



THE TRANSCRIPT

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Javaid-Herman take WCSA election

By Mike DiBiasio, Jack Stenger and Christine Hurley
Transcript Reporters

After successfully appealing their disqualification from last week's WCSA executive election, juniors Syed Usman Javaid and Kyle Herman became president and vice president elect of WCSA yesterday, winning the highly controversial re-vote.

Immediately following that announcement, senior Rory McHale, current WCSA president, issued a statement thanking the candidates for their gracious cooperation throughout the election process. "It is regrettable that these elections could not be settled the first time around and understandable if any individuals wish that it had been. However, having these elections was the decision reached unanimously by the Executive Board of WCSA, excluding those members running for president or vice president. And I am entirely confident that it was the correct decision. The previous election was irrevocably harmed by the failure to distribute complete electoral guidelines, which resulted in confusion among candidates."

At the polls, students were asked to vote for their top two candidates. This would enable WCSA to prevent a run-off election before Thanksgiving break.

The ballots were counted three times. In the first count, voters' first choices were counted and tallied, and the Reeves/Summers ticket received the lowest percentage – 5.69 percent. For the students whose first vote went to Reeves/Summers, their votes for their second candidate were counted accordingly in the second count.

The Koorn/Wise ticket lost the second count with 23.81 percent. For the students whose first vote went to Koorn/Wise, their votes for

their second candidate were counted accordingly in the third count; however, if students voted for Reeves/Summers and Koorn/Wise in either order their votes were not counted in the third count.

After the third and final count, the Javaid/Herman ticket won with 60.54 percent, which equates to roughly 54 percent of the students who voted; the Farrell/Moriarty ticket had only 39.46 percent, roughly 35 percent of the students who voted. Ultimately, 536 students voted, but 57 ballots – with combinations of Reeves/Summers and Koorn/Wise – were not counted in the third count. Despite this, McHale argues that these students' votes were still significant in determining the outcomes of the first and second counts.

Not all the candidates were happy with the idea of a re-vote. Koorn in particular, a member of WCSA since his freshman year, was not pleased. "Ignorance of the law is not reason to completely re-do the election," Koorn said before the election this week.

Directly after the election yesterday, Javaid and Herman said they will do their best to unite the campus. "We'll just have to prove ourselves by fulfilling our expectations," Herman said. "We are really excited and thank everyone who voted. Congratulations to the other candidates who ran great campaigns. We respect them greatly and all their great ideas"

Javaid and Herman plan on meeting with McHale and senior Ben Goodrum, current vice president of WCSA, to discuss their transition and to ask for input on meeting the goals of their campaign.

The run-off election for WCSA Treasurer was also held yesterday. Megan Evens won with 50.78 percent of the vote, beating Yashika Shah.



Photo by Sara Mays

Junior Syed Usman Javaid, WCSA president-elect, speaking at the WCSA debate on Nov. 10.

Christianity supported by science?

By Mark Dubovec
Transcript Reporter

Robert DiSilvestro, professor of nutrition at The Ohio State University and author of over 60 scientific articles, told an Ohio Wesleyan audience in the Bayley Room on Nov. 13 that certain physical structures are too complex to have occurred at random in the universe. Thus, DiSilvestro said, a higher being must have orchestrated their production.

"I can't prove 100 percent," he said. "The rest you have to believe."

The speech, co-sponsored by the Campus Crusade for Christ and the Fellowship for Christian Athletes, was, according to the press release, intended to help resolve issues students might have regarding scientific evidence and the Bible.

Zoology Professor John Gatz, though he did not attend this lecture, said he attended a speech by DiSilvestro a few years ago on campus.

"It was interesting," said Gatz, who teaches evolution. "He presented a lot of erroneous things."

DiSilvestro said the ordered complexities of life's structures are too complex to have occurred randomly.

"We see this in proteins," he said. Proteins are made up of amino acids, and their purpose is determined by what combinations those amino acids are in, he said. "You got to have the amino acids in the right place at the right time," DiSilvestro said, adding that the chances of getting any amino acid to do anything is one in ten to the 64th power.



In regards to these complex structures, Gatz said, "A lot of the basics of life can be replicated in a laboratory." He described the spark discharge experiments of Stanley Miller in the 1950s. Miller put various gases believed to have been on earth in prehistoric times in a tube and sent in electrical sparks to provide energy.

"He extracted all kinds of amino acids," Gatz said. Similar experiments conducted since have yielded even more amino acids, proteins and other compounds, he said.

DiSilvestro, who does not support evolution, said, "[The Big Bang Theory] says that the universe started at one moment in time. We got something from nothing. Suddenly we got matter; we got matter." DiSilvestro said this phenomenon sounds a lot like the story of creation. He said, "The most logical explanation is a super creator outside of time and space."

The Anthropic Principle, which DiSilvestro described in the speech, refers to the balance of various elements and forces in the universe.

"[I]f you look at the constants and the astronomy physics of the universe, they have to be exactly where they are in order to sustain life," DiSilvestro said.

DiSilvestro said this structure is highly intricate, adding, "The most

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Staying in the U.S. hard for Intl. graduates

By Rufaya Sufi
Transcript Reporter

It's that time of the year when seniors are balancing homework assignments, work and graduate-school applications. Many seniors also have to worry about taking Graduate Record Examinations (GREs) and the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) as a prerequisite for applying to grad-schools.

The tanking market, according to senior Natalia Tariq, is making it especially difficult for international students to look beyond undergraduate programs at this point.

"I am applying to grad-schools, but only in the U.K.," Tariq said. "Right now, with the crashing economy, international students like myself have to worry about first and foremost getting a job, and then, getting sponsorships from employers."

Unlike U.S. citizens, international students on campus have to attain Optional Practical Training (OPT) after graduation in order to stay in the country. An OPT is temporary employment authorization that gives international students an opportunity to apply knowledge gained in the classroom to a practical work experience off campus.

"In order to apply for an OPT, one has to be guaranteed employment, whether a job or an internship, as an indicator that students are not just staying back for prolonged periods without work," Tariq said.

Tariq, who finds the entire process

of application for an OPT unfair and frustrating, said she decided to apply to grad school instead in the U.K.

"The good thing about applying to the U.K. is that there isn't really a deadline by which you have to apply for grad-school," Tariq said. "Most universities in the U.K. have rolling admissions."

Almost all graduate programs in the U.S. require students to submit their applications starting for fall semesters at least six to seven months in advance.

"If I wanted to apply for a good graduate program within the states, I'd have to submit all applications by December," Tariq said. "That's the busiest time of the year for students because of exams and assignments and taking GREs or GMAT."

Senior Taimour Nasir, who is also an international student, said he plans to take off East after graduating in May. "I don't want to go straight to grad school right now and would like to gain some work experience before I do that, so I decided to go to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) instead," Nasir said.

With the economy's condition, getting jobs is pretty painful right now, according to Nasir. "If you can't get a job, you can't apply for an OPT," Nasir said. "And if you can't apply for an OPT, you can't stay back in the States unless you're a full time student."

Nasir said he does not want to waste a year and instead, would like to get work experience in one of the world's largest economies.

"UAE has so much to offer to people from all walks of life," Nasir said. "I am potentially getting employment at PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC) in Dubai, which is a great opportunity because it is one of the world's largest professional services firms."

Even if he does gain employment in the US, Nasir said he is scared to return home after a year because of lack of sponsorship from employers.

"I don't want to be hopping from place to place to get work experience," Nasir said. "What if I am not issued a work-permit for the US after working for a year?"

"Right now, with the crashing economy, international students like myself have to worry about first and foremost getting a job," said senior Natalia Tariq.

Alum Kashmir Firdous ('07) who worked at Ernst & Young for a year after graduation was offered a "fantastic salary pack of \$50,000 based in Virginia."

"I started work in August of 2007 and worked at Ernst till June of this year," Firdous said. "Unfortunately though, I am a Bangladeshi citizen and had to be sponsored by my employers for a work permit."

Even though Firdous was sponsored by her employers, she did not get the permit because it is a lottery-like system of getting it.

"The chances of getting the permit

are slim because they are like picking names out from a hat," Firdous said. "It just turned my experience of working in the US a little sour."

Firdous since June, returned to Bangladesh and is now working as internal manager of audit for Glaxo-SmithKline in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

However, not all have been affected by the recession. Alumnus Raza Naqvi ('08) who is now based in Washington, DC as a TV Line Producer of Voice of America, said luckily, he does not have to go through the pains of gaining a work permit.

"I'm working for a government-funded news agency that does not require a work-permit," Naqvi said. "Even though I have a year-long contract, I will have to go back home in the summer to apply for a J-1 type visa, which is pretty much guaranteed. Kind of like a formality."

Naqvi said applying for jobs in his senior year at OWU was "very frustrating." "You could see the decline in the economy," Naqvi said. "My friends who worked in auditing firms in the US were slowly being told to pack their bags because their companies just couldn't keep them there."

Naqvi said although at one point he lost a little hope in working the US at all, it was his journalism background that was his saving grace.

"Most of my friends were accounting majors, but neither got jobs in the US," Naqvi said. "Those who weren't majoring in accounting left for graduate programs. I consider myself very lucky."



Veterans share experiences with students and faculty

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Six Bishops named all-NCAC

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Relay for Life raises money to fight cancer

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Economy impacts job-seeking seniors

By Kyle Sjarif
Transcript Reporter

With 401k plans crashing-and-burning and the stock market more turbulent than a rollercoaster, students at Ohio Wesleyan find themselves wondering what their futures hold.

The severity of the current economic situation has particularly had an effect on seniors aiming for employment after graduation. With spikes in company downsizing and bankruptcy, employment opportunities continue to decline by the day as seniors prepare for their life after college.

Senior Mohnish Advani, an economics-management major and accounting minor, said, "The number of jobs have gone down and it has affected me personally. I applied for internships with several big companies like JP Morgan and Citigroup and they told me I was good during the interview but they've been cutting down the intern class by 80 percent, making it more challenging for students from smaller schools."

Senior Ryan Jordan, another economics-management major, spoke of issues similar to those mentioned by Advani. He said the election provided

focused coverage on the economic crisis, and that a large population of students are educated enough to realize the seriousness of current situation.

He said although not everybody may fully understand the situation, almost all students are aware of what is going on with the country.

Advani believed that a good amount of the student population understands the severity of the current economic situation because of the heavy media coverage tied in with the impending election; however, he advised students to start saving. An international student from India, Advani also explained how the distribution of H1 visas for students to live and work in the United States has halved over the last two years as the government anticipated the economic crisis.

Grace Poling, associate dean and director of International Recruitment, said, "Focusing on Asian countries, I could tell that the crisis may translate into difficulties for families to send their children here."

She also added, "We are still committed to bringing in diversity, which is a major component of our school and

we hope to see a continuous flow of international students."

Recruitment in particular is an area that has been and will continue to be affected heavily by the crisis because of the diminishing value of the dollar.

Poling explained that due to exchange rates, increase in airline travel and decrease in the buying power of the dollar, international recruitment has definitely become significantly more expensive.

Carol DelPropost, assistant vice president of Admission and Financial Aid, echoed similar sentiments for local recruitment.

"This year does present some significant challenges in recruiting the incoming class," she said. "Some families will be more price-sensitive throughout the college search and selection process. Some may find that the cost of education, even when subsidized by financial aid, is beyond their means."

As much as the school will be affected by the financial crisis, Jordan expressed deeper concern for his graduating class.

"Within the next year or two, seniors looking towards graduate school have time to complete their education while the job market struggles."

Settling for any job to secure financial stability is a worry for Jordan as he hopes to use his major in a field of his choice. Even if it were to result in that, Jordan said he would just continue to save money and work on maintaining good credit.

Sophomore Jonathan West believed that the current economic situation does not directly influence the undergraduates as much as it does the seniors.

"It affects us indirectly through our parents. Most students living on campus are isolated because we get our food from school and it's not like most students have retirement plans or mortgages. Students won't be foreclosed upon in their dorms."

DelPropost commented similarly to West, saying the crisis affects parents the most, and that although most students are removed from the situation, "it may affect how their parents will be able to finance educational expenses."

The real issue facing the undergraduates will be the situation of the economy when their classes graduate. As for advice for the future classes, Jordan said, "It never hurts to start saving, putting money away each month until you graduate because it breeds

good habits and trains you in money management especially when money starts to come in short out of college."

Amidst all the problems faced by corporations and future employees, Advani tried to remain positive and think of the possible upsides of completing his college degree.

"At the end of the day, companies still need labor to operate, and newly-graduated students represent cheap labor, and our employment may even serve as a means of cutting costs for companies looking to employ enthusiastic, qualified employees. So keep applying and there will be companies looking for you."

Jordan is hoping to make the most of his college experience by focusing on networking with as many people as possible and talking to professionals in several different industries. Furthermore, he recommends more students to seek aid from Career Services because of the possible alumni networking opportunities possible.

"At the end of the day I'm just preparing for the worst," Advani said. "I've applied to several graduate schools and applied for many jobs, but whatever happens I'll adapt, continue to be persistent and motivated because that is the best I could do for my future."

Display reveals perils of Agent Orange

By Sarah Shkoukani
Transcript Reporter

The Agent Orange Art Exhibit was held on November 12 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Benes Room A. The exhibit, organized by the International House and the Tree House, illustrated the consequences of Agent Orange in Vietnam through poignant works of art by both Vietnamese and American artists.

Junior Jeane Ngoc Minh Pham, a member of the International House, and junior Virginia Jaquish, a member of the Tree House, gathered artwork from Legacies of War, a website and awareness group that features illustrations drawn by the survivors of the U.S. bombing on Vietnam and others who were personally impacted.

Pham explained that Agent Orange (AO) was a codename given to the chemical that was used by the United States Armed Forces in its Herbicidal Warfare program during the Vietnam War.

"During the Vietnam War, an estimated 80,000 m3 of AO was sprayed across South Vietnam."

Very passionate about her project, Pham said even though AO and the war are things of the past, the consequences are still large today.

"I've been to Peace Villages in Vietnam where main AO victims live, a majority of them children. These children were very unfortunate, but they still are high spirited, not much different from any other child. Vietnamese children don't have the privileged to having their surrounding adapt to their disability, like children here."

Pham blames this problem on the lack of money.

"Many Vietnamese unsuccessfully lost their lawsuits towards the companies that produced AO," Pham said. "The companies simply replied that AO was never meant to hurt anyone."

With much frustration, Pham raised the question that if they didn't mean to hurt these innocent people then who should be responsible? She also questioned America's lack of responsibility.

"America can spend tons of money in the war, but they can't even spend money in helping those unfortunate children?"

Other than the house project, Pham has been trying to develop a mission trip to Vietnam.

"We placed a proposal to the Chaplain's office to have a summer mission trip; however, the school doesn't fund summer trips and a spring break mission trip is not enough for such a far trip," Pham said.

"We are hoping to be able to get an approval for a Christmas Break (2009) mission trip, similar to the Ghana trip. The Chaplain's office is helping out tremendously in order to find funding. Hopefully this will happen soon."

Pham said last semester, as a house project, she held a documentary night on a film called "Last Ghost of War."

However, to much disappointment, Pham said not a lot of people came, but this didn't cause her to give up.

"Even if we can get one more person to care and who wants to help, it's more than enough" Pham said.

Pham is planning to have one more AO Art Exhibit this semester, not as a house project but simply to get awareness out to the OWU Community.

Club an open forum for deep discussion

By Gwen Fitzgerald
Transcript Correspondent

"If the fact were God does not exist, would it be the downfall of humanity to know the truth?"

This was the question debated at Socrates Café on Tuesday, Nov. 18. Socrates Café meets every Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the Smith Piano Room, on the second floor of Smith East.

Socrates Café is the house project of junior Mike Frye, a member of the House of Thought. Frye, who moderates the discussions each week said the purpose of the café is to provide an open forum for people who want to discuss philosophical issues.

Currently, it is not a school club and does not receive funding, but Frye said hopes that it will soon.

Junior Jessica Kyler, the second-in-command with the official title "word-meister," describes the discussions as "laid back." At the meetings, the group gets in a circle, usually around a table, and Frye goes over the rules of the club – talking in turn and not attacking

other people. Everyone then writes a potential debate question on a piece of scrap paper and submits it to Frye, who reads them all out loud while the club votes on what they want to talk about.

"A lot of times it gets heated," Kyler said, but the group stresses an inviting atmosphere.

The debate question from Tuesday -- "If the fact were God does not exist, would it be the downfall of humanity to know the truth?" -- was met with several opposing viewpoints, but the participants of the discussion respected each person involved.

The members said, however, that the club does not shy away from controversial topics.

The club's attendance is usually in the teens, but it varies. "Last month we had about 20 people," Kyler said.

Attendance is higher at the Feature Discussions, which are held every month in the Benes room and are advertised to a greater extent than the regular meetings.

The Socrates Café also offers coffee and tea its regular meetings.

Festival unites freshman

By Celeste Taylor
Transcript Correspondent

About 120 freshmen packed in to the Benes room on the evening of November 17 for the annual Freshman Festival. This year's festival marked the third year for this event, put on by the First Year Dean's Office.

"It's right about the time when students are feeling the stress of the weather changing, tougher courses and are excited to go home for break," said Joan McLean, associate dean of first-year students, when asked why she felt compelled to organize such an event for the newest class of students.

With the lure of free t-shirts and friendly company, "we usually get about this crowd," she said.

The festival included free Ohio Wesleyan t-shirts to the first 75 freshman to show up, a number of free "Class of 2012" water bottles, snacks such as eggrolls and chicken fingers, small cakes and a chocolate fountain. Students were entertained by a "Guess the Alumni" game (anyone to get all 12 answers correct won a chance to be in a raffle for \$25 bookstore gift cards) and live music from Sam Spiridellis, Pitch Black, Jabez Co and Jillian Ristau and the Outsiders. An excitable mascot Bishop interacted with students as they socialized.

McLean and Rock Jones addressed the students briefly. They welcomed students to the school and built a little class spirit. "Welcome class of 2012," McLean said. "This is

your festival!"

After reading off the winners of the raffle ("I've never won anything!" said exited freshman Vicky Benko as she raced up to grab her prize) the students were treated to the various musical guests.

The students certainly seemed to enjoy the festivities. Freshman Annie Memmott perhaps captured the spirit of the event best by stating, "I think it is a really good way to get students together and build a freshman community."

"It was great to meet more people in our freshman class," said Katie Hurley.

Freshman Zeal Jagannatha agreed. "The live music was great and it was fun to socialize with new people."

"I loved the bishop!" gushed Blair Connelly.

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logical explanation is that a supernatural being like God allowed it to be so." Without all these different forces, DiSilvestro said, life would not survive.

Gatz said, though, that not all life forms on earth have persisted. "Lots of things have gone extinct. Sometimes,

even 95 percent of all species (at a given time), but all life is not eliminated."

Gatz explained an example of early lifeforms adapting to changing conditions on earth. "Early lifeforms used hydrogen sulfide instead of hydrogen oxide (water)," he said. When the hydrogen-sulfide was used up, these lifeforms began using hydrogen oxide

to survive, which occurred around the time the earth's atmosphere became enriched with oxygen.

DiSilvestro also offered a reason for why, if existence is the creation of a super being, there is imperfection in all forms of life: sin. "We don't see perfection because that wouldn't account for the fall of man and sin," he said.



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Diwali festival celebrates Hindu new year

By Dianne Cathlyn Macasu
Transcript Reporter

Students were not allowed to enter the Welch dining hall with shoes on Saturday afternoon, Nov. 8.

Pieces of white cloth were laid on the floor, while chairs and tables lined the sides and corners of the dining hall.

An Indian priest, called "pundit," sat on the floor, preparing for a ceremony. The usual activities of the dining hall were halted for the belated celebration of the Diwali Festival.

"Diwali is the shortened name for Deepawali," sophomore Yashika Shah said. "Deepa" means 'clay pots with burning oil wicks,' while 'wali' means 'rows of the clay pots'. We celebrate Diwali in the month of October because this time marks the new year according to the Hindu calendar."

Shoes were not allowed inside Welch dining hall to follow Hindu tradition that

reflects purity and cleanliness. Chandrashekar Kashavajjala, the Indian priest from New Delhi who has been practicing for 15 years, said the festival was "a time for removing all darkness and providing lights in life."

Light brings joy and celebrates good over evil. It also symbolizes the beginnings of the harvest festival.

A diverse group of about 40 students came to participate, including Indians and Americans, as well as students from Bangladesh, the Philippines, Nepal and Mauritius.

Lipika Arora was assigned to put a red powder on the foreheads of those who attended; the practice arose because it is believed that every person has a powerful third eye in the middle of the forehead, which should be covered.

Nowadays, it has become a custom and tradition of Indian culture to use the dot, which is called a "tikka."

Darrell James Albon,

director of International Student Services, said the Diwali festival has been held on campus for many years.

"I believe it may have been on campus 100 years ago, because there has been an Indian club since 1898," he said.

Albon said the event is a great opportunity for Americans to experience another culture, and for international students to meet and enjoy South Asian food.

Women's traditional dress worn at the ceremony includes a dress called the "salwaar kameez" in colors such as red, green, yellow, violet and blue.

Men's traditional dress is called "kurta pajama," a long-sleeved shirt with an embroidered design and pants to match. Usual colors are black, white, brown and blue.

The OWU ceremony began with a prayer.

According to Hindu culture, the prayer is performed in order to overcome internal evil and to remove all obstacles from

one's path. It is also performed in to restore inner peace, regain lost confidence and provide new hope that all things will work out.

There was a moment of silence when the priest asked the students to pray for their families' safety and well being. All participants, even those not from India and with no Hindu background, respected the tradition.

"United we stand, but divided we fall," Kashavajjala said.

Students lined up as the priest began to explain the next symbolic ritual. He had a roll of strings in his hand, and each student who attended the event had the opportunity to have a string tied on their wrist, forming a bracelet.

"This means protection," freshman Kritika Kuppaswami of Mauritius said. "I still have the same string I had back home before I came to OWU."

Afterwards, there was a presentation of offerings such as milk, dried fruits, yogurt,

sugar, coconut and honey.

The priest asked if there were classes being held in the Welch area, and the students in attendance replied that there were none. The priest then suggested, "Now you can be louder when saying your prayers."

After the ceremony, Indian dishes were served. The food varied from Indian rice to spicy viand; a curry, called dal; breads, known as naan; and desserts, or gulab-jamun.

When asked how she felt while celebrating Diwali away from home, sophomore Vanisha Bisnath said the experience was different because her parents were not here.

"It's more enjoyable to celebrate Diwali with them," Bisnath said. "I used to help my parents in cleaning up the house and yard, make sweets and then share them with neighbors and family members. At home, houses and temples are decorated with luminations and the clay pots.

"However, it's also very

nice to have a ceremony like this at OWU. At least we had the most important part: the prayer."

"At home, we can burn firecrackers and eat the festive food," Shah said.

"But it is difficult to burn firecrackers here because it is not allowed. Also, the food is difficult to get. At home, we eat a lot of sweets and visit relatives to wish them a happy new year."

Katie Kristensen said her favorite portion of the Diwali Festival was practicing the traditional ceremonies.

"I loved being able to experience the practices of the culture and compare them to what I might do to celebrate a holiday," Kristensen said. "And I do love the food."

Bisnath said she also felt proud of herself for helping the priest prepare for the ceremony.

"One day, when my parents are not here, I'll be able to carry on the tradition and pass it to my kids as well," she said.

Students raise awareness about composting benefits

By Mary Siebodnik
Transcript Reporter

Members of the OWU Sagan National Colloquium's compost project joined forces with earthworms and chemistry behind the Women's House on Nov. 3, rescuing campus waste from a landfill fate worse than decay.

Junior Jesse Mesenberg, who leads the project, said it matches SNC's goals to raise awareness about ways to clean up the environment.

She said teaching students to compost teaches them to reduce the amount of waste they send to landfills. It also helps to create an organic fertilizer.

Mesenberg described the composting process to students before sending them to rake leaves to add to the crates. "You guys don't mind getting your hands messy, do you?" she asked.

She compared each crate to a lasagna, with alternating layers of green and brown compost, soil and earthworms.

"There are 1,000 worms in here, but with all the eggs, there should be 2000 by next week," she said.

Mesenberg said brown compost is dry waste, like leaves, coffee grounds, nutshells, grains and tea bags.

Green compost is wet waste like fruit and vegetable scraps, flowers and spoiled juice.

She said students would have to monitor the balance of the composts' moisture levels when deciding to add green or brown waste over the following weeks.

She showed students a third compost, kept in a plastic container, and removed the lid.

"It smells like a foot," she said.

The students received empty containers to take to their dorm rooms. They can reduce their landfill contributions by putting fruit peelings and other acceptable waste into the containers instead of a trash can, and then add them to the SNC compost.

The Bakery at OWU has also pledged to donate their used coffee grounds to the compost

project.

Mesenberg said she asked Physical Plant Director Chris Setzer if OWU Building and Grounds would donate leaves and grass clippings to the compost.

Setzer declined the invitation. Building and Grounds sends its leaves and lawn waste to Price Barns Farm to be composted.

"What we do has a significant impact," Setzer said. "There are plenty of leaves all over campus," Setzer said. "All they've got to do is pick them up."

Because of the small scale of SNC's project, he said, the compost would not have significant impact on the campus environment.

Representatives of Price Barns Farm estimated they composted 52 tons of leaves and 51 tons of yard debris from OWU in 2007.

They say they have composted 14 tons of leaves and 66 tons of yard debris from OWU so far this year.

OWU botany professor, David Johnson, said biodegradable materials like fruit peelings continue to take up space in landfills. Other trash compresses the biodegradable waste, keeping oxygen from reaching it.

"Without oxygen, there's no way for the waste to rot away," he said.

In addition to reducing the amount of waste in landfills, Johnson said, composts produce nutrient-rich, organic matter that help plants grow and reduce the demand for chemical fertilizers.

He listed some challenges that come with setting up composts: mess, animals and odor.

Mesenberg said one animal has tried to dig into one of SNC's wooden crate composts. The group will continue working on solutions to animal curiosity, she said.

While the composts have odors, they are faint, and not yet a problem.

Mesenberg also said she hopes the project will teach OWU students about alternatives to landfills and encourage them to create their own gardens. "We're going to have to do something with this stuff when it's ready," she said.

Second annual Relay for Life holds early kick-off event

By Joshua Sulser
Transcript Reporter

Dozens of people walk in circles for hours. They are sleep-deprived, thirsty and hungry. But these people are anything but weak. They are united against a common enemy: cancer.

Ohio Wesleyan is holding its second annual Relay for Life in March. The event involves 18 hours of either walking or running; teams must keep a member on the track at all times.

All of the proceeds raised by participating teams go to the American Cancer Association for future cancer research.

"The best part of Relay for Life is actually seeing and spending time with the survivors, listening to their stories and learning what they really have to go through," said Megan Evans, committee chair for Relay for Life. "My favorite part of last year's Relay for Life was seeing how it brought OWU together as one; a huge team that helped many patients fight their battle."

The kickoff party for the Relay, held on Tuesday evening in Benes rooms A and B, was intended to get people excited about the event and inform them of its aspirations.

Flyers were posted around campus to remind students



about the event and Facebook messages were sent to those in the Relay for Life Facebook group.

Last year's Relay boasted 17 teams participating and raised \$20,000 with help from such sponsors as Buehler's grocery store in Delaware.

This year, Relay planners hope to bring in 20 teams and \$25,000. Each person participating has a goal to raise a minimum of \$100. The participants raise most of their money before race day by asking friends and family to pledge donations. The teams also raise money on race day, often by providing spectators with entertainment.

"My favorite part is the first lap," Chair of Survivorship Jessie Miller said. "All of the [cancer] survivors take a lap together and people line the inside of the track, cheering

them on."

Miller is responsible for inviting local cancer survivors to the Relay. Survivors also have their own reception beforehand. Last year, 20 survivors participated in the pre-race lap.

Every year, Relay chooses a theme; this year's theme is iCure. Each team is encouraged to model themselves after a band, music genre or music-based time period.

However, one might suggest the main theme for every Relay to be, "Why do you Relay?"

"My grandmothers are both survivors, and my aunt died of breast cancer when she was 29," Miller said. "Chances are that I will get some form of cancer. So we have to find a cure before I do."



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Student and other veterans share war experiences



Photo by Sara Mays

Students and veterans recite the Pledge of Allegiance in the Hamilton Williams Student Center on Veterans Day. Four veterans spoke to students and faculty about their war experiences.

By Lucas Bezerra
Transcript Reporter

On Veterans Day, a day meant to commemorate the 25 million U.S. war veterans, four men stood in uniform in the Hamilton-Williams Campus Center before a podium, telling their stories to college students they fought for.

The OWU College Republicans, a student group, hosted the event, which opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of the national anthem. Group leaders junior Trevor Hawley and sophomore Ethan Baron worked together to organize the event.

Baron said he believes the national holiday is often overlooked.

"This is the least we could do," he said.

While on the campaign trail, Hawley and Baron worked

with the veterans, who were all more than willing to speak to the students.

Hawley spoke first about the history of what used to be called Armistice Day, before the title was switched to Veterans Day in 1954. The original name was given to mark the end of World War I and was switched to its' current name to remember all who fought and still fight for our country.

Before Hawley introduced the first veteran, a moment of silence reigned over the Hamilton, setting the stage for the speakers.

The first to speak was freshman Henry Distad, who will be leaving for Afghanistan in fall of 2009.

Distad enlisted to become a marine in high school, and actually missed his graduation when he went off to boot camp. He explained his life

as a marine and a student as "comparable to an athlete" and a student.

"Sometimes, you have to go away for awhile," he said.

A retired air force veteran, David R. Rudy, was next to speak about his experiences.

Rudy was 7 years old when the tragedy at Pearl Harbor occurred, he and remembers asking his parents, "What is war?"

Rudy is a veteran today who says, "It's been a privilege to serve."

Next was an Iraqi War veteran, Sgt. Jason Dominguez. Dominguez described how he was one of the few who "took the job overseas" after graduating from The Ohio State University.

He is one of the individuals who dropped all future plans to answer a call to protect this "beautiful freedom that you

students enjoy here."

Dominguez spoke about how the frontlines of war cause the "everyday pettiness that exists back home to fall away."

The final speaker was Major Jim Beck, who shared a story of how he lost his mentor to a plane crash. This story brought him and the other veterans to tears.

Beck closed with what he believes is the reason for Veterans Day.

He said he believes it is meant to show the students the torch that is passed on by all the living and dead protectors of freedom: a torch that he believes is a call that should lead all individuals to volunteer -- if not to the military, then for something else.

"There is something out there that stands for something," he said.

Local church services designed for students

Beginning Sunday, Nov. 23, St. Peter Episcopal Church (45 W. Winter St.) will be adding two new services to its weekly schedule that accommodate the schedules and lifestyles of college students. The date marks the first Sunday in Advent, the start of the church year in the Episcopal tradition, which makes it an ideal time to start something new, according to church leadership.

Sunday morning jobs and the demands of college life often force students to make an unhappy choice about going to church, said St. Peter's Rector Charles Wilson. By adding this Sunday evening service, St. Peter's is offering Sunday worship for those who are unable to attend on Sunday mornings. This service of Holy Communion will start at 6 p.m.

The second new service that will be offered is on Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m. This short contemplative service of Holy Communion will also offer prayers of healing for loved ones and the world.

Students who want more information about these services or a free lunch and good conversation are welcome to contact Wilson, he said. His e-mail is rectorstpeters@verizon.net, and his phone is 369-6145. The parish website, www.stpetersdelaware.com, also provides information about the church.

Got an opinion? Let us know.
Write a letter to the editor
and email it to owunews@owu.edu.
We look forward to hearing from you.

St. Peter Episcopal Church

45 W. Winter St., Delaware, OH
740.369.3175 www.stpetersdelaware.com

Join us Sundays at 8am, 10:30am or 6pm for worship. Sunday School for all ages at 9:30am. Weekly healing service 6pm Wednesday.

The Episcopal Church in Delaware County

Women's House, Green and Pink party educate on feminism and the environment

By Kaisha Oliver
Transcript Reporter

Green and pink were added to Ohio Wesleyan's colors of red and black during the Green and Pink Party hosted by the Women's House (WoHo) last Monday in the Benes Room A.

The informal party was organized to educate students on feminism and the environment and to acknowledge the problems that exist around the world, especially within developing countries.

According to sophomore Morgan Payne, a member of the WoHo, it was her project, but the idea for the Green and Pink Party was relayed to her by another housemate, junior Amber Cole, who happened upon the theme while browsing the Sierra Club website.

On the website, the organization One-by-One is encouraging people to host a Green and Pink Party to help end fistula, an overbearing problem in developing countries that is affecting women and their environment.

According to The Fistula Foundation website, fistula, formally known as obstetric fistula, is a condition that develops in the blood supply to the tissue of a female's genitals when the bladder or rectum is severed "during prolonged obstructed labor."

When this happens the tissues die and a hole is formed through which urine and feces pass uncontrollably. The women who develop this condition are forced into isolation and left to fend for themselves because they are abandoned by their husbands and rejected by their communities.

Sophomores Gloria Clark, also a member of WoHo, and Payne said each color symbolizes the union of environmentalists (green) and feminists (pink).

"Green and Pink is the idea that without equal rights we cannot have a healthy environment," said Clark.

Payne said the combination of both colors unites both movements in obstetric fistula because in taking care of the environment and vice versa. She said the environment and its people are interdependent with one another and once students acknowledged that they will be able to better grasp and understand numerous issues. She also says fistula is a great example of how the environment and its people are allied.

"It taps into poverty, health care, environment, and women's rights all in one," Payne said. "[When] you alter one woman's life, give her confidence and good faith, she returns to her community more knowledgeable than before, if like most women she has had access to proper care. She then has an incentive to vouch for her own community and a little bit more education where often they had none."

Payne said though the party was intended to be about both the environment and feminist

issues, WoHo focused more on the feminist issues, like health care, in developing countries. She said though fistula is rare and not a reality to Americans because of the high health standards, it is a reality for women who aren't educated or do not have adequate health care.

"The sooner we solve the problems the better," Clark said. "Women are ostracized because of fistula, and they do not get to have a normal life."

During the party, the house members collected donations from some of the people present at the event. Clark and Payne had stressed how important it was to them and the women who lives would be changed for the good.

They said all the proceeds for this event will go to One-by-One, and doctors in the developing countries to perform surgeries to mend the women so they can go back to their communities. These women, Payne said, can help others within their communities by sharing this information.

"Three hundred dollars is all it takes to repair most fistulas. Eighty dollars for a C-section will prevent the fistula altogether. The woman who had been shunned and ostracized because of the smell from leaking urine will be welcome into their communities again, with new knowledge of how what happened to her has happened to others and how it can be prevented."

Clark said the Green and Pink Party is different from other house projects WoHo has hosted because it focused primarily on women around the world.

Payne said it is unusual that the house members are fully informed about their events, but it was important so that they could teach others interested. She also said though this project is different from the other ones they hosted before; it is most similar to the Women for Women International fundraiser/dinner by junior Joanna Van Sickle, a member of WoHo.

While both the projects tie into the notion of empowering women outside of America, Payne said, the Women for Women International fundraiser is more about supporting survivors of war.

WoHo had expected a bigger turnout from students and faculty members; however, they are planning on hosting a second Green and Pink Party next semester, according to Payne and Clark. Payne said the next semester's Green and Pink Party will be more casual and festive.

"We hope to pull screenings of some short videos from the Sierra Club and One-by-One on obstetric fistula and reforestation, before or during the main event," Payne said. "My hope is to reach as many people as possible, so you can expect to see several events with the Green-Pink theme, with the dual hope of getting donations for one woman's life and spreading the word."



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Arts & Entertainment

Popular comedy show tour visits campus

By Alexander Weaver
Transcript Correspondent

The lights of Hollywood shined brightly on Ohio Wesleyan when a week's worth of recent celebrity news was summed up in a comedic evening during the "Best Week Ever" tour stop at Gray Chapel.

According to VH1, every week is the best week, this one included.

The number one show on the cable television network VH1, "Best Week Ever," has been made into a cross-country stand-up tour.

Producers, tour managers and crew were seen all day setting up and getting Gray Chapel ready for the night.

Mike Britt, Nick Kroll and Greg Fitzsimmons starred in the show, each with their own stand-up routine.

Then the trio performed together to comment on photos of headline-making celebrities such as Jennifer Aniston, Criss Angel and Holly Madison.

The comedians had material in their individual spots on everything from the presidential election to Google.

But their favorite subject matter appeared to be poking fun at audience members, one of whom fell asleep during Fitzsimmons' m-

mons' spot and never heard the last of it.

The hosts of the show then turned it over to the attendees to prove that they had the "best week ever." Junior Lisa Connolly was voted by audience applause to have had the best week, due to it being her 21st birthday.

"I was thrown up there by friends and was nervous," Connolly said. "I really just focused on getting off the stage. But in the end, it was a fun experience."

Many of Connolly's encouraging friends were her Kappa Alpha Theta sorority sisters. The night was a Trilogy event for sororities and fraternities, meaning all members of every Greek life organization had to be in attendance, according to IFC and the Panhellenic Council.

Senior Matt Rhode said he was skeptical going in, but soon changed his mind. "I've never seen the show and thought it was going to be kind of boring," Rhode said. "It turned out to be really funny. I really liked when Phi Psi left early together and the guy (Kroll) made fun of them as they walked out."

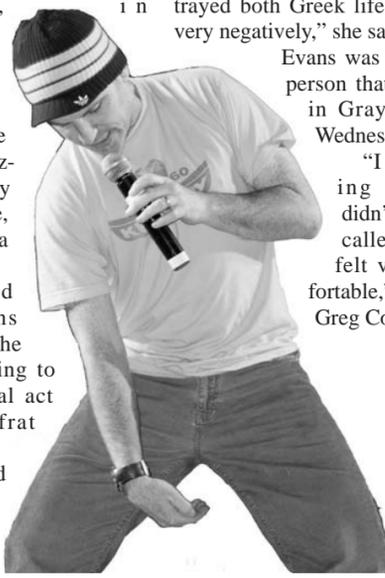
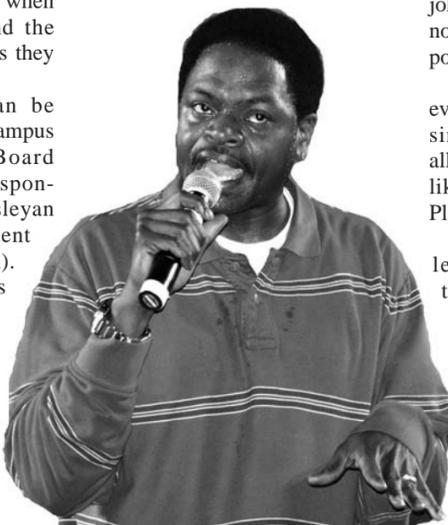
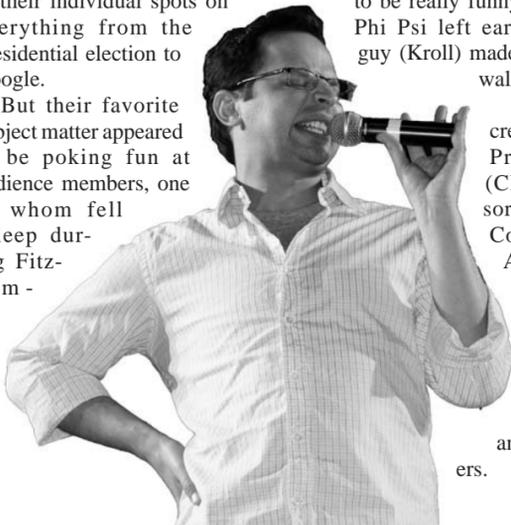
The night can be credited to the Campus Programming Board (CPB) and was sponsored by the Wesleyan Council on Student Affairs (WCSA).

The two groups are responsible for activities like this, Springfest and many others.



Wednesday, Nov. 12

Comedians (left to right) Nick Kroll, Mike Britt and Greg Fitzsimmons kept the crowd laughing as they performed stand up and provided commentary on pop culture photos. The "Best Week Ever Tour" is stopping at colleges around the country.



Photos by Kyle Keefe

Trilogy event takes shots at Greek life, leaves some offended

By Adam Dworetzky
Transcript Correspondent

By making fun of the student involvement director and trashing some on-campus fraternities and sororities, VH1's "Best Week Ever" managed to provoke laughter. But, according to some audience members, it also provoked offense.

Junior Matt Watson said he walked into Gray Chapel expecting to a decent night of comedy, but was pleasantly surprised by VH1's production.

"It was better than expected," Watson said. "Seeing comedy live is much better and different than seeing it through a TV box."

One of Watson's favorite jokes put one of OWU's sororities, Delta Delta Delta, in the spotlight. The joke, however, did not cast them in a positive light.

Tri-Delta left the event early, and Fitzsimmons said they all looked the same, like cutouts from a Play-Doh factory.

After they had left, Fitzsimmons then stated that the women were going to perform a sexual act with "some frat boys."

Watson said he did not

find the joke offensive.

"They are simply jokes," he said. "Either all jokes are O.K., or no joke is okay. You go into an event like this knowing that some of the jokes may be subversive."

However, sophomore Megan Evans said she felt that some of the jokes went too far.

The event, deemed a Trilogy for members of the Greek community and, therefore, requiring them to attend, is defined as an event that should foster growth and learning for the community.

As a member of a Greek organization, Evans did not agree with the message the event sent.

"VH1's Best Week Ever was the exact opposite of what a Trilogy should be; it was offensive, and portrayed both Greek life and women very negatively," she said.

Evans was not the only person that felt uneasy in Gray Chapel on Wednesday night.

"I was laughing because I didn't want to get called out, but I felt very uncomfortable," sophomore Greg Cook said.

Many changes in impressive Orchesis performances

By Samantha Beany
Transcript Reporter

The Greek word for "dance" is *orchesis*, and the 11 dances on the Chappalear main stage were perfect examples of the art.

Orchesis is the Department of Theatre and Dance's department-sponsored show. Due to the input of new creative director Jill Becker, some of the classic Orchesis elements changed.

"Usually, there are themes; one year was Bach," senior Molly Mehl said. "No theme allows people to do whatever. None of the dances looked the same, and it makes the show interesting."

Another change was the addition of props. "I don't remember a year that I've been here where Orchesis has used props," said Orchesis stage manager Julia Singer, a senior. "But they are used effectively in all the dances."

Mehl choreographed one of the dances that involved a prop.

"My dancers fight over this bench," Mehl said. "It's a fun storyline."

"Everyone is going to view the dances differently, but you can tell the bench is supposed to represent a guy," Singer said.

The other props used were a chair and signs.

Junior Kate Alexander's dance used the chairs as part of an interpretation of the Darfur crisis.

"You can tell the chairs mean something to them, and losing them is scary," Singer said. "They were central and important."

This was the first year that freshmen were allowed to choreograph dances, representing a third change in this year's performance.

Putting the show together was also a unique process.

"The auditions were in mid-September, and then there are two showings before the actual shows," Singer said.

After the auditions, the choreographers pick who they want, and then the dancers

choose with which dances they want to be involved, said Mehl, who participated in three dances besides her own.

"About a month in, we have to show thirty seconds to a minute of the dance, and then we have to have the whole thing finished at the second showing," Mehl said.

"We aren't all together until tech week," Singer said. "It's all very separated, and then it comes together. It's very abrupt."

Singer has stage managed numerous shows for the department, but she described this work as different.

"There is no script," Singer said. "So my cues come from the dancers' moves, like, 'Laurel-does-a-somersault' or 'saw-arms.' This caused some miscommunications in the beginning, because those moves might have actual names that I just don't know."

Orchesis ran Friday and Saturday "I think the show went great," Mehl said. "I have no complaints."



Photo by Sara Mays

Dancers perform as shadows in a dance choreographed by junior Kate Alexander during this year's 'Orchesis.' The performance reflected the turmoil in Darfur.

Columnist chronicles 2008's top entertainers

By Kaitlin Thomas
Entertainment Columnist

The end of the year is upon us; this is the time to look back and reflect on what 2008 has brought us. Entertainers have come and gone, but some had the best year of their lives.

So here's a look back at the top 10 entertainers of the year.

10. "Jon & Kate Plus 8"

Those who have yet to feel the pull of this TLC reality show about a married couple raising twins and sextuplets are missing out. The kids are all adorable, and the show is addicting. They make it possibly the only reality show worth watching.

9. The cast of "High School Musical"

Have I just blown my cover? I admit to following this franchise, because any movie involving singing and dancing makes me all warm and fuzzy inside. But despite nude photo scandals and nose jobs, some of these actors actually have talent. It's our generation's "Grease," but somehow even more squeaky clean.

8. The cast of "Gossip Girl"

Another show about pretty people with problems made by Josh Schwartz ("The OC") has risen to the high point of popu-

larity. It is sometimes hard to figure out if it's the actresses rocketing to stardom, or their alter egos Serena and Blair, but either way, it was hard to miss the "Gossip" girls this year.

7. Barack Obama

From the presidential debates to the campaign commercials, he saw more air time than the entire cast of "The Hills" put together. Whether you like the man or not, his charisma captured the hearts of people everywhere, earning him a spot on this countdown.

6. Miley Cyrus

It was hard to open a magazine or turn on the television without seeing or reading about this teen sensation. While she might not appeal to our demographic, she's everywhere. You cannot deny that she had a fantastic year (or two).

5. Neil Patrick Harris

He starred in this summer's Internet sensation "Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog" and continues to light up the screen as Barney Stinson on the CBS sitcom "How I Met Your Mother." He's funny. He can sing. He can dance. And he can make you love the most ridiculous womanizer on TV without even trying.

4. Michael Phelps

Though swimming is not usually something associated with entertainment,

Americans were glued to their televisions this past summer to see Phelps win eight gold medals. The Olympics have never been more fun.

3. Robert Downey, Jr.

The man has made the comeback of all comebacks. After doing everything he could to mess up his career, he returned to the screen with two huge blockbusters this year. "Iron Man" has grossed over half a billion dollars since its release, and a sequel is in the works. His second film, "Tropic Thunder," made \$110 million at the box office.

2. Heath Ledger

Though the world bid adieu to Ledger in January after an accidental drug overdose, 2008 was arguably one of the best years for the actor. His turn as the Joker in "The Dark Knight" will probably earn him a posthumous Academy Award. And make women across the nation cry all over again.

1. Tina Fey

She returned to "Saturday Night Live" with a spot on Sarah Palin impression that made everyone lament her absence on the show. But this year, the world finally recognized and rewarded her for her talents. She won three Emmys and the little show that could, "30 Rock," had a spectacular season.

John Ciochetty's new book is now available at the following locations:

- OWU Bookstore
- Beehive Books
- authorhouse.com
- Barnes and Noble
- Borders
- Amazon.com

The Ghosts of Stuyvesant Hall and Beyond

Volume 1

John B. Ciochetty

Opinion

Election a sham

Dear Editor,

Seniors Rory McHale and Ben Goodrum, current President and Vice-President of WCSA, respectively, have grossly abused their powers to change the outcome of the student body presidential elections. Since the administration has failed to take action, it is important for the student body to realize what happened.

According to WCSA bylaws, Section 8b reads, "All elections shall be conducted in accordance with election guidelines established by WCSA." The Election Guidelines clearly state that all receipts for money spent on the campaign must be submitted to the Campus Relations Chairman by 9:00 PM of Election Day. It continues to explicitly state that if the receipts are lost, they still need to submit an estimation of fair market value. Or, if no money was spent, that they must "submit, in writing, a certification that no goods were purchased or used." This simple task is the only condition under which a candidate is automatically disqualified, according to the Election Guidelines.

Junior Usman Javaid, one of the four presidential candidates, failed to turn in his receipts by 9:00 PM on Wednesday, November 12. Javaid and his running mate, sophomore Kyle Herman, should have been disqualified. Instead, Javaid took it upon himself to appeal his disqualification to McHale and Goodrum, a decision that should have gone before the Judicial Committee of WCSA. He pointed out minute WCSA bylaws which weren't followed, thus changing Rory's original decision into calling a redo of the elections.

The purpose of this letter is less focused on Javaid and Herman, but on the gross neglect of McHale and Goodrum to hold up any WCSA standards and bylaws, which don't fit their agenda of drastically changing our student government.

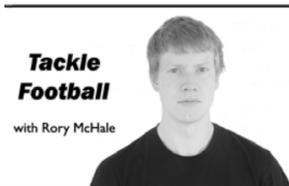
I attempted to send a campus-wide email, outlining the points I've made above, to be sent out Tuesday morning. The email was intercepted by Jason Lamar, director of Information Services. Part of Jason's job is approving these emails before they're sent out to the student body. I understand that individual students aren't allowed to send out their personal opinions in a campus-wide email; otherwise, all of our email accounts would be flooded. However, the timeline of *The Transcript* wouldn't have allowed me to get my message out in time.

I called Lamar on Tuesday morning to see why my email hadn't been sent out, and was both appalled and offended at the response I received. Jason told me he didn't want to argue the semantics of whether or not my email should be sent, and concluded by calling my email "horseshit." Whether or not you agree with my position, I think we can collectively say it is both unprofessional and disrespectful for any university official to call the opinion and work of a student "horseshit."

I had an interesting conversation with Rory on Tuesday morning on the JAYwalk, which I believe sheds some light on how Rory has been handling, or lack thereof, WCSA so far this year. After reading my email, he told me that the Election Guidelines distributed to the Presidential candidates this year didn't mention anything about a receipt deadline. I told him that the Election Guidelines, which can be found online, stated exactly what I've quoted earlier in the letter. Rory replied that the guidelines have changed this year, but haven't been voted on and approved by the full body of WCSA. I find it interesting that Rory managed to change and enforce the new election guidelines WITHOUT the approval of the WCSA body. His simple response was, "Well Trevor, the world just works in magical ways, doesn't it?"

Junior Trevor Hawley

Rory falls victim to mole pranks



Tackle Football
with Rory McHale

Regular readers of my column must excuse the agitated tone that the rest of this column shall take. I also ask you excuse the fact that I struggle to catch my breath as I write (for you web-cam readers).

You see, while casually strolling into the basement of Merrick Hall, the building in which I write all my columns, I was brutally assaulted by a rambunctious group of mole-people (mostly mole-men). Several of the younger moles climbed upon my back and screamed in my ear, yelling "war criminal!"

This shocking (and untrue!) allegation was followed by a more traditional mole-prank: one mole went behind me on his hands and knees while another pushed me over the first, causing me to lose my balance. Where I come from this is called "table-topping" someone. But the moles used

a term for it so heinous to the ear that I pray not another member of humanity should hear its foul annunciation: "mole-table-topping!"

This malicious misrepresentation of modest mole manners mortified my Mormon-sensibilities. Never before have I been treated to such disrespect from those who live so far below the ground (the Devil himself once treated me to a free round of golf on his temperate winter links; a fine chap indeed. But as for golf, let me tell you, that guy spends more time in the sand than David Hasselhoff!)

My mom had mentioned murderous moles maligning magistrates in Middlesex, mmmEngland, but many more must be making mole-trips to my magnificent Midwest!

Regardless, their callous and irresponsible behavior necessitated a quicker entrance to Merrick than I normally like to take. Usually I will fly inside the building with my Ben Goodrum-powered helicopter. You see, if you look carefully, you'll see Merrick has no roof; anyone with a helicopter could just ease right in. Thankfully, one of the great

legacies of Mark Huddleston's reign at OWU was the banning of student helicopters following the "great helicopter debacle" at a Delt dance party. My 'copter is rented from the Delaware historical society, which stores a few to remind us of the times when people could only get around in horse-drawn carriages and helicopters.

But in a rush to escape the mole-people, I had to find a quicker route inside. That's when I noticed something that would change the way people look at Merrick Hall forever—doors!

Yes, it appears like every other building on campus, historically-preserved Merrick Hall is surrounded on almost every side by doors. I quickly ran to the nearest entrance, opened the door with my swipe-card, and strolled on into my office (the current university administration has been extremely generous in allowing a single Transcript columnist to use the entirety of Merrick Hall as his office).

Sitting with my laptop (AHHHH, for so long I thought that word was laptop!) on my thighs I furiously scrib-

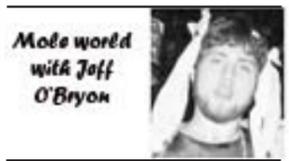
bled column after column, rejecting one after the other because of easily-correctable punctuation errors.

Suddenly, I hear a gentle rapping upon the window. Another mole attack?! No, it was merely a moldy old mole with a gentle reminder for his favorite Transcript columnist (outside of the sports section). He wrote with his mole finger in the fog on the window (fog, because, as you know, things are getting cold outside). The scribe spelled out: "Write about the moles! Let the people know!" He then spelled out several complaints about massive civil rights abuses and terrible working conditions which the mole people have been dealing with (I've declined to post them here for stylistic reasons).

I yelled back: "Sure, you old moldy mole, I'll tell them. . . about Mole harassment!" The sad old mole looked back with disgust. He had met his match. And I am he.

And readers, let me tell you something you didn't know: That old mole went on to become the first president of the Wesleyan Council on Student Affairs.

O'Bryon to Christianize Mole City



Mole world with Jeff O'Bryon

Hey, it's Jeff! Well, well, well, looks like Mr. O'Bryon has uncovered a little Mole history! After my last report I did some research in the Mole library on the history of the Moles and Naked Mole Rats. It turns out that the two used to be very chummy, very chummy indeed, but the Naked Mole Rats became jealous of the Mole's fur because in the winter it gets cold (even

underground!). The Naked Mole Rats began shaving the Moles and stealing their fur in order to blend in. They then weaseled (or Naked Mole Ratted) their way into more powerful positions in the government in order to pass legislation on fur.

Well it didn't take too long for the Moles to catch on, let me tell you! The Moles and Naked Mole Rats fought a gruesome, horrible, bloody, furry war with the Moles being the eventual winners and the Naked Mole Rats being driven deeper into the earth. Some Moles say that the N.M.R. will eventually rise up against

the Moles again, but some say they won't.

Anyway, who cares about all the boring history?! My mole suit is finally complete! At last I will be treated as an equal (and maybe with more respect seeing as how I'm so much bigger than all the other moles!).

Mole said she would marry me as long as I can find a respectable job, so I applied for a job as a doctor. I have high hopes for getting the job seeing as how her father is the head Mole there and we seem to get along just swell. Why it was just the other day that we played Parcheesmole!

I also think I will bring Christianity to Mole City. Many of you know that I am a pretty big Christian and when I was at school I went to all of the meetings about God and lead thrice daily prayer as well as the first 96 hour prayer at the school. I've noticed these Moles are living in sin and they don't even know it! Well it's about time someone told them that everything they know is wrong and they are going to go to hell if they keep it up! I hope they understand about Jesus Christ, if they don't I may just have to make an example out of one of these Moles. Manifest Destimole!

G-20 summit a historical attempt to stop the world recession

By Alexandra Panait
Transcript Columnist

On Nov. 14, the G-20 summit was hosted in Washington D.C. to address the global recession and restore economic growth. Whether it created a short term diplomatic and political success or long term inefficient policies, the summit brought the representatives of diverse economies together in an effort to take measures against the economic backlash felt in every corner of the world.

Despite social, political and even economical differences, the summit demonstrated that diversity can be overcome once a common interest is established. Russia, Argentina, France, the UK, and Saudi Arabia were among the uncontested presences at a meeting that proved coopera-

tion beyond alleged interests.

The immediate outcome was a common settlement on the needed reforms, a collective approach assessed as historical by British Prime Minister Gordon Brown. With more than eighty percent of the world economies represented by both developing and developed economies, G-20 comes as the more viable image of the world's political and economical players. The summit concluded with specific financial reforms aimed at international institutions, particularly World Bank and the International Monetary Fund; improvements in the transparency for an increased opening to the financial conditions; heightened surveillance over financial institutions in order to hinder high risk and low-performance credits; increased financial regulations, partic-

ularly government intervention and market manipulation; and a 2008 dead line for an improved global free trade agreement.

The summit marks the French denial of recession and the global impact of the credit crunch on interconnected economies. Despite the lag between the economical impact of the crisis, there is no doubt over the extent and the dominance of negative economic performance worldwide.

Severity and alertness are defining a recession that draws the attention and interests of markets despite different degrees of economic performance. The Washington summit planned a second meeting to assess the short term results on April 30, 2009 in London, UK.

The summit comes as an

immediate result of the official state of recession from the Eurozone. With an economy decreasing at 0.2 percent in the third quarter of 2008, the EU-15 have entered markedly a slip side of the ongoing economic performance. The most anticipated to be affected of the European countries are Italy and Germany, seen as the two largest states in the Euro zone. The downside of the equation comes with Germany's fall, a country known as the motor for economic growth, now the pulling factor for the rest of EU members. In particular, the new comers and the better economies of Southern Europe as claimed by Portugal and Spain will enter a severe recession.

Thus, 2008 marks the first recession the European Union has experienced since its introduction of a common curren-

cy, with the rampant financial effects forecasted to last until the third quarter of 2009.

Hungary's case already illustrated the worst case scenario of an EU member suffering from privatization and free trade. Slowing exports, a strengthening dollars and a weakening euro are overt signals of low-performing economies world wide.

Nevertheless, a first measure was taken by a global summit projecting common economic goals.

The European Central Bank continues its lowering of interest rates, aiming to reduce inflationary pressures as seen by the de-escalation of the oil prices.

The 3.25% projection of European interest rate is predicted to follow the decreasing trend, decreasing to as low as 2%, the lowest level encoun-

tered since 1999. The measures come as quick responses to a Europe facing an alerting decline in output, a minimal rise in the stock markets, and property and consumption shrinking as seen in Germany's case.

The only country showing signs of expansion in the third quarter of 2008 is France, yet the long term consequences are likely to parallel Germany's economic decrease of 0.5%.

With a world surpassing political differences and seeking a common denominator to a rising economic recession, one can view the crisis as an opportunity for cooperation. Yet, prompt actions and avoiding delays of implementation and vague languages and targets need to be considered given the negative extent of the current economy.

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-- To report thoroughly on WCSA, the administration and the Board of Trustees so that all members of the community are empowered in their decision-making.
-- 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.
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Bishops Sports

Men's swimmers stroke past Mount Union College



Photo Courtesy of OWU Online

Junior David Gatz swims in a meet last year. He set OWU records in the 100m and 200m breaststroke in 2008.

By Steven Ruygrok
Transcript Reporter

On Friday, November 14, Ohio Wesleyan's men's swim team defeated Mount Union by a final count of 136-87.

Junior Kevin Fahey led the way for the Bishops, winning three events. He was followed by junior David Gatz and freshman Jesse Sheldon, who each won two events.

Fahey snatched the 100 and 200 freestyles with times of 50.03 and 1:49.45 respectively. Gatz, Sheldon, Cook and

Potterton combined to win the 400 medley relay with a time of 3:48.20.

"The key to victory was either the win in the 400 medley relay," junior Chris Potterton said, "which would set the tone for the rest of the meet, or the 200 freestyle."

Potterton said that a big moment for the team came during the 50 meter freestyle.

"We went one, three and four and had all the guys under 24 seconds, which is a pretty fast time," Potterton said.

"It was a close race and

another big moment might have been the sweep of the 200 breast stroke."

Chris said the team's spirit was high after the meet, and it was a good win to have after facing two tough teams in Denison and Wittenberg.

"This was also a team we lost to last year, so it felt good to beat them," Potterton said. "Many, if not most, of the guys also set personal or season bests, which added to their enthusiasm."

Potterton said the team's long-term goals are to try

and continue to improve their times and mark up more victories.

"The ultimate goal for the team is to try and place well at the conference championship meet at the end of the year," he said. "This is tough since the NCAC is one of the best swim conferences in the nation, with the annual national champion Kenyon and runner-up Denison."

Ohio Wesleyan's next home meet is not until December 13th against Wilmington.

NCAC soccer honors six women

A total of six Ohio Wesleyan University women's soccer players were named to the All-North Coast Athletic Conference teams, it was announced Monday.

Senior forward Michelle Corbett and senior forward Allie Cozzone were named first-team All-NCAC selections; junior defender Megan Goodrich and freshman midfielder Makinzie Krebsbach were second-team all-conference choices; and sophomore defender Victoria King and junior defender Carolyn Tallman were hon-

orable mention picks.

Corbett led the Bishops in scoring with 8 goals and 3 assists. She also led the team with 32 shots on goal. She was a first-team All-NCAC selection for the fourth straight season.

Cozzone ranked second on the team in scoring with 7 goals and 4 assists. She was close behind in shots on goal with 30 attempts. She was a second-team all-conference pick in 2007, 2006 and 2005.

Goodrich, King and Tallman led an

Ohio Wesleyan defense that allowed 32 goals in 19 games while compiling 5 shut-outs.

Krebsbach ranked third on the team in scoring with 6 goals and 5 assists.

Ohio Wesleyan finished the season with a 10-6-3 record overall, and 4-2-2 in conference play. The Bishops finished fifth in the NCAC championship race. Their season ended without a berth in the NCAC tournament after being beaten 2-1 by Earlham on November 1.

Swim team looks to compete in the NCAA's toughest conference

By Clay Davis
Transcript Reporter

With the NCAC as one of the toughest conferences for swimming, the Ohio Wesleyan men's team is focused on being competitive at individual meets where swimmers have a legitimate shot at qualifying for nationals, not necessarily winning the conference championship.

"As a team, we are not overly concerned about the place in conference," junior David Gatz said. "The NCAC, at least swimming-wise, is the toughest in the NCAA."

Last year, Gatz was the only member of the men's swim team to qualify for nationals, making it in the 100 and 200-yard breaststrokes. But with the talent level on the current Bishops' roster, there is no reason to think that he will be the only men's swimmer representing OWU at nationals this year, junior Kevin Fahey said.

"Personally, I would like

to get to nationals and have a bunch on the team go there," Fahey said. "I think that is a realistic possibility."

Because the NCAC is so competitive, the Bishops are hoping to shine a light on the team's athleticism in individual meets.

The big win on Friday night against Mount Union, a team that Fahey believes is very similar to OWU, was critical, because it highlighted the difference between last year's Bishops and this year's Bishops.

Last year, OWU lost to Mount Union by 25 points. This year, OWU turned it around and defeated Mount Union by almost 50.

"Beating Mount Union by a lot was a good turnaround because it was close last year," Fahey said. "It is equivalent to a 1-0 win in soccer, then a 3-0 turnaround."

Like Gatz, Fahey sees the NCAC as a tough conference meet.

That is why the team will not be focused on one meet,

and will instead look at other critical meets, particularly the Washington [Mo.] Invitational.

The event in Missouri is expected to be extremely competitive, and according to Fahey, is the first real event where individuals will start to qualify for nationals.

"St. Louis will be a big challenge," Fahey said. "It is similar to conference; it is very competitive, and DI and DII teams are included...there are a lot of good things that

"We want to do well; we are after personal bests and overall time drops, but we have two goals that don't occur in the water," senior Brian Fahey explained. "We want to maintain the highest GPA on campus and improve in our national rankings."

come out of this meet."

While the team hopes for athletic success this year, it is also seeking to continue academic excellence.

Last year, men's swimming received the Strimer Cup, which is awarded to the sports team at OWU with the highest GPA.

"One of our major team goals is to have a 3.5 GPA or higher," Gatz said. "We need to strive for balancing the classroom work and the pool."

That balance is also tricky,

Bishops bitten by Gators in overtime

Sophomore quarterback Mike Fisher scored on a 23-yard run to erase a 7-0 deficit, but Allegheny kicked a field goal during the first overtime period to edge Ohio Wesleyan in North Coast Athletic Conference action on Saturday in Meadville, Pa.

After a scoreless first half, Allegheny forced an Ohio Wesleyan punt from deep in Bishop territory and took over on the Ohio Wesleyan 46-yard line. Gator quarterback T.J. Salopek moved the chains with a third-down completion to Brian Tamburlin, then ran for 13 yards on a third-and-7 call before Matt Cellini's third-down carry gave the Gators a first-and-goal from the Bishop 2-yard line. On the next play, Salopek found Terry Hartford for the touchdown and a 7-0 lead.

Ohio Wesleyan responded with a drive of its own, with Fisher hitting senior split end Grant Geib for 12 yards on a third-and-10 play before senior running back Kyle Adams gained 7 yards for another first down. On the next play, Fisher ran for 10 more yards and a Gator personal foul moved the ball to the Allegheny 26. Two plays later, Fisher scored from 23 yards out and senior Chris Kras converted the point after to tie the game at 7-7 with :24 left in the third quarter.

Each team missed a field goal attempt for the lead during the fourth quarter.

The Bishops had the first chance, with Fisher's 38-yard run providing a first down at the Allegheny 27-yard line and senior running back Jerrell Cephas picking up 3 yards on the next play. On second down, Adams was tripped up for a 5-yard loss, and Fisher's third-down pass fell incomplete. Kras came on for a 46-yard try, which was short with 10:55 left in regulation time.

Allegheny responded with a drive into Ohio Wesleyan territory, with Salopek hitting Pat Kahle for 23 yards and finding Hartford for 31 more and a first down at the Bishop 14, but senior defensive tackle Julian Strother forced a fumble by Tamburlin, which sophomore defensive tackle Taylor Smith recovered at the Ohio Wesleyan 9-yard line.

Later in the quarter, after a punt from deep inside Ohio Wesleyan territory, the Gators took over at the Bishop 39-yard line with 1:39 to play. Facing a fourth-and-3 from the 32-yard line, Salopek hit Hartford for 10 yards, and after a pair of incompletions and a Gator penalty, Ryan Zipf came on to try a 44-yard field goal for the win, but his kick was wide right and the game went into overtime.

Ohio Wesleyan had the ball first, but Fisher's third-down pass was picked off by C.J. Bell at the 5-yard line.

Allegheny picked up 9 yards on 3 rushing plays, and on fourth-and-1 from the 16, Zipf's 33-yard field goal ended the game.

The Bishops marched into the Allegheny red zone during the first quarter, highlighted by a 12-yard Fisher run and a 10-yard pickup by senior running back Zachary Rojek. Fisher hit Geib for 4 yards and a first down at the Allegheny 18, but the drive stalled there and Kras's 37-yard field goal attempt was blocked.

Freshman defensive back Eli Cowan intercepted a Salopek pass at the Ohio Wesleyan 40-yard line, ending a second-quarter Gator threat, and after an exchange of punts gave the Bishops their best field position of the day at the Allegheny 45, Ohio Wesleyan picked up a first down on Fisher's 6-yard run, but junior running back Steven Brown fumbled at the Allegheny 29-yard line.

Fisher shared the Bishop rushing lead with 85 yards and a touchdown on 14 carries, and completed 6 of 10 passes for 36 yards. Adams also finished with 85 yards on the ground, gaining that in 17 carries. Brown had a team-high 4 catches for 23 yards.

Defensive standouts for Ohio Wesleyan included senior linebacker Tommy Saunders, who led the Bishops with 14 tackles; senior defensive end Britan Tolliver, whose 9 tackles included 4 sacks, with 2 of those coming on third down to end Allegheny drives; senior linebacker Matt Weisman, who had 9 stops, including 1 for loss; and Strother, who made 8 tackles, including 2 for loss, and forced a fumble.

especially when exam time rolls around. Still, the Bishops are seeking to face the challenges head on, both from the athletic and academic standpoints.

"We want to do well; we are after personal bests and overall time drops, but we have two goals that don't occur in the water," senior Brian Fahey explained. "We want to maintain the highest GPA on campus and improve in our national rankings."

Though there are plenty of challenges for the Bishops athletically and academically, maybe the biggest challenge is winning over fan support and getting the campus enthusiastic about the swim team. For Brian Fahey, it is understandable why many are unable to get completely excited about swimming compared to other sports.

"Swimming is not a contact sport like football, soccer or basketball," Fahey said. "All you see are people going back and forth in a pool. During the distance events, it can be hyp-

notizing."

Fahey also believes that the conditions of Pfeiffer Natatorium, the home for the swimmers, has been getting old. As a result, it becomes a less attractive spot for the university; in particular, students.

"Pfeiffer Natatorium has been around for at least fifty years, and other teams call this pool the puddle due to its age," Fahey said. "As a result, the administration does not like to advertise this pool, so these are the more likely reasons that few people have heard about the swim team."

There has been progress in recognizing the sport, according to Gatz. A big reason for that is the success of Michael Phelps; however, Gatz sees the atmosphere of the sport as a reason many people are getting excited.

"It is an intensely competitive atmosphere, and it can get out of control in there," Gatz replied. "I would encourage people to come to at least one meet."



Bishops Sports

Men's soccer win first two in NCAA's, advance

By Colin Magruder
Transcript Reporter

The men's soccer team entered the NCAA tournament with a matchup against first-time tourney team Susquehanna. For the Bishops, it was their 31st tournament appearance under head coach Jay Martin.

The Bishops had a number of good opportunities early on, but could not convert on shots from freshman forward Matt Bonfini and sophomore midfielder Ryan Harmanis. At the end of the half, the teams were scoreless, but the Bishops led the shot margin by a tally of 9-2.

Susquehanna came out of the half firing shots early; however, Bishops keeper Richard Ott was able to save both opportunities from the Crusaders. A few minutes later, Harmanis had an opportunity for a header that saw the opposing keeper, B.J. Merriam, stretch out and punch it over the crossbar, preserving the tie.

The rest of the second half went much of the same way for OWU, who could not manage to get the ball into the net.

"We were not our usual selves; we were tense and tight," Martin said. By the end of regulation, the game was still at a scoreless tie standstill, despite OWU outshooting Susquehanna by a 28-15 total.

The teams went into the first overtime, and neither was able to manufacture opportunities to close out the golden goal for the win.

The second overtime saw more good shots, but none went in. When every sign was pointing to a penalty kick shootout for the second straight home game, Bonfini stepped up. With two seconds left on the clock, Bonfini fired a shot from the left side of the penalty area, putting the ball into the upper 90 for a magnificent Bishop game-winner.

The hard 1-0 victory on Friday night propelled the Bishops into a Saturday night meeting with Carnegie Mellon, a team which boasted only two losses during the year, and had only allowed 12 goals all season.

After a full day of rain, the field at Roy Rike was not exactly in the best condition,



Freshman Matt Bonfini shoots against Carnegie Mellon en route to a 3-0 victory.

Photo courtesy of OWU online

which was apparent early on; there were very few scoring opportunities coming from either side. Unlike the last game, however, the Bishops were able to capitalize on their opportunities.

Just twenty minutes into the game, sophomore Tyler Wall passed the ball to Bonfini, who was able to pick up where he left off the previous night, putting the ball into the back of the net to put OWU up 1-0 early-on.

Later in the half, the Bishops again made good work of their chances and the conditions, when midfielder Phil Serfaty got to a ball that deflected off the goalie's wet glove and scored to put the home side up 2-0 going into

the half.

The second half saw more opportunities, and the OWU defense stifled any Tartan attack that came their way.

"The defense has been great," Martin said. "(The team) is playing well and with enthusiasm and energy. They are having fun."

It was a spectacular finish for the Bishops, considering the harsh weather circumstances, which they overcame to play their best game of the season.

"I have coached 696 games here, and this was one of the top five we have ever played," Martin said. "It was a gratifying situation."

Martin also praised Ott's play at keeper, saying he is

playing well and has improved greatly since the start of the season.

"He has become a competitor; he fights, works hard and is confident," Martin said. "He may be one of the most improved players on the team."

With the win, OWU travels to Philadelphia to take on top-ranked Trinity of Texas in what will be a challenging game. The two will play at Swarthmore on Saturday.

"Both teams match up well," Martin said. "We will use the outside midfielder more with our speed there. The fact that we are playing on field turf. ... It's mental now, and we have to play our best."

Ohio sports have "Secret Stuff"

And we don't mean anabolic steroids



Thoughts from the Third Row

with Drew Lenox

There's something in the water in Ohio. It hasn't always been there, and it seems to have appeared in great amounts over the last couple of years.

It is unrecognizable and hard to characterize, but it could be called "Ohio's Secret Stuff." It gives both collegiate and professional sports teams in the state to play well for a little while, but then it wears off in a championship game.

It is just like "Michael's Secret Stuff" in the movie Space Jam. The Looney Tunes drink some of this stuff, play well for a while, and then it "wears off." They realize it's just water and have to go on.

"Ohio's Secret Stuff" doesn't seem to affect every part of the state and appears to have escaped Cincinnati. Cincinnati is like Daffy Duck in that they don't get a single drop of the liquid motivator.

The Cincinnati Reds have only had three winning seasons in the last fifteen years with the last one being in 2000. In the last 18 years, the Cincinnati Bengals only have a single season where they finished above .500.

While Cincinnati may not have been affected, Ohio's Secret Stuff has reached other major cities like Columbus and Cleveland.

The Ohio State Buckeyes played a perfect regular season in 2006 and continued it up through the opening kickoff of the 2007 BCS National Championship game. Then Ted Ginn Jr. was jumped on and the Gators jumped on the Buckeyes 41-14.

The following year, Ohio State football was propelled to the title game again, only to get pounced on by the LSU Tigers: 38-24.

The football program passed some of the secret stuff to the basketball team, and it helped a pair of Indiana freshmen take the team all the way to a 35-4 record, through March Madness and to the championship.

After such a great run, OSU came up short again in losing 85-74 to Florida.

Last year in Major League Baseball, the Cleveland Indians caught the fever and played to a league tying best record of 96-66. They then had enough in them to get one win away from returning to the World Series.

The Boston Red Sox won the next three games and Indians' fans were left shaking their heads in disbelief.

LeBron James sparked his team, the Cleveland Cavaliers, to play inspired in the NBA Playoffs in 2007 as they beat the Wizards and the Nets. Then, in the Eastern Conference Finals, James took his team on his back to beat the Detroit Pistons in six games.

Facing the San Antonio Spurs in the NBA Finals the secret stuff wore off and Tim Duncan's team swept away the hopes of a championship in Cleveland.

But the ability to play well enough to have a shot at a championship also has extended itself to the semi-professional ranks of Arena Football. The mediocre Columbus Destroyers snuck into the playoffs last season and won three games to get to Arena Bowl XXI. Failure fell on the Destroyers too when they were put down by 22 points.

Now in the late months of 2008, "Ohio's Secret Stuff" seems to have been put into the water supply of another team in another sport. After putting out the flames of the Chicago Fire, the Columbus Crew have made it all the way to the MLS Cup.

This Sunday they'll take on the New York Red Bulls. Both of these clubs have waited 13 years for a championship and one will realize that dream this weekend. The Crew is favored to win but the Red Bulls won the season series 2-1.

So, the world will see if the Columbus Crew will be just another Ohio team to have championship aspirations dashed in the big game. Here's to hoping that they take another swig of "Ohio's Secret Stuff" and it will be enough for a victory.

If not, here's to hoping Bill Murray will be around to save the day in the waning moments of the contest.

Women's track team prepares for "three-peat"

By Josh Powers
Transcript Reporter

After winning the NCAC conference championship for the past two years, the Lady Bishops track team looks to defend its title by winning a third consecutive conference championship.

"Our main preseason goal is to win conference, and I truly believe we have the ability and potential to do so," senior Caitlin Chesnut said.

"However, I think the big thing is to have a season we can look back on and be proud of. This means putting in hard work, getting good results (great performances), and having fun. Being an athlete isn't about the standing of the team at the end of the season. It's about the day-to-day experience. That's what we'll remember years from now, so we want to make those memories good ones."

In order for the team to win a third consecutive title, everyone has to perform to their potential.

"I think being conference champs means making each event as competitive as possible. The coaches have done a good job recruiting quality athletes in many different event areas, so now we must each put in the daily work to be as good as possible at our own events," Chesnut said.

Senior Valerie Sloboda agrees and thinks members need to show their capabilities to other teams early and have full support of their teammates.

"In order to defend our title, we need to set a precedent at the first few meets in order to show other teams we are a difficult team to beat," Sloboda said.

"As a team, we will have to be supportive of one another and encourage each other so that individual gains will result in a collective victory."

Each member of the team has different preseason goals, but

they are setting the bar high as they look at upcoming meets.

"My individual goals are to place in the top five at the NCAC Conference meet in the mile. I want to have the best season possible since it is my last year running track," Sloboda said.

The team has been working hard on an off the track in preparing to defend their title.

"This includes running, lifting, and working on technique for field events," Chesnut said. "The final and most crucial part of putting together the best possible team and winning conference is to support and encourage we give each other throughout the work and at meets, so that each individual can truly believe they are capable of performing at high levels."

"You do have to believe in your ability and have confidence in yourself in order to achieve your goals."

The team is still young with only five seniors on the team but the seniors bring a lot of leadership and experience.

"We are relatively young, but we have an exceptional group of seniors who will lead," head coach Kris Boey said.

"Everyone in the program has a role and many of last year's freshmen contributed greatly and gained experience in big meet situations. This will allow the current freshmen to grow and compete with less pressure placed on them."

The seniors are ready to step in and take the role of captain and become bigger leaders on the team.

"I want to continue to use my role as a leader on the team to help set a positive tone for the season and unite the team towards a common purpose," Chesnut said.

The team has a lot of experience and a lot of room for the freshmen to show what they can do.

"This year we have five seniors on the girl's side. We do have a lot of experience overall as a team, which is an advantage for us. But we also have a lot of newcomers ready to show off their talents as well," Sloboda said.



Ashley Britton competes in the hurdles last year.

Photo courtesy of OWU Online