



THE TRANSCRIPT

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Former General tackles Middle East issues



Photo by Chris Gong

Four-Star General John Abizaid was put in charge of U.S. central command in 2003 and retired in 2007.

By Mark Dubovec
Transcript Reporter

Gen. John P. Abizaid (Ret.) discussed American policies in his lecture "Strategic Challenges in the Middle East" on Wed. Feb. 20 at Gray Chapel.

Abizaid, who earned a master's degree in Middle East studies from Harvard, oversaw military operations in 27 countries as commander of U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM).

Professor Sean Kay, chair of the International Studies department, introduced Abizaid and said, "Tonight is a great opportunity for Ohio Wesleyan and our community to keep out the politics that have been descending upon us and to hear from someone who's an expert on what our next president will have to face."

"I don't consider myself a Republican. I don't consider myself a Democrat," Abizaid said. "I'm someone who served for over 30 years, and I'm an expert on the Middle East."

Abizaid referred to the current situation as the "First Battle of Globalization."

He said "People who want to integrate into the system are

battling those who want disintegrate the system."

Abizaid outlined the core issues of the Middle East situation and cited two forms of radical Islam as the most dangerous aspects of the region: Sunni-Muslim Extremism and Shia Extremism.

Identifying Sunni-Muslim Extremism as the philosophy of Al-Qaida, Abizaid said, "It doesn't represent mainstream Muslim beliefs, but it is religious. We have to do everything in our power to keep it from going mainstream."

Abizaid advocated cooperative military action and law enforcement against the movement.

Shia Extremism, according to Abizaid, is embodied by Iran and must not be allowed to dominate the region. "Iran as a nation-state can be contained, and over time, the people can move away from the regime," he said. "However, we shouldn't restrict the military option."

In addition to combating extremism and terrorism, Abizaid said the U.S. must help resolve the Israeli-Arab conflict through diplomatic influence. "It continues to give people lack

of hope, and lack of hope drives people to extremism."

Abizaid also devoted much time to oil. "Oil fuels the global economy in a way that people need to pay attention to," he said. "We need less dependency on it. We need a cooperative and sharing relationship with the oil-producing countries until we figure out something else."

Abizaid believes America needs to be a leader in the region. "The absence of our power would be disaster. To abandon our role as leader would be disastrous."

Although he emphasized the necessity of military force, Abizaid insisted other strategies are needed. "It's not just military power alone," he said. Abizaid added that a strong policy would include political, diplomatic, informational, and educational elements.

"Our presence needs to be more indirect and cooperative. We have to figure out how to help [these nations] help themselves," Abizaid said. "We have to get better at sharing intelligence and law enforcement globally."

"I don't know if these problems will be solved in our life-

time," Abizaid said. "I believe American power can help shape the region."

The speech inspired differing reactions among students.

"It was good to hear a military perspective rather than an academic or the media's version of the region," said junior Brian Fahey. "But the idea that a non-Middle Eastern country can come in and fix things... hasn't worked."

Freshman Lauren McCullough didn't find the speech informative.

"He had a good grasp of what was going on right now and how we got there, but he didn't give a lot of detail of what the next step is," McCullough said. "We don't seem to have a plan of what to do next."

"We do need to clean up our mess, and we can't really pull out now," said junior Aisling Kernz. "We say we're trying to help these people...but are we really helping?"

Sophomore Tina Graver said "I don't think he told us anything we didn't already know." She added, "If any power can pull [the Middle East] out of it,

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Event exhibits value of donors

By Michael DiBiasio
Transcript Reporter

On March 28 in the Hamilton Williams atrium, the Student Development Council (SDC), in conjunction with the Office of Development, will hold Tuition Free Forward.

The organizers aim to educate students about the impact and importance of donor support to the university.

Candice Ott, director of the annual fund, and members of the SDC, a student group focused on philanthropy to OWU, decided to revive Tuition Free Forward, which struggled to draw student attention two years ago, with new events designed to excite students about donating and volunteering.

Students will have the opportunity to receive prizes for answering university trivia, have their name put in a raffle for signing thank-you cards to donors and watch a commercial about Tuition Free Forward and the giving process.

"When students graduate they don't realize that tuition doesn't cover the entire cost of a student coming here," Ott said. "We wanted to be more proactive in engaging those students, so when they do graduate they know, and it's not a foreign sub-

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Gym Class Heroes picked to headline Springfest 2008



photo from celebrity-mania.com

The Campus Programming Board (CPB) selected Gym Class Heroes to play on Friday, April 18 in Branch Rickey Arena. Doors will open at 7p.m. and the show will start at 8p.m. Tickets will go on sale and volunteer sign up will start immediately after spring break. If you would like to get involved more directly with the event, CPB meetings are held on Mondays at 6p.m. in the Crider Lounge.

Students reach out with array of talents

By Samantha Beany
Transcript Reporter

Three hundred dollars will send a child to school in Africa. On Feb. 29, OWU students will raise money to support these students by hosting the Global Outreach Talent Show.

The Global Outreach Talent Show, hosted by Rafiki Wa Afrika, will take place at 7 p.m. in the Chappel Drama Center. Tickets are \$5.

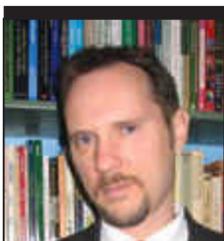
Sophomore Farooj Busari, president of Rafiki Wa Afrika, said the purpose of the show is "to allow students to show off their talents while raising money for the Ghanaian Student Education Fund (GSEF)."

The show helps Rafiki Wa Afrika fulfill its mission statement of raising awareness of social, cultural, and political issues on the African continent and in the African-American community.

"This year's focus will be on educating the community on the crisis in Kenya and freerice.com," Busari said. "(Freerice.com) is an organization that gives 20 grains of rice to poverty stricken countries every time a vocab. word is answered correctly."

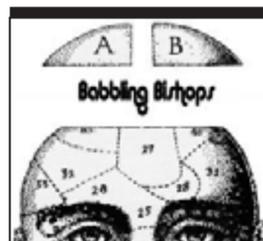
According to the Freerice.com's

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Professor returns from trip abroad

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Students keep tradition of Babbling alive

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Seniors play last game in Branch Rickey Arena

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Campus News

Professor explores Istanbul during semester abroad

By Kaitlin Thomas
Transcript Reporter

Students often spend a semester abroad during their college experience, but rarely do professors have the same opportunity. Mark P. Gingerich, James S. Britton Professor of European History here at Ohio Wesleyan, returned to campus in January after spending a semester in Turkey.

Gingerich was invited to teach at the Center for Russian Studies at Bilkent University in Ankara, Turkey as a visiting lecturer for the fall of 2007. The university was the first private university in Turkey.

"They offered me the position for a year," Gingerich said, "but I couldn't swing that." Instead, he opted for one semester.

Though he was formally a part of the International Studies department at Bilkent, Gingerich taught strictly history courses.

At OWU, Gingerich has specialized in modern European history since 1991, where his course on Adolf Hitler and Nazi Germany is extremely popular among students. At Bilkent, his classes covered a broader timeline.

At the undergraduate level, Gingerich lectured on European political and diplomatic affairs spanning the years 1648 to 1914. He also taught a graduate seminar on the affairs of the Soviet Union during World War II.

In comparing OWU to Bilkent, Gingerich said most students were of the same high caliber.

The main difference though, was that while the university was an English-based institution, most of the students were not native English speakers.

"I found that a constant challenge," he said. "I had to make sure I always spoke clearly. I tried to say everything twice using different words and terms."

Opportunities like this are not unheard of, but generally professors have to apply for programs such as these through scholarly programs like Fulbright. In Gingerich's case the opportunity arose out of his personal and professional connection with the director of



Professor Mark Gingerich

the Center for Russian Studies.

"I got a phone call and was asked if I wanted to do it. It was not something I had to apply for. It was an invitation so I decided to take it," he said.

Gingerich was accompanied by his wife, Suzan Osman, instructor of Middle Eastern history at OWU, and their twin daughters. The opportunity to share the experience with his family was ultimately what sold Gingerich on the trip.

"Quite honestly, it was a once in a lifetime opportunity," he said. Gingerich's connection to the director of the Russian Studies Center is not the only connection he has to Turkey. His wife previously lived in Istanbul in the 1980s and is fluent in Turkish.

"If she had no connection, I would have still thought about it because I have friends in the faculty at Bilkent," Gingerich said.

The opportunity to return to Turkey was exciting to Osman and it had always been a dream of hers to return. As for the couple's

eleven year old daughters, it was hard to transition to living in another country.

"They really missed their friends [and] they missed their school," Gingerich said.

"They made friends at school and we have family friends with girls right about their age, but we were kind of isolated," he said. "We lived on campus and there weren't a lot of kids right in the apartment block where we were."

Gingerich said that while the experience was positive, it was also unusual.

"To be in a different country, to teach European history in English; there are very few opportunities in Europe to do that. If you're teaching American history and you are an American, you have a much better chance of being brought somewhere else."

Gingerich said it was more common to bring in someone from a European background to teach European history rather than an American.

When asked if he would pursue the opportunity again if it should present itself, Gingerich said he would seriously consider it.

"It's quite disruptive for one's family. If I do it again in the future I would probably wait until my daughters are in college so it would just be my wife and I."

Gingerich also said that his decision would depend on the location.

He knows the area of Ankara now and thanks to sightseeing trips he has seen at least some of Turkey outside the capital city.

"We took every opportunity we could [to explore]. It was difficult of course because I was teaching five days a week and my daughters were in school for a very long school day," he said. "But we made it to Istanbul a couple of times [and] we went up to the Black Sea region."

After pushing up his final exams due to the overlapping schedules with OWU, Gingerich and his family spent a few days in Munich, Germany before returning home.

The experience may have been a once in a lifetime opportunity and a lot of fun, but Gingerich seemed happy to be back.

U.S. Senator speaks about 'Reclaiming the Dream'



Photos by Amy Allan

U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill visited the Ohio Wesleyan campus on Sunday for a town hall style meeting with students to help support her preferred presidential candidate, Barack Obama. In 2006, McCaskill became the first woman elected to the U.S. Senate from the state of Missouri. McCaskill helped Obama win the Missouri primary on Super Tuesday. McCaskill sits on five Senate Committees, including Armed Services, Commerce, Homeland Security and Government Affairs, Aging, and Indian Affairs. Additionally, Claire was named as one of the select Senators to sit on the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, formerly known as the Truman Committee.

The Transcript apologizes for the following error in the Feb. 14 issue:

An article profiling the Valentine's Weekend Benefit Bash held on Feb. 16 cited the host of the event as Rafiki Wa Afrika and its team leaders as Stan Osei-Bonsu and Nick Oteng. Osei-Bonsu was the president of Rafiki Wa Afrika in '05-'06, while Oteng was president in '06-'07. The current president is Farooq Busari. The host was GSEF, the Ghana Student Education Fund, a student group founded by team leaders Osei-Bonsu and Oteng to facilitate the student organizational aspect of the Ghana Student Education Fund. The team leaders and Sally Leber head the Ghana Cultural Immersion Team, the mission branch of the group going to Ghana.

Senior Jones awarded trustee position

By Myra Blackburn
Transcript Reporter

Senior Katie Jones won the class of 2008 Board of Trustees run-off election on Friday, Feb. 22.

The Board of Trustees run-off was on Feb 20-21. Seniors who are expected to graduate this May were able to cast their votes online by logging on the J/CX Student access website.

"Now that I have been elected for this position, I would like to really get involved with different groups. I imagine what my role will be on the Board of Trustees, I'm just really reaching out to many different groups and not the ones I am involved in," Jones said. "I would like to find out the common things that everyone have discussed and would like to see changed at (Ohio Wesleyan). I would like to remove my own involvements here and my own experiences and try to really speak to the whole student body, the young alumni and class 2008."

According to the Graduating Class Trustee Information Packet, the individual elected on the Board of Trustees is not solely a representative for the student body but rather, a voice for younger alumni who would not otherwise have a forum in which to present their special needs and interests.

Brittney Black, young alumni and student relations coordinator, said there were four candidates who ran for the Board of Trustees position. Each candidate had to win 51 percent of the senior student body, but all candidates were close in winning the election. Instead, Black decided to choose the two candidates with the highest percentage of votes. These candidates were seniors Jones and Ben Owen.

"Last week in the first election there were 140 seniors who voted out of a possible 400 seniors, Black said. "A greater portion of the student body has voted in this election than in the past. The candidates must have

done a great job campaigning."

Jones said her interning experience on campus has allowed her to get some insight about issues that students are not involved in.

"I've been fortunate to get involved in things at school through my internships. I did my internship with Greg Matthews, former assistant vice president of admission and financial aid, [and when he left], I was assigned to Margaret Drugovich, vice president of Strategic Communications and University Enrollment, and I also interned for Rod Wrinkles," Jones said. "Through my internships, I got a chance to serve on different committees. For example, I worked a lot with the facilities piece in the strategic planning."

Jones said through her involvement on campus, she noticed there were a lot of issues on campus that many students do not have a say in. She said the biggest issue is students who aren't in social groups

are underrepresented. She said Greek organizations are well represented because they have a lot of outlets, very involved and have taken the initiative to be [leaders] on campus.

"I think certainly a lot of Greek life issues still need to be addressed," Jones said. "I'm going to spend time with those in Greek life because that's an area I am unfamiliar with," Jones said. "Some would argue that athletes programs would still need a lot more [assistance]."

Jones said the students who are focused on their academics, have jobs, or are simply uninvolved in social groups may be the students who are most likely to not have their voices heard. She also said minorities tend to be the other group that's not represented as well.

Jones said anyone who is willing to talk about their issues or concerns on campus are free to contact her through email or by sending her a Facebook message.

Tuition, from page 1

know, and it's not a foreign subject that we have to re-teach."

Tuition accounts for 57 percent of the university's budget, and donations help make up part of the remainder, according to Ott.

"The purpose of the event is to tell students that we are here because of the support of donors," Ott said. "We consider students as resident alumni. They're here for four years, so our office is trying to do a better job reaching out to them."

Junior Ryan Jordan, president of SDC, got the motivation to educate students about donating after talking with alumni through the Phonathon.

"I realized that tuition only covers 57 percent of the bud-

get, and I'm fortunate enough to receive financial aid and a scholarship to the university. I understand that it's not just the school being generous, it comes from alumni. Talking with alumni over the phone gave me a deeper understanding of what giving is about," Jordan said.

Ott hopes that Tuition Free Forward will not only create future donors, but instill gratitude in students for alumni who give their time and money to the university.

"There are countless things that they do to help the school. I can help the school right now by educating other students about it," Jordan said.

The event will begin at noon. If students have any questions, they can contact Jordan or other SDC members at owusdc@owu.edu.

Please
recycle *The Transcript!*



Photo by Kit McCann

The Babbling Bishops, an improv comedy troupe, perform around three shows a semester.

Bishops been Babbling since '91

By Emily Hastings
Transcript Correspondent

Ohio Wesleyan's improv comedy troupe, the Babbling Bishops, have kept students laughing for the past 17 years.

The improv troupe started in 1991 as Maria Dotori's senior theater project. The group was originally called Chameleon. The group was so popular that it returned the next year and was made an official OWU organization.

"Over the years we developed traditions and eventually gathered a steady troupe," said senior Kit McCann, Babbling Bishops president. McCann has been with the troupe since her freshman year.

Although McCann is president, she says there is no set person in charge because the group is collaborative.

"One thing that's great about the Babbling Bishops is that they provide all their own leadership," said professor Edward Kahn, the group advisor. "The

members care enough about the work and the organization to really apply themselves to their workshops, shows, and projects."

The Babbling Bishops perform about three shows every two months. The majority of the shows are in the Stuy Smoker, the home of their first performance.

The Bishops have a specific warm up before each show. About an hour before they go on stage, the troupe gathers and plays the game "bumper", a type of verbal tag, McCann said. Then they practice short scene work to help get them into character and start thinking quickly.

They also practice "group mind," which helps them mentally connect with the other troupe members.

"The goal is to get our minds in sync and to understand what page everyone is on; that way, when someone new comes on stage, they can immediately pickup on what we're doing,"

McCann said.

There are two specific types of shows, short form improv and long form improv.

Short form lasts about five minutes, whereas long form lasts 30-45 minutes and relates to one specific topic of the audience's choice.

"With long form we always have to remember to bring things to a close because we don't want to leave the audience confused," freshman troupe member Becky Brinkman said. "We really have to be on our toes. It's intense, but it's always a blast to do shows and make people laugh."

Junior Pooja Dutt recalled a Babbling Bishops performance.

"I like watching them perform because they can really think on their feet," Dutt said. "They have to be really witty. Not everyone can pull it off."

The troupe selects new members in a unique audition process. All hopeful members join the current troupe on stage and perform with them in front of

an audience.

After the show, the active members meet to discuss the possible new members. In order to let someone into the troupe, the group must unanimously decide, so sometimes the process can take awhile, McCann said.

"I joined the group because I simply like entertaining people and I have always entertained my friends," sophomore Mike Frye said. "The troupe also seemed like some pretty cool people to hang out with. We give everyone a nickname based on their personality."

The group's two favorite shows are the first show with their new members and the senior show, McCann said.

Everyone in the troupe is involved with the senior show, but it highlights all of the seniors. One of the main events is the senior roast, which playfully pokes fun at the seniors.

"We may make fun of them, but it's all just good-natured banter," McCann said.

The 'Doctor' is in!

By Ryan Armstrong
Transcript Reporter

David Coleman, the "Dating Doctor," visited campus last Wednesday to give a presentation to Greek Life on topics such as how to find someone to date and what types of love are found in healthy relationships.

Coleman has a bachelor's degree in speech pathology and audiology and a master's degree in college-student personnel administration, both of which are from Bowling Green State University.

His most recent book, "Making Relationships Matter," looks at getting the most from everyday relationships and living with no regrets.

Publications such as the Chronicle of Higher Education, Cosmopolitan, Glamour, the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal and USA Today have all featured Coleman. He also appears regularly on hundreds of radio and television stations all over the United States.

Coleman said he became known as America's real-life "Hitch" after the writers of the 2005 romantic comedy of that title had Coleman promote the movie across the United States.

"Some writers saw a version of my show about ten years ago," Coleman said. "They ended up writing a screenplay. Then Sony Motion Pictures hired me to promote the movie all over the world. It has kind of changed my life and I helped them put a lot of butts in the seats."

According to www.dating-doctor.com/davidspromise, Coleman has been named the National Speaker of the Year 10 times, most recently in 2006. This has occurred seven times through the Campus Activities Magazine and three other times in The National Association for Campus Activities.

Coleman said the bottom line of his program is that it is not just for the rest of our college career; for the rest of our lives he wants us to be able to meet our "hmm..."

"A 'hmm...' is someone who stops you dead in your tracks," Coleman said. "They don't even know that you're checking them out. But either out loud or quietly to yourself your thinking 'hmm....'"

Coleman wants students to



Coleman

be the fat penguin and to speak to their 'hmm...'

"People should be able to put themselves out there," Coleman said.

"Rejection happens. But if you're a fat penguin, you'll be buoyant and you'll float right back up there until you break the ice with a 'hmm....'"

Coleman also gave advice to Greek Life, with ABC's of initial interest, characteristics for healthy relationships, guidelines for true friends, romance tips and the types of bad kissers, among other things.

The presentation was interactive, allowing the fraternities and sororities to join in. Coleman encouraged students to get involved by giving them chocolate. He told students they could ask any questions they had, they could challenge him on a pick-up line, or they could volunteer for different exercises in the program.

Coleman said he is the number one authority on pick-up lines in the U.S. according to Howard Stern.

"I have 1100 of them memorized and I use them every single day," Coleman said. Giving an example of the many pick-up lines he knows, he said, "Your father must have been a chicken farmer because you sure can raise cocks."

Coleman's presentation was this semester's first Trilogy event for the fraternity and sorority community. Trilogies are planned by the designated chair officer on the Interfraternity Council and the Panhellenic Council.

Allison Bressler, assistant director of Student Involvement for Greek Life, said some of these events are for both fraternities and sororities while others are held specifically for each group.

"Trilogy events can be anywhere from educating on today's issues facing college students, pure entertainment, or self-help," Bressler said.

To contact the Dating Doctor for more advice, visit his web site at www.dating.com or call toll-free at (866) 328-3762.

Office a place of interfaith

By Shade Fakunle
Transcript Correspondent

The Chaplain's Office offers many opportunities to students, faculty, staff and even alumni, according to the office's web site.

Mission trips, weekly chapel services, community service and religion classes are a sample of the opportunities offered by the office, as noted by its web site.

Though Christian based, the office is "interfaith laced," according to the office's web site.

Chaplain Jon Powers said he loves the diversity of the university and the way the students come together on a common ground.

"We don't do cookie cutter here," Powers said. He said so many types of students make up the puzzle and that the chapel is "the most visual representation of the many different faiths."

Though Powers was away from the university for a while, he has returned, and he said loves what he is seeing. He said the rest of the staff "ably and faithfully fulfilled my core commitments in my absence."

One of those who helped fill in for Powers in his absence was Sue Pasters, director of community service learning. She is the head of Willis Big Brothers and Big Sisters, a tutoring and

mentoring program at Willis Elementary School.

Pasters also works with the Student Initiative for International Development (SIID). This student group raises money to invest in small businesses in developing countries.

"It's really great to see students empowering people all over the globe to achieve their goals through education or self-sustaining projects," Pasters said.

So far the group has raised about \$2000.

Sally Leber is also part of the Chaplain's Office staff. She is the director of Columbus Initiative, a tutoring-mentor program partnered with Linden Elementary School, an inner-city school in Columbus.

"Each semester, the group is wonderfully diverse, exceedingly caring, and very committed to our work in the inner-city of Columbus," Leber said. "The Ohio Wesleyan tutors are a welcome and important part of the fabric that makes up our partner school, Linden Elementary School."

Community Service is an important part of the Chaplain's Office, and Pasters and Leber said they are working to encourage students to be apart of this community.

"For those students who are motivated to learn through ser-

vice, the rewards are phenomenal," Pasters said.

"Besides making wonderful contributions that benefit others, these students gain real-life experience and wisdom that may shape the rest of their lives," she said.

Other opportunities offered through the office include Common Texts, which is a meeting place for Jews, Christians, and Muslims.

Common Texts is Powers' favorite service offered by his office. But he said he also looks forward to Wednesday noon chapel.

He said he also enjoys being faculty advisor to the Peace and Justice House, a small living unit on campus.

"Everything that makes my work so enjoyable is also the biggest challenge," Powers said. He has to be knowledgeable of many faiths and aware of the needs of others, he said. "I have the best job in the world!" he shouted.

He goes by the slogan, "Being there when somebody needs me is the most important thing I do." Calling his office "the eye of the storm," Powers said that it is not always the problems, it's the excitement.

The Chaplain's Office is located on the third floor of Hamilton Williams Campus Center.

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it's the United States."

Conor Close, a sophomore, agreed with Abizaid's assertion that more than military action is required.

"It's important to be in communication with the 'enemy' as he put it and not just attack them," Close said. "I'm concerned that the United States is exercising and exploiting its power too much."

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page, the site is not for profit, and allows people to donate rice to poor countries while building their vocabulary.

The rice is paid for by companies that advertise on the site, and the rice is distributed by the United Nations World Food Program (WFP). The theme of the show is OWU Idol, based on "American Idol," and includes singers, dancers, comedians, and musicians.

Sophomore Annie Worth and

senior Bryan Trodgon will be performing a song in this year's show. "We are really excited to play music for a good cause," Worth said.

The acts come from "OWU, Capital University, Ohio Dominican University, and Otterbein College," Busari said. "We have seven students representing OWU."

This is the second time the show has been produced. Last year \$1800 was raised, and all of the proceeds went to Darfur.

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Campus News



The winter landscape in Delaware late Tuesday afternoon.

Photo by Jack Stenger

Dela'where' is the best hometown? Right here

Chelsie Pacha
Transcript Reporter

The City of Delaware was recently featured in "Ohio Magazine" as one of Ohio's "Best Hometowns," a designation that stirs mixed feelings in students.

Five towns were selected from each of Ohio's five regions based on community spirit, entertainment, business environment, health and safety, and culture and heritage. As Delaware met all the criteria, it was chosen as one of the five "Best Hometowns."

Students seem to have a variety of opinions about Delaware being selected for this honor.

"I think Delaware is a nice, close-knit community," sophomore Kelly Gardner said. "I am from a small town and coming to a place that is just as small is relieving. I also enjoy the downtown area because of the little shops and food places."

Sophomore Ashley Gallant said she understands why the award was given.

"Coming in as a freshman last year, I was extremely nervous about fitting in and meeting new people," Gallant said. "The campus is so close to the downtown area, which gives students a chance to interact with the community and actually be a part of the actual town,

not just the school. It is kind of like having a home away from home."

Gardner said safety is not a concern of hers when she is out and about. "Whenever I'm out on the weekend, I notice that there are cops scattered out among the campus and downtown area," Gardner said.

"I feel they are trying their best to keep an eye on the area and watch out for dangerous and threatening situations. Every community should have this type of safety."

Some students say they do not prefer the town to others and find it unsafe.

"Delaware is not safe now,

and I think it will be even worse if we give police swipe cards to enter residential buildings," sophomore Anita Marfo said.

When it comes to having fun, Marfo said Delaware is not where she wants to be.

"I think the community feels like a prison. The only thing here is the school, and there is nothing to do for fun. I usually go to Ohio State campus, bar hopping, or to Easton," she said.

Junior Kyle Miller said he has a variety of feelings about Delaware being called the "Best Hometown."

"I live in Delaware, so, of course, I'm going to say it is like a home to me," Miller said.

"Most people don't appreciate it because they are unaware of some of the things offered here. Not only is Delaware the home of the Little Brown Jug -- it has one of the best liberal arts colleges located right in the heart of the town, and it also has the fairground where many races and events occur."

As for entertainment, Miller said it could be better.

"The only sources of entertainment are the movie theater, sporting events or going to the bars," Miller said. "There is a small selection, but it is close to Columbus, which is where many students like to go for a good time on the weekends."

Friends train for 13.1 mile marathon debut

By Catie Coleman
Transcript Reporter

When junior Anthony Rosato made a passing joke to his friend, he never thought it would lead him to four months of determination, perseverance and windburn -- or, in other words, training for a half marathon in the middle of winter.

Rosato and junior Amanda Zechiel are training together for their debut 13.1 miles. Both have previously competed in one 5k (3.1 mile) race, but when Rosato made a joke about running the half marathon, Zechiel took him up on it.

"My fraternity (Alpha Sigma Phi) was doing it as a fundraiser and brotherhood event," Rosato said. "I mentioned it to Amanda as a joke, and she took it way too seriously."

Zechiel and Rosato decided to follow the free training plan designed by Hal Higdon, author of several marathon training books and programs.

The training plan was right on schedule to prepare them for the April 12 Capital City half marathon in Columbus.

Rosato may be training with Zechiel, but he's looking forward to running the half marathon with other friends as well. Rosato's roommate, junior Barclay Richey, will be competing in the event too.

But unlike Rosato, Richey's become quite familiar with the pain of 13.1 miles of pavement

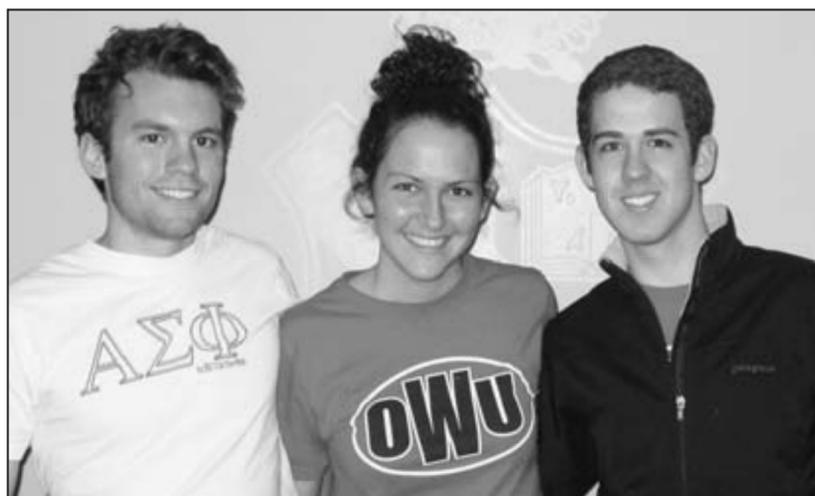


Photo by Catie Coleman

Juniors Barclay Richey, Amanda Zechiel and Anthony Rosato are all training for the Capital City Half Marathon taking place in Columbus on April 12.

under his feet.

Richey has competed in two full marathons, earning an eighth place finish in his first, the 2007 Earth Day Challenge in Kenyon, Ohio. His second marathon left him with a knee injury and three months of downtime while it healed.

Despite the injury, which hindered Richey's performance, he still laughs about the experience.

"I skipped through the Dublin [marathon]," Richey said.

Though Richey plans to compete in the Columbus marathon this fall, he said his distance of

choice is the half marathon.

"The half (marathon) is my favorite because I know I can finish and there's strategy involved," Richey said.

For the Capital City marathon, all three runners have set goals for themselves, and being training partners doesn't keep them from getting a little competitive with each other.

Rosato's goal is to finish the race in no more than 2 hours and 10 minutes. "I want to finish it in 2 [hours] 9 [minutes]," Zechiel said.

Richey, the veteran runner of the group, hopes to improve

on last his time from last year, which was 1 hour and 28 minutes.

According to Richey, the group plans to load up on carbohydrates, fruit and a ton of water before the race. On top of dieting advice, Richey offers some encouragement for Rosato, Zechiel and anyone else interested in running a half marathon. "Anyone can do it," Richey said. "It's the best feeling in the world to see the finish line closing in."

The Capital City half marathon will begin on Neil Avenue in at 9 a.m. on April 12.

LIS offers award for research

Greg Stull
Managing Editor

Libraries and Information Services (LIS) will hold its fifth student research-paper competition in April, awarding the winning student \$500 dollars.

Theresa Byrd, chief information officer and director of libraries, said the purpose of the award is to promote student scholarship. "We want scholarship to be synonymous with OWU," she said.

Science Librarian Deborah Peoples said the competition is open to students of all disciplines. "It's not just for people doing history theses," she said.

Byrd and Peoples, who are on the competition's 10-member judge panel, both said the announcement of the award on the LIS web site (<http://lis.owu.edu/>) clearly spells out the criteria that a paper must meet to be selected as the winner.

"We really value the evidence of research and the quality of information sources," Peoples said.

According to the web site, "The criteria emphasize the research process, the use of diverse and appropriate information resources, and appropriate disciplinary style." A link to the judges' assessment form outlines the specific criteria a paper must meet.

The deadline for submission is April 1. Among other specifics outlined on the web site, the paper must be at least 10 pages long using 12-point font and include two supporting documents: a research process questionnaire and a faculty certification form signed by the professor who supervised the production of the paper. These three items are to be submitted to Byrd in the Administrative Office of Beeghly Library by the date above.

"It's a hard deadline," Byrd said. "And the deadline is final."

Byrd said the number of submissions in the previous competitions has typically ranged from 10 to 20 papers. "We generally have a good mix of all disciplines," Byrd said.

Peoples said if any area is under represented, it's the sciences. "It's just because of the type of papers that they write," she said. "But we'd like to see more science papers."

Last year's winner was Jillian Snyder ('07), a politics and government and history double major. Her paper, 47 pages long and based on 32 sources, is titled "Dictatorship, disappearance & democracy: The role of the Malvinas War as catalyst for the Human Rights Movement and the reemergence of democracy in Argentina."

Snyder's paper -- along with the winning papers from 2006, 2005 and 2004 -- is stored in the Ohio Wesleyan University Historical Archives. This year's winner paper will become a permanent addition to the archives as well.

The award, sponsored by Friends of the Libraries, will be presented at the Friends of the Libraries Celebration of Scholarship on April 18.

At LIS, Byrd said, "we call it our signature event of the year."

There are two components to the celebration: the presentation of the student research-paper award and recognition of faculty publication.

Byrd said 25 faculty members published work during the 2006-2007 academic year -- not quite as many as during the 2004-2005 academic year, when 40 faculty members published work.

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Join the staff of The Transcript. OWU's student newspaper has an immediate opening for a political cartoonist.

If you have artistic talent and a penchant for politics, you could be perfect for the job.

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Arts & Entertainment

Slam Bam Poetry Jam lures OWU poets onto the stage

By Mary Beth Scherer
Transcript Reporter

Def Jam Poetry Artist Dana Gilmore evoked both tears and laughter at the Slam Bam Poetry Jam sponsored by Sisters United and the Office of Minority Student Affairs on Feb. 21.

Gilmore not only hosted the event, but recited some of her original poetry, which included works such as "Wife Women Friend Part 1 and 2" and "Sweet 16." Students also had the opportunity to recite their original work, or the work of other distinguished poets and writers.

Gilmore said the students who recited their poetry were "very talented." She said the Ohio Wesleyan University students provided a great atmosphere.

"There was a great balance of attentiveness and energy," Gilmore said. "Some audiences are just real."

Gilmore said she enjoys performing at universities.

"I feel like college students are energetic, open-minded and receptive," Gilmore said. "I love the energy of the students, and I feel like I am teaching and motivating them."

Terree Stevenson, interim director of Minority Student Affairs, said she was excited to see the number of poets and students who came out.

"It was wonderful to see the layers of talent and creativity on campus," Stevenson said.

Senior Francesca Ramsawak, president of Sisters United, was in charge of advertising and promoting the event. She said she hoped this event would inspire people to submit their work to ONYX

"I feel like college students are energetic, open-minded and receptive," Gilmore said. "I love the energy of the students, and I feel like I am teaching and motivating them."

magazine and spread the word about Sisters United.

Before the event started, Ramsawak said she was thinking about reciting some of her own poetry.

Although she said she was nervous, Ramsawak recited two original poems and said she was glad she went through with it. Ramsawak said she was happy with the number of people who came to the event.

During the event, Gilmore asked for volunteers to come up in front of the audience and do whatever she asked them to do. Junior Corey Turner and freshman Jerrell Cephas both volunteered.

Gilmore then asked the men to answer a few questions regarding love and relationships.

Sophomore Shade Fakunle, women's task force chair of Sisters United, said the audience participation was her favorite part of the evening. This was because most men usually avoid the questions Gilmore asked, Fakunle said.

Cephas said he wasn't nervous about being in front of the audience. In addition to answering the relationship ques-

tions, Cephas also recited two original poems.

Cephas said he thinks people can relate to what he had to say.

Although unsure of what to expect, Cephas said after he heard Gilmore's poetry, he thought she was "awesome." He said she had a great stage presence and was able to keep the crowd interested.

Sophomore Larissa Anderson said she attended the event because she knew Gilmore was going to be there. Anderson said she thought Gilmore was "real" and she could relate to her.

Anderson said she also thought the students who recited their poems had "a lot of talent."

Gilmore said she had three pieces of advice for students interested in poetry, or writing in general.

"First, stay true to what's in your heart; second, learn your craft; and third, pursue it endlessly."

Stevenson said Sisters United and the Office of Minority Student Affairs started planning the Slam Bam Poetry Jam in November and hope to make it an annual event.



Photo by Mary Beth Scherer

Def Jam Poetry Artist Dana Gilmore introduces herself at the Slam Bam Poetry Jam held Feb. 21 at the Bishop Café. She not only hosted the event, but also performed some of her original poetry and interacted with student poets and audience members.

Columnist to other females: Leggings are not pants



My original plan for this column was to honor my favorite '80s films in light of Molly Ringwald turning 40 last week. However, due to recent events, I have decided to alter my focus in the form of a letter.

We will return to our regularly scheduled entertainment topics next week.

Dear female students of Ohio Wesleyan University,

Leggings do not qualify as pants. Ever.

Honestly, I have no desire to walk up the stairs of University Hall behind a girl who is not wearing pants. Unfortunately, that is exactly what happened last Friday, which accounts for the existence of this column.

Merely because leggings are the same shape as pants does not make them a qualified substitute.

You should never wear leggings if you do not plan on wearing a skirt over them. If you choose not to wear a skirt, I would hope your shirt is long enough to cover your butt. If it is not, the rest of OWU's population (at least the women and probably every member of the faculty and staff) would prefer

that you covered up. I have no idea why this trend would be thought of as fashionable, but apparently it is.

I know this might be difficult to understand, but do not worry because I have created a simple test to figure out if pants are needed to complete an outfit.

Step 1: Look in the mirror and ask yourself this question: "Can I see my butt?"

If the answer to this question is yes, please proceed to the second step.

Step 2: Put on pants, a skirt, shorts, etc.

As an addition to my complaints about leggings, I have one more thing to say: wearing Uggs (or any form of boot that

looks as if it could handle the snow) with leggings (with or without a skirt) is not attractive and makes me ashamed to be a woman of our generation.

Aside from the fact that I have no desire to see my fellow students' butts, it snowed last week. Why in the world would you think it was sane to walk out of your dorm room or apartments without proper winter attire?

As a true Ohioan I will often shed my winter coat for sweat-shirts once the thermostat reads a balmy 45 degrees. I understand that this is not entirely appropriate but, hey, at least I am still wearing pants.

Yours truly,

Kaitlin Thomas

P.S. If you absolutely cannot stand wearing pants, I hear there are nudist colonies in Europe. I would be happy to Google them for you.

I could also help you find the names and addresses of businesses in the adult entertainment field around Columbus. Apparently not wearing pants is a requirement for the job. And you get paid for not wearing those pants.

So it's a win/win/win situation if you ask me. I do not have to look at your butt, so I win. You will still be able to not wear those pesky pants, so you win. And you will be making money. So again, a win.

What is the real difference between Hip Hop and Rap?

Real Talk



Simon Brown

Turn on the television and turn to MTV or BET. What do you see? The same stereotypical black music: girls, cars, guns and, of course, lots of shiny diamonds and chains.

Even though the stereotypes dominate black music today, there are saviors who have given hip-hop a fighting chance. Lupe Fiasco is one such savior. His debut album can be used as an example to highlight good hip-hop.

What distinguishes hip-hop from rap is not simple. The relationship can be compared to a Venn diagram with two overlapping categories.

You could define hip-hop as the revolutionary black music that was intended to uplift blacks and musically express the culture of African Americans.

Rap is the commercial version of hip-hop.

Therefore, there can be a heavy debate about which songs fall into what category.

Most rap songs tend to focus on image and topics of little or no substance or creativity. In "Chain Hang Low," Gibbs says, "The chain hang 24 inches like the rims/diamonds all blown up sorta like a pimp."

Another distinct quality of hip-hop that separates it from the commercial nature of rap music is its ability to be about imagery rather than image.

In "Fireman," Lil' Wayne says, "My chain they can't stand that/ tropical colors you can't match that."

Here Wayne is basically saying that his chain is so pretty that people get jealous of him. This is a clear indication of rap

music and the image that it promotes. This is an image of self-indulgence and conceit. With hip-hop, the songs are more geared towards creatively stimulating an image that the person can see and relate to.

In Lupe's song, "I gotcha," he says, "Flavor is flagrant and they can't escape it/My perfume pursue them everywhere that they went Come in hip-hop we here to resurrect you."

The difference between these two songs is that Lil' Wayne is concerned with himself and his image or reputation. Lupe's rhymes are more creative, and his use of imagery and sensory details show the creative side of hip-hop.

The difference between rap and hip-hop can be compared to the difference between pop and good soul music; each is geared toward a different audience.

Rap and pop have a beat made to dance to in the clubs and at parties.

Hip-hop generally has a slower, calmer vibe. This distinction between soul music and club music is important since rap music also involves a lot of dance instructions for party goers.

The songs, "Snap Yo Fin-gaz" by Lil' Jon and "Lean With It," by Dem Franchize Boyz are two songs with such dance routines.

Real hip-hop music does not use these dance routines.

One issue that has given the hip-hop or rap community a bad image is female degradation. The exploitation of the female figure is evident in videos where the women are in minimal clothing, dancing seductively in clubs or bars. The flashy lifestyle is appealing to the general public and recording companies use this lifestyle as a model to help boost sales.

In hip-hop the respect of the woman is very important since women are also part of the community which is trying to be uplifted.

In Lupe's song, "Sunshine," he says, "You're the starry skies above me/Won't you please come down and hug me/I think I found love in this club tonight." We can see an evident change in the context of the songs about females. Most hip-hop focuses on women being beautiful and not objects.

There is also one main issue that is a bar in the grey area of

the rap/hip-hop Venn diagram. This issue involves drugs, guns and the "gangster" status.

Hip-hop talks about the ghetto life in either a creative manner by narrating the life of a ghetto struggler or hustler or by depicting the struggles that blacks have to face which results in their turning to a life of crime.

On the other hand, rap music commercially hails the selling of cocaine as way for rappers to brag about their street life to gain respect and sometimes even fear.

In the song, "Heat," 50 Cent says, "Fear me like you fear God because I bring pain."

This song is an example of rappers trying to instill the idea that keeping the image of a "gangsta" is cool.

In the song, "The Cool," Lupe Fiasco narrates the story of a person in the ghetto who turns to criminal life: "Next stop was his block, it had the same cops/Walked right past the same spot where he was shot." This song is an example of how someone can creatively depict ghetto life without the extreme violence and the attempt at being a gangster.

Opinion

WCSA provides students with leadership skills, opportunity to make a difference

Dear Students,

If you've ever desired to bring major change to our campus, then I strongly encourage you to consider running for Wesleyan Council for Student Affairs (WCSA).

For those who are interested in becoming the next president, vice president, secretary or treasurer of the student body, then come to the Election Informational Meeting Friday at noon in Benes Room A.

In case you are unfamiliar with these positions, here are

some of the duties from this year.

President Tricia DiFranco has been the presiding officer of the organization. Not only has she chaired the WCSA full-body and Executive Committee meetings, but she's also worked with the administration and Board of Trustees.

She has regularly met with Interim President David Robbins and the other university officers on the Archway Committee. At each of the three Board of Trustees meetings, she

has represented the students and spoken on their behalf.

The VP serves alongside and supports the president in those various roles.

In her time as secretary, Meagan Redding has done various traditional and new tasks. At our full-body sessions, she has taken the minutes and coordinated the comment/concern forms from the students. Additionally, she has planned major events such as the President's Ball and the Student-Trustee Dinner.

As treasurer, Ben Owen has helped allocate funds from the Student Activity Fee. He has been in charge of overseeing how over \$440,000 was awarded to student clubs and organizations.

Come learn more about becoming part of the leadership of your student government. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please email us at wcsaexec@owu.edu.

Sincerely,
Joey Yost '08
WCSA Vice President

Controversy, not intolerance, promotes democracy

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to the column by Drew Lenox this past week. I have to question anyone who is so closed-minded as to be in favor of preventing the expression of different opinions. Regardless of whether or not you agree with the opinions or writings expressed in columns, it is a basic right that we have to be able to express them.

Controversy breeds democracy, while intolerance only breeds more intolerance and a society that I cannot believe

anyone could want. It seems that those who are the most intolerant of other opinions typically do not understand, nor take the time to understand them. They are sadly misinformed in their opinions.

I pity the person who is afraid to experience something new and challenge themselves as this is what attending this institution is about. Those who are afraid of new things have no place attending a school where we are exposed to new knowledge and opinions every day.

If anything cheapens The

Transcript, it is the sports section. I question why we need a column about non-university sports. Surely ESPN can cover sports more in depth and, dare I say, with far greater skill. While I have nothing against sports since they are great entertainment, both "Letters I found in the dumpster" and "Tackle Football" at least provide some creative writing and thoughts on how we live as human beings despite any controversial nature they may have. Music reviews by definition reflect the opinions of the writer about a kind

of music they know well.

I challenge Mr. Lenox to show how his column does any more than provide a litany of names and positions in professional sports as well as a small analysis. I suggest that anyone who finds a problem being open to new ideas seriously question why they chose to attend a liberal arts institution of higher learning.

This editorial has been in no way colored by the shrine to Rory McHale in my closet.

Seriously though,

Drew Farrell

Columnist explores other side of the street, crosses ravine into the world of academe

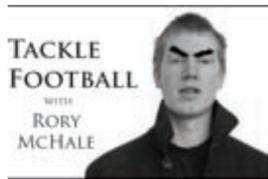
"And haters, they gonna hate" -- 3LW (3 Little Women), 2001.

That helpful truism aside, I have a harrowing tale for all campus. Everybody knows the sulfur spring? It's behind Phillips, which houses the journalism, psychology and philosophy departments.

Anyways, last Friday evening I walked to the Sulfur Spring (no one can tell me if it is a proper noun) for some peace and quiet. I figured it was an isolated spot, of some historical significance to OWU and a good place to find a lady.

Unfortunately, peace and quiet there was not. Although old Sulfy is isolated enough that no one is there on a Friday night (the same can be said of all the academic side of campus), it is well within earshot of our student bars on Sandusky.

It may be a personal quirk, but drunken ramblings of the mutants smoking outside Clanc-



ey's interfere with my thought processes.

Before continuing, I would like to recommend the academic side of campus as a place to be; never before 5 p.m., but most nights and on the weekends. I think we associate that entire part of campus with the stress and scheduling of class and such.

Very few are ever on the academic side with the time to enjoy it. I suggest, weather-permitting, hanging over there when you have the time to appreciate things. And if it's your bag, have a few mushrooms and go for a walk to the science center on a Saturday afternoon; could be enjoyable.

I need a new bit. I already have red hair and ride a ridiculous bicycle, but those do not satisfy me. I attempted wearing shirts buttoned all the way to the top, but I stopped after one person asked if I was doing it on purpose. Obviously, my heart wasn't in it.

I heard back in the 1970s people would wear pants/jeans with the back pockets ripped off. That could be my bit, if others were willing to follow the trend.

I hesitate to ruin all my pants without some assurance that others will follow step.

If you are willing to follow me in removing the back pockets from your pants, please write a letter to the editor stating such; failing that, a letter hating on me and the other columnists will suffice as agreement with the "pants proposal."

I was going to write about seeing a monster (Big Foot [is that a proper noun?]) rise out

of the sulfur spring, but I feel I should not scare prospective students away. I'm told over 50,000 prospective OWU students read The Transcript every week. I don't want to be blamed for Johnny Quarterback going to Denison for fear of monsters.

Besides, this Pants Proposal (definitely a proper noun) could be my bit. People, all over, rip off the back pockets of their pants. Especially if the jeans were older, the rest would be all faded and the former pocket areas would really stand out. Sticking to generalizations, I'm pretty sure girls don't use their back pockets, and guys do so only for wallets. But that's uncomfortable to sit on, 'specially if you're carrying a fat wad of bills -- like I do.

The goal here is that it becomes one of those fads that so many people engage in that the fad starts to be lame. You know, like recycling, or mercifully bullying the weak.

Transcript editors want broad base of opinions

The Transcript strongly encourages students, faculty, staff and any others with a concern for our campus or community to write letters to the editor, as they serve a number of important functions at our paper.

For one, they inform us of our errors, allowing us to not only correct them but to ensure that we don't make the same ones again. Such feedback improves the overall accuracy of the paper.

Letters to the editor also increase the diversity of view points expressed in the paper. While we try to the best of our ability to make our paper comprehensive, it is inevitable that a few voices will go unheard. Letters to the editor, therefore, serve as a vehicle for those overlooked to share their beliefs.

Lastly, letters to the editor are a means of bringing important issues to our attention, allowing us to investigate them further and report back any important information that the campus may need to know.

While we appreciate the letters to the editor we have received thus far, they have been far too few, and we strongly encourage our readers to send more, as they would benefit our campus as well as our newspaper.

Though our opinion page and several of our columnists were criticized in last week's issue, we at The Transcript hold a high regard for our opinion writers and the distinctive service that each provides.

The poignant satire and eccentric humor found in Rory McHale and Tavish Miller's columns establish a unique element of entertainment in

our paper not found in the other sections, possibly attracting a group of readers not interested in the basic news or sports story. And while not everyone listens to rap music, Simon Brown's hip-hop column is important in that it caters to the many students on our campus that do, providing insightful reviews to those interested in learning more about the rap world.

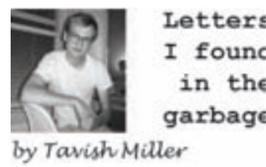
All three of these columns, though they might not be read or appreciated by all, are important in that each appeals to a distinct audience. We think that this broadens the scope of our paper and, therefore, we hope, broadens its overall readership.

While we are pleased with our columnists, we realize that our opinion page, with the exception of Alexandra Panait's column, tends to place too great an emphasis on humor. This emphasis just happens to represent the inclinations of the students interested in writing columns for our paper, and we try to balance this slant toward humor with staff editors addressing important campus issues.

If any of you have strong opinions on campus issues—or on political or social issues beyond our campus—and would like to express them in the form of a weekly column, please contact us at ownews@owu.edu, as we are glad to consider any and all interested applicants.

Also, if you have any criticisms of our opinion page or think that it in any way lacks substance or value, please write us a letter outlining your complaints so that we may constructively take aims to improve it.

Really, professor, I'm not such a complete idiot



to my heart. I wish you hadn't assigned that experiment, I think it was too hard on most everyone, especially you and me. Today put a strain on our relationship that may be difficult to overcome, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't try.

Dear Professor Mundlebaum,

I was wondering if we could talk about my mistake in the lab today. I think that if you listened to my side of the story you would see that I'm not a "fat idiot" like you say.

A man once told me that life is more than cats, and I think that holds true here. Of course we would all play with cats in a utopian society where cats and humans interact and create a super-breed, but the reality is that cats don't want to do that yet, and until they change they're cute little minds, we are stuck with an imperfect world.

Sure, I wish things had turned out differently, I wish I hadn't skipped reading the chapter on cats. I wish I hadn't turned on the Bunsen burner. I wish cats weren't so messy. But I did and they are; we can't turn back time until cats teach us how, but they will never teach us if we keep using them for crazy science experiments to learn their secrets!

If we just treat them with respect like we treat one another, they will tell us. I'm sorry to get so philosophical on you; it's just an issue that's close

Best Wishes,

Zach Avgardnes

P.S. I keep dreaming of this wonderful petting zoo that I would like to take you to. I just don't know where it is. Is there a petting zoo around here?

Zach,

There is no relationship more important than professor-student. I am married, and I love my husband very much. We have two children that we did not adopt, and I love them as well.

On a personal level I don't think we have any "chemistry," and I have no idea how you got into college. That thing you said about cats is one of the most ridiculous things I have ever heard. Normally I am not this harsh on students, but I want to make sure you realize that there is no way we could ever be a couple. Please, please, please come prepared for the labs, or do not come at all.

Professor Mundlebaum

P.S. I'm guessing you are responsible for the "Hello from Cat-opia" cards I keep receiving in the mail? Please cease and desist.

Obama eloquent, experienced change agent

This is an election that is not only important because of the uniqueness of its candidates. It is important that the chosen candidate fix bad policies, restore international credibility and help the country recover from its overwhelming cynicism about politics in general.

The best candidate to lead us out of the failures of the Bush administration is Barack Obama.

While Obama and Hillary Clinton have similar policies on most issues, only Obama has the ability to bring the country together and push us in a new direction. Clinton has long been a divisive political figure, and her nasty, senseless attacks have appeared more and more as she has fallen behind in delegates.

This kind of politics is exactly what most Americans are tired of seeing, and the kind of politics Obama has been preaching against from the beginning of his campaign.

The kind of campaign Clinton is running has not even been working for Democrats lately, so it will certainly not work in persuading moderate Republicans and Independents in the general election.

I am convinced that the only way we will end up with John McCain, or Mike Huckabee, is if Clinton is the opponent. Obama not only has the ability to gain moderate voters, he will cause more conservative voters to just stay at home rather than come out to vote against Clinton.

Why is a Republican not a viable can-

didate? There are many reasons, but most importantly each wants to continue the pointless venture in Iraq, which costs us more lives, money and credibility each day we are there.

Obama spoke out against the war before it was popular to do so, and Clinton will not even admit she made a bad decision when she voted for the war.

Obama is not only an extremely eloquent and persuasive public speaker, he has effected change as a community organizer, a state senator, and a U.S. senator. I have no reason to believe he will not continue to do so as president of the United States.

-- Danny Eldredge
Editor-in-Chief

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Mission Statement

-- To provide our audience with accurate news about safety, health, sports, entertainment, politics and campus living relevant

to the members of the OWU community.

-- To serve as a check on WCSA, the administration and the Board of Trustees.

-- To maintain an open forum for the discussion of campus issues.

-- To educate students working on the staff in the procedures of a working newspaper and provide them with journalistic experience.

Founded in 1867 as The Western Collegian, The Transcript (USPS 978-520) is published weekly September through May, except during university vacations, holidays and examination periods. The views expressed in letters, columns and cartoons are the opinions of the writers and artists and do not necessarily represent the views of the Department of Journalism or OWU.



Bishops Sports

New-look weight room has students feeling strong about the future

By Drew Lennox
Transcript Correspondent

The weight room is a nice environment with new equipment and nice paint on the walls, but it was not always a weight room and it was not always considered to be a nice environment.

When Edwards Gym was built in 1905, the space that is now the weight room was divided into three sections. There was a baseball cage and drill room on the third that sat closest to the front of the building. On the back third there was another drill room with a hand ball court.

In the middle sat a bowling alley.

The building was not intended to house a weight room in the basement and that is part of the reason that people were not happy with its conditions.

Senior Adam Schultz said when he first came to Ohio Wesleyan on a tour, he wasn't terribly impressed with the weight room.

"It was bigger than most high schools', including mine, and there was a substantial amount of equipment, but I thought it could use some work," Schultz said. "The floor was pretty old and some of the equipment looked dated."

Other students had strong feelings about the facility as well. In the October 12, 2006 edition of the *Transcript* then sophomore Janna Dagley said the weight room was not something to be proud of and that she did not show it to recruits on a tour.

"Our weight room is in the Stone Age," Dagley said. "It should be buried with the dinosaurs."

But students were not the only ones who realized there were issues with the room. Athletic Director Roger Ingles said there were problems and described the old room as tired and worn.

"There were a lot of issues with outdated machines," Ingles said. "There were a lot of physical issues with water leaks and seepage. There were problems with ground water. The machines weren't functional and we couldn't keep up with what repairs needed to be done."

Changes needed to be made as the level of concern continued to rise and with the Remembering Mr. Rickey Campaign, they would be.

Ingles said changes to the weight room had been an area of interest since 1998 and last

year over Christmas break the major renovations started.

"We got new squat racks, new benches and new treadmills," Ingles said. "We put in an eight inch concrete pad and put in an irrigation system with a sump pump. There is no longer a musky smell and the room smells much fresher."

He said the renovations continued as some of the equipment was recently reupholstered. He said he credits the administration and the university for being very supportive and that the changes that were made were done in part because of the help of the coaches.

"Assistant baseball coach Fody Frentsos and his daughter repainted the whole room," Ingles said. "We had many coaches here over the break helping with the floor."

Although the Remembering Mr. Rickey campaign has helped with the renovations, Ingles said some of the money is coming from the athletic department's funds. He said they are using money from both places and have spent quite a bit.

"We used well over 50 thousand on the equipment," he said. "We spent another 10 thousand on the reupholstering and we'll probably spend another 100 to 150 thousand when we're done."

Today, walking into the weight room is not a dreadful experience. One of the first things that is noticed is that the walls are nicely painted with Ohio Wesleyan colors.

It is now a much more welcoming environment and Ingles said it is a place where people want to be.

"It's no longer made up of 99 percent males and is now a place where everyone can be comfortable," he said.

Paul Williams, one of the overseers of the weight room, said in the short time that he has been helping out he sees many students, and said he believes they are happy with the improvements.

"With the numbers that are in the weight room throughout the day, I think their attendance shows their happiness," Williams said.

The students in the weight room, both male and female, spoke about movies, classes, professors and students while warming up with some dumbbells.

Across the room there was a group of guys using the bench. One of them was struggling to finish the repetitions but the



Photos by Willy Yoder

ABOVE: The newly painted walls gives the weight room an identity and character.
BELOW: Sophomore Zak Gomes presses up some good reps on the bench press.

others were there to encourage him.

"Come on man," they yelled. "You got this. You got this! It's all you."

When the reps were completed, a sense of accomplishment came across the room.

Some adults were in the room too. They walked past the older equipment and spent some time on the new Stairmasters and treadmills. Another gentleman was using one of the new power racks to work on squatting.

Junior Kyle Adams, starting running back for the football team, said the new squat racks are the best improvement and that the changes are benefitting both him and the football team.

"I know the athletes enjoy the room a lot more and it gives all of the coaches more options to allow their athletes to improve," Adams said.

Ingles said the feedback he has gotten from students is that they are happy.

"You can see the kids and staff take pride in the room," Ingles said. "They want to help in its upkeep. When they are there, they are not in a hurry to get out. It's no longer like the old car that you don't care about."

Ingles said while pride was important he also feels the weight room is now much more female friendly.

"It is cleaner and there is a lot less rust," he said. "You don't feel like you are carrying half of it out with you when you leave. We always had the stuff to make our athletes bigger, faster and stronger but I think now the women have a better time."

While most students said they are pleased with the improvements, they said they still think there are some problems. Now a junior, Janna Dagley said she still feels the room is geared toward male athletes.

"I still feel a little awkward but it is no longer because it is dirty," she said. "I just think it is still focused on guys. Sometimes I feel like I am being judged while I am lifting. I don't really have a fiscal solution though."

Schultz said he takes pride in the room but in some ways, even with the changes, it is hard.

"I'm proud of it but the fact that disinfectant has to be sprayed all the time and there

is a constant threat of MRSA is hardly something to be proud of," Schultz said.

Dagley said she appreciates the changes that have been made with the floor, but that the athletic department should still press for improvement.

"The floor is nice but it is like a new tectonic plate has emerged," Dagley joked. "I feel like it is reliable but I wouldn't want to lay on it. There are some mats that look like they are from the 1970s but I would have to lay down a towel to do crunches. I am sometimes afraid of acquiring some type of infection."

Ingles said he thinks the students are happy but that they are all waiting for the next step. That next step is what Schultz is concerned with.

"The elliptical machines should be replaced and some machines that focus more on explosiveness should be purchased," Schultz said.

Freshman Laura VanHoeey said, like most freshmen and underclassmen, she never saw the old weight room and doesn't know anything else than what is there now. She said she likes the weight room but wishes it was a little more like her high school's.

"The floor is nice here but the one at my high school was nicer," VanHoeey said. "It was soft and had a spring to it. We could use some more ab mats because we work a lot with our abs. A rubberized floor would be awesome."

Ingles said he knows some of the concerns of the students and said the athletic department

has goals in place.

"Machines that are easier to operate will enhance the performance of the room," he said. "Right now we have eight different models and our goal is to make it the same. One of the problems was that we had few funds early on. We had to be creative. The guy who did our reupholstering took our old universal machine out and made seven different machines from it."

Ingles said he would like to write a check for the weight room to be finished quickly, but that it is not that easy. He said they also have to wait sometimes because they don't want to have to shut the room down to students during the semester.

He said while he would love the weight room to be where he wants it to be tomorrow, it will probably be a two year process.

"We are going to rubberize the flooring," Ingles said. "We are going to both replace and

upgrade machinery. We are going to improve lighting and air flow. The weight room will be much better when we clean it up aesthetically."

The students seem happy with the changes and seem to enjoy themselves while working out. They laugh and sing along with the stereo and talk with their friends.

They seem to enjoy the closeness and the welcoming environment that this room in the basement of a hundred year old building provides.

They stay for long periods of time, appreciating the equipment that is there and working hard enough to leave part of themselves there.

As they walk back up the stairs, they can still hear grunting, screaming and the clanging of metal but they smile because they now feel bigger, faster and stronger than they were on the way down.





Bishops Sports

Bishops say goodbye to senior class



Photo by Cliff Williams

Senior Jesse Jean is escorted to center court on senior night by his two middle school tutors from back home in Washington, D.C. After the death of his parents, the two women became like mothers to him and stay in close touch. Jean was honored and appreciative that they made the trip to support him on senior night.

By Clay Davis
Transcript Correspondent

The men's basketball team is on a tear, winning 13 of its last 16 games, and with aspirations of a strong tournament performance on a line, one would think that the pressure might be getting to the team.

But with six seniors, that is unlikely to happen.

Point guard Casey Teeters has even seen this team, in some instances, take OWU basketball to new heights.

"This team is right up there with some of the best teams in school history," Teeters said. "We swept Wittenberg this year and that is the first time that has happened since the 1950s."

Dustin Rudegear, a key post player for the Battling Bishops, believes that the experienced players have played an important part in the team's success.

"I would say that the biggest difference is that we are more experienced than teams past," Rudegear said. "We have six seniors which is the most any team has had since I have been here, and we are very cohesive and get along really well."

Rudegear has certainly contributed to the team's success, scoring the winning basket at home against Wittenberg earlier this year and reaching the 1,000-point mark against Denison. His success has not gone unnoticed after being named to

ESPN The Magazine's 1st Academic All-District Team.

The Bishops are currently 17-7, but what is impressive about their record is that they are 12-4 against conference opponents, a sign that the team is able to compete against their in-house rivals.

While beating Wittenberg twice this year was nice, many players look to the game against Wooster in 2006 for inspiration, when the team pulled off a monumental upset by beating the number one Division III team in the nation, 86-83.

"One of my favorite moments was beating Wooster my sophomore year," shooting guard Brian Cafarella said. "It was at home, and they were the number one team in the nation. The gym was packed and the fans rushed the court when we won."

The men's basketball team has learned to develop a working relationship both on and off the court.

"It is good to have six seniors, and it seems like we are friends first and basketball players second," Teeters said.

The friendships have allowed the team to develop a great chemistry and gotten leaders to step up big for the team.

"We have a lot more experience and leadership compared to years past," said forward Ryan Rozak. "Our chemistry has been

a strong part of our team."

There can be many games that could prove that the chemistry is working, and Teeters can clearly see them.

"As a team, our biggest achievements are winning at Wittenberg, winning the Otterbein Christmas tournament, and a big senior night win on Wednesday [against Oberlin]," Teeters said. "There have been a lot of great things we have done as a group."

The Bishops, who began tournament play on Tuesday, have continued to open eyes, which is why the team has had success reaching their fan base this year.

"This team has had some of the best fan turnouts in a long time," Teeters said. "It is becoming evident that we are starting to get recognized for what we have been doing."

Despite the recent success this year, the team has become used to winning, going 18-9 during the 2005-2006 season and going 18-10 last year.

The team will have another winning season, but will not quiet the voices of the seniors who want more than just another win. They want a conference championship.

Cafarella sees the win against Wooster three years ago as a stepping-stone for the team's success. The game against Wooster for the conference title

last year, however, was not as successful, as the Bishops lost 86-51.

But to Cafarella, it should be used to motivate the team to not let it happen again.

"Getting killed by Wooster in that game was one of the most disappointing parts of my career," Cafarella said. "This year, we plan on getting to that game and winning it."

Rudegear said he hopes the team can learn from its past mistakes in order to go deep into the tournament.

"The biggest struggle has been knowing each year that we are good enough to win the conference tournament and make it to the NCAA tournament, but we never make it," Rudegear said. "So hopefully we will take that next step this year."

Forward Elliot Kaple said the faithful OWU fans can play an important part of the game, and that is why he enjoys it so much. He says that his favorite memories came from "all the games where Branch Rickey was filled to the top with rowdy students."

There are still games left to play, but Kaple sees this team as something special.

"This team I feel like is a great team," Kaple said. "The young guys really fit in, and the older guys have developed some great chemistry over the past years."

The Academy Awards for sports movies



The week after the Academy Awards, one is led to either debate the year's best movies or, in many cases, to go out and rent the movies that others have deemed the best.

But for our purposes we are not as concerned with *No Country for Old Men* and *There Will Be Blood*; we are more interested with those films that have a focus on sports.

To take a better look at the elite sports movies, our period for consideration will be all time and not just on the past year.

After examining many different fan polls, studies from both movie critics and sports analysts, to go along with my personal experiences, we have five nominees for the "Best Sports Movie of All Time."

Please understand that there are many movies that are not on the list that are wonderful and if your favorite is not here, I'm sorry. There's only so much space.

But this list has five fantastic movies that took place in five different time periods, in five different states and about five different sports.

The five nominees for "Best Sports Movie of All Time" are: *Caddyshack*, *Field of Dreams*, *Hoosiers*, *Remember the Titans* and *Rocky*.

Caddyshack, released in 1980, brought humor and comedy to the golf course and the country club atmosphere.

With the story of a kid who is working as a caddy so he can afford to go to college along with the lighthearted but serious competition, this movie flows.

Combine that with Chevy Chase's arrogance, Rodney Dangerfield's outrageous nature and the quirkiness of Bill Murray and we have a great movie.

Field of Dreams, made in 1989, brought the life of an Iowa farmer who loves baseball to life. The journey of Kevin Costner shows the pursuit and fulfillment of dreams and incorporates the history of America's national pastime into a film that was nominated for Best Picture.

Set in 1951, but created in 1986, small town basketball

in rural Indiana sets the scene for *Hoosiers*. This movie deals with the issue of alcoholism, and it looks at how a teacher and a coach can be somewhat of a father figure to students that might lack traditional parental situations.

A story of a true underdog will always be in consideration.

The newest movie on the list is *Remember the Titans* which came out in 2000. Taking place in Virginia in 1971, this movie displays racial tensions and the integration of schools.

The issue of race and how this team grew to accept each other and in turn was successful causes this picture to be respected by many.

The last and oldest movie on the list, *Rocky*, won the Academy Award for Best Picture in 1976. Sylvester Stallone plays a boxer in Philadelphia and from this movie we get historic memories of stair running, the recognizing of an iconic song and a statue. It is somewhat diminished by the number of sequels that followed.

And the award for "Best Sports Movie of All Time" goes to ... *Hoosiers*. A coach that gets a second chance. A small town that shows its concern for its student athletes. An outstanding ball player and his confidence in his ability to finish. An alcoholic using his love for a game to redeem himself both with the town and his son.

This movie is fantastic. And with so many good quotes, Gene Hackman as Norman Dale delivers possibly the best scene in sports film history.

"You know, in the ten years that I coached, I never met anybody who wanted to win as badly as I did. I'd do anything I had to do to increase my advantage. Anybody who tried to block the pursuit of that advantage, I'd just push 'em out of the way. Didn't matter who they were, or what they were doing. But that was then."

Jimmy Chitwood, while listening is making every single shot.

"You have a special talent, a gift. Not the school's, not the townspeople's, not the team's, not Myra Fleener's, not mine. It's yours to do with what you choose. Because that's what I believe, I can tell you this. I don't care if you play on the team or not."

He misses the next shot.

Men's tennis team returns in numbers and experience, hope for improvements

By Willy Yoder
Transcript Reporter

The men's tennis team aims to improve upon last season with a combination of increased experience, depth and the addition of new young players.

The team returns seven lettermen to a squad that finished 2-4 in the North Coast Athletic Conference last season, and 7-10 overall. The team only loses one senior from last year, Dilshad Abeygunawara Jana, and has lost two players to transfer: sophomore Alex McDonald, who left for Eckerred University, and junior Alex Miller, who left for Ohio University.

The Bishops will also be joined by junior Daniel Thangarajah, a returning letterman who did not play last season.

Junior Jason Grovenberg says the team's strongest asset this year is the new depth that it did not possess last season.

"This year we can easily go seven deep, sometimes last year we didn't have that," Grovenberg said.

"This year we can easily go seven deep, sometimes last year we didn't have that," Grovenberg said. "Everyone has improved a lot this season, and having Daniel (Thangarajah) back will really help us to try and have a better than .500 record this year."

Thangarajah said he is glad to be back and playing tennis after a year off.

"It's great to be back, to go from not playing much freshman year to be in the top three this year is great," Thangarajah said. "It will be tough because I've missed out on some experience but I will have to be confident and go out and give it my all."

Thangarajah agrees that the

team's depth is important this year and says that overall consistency as well as good doubles play and wins from the middle of the ladder will be important to win matches this season.

The Bishops top three singles players this year will be sophomore Adrian Barker, sophomore Brandon Luttinger and Thangarajah. The rest of the singles line up will be rounded out by senior Jeff Hering, junior Taimour Kahn, junior Garret Paknis, freshman Zach Weaver and a combination of Grovenberg, sophomore Rob Doersam, and freshman Scott Bobbitt.

The three doubles teams will combine Baker and Luttinger at number one, Kahn and Thangarajah, who will be reunited as

doubles partners from 2006, at number two, and Weaver and Hering will round off doubles at the number three spot.

The Bishops tennis squad hosted Muskingham College Saturday, Feb. 16, and earned their first win of the 2008 season. Thangarajah, Kahn, Paknis, Hering and Weaver all won in singles as all three doubles teams won as well. The Bishops dominated going 8-1 in all matches with the only loss coming to Luttinger playing up at number one singles.

"Everyone on the team was pumped for our first match, we had a good bonding session the night before and everyone came out and took care of business," Thangarajah said. "We played our hearts out, Muskingham didn't see it coming."

The Bishops are coached by Tom Haddow and will compete today at Wooster.

Last dance for senior women



Photo by Cliff Williams

Senior Lindsey Macklin gives high-fives down the line to teammates and coaches on senior night. The Bishops basketball team also said goodbye to seniors Steffi Graf, Kelli Lester, Summer Quesenberry, Malley Adamsky and Kathleen Cooper.