SEMESTER

MAC POMEROY

I'd be lying if I said I'm not absolutely dreading the beginning of the semester. Not that I dislike my major or classes, but I'll miss being able to just play my gaming system without having to worry about studying or grades. With that being said, I'm also looking forward to having something to do other than sit around all day.

But that still doesn't mean I'm actually ready for school. Every semester, it seems like no matter how prepared I am for the first week, I want it to be over by the third week. It isn't because I'm struggling with my coursework; it's instead because I constantly put an extreme amount of pressure on myself to work hard without actually considering how it will affect my own well-being.

This may seem like a problem that is beneficial to success. However, anxiety and stress are common on college campuses and are not worth sacrificing your well-being for. Every day, students arrive to campus determined to be the "perfect student." Study hard, get perfect grades and do whatever it

takes to succeed.

Often in the struggle to keep up with schoolwork, we let other things slip. We ignore our friends, hobbies, family and, in general, anything that is not related to school. Anxiety about grades can completely take over a person and consume their entire schedule.

This anxiety can be at its peak at the beginning of a new semester. New semesters mean new beginnings and a chance to start fresh. This also means new habits, new everything. The work you did the semester before is over, this is different.

Unfortunately, there is no way to avoid all this anxiety. That does not mean we can't greatly lessen it, though.

This anxiety and stress can be caused by the pressure of a new semester. So, one of the main ways to help reduce it is to remember that, while your grades are important, you are too. I have discussed this in previous columns, but along with making time to study, set some time aside for you. Spend time talking with someone close to you or working on a hobby.

Taking care of yourself is important in order to handle

anxiety. Self-care is not selfish.

Another way to handle back-to-school stress is to use campus resources. This is especially important when you find yourself taking a class outside of your comfort zone. Here at Youngstown State University, there are many tutoring options that can help you with your classes. This includes the Writing Center, the Math Assistance Center and the Center for Student Progress.

And if things still feel overwhelming, there are counseling services available on campus. Sometimes anxiety goes beyond what is really in front of you. There's nothing wrong with reaching out for help. Trained and capable professionals are available to listen and discuss options.

A new semester can be difficult. It's natural to be anxious or stressed. However, when these feelings come up, it is extremely important to act. Seek help, and remember that you are not alone.

Have a great spring 2020 semester, Penguins!



THE OSCARS: A BLACK-TIE AFFAIR FOR WHITE MEN IN 2020

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences announced the nominees for the 2020 Academy Awards on Monday, and it led to #Oscarsprettymuchwhiteandmale trending on Twitter.

For the past two years, the Oscars made significant strides toward involving those of diverse backgrounds, but this progress took a turn for the worse.

But, it's not like these films and talent aren't getting recognition. They're getting snubbed by the mostly white, mostly male academy. The academy is 68% male and 84% white, according to The New York Times.

The academy is being scrutinized for snubbing Jennifer Lopez for her role in "Hustlers," Jamie Foxx for his role in "Just Mercy" and Beyonce for best original song in "The Lion

King," among many others.

Films with a diverse lineup have received an overwhelming amount of nominations for the 2020 award season from the Sundance Film Festival. Additionally, The Golden Globes made huge strides by awarding Awkwafina best actress in a musical or comedy for her role in "The Farewell."

The actress made history as the first Asian woman to win a Golden Globe in a lead actress film category.

It's no question that an overwhelming amount of talent this award season was from minorities who deserved the nomination.

There's a strong possibility that the way members of the academy vote is influenced by life decisions and experiences. It's human nature to appreciate art that you relate to, which

is why having a diversified academy board is necessary.

As for the nominees, each person views the world differently and uses their experiences to create their art whether it's writing, producing, directing, singing or acting.

By having mostly white, mostly male nominees, this is not truly showing the plethora of ideas, skills and experiences that deserve to be recognized.

No women were nominated for a director's award, and of the 20 best actress and actor nominees, Cynthia Erivo in "Harriet" was the only woman of color.

What does this tell aspiring actors, actresses, directors and producers about what their future could look like?

This is not only racist but extremely discouraging for those who hope to enter the industry.

INTRAMURAL SPORTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT AT YSU

**NAJAH MORGAN
CHRISTINA SAINOVICH
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTORS**

Youngstown State University students can relieve stress and stay active through participating in intramural sports — nonvarsity sports where any student can participate.

“You don’t have to be super competitive to come out and enjoy having fun recreationally,” intramural coordinator Joe Conroy said.

YSU offers many intramural sports, but a few stand out to students, such as football, basketball and volleyball with soccer and cornhole growing in popularity.

“We’ve had a growth in our cornhole tournament [in the spring 2019] semester ... and one of the big ones that we have is soccer. Sometimes we don’t have enough time and/or fields to put all the soccer,” Conroy said.

Intramural sports provide an option for students who played sports in high school to remain active without the

intensity of varsity athletics.

Joe Chepke, junior civil engineering major, works in the intramurals department and participates in football and basketball.

Chepke said he likes intramurals because they keep him involved in sports while he is in school.

“I played sports when I was in high school, and all growing up I was an active kid. Intramural sports just spiked my interest as a way to stay active and have a fun time with my friends,” he said.

C.J. Latronico, junior mechanical engineering major, also works in the intramurals department. He started by working in the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center and got involved with intramural sports from there.

Latronico said he participates in intramurals because he enjoys them.

“Soccer, volleyball, basketball, pretty much anything we offer, I’ll just do them all just because they are all pretty fun,”

Latronico said.

He said volleyball is his favorite sport currently and that intramurals are fun whether he wins or loses.

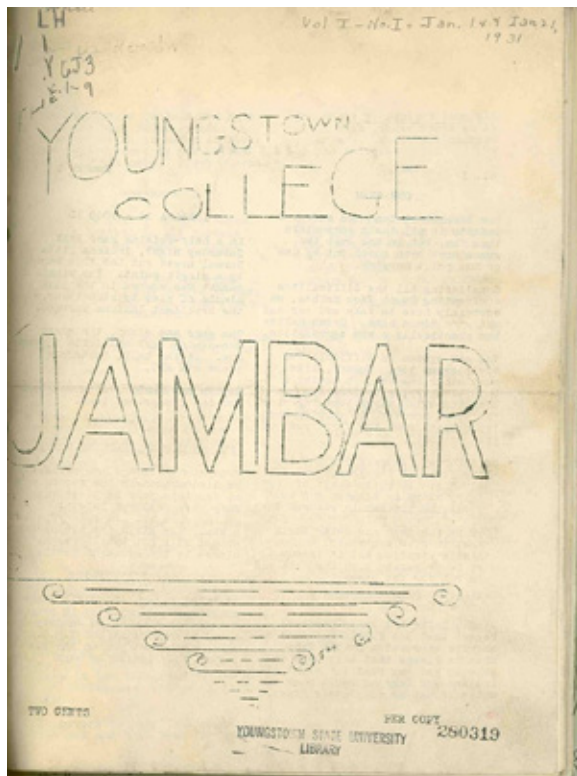
“I mean we’re a bad team, but I have so much fun with all my friends. It’s always a great time,” Latronico said.

Chepke also said he enjoys intramurals because participating is a good way to keep in touch with friends.

“It’s a way to stay active and get together with everybody. When we all separate and go to different majors, it’s kind of hard sometimes to all get together. So, if you get a team with all your friends, it’s nice,” Chepke said.

There are no requirements for students to sign up, and all practices are in the evenings and on weekends.

Directions for registration are on the YSU intramurals website. Students are directed to go to IMLeagues.com and follow the steps online. Once registered, students can pick teams and see schedules and records.



Pictured: The first issue of The Jambar that was published on Jan. 14, 1931. It was founded by Burke Lyden. Photo courtesy of **YSU Archives**



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THE STORY BEHIND THE NAME: UNCOVERING THE HISTORY OF YSU'S BUILDINGS

MARIA ELLIOTT
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

Youngstown State University has a variety of buildings with unusual names, and many of them come from prominent individuals in Youngstown's history.

Brian Brennan, assistant archivist and library operations supervisor at YSU, said Meshel Hall was built in the early 1980s.

Harry Meshel, the building's namesake, was a state senator who helped obtain most of the funding for the building, according to Brennan.

He said Meshel Hall was originally intended to house the newest technology, but in the 1990s, former YSU President Leslie Cochran moved some of the university's administrative offices there.



Photo by *Maria Elliott/Jambar Contributor*

"The reasoning for this was they wanted to provide one-stop shopping for new students coming in, and also there was a diversification of locations where computer labs were established," Brennan said.

He said Meshel, pronounced "Michelle," is often mispronounced because it's an unfamiliar name to people starting out on campus.

Bill Lawson, executive director of the Mahoning

Valley Historical Society, said Meshel's unusual name came from his family's Greek roots and was a shortened version of "Michelakis."



Photo by *Maria Elliott/Jambar Contributor*

DeBartolo Hall, built in the 1970s, was originally referred to as the "arts and sciences" building, according to Lawson. It was renamed for Edward J. DeBartolo Sr., a construction magnate who built shopping malls around the country, in the mid-1980s.

Lawson also said Edward J. DeBartolo Jr., his son, bought the San Francisco 49ers in 1979, and the family still is still actively involved with the team.

"[They are] a very well-heeled and ambitious family in terms of growing their business and being involved in a lot of things," he said.

Some may wonder why YSU has two buildings on campus that bear the Beeghly family name: Beeghly Hall and Beeghly Center.

"What we have here is two generations of one family that had a role in Youngstown State University's development," Lawson said.

He said Beeghly Center, the older building of the two, was named for Leon Beeghly, who co-founded a company called Standard Slag. The company took slag,

a waste product of iron and steel production, and used it as a base material for construction.

Lawson said Beeghly Hall was built with money from a family gift to carry on the philanthropy started by Leon Beeghly and to continue to support the university.

Beeghly's two partners at Standard Slag are also familiar names in the YSU community —

William Kilcawley and William Bliss.

Paul McFadden, president of the YSU Foundation, said Kilcawley donated the money for Kilcawley Center to ensure YSU had a student union

"Kilcawley was a vision of our institution, even before we went state," he said.

YSU became a state university in 1968, which resulted in a large infusion of state dollars and a building boom.

McFadden said state funding is a great help to the university, but he added there's a special meaning behind buildings that come from philanthropic gifts.



Photo by *Maria Elliott/Jambar Contributor*

"It's really an illustration of the power of the Mahoning Valley, the philanthropic spirit of the Mahoning Valley and how much people have cared for our institution to grow through the generations," he said.

CLASSIFIEDS

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HELP WANTED

Wanted people for milking dairy cattle - morning and evening hours. Location - Western PA - 15 miles from campus. \$8.00-\$12.00 per hour. Please contact John - 724-946-8394.

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MAKING NUTRITION A PRIORITY THROUGH MEAL PREPPING

ISABELLA FUTCHI JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

For a healthy New Year's resolution, look no further than meal prepping.

Meal prepping means scheduling meals out for the entire week composed of healthy, nutritious ingredients such as fruits, vegetables and lean meats.

Jeanine Mincher, human ecology chair and director of the coordinated program in dietetics, said meal prepping can help students manage their time and select meals rich in nutrients.

"The biggest benefit for meal prepping is that when you plan ahead it enables you to select the nutrients that you need. If you don't plan ahead, you end up scrambling for something that's quick. Usually, when you're grabbing something that's quick, it's less healthy," Mincher said.

For those students who are just seeking healthy tips for the new year, Mincher suggests a plant-based diet and following the food recommendations and portion sizes from choosemyplate.gov.

However, Mincher's recommendations for students meal

prepping on a budget are to buy a slow cooker to cook food that will be ready by the end of the day, keep nuts or dried fruit handy as a snack instead of candy and eat more beans because they are both cheap and high in protein.

Jonathan Hronek, sophomore chemical engineering major, said he meal preps every Sunday by buying chicken and vegetables because they are inexpensive, in hopes that he will be able to focus more on his studies.

"It helps people manage their time better," Hronek said. "I basically live at the library. It makes it so that I do not have to cook during the week, and I can just put more time into my studies," he added.

If meal prepping is too much for some people to take on, there is a hometown alternative option: YoFresh Collective, a meal prep company.

YoFresh Collective was established in 2018 and is owned by Caroline and Don Ritenour. It creates different individually proportioned meals every week.

The standard price of 10 meals for one week is \$100.

The orders are placed by Friday and delivered to the person's home by Sunday every week. The company offers

delivery or pickup locations around the Mahoning Valley.

Caroline Ritenour, co-owner and chief operating officer, said college students have a hard time thinking about the implications of what they eat now on their future wellness.

"You can either pay for health and wellness now and have a better, longer life span or you're going to pay for it later in medication, doctors' appointments and not being able to do the things you want to do in life due to your health," she said.

Caroline Ritenour's suggestion for limited-budget meal prepping is shopping at Aldi because it is a low-cost grocery store that provides quality food that can be used in meal prepping.

She also agreed with Mincher that packing nuts or dried fruit in the car or in a backpack are quick and healthier snacks compared to candy or fast food.

"Make your eating a priority because if you are not eating right you are not going to feel good. And if you're not feeling good, you're not going to perform at your best physically or in the classroom," Mincher said.



SEASON PREVIEW: TRACK AND FIELD

Sophomore sprinter Jamynk Jackson runs during the YSU Invitational held last year. Photo courtesy of **YSU Sports Information**

NATHANAEL HAWTHORNE

A new semester means the beginning of a new season for many sports across Youngstown State University. The track and field team is preparing for another successful season — starting with the YSU Invitational.

At the invitational last year, the team dominated several events, and two of the competitors set YSU records. Chad Zallow, now a YSU alumnus, set a YSU record and WATTS facility record with a time of 6.72 seconds in the 60-meter dash, and junior Chontel Fils set a record in the long jump with a 12.28-meter leap.

Suerethia Henderson also took first place in the 60- and 200-meter dash, while Dom Westbay placed first in the shot put, and Daiquain Watson took first in the triple jump.

Nicole Squatrito, Collin Harden, Jennifer Muhlenkamp and Destiny Washington earned second-place honors in various events as well.

“Our team is very strong. We probably have some doubters that [say], ‘We’re not going to score as many points this year because we don’t have Chad [Zallow], but I feel like we have

some good incoming recruits,” sophomore sprinter Jamynk Jackson said.

According to Jackson, the team only has one thing on its mind: to break records and win the championship.

“[We want to] be better than we were last year,” he said.

Track and field varies from other sports because there are different aspects of the team. One of those aspects is the jumpers. The team had nine athletes finish sixth place or higher. Jumps coach Tyler Mettillle said the expectation of the team is to win the conference championship.

“Our group is extremely motivated and hardworking all fall and winter break, and they’re ready to chase a few more championships,” Mettillle said.

The team is young, as many members are freshmen or sophomores, but Mettillle believes the team is better because of it.

“We’re a pretty well-rounded team right now. ... We have a lot of young talent, but we still have some pretty good senior leadership,” he said.

The field portion of track and field is just as strong. At last year’s invitational, the team had multiple throwers rank

sixth place or higher. One of the throwers, sophomore Zach Gehm, competed in several national events during the offseason, winning the discus title at the USA Track and Field Under 20 competition.

After the invitational, YSU will travel to South Carolina to participate in the Bob Pollock Invitational at Clemson University.



Chontel Fils set a record at the last YSU Invitational with a 12.28-meter leap. Photo courtesy of **YSU Sports Information**



DOES YSU HAVE A PRO IN THE MAKING?

Darius Quisenberry leaps into the air to lay the ball up during the Penguins' trip to the University of Louisville. Photo by **Brian Yauger/The Jambar**

BRIAN YAUGER

While it's too early to say for certain, fans at the Beeghly Center could be watching a star in the making.

I'll just say it. Darius Quisenberry is one of the most talented basketball player to attend Youngstown State University in some time and, by the end of his timer here, will possibly bring the school closer to the NBA than it's been since 1984.

Six players have been drafted out of YSU, but none of them saw the court.

The last and only player from YSU to play in the NBA was Leo Mogus. Mogus attended the university from 1939 to 1943 and played in the NBA's precursor league, the Basketball Association of America, until the NBA was established for the 1949-50 season.

Many talented players have since stepped on the court at the Beeghly Center over the years, but few have made an impact bigger and quicker than the point guard from Springfield, Ohio.

Two games for the Penguins this season alone have shown why Quisenberry has a good shot at making the big time.

A good way to evaluate talent at any level is to see how the

player performs against top-level talent.

YSU's schedule has done just that by giving Quisenberry the chance to showcase his skills against West Virginia University and the University of Louisville, two of basketball's blue-blooded programs.

Quisenberry shined in the spotlight in those two games. With the final seconds ticking away, he hit a buzzer-beating 3-pointer against the Cardinals.

Against the Mountaineers, Quisenberry was one point shy of tying his season-high 23 points while shooting 50% from the field.

His play in those games left an impression on the opposing coaches, who both singled him out in their postgame press conferences.

It's not like playing for a mid-major is some career death sentence.

Ja Morant of the Memphis Grizzlies has been the NBA's Rookie of the Year thus far, and he's one season removed from Murray State University.

In his two seasons with the Murray State Racers, Morant averaged 18.7 points per game. Quisenberry is averaging 14.3 points per game, but expect that number to rise as this season goes on.

I don't want it to seem like I'm saying Quisenberry is the next Morant or is even a lock for the NBA because that's a lot to ask out of any player. But in the age of social media, it's easier than ever to get noticed at a smaller school.

Eyes will still gravitate toward the big schools. But players like Morant and CJ McCollum, who attended Lehigh University, prove that you don't have to attend a basketball powerhouse to make it to the next level.

Though he's only a sophomore, Quisenberry has opened plenty of eyes across the nation, and if he maintains his current pace, he will open plenty more by the time he graduates.

If the NBA isn't what lies in the future for Quisenberry, professional basketball certainly is.

Kendrick Perry, a 2014 graduate, had a similar trajectory to Quisenberry and is currently playing professional basketball in Australia, one of the top international leagues.

It's an uphill battle getting noticed at a smaller program like YSU, but Quisenberry has always welcomed the adversity.

"I love being the underdog going into games. That's always fun because you really don't have anything to lose," Quisenberry said after the West Virginia game. "They have everything to lose."



MEN'S HOOPS OFF TO A HOT START IN CONFERENCE PLAY

Naz Bohannon (right) defends Derek Culver, who is calling for a pass during the Penguins' game against West Virginia University. Photo by **Brian Yauger/The Jambar**

CHRISTINA SAINOVICH

The Youngstown State University men's basketball team has kept a 5-2 record since Dec. 15.

The Penguins handled Southeast Missouri State University with ease in a 65-50 win to begin their hot streak. In the following game, the team battled tooth and nail with the No. 25 team in the country, West Virginia University. Ultimately, it fell 75-65, with sophomore Darius Quisenberry leading the way, scoring 22 points.

YSU is currently sitting at No. 2 in the conference with a 4-1 record. Senior guard Devin Morgan said the team has found its rhythm.

"We've had some games early in the season that we thought could have gone a different way. ... I think now that we didn't get over the hump early in the season, now the past couple of games we've been able to actually get over the hump," Morgan said.

One week later, YSU hit the road to open up Horizon League play against Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis and then the University of Illinois at Chicago.

The men beat Indiana 83-73, and Quisenberry totaled

23 points and six assists. Junior Naz Bohannon grabbed 11 rebounds in the win. Two days later, the Penguins took on the University of Illinois and came out on top 70-64, boosting them to 2-0 in conference play.

Morgan said the team members believe and trust in each other.

"Confidence is definitely at an all-time high," Morgan said. "We have the city behind us. We're playing for each other."

The road trip continued Dec. 30 as Cleveland State University handed the team its first conference loss of the season, finishing at 82-74.

The team bounced back last Thursday when Quisenberry made a last-second layup to push the Penguins to victory against Oakland University in their conference home opener, with a final score of 61-60. Michael Akuchie recorded his second career double-double with 20 points and 10 boards.

YSU coach Jerrod Calhoun said Akuchie is key to the Penguins' success.

"Mike [Akuchie] is an important piece to the puzzle," Calhoun said. "He's a stretch guy that can make shots from the perimeter."

Calhoun also said Akuchie has stepped up on defense to help the team.

"I thought he did a tremendous job rebounding the basketball in the Oakland game," he said. "We can't just rely on Naz [Bohannon] rebounding the ball. It's got to be a group effort, and I think that's something Mike [Akuchie] lately has done a much better job of getting to the glass."

Calhoun said Akuchie was not the only player to step up during this hot start to conference play. Junior guard Garrett Covington has stepped up his play over the last few games.

"He [Covington] has been putting a lot of extra time into the gym. ... He's a guy that we rely on," Calhoun said. "He usually guards the other team's best player. ... He's getting comfortable. ... I expect him to just get better and better."

Morgan said defense has been a constant and the identity of the Penguins all season.

"I think our offense has gotten better as conference [play] has gone along," Morgan said. "We've been playing great defense this year."