



THE TRANSCRIPT

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FIJI has its charter removed

By Kyle Sjarif
and Kelley King
Transcript Reporters

Phi Gamma Delta, better known as FIJI, recently joined Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) as the second fraternity this semester to encounter significant problems. FIJI is no longer an active chapter at Ohio Wesleyan University.

In what seemed to be shocking news to the student body, a campus wide e-mail sent Feb. 23 by interim dean of students Donald Omahan said the fraternity operations of the undergraduate chapter of FIJI at Ohio Wesleyan were to be suspended active immediately.

According to the e-mail, the decision to remove the charter for the Theta Deuteron Chapter of Phi Gamma Delta was made by the graduate trustees of the fraternity, and was not in any way related to OWU.

The graduate trustees consist of alumni members of the fraternity.

The situation differs from the one at SAE, which remains an active chapter at OWU. The university made the decision to shut down the SAE house after they failed their building inspection.

OWU had no affiliation with the suspension of FIJI activities. The official reason for the decision to suspend activities was made because of financial difficulties, as well as declining membership. According to the



Photo by Micah Klugman

FIJI members will still be able to live in the house for the rest of the semester

Ohio Wesleyan fraternity occupancy figures for spring 2008, FIJI had the lowest percentage of occupancy at 52% and was expected to drop to 45% by next semester.

Rob Doersam, president of FIJI, said he feels indifferently regarding the trustees' decision.

"But, we recognize why they made their decision and respect it, even if some brothers don't

feel it was the best one to make for our chapter."

Doersam said he is trying his best to keep his head high about the current situation.

"The most important thing is that right now, everyone is in good spirits," Doersam said.

"We had our letters, our house, and our affiliation with FIJI international taken away, but we aren't left picking up any piec-

es. Our brotherhood is intact and stronger than ever."

Doersam said FIJI had eight pledges this semester, and that the number was a normal amount of pledges for the fraternity. One of those pledges was freshman Carleton Levert.

Levert said his time spent with FIJI as a prospective stu-

See **FIJI**, page 2

NCAC Champs!

Senior Rudegeair wins NCAC tournament MVP as men head to Division III dance for first time in 20 years

By Alex Humbert
Sports Editor

For the first time since 1988, the Battling Bishops men's basketball team will be headed to the big dance thanks to an NCAC championship last week.

The Bishops had a convincing 89-72 victory over Wabash in the championship game in Wooster to go along with victories over Allegheny in the semi-finals and Hiram in a first round contest at home in Branch Rickey Arena.

The Bishops led by 12 at the half and, led by their senior post Dustin Rudegeair who scored a career-high 29 points, they never looked back.

The Bishops, who were a No. 2 seed heading into the tournament, were able to avoid playing host team Wooster Scots, after the Scots were upset by Wabash in the semi-finals ending a streak of 12 straight years the Scots had appeared in the championship game.

Even though the team did not have to play Wooster, senior point guard Casey Teeters said it did not make it any easier to win the championship.

"The teams we played had absolutely no pressure on



Photo by Kyle Holliday

Rudegeair led the Bishops with 29 points against Wabash in the title game.

them to win," Teeters said. "Every team we played came into the game as underdogs, so they played loose with nothing to lose. It is also important to remember that those teams (Allegheny and Wabash) upset

See **CHAMPS**, page 8



Photo by Micah Klugman

Kal Penn mingles with students after speaking Saturday

Penn in the 'House'

By Ryan Armstrong
Transcript Reporter

Kal Penn, actor and campaign volunteer, stopped at Ohio Wesleyan to stump for Senator Barack Obama last Saturday in the Conrades Wetherell Science Center.

He encouraged the OWU community to volunteer for Obama before Tuesday's primary in Ohio.

Penn is known for his role as Taj in National Lampoon's "Van Wilder" and as Kumar in "Harold and Kumar Go to Whitecastle." He currently plays a role on the TV series "House," and spends most of his time traveling on the campaign trail.

Senior Sam Salk, who works as an intern for Obama, introduced Penn to an audience of about 50 eager people who came to hear Penn speak.

The most important issues covered at this occasion included education, health care and war policy.

Penn said when thinking about those three issues it is important to understand that two families have been in the White House for the last 20 years.

"Nothing has changed really. Both Democrats and Republicans have had great ideas," Penn said. "If they had gotten

See **PENN**, page 2

International students mix it up for break

By Rafaya Sufi
Transcript Reporter

For many international students, spring break is a time to catch up on work, rest and relax, according to Darrell Albon, director of international student services.

Albon said while many of them choose to stay on campus, many international students fly to various destinations ranging within and out of the United States.

"You'd be surprised," Albon said. "I have had students come to my office for Canadian visas and Jamaican visas. Some travel to Europe too."

Albon said New York, Flor-

ida, Chicago and California are popular destinations within the United States.

"Everyone thinks many international students stay around Delaware in their dorms, starving and without heat, but it's not like that," Albon said. "Those who do stay back are usually staying for a purpose."

Albon said he gets a lot of appointments from students staying during spring break.

"My student appointment load is very high during the break," Albon said. "I am on campus during the break, so it's a good chance for students who stay back to meet with me."

Sophomore Manav Menon, a native of India, said he is stay-

ing in Delaware over spring break.

"A lot of international students don't have the advantage of flying 10,000 miles away to go back home over spring break," Menon said. "I'm staying back in Delaware because of a number of reasons, money and catching up on work being on top of the list."

Menon, affiliated with fraternity Delta Tau Delta, said he does not have to worry about accommodation on campus during spring break unlike local students who stay back.

"In that respect, it's good being an international student," Menon said. "Unlike (local students), I don't have to pay to

stay back."

Many students are also staying back to catch up on work or to study, according to Menon.

"I have exams right after break," Menon said. "I don't understand why professors assign work over spring break. It's called break for a reason."

Menon said unlike local students, many international students have to worry about money before choosing a destination.

"A big part of my plans rely on money," Menon said. "If I want to visit a new place, I have to worry about accommodation because I probably won't

See **BREAK**, page 2

WCSA plans for future with info session

By Michael DiBiasio
Transcript Reporter

Eighteen students, eight of whom are current WCSA members, attended an informational session last Friday to learn about the rules and procedures of the WCSA Executive Election for the 2008-2009 academic year.

WCSA president Tricia DiFranco ran the session. She outlined the duties of each executive officer and distributed information including deadlines and a guide to campaign regulations.

All 36 members of WCSA were encouraged to invite at least one non-WCSA member to the session. Even though only 10 non-members attended, DiFranco was satisfied with the turnout and anticipates a good election.

"If we have this many people running I'll be pretty happy. It looks like it will be much more competitive than last year, at least," DiFranco said. "This event was to create interest. We want this to be a competitive election. We want to elect someone who will

accurately represent the students and be dedicated, because it is a challenge."

Junior Ben Goodrum thought the informational session was helpful and that it adequately explained the rules of the upcoming election.

"It outlined exactly what we had to do, when it was due, and what we could and couldn't do," Goodrum said.

Gabrielle Holbrook, a freshman, thought DiFranco clearly addressed the campaign deadlines and policy as well.

"I thought it was very helpful. I think Tricia gave very good information in the packet, and explained what we needed to do," Holbrook said.

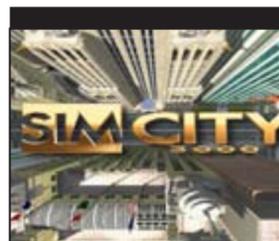
DiFranco fielded questions regarding Facebook groups, supporter signatures and approving campaign materials.

Any student who didn't attend the informational session last Friday and wishes to run for an executive position must speak with DiFranco, Sharron Rymut or Megan Redding before submitting their Intent to Run, which is due at 5 p.m. tomorrow.



Women falter in 2nd round, lose to Wittenberg

--Page 7



Family of faculty creates future city

--Page 4



Track teams take home NCAC titles

--Page 8

PENN, continued from Page 1

anything done in regard to education, then my friend wouldn't have had to make the excruciating decision between a minimum wage job and \$90,000 driving a truck in Iraq to save money for college."

Penn said Obama has a \$4,000 tax credit for every person that wants to go to college. This applies per child in each family. This tax credit is in exchange for community service, which Penn said will get people involved in their community.

Obama's withdrawal strategy will gradually withdraw troops over a period of 16 months after he takes office. He wants to make sure when we leave, no entity will try to destabilize Iraqi society, especially Al Qaeda forces.

Penn said Obama was the only candidate who openly opposed the Iraq War from the beginning.

"We want to focus on humanitarian issues in failed states," Penn said. "Places where states are on the brink of collapse. By making sure folks have humanitarian access and aid, aside from benefiting society and reducing poverty, you're also reducing terrorism."

Penn said one of his friends had to make the decision whether to buy glasses to see the chalkboard or buy textbooks for his classes.

"Obama helped give 150,000 kids and their parents health care in the Illinois state senate," Penn said. "(He did this) by making Democrats and Republicans sit down together. It was something he did with the help of folks across the aisle. And it was very successful. This is the type of person that we need to lead us forward."

Penn said we have had politicians in the White House, but if Obama is elected we could have a statesman potentially for the next eight years.

"Think about the power that we have to change the face of the presidential election," Penn said. "Everyone assumes that the young demographic will not vote. Our individual voices all over the country have come together. This really is a movement for change we are seeing all over the country."

Penn said four years ago he didn't think one vote could make a difference, but now he now realizes it could in this primary and the 2008 election.

"The ball is now in your court," Penn said. "The torch has officially been passed. The opportunity we have in Ohio leading up to Tuesday is huge because we can decide the fate of the presidential election."

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Global Outreach performers prepare before the night's festivities.

Photo by Samantha Beany

Global Outreach performers 'step up'

By Samantha Beany
Transcript Reporter

It was a battle. One man wielded a ukulele. Two women unsheathed their violins. Others carried guitars. Some danced and some sang. And in the end, the violins claimed victory.

The Global Outreach Talent Show premiered Friday, Feb. 29, in the Chappel Drama Center and raised around \$1,600. All proceeds go to the Ghana Student Education Fund (GSEF), a non-profit, non-government, student and faculty run philanthropy that offers scholarships to bright and needy students in Ghana.

First place went to senior Peace Twesigye and freshman

Samantha Spiridellis. Freshmen Michele Gilbert and Marie Krulewicz won second place and freshman Jessica Spafford received third.

Twesigye and Spiridellis played a violin montage of three Michael Jackson songs: "Beat It," "Smooth Criminal," and "Thriller".

"We arranged it ourselves," said Spiridellis. "It took several hours and it actually wasn't completed until 3:30 a.m. the day of the performance."

Twesigye said, "We thought it would be fun contrast from our first piece," which was a four movement Suite by composer Moszkovsky.

The show opened with a performance by the P.L.A.Y.E.R.S

Club Steppers. The four men and one woman have been stepping since 1996. They have opened for Alicia Keys and are the only stepping group to have been invited to the White House.

Stepping is a form of percussive dance where participants use a mixture of footsteps, spoken word and hand claps to produce complex rhythms and sounds.

The show was broken into two parts. In part one, the nine acts, eight musicians and one dancer performed. Senior Bryn Trogdon and sophomore Annie Worth performed the song "Fall-ing Slowly".

"I think it's perfect for the show," said Trogdon. "The song

is a love story but we wanted to apply the words to people helping people. 'Lift your hopeful voice' is a lyric. There is hope that people will always help people."

In part two, the three judge-selected finalists returned to perform a second song. After these performances the audience selected the winner.

The event was hosted by Rafiki Wa Afrika (RWA) and the Ghana Culture Immersion Team (GCIT). RWA's mission is to promote awareness and diversity by providing cultural awareness about pertinent issues around the world. GCIT's goal is to "promote peace, understanding, and culture to everyone," said Scarlett Rebman.



Perusing the archives

Photo by Micah Klugman

Carol Holliger, archivist for the Archives of Ohio United Methodism gives students tours of the second floor special collections. She offered the opportunity on Feb. 28 and 29. The tours highlighted rare books and extensive research materials.

Mark Shipps raises money with capital campaign

By Shade Fakunle
Transcript Correspondent

Mark Shipps ('70) was re-established as a member of the Ohio Wesleyan community as he became the vice president of University Relations in July of 2006.

He has since begun to expand the horizons of OWU with a capital campaign. Shipps said he loves being back at the university. "It's coming back home," he said. He is following the steps of his father and grandfather, he said, as they were both dedicated to OWU.

Prior to his return, the Board of Trustees approved plans for the capital campaign. This campaign was designed to raise money to fix the various problems with university buildings. These buildings include the student center, athletic buildings and dorms.

The part of the campaign oriented toward the athletic buildings, currently in effect, is called the Remembering Mr. Rickey

Campaign. This was named for Branch Rickey, who graduated in 1904 and is known in baseball history. This part of the campaign has a focus on athletic and recreational programs.

Currently, nine facilities are a part of the plan. Modifications to Selby Stadium began in early 2007 with the new track and turf. According to Shipps, this summer the outside wall of the Stadium will be replaced. Also, modifications will be made to the locker room.

The new women's softball field is also a part of this campaign. The women on the team are even helping with the finishing touches. The baseball field will be modified as well as the field hockey field.

Several additions will be made to Branch Rickey Arena. They include a new entrance to the building that will have a glassed-in lobby. This lobby will feature a Hall of Fame and concessions. There will also be easier access to parking.

Gordon Field House will

be renovated to include a new playing surface and improved lighting.

Later in the campaign, a new building will be constructed. This building will house a natatorium and an indoor turf facility. According to the campaign booklet, this will allow "freedom and flexibility in scheduling practices for virtually every Battling Bishops Team."

These are only a few of the changes that the Remembering Mr. Rickey Campaign will make to university buildings. There will also be landscaping improvements and modifications to Edwards Gym.

"The Annual Fund is a chief component of the capital campaign," said Candace Ott, director of the Annual Fund. "Our objective is to increase Annual Fund dollars within the campaign and maintain those levels of funds long after the campaign is over."

Most of the money for the campaign comes from monetary gifts from alumni. The Annual

Fund allocates the money.

"The Annual Fund office in particular is currently working with the Alumni Relations office to better engage Ohio Wesleyan students," Ott said. "We realize that students are 'resident alumni' and that we must connect with them and build relationships long before they leave campus."

Shipps began working on the capital campaign when he took his position. He works to raise money for the university. Since June 2005, \$58 million has been raised.

"Many students don't realize that," Shipps said, as he explained what really goes in to the process.

Shipps said the decision to come back was easy. "I plan to stay here until they kick me out," said Shipps.

"It is a pleasure working for Mark Shipps," Ott said. "His passion and history with the university makes him a great leader. We are fortunate to have him."

CAC now at OWU

By Emily Hastings
Transcript Correspondent

Colleges Against Cancer (CAC), an organization affiliated with the American Cancer Society started a branch at Ohio Wesleyan this academic year. CAC has more than 150 campus chapters nationwide.

"Everyone has been affected by cancer somehow and we just want to make a difference," said junior Lauren Smith, secretary of CAC.

Smith said the organization has four strategic directions: survivorship, advocacy, education and Relay For Life, which is the top fundraiser in the world.

Dawn Mericle, an American Cancer Society Ohio Division staff partner, is responsible for bringing CAC to OWU. She helps start new CAC chapters and then a permanent staff partner is assigned to the school.

"I came to the college club fair to see if anyone would be interested in starting a chapter here, and I got quite a few names of people," Mericle said.

There are currently 22 CAC chapters in Ohio. Mericle is now working on starting a new CAC chapter at Capital University.

About 20 people came to the OWU chapter's first official meeting. Smith said she hopes to increase that number over time, while retaining their current members.

"I don't think we will have any problem retaining people because it's such a good cause," Smith said. "There's no other group quite like it on campus."

The group's adviser is French Professor Susanna Bellocq, a cancer survivor.

"I was asked to be the adviser because one of the students knew I am a cancer survivor and talk openly with students and colleagues who face a diagnosis of cancer," Bellocq said.

Bellocq said she is proud to be the group's adviser

"I am impressed with the sincerity and seriousness of purpose of the Ohio Wesleyan students who are involved," Bellocq said.

The group focuses on specific cancers to promote awareness, such as prostate cancer, breast cancer, lung cancer, childhood cancer, and cervical cancer, according to the American Cancer Society.

In October the group sold shirts to raise awareness for breast cancer that read "Save Second Base" on the front of the shirt and "If you love them, check them. Breast Cancer Awareness" on the back.

November was lung cancer awareness month and CAC participated in the Great American Smokeout, which always takes place the third Thursday of November in conjunction with Thanksgiving.

The night of Nov. 14, 2007, CAC chalked a 20-foot perimeter around campus buildings to show people the legal distance they must stand if they want to smoke.

They also lined the Jay Walk with tombstones that had lung cancer and smoking facts written on them.

The group is currently organizing the annual fundraiser Relay for Life, which will take place March 28 to 29. Participation is limited to the OWU community, because the Delaware community has other relays they can participate in, said junior Megan Evans, the Relay for Life coordinator.

Bellocq said she plans to participate in the cancer survivor relay lap.

"It's understood that as a high-stage cancer survivor myself, I have to be vigilant in avoiding fatigue," Bellocq said.

"The flip side of my participation, though, is how energizing it has been to work with these students."

Campus News

ECC equips future elementary teachers



By Chelsie Pacha
Transcript Correspondent

Students of OWU get involved at the Early Childhood Center (ECC) by assisting teachers, interacting with children and taking part in special activities and projects.

The Early Childhood Center is a preschool system set up for the Delaware community. Professional teachers plan, organize and teach each class while student staff members help. For university undergraduates, there is a laboratory in early childhood education.

Sophomore Leanna Buccer said the program is great for education majors.

"Being an education major, I became a staff member last spring when I had to complete volunteer hours/observations for my education class: The Role of the School," Buccer said. "So this year I decided I would work there."

Many students, including Senior Matt Spirakus, enjoy working at ECC so much they go back to do work study.

"I started there my freshman year through EDUC 110--role of the school," Spirakus said. "After I had to work there I liked it a lot and went back to do work study."

Students say they are able to interact with the children one on one while getting a classroom

experience.

"As a staff member, I participate in what the ECC calls guided exploration," Buccer said. "This is a time when the children are free to choose the activities they want to do--whether it's an art project, cognitive skill activities, or pretending and playing."

"Also, I sometimes read stories aloud to the children as a transition from one activity to the next. I'm there to assist and interact with the children as much as I can to gain experience in the classroom."

Spirakus said community involvement is another great aspect of working at the center.

"The staff at the Early Childhood Center would take trips around the area to places like the fire station, the art museum, the gym, the Delaware run, the library, and other places around OWU."

As for Buccer, she said she has encountered many interactions within the Delaware community.

"I have interacted with the community members on several occasions," Buccer said.

"Last year, the children had an end of the year party, and this year we had a Christmas party.

Parents and their children spend time crafting and bonding and all the parents are always happy to talk. It was also nice because I met a mother who is a Delta Gamma Alum from OWU."

Students say they work with about eight children at a time, and sometimes it is more one on one time.

"The number of children I work with varies from hour to hour," Buccer said. "During 'guided exploration' I work with as many as eight children. But there are times when I work more individually with certain children who need assistance for whatever reasons."

Spirakus said he would like to see more students get involved at the ECC.

"I have told my friends who are looking for a work-study job to go there because it is so much fun," Spirakus said.

Others say it is a great way to experience a preschool environment.

"I definitely encourage others to get involved--especially those who are early education majors," Buccer said. "It's a great way to get experience in a preschool environment, so I find it helpful to apply my observations to teaching."

A little night music



Photo by Amy Herrington
Musician Matt Wertz performs songs off of his new album, 'Everything in Between,' in the Benes Room on Feb. 27.

FIJI, from Page 1

dent was an important influence on his decision to pledge.

"This year I went up there and hung out and decided that these are the guys I want to call my brothers," Levert said.

Sophomore Ben Wolf, who received a bid but never officially pledged to the fraternity, said he was disappointed.

"I feel pretty crummy about the closing," Wolf said. "It's a shame that such a prominent, long-standing fraternity was closed down so abruptly."

Freshman student Ashley Yu, who knew several of the FIJI brothers and pledges expressed similar feelings.

"It sucks that OWU just lost another fraternity, because we don't have as many compared to other liberal arts schools," Yu said.

However, the closing was

not so surprising to senior and deactivated FIJI member Raza Naqvi.

"The fraternity had been in a fairly steady state of decline. Since I was pledging [3 years ago], the issues were already prevalent," Naqvi said.

All the current members are allowed to remain in the fraternity house until the end of the school year, however little is known regarding the pledges.

"They currently are not on the official roster of Phi Gamma Delta, so I believe there no longer remains a pledge process," Naqvi said.

The members of the fraternity living in the former FIJI house named their group the "Gentleman's Society Club."

Phi Gamma Delta was founded at Ohio Wesleyan in 1869.

Naqvi said the fraternity should be able to re-colonize itself within 3 or 4 years.

Economy recedes as dollar loses value

By Mark Dubovec
Transcript Reporter

The United States economy could face either recession or inflation in 2008 as a result of the falling dollar and the declining housing market. That's what Dale Larson, Owen Humpage and Bill LaFayette said on Feb. 28 at the 2008 Economic Outlook Conference.

Larson, founder of Larson Global Consulting and professional lecturer at John Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, began the discussion with how much the dollar has fallen and how it affects U.S. trade.

Larson said the euro increased in value relative to the U.S. dollar from 82 cents to \$1.51 over the past six years.

"That's an enormous change," Larson said. This change affects the price competitiveness of exports by enabling Europeans to buy more American goods.

Larson also described the Chinese yuan-dollar exchange, and how for several years, the rate has remained stable with the dollar much stronger.

"The exchange is controlled by the Chinese government, but it's changing," Larson said.

Recently, the Chinese government has been steadily increasing the value of the Yuan relative to the dollar, and Larson said the U.S. trade deficit will steadily decrease over the next few years as a result. "The decline of the dollar has a benefit on the trade deficit but a negative effect on inflation."

Inflation is one of the concerns of Humpage, who works for the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. "There are three things the Federal Reserve is worried about: a meltdown of the financial market, a recession and a rise in inflation."

It's the third item which concerns Humpage most.

The inflationary problem stems from the declining hous-

ing market, Humpage said, explaining that as more mortgages defaulted, banks became less willing to loan money, and that takes money out of the economy. "Good borrowers will be shut out, which will spill out into the economy and cause a recession," Humpage said.

To prevent recession, the Fed has cut interest rates and will likely continue to do so, but that could possibly lead to inflation, Humpage said.

"We're cutting the federal funds rate to increase liquidity," Humpage said. "We've eased monetary policy a lot."

Presently, inflationary predictions are cautiously optimistic, Humpage said, but he expressed some doubts.

"Personally, I'm getting nervous. It's hard to reverse policy, and that could cause inflation."

LaFayette, vice president of Economic Analysis for the Columbus Chamber, outlined the Delaware County economy.

LaFayette said Delaware

County's population has grown from 67,000 in 1990 to 157,000 in 2006. He added, "Overall employment is up 88 percent since 2000." Delaware County has consistently had the lowest or second lowest rate of unemployment in the state.

Even with the labor and population growth, Delaware County has lagged behind the national average in other areas. "2007 was the fourth consecutive year the local economy underperformed the national average, and 2008 looks like it'll be the fifth year," LaFayette said.

The economic outlook has some students concerned. "It's a little early to tell," said junior Ryan Jordan. "We'll probably hit a recession soon. The housing market is a big issue. People not being able to afford mortgages and rising gas prices--those are the two big issues I'm worried about."

Junior Mark Miller said, "I do think we're in for some hard times, relatively speaking."

Casting her first vote



Photo by Myra Blackburn

First-time voter and freshman Heather Werling casts her ballot at the Zion AME Church on S. Washington Street on March 4. Ohio was one of four states holding presidential primary elections on Tuesday. Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton won the state with 55% of the vote.

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Photo by Mary Beth Scherer

Calvin Cooper from Capital University and sophomores John Hering and Katherine MacNamara supported Senator Barack Obama during the debate on Feb. 19. Hering argues that his candidate deserves to be president.

Debaters discuss merits of presidential candidates days before Ohio primary

By Mary Beth Scherer
Transcript Reporter

On Feb. 29, students gathered in the Hamilton Williams Campus Center to watch a debate between supporters of presidential candidates Senator Barack Obama and Senator Hillary Clinton.

The students who participated in the debate expressed why their candidate deserved to be president.

The students answered questions related to their candidate's position on topics ranging from health care and immigration to the Iraq War and the environment.

Junior Amir Paul, president of Ohio Wesleyan College Democrats, supported Clinton during the debate.

Paul said the debate went

well and both sides were "coherent." Paul said he thinks this is important.

"I have debated with Obama supporters in the past and you'd be shocked to find out how little they know," Paul said.

Paul said he was happy with the turnout, but the numbers were low. Some people who said they were coming had to attend a WCSA meeting instead, Paul said.

Senior Dan Whalen, who watched the debate, said it was a good idea to have one, but he thought it was "pretty disorganized and it eventually became just a war of which side could be louder."

Although there was some audience participation, senior Stan Osei-Bonsu, who supported Obama during the debate, said he would have liked to

have seen more.

"I felt it could have been slightly better organized and given more opportunities for members of the crowd to address questions to each side, so as to facilitate better audience participation," Osei-Bonsu said.

Sophomore John Hering, who supported Obama during the debate, said he thought the debate was a success, and more people got into it the more it "heated up."

Hering said what's important is student interest in the Democratic Party.

Hering said he didn't know about the debate until five minutes before it started and would like to have done more research on Obama's presidential goals.

Overall, Hering said he

thought "the whole table did a wonderful job outlining the broad strokes of the campaign."

Paul said the students who supported Obama during the debate "performed exceptionally well," although being a Clinton supporter, he still tends to disagree with them.

"I think that their views reflected the opinions of many Obama supporters on campus," Paul said. "I do believe that their main focus was ethno-based, but they represented their viewpoints very well."

Whalen said he did not change his mind about which candidate he supported after hearing the debate, although he thought Paul was persuasive.

But Paul may have succeeded in persuading a few, as Clinton won the Ohio primary with 55 percent of the votes.

would not be worth it."

Pohoomul said she would stay in Delaware to save money and catch up on work, but that remaining in town would not be exciting enough.

"I would rather go broke than stay back in Delaware," Pohoomul said. "There's no good public transportation in this place, there's not much to do recreationally. In fact, many international students who would stay back do not have cars, so that means I would be stuck on campus with nowhere to go."

Pohoomul said she chose to go to New York because "it's convenient."

"Tickets are semi-cheap if you book them in advance," Pohoomul said. "You're not leaving the country, so I didn't need to worry about a visa. Also, it's probably the best place in all of United States, so I'm not complaining."

'Birding' gains popularity

By Ross McHale
Transcript Correspondent

What has four eyes, a notebook and a passion for the elusive Dark-eyed Junco? No, it's not Batman. It's one of the many Ohio Wesleyan students who have recently taken up bird watching.

"I think it's a great way to just get out into nature and lose yourself for awhile," said Jack Stenger, a sophomore and teaching assistant in Jed Burt's Zoology 341 class. "Compared to most other activities, it's not all that strenuous, so it helps me relax most of the time."

Stenger, who has been birding for more than 12 years, said the lab meets twice a week and travels all over Delaware County in search of rare and exotic birds.

"Usually we stay on campus but occasionally we cover the Delaware Wildlife Sanctuary," Stenger said.

Bird watching, or "birding" as Stenger calls it, can be done anywhere birds are found. One needs only a pair of binoculars and field guide to get things started.

"You can pretty much find birds anywhere," said sophomore Keegan Adams, a birder. "I can look out my window at any time of day and at least see a sparrow."

"As surprising as it may seem, people seem to be going back to nature and birding is a part of all that," Stenger said.

While Stenger is more interested in the scientific aspects of birding, Adams enjoys the aesthetic appeal.

"Jack usually points them out and I like to sit around and



Dark-eyed Junco

sketch them, at least until they decide to fly away," Adams said. "Some like to leave in the middle of the drawing, so that can get pretty annoying."

Adams said that students who are not enrolled in Zoology 341 are encouraged to come along. The outings are not restricted to members of the class and beginners can pick up birding faster than most other sciences.

"I would have to say one of the best things about this class is that counts as a science credit, so if you're not all that interested in chemistry or physics, you can give birding a shot," Adams said. "Plus you can actually get out into nature and apply what you're being taught."

Stenger offered a few tips for those interested in getting into birding.

"It is definitely easier to see birds if you travel in small groups," Stenger said. "You should also try not to make too much noise when you see one or it will more than likely get spooked."

Adams said the best way to start birding is to simply look around when walking to class.

"There are a ton of birds on campus, so if you think you might like birding, come on one of our trips and see what their all about," Adams said.

BREAK, from page 1

have enough money to stay in a hotel."

Sophomore Shahina Pohoomul, also an international student, said although she would love to visit new places over spring break, she does not have the time and money to plan such trips.

"I need visas to go outside of the United States," Pohoomul said. "Visas for many countries are ridiculously expensive."

Pohoomul said she was initially planning on going to London for spring break but said the visa "costs a bomb."

"For instance, the visa itself costs a little under \$200," Pohoomul said. "A ticket from Columbus would not cost less than \$800. So that's a thousand, not including the spending money. Not only is that out of my budget, a week long break

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Prof's son takes first in 'Future City' competition

By Kaitlin Thomas
Transcript Correspondent

Lynda K. Hall, professor of psychology, has something to smile about. Her son, Jeremy Boyd, a seventh-grader at Heritage Middle School in Westerville, Ohio, was part of the school's team that took home first prize in the Future City National Finals Feb. 18-20 in Washington, D.C.

The mission of the National Engineers Week Future City Competition, now in its 16th year, is "to provide a fun and exciting educational engineering program for seventh- and eighth-grade students that combines a stimulating engineering challenge with a 'hands-on' application to present their vision of a city of the future."

Hall said she could not have been more proud of the work her son did on the project.

As a member the Future City team, he worked to put together a simulation of their city with the videogame *SimCity 3000*, write an essay and an abstract about the city and make a scale model to be presented at the competition. The model had a budget of \$100, so most of it was created from recycled materials, Hall said.

Boyd's team placed their city of the future, RA, in Egypt, an unusual choice among the teams. Most chose well populated areas. Hall said they chose to place it in the desert to "look at how people will adapt."

The topic for this year's essay focused on how nanotechnology would be used to monitor the city's infrastructure.

Their winning essay focused on how this technology would be used to manage their city's sewer systems.

"The technology would provide RA engineers with precise data, a state-of-the-art monitoring system, automated repairs and precise problem detection that is economically advantageous, protects citizens' health and preserves the environment," the students wrote.

The Future City competition consists of 1,100 middle schools from across the nation. Hall said she believed most schools were private schools which had more of a say in the way students spent their day.

"One school had Future City as a class period. We did ours on evenings and weekends,"

Hall said.

Heritage Middle School won their regional competition held Jan. 19 at the Columbus Science Institute, qualifying their team for the national competition.

The presentation team, which Boyd was a part of, was only part of the group that created RA.

A group of twenty students, their teacher and a volunteer engineer who served as the team's mentor, all worked hard on the competition's four areas. The group then voted on the three students who would represent their team at the competition.

Hall said the Heritage's volunteer mentor, Ted Beidler from the Franklin County, Ohio Engineering Department, let the students decide what they wanted to do with their city. He was hands off but would step in when he saw a problem.

"He pointed out their pitfalls," Hall said.

The students were expected to know about their city and to be prepared to defend it, as they would be judged by a panel of engineers during their presentation. After the top five schools were chosen, the students had to repeat their presentation in front of a larger audience consisting of the judges, parents and the other teams.

There has been only one other team from Ohio to place in the top five of the competition, Hall said.

One of those students, now in high school, helped this year's team with their project.

Hall said the team was thrilled when they made the top five, let alone the top spot.

"We were really shocked when we realized they were the first place winners," Hall said.

The rest of the teams immediately congratulated them after the awards were announced, she said.

"They were all so supportive of one another," Hall said. "Their character really impressed me."

Hall said the most surprising part of this adventure is not that the team took home the first place trophy, but that these students were determined to create a better way of life for the future. They were set on creating a safer, more efficient and "greener" world.

"They want to be part of the solution," Hall said.

Trees are cool...
Please recycle the
Transcript

Summer 2008



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John Carroll
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Arts & Entertainment

mZuri uses past to make pointed statement on activism

By Malika Bryant
Transcript Correspondent

"The scars that my granddaddy wore across his back were laid across my forehead," Fannie Lou Hamer said while looking out into the small Ohio Wesleyan audience, made up of students and Delaware residents.

The Office of Minority Student Affairs and the Black World Studies Department have been sponsoring a month-long Black History Month celebration.

One of the programs in this series included "The Fannie Lou Hamer Story," by mZuri. The performance occurred on Wednesday, Feb. 27, in the R.W. Corns Building at 7:30 p.m. The play has been performed for seven years by mZuri, actress, educator and singer.

"I wanted this play to have layers," mZuri said.

Fannie Lou Hamer was the grandchild of slaves and the youngest of 20 children. She worked for 18 years as a sharecropper on a Mississippi plantation.

In 1962, Hamer volun-

"mZuri brings intensity and passion that allows you to get to know the character," freshman Jae Blackmon said.

teered to register to vote. She was denied this chance many times, but never gave up. At one point she was jailed and beaten because of the work she had done to become a registered voter in the state of Mississippi.

Hamer is one of the founders of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP). This party was formed in order to challenge the Mississippi Delegation. The delegation was made up of all caucasian citizens.

African-Americans felt that the group was an unfair representation of Mississippi's population.

Eventually, Hamer was granted a meeting with the Credentials Committee of the Democratic Presidential Convention. The convention gave two members of the MFDP voting and

speaking rights in the Mississippi Delegation.

One year later, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which eliminated unequal voting policies.

The audience members seemed to have a positive reaction to the performance.

"mZuri brings intensity and passion that allows you to get to know the character," said freshman Jae Blackmon.

Senior Myra Blackburn said this play allowed her to go back into her past and acknowledge her ancestors.

She said the play was inspiring and a learning experience. It helped her recognize the importance of voting because of the many people that have been dehumanized in the fight to gain the right to vote.

Through spoken word and live gospel spirituals, mZuri communicated with the audience as if she were civil rights activist. "When you go out to vote, the spirit of Fannie Lou Hamer will rise!" mZuri said, while rising to her feet.

During a short intermission, a documentary was shown on the 2000 elections. The documentary highlighted the issues that affected Florida's voting ballots. Afterward, mZuri reappeared to answer questions from the audience.

When asked why this documentary was placed in the middle of the program, mZuri said she thought it was important to show how President George Bush had won the election.

She also said she wanted to stress the importance of voting and described how in past performances she has had a voter registration table set up by the entrance to encourage people to get involved.

She said that audience participation is very important; many of the music selections encourage the audience to sing along. mZuri said that she wanted the play to share a cultural, as well as a church, experience.



Photo by Catie Coleman

mZuri as Fannie Lou Hamer



Gay couple presents struggles through their art

Performance artist Tim Miller and his partner, author Alistair McCartney, have faced many difficulties as homosexuals in America.

Miller will present his one-man show "Glory Box" at 8 p.m., March 19, on the Main Stage of the Chappelle Drama Center. The couple's visit is sponsored by the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered (GLBT) Resource Center.

Taking its name from the Australian term for hope chest, "Glory Box" has been described as a "funny, sexy, and politically charged exploration" of same-sex marriage and the struggle for immigration rights for lesbian and gay multinational

couples.

"Glory Box" recounts Miller's trials in working to keep his Australian partner, McCartney, in the United States. The performance is relevant in that the couple may be forced to leave the United States this year in order to remain together.

"I want the piece to conjure for the audience a new 'Glory Box,' a new kind of hope chest, that can be an alternative site for the placing of memories, hopes and dreams of gay people's extraordinary potential for love," Miller said. "I think 'Glory Box' has me diving into a situation where my most personal identity as a gay man crashes against the hypocrisy

of America. This is a job for performance art! Sparks will fly! Rodan meets Godzilla!"

Miller has performed throughout North America, Australia, and Europe and recently was nominated for the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) Media Award for his new work "1001 Beds." He gained notoriety as one of the "NEA Four" artists whose National Endowment for the Arts grants were rescinded in 1990. The four sued and ultimately won reinstatements of their grants plus punitive damages. The U.S. Supreme Court decided in 1998 to overturn part of Miller's case, ruling that "standards of

decency" can be constitutional criteria for federal funding of the arts.

While at OWU Miller will visit classes and conduct a performance workshop for theatre students. McCartney also will be in Delaware to promote his new book, "The End of the World Book," with a reading on March 18 at the Mean Bean. The two will be available for a question-and-answer session after the March 19 show.

There is no charge for tickets, but donations to benefit GLBT programming on OWU campus will be accepted.

For more information or to reserve tickets, call (740) 368-3196.

'Greek' is an accurate portrayal of life at OWU, according to this columnist



I do not want to hear about how much Person A hates Person B for being drunk all the time, unless it is on my television.

Secondly, I love that because this is a television show, I do not actually have to participate in any of the ridiculous events these sororities and fraternities cook up. I get to be on the other side again, laughing at the stupid things those crazy Greeks are doing.

I will admit that the events we put on are to raise money for our respective philanthropies. This is a good thing. But deep down, even the most loyal sorority or fraternity member realizes how dumb half of these are.

To embarrass ourselves may put a smile on the faces of non-Greeks, but I will tell you, I am not smiling. Unless I am watching it on TV.

I realize that many of you reading this are also members of the Greek community here at OWU, and you might think I am wrong about all of this.

You might even be mad. Frankly, that does not bother me. You are probably the people who are angry about my column trashing Oprah, and you are probably the people I hated on last week about wearing leggings as pants. (Emily Rose, you are allowed to wear leg-

gings, but no one else.)

Hate me if you want to.

But I remember receiving an e-mail this past summer on the night the show was supposed to premiere. It was from my sorority.

The e-mail wanted us, as members of our fine sorority, to stand up to the negative and untrue stereotypes that the show was rumored to portray.

If you have ever watched the show, and you are a member of the Greek community, can you honestly say that most of the things that happen on the show have never happened, to your knowledge, here at OWU? Because I will say they have.

The show is not false in its portrayal of Greek life. Sometimes it might exaggerate a couple of things.

But we all have secrets and our own gossip that circulates; first it is just the house, but then, given our small campus, it makes its way to all of the sororities. And there is the possibility of it extending further outside the circle of Greeks.

But, personally, I think the show does an adequate job at portraying the basics of Greek life.

If you have not seen the show, check it out for yourself. It returns with new episodes March 24 at 9 p.m. on ABC Family.

Sampling is key to hip-hop's creativity instead of a crutch

Real Talk



Simon Brown

Today's column is about a prominent part of hip-hop--sampling. Sampling has been integral to hip-hop from the very beginning.

Sugar Hill Gang sampled "Good Times" for their song "Rappers Delight" in 1979. Puffy (Puff Daddy, P. Diddy) sampled Diana Ross' "I'm Coming Out" in 1997 for Biggie's song, "Mo' Money Mo' Problems," and Nas, in 2006, sampled Nat King Cole's "Unforgettable" for his single "Can't Forget about you." This proves that sampling has been a constant trend in hip-hop.

The question one must ask: "Is this a negative or a positive thing?"

There are many ways to

approach this issue. Firstly, one could say that this shows that the music lacks creativity and has to steal from others. I disagree, though hip-hop may not be the genre to pick up instruments or start a band, I believe sampling is a sign of its creativity.

I have noticed this a lot in recent album releases. Hip-hop takes music from many different music groups and blends it with its own style. This is evident in the gritty use of the rock/bongo sounds of "In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida" by Michael Viner & The Incredible Bongo Band. This rock sample is given a different flow and twist, and Nas is able write lyrics and keep a constant lyrical flow.

What was once an instrumental is now remixed and given a theme and a specific meaning as Nas uses it for the controversial song "Hip-hop is dead."

Another instance where a sample has shown creativity is on Nas' "Black Republican" featuring Jay-Z. The song samples the Italian soundtrack from "The Godfather." This again takes a simple instrumental and gives it a deeper meaning.

What I find impressive was Nas and Jay-Z's ability to keep the emotions expressed in the movie with the specific soundtrack and then emulate those

feelings in the form of lyrics. This shows the flexibility of hip-hop artists as they take a song with no evidence of hip-hop influence and turn it into a rap song.

The last sign of creativity in sampling that intrigues me is the ability to take unpopular songs (unpopular to the average hip-hop fan at least) and turn them into good hip-hop.

Kanye West sampled Steely Dan's "Kid Charlemagne" for his song "Champion." He takes one line from the song, "Don't you realize that you are a champion in their eyes," and makes it the entire theme of the song. This type of artistic vision is impressive and also highlights the fact that hip-hop is influenced by every genre of music.

The hip-hop world is heavily influenced by every genre of music, from Jimi Hendrix to Miles Davis to Diana Ross and even Elton John. It is therefore no surprise that these genres are incorporated into the music through sampling.

I believe that sampling is hip-hop's connection to all music and also a way of living in the past. If there is ever a complaint that "music was better back in the day," that claim is discredited with hip-hop that samples music from the past and pays homage to its roots.

Opinion

Students should be able to keep their cash

As spring break approaches, students have to make the difficult decision of where to stay. While there are many students who have ample time and money to go on vacation or make a trip home, it is not so easy for others. While we commend the university for allowing international students to stay on campus free of charge, we think this advantage should be granted to all students.

For many students, it is not financially convenient, or in some cases, feasible, to travel for spring break, so they are stuck with shelling out an extra \$15 a night to stay on campus. We think this extra charge is reprehensible, considering the excessive amount of money students already spend on room and board at this university.

We fail to see the necessity of charging extra money for some students to stay on campus while residential life staff is already available in each of the dorms. Another important factor is that heat, electricity, and utilities are left running regardless of how many people are there. It is also notable that Kenyon and Denison allow any student to stay on campus without charge during breaks if they fill out an application.

Students not only come from all over the world, they come from all over the country. A flight home to California or Colorado could be just as inconvenient as a flight home to Venezuela or Colombia. It is also possible that a student may not have a home to which they can go.

While their number of students this policy affects may be small, that just makes the university that much more petty for forcing students to pony up an extra \$120 to stay over break. This charge is completely inexcusable, and the university should allow any student to fill out an application to stay on campus free of charge.

Grandson seeks advice on the topic of true love

Dear Grandpa,

Hey! How are you doing?! Things are alright over here in "college land," har har. Well, not "everything" is alright. You see, there is this girl I like, and I think she might like me -- more than friends. Not sure though.

We had a little tiff over an animal. I was fighting for the animal's rights (a cat!) and she wanted to do her job (which apparently is killing cats, but I am just so smitten by her that I feel I can look past some details!).

You know I love cats, but what if this is the "one"!? Shoot-ba-doot gramps! Is this what you meant when you said, "Love is HARD, and so am I"? Sometimes what you say goes right in one ear and out the other!

I guess I have a lot of growing up to do, and who am I to tell her not to do what she loves?! I can't even figure out how to make my own costumes for Halloween! All I wanted was a hotdog costume, but it ended up looking like something else entirely! Help me out here gramps.

Zachy



Letters I found in the dumpster
by Tavish Miller

ING MORE IMPORTANT THAN CATS! Did you tell that "woman" that?! I hope you told "her" about Cat-opia, otherwise I don't know why I'm writing this God D letter.

Why did I bother taking you kids to the cat museum every Tuesday if you are just gonna cut the poor bastards up?!

As for this "lady," you need to show her that you are serious. Give her something that she doesn't want, then, when she tries to deny acceptance, you have the upper hand, because that is RUDE. If she is rude, let her know. It will make her feel indebted, and then she has to make it up to you!

It sounds like you shouldn't give her a cat though if you know what I mean!!! (Because she cuts em up right? Ha?) See you on your birthday!

GrandPaw A

P.S.: If this person is a professor, that means YOU are paying "HER," so as far as I'm concerned "SHE" works for "YOU." But you know better than me! I never went to college!

Dear Zimmy,

Sounds like you caught the love bug! Don't worry, old gramps is here to help!

First I want to tell you though, THERE IS NOTH-

Printing privileges here could use refining

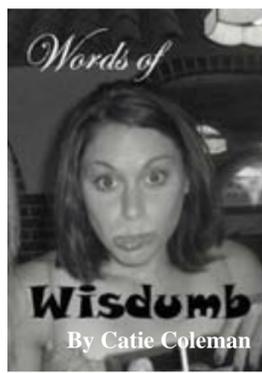
After a few disheartening incidents in the past couple weeks, I stumbled across this website: <http://library.owu.edu/libprnt.htm> (Ohio Wesleyan's printing services policy).

The top of the page reads "Who Can Print." Below it: "Anyone with an Ohio Wesleyan University network account can print!!!" (I added the exclamation points for dramatic effect).

Unfortunately, I have had legitimate reasons to print things in the past couple weeks.

Well, I take that back. Those pictures of John Edwards and his family I Photoshopped myself into were purely for private purposes. But, perverted democratic fantasies aside, I had real assignments to focus on.

Picture it: it's a cold, dark Sunday evening, and I have to print an article to complete an assignment. I live in Stuy, and, yes, my room is haunted -- by a little girl named Alicia. My



suitemates are scared of her, but I'm only slightly annoyed when she doesn't knock.

Anyway, Alicia and I decide to take the tunnel to Hayes, something I rarely do, even in the dead of winter. But my shoes are wet and I figure socks will do if I stay inside.

So we get to the dreaded tunnel, and Alicia backs out.

She says, "There's no way

I'm going in there. It's haunted."

I try explaining that she's a ghost herself, but there's no reasoning with an adolescent. I journey alone. The tunnel stinks of supernatural activity, or maybe it's just the water seepage bubbling up from the floor -- either way it's making me regret my chosen path.

Alas, I arrive at the door to Hayes unharmed, but slightly damp. In the Hayes "microlab," I sit at my usual computer, pull up the document and select "print."

After a short delay, I type in my username, followed by my password (which is not the same as every other account I've ever opened online because that would just be asking for trouble).

I wait. And wait.

Then it happens. The printer light starts flashing orange. "Attention. Attention. Load tray 2." So let me get this straight

... I am paying money to walk through a wet, creepy tunnel to use the slowest computer known to man so I can print out an article I don't even want to read with MY OWN PAPER?!

Unfortunately, the Hayes RA's are unable to help because the paper supply is out.

They are kind enough to point me in the direction of the library though -- the library that I am not going to walk to at 11 o'clock at night in the pouring freezing rain.

So ... who *can* print? "They" would like you to believe "anyone with an OWU network account" can print.

In real life this translates to those who do not wish to print in Hayes or Welch, or anywhere else -- except the library, of course.

You'd be silly to think they'd put real paper the dorm printers. Everyone knows some jerk will just waste it on their ... homework!

It doesn't take much to understand U.S. policy

Hello folks, this is my first column of the year.

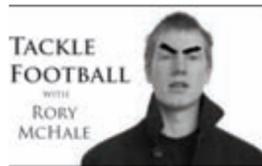
Perhaps I should introduce myself. My name is Rory, although many of you may know me better as Mr. McHale, or simply "Coach."

I'm hoping this column will serve as the place-to-go for on-campus sports commentary. We're going to cover it all—basketball, football, hockey and scuba-diving. I hope it's a great year?!

News: This past Monday, the U.S. military struck a "target" in Somalia at a "facility" where there were known terrorists affiliated with East African al Qaeda operations."

So there you have it. The strike destroyed two houses, killing three women and three children, and wounding 20, according to reports at the time of this writing.

There we go. The U.S. will strike wherever we want in another country based on intelli-



gence we won't share, at targets that may or may not be there (in this case, better the target was non-existent than the U.S. to have been targeting those who were killed).

I get this funny feeling if the U.S. found out there were "known terrorists" in England or France, they would hesitate a little longer before indiscriminately and without consultation bombing a house with women and children as the casualties.

But wait, the U.S. sent similar rocket attacks against Sudan and Afghanistan in 1998, against suspected terrorists. So when we suspect terrorists in certain countries, we'll send in rockets. But we've also had information

about Al-Qaeda cells in Germany, Spain and Great Britain and didn't go ape-shit with our missiles.

Oh wait, wait, I get it. The U.S. has no respect for third-world nations, and we realize no one will stop us, or even suggest anything was out of line. Man oh man, I'm glad my tax dollars pay a small amount of this noble mission.

I know there are some hard-nosed individuals who would like to say something along the lines of: "Some things have to happen; we got to get the terrorists, with us/against us, etc." I know, I know, there's another argument to be had about why I'm right and you're wrong.

But, when one of our family members dies or is killed, we don't tend to be as 'badass' in claiming that these things need to happen. More badassness comes when we start to talk about revenge for that death. And there are now several more

families in Somalia without wives, mothers and siblings.

Now that that's out of the way, I have some sports coverage that I promised would be my new focus.

The other night as I was trying to fall asleep, there were some electrical disturbances. My refrigerator was humming and my computer continually reloading or some noise to that effect.

As this racket kept me from rest, it occurred to me there may be some serious sexual tension between my fridge and computer. I felt worried for their well-being as such tension can be psychologically harmful. But all was well when I realized, although computers are legally human beings, fridges are just metal boxes for keeping things cool.

How could a human computer have feelings for a fridge?

After apologizing to my computer I finally fell asleep.

U.S.'s opportunity: Europe reaching its nadir

There is no doubt: Europe's political and economic defense is vulnerable and unsecured. Such decline was predictable given the fast pace Europe has embarked upon ever since the early 1990s in unifying projects to launch the EU on the international stage as an unrivaled player.

Yet, the ongoing political turmoil outside the EU Eastern borders, the presence of Russian influence strongly exerted in Belarus and partially in Bulgaria, and the continued internal division within the Ukrainian borders has negatively affected a unified voice.

Added to such unstable political background came the presence of ineffective political figures such as Sarkozy and a fading Gordon Brown whose voice and international perspective are not remarkable, especially during a time where Europe needs, more than ever, strong support and leadership.

With the reign of Europe fading clearly in the current unfavorable political mix, a vacuum is sensed and its waiting to be filled. Should it be the U.S. or Russia to play its cards for a dominance in Europe?



It is now that the U.S. should make a decisive move on European soil and address its involvement with coming elections and the political ground already laid. Will the U.S. seize this prominent opportunity and not let a rising Russia win the battle in the Eastern sphere?

Kosovo's recent independence demonstrated to the world an ineffective European stance. Europe is by far the cohesive body envisioned by its constructors given the national interest prioritized by countries such as Cyprus, and Romania when confronted with a sub territory claim.

Division and lack of coordination stand as clear European signals playing to Russia's advantage. The fragmentation, lack of European security and absence of clear commitment in a vulnerable place such as the Balkans will cost Europe dearly.

And there are clear hints

towards a deepening of the division, now more concentrated on the EU borders, between the apparently integrated states and the outsiders, the latter being attracted in the Russian magnet of political influence.

There is one clear opportunity, which is closer than expected: the Bucharest NATO summit on April 2 to 4.

The presence of Putin and the expected NATO membership invitation to Albania, Croatia and Macedonia will be the key political pieces opening a Pandora's box. Nevertheless, the event is an opportunity for voicing a more Transatlantic voice in which further integration and democratic promotion can be rewarded by an admission to the Euro-American body.

Without a doubt, the U.S. is playing a major role in the alliance and can consider such a summit as further expansion of its allies, support and incontestable future in the most divided and tumultuous region in Europe.

Where the EU is failing, the U.S. can make its presence felt and continue supporting a stronger Europe that is now lapsing into an unprecedented stale-

mate.

With the November elections serving as a second argument for change in foreign policy, the U.S. should refocus its attention on the European ground waiting for leadership.

Not only are countries such as Croatia and Albania awaiting their NATO acceptance, but the rest of Europe needs more interest and American presence that could lift the backwards European outsiders to Western economical levels and opportunities.

And behind the ancillary positive economic effects future NATO membership would bring for such a zone, the psychological effect plays an important role.

Acceptance of the Balkan countries within the Western body despite weak compatibility with the membership requirements, and the increased support and credibility for the U.S. presence in the region would benefit the U.S. externally and internally.

The U.S. just needs to divert its attention towards on what once stood as a basis of its foreign policy: the Transatlantic relation.

Staff

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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.

The Transcript

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Bishops Sports

Photo by Cliff Williams

The OWU men's lacrosse team fought hard in the first half against fifth ranked Lynchburg on Sunday afternoon but fell in the end 13-5. The Bishops and The Hornets went blow for blow in the first half, trading goals to make the score 4-4 with a little under seven minutes left in the first half. Senior Harrison Iuliano, who finished the game with two goals and an assist, scored once more before the half but the Hornets struck thrice making the score 7-5 at intermission. Lynchburg came out with a vengeance in the second half, racking up goals and imposing their will on the Bishops defense. Despite a large fan showing for the Bishops, they could not hold off the Hornets. Senior Chris Eccles finished the game with three assists and senior goal keeper Ryan Perone had 10 saves for the Bishops.

OWU lets game slip away in second half



Swimmers set selves high goals

By Clay Davis
Transcript Correspondent

If there's something people often forget at OWU, it's that there is a men's swimming team, and a pretty good one, too.

"I have got a feeling that people do not even know we have a swim team," sophomore David Gatz said. "I have jokingly asked people if they are coming to a meet, and they have replied seriously that they did not even know we had a swimming pool."

There are certainly reasons to come and support the men's swimming team, and the season's not over yet.

Gatz is currently in training as he prepares for the greatest prize: nationals. For him to get there, it has taken a lot of hard work, but it has seemed to pay off.

He has lowered the school record in the 100- and 200-meter breaststrokes, and Gatz said that he got "provisional cuts fast enough that I am still training for the NCAA national meet."

Junior Brian Fahey said he sees the improvement first hand.

"Overall, we sent more people to finals, we are sending one (Gatz) onto the NCAA Championship and the same guy broke two school records too," Fahey said. "We scored more this year than last year so, overall, a really strong finish to the year."

While the team finished 8th overall at conference, the team seemed to have a solid season, and to Gatz, there is more to the sport than wins and losses.

"We are not overly concerned about our record and just look to see that our own times are improving," Gatz said.

"Of course, we do not mind if we win a meet here and there."

Like Gatz, sophomore Kevin Fahey sees the improvement on the team through times, not necessarily where they finished.

"All of us dropped time in one way or another," Fahey said. "We should all be proud."

There have been challenges the men's swimming team has had to overcome.

While other sports seem to have an easy time recruiting, that's not the case with swimming. According to Gatz, there were only two new swimmers on the team this year.

"One thing that was hard for the men's team in particular was there was a rather nasty void of new swimmers," Gatz said.

The good news, however, is that the team has seen an increase in new faces for the 2008-2009 season.

"Already, we have four new recruits who have put down deposits, and three of them actually fit into some of our team's weak areas," Gatz said. "This could make us as a team much more competitive next year."

For a student who has not seen the workouts that the swimmers put into action, they may not know that there are multiple phases to it, and for many swimmers, it involves triathlons.

"A lot of us are actually really into triathlons and will be training for those over the summer," Gatz said. "Also, most of us will probably be lifting and hitting the pool every once and a while."

That is why the team hopes to be great next year, and as Kevin Fahey simply put it, "I want to go to nationals."

Support Bishops sports, read the back pages of The Transcript and send comments to sports editor Alex Humbert at owunews@owu.edu.

Editor sets record straight on best sports movies

Alex Humbert
Sports Editor

As sports editor, I am taking this opportunity to editorialize. As a writer I respect the work of Drew Lenox, and on a weekly basis his column provides me with a giggle or two given his cheeky analogies and insights. He is a skilled columnist.

However, after last week's column on the "Academy Awards of Sports Movies", I cannot stand idly by while

Lenox omits some of the true greats.

The list I have compiled is a list for the people, by the people. These movies should not be just confined to the category of "sports movies," but, rather, represent the greatest movies ever. I am not trying to say that Lennox's list did not include some truly great movies. What I am saying is that he overlooked the classics of the genre.

Sit back and enjoy.

Honorable Mentions –

Angel's in the Outfield, The Garbage Picking Field Goal Kicking Philadelphia Phenomenon, Bull Durham, Kingpin and Airbud.

5. **Major League** – I had a hard time putting this movie as far down on this list as number five because it can only be described as "awesome" for a lack of a better word. Players like Wild Thing, Willie "Mays" Hayes, Pedro Cerrano and Jake Taylor comprise the greatest Tribe team ever. Forever and

ever.

4. **Little Giants** – You find me another pee-wee football player named Spike that can carry refrigerators on his back and a girl as badass as the Ice-Box and I'll take this movie off the list. Until then it's here to stay.

3. **Rudy** – Hobbit Samwise Gamgee plays a Notre Dame Football walk-on who, against all odds, makes the team because of hard work and determination. It's based on a true

story and it's the feel good story of my life. I hate Notre Dame. I love this movie.

2. **Mighty Ducks Series** – I feel like I shouldn't have to write an explanation, a reason, a synopsis or a justification for this one. The movie was made into an actual NHL team for heaven's sake. If you don't like this movie, then you are not American and you probably support Team Iceland.

1. **Sandlot** – Enough said ...

Spring training begins; teams plan upcoming season



Yoder's Yard

With Willy Yoder

With Johan Santana now in New York, he will soon step right up and meet the Mets. The most important Met he will meet when the teams come to camp will be Pedro Martinez.

The two pitchers have had eerily similar pitching styles throughout their careers, and now, with Santana's move to New York, they've had eerily similar career paths, too.

After six years in Canada, at the age of 26, Martinez finally got his wish and went to a contender. It had seemed like an eternity that the incredibly talented Martinez had put up ferociously good statistics year in and year out for a cellar-dweller.

Finally in 1998 he was sent to the Boston Red Sox, where his career blossomed into the legendary one known today.

Pedro was put in a rotation with a knuckleballer Tim Wakefield and journeymen Steve Avery and Pete Schourek, but, most importantly, former star pitcher Brett Saberhagen.

Saberhagen himself knew what it was like to be an ace at a young age. Through the mid to late '80s, he would show flashes of greatness that made him one of the best pitchers in the game. While there is no memorable friendship between Pedro and Brett, it is safe to say that the young ace learned a lot from the former all-star about the craft of pitching.

Ten years later, Johan Santana, at the age of 27, came to New York after seven years in Minnesota. The Twins had patched together some winning seasons around Santana, but it seemed a consensus to much of baseball was that Johan's incredible talent was being wasted in

the twin cities. The gifted Santana then moved to the Mets in a trade that immediately made the team the favorite to win the NL Pennant.

Unlike Martinez, Santana joined a rotation with two young talented starters, John Maine and Oliver Perez. However, he now teams up with an aged and experienced Martinez.

So now Santana has a mentor of his own. There is no way to quantify the impact Pedro can have on Johan over the next several years. Everywhere Johan can go, and everywhere he can take his new team, Pedro has been.

With their similar pitching styles, Pedro can show Johan every little trick in the book he learned during his dazzling career. If you look at how smart Pedro is now with his far diminished physical skills, could you imagine if someone had bestowed upon him the knowledge he has today when he was 27?

The most important lesson Pedro

learned in Boston that he can give to Johan is how to become a warrior on the mound. Pedro's presence in games gave a sense of invincibility to the Red Sox. It was a time when the Red Sox-Yankee rivalry had reached its pinnacle. Pedro's presence gave something new to Boston it hadn't had before. His emergence coincided with the eventual rise of the Red Sox over the Yankees, a final push to where we stand today when Boston said, "We aren't going to take this anymore."

So this is what Pedro can give Johan. Power. Courage. The strength to overcome the lingering effects of the biggest collapse in baseball history. The leadership needed to stop asking, "What happened?" Johan, as Pedro did in the late '90s, can help the Mets take a stand. The Mets are disgusted about always being second best to the Yankees. They are fed up about always coming up just a bit short, and they're not going to take it anymore.

Sports may be about the money, but for Cubs, there's a chance

Almost everything in the world today, in some way or form, is about money. As the thoughts of the almighty dollar are circling all around, the importance of and focus on money has not escaped the sports world.

Today's athletes constantly look for larger paydays and will sometimes abandon a situation for potential success if the money is right.

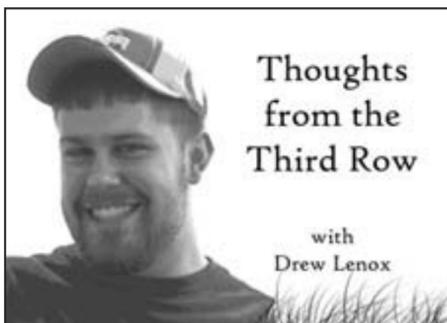
Ticket prices continue to rise and, in many places, people must buy seat licenses to go along with their season tickets.

But, while the business that accompanies sports is understood, one of the sad things in sports these days is how the love of money and a chance to benefit financially leads teams to sell the naming rights of their stadiums and arenas.

The battles for naming rights are usually quite expensive and, as soon as a contract is up, there are new companies looking to get in on the action.

Although it is mostly banks and insurance companies that pay the big bucks to get their names associated with the buildings, there are many other businesses ready to spend.

In football, baseball and basketball there are insurance firms, electronics firms, businesses that sell supplies and some that sell drinks. There are airlines, a cable company, a clothing line and a place that produces ketchup.



Thoughts from the Third Row

with Drew Lenox

What ever happened to the days where stadiums were named after the team name or the city--or actually paid homage to their owners and founders?

In professional sports today, 17 of the 32 NFL teams play in a stadium named after a company. In the MLB, half the teams share this characteristic.

In the NBA there are only five arena names, Charlotte Bobcats Arena, Madison Square Garden, New Orleans Arena, the Palace of Auburn Hills and the Rose Garden, that are not a result of naming rights.

Some of the stadiums that bear names are newer ones that come with newer franchises. This is understandable as the companies see the new opportunity and

jump at it.

But when the talk of a team with tradition and a historical building considers a name change, people should be both alarmed and outraged.

The New York Mets will play their last game in Shea Stadium on Sept. 28 of this year and move to their new home: Citi Field. And as one historic name is lost, another is being considered.

While the Chicago Cubs are not getting a new park, Cubs owner Sam Zell plans to sell the team and is considering selling the naming rights of Wrigley Field to retire some of the debt of the Tribune Company.

Zell has good financial thinking in this decision as Citigroup is going to pay \$20 million a year for the new park in New York and Reliant Energy made a \$300 million deal for 30 years for the Houston stadium.

But who can imagine the Packers not playing at Lambeau, the Knicks not playing at MSG, or the Red Sox not at Fenway? It's the same for the Cubs at Wrigley.

The irony that would come to Sam Zell is that while he could sell the naming rights to Wrigley Field, the marquee that bears its name would have to stay because it is a local landmark protected by city council.

Although the rest of the sports world is concerning themselves with money and profit, let's hope the Cubs and Zell will embrace the more important ideals of history and tradition.



Bishops Sports

CHAMPIONS!

CHAMPS, from page 1

were coming into the game with a lot of confidence and momentum."

Senior post Jesse Jean said the team went into the tournament with an attitude to take down all competition, no matter who they faced.

"Anything is possible during this time of year, so we knew if we came out ready to play no matter who it was we had a chance to win and that's what we did," Jean said. "I honestly feel like we played with a chip on our shoulders and no matter who we played we were ready to get that W."

The 1988 season was the last and only time that the Bishops have gone to the NCAA tournament and they went on to win the national championship. That means the Bishops have never lost an NCAA tournament game in its history.

Rudegeair, who was named the NCAC tournament's Most Valuable Player, said there is no pressure on this team to live up to their predecessor's unblemished tournament record.

"I don't think that should have too much effect on us pressure-wise because I don't think nearly as many people thought we would even make the NCAA tourney, while the '88 team had a lot of expectations on them," Rudegeair said. "Our main goal all season was to win the NCAC tournament, so now the pressure is really off and everything from hear on out is an added bonus to achieving our goal."

The NCAA Bracket selection



Photos on LEFT by Kyle Holliday/Photo on TOP from OWU Online

TOP LEFT: Sophomore Mitch Noggle pumps a fist in the air as he helps cut down the nets at Wooster after the win. **LEFT:** The six senior Bishops Dustin Rudegeair (who was named the tournament's MVP), Brian Cafarella, Jesse Jean, Ryan Rozak, Casey Teeters and Elliot Kaple hold up the NCAC Championship trophy. **ABOVE:** The 2008 Battling Bishops men's basketball team gather together for a group photo around the NCAC Championship trophy held by senior Casey Teeters. The Bishops defeated Hiram, Allegheny and Wabash en route to the championship.

was on Tuesday and the Bishops drew a first round matchup with in-state opponent Heidelberg, who won the OAC tournament crown. The Berg is in a similar situation as the Bishops, in that they were not the top seed in their tournament but came out on top as champions.

Teeters said the team does not know a whole lot about Heidelberg as a team, other than common foes they have faced this season.

"We know they have a high-

scoring offense with five players averaging in double digits," Teeters said. "We know that they have beaten Capital, who we lost to by only two earlier this year but we also know that they lost to Baldwin-Wallace who we beat by 30 points. Our assistant coach (Chad) Bostelman was an assistant coach for Heidelberg last season so that should be very beneficial for our team."

Jean, who finished the season leading the Bishops in

both blocks and rebounds, said Heidelberg is a solid but beatable team.

"All I know is that they are a good team and they are coming off a conference title win," Jean said. "I also know that if we play our brand of ball I think we can match up with any team in the country."

The game against Heidelberg will be played tonight at host Centre college in Kentucky at 6.

Rudegeair said it is tough to explain the feelings and emo-

tions that the team is going through heading into the tournament.

"It is just an entirely different feeling now than during the season because there is no pressure for having let downs in conference games and stuff like that," Rudegeair said. "I am absolutely elated and excited that we won the tourney and have the opportunity we have to play in the NCAA tourney; it is a great feeling."

Jean said the Bishops want

to prove to the entire nation that Ohio Wesleyan is a legitimate basketball team.

"You can expect a team with nothing to lose and everything to gain," Jean said. "You can expect a team that will do everything in its power to show the nation that we belong!"

Teeters reiterated a point that he made a couple weeks ago heading into the NCAC tournament.

"Expect six seniors who are not ready to end their careers."

Men's track captures NCAC Indoor Track Championship



2008 NCAC Men's Indoor Track Champions

Photo from OWU Online

From OWU Online

Sophomore David Burke won two events, and Ohio Wesleyan swept the three relays -- with two setting school records -- on the way to winning the North Coast Athletic Conference championship meet, hosted by Denison University on Friday and Saturday in Granville.

Ohio Wesleyan compiled 163 1/2 points to 135 for Allegheny. Burke won the triple jump with an effort of 44-10 3/4 and took the high jump by clearing 6-3 1/2. He also finished fifth in the long jump.

The Bishop 1600-meter relay team of junior Preston Osborn, junior Ryan Ellis, sophomore Bryce Mathias and junior Nathan Osborn won its event in 3:26.12, breaking the school record of 3:26.28 set by that quartet earlier this season.

Ohio Wesleyan's distance medley team also established a school record, with the foursome of junior Garret Andre-Johnson, freshman Kody Law, freshman Kyle Herman and

junior Alex Havran winning in 10:32.45, breaking the mark of 10:33.39 set by Paul Loehle, Aaron Dimbath, Dan Bowers and Mike Synk in 2002.

The Bishop 800-meter relay team of Ellis, freshman Sean Patrick, freshman Jordon Exeter and Nathan Osborn won its event in 1:31.33.

Patrick claimed the Bishops' other first-place finish, winning the 55-meter dash in :06.66 and adding a fourth-place finish in the 200-meter dash.

Also earning All-NCAC laurels were Ellis, who finished second in the 200-meter dash and fourth in the 55-meter dash; Preston Osborn, who was second in the 400-meter dash and fifth in the 200-meter dash; Exeter, who placed third in the 200-meter dash and the long jump; sophomore Matthew MacKenzie, who finished third in the 800-meter run; junior Andrew Bloom, who was third in the 55-meter hurdles; and senior Michael Tornifolio, who placed third in the pole vault.

Other standouts for the Bishops included Nathan Osborn, who was fourth in the 400-meter dash and eighth in the 200-meter dash; freshman Jack Schemenauer, who placed fourth in the 55-meter hurdles; junior David Stefanik, who was fifth in the 3000-meter run and sixth in the 5000-meter run; sophomore Steve Brown, who placed fifth in the 55-meter hurdles and sixth in the high jump; sophomore Bryce Mathias, who finished sixth in the 200-meter dash and eighth in the 400-meter dash;

Freshman Parone Mulrain, who finished sixth in the triple jump and eighth in the long jump; sophomore Christian Schlabach, who placed seventh in the mile run; and freshman John Thatcher, who was seventh in the 3000-meter run.

Burke was selected the meet's Field Event Performer of the Year after winning the triple jump and the high jump and adding a fifth in the long jump.

OWU women's track wins back-to-back championships



2008 NCAC Women's Indoor Track Champions

Photo from OWU Online

From OWU Online

Sophomore Casey Ridgeway won two events and helped a relay team to another win, and the Bishop 1600-meter relay team won the meet on the final event as Ohio Wesleyan successfully defended its North Coast Athletic Conference title by winning the NCAC indoor championship meet, hosted by Denison University on Friday and Saturday in Granville.

Ohio Wesleyan and Allegheny were tied at 146 points apiece going into the meet's last event, the 1600-meter relay. The Bishop squad of freshman Lainey Kekic, freshman Rachael Newman, senior Ashley Shaffer and sophomore Kara Reiter finished second in a time of 4:08.15.

Ohio Wesleyan finished the meet with 154 points to 152 for Allegheny.

Ridgeway won the 55-meter dash in a time of :07.36, breaking the school record of :07.39 she set last year, and won the

200-meter dash in :26.28. She combined with Kekic, sophomore Ashlie Britton and Shaffer to win the 800-meter relay in 1:47.43, breaking the school record of 1:49.70 set by Ridgeway, Ericka Newell, Erica Wehner, and Britton in 2007.

Sophomore Claire Everhart took Ohio Wesleyan's other first-place finish, winning the mile run in 5:25.75 and adding a seventh-place finish in the 3000-meter run. Kekic took multiple All-NCAC honors, placing second in the 200-meter dash and third in the 400-meter dash and the high jump as well as sixth in the 55-meter dash.

Shaffer also won multiple all-conference honors, finishing second in the triple jump, with her effort of 35-5 3/4 breaking her own school record of 35-3 set in 2007, and second in the high jump. She also placed sixth in the 400-meter dash and eighth in the long jump.

Also receiving All-NCAC

citations were Newman, who was second in the 800-meter run; and junior Valerie Sloboda, third in the mile run.

Other standouts included junior Jessica Merrill, who placed fourth in the triple jump and the 55-meter hurdles and sixth in the high jump; freshman Kat Zimmerly, who finished fourth in the mile run; Reiter, who was fifth in the 400-meter dash and seventh in the 800-meter run; junior Laura Binkley, who finished fifth in the 5000-meter run; and junior Leah Schmelzer, who was sixth in the 3000-meter run and eighth in the 5000-meter run.

The distance medley relay team of Sloboda, freshman Christa Cocumelli, sophomore Santa Zalite and senior Donna Langerfeld finished fourth.

Ridgeway was named Sprinter/Hurdler of the Year.

Head coach Kris Boey was named NCAC Coach of the Year.