



Photo by JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ/THE JAMBAR

LAURA MCDONOUGH

The Association of Classified Employees, which includes about 260 support staff on campus such as secretaries, IT, facilities and grounds, has been negotiating their contract since August 14.

Jill Mogg, crisis communication chair for the ACE Union, said they are only looking for an equitable contract and to be treated fairly by administration.

Staff have done a lot of extracurricular activities on campus that aren't part of their job duties, including fundraising for the Youngstown State University food pantry and giving scholarships each spring, Mogg said.

"We're pretty active on campus, and we just really want to be treated fairly," Mogg said.

HaSheen Wilson, a network administrator at YSU for 16 years, said he believes the relationship between ACE and the administration has been fractured.

"The administration does not view ACE members as a respected integral part of operation to the university," he said.

In 2014, a contract was imposed on ACE members.

"If you value employees, you would think that you would respect the collective bargaining process and get to an amicable agreement," Wilson said.

Wilson said he thinks it's important for the administration to understand they

are not asking for anything they haven't shown they deserve.

Cassie Nespor works in the university archives at Maag Library and runs the Melnick Medical Museum.

"You can't just train a student or hire someone randomly with a general education background to do what I do," Nespor said. "It doesn't make me feel very appreciated or respected when I feel like the university keeps expecting us to give back and give back and we don't get much going the other way."

According to Nespor, there used to be 40 people working in the library and they now have a little over 20, so everyone has taken on more work. She said it's like that in every department.

"So, when the administration says 'Oh, we're getting raises because we're doing more duties, we've accepted more responsibilities,' well, everybody on campus has been doing that," Nespor said.

Wilson agreed administrators have been getting more work as well, but said they are being compensated for that while ACE members are not.

"From our perspective, it doesn't really look like they're suffering as we've suffered for the past six years, quite honestly," Wilson said.

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DELTA ZETA HOLDS BENEFIT CONCERT FOR STARKEY HEARING FOUNDATION



MORGAN PETRONELLI

The crash of drums and the rhythmic hymn of a guitar filled the ambiance of downtown Youngstown on Friday at the Hits for Hearing benefit concert in Suzie's Dogs & Drafts.

The event was held by the Youngstown State University Delta Zeta chapter to help raise money for their national philanthropy, the Starkey Hearing Foundation. The charity focuses on providing ear-care screenings, speech clinics and hearing aids to those suffering from hearing loss.

The sorority has set a national goal of \$5 million over five years and is currently

on track to complete it.

The night consisted of performances by The Labra Brothers, Northern Whale, These Guys Right Here and Nick Kerp-sack, which attracted a large crowd to the venue.

The sorority reported that the event raised over \$2500 through \$8 entry tickets, 50/50 raffle tickets and event t-shirt sales.

Hits for Hearing was organized by Delta Zeta member Paige Prologo.

"A sole part of Delta Zeta is giving graciously of what is ours. That's part of our creed and how we are able to give back to Starkey Hearing Foundation," Prologo said.

She said Delta Zeta's philanthropy

played a big part in her decision to join the sorority, as well as the concept of sisterhood and leadership opportunities.

Rose Betras, YSU Delta Zeta president, said the event was a success.

"I think [Hits for Hearing] went really well. This is the first year that we did it and we've never planned a benefit concert before. We normally do a 5k on campus so this is pretty new for us," Betras said.

The YSU chapter has raised more than \$15,000 over the past five years and Betras said the Starkey Hearing Foundation holds a special place in her heart.

"Hearing loss is such a big deal and people don't really realize it, so I think it's great to bring awareness to it," Betras said.

Photo by MORGAN PETRONELLI/THE JAMBAR

Sorority members were not the only ones who attended the benefit concert. Student Government Association President Rayann Atway and Vice President Ernie Barkett were spotted attending the event in support of the charitable cause.

Atway said events like this show students' passion about their causes and help bring people together in support of local organizations.

"I think it's really awesome when students support other student organizations because it shows that they really care about each other and want to see their student organizations succeed as much as they can," Atway said. "It's great to see everyone out here supporting Delta Zeta."

TRAGEDY ON CAMPUS

ELIZABETH LEHMAN

Content warning: This article contains discussion about death and suicide.

On the afternoon of Friday, Sept. 22 Youngstown State University confirmed a death outside Stambaugh Stadium.

The following Monday, the Mahoning County Coroner's Office released the person's name to the media: Alaina. The office said there was no evidence of foul play.

While YSU police continue to investigate the case, the community is left to try to make sense of the tragedy.

According to a public Facebook post by Alaina from 2015, she identified herself as transgender and bisexual. She addressed having mental health issues as a result of her family history and also from enduring years of guilt and shame as she worked on coming to grips with her identity.

"Then there is the discrimination, prejudice, hatred, rejection by family and friends and other things along those lines I deal with and have dealt with since 'coming out' and finally working on being ME!" Alaina's post read.

Juliann Brown first met Alaina while they were students at YSU. They both graduated in 1990. Brown said when she

first met Alaina she was living as a male and she enjoyed golfing.

"[She] has struggled the last three to five years exceptionally hard but has always had a struggle with gender for the last 15 to 20 years," Brown said.

Rachel Marzolo met Alaina in 2008 when they both lived at Pepper Tree apartments in Niles.

"I remember the very first time I met her she was dressed very nicely and so put together," Marzolo said.

Marzolo said eventually she saw less and less of Alaina.

"Alaina struggled with not just depression but body issues as she was born in the wrong body," Marzolo said.

According to the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation website, surveys of transgender people consistently report markedly higher rates of suicide attempts.

"Two key suicide risk factors for LGBT people are individual-level factors such as depression and experiences of stigma and discrimination, including anti-LGBT hostility, harassment, bullying and family rejection. There is growing evidence that the two factors are linked," GLAAD's report said.

Brown said Alaina eventually moved to Las Vegas.

"I thought that that would be the perfect place for [her] to try [her] new life-

style of transitioning.

And even though [she] still had a lot of bad days [she] was definitely happier trying to become a new part of a community in a new city," Brown said.

Marzolo said it was in Las Vegas where her friend took the name Alaina.

"While in Vegas, she really had the opportunity to come into her true skin," Marzolo said.

However, Marzolo said Alaina contended with personal problems and sank back into depression.

She said eventually Alaina decided to try to transition back to living as a male.

"Her reasoning was because she wasn't getting the hormones she needed to maintain the feminine features," Marzolo said. She said Alaina decided to return home in August to be with her family.

Brown said Alaina was in Ohio for about a month. She said Alaina was overwhelmed, feeling anxious and terrified.

Brown said on the night of Sept. 21, Alaina went to a local hospital for help. She said Alaina was admitted overnight and was released the next morning.

As reported by The Vindicator, an ambulance was called to the university about 12:10 p.m. on Sept. 22 for a report that someone fell from Stambaugh Stadium.

Ann Jaronski, director of student counseling in Counseling Services, said it is

unknown what exactly happened.

"We are missing so much information here and can only get info from those left behind. It's hard not to speculate, but she cannot speak for herself at this point," Jaronski said.

Jaronski said the path to mental wellness is often comprised of twists and turns and bumps. She said people need to reach out for help.

"While there are no guarantees of a particular desired outcome, reaching out for help and having positive connections with others are still the best choices we can make in being and staying mentally well," Jaronski said.

Brown said she still can't believe what happened. Marzolo remembers the type of person Alaina was.

"Alaina had the biggest heart a person could have," Marzolo said.

Please reach out if you or someone you know is struggling. Student counseling is available at University Counseling Services, Jones Hall, 330-941-3737. Counseling assistance for campus employees is available by contacting the IMPACT Solutions EAP & Work Life Program at 1-800-277-6007. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline can be reached 24 hours a day at 1-800-273-8255.

MANE EVENT TOUCHES ON HAIR, BEAUTY, AND SELF CARE



Photo by MELISSA TUROSİK/THE JAMBAR

MELISSA TUROSİK

Carmella Marie's fourth annual Let's Talk Hair: The Mane Event was held at Youngstown State University on Saturday in the Chestnut Room in Kilcawley Center.

Marie, head of the Carmella Marie Salon in Liberty, said the purpose of the event was to help women with hair issues have a better experience with their hair care journey.

"Natural hair can sometimes be very stressful, so [we are] giving them some tips and insight on how to really improve that whole experience," Marie said.

Jackie Carlisle, Marie's sister, said over 300 tickets were pre-sold prior to the event.

"It's an all-day thing so people are coming and leaving and they come for what they want and leave," Carlisle said.

Marie said she brought the event to YSU because it's a place of learning and this whole process involves learning.

"We think it's a perfect mix

and allows people to address different things that apply to hair, especially African-American women who are more for wearing their hair natural in the professional work setting and school, and showing them how that looks like. I think it's a great partnership," Marie said.

The event opened with a dance crew performance, Marie's speech on reclaiming your hair and Kelan Bilal's lecture, "The Big Chop at the Barbershop," about how to communicate with a barber to make sure hair comes out on point.

Audience members also had a chance to share some of their bad experiences at salons. Marie took questions about healthy hair care and demonstrated detangling hair to the audience at the event.

The event also had a poetry session, fashion show, dance party and classes.

Randi Hodge, owner of Goods, sold lotion, underarm oil, shaving oil and clay masks at the event. Hodge said her fruit and

plant-based products are made from scratch.

She also said she does a lot of trial and errors when it comes to making her products.

Kenny Reyes, Young Living Essential Oils independent distributor for Youngstown and advisor at Rookery Radio, was promoting essential oils at the event.

"We try to educate folks about oils," Reyes said. "What is listed on the bottle is exactly what you get. We know how the full process is done, and it's 100 percent pure."

Marie shared her personal tips on growing healthy long hair.

"The key to any good base of healthy hair that is growing at a speed of .5 inches a month, which is average, is starting out with a good clean base. So, cleansing hair with a sulfate-free shampoo, cleansing all the hair and then doing a deep condition at least once a month in addition to their everyday conditioner to lock in more moisture over time," Marie said.



Photos by JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ/THE JAMBAR

SIMEON BOOKER AWARD FOR COURAGE

JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ

Simeon Booker was a civil rights journalist well known for his coverage of the Emmett Till murder and trial. In 2016 the Simeon Booker Award for Courage was created as a part of Non-Violence Week in Ohio. This year, Ken Nwadike Jr. was the national recipient and Terry Vicars was the local recipient the award.

This year marked the seventh annual Non-Violence Week of Ohio and the second year for the award to be given out. In 2013 at the request of students from Mahoning Valley Sojourn to the Past, Governor John Kasich signed a bill into law declaring the first full week of October as Non-Violence Week.

On Tuesday the DeYor Performing Arts Center hosted an assembly where the recipients of this award as well as Booker were honored. A panel discussion was

also held and topics such as peace and race were discussed.

Nwadike, also known as “Free Hugs Guy,” is a peace activist and the founder of the Free Hugs Project. He is the national recipient for the Simeon Booker Award for Courage this year for his efforts to reduce violence.

Nwadike has been to many riots and protests nationwide, promoting peace and offering hugs. He greeted runners at the Boston Marathon as they crossed the finish line the first year after the tragic terrorist attack.

In his attempts to reduce violence, he has done his part to reduce tensions between police officers and protestors.

“In the ‘90s experiencing riots, the Rodney King riots that took place there at such a young age ... it really left such an impression on me even as a boy, to know that I wanted to make a difference,” Nwadike said.

Nwadike said he was able to get to this

point of his life because of people like Vicars.

“[My mom] never would have guessed that her baby son who was living in this homeless shelter would grow up to be on the front lines of riots and protests, trying to deescalate violence, and so much of that was the work of people like Terry,” Nwadike said.

Vicars is the local recipient of the 2017 Simeon Booker Award for Courage and has worked with the homeless and the less fortunate for over 20 years.

“I want to say a word about the young families that I get to work with on a daily basis. Many of my young single clients are mothers ... when they walk into my office I am inspired every time that they sit down, tell me a story of what they’ve been through and how devoted they are. Their kids, their children, are not going to go through what they went through,” Vicars said.

During the event Youngstown State

University student Sarina Chatman spoke, who is also the very first recipient of the Simeon Booker Scholarship.

“The Simeon Booker Scholarship allowed me to pick up my minor in French, it supported the books I needed for the semester so I can continue to be an agent for justice on YSU campus,” Chatman said.

The panel discussion was titled and focused on “Intolerance in Today’s America.” It was made up of three panelists: Anita Gray, regional director of the Anti-Defamation League in Cleveland, Wajahat Ali, a host and consultant for the U.S. State Department and Nwadike. It was commentated by YSU Professor Tiffany Anderson.

Questions about race, violence and today’s society were asked to the panel and each were given a chance to respond.

Gray ended her remarks by saying, “I think the more you get to know the ‘other,’ the richer your lives will be and the happier you will be.”



Photo by RACHEL GOBEP/THE JAMBAR

THOUSANDS WALK TO SUPPORT SUICIDE AWARENESS

RACHEL GOBEP

At least 2,500 people gathered at the Out of Darkness Walk to raise suicide awareness and funds for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention on Saturday.

Strangers shared hugs and tears were shed, while suicide survivors and people remembering lost loved ones walked at the event.

As reported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States; each year 44,193 people die from suicide.

Suicide is the second leading cause of death in Ohio for people of ages 15-34. Additionally, one person takes their own life every five hours in Ohio, according to the CDC.

The goal of the AFSP is to invest in new research, create educational programs, advocate for public policy and support survivors of suicide loss.

Ciera Johnson, a suicide survivor, said she felt as if she was walking around with the words "I attempted suicide" tattooed on her forehead after she attempted to end her life.

One day, an important person in her life explained to her that an attempted suicide does not define her and Johnson said she realized he was right.

As reported by the CDC, for every death by suicide in the United States, there are 25 attempted suicides.

The walk began at the Wick Recreational Area at Mill Creek Park in Youngstown at 11 a.m. To mark the beginning of the walk, doves were released to the song "I Believe I Can Fly" by R. Kelly.

People donned shirts with pictures of loved ones and held signs to raise awareness.

Beads were given out at the event to symbolize each person's personal connection to the cause. Each color represented the relation a person had to someone who died by suicide or a struggle with mental illness.

Johnson said she regrets trying to take her own life, knowing her family and friends would do anything for her and that there is so much to live for.

"Since then, I've graduated college, made some great friends, reconnected with old ones [and] I don't have to attend counseling anymore," she said. "But mostly, I'm starting a new life [where] I can call the shots and depression doesn't call the shots for me."

The event has grown in popularity since 2015, when Cindy Orslene became the walk chair. In 2015, there were 400 walkers who raised \$25,000. Last year there were 1,200 walkers who raised \$38,000, he said.

Cindy and Steve Orslene lost their son

to suicide in 2013 and she said this walk is a form of therapy for them and others.

"Three years ago was our first walk and it was going to be abolished. I thought, 'no, they can't do this,' because I know how good I felt [from] the walk," Cindy Orslene said. "I'm hoping there's a lot of people that I'm helping."

Natalie Preusser, a suicide survivor, wanted people to know they are never alone.

"We need to stand together and face the terrible demons that attack everybody," she said. "While growing up, kids are told to never judge a book by its cover, but by instinct many people do."

She said many faces she sees today are not people she would think have struggled with suicide or the loss of a loved one by suicide.

"It's amazing how much someone has gone through or dealt with that allows you to connect," Preusser said.

SEVENTH ANNUAL NONVIOLENCE PARADE AND RALLY: KICKING OFF NONVIOLENCE WEEK 2017



Photo by NAMI NAGAOKA/THE JAMBAR

NAMI NAGAOKA

From the intersection of Wood and Wick streets, people marched through downtown to the Covelli Center and had a rally for the seventh annual Nonviolence Week Parade and Rally on Sunday.

The Mahoning Valley Sojourn to the Past Organization kicked off Nonviolence Week in Ohio with the event. Sponsors of the event were John and Denise York and the Debartlo Corporation.

According to the Vindicator, 74 units and more than 2,000 people joined the parade this year.

Emma Myers, a senior at Joseph Badger high school, participated in Sojourn to the Past journey in 2015. Myers said the rally introduced these six Principles of Nonviolence:

- I. Nonviolence is a way of life for courageous people.
 - II. Nonviolence seeks to win friendship and understanding.
 - III. Nonviolence seeks to defeat injustice not people.
 - IV. Nonviolence hopes that suffering can educate and transform.
 - V. Nonviolence chooses love instead of hate.
 - VI. Nonviolence believes that the universe is on the side of justice
- "Try to think about these principles before you act," Myers said.

Youngstown State University President Jim Tressel gave a speech at the

Rally. During his speech he said YSU students are "truly great leaders for all of us."

He introduced the cultural community by using an initiative with the little acronym of "RAISE," which includes: Respect, Awareness, Inclusion, Spirit and tradition and Excellent through engagement.

"We are so proud our students are a part of this ... our community ... the leadership in our region. Our charge is for each and every one of us to go out and live nonviolence, to live inclusion, to live appreciation and love. And, every single one of us will do that," Tressel said. "We are going to make a difference in this region and in this world."

Bishop Tracy Malone, an Eastern Ohio Conference Resident, led a prayer during the rally.

"We are committed to saying no more to violence," Malone said. "We are saying yes to be a peacemaker."

Participants called out the names and remembered those who had died due to violence.

The rally was closed with a traditional folk song, "This Little Light of Mine" lead by Minnijean Brown Trickey, one of a group of African American teenagers known as the Little Rock Nine.

There were some arrangements in the song about our community members in Youngstown, Ohio.

People were smiling, holding hands, and started clapping their hands by Trickey's lead.

"YSU WORKS BECAUSE WE DO" FRONT

Shaun Toth, an electrician in the union, said he hasn't seen any improvements since he began working at YSU six years ago.

Toth said he received a two percent raise in his third year at YSU, but the cost of living has gone up more than that. He said his wages haven't been keeping up with the economy.

"Everybody around here thinks that YSU is such a great job, and there's no increase in anything," Toth said. "We're pretty much staying at the same rate, even going further behind."

Nespor said she has been at YSU almost a decade and has only seen one good contract.

Negotiators are down to several issues, similar to what the OEA took to the fact-finder recently.

"It's been moving along for the most part, and I think we're going to take a few of our articles to fact-finding in order to get it wrapped up," Mogg said.

Mogg said they are far from a strike yet, and everything has been in good faith.

"I believe the university is a place people want to work. It's just that members who have been here working feel abused, overworked and undercompensated," Wilson said. "That's what I have been seeing with our members."

Although ACE members are heading to fact-finder for their contract, they are still proud members of the YSU community.

"We're trying to keep the university top notch, as we all want to be Y and Proud. And we are, we are very Y and Proud," Mogg said. "We have a little saying, 'YSU works because we do,' because there isn't a corner of our campus that isn't touched by our staff."

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BEHIND THE MONSTERS: PAUL "THE FREAK" PATTERSON

Photo by JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ/THE JAMBAR

**JORDAN UNGER AND
LAURA MCDONOUGH**

With the arrival of October, a taste for horror-themed attractions looms in the air. For Paul Patterson, monster designer and owner of Steel Valley Nightmare and Escape, orchestrating fear and entertainment through these attractions is a year-round job.

Steel Valley Nightmare and Escape is a horror escape room in Girard, Ohio that opened in August. Paul Patterson said his passion for making monsters and sets came from his childhood when he started painting and designing masks.

"Everything that I do tends to lean toward the dark side," Paul Patterson said. "I have a hard time drawing pretty things."

He found an outlet through making monsters and selling them to other horror-themed

attractions. Although commonly viewed as seasonal entertainment, Paul Patterson said he started meeting buyers in November and December for upcoming seasons.

"From that point, you have from January to July to get [the requested project] done. By the time you get all that done, it's time for Halloween, Thanksgiving comes and you're back on it again," Paul Patterson said.

In order to spend more time with his wife and five kids, he decided to settle down and start his own facility, which became the Steel Valley Nightmare and Escape.

Paul Patterson works with his brother, Matt Patterson, to conceptualize storylines and build sets for the escape room, which includes puzzles, animatronics and costumed actors. Matt Patterson, who is also the lab manager at Kersey Valley Spookywoods in North Carolina, said a lot of imagination and time goes

into this work.

"Not all escape rooms go with that horror theme. A lot of them can be like ... a spy room where you're in an office or you have to do a bunch of math equations," Matt Patterson said. "I think both of us really wanted this to be more hands-on, intense and in-your-face than the average escape room."

The escape room will change themes periodically to keep fresh for customers, Paul Patterson said. The current season sends up to eight players into the home of a serial killer, where players must find their way out of the rooms within an hour by solving puzzles.

Players choose from three difficulty levels before they start the room: easy allows the answer to three puzzles, medium allows hints to three puzzles and hard offers no help.

Matt Patterson said a common misconception is that escape rooms are comparable to a

haunted house.

"It's more like you're inside of a movie set living out that horror movie that you love to watch. It's very interactive," Matt Patterson said.

So far, Paul Patterson said he has only received positive responses from guests.

"I've had one customer come three times," he said.

The rooms have multiple puzzles for guests to solve, which Paul Patterson said he changes out so returning guests can have different experiences each time.

Games will be \$13 all day on Friday, Oct. 13. Paul Patterson said this will be different than the usual game, dedicated to the more intense players who want to push the boundaries.

"This is where we are really going to get into the smells, the taste of things and it's more like playing 'Fear Factor' but making it a game," Paul Patterson said.

If someone is interested in the monster-making business, Paul

Patterson said they need passion and practice.

"If you're interested in it, you pursue it," he said. "That's how most of us get into it. We take apprenticeships, we learn how to do these things and go from there with what it is we want to do with it."

Paul Patterson hopes to expand the escape room with more complex puzzles as well as open a haunted house in the area. He said the most important thing to him is to entertain.

"My advice is just be prepared for anything and everything. You just never know what you're going to run into in my rooms," Paul Patterson said.

Steel Valley Nightmare and Escape is open Friday through Sunday. Tickets cost \$25 dollars per person with a 20 percent discount offered to Youngstown State University students who show their student IDs at the desk.

SPECIAL EFFECTS MAKEUP: A LOOK INTO PROSTHETIC MAKEUP



Photo Courtesy of NICHOLAS CHICONE

MARAH J. MORRISON

People who want to take Halloween to a whole new level should check out prosthetic makeup.

Otherwise known as SFX, or special effects makeup, prosthetic makeup is the procedure of using prosthetic sculpting, molding and casting techniques to create advanced cosmetic effects.

Integrated language arts education major at Youngstown State University and makeup artist, Samantha Mickey, got into makeup through YouTube videos. Since then, Mickey has been practicing her makeup skills and growing her makeup collection.

Mickey said she wants to get her esthetician license to be able to do makeup for special events on the weekends, especially weddings, and do people's special effects makeup for Halloween.

"SFX makeup has really transformed over the years and the possibilities are endless," Mickey said.

She recommends that anyone who is going to try special effects makeup should practice frequently. Mickey said it's important for people to take the time to know the material they are using and to hone their skills.

"With some practice, anyone can make some cool looking scars or bruises," Mickey said. "I feel that SFX makeup allows people to add a realistic element to their costumes or cosplay."

Sarah Dooley, a junior at YSU and makeup artist, was interested in theater growing up and believes that background strengthened her love for special effects makeup.

Dooley learned a lot from years of doing makeup such as alternative ways

to complete different makeup applications.

"This really comes in handy when you have a client that has an allergy to something like latex," Dooley said. "Having knowledge about alternative application allows them to have a more wide-range possibility for makeup designs."

Dooley said the special effects makeup industry is competitive and it is important to practice. Dooley uses her talent quite a bit, whether she's doing it for clients, her friends or on herself to build her portfolio.

"I try not to let it go untouched more than a week or two without practicing," Dooley said. "It is really important to challenge yourself and think outside the box when doing special effects makeup."

Nicholas Chicone has a Bachelor of Fine Arts in interdisciplinary studies from YSU and owns Envizion Studios where he is the artist and designer.

Chicone was always curious on how to make a better Halloween costume and wanted to pursue special effects makeup further by participating on the show "Face Off" and working at haunted houses during the haunt season.

"I use special effects makeup a lot in my art," Chicone said. "I have a focus in sculpture and I use makeup techniques to finish my projects and color them."

Chicone recommends not using YouTube as a source of information to anyone who considers using special effects.

"There's a lot of dangerous and wrong ways of doing things online," Chicone said. "Read books and teach yourself from the professionals in the industry."

Chicone said the art form has become a more common and fantastic way to step up one's Halloween game.



The photographs in this image were produced by Ron Cabuno. Photo by ALYSSA PFLUG/THE JAMBAR

PHOTOGRAPHY FROM A DIFFERENT ANGLE

JOHN STRAN

The Soap Gallery will host an art show in honor of three photographers from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday. The event, Shutter, will feature local photographers Ron Cabuno, Paul Grilli and Stephen Poullas.

Poullas, owner of the Soap Gallery, said they try to host an art show at least once a year. Poullas said the two other artists in this show are known for their body of work and unique style.

The upcoming photography show is Cabuno's first. He calls his photography a form of abstract documenting.

"Nothing is above or below being worthy of documenting," Cabuno said. "For me, it's all about capturing the feel of an environment."

Reactions to Cabuno's works depend on whether they are coming from someone from the arts community or from the general population. He said someone with a background in photography may appreciate the peculiarity of his photos more than those who don't.

When people look at

Cabuno's photography, he hopes people have a new approach to how they view life and to understand beauty can be found everywhere.

"Everything is worth another look," Cabuno said. "There are so many things to look at and it's my job to dissect a landscape and choose a piece that best tells a story."

Grilli said he also likes to document with his photography, but his photos consist mostly of dilapidated steel mills.

He has social media pages and a website devoted to these mills titled, "The Rust Jungle." On the website, Grilli captures different rustic factories with his photographs and writes pieces about the purpose a building used to hold.

"I've been doing this type of photography for about 15 years," Grilli said. "I like the idea of creating a visual record of these buildings that were once so useful."

Grilli said these photographs made him realize no matter how grand something is or once was, it may not always be there. When photographing these steel mills, Grilli said he some-

times feels more like an archaeologist than a photographer.

The photographs tend to draw up different reactions for different generations, young and old, Grilli said.

"If it's an older generation, they remember when a steel mill was up and running and may have even worked there, so they tend to reminisce more," Grilli said.

Grilli said younger generations react more to the quality of the photo and wonder how he got access into these places.

Poullas said he wants to tell a story with his photography and prove his photos are non-generic.

"I love photography as a storytelling medium," Poullas said. "I hate stock photography and I hope that the people who come to the show leave thinking that the photos were unique and they appreciated them."

The exhibit will be on display until Oct. 27. Prints of the photographs will be available on the web for sale after the opening, and originals will be for sale throughout the month at the gallery.

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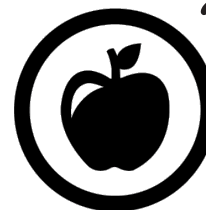
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RICHMOND ELIGIBLE TO PLAY, STATEMENT SAYS

RACHEL GOBEP

Ma'lik Richmond is eligible to play for Youngstown State University's football team after YSU representatives and Richmond reached an agreement to settle the federal lawsuit filed by Richmond on Sept. 13.

According to a statement released by YSU on Monday, Richmond has agreed to go through additional Title IX training and will remain on the active roster.

Title IX is a federal law that calls for universities to provide the same opportunities to students and athletes, which prohibits all forms of discrimination based on sex.

"While the settlement agreement may

cause concern for some, we believe it is in the best overall interest of the university, students and the community," the statement said.

Richmond joined the team as a walk-on this year, but when news reached the public, petitions circulated both in favor of his association with YSU football and against.

He was not permitted to play in the 2017 football season, according to a statement released by YSU on August 9.

As a result, he filed a federal lawsuit against YSU on Sept. 13, claiming he was denied his right to due process, which violates the 14th Amendment.

He also claimed there was a breach of contract and that the university discriminated against him due to his gender, which is a vi-

olation of Title IX.

Richmond was granted a temporary restraining order against YSU by U.S. District Court Judge Benita Pearson on Sept. 14, which allowed him to play for 14 days.

He entered his first game as a Penguin against Central Connecticut State on Sept. 16, but did not play on Saturday against South Dakota State.

Bo Pelini, YSU's head football coach, said Richmond earned his spot on the team, but does not defend Richmond's actions in the past, according to a report by WKBN.

Ron Cole, YSU's public information officer, has been contacted but has not responded.

The lawyers of both parties have been contacted, but will not comment.

WADDLE TOGETHER TO BREAK A RECORD

**JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR
BRENT BIGELOW**

Youngstown State University is trying to break a Guinness World Record by having the largest gathering of people dressed as penguins.

YSU is celebrating 50 years as a state university, and before the homecoming game on Oct. 28, the students and YSU faculty will try to break the record.

The previous record of 624 was set by Richard House Children's Hospice in 2015 in London, England. The goal for YSU is to attract 1,000 people to the

YSU Watson and Tressel Training Site from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Those who participated in the world record are invited to march in the homecoming parade afterward.

Rayann Atway, President of YSU's Student Government Association, said, "There has been a lot of planning going into this, as well as advertising and marketing, in order to get as many people involved as we can. This will be a fun event to kick off the homecoming football game, so I expect the crowds to be full."

YSU President Jim Tressel said, "Homecoming is the perfect time, as this is the weekend

that many Alums come back to campus, and the entire campus has a week full of activities ... and we are all Penguins!"

University involvement for the student body is something Tressel has been working on, but he thinks this event will bring students together.

"This collaborative, fun effort to break the penguin record is definitely a wholesome demonstration of good people working together for a fun activity ... obviously because it has to do with penguins, it is even more meaningful to us," Tressel said.

Being the competitive person he is, Tressel believes we can

beat the record and he doesn't want it to be close.

Tressel said "We can definitely break the record ... in fact, I hope we shatter it so that no one will consider trying to beat our record."

Registration is \$10 and includes a penguin costume participants can keep and wear at other YSU activities.

"This is a perfect event for students to get involved with. It is right before the homecoming parade, so after we hopefully break the world record, students can head over to watch the parade and then attend the football game. It is a great way to show

our YSU pride," Atway said.

Brianna Ondrey, a student at YSU, said she heard about the penguin gathering a few days before registration opened and couldn't wait to get her costume.

"For \$10, heck yeah, I want a penguin costume ... I think this is gonna be a blast. I hope we break the record. Youngstown deserves to hold some type of positive record," Ondrey said.

The registration deadline is Oct. 21. Participants can register at www.ysu.edu/alumni/guinness.

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JAKE'S PICKS: HALLOWEEN IS COMING, HAVE YOU READ ANY SCARY BOOKS LATELY?

JAKE MYERS

Full disclosure: I love horror, sci-fi horror and horror suspense novels. So, October is the perfect time to share some of my favorites. If you are looking for some newer authors to stir up chills this Halloween season, I can help with that.

Recently, I discovered Nick Cutter, who has written four novels. I have read "The Troop" and "The Deep" which are engrossing and terrifying. I would describe his writing as the horror of Stephen King meets the technological and entomological aspects of Michael Crichton's writing. Both novels are approximately 400 pages of "I can't put this down, sheer terror goodness."

For any of you who have gone on a group camping outing or wondered what it was like to go on one, the novel "The Troop" will give you pause. It is about a Boy Scout Troop that arrives on an uninhabited island for a weekend camping trip. Cutter does a great job of divulging character strengths and weaknesses that make you relate to the kids. He also dives into the groupthink aspects of such a trip. Beware: you might just develop a taste for Cutter's writing style and crave some more.

"The Deep" on the other hand explores a more intimate aspect to the human psyche. A deep sea diving expedition sets out to harvest a promising substance called "ambrosia," which the team believes will cure human ailments. This novel will blow your mind and you will develop new pho-

bias. You will struggle to turn the page: you NEED to know, you MUST turn the page, but something tells you that you really shouldn't turn the page. Go ahead, turn the page.

Another author I would recommend is Michael Koryta. So far, I have read two of his 12 novels.

"Those Who Wish Me Dead" is about a kid who witnesses a murder and goes into a non-traditional witness protection program. He ends up in a camp for teens with behavioral issues. There are a lot of twists and turns to this superbly written novel. I would venture to say the psychopath twin villains in "Those Who Wish Me Dead" rank in my Top-5 villains of all-time. They are the Blackwell Brothers, and each chapter with them in it fascinated me, as I imagine they will you. I listened to the audio of this book which is narrated by Robert Petkoff. Petkoff's narration adds an eeriness and intensity to the brothers' psychopathic bantering. At 392 pages, you'll burn through this book.

If you prefer binge-reading instead of binge-watching, one of my favorite characters of author Dean Koontz's is Deucalion of the "Frankenstein" series, which is five novels long. Each 350- to 450-page novel follows the investigative team of Carson O'Connor and Michael Maddison as they pursue Victor Helios, alias Frankenstein. It is a sort of continuation of Mary Shelley's "Frankenstein" set in the modern era. Once again, humankind is threatened by a narcissistic evil, the likes of which have never been seen before.

Even though the five novels continue with the same four characters, Koontz creates a vastly different riveting scenario for each book. His writing is charming, funny and engaging while exploring the most horrific aspects of human nature. Warning: if you don't have time for this series now, don't start the first book. One of my biggest regrets, other than the series ending, was the endless wait for the next book to grace the shelves. It might be better to binge-read them over Christmas break.

I can't talk about horror stories without mentioning Stephen King. I'll just name one of his novels that stood out to me. "Doctor Sleep" came out in 2013, and is the sequel to "The Shining" (1977). You may want to read or re-read "The Shining" before you pick up "Doctor Sleep." If you are thinking, 'I'll just revisit the Stanley Kubrick movie of "The Shining" (1980),' please don't. "Doctor Sleep" is a sequel to the book, not the movie. There are some significant differences.

"Doctor Sleep" focuses on the character Danny from "The Shining." Danny is a recovering alcoholic who is an orderly in a nursing home. The apple doesn't fall far from the tree. He still has the ability to shine. He isn't the only one with this "gift" or "curse" whichever way you look at it. It is the mission of Rose the Hat and the True Knot to hunt down these gifted people including memorable characters like Rattlesnake Andy. I will say that "Doctor Sleep" will forever change the way you look at RVs again.

If you are familiar with the realm of

Stephen King, meaning his universe of previous works, you will delight in his references to characters or places in novels past, which are referred to as Easter eggs. Something new for King is to include Easter eggs from somewhere other than the King universe. "Doctor Sleep" has Easter eggs from one of the offspring of the King universe.

I am referring to King's son, Joe Hill, author of five novels: "20th Century Ghosts" (2007), "Heart-Shaped Box", (2007), "Horns" (2010), "NOS4A2" (2013) and "The Fireman" (2016).

Spoiler alert: King mentions Charlie Manx, the main villain in "NOS4A2" who is a character that will haunt your dreams and clearly left an impression on King himself. Charlie Manx left an impression on me as well. Although I have enjoyed all of Hill's novels, "NOS4A2" along with "The Fireman" vie as my favorite Hill novels thus far.

If you are faint of heart, these are NOT the novels for you. Might I suggest "Life Expectancy" by Dean Koontz. It is light-hearted and well-written and more of a suspense novel. Koontz sent a copy of this novel to me after I wrote him a letter in the seventh grade. He said it was one of his favorites and he thought that I would enjoy it. I did and I think you will too.

Drop me a line: I would love to hear from you so email jcmeyers02@student.yasu.edu. if you wish to opine or use the comments section online.

TRICK-OR-TREAT!

NATHAN HRITZ

Fall is in the air. Temperatures are finally cooling, the leaves are changing and pumpkin spice is back. It's time to break out your ghoulish costumes and prepare for the hordes of youngsters knocking on your door chanting the infamous phrase, "Trick -or- Treat!"

This week, I felt it appropriate to share some of the festivities my family takes part in during the Halloween season. While most families take full advantage of dressing their children as Bat-

man or Princess Elsa, my family had a different agenda. Growing up, my family was strictly against any Halloween festivities, claiming the holiday upheld satanic rituals. I know, total malarkey. The older I get, the more obscene I find this notion.

The one and only time I can remember dressing up for my school's yearly Halloween parade had to have been in kindergarten. I remember dressing up as a train engineer, because obviously trains are fascinating and my young mind was infatuated with trains. Frankly, I still am. I cannot remember distinctly, but

I believe that after the parade, we returned to our classroom to carve pumpkins. Something about the smell of pumpkin guts turned my stomach and I immediately fell ill. For all I know, it could have just been something I had eaten.

To this day, I still hate the idea of carving pumpkins because of the smell. That occurrence brought forth the yearly note from my parents saying they would be picking me up early from school on Halloween. I couldn't have been more excited.

In years following, my family would always head out of the

house before the trick-or-treaters ventured into the streets. We would go see a movie or go bowling. I just cannot remember having ever participated in any sort of Halloween festivities. No bobbing for apples, no trick or treating and no Halloween parties.

I have never been trick-or-treating in my twenty years of existence, but it doesn't bother me. I think if I ever have kids of my own I will surely get my fill of the Halloween festivities. As a child, I never thought twice about it. This was just what I came to know. I think the vast majority of these traditions in

my family were due to a heavily Christian upbringing.

I suppose this is part of the beauty of our nation, the freedom to take part or not take part in certain holidays. The older I get, however, the ghoulish nature of Halloween intrigues me. I don't think I would be an edgy 20-something year old without thinking skeletons are cool.

With all this being said, I'll take the liberty of being the first to say, "Trick-or-treat!" Have fun and be safe this Halloween season, everybody.

A JAMBAR EDITORIAL: **PUERTO RICO'S PERSEVERANCE**

In 1898 the small island of Puerto Rico became a territory of the United States. In 2017, the same island faced tragedy after being impacted by two massive hurricanes.

Hurricane Irma hit north of the island, damaging but not destroying parts of the land and people. However, when Hurricane Maria hit, the people of Puerto Rico were hit directly and were affected enormously.

After Hurricane Irma, Puerto Rico served as a shelter to many of the nearby Caribbean islands according to CNN. People fled their homes after losing everything, or close to.

Then on Sept. 20, those evacuees and the ones who sheltered them braced as they would be hit once again by a category 5 storm.

In the two weeks since Maria took its fury out on the island of Puerto Rico, a lot of damage control is taking place, or at least trying to.

According to CNN News only 5.4 percent of the citizens on the island have power, and 12.1 percent have cell service. Many people in the states have expressed concerns through social media that they cannot contact their families and have no knowledge of their whereabouts.

Without power, many people who are in need of medical attention are going without. As of

Wednesday, only 14 of Puerto Rico's hospitals have electricity. There are 3.4 million residents on the island.

51 hospitals are out of power and in need of generators. Without electricity, patients on life support will not be able to sustain.

There is also the issue of the roadways. There are some cities that are inaccessible due to roads being obstructed or destroyed. This has made it difficult to deliver food and water as well as medications and other supplies. There has also been an issue with fuel for the trucks.

With the devastation, we may wonder what is being done to aid these hurting people?

The Trump Administration temporarily waived the Jones Act eight days after the hurricane hit. This waiver allowed supplies to be delivered to the island without delay.

However, President Trump has faced backlash for what people are calling insensitivity toward the people of Puerto Rico.

In a series of tweets, he has said, "Such poor leadership ability by the Mayor of San Juan, and others in Puerto Rico, who are not able to get their workers to help. They want everything to be done for them when it should be a community effort."

He has also tweeted, "Texas &

Florida are doing great but Puerto Rico, which was already suffering from broken infrastructure & massive debt, is in deep trouble.

"Much of the island was destroyed, with billions of dollars owed to Wall Street and the banks which, sadly, must be dealt with."

In a time of such despair, monetary debt cannot be compared to the lives of those suffering, nor should it be a factor in aid.

It should also be remembered: Puerto Rico is a part of the United States. The citizens of Puerto Rico are also U.S. citizens. Should they not expect the same help as Florida and Texas after Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma?

On Tuesday, the president made a trip to the island, two weeks after the hurricane hit. During his time there, he made comments about Puerto Rico's debt and said they should be thankful this was not as bad as "a real catastrophe like Hurricane Katrina."

Although the comments from our country's leader may have come off as offensive to many, thankfully the president and his administration have vowed to see the island through to healing, and hopefully so.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

To the Editor:

I would like to address the issue of bullying in children and teens. Bullying is a topic many schools talk about, but it is also an issue they do not pay close enough attention to. And because of bullies many children and teens are turning to suicide. Those who are being bullied can be led to believe that the world would be better off without them. The bully is the one who needs to take a good look at themselves and how they are making their victims feel.

Parents have a lot to do with their children becoming a bully. Children learn from what they see others do. If they have a parent who is a bully to others, a child is more likely to think that it's a normal way to treat people. When in many cases, even the parents can be unaware they are bullying others.

If the child's bullying behavior is not based on watching their parents or how they are treated at home, it can be related to the child watching TV. Bullying behavior could have been easily

acquired from TV or peer pressure. But it is still the parents' responsibility to ensure their child knows that they should not treat people in an abusive or hostile way.

Many parents are unaware of their child being bullied or becoming a bully because they are not home when their children get home from school. Many parents must work to make a good living and this takes attention away from their child. Many children know how to use phones and computers better than their parents. Sometimes, they hide journals about their feeling in their electronic devices. Also, many bullies are online causing problems and saying harsh things through social media even when they are not in school.

This is a problem that has yet to be resolved. More action needs to be taken before more children take their own lives because of a bully.

**KAYLA SMITH,
YSU SN**

To the Editor:

Have you ever been frustrated driving behind a car that is delayed at stoplights, swerving in and out of lanes or traveling below the speed limit? If the answer is yes, how many times have you passed these cars only to see that the driver was texting?

Distracted driving caused by texting is a major problem across all age groups.

Approximately 660,000 drivers across the United States use cell phones while driving daily. According to the National Safety Council, texting and driving causes 1,600,000 accidents per year, which is nearly 25 percent of all car accidents.

This statistic is alarming because these accidents could be easily prevented if drivers were focused on the road and not on their cell phones.

Studies have also shown that drivers who text are six times

more likely to cause an accident than driving while intoxicated. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, distracted driving claimed 3,477 lives in 2015 alone.

New drivers need to be educated on the dangers of texting and driving prior to getting their license to prevent becoming another statistic. Most importantly, we need to take initiative ourselves and lead by example by focusing on the road and not our phones.

Every time a driver picks up their cell phone and takes their eyes off the road, they are putting themselves and innocent drivers in harm's way.

Don't be another statistic, put down your phone and let's make our roads safe again!

**BRITTANEY ZUPKO,
YSU SN**



Photo by MARC WEEMS/THE JAMBAR

Kevin Rader (83) throws the lead block for running back Tevin McCaster (37) in YSU's 19-7 win on Saturday, Sept. 30.

A SHOWDOWN IN THE DOME AS YSU TAKES ON SOUTH DAKOTA

CHRIS MCBRIDE

After successfully defending the Ice Castle, the Youngstown State University football team (3-1, 1-0 Missouri Valley Football Conference) hits the road to take on the University of South Dakota (4-0, 1-0) in the DakotaDome in Vermillion, SD.

Youngstown State secured a monumental conference win as it knocked off South Dakota State University (3-1) in a 19-7 win.

After taking over at QB for starter Hunter Wells, who went down with an injury early on, Nathan Mays helped secure the win with great play. With a career high 183 rushing yards, Tevin McCaster pounded in the go-ahead touchdown run to help lead Youngstown State to

victory.

Youngstown State will be heading into yet another Top 10 matchup as it faces off against USD this week. South Dakota has been one of the more talked about teams coming into this week's game as the Coyotes have outscored teams 73 to 3 in the first quarter while boasting 132-22 in the first half.

Tight end Kevin Rader said the team's confidence is high heading into this week's matchup.

But for Rader the rankings, whether Top 5 or Top 10, are just a side note.

"I hear about them, especially with social media nowadays but I don't try to focus on it because once you get caught up on all that you're gonna get your mind out of the game of football and you won't be able to focus on how you play," Rader said.

Defensive tackle Savon Smith would agree with Rader, who also talked about the preparation for USD.

"We don't focus on USD, we focus on ourselves, the fundamentals and the little things, are what's gonna win us the game," Smith said. "Those are the things we do every week.

Despite having a 5-0 series advantage over USD including a 30-20 win over them last year, YSU Head Coach Bo Pelini doesn't take the threat this team brings lightly, citing SDU dual-threat quarterback Chris Streveler as a concern.

"Anytime you have a quarterback that can run the ball like a tailback, it presents extra challenges for your defense," Pelini said. "A lot of guys have to be on alert as far as handling the responsibilities that go with that."

Despite the loss of key members on last year's defense, which included now NFL players Avery Moss and Derek Rivers, the Penguins D has been rock solid to start.

Through four games, Youngstown State has only allowed six touchdowns while amassing 10 sacks. This followed last year's 49-sack effort throughout the season.

"When you play the kind of schedule we have, it's got to come together quick. I think we're doing some good things," Pelini said. "It's not quite up to where we want or need it to be down the road but it's a good start. Our kids are working hard."

Smith also spoke toward what he expects out of the defense and the team moving forward.

"I knew coming into this year our team would be just as good,

if not better than last year," Smith said. "I think we have a really good shot at going back to Frisco, winning conference, and actually winning the National Championship."

Getting back there won't be easy facing a tough schedule of high ranked teams, a feat that doesn't come as much of a shock to Pelini.

"Our kids understand what's ahead of them, they've been through the league before and they understand the challenges that come with it," Pelini said. "That's why you come to play at YSU or this conference because you're gonna get challenged week to week, it's a great challenge, hopefully as a competitor, team you embrace it."

Youngstown State will clash in the dome with South Dakota this Saturday, Oct. 7 at 3:00PM.

PRESS BOX PERSPECTIVE: *USA GOLF HAS CLAWS WITHOUT TIGER*

SETH RIVELLO

For years, United States golf and the Professional Golf Association (PGA) survived off one man, Tiger Woods. Woods asserted himself into golf royalty by winning 106 times, winning 14 major championships, completing the career grand slam three times and accumulating over \$110 million in career winnings. Woods had a killer instinct and when he saw blood in the water, he went after you.

Woods turned pro in 1996 and won his first major championship in 1997. He had a crushing swing that could drive the ball 300 yards plus, mixed with a pure short game followed up by clutch putting with his Scotty

Cameron. Few (if any) guys had a game mixed with these abilities, which made the field easy pickings for Woods.

His reign of terror came to an abrupt halt in 2009. Woods and his wife at the time were involved in a domestic dispute which caused him to check into the hospital and be exposed for who he really was — a serial cheater and liar. With all this and nagging injuries hanging over him, from 2010-2017, he would only win eight more times finishing first on the money list twice, but no majors.

The PGA and U.S. lost the biggest face they've ever had. Woods was golf. With very little talent, the U.S. was fading badly. Young men like Martin Kaymer from Germany, and Rory

McIlroy from Northern Ireland were winning majors. Guys like Justin Rose from England and Adam Scott from Australia were starting to catch their second winds and run through majors. Luke Donald from England and McIlroy wasted no time taking the light away from the U.S. winning player of the year awards in back-to-back years.

The U.S. bolted back up into a powerhouse in 2015. Jordan Spieth showed he has some Woods-like abilities. He won two of four majors. The long awaited breakout of Dustin Johnson and Rickie Fowler happened. The 2016 season had big hitter Dustin Johnson winning the U.S. Open which was his first major. Jimmy Walker won the PGA Championship which was also his first

major.

2016 was also Ryder Cup year. The Ryder Cup is held every two years and consists of the best U.S. players facing off against the best European players. Before 2016, the U.S. only won the event seven times in the past 18 events, their last win was in 2008. The thing that's different from this group of guys compared to guys in the past is that they are all friends. These guys take vacations together, and when Woods played he wanted to rip your throat out and go home. This class teamed up and, with the help of five major winners, blew out Europe 17 points to 11.

2017 showed why the U.S. won't be stopped anytime soon. Brooks Koepka burst onto the scene with his giant forearms

and a U.S. Open win, his first major. Spieth posted a 6-under day to take The Open Championship which puts him only one major away (PGA Championship) from a career grand slam. Then, 24-year-old Justin Thomas came out on top in the PGA Championship giving him his first major and fifth win of the season. Thomas finished the season leading all players in FedEx cup points, his reward was \$10 million.

The most recent blowout win at the Presidents Cup versus the Internationals showed what kind of players and team the U.S. has. It's not a one-man show anymore. Move over Tiger, it's Spieth's, Thomas', and Johnson's league now.

DIVING IN: NEW COACH AND NEW MENTALITY

MARC WEEMS

After a successful season last year under Head Coach Matt Anderson, the Youngstown State University swimming and diving team finished sixth in the Horizon League. Now under a new coach, Ryan Purdy, the expectations are as high as ever.

"As a first-year head coach, the goals are to keep moving forward. I believe that we have all the resources here to compete for a conference title," Purdy said. "We also believe we can be represented nationally."

Purdy also said that "making any small steps" has become the goal each and every day.

Behind the Penguins' improved play will be seniors as YSU returns six seniors that include Viktoria Orosz and Kolbrun Jonsdottir. Those girls will help anchor the Penguins' improvement.

"Leading by example for sure. We have

really serious goals for ourselves," Orosz said about being a senior leader. "This team can achieve anything. I just want to close with the best year I can."

Last season, Orosz finished with three Top-7 finishes at the Horizon League Championships. She also finished with seven event wins for the entire year.

Another key piece to YSU's success last year was Jonsdottir who won two individual events last year and was part of multiple top finishing relay teams.

"I just expect us to go as fast as we can go," Jonsdottir said about her expectations of the team. "We have a new coach which makes everything very exciting."

Jonsdottir said that one major difference from last year is the practicing.

"In the mornings we focus more on individual events. I'm a sprinter so I train with the sprinters in the morning. In the afternoon, we go all together. Last year, those things were flipped."

She also said that the team focuses on

one thing at time instead of everything at once.

To go along with the six seniors, this team also has seven freshmen.

"I think swimming is nice because we have a lot of steps to go through," Purdy said. "We have a dual meet on Friday. The idea is to try and be better than they were last year. In two weeks, let's be better than we were this Friday."

Purdy's idea for the team is to eventually win the conference but he understands that won't happen overnight.

"Keep our eyes toward the end of the season but also, celebrate the small victories along the way," Purdy said.

Purdy came over from the University of Minnesota. He was an assistant there and helped the program win multiple championships.

"He is very positive around us and has tried to make the change easier," Orosz said about having a new coach. "He's not strict about the changes right away

because we still need to adjust to them. I think that has been a big help."

Along with Orosz and Jonsdottir, Madison Aranda, Bethany Glick, Rachel Shipp, and McKenzie Stelter are all going to lead the Penguins to a change in the guard at YSU.

"I think this is a long-term goal. We want to shoot for third and then eventually first," Jonsdottir said about the team's goals. "I feel like that everybody has that inside of their heads. It's really exciting to focus on getting better. I think we have a chance to improve."

Jonsdottir also said that the key to everything is that everyone helps each other. She noted that most freshmen never get into such high-pressure events as the meets that happen in college.

YSU's first meet is a dual meet at the University of Akron on Friday, Oct. 6 at 5 p.m.



Photo courtesy of YSU SPORTS INFORMATION

Alison Green (13) attempts to clear the ball out to advance against Northern Kentucky University on Sept. 23.

A FRUSTRATING FINISH TO A GREAT START: YSU'S WOMEN'S SOCCER

MARC WEEMS

After a sensational start, the Youngstown State University women's soccer team (4-8-1) have struggled of late to say the least. After winning four of its first five game including four in a row, YSU has gone 0-8-1 in its last nine games.

"It's been a very frustrating season to this point," YSU Head Coach Fabio Boateng said. "We started off very well and then we hit a wall. The goal is try and find a way over the wall."

"Struggling has been the game but the results don't show how well the team has played," Boateng said.

"We just keep in mind our passion and our intensity in prac-

tice," forward Alison Green said. "We aren't just playing for the wins and losses. We are doing this for each other. I think that's the most important thing for us."

With just five games left, YSU will have a tough time getting back on track. First, YSU plays the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. IUPUI is 10-3 and 4-0 in the conference who is the best team in the league.

Despite the struggles, YSU has actually won more games this year than it did last year. YSU won just three games and has already won four games this year.

"When you look at it from that standpoint, you think it is an improvement," Boateng said. "It's a give and take. For us as a team, we do as well as we can. I think

we have a talented group of players."

Boateng said the most frustrating part is playing well on the field.

"It's just all about putting the chances we get in the back of the net. That hasn't been happening. We just keep working to finish the season as high as we can," Boateng said.

YSU scored nine goal in its first five games and has scored just four goals since that stretch.

"It has been very confusing especially from the beginning of the season until now," Green said. "I think that we need to formulate some better chemistry on the team. We had this in the start of the season. Now we need to pick that up again and put that back in our games."

Green has scored the last two goals in a close loss against Oakland University and blowout loss against Cleveland State University.

"They are just as frustrated as I am. They come to the field every day and work as hard as they can," Boateng said. "It's always tough to get confidence when you aren't scoring goals especially as a forward."

Boateng also said that if you give up a lot of goals, the defenders lose confidence as well.

So far this season, YSU is averaging just one goal per game while giving up 2.33 goals per game. Although YSU plays an unconventional defensive style, YSU has fared decently.

"I think we are still figuring that out," Green said about get-

ting back to form. "I think in our last game, we figured that out a little bit more. We didn't concede as many goals. It was a much closer game between us and Oakland. I think that we learned that our communication really goes a long way."

Green also said playing well without the result has been really tough.

"After a really hard loss like the game before, we keep that in mind for the next game. We try to fix our mistakes and change them for the next game," Green said.

YSU has a tough finish to the schedule with just five games to go to fix its problems.