

Arson is suspected in 3d fire at Rayen

Arson is suspected in a fire which broke out at 11:20 a.m. Wednesday in Rayen Hall, Room 114. This is the third fire of suspicious origin in Rayen in the last several weeks. No one was injured.

Fire damage includes a partially burned lecturn, a desk, a section of the floor and baseboard as well as smoke damage. Chief Inspector Joe Cestone of the Youngstown Fire Department estimated cleaning and repair costs at \$1,500 to \$2,000.

Campus security discovered a half-gallon bottle of what they called a "flammable liquid" in a paper bag in a wastebasket, and a note in a plastic bag taped to the wall. Cestone stated that a mixture giving off an odor of kerosene was splashed on the floor and ignited.

A nursing instructor said authorities suspect the culprit might be a disgruntled former nursing student, but they are still uncertain.

In addition to the two previous fires of Oct. 23 and 24, an incident of vandalism was reported on Oct. 16 in the same room in Rayen. According to student nurses, yellow paint was thrown on the blackboard and the floor and obscenities had been scrawled on the board and on an instructor's desk in the nursing rooms.

Cestone and YSU campus security are continuing their investigation. Chief Paul Cress of security said "We will take whatever steps necessary to make sure it won't happen in the future."