New Rutgers fellowship combats opioid epidemic

RYAN STIESI
NEWS EDITOR

Rutgers New Jersey Medical School (RNJMS) has launched a new Addiction Medicine Fellowship in an effort to fight the ongoing opioid epidemic. The fellowship is appointed by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). Upon completing the program, graduates will be eligible to sit for the boards in Addiction Medicine exams. Board-certified physicians are automatically granted the waiver to prescribe buprenorphine, a medication used to treat opioid use disorder, according to a press release.

Buprenorphine is one of three commonly used medications to treat opioid addiction, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Drugs, such as buprenorphine, along with Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT), the use of medications in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, have been found to be more effective in treating addiction and helping patients sustain recovery, according to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

“The need for addiction expertise is dire. Addiction to prescription opioids, heroin, and now fentanyl and its related substances, is a major cause of suffering and death in our communities,” said Dr. Petros Levounis, professor and chair in the Department of Psychiatry.

Applications for physicians interested in the one-year program will be accepted through Jan. 1, 2019, and the program, which offers three positions, will begin in July 2019, according to the press release.

Physicians accepted into the fellowship will train in the evaluation and treatment of patients with substance use disorders, behavioral addictions and co-occurring psychiatric disorders, according to the press release.

Fellows will also study motivational interviewing, behavior modification techniques, 12-step facilitation and psychopharmacology specifically designed for that patient population while alternating between clinical locations at University Hospital in Newark, the Veterans Affairs Healthcare System and the Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care sites, according to the press release.

“With this new fellowship, we’re actively seeking doctors who are passionate about learning addiction medicine, emission a medical career dedicated to one of the most disenfranchised and underserved patient populations and are committed to putting an end to the opioid epidemic,” Levounis said.

Taking a collaborative, multidisciplinary approach, the fellowship program, created by faculty physicians in the Department of Psychiatry, includes supervising attendees representing the departments of emergency medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology and anesthesiology, according to the press release.

“While all physicians can — and should — diagnose and treat addiction, only a handful of doctors have the skills to provide the much needed guidance and leadership in this area,” said Dr. Erin Zerba, professor and fellowship program director in the Department of Psychiatry. “Graduates of our fellowship will become specialists in addiction prevention, treatment, and integration of services with other medical and mental health care.”
Weather Outlook  
Source: Weather.com

TODAY  
High of 61, Clear

TONIGHT  
Low of 38, Clear

Wed  
Hi 61 Lo 38

Hi 50 Lo 34

Fri  
Hi 58 Lo 50

The Campus Calendar

WEDNESDAY 10/17  
Center for Counseling, Alcohol and Other Drug Assistance Program and the Institute of Translational Medicine presents "Mindfulness Meditation" from noon to 1 p.m. at the Rutgers Student Activities Center on the College Avenue campus. This event is free and open to the public.

Institute for Quantitative Biomedicine/Center for Integrative Proteomics Research presents "Target Zero: Using Film for Medical Education" from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Center for Proteomics Research on Busch campus. This event is free and open to the public.

Robert Wood Johnson Medical School presents "Neurology Grand Rounds" from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at the Clinical Academic Building on the College Avenue campus. This event is free and open to the public.

Rutgers University Libraries presents "Data Visualization in R" from noon to 3 p.m. at the Library of Science and Medicine on Busch campus. This event is free and open to the public.

THURSDAY 10/18  
Rutgers Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research presents "Rutgers Catalyst: Healthy Aging Symposium" from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research on the College Avenue campus. This event is free and open to the public.

Rutgers University Libraries presents "Pumpkin Decorating" from 2 to 4 p.m. at the James Dickson Carr Library on Livingston campus. This event is free and open to the public.

Center for Latin American Studies presents "Venezuela's Past and Future Crisis" from 3:35 to 4:45 p.m. at Tillett Hall on Livingston campus. This event is free and open to the public.

Ecology and Evolution Graduate Program presents "The Evolution of Colorful Signals and Diverse Structures in the Avian World" from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Marine Sciences Building on Cook campus. This event is free and open to the public.

If you would like to submit an event for the Campus Calendar section, please email marketing@dailytargum.com. For more information please visit www.dailytargum.com. Due to space limitations there is no guarantee that your event will be listed.
CHRISTIAN ZAPATA
NEWS EDITOR

Julie Tsirkin, Rutgers alumna and once journalism and media studies major, started working at NBC Studios almost as quickly as she switched majors senior year.

Approaching her last year at the University, Tsirkin was studying for her Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) when she decided to apply for her first news internship, the rest is history in the making. She is now the youngest full-time producer at the media company’s New York bureau, according to an article from Rutgers Today.

Tsirkin works under lead White House correspondent Hallie Jackson at NBC. She manages her social accounts and works with NBC’s digital team. She also helps Jackson determine newsworthy interviews from the show then clips, edits and publishes them to MSNBC’s website, according to the article.

“It’s a lot of multitasking between producing the show, being in the control room and constantly being on watch for breaking news. My main approach to Hallie’s social is making sure her voice shines. Her personality attracts her audience, and it’s important to show them she’s real,” she said.

Tsirkin initially planned on majoring in journalism during her freshman year but was advised by an advisor to study pre-law.

“He told me, ‘Do what you love.’ And so I navigated through my journalism major well-believing that I wouldn’t pursue it and stumbled through some pre-law classes along the way,” she said in the article.

At that point, she feared it would be too late for her to switch, but with help from the School of Communication and Information (SCI) Director of Undergraduate studies in the Department of Journalism and Media studies Steven Miller, she managed to graduate into a full-time position.

“I have to be honest, I’ve always loved journalism. I guess I just never thought I could make a career out of it,” she said in the article.

In a Q&A session with Rutgers Today, Tsirkin said described what a day in her work life is like.

“There is no typical day in news, especially with our current administration — every single day is a toss-up, you never know what you’re going to get … I’m pretty busy, but you should see how busy Hallie is — it doesn’t even compare. It’s a blessing that I get the opportunity to learn from one of the hardest-working women in the business,” she said in the article.

Tsirkin advised current journalism students to continue doing the work of honest journalists.

“The stories will continue to be told, words will always be written and committed people will always hold our government accountable. If anything, now is the time to be a journalism student,” she said.
Cardinal Donald Wuerl recently resigned from his position as D.C. archbishop. He was implicated in recent revelations involving his predecessor who resigned over the summer due to abuse charges.

The Archdiocese of Washington released the names of more than two dozen clergy members it says have been ‘credibly accused’ of sexually abusing minors.

The revelation comes just four days after Pope Francis accepted the resignation of Cardinal Donald Wuerl and while the Washington Archdiocese is still reeling from recent revelations that Wuerl’s predecessor as archbishop had a decades-long string of abuse allegations.

The archdiocese posted the list of priests on its website late Monday. It names 28 clergy members and three priests who were part of religious orders, but served in Washington parishes or schools. Most of the cases date back multiple decades and only three of the alleged abuses took place after 2000. Of the 31 men listed, 16 are dead.

The list includes several priests who were accused of abuse and convicted, and some who were accused, “treated” and returned to work only to be accused again. Some were removed from their clerical positions or the ministry at some point.

The controversy that forced Wuerl’s resignation does not actually cover his time in Washington. It centers on a Pennsylvania grand jury report accusing him of covering up multiple sexual abuse allegations and shuffling pedophile priests through different parishes, during his 18-year tenure as a bishop in Pittsburgh.

In a “Letter to the Faithful” released last week, Wuerl repeatedly apologized and asked for “forgiveness on behalf of Church leadership from the victims who were again wounded when they saw those priests and bishops both moved and promoted.”

Earlier this year, Wuerl’s predecessor in Washington, Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, resigned from the powerful College of Cardinals and retired from public life after a string of sexual abuse revelations. McCarrick had retired as archbishop in 2006 and none of the sexual abuse allegations cover his time in Washington.

He is accused of abusing an altar boy and several young seminary students studying to be priests during his time as a priest in New York and a bishop in New Jersey. The allegations against McCarrick were particularly damaging since it emerged that McCarrick continued to rise through the church hierarchy for decades despite two lawsuits against him and multiple warnings to church officials about his behavior.
2018 Rutgers Lectures in Philosophy

A Quinean Foundation for Modal Logic

Robert Stalnaker
Professor of Philosophy, emeritus
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Public Lecture:

Propositions

Alexander Library
Teleconference Lecture Hall, Room 403
Rutgers University–New Brunswick
Monday, October 15, 4:30-6:30pm
Reception to follow

Join us again for the following lectures:

Predicates and Predication
Wednesday, October 17, 4:30-6:30pm
Alexander Library
Teleconference Lecture Hall, Room 403
Reception to follow

Properties and Relations
Friday, October 19, 3:30-5:30pm
Alexander Library
Teleconference Lecture Hall, Room 403
Reception to follow
Law of Attraction can better people’s lives

KAAN JON BOZTEPE

The Law of Attraction is a philosophy built on turning positive thoughts into actuality. The concept of accepting how life is, realizing just how special the universe is and focusing on positive thoughts and goals without doubt. Practicing the Law of Attraction has no specific time constraints. The essence of it is, someone has the power to pull things that they want from this universe into reality. There might be those scoffing at the idea of the Law of Attraction, but they are always wrong. The universe is always on your side, if you allow it to be. Life is a blank canvas ready to be painted with all the possibilities that are humanly possible. Let me put this in simpler terms — if you received a failing grade on a test, you cannot change it unless your professor deems it worthy of change. You then have two options, you can either sulfate and blame the teachings of the professor and the lack of teaching or you can see deeper into the teachers teaching not at the quality you would like, but you can stay for after hours and learn your lesson from what questions you got wrong and fix it for next time.

The Law of Attraction is very similar to how people view self-care. The range of benefits is endless and include mental, spiritual and physical health. Now, people might state, “but if I say I’m okay, not upset or mad, then I’m lying.” I understand where that person is coming from, but the key thing to take out from this is that these are not lies, they are different ways of interpreting what happens to you. It takes 21 days to make a habit, but you have to be consistent and not break the 21 days, the same goes with being positive. Do not allow yourself to say “I hate that,” “why does this always happen to me?” or “how come this doesn’t happen to anyone else.” These phrases are essentially you asking for the universe to give you more of what you hate and do not want, because instead of thanking the universe for all your choices over the last 150th editorial board. Columns, cartoons and letters do not necessarily reflect the views of the Targum Publishing Company or its staff.

Uber, Lyft promoting civic engagement

Underserved communities need help overcoming voting barriers

In November, Republican Bob Hugin will challenge Sen. Bob Menendez (D-N.J.) for his office, and all 12 of the House seats will be on the ballot. All 12 seats being open means that, depending on who gets out and votes, there could be some important changes to the state’s Legislature. On the ballot, New Jersey voters will be asked about their approval of things like protecting students from lead exposure, expanding county and vocational college programs and the state borrowing $500 million to ramp up security in public schools. Yesterday was the last day to register to vote in the New Jersey midterm elections, but being registered to vote is only half the battle — actually getting to the polls is an entirely different story.

According to the Pew Research Center, 3 percent of people who did not vote in 2016 but were registered to do so said that transportation issues were the reason they did not vote. An additional 14 percent said they did not vote because of inconvenient hours or polling places, as well as trouble with conflicting schedules. Interestingly, the demographics of people who are likely to be nonvoters are very different from their likely-to-vote counterparts, and the differences lie mostly in level of income and race. Approximately 43 percent of people generally not likely to vote are Hispanic, African American or other racial and ethnic minorities, which is around double that of the percentage among people who are likely to vote. Additionally, more than half of nonvoters, as opposed to 72 percent of their voting counterparts, have not attended college. Further, approximately 65 percent of nonvoters have an income of less than $30,000 per year, compared to 19 percent of people who are likely to vote. If we consider voting to be an expression of one’s civic voice, what these statistics show is that low income and minority communities are less likely to use theirs. But, as previously mentioned, this lack of voting is mostly not a matter of choice, but rather a matter of having to face obstacles like transportation and time off from work to actually get to the polls. But, prominent rideshare companies Uber and Lyft are offering free and discounted rides to people who want to vote on Nov. 6. They are working together with organizations that civic engagement — Uber partnering with Vote.org, Turbo Vote and Nonprofit Vote, among others, and Lyft partnering with Vote Latino, the National Federation of the Blind and Urban League affiliates — both with the aim of helping members of underserved communities get to the polls and engage their voice.

In some cases, Rutgers also offers free shuttles to voting stations. For example, to get to the station in North Brunswick last November, a free shuttle from the Briel Road bus stop was offered. This was likely a huge help to a number of students, but it seems the University can still do more in this realm. Making more free shuttles available and widely known would undoubtedly help students carry out civic engagement. In addition to going easy on class attendance for voting day so that students can more reasonably find time to hit the polls.

Civic engagement like voting is extremely important in a political system like ours, and it is necessary for underserved communities to get to the voting stations. The Daily Targum’s editorials represent the views of the majority of the 150th editorial board. Columns, cartoons and letters do not necessarily reflect the views of the Targum Publishing Company or its staff.
Forza Horizon 4 is money well spent for racing game fans

GAMER NEXT DOOR
MITCHELL KEVETT

For those of you who do not know, Forza Horizon 4 is now available for purchase on Xbox and PC. I have spent nearly 30 hours frolicking about Horizon 4’s new open world, and I have been able to gain a solid grasp of the game’s mechanics, features and story arc. Horizon 4 is the follow up to developer Playground Games’ Forza Horizon 3, which boasted the Australian outback for its open world setting.

The Forza Horizon series functions as an arcade-like spin-off of the Forza Motorsport series, a separate slew of titles which is more simulation-oriented. The game is completely online, with other players inhabiting the world alongside you (an online option is available). Horizon 4 is set in the United Kingdom. Horizon 4 has a much more fleshed out and alive open world when compared to the game The Crew 2. While Crew 2 possesses the entire continental United States as its backdrop for an open world map, it unfortunately feels empty. The map may be much larger than Horizon 4’s in proportion, but the space in between the interesting parts of the map is incredibly dull and underpopulated. Every road is interesting to drive in Horizon 4, while Crew 2’s roads feel like monotonous highways. Horizon 4’s has small walls, hedges, bushes, trees, telephone poles and even guard rails that are all completely destructible, whereas the same dynamics cannot be found in Crew 2. Horizon 4 also has changing seasons, which makes the world feel visibly different. This is a mark that Crew 2 misses.

Horizon 4’s gameplay feels like a cross between Burnout, Dirt, Need for Speed and The Crew series. While driving around the world you rack up an arcade-like points multiplier through destroying objects, the game’s reward system encourages a variety of play styles, and allows players to experience Horizon 4 in whichever way they choose. The game has a loose storyline — the player earns a place and then competes in the Horizon Festival. To progress in the story players must earn influence points, which can be gained through finishing a variety of cross-country, off-road, track or street racing events. Horizon 4 also has set events, where players race dirt bikes, giant hovercrafts, harrier jets and even a train.

Horizon’s cars sounds are simply stunning. There is nothing like putting the pedal to the metal, hearing that turbocharger spool up and seeing a massive flash of fire shoot out of your exhaust pipe when you let go of the gas. The game is incredibly immersive, with some very well done graphics, motion blur and audio. Horizon 4 has 450 cars in the base game alone, and all of the rides have optional performance upgrades and fully customizable exteriors. More cars are already being added as optional DLC.

The game has hundreds of hours of content and loads of intriguing areas to play around in and explore. Forza Horizon 4 is money well spent if you are looking for some arcade-like entertainment to fill in your downtime this fall.

Mitchell Kevett is a School of Arts and Sciences senior majoring in history and minorng in political science. His columns, “Gamer Next Door,” run on alternate Wednesdays.

YOUR VOICE
The Daily Targum welcomes submissions from all readers. Due to space limitations, letters to the editor must not exceed 500 words. Guest columns and commentaries should be between 700 and 850 words. All authors must include name, phone number, class year and college affiliation or department to be considered for publication. Anonymous letters will not be considered. All submissions are subject to editing for length and clarity. A submission does not guarantee publication. Please submit via email to oped@dailytargum.com by 4 p.m. to be considered for the following day's publication.

OPINIONS PAGE 7

The Daily Targum

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1. Come to 204 Neilson St.
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732-932-7051, x104

TARGUM CLASSIFIEDS
732-932-7051
www.dailytargum.com
Black writers have often been to write from whence they came. Black poets have often been to work needs to be done to reach out to historically marginalized demographics — Native American and Hispanic children also scored below average — to create a more level playing field for all Americans.

According to research by the National Center for Education Statistics, Black children still constitute the highest number of minors living in poverty. The same study showed Black children consistently scoring in the lowest among reading tests in fourth and eighth grade. It’s clear that more work needs to be done to reach out to historically marginalized communities of color until at least the late 1950s, and even today, literacy rates are still heavily affected by socioeconomic status.

While it would be easy to extol the virtues of legends like Maya Angelou and Nikki Giovanni, it’s also exciting to look at some of the bold voices creating legacies of their own. Just a few of the bold voices creating legacies of their own.

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A Bryk-Knit of Cuban-Jamaican origin, Aja Monet is an activist and educator as well as a poet. Her book “My Mother Was a Freedom Fighter” celebrates Black womanhood and explores the horrors of imperialism past and present. The book was nominated for a NAACP award, and received wide acclaim. Sexism, genocide, grief and love all play huge roles in shaping her worldview and her work. Harry Belafonte, legendary activist and artist, called her “the true definition of an artist,” an affirmation that she’s walking in the tradition of those who came before her.

Hanif Abdurraqib Black Mid-Western artists have a long and strong history of shaping culture, with cities like Chicago and St. Louis being home to many art and music movements in the past century. Hailing from Columbus, Ohio, Abdurraqib is carrying the torch. A cultural critic, essayist and poet, he’s cut from a Baldwin-esque cloth. His writing is incisive, and well in touch with the ways we communicate and consume. An author of four books, his latest release of poetry is called “Vintage Sadness,” which came out last year. The opening quotes, taken from Octavia Butler and Carly Rae Jepsen, are a testament to the threads he sees between cultures and connections he makes. It’s also just incredibly interesting to see the contrast of influences like in his latest essay collection, which quoted Lorraine Hansberry and Lil Uzi Vert. With more work slated to be released in 2019, be sure to look for more from Abdurraqib.

Eve Ewing Reaching a point of creative and educational praxis has often proved to be a challenge, but Dr. Eve Ewing has taken on the task with aplomb. A Chicago-raised, Harvard-educated sociologist of education who reseaches racism, social inequality and urban policy, she also writes poetry. Her work as a sociologist has been funneled into a new book called “Ghosts in the Schoolyard: Racism and School Closings on Chicago’s South Side.” Her collection of poetry, essays and visual art, “Electric Arches,” was released last year, and was named the Best Poetry Book by the Chicago Review of Books. It seems like there isn’t much she can’t do, and Ewing is sure to be a mainstay in academic and artistic circles for years to come.

Just as the highlighted writers are all interdisciplinary artists, let’s not forget that plenty of the most prolific Black poets today work in hip-hop. Rappers like Noname and Earl Sweatshirt are hard at work putting gripping prose into a musical context. In whatever form, watching Black artists blaze new trails and exploring culture is engaging and essential.
Happy Birthday. Look for opportunities that will allow you to venture down new paths as you get ready to pump up as you are. Don't let others say or do personally. Understanding the situations others face will help you get past any negativity or minimize what you feel. 4 stars

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Focus on what you can do to improve your relationship with your peers. Don't take what others say or do personally. Understanding the situations others face will help you get past any negativity or minimize what you feel. 4 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Take whatever you are trying to pursue one step further. This will help test the possibility that exists and give you a better idea of what you may need to do in order to reach your target. A little charm will go a long way. 3 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Put more enthusiasm and energy into whatever you do, and you'll get better results. An opportunity to form a partnership should be considered carefully. Promises made may not be honored. Make sure you get what's being offered in writing. 3 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Share your ideas and discuss plans with those you find just as creative as you are. Put more into important relationships, and don't be shy about expressing the way you feel and what you want to see unfold. Romance is in the stars. 5 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A change can be expected if you neglect your duties at home or at work. Try to maintain consistency, honesty and patience in order to avoid being labeled or misinterpreted. Live up to your promises and host a positive attitude. 4 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A day trip, a change in environment or spending time with someone you don't see often will have an impact on the way you think and how you proceed. Knowledge is power, and what you do today may help you advance. 2 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Put pressure on yourself to finish what you start. Take responsibility for your actions. Time-sensitive issues should not be let to fizzle out or up to someone who will use the help offered as leverage to manipulate you. Call the shots. 3 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Think matters through before you make your move. Discipline and determination will pay off. Don't let anger slip into the forefront, meaning matters up for you. Patience and hard work will be far more effective. End your day on a romantic note. 3 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Set your sights on what you want to accomplish. Call in favors, but keep an eye on what's being done. Taking control and doing your part will bring the results you are looking for. Trust is earned, not bought. 3 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Keep the little you have and look for opportunities that will allow you to venture down new paths as you get ready to pump up as you are. Don't let others say or do personally. Understanding the situations others face will help you get past any negativity or minimize what you feel. 3 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Put more time and effort into home, family and personal finances. Have your money and tell others what you do to ensure the safety and security of those you love will make a difference to the way others view you. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): An unusual situation is apparent. Situations will escalate into something difficult to control if your mentors are questionable. Don't get involved in something that can jeopardize your reputation. Be upfront and don't deviate from the truth. 2 stars

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CHAMPIONSHIPS
Rutgers will compete in 1 more fall event before taking 3-month break

CONTINUED FROM BACK
Out of approximately 100 qualified athletes at regions in the singles main draw, Jacobs was 1 of 2 unseeded players that made it all the way to the round of 16 in singles play. Not only did Jacobs play an extra match to add her name into the main draw, but she was able to defeat top tier opponents from Fordham and the Orange before falling to No. 17 seed Caroline Dunleavy from Yale, who was competing on her home court. Jacobs lost the first set 6-3, but came back strong for a 6-2 second set, ultimately tying out to a 6-0 loss in the final set.

“We’re just seeing the whole team play with more confidence, and they’re competing the way that they know how to play,” said head coach Hilary Ritchie. “Typically a lot of times what would happen is we’d have a game plan, but we’d back off in the big moments and not be so aggressive. But we just noticed the whole team playing at a higher level overall.”

Also representing the Knights in the doubles quarterfinals were junior Jaci Cochrane and freshman Kristiana Zahare. The pair were unable to seal the deal in a close 8-7 loss to Boston University’s Shelly Taloz and Emily Kim.

In comparison to last year’s regionals performance, Rutgers is looking at the program’s best regional performance to date. The team only had athletes make it to the round of 64 in 2017, which seems mediocre to the team’s dominant run at this year’s regionals.

“I think it’s just a great trend and it shows where we’re going and how we’re working hard and hopefully translates into our conference play,” Ritchie said.

To put the ITA Northeast Regional into perspective, there are approximately 30 Division 1 players across 40 teams in arguably the largest tennis region in the nation. To have five Knights make it into the singles main draw and also five players advance to the round of 16, one in singles and two pairs in doubles, asserts Rutgers as one of the top teams in the country.

“They’ve been working exceptionally hard in terms of athleticism, and I think they’re really understanding that hard work can translate into confidence,” Ritchie said. “You don’t just need wins and success in competition to get confidence. You can get it through hard work in practice and just being really diligent about the way you practice.”

Looking ahead, the Knights still have one more fall invite in Buffalo on Oct. 26-28 before they get a 3-month training block until spring competition. After this past weekend, Rutgers is hoping its growing confidence carries over into the conference season.

Ritchie doesn’t see the Knights as underdogs in the Big Ten, but as aggressive competitors that are going to transform the rest of the conference views them.

“Well, I think all the teams know that we come to compete,” Ritchie said. “But I think now, they’ll look at (the Knights’ regional performance) as ‘Wow, Rutgers is hungry,’ and I don’t think you can overlook us.”

Junior Kat Muzik reached the semifinals in doubles action with freshman Tess Fisher as her partner during the Championships, THE DAILY TARGUM / APRIL 2018

ROAD
Knights currently riding 8-game losing streak, still winless in Big Ten

CONTINUED FROM BACK
Another key player who has shown time and again that she is more than just a setter is freshman Inna Balyko.

She had an easy 23 assists at her position, but also led in blocks with six in the final set alone. She also had a total of nine digs, following right behind leader of the night, sophomore right side Kanila Cesliik, who had a career-high 10 digs.

Cesliik is beginning to prove to her team that she deserves to be a leader. After a successful freshman season, Cesliik will also be a successful upperclassman, posting career highs in her sophomore year.

With the Knights consistently battling higher ranked teams that give them a run for their money, inevitably they fall short in almost every set. After trailing behind teams, Rutgers will give another fight by coming up with leads like sophomore right side Beka Kojadinovic and junior middle blocker Jasmine Stackhouse.

Both Kojadinovic and Stackhouse fought back in Indiana to put the Knights back in the lead, but somewhere down the line, they lost their streak and lost the match.

“Highs aren’t high enough, and our lows are too long,” said head coach CJ Werneke.

Rutgers puts in tough battles against some of the more challenging opponents. With the Knights consistently playing at a higher level overall, both Kojadinovic and Stackhouse have been able to adapt to the Big Ten swiftly and smoothly.

At the most recent game against the Hoosiers, Maksimova, Balyko and middle blocker Merle Weidt were leaders. Outside hitter Tah Marmen has also been a leader in the previous games, putting her name on the leaderboard in kills consistently.

The main focus of the team has been on fixing small things in practice by each player, but overall, Werneke has been pushing for better performances on the court since he knows that they are capable of coming off with a win against some of the more challenging opponents.

“The moment you don’t respond, the other teams prey on that.”

CJ WERNEKE
Head Coach

“We’re just seeing the whole team play with more confidence and they’re competing the way that they know how to play”

HILARY RITCHIE
Head Coach

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Head coach CJ Werneke knows that the Knights will need to respond well to their losing streak if they want to get out of their recent funk.

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Rutgers back on road to face No. 4 PSU

 currently 6-15 and on an eight-game losing streak, the Rutgers volleyball team has had a tough season in the Big Ten once again.

The Scarlet Knights most recently played Indiana (12-7, 3-5) in Bloomington and had another three-set loss. That gives them three consecutive straight set losses, which they will have to overcome.

Their upcoming game is against No. 4 Penn State (15-3, 6-2), who recently defeated then-No. 3 Nebraska (15-3, 6-2), meaning the Nittany Lions will certainly pack a punch coming off a huge win.

Overall against the Hoosiers, Rutgers did not perform well compared to its usual stats. But someone to look out for at this next game is freshman outside hitter Anastasiia Maksimova. She posted a career high kills with 7 in the game. With a high exposure to volleyball growing up, Maksimova has had both parents and grandfather pursue the sport.

At 6-foot-1-inch, her height helps her on the court. She proved this past game that she is more than a legacy — she has earned her spot playing in the Big Ten.

Alex Fabugais-Inaba

The Rutgers tennis team pulled off its best performance of the fall season at the ITA Northeast Regional Championships in New Haven, Conn. this past weekend.

Junior Kat Muzik and freshman Tess Fisher rallied to a semifinals match in doubles play, while sophomore Maya Jacobs fought her way to the round of 16 in singles action.

The Scarlet Knights went in as the underdogs and turned many heads, coming out of doubles action with the only unseeded duo that competed in the semifinals. Fisher and Muzik eliminated No. 3 seed Brown in a gritty quarterfinals performance (8-7), but couldn’t quite pull out a win against Syracuse’s Sofya Golushkovskaia and Sofya Treshcheva (6-4, 7-6) in the semifinals.

The last Rutgers duo to make it to the final four were alumnae Mariam Zein and Gina Li at the 2014 ITA Regionals.

“It felt really good to represent Rutgers in the doubles semifinals, especially being the only unseeded team left,” Muzik said, according to scarletknights.com. “Everybody this weekend had one of our best overall performance of the fall season at the ITA Northeast Regional Championships in New Haven, Conn. this past weekend.

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