

## GO FAR

The Journalism Student Board is hosting a week-long seminar to celebrate and learn about our First Amendment Rights. Events are open to all.

Today, Noon to 1:00 p.m. in Benes A, The Transcript Editor-in-Chief goes on mock trial for libel.

Friday, Noon to 1:30 p.m. in Benes A, peaceably assemble to talk about First Amendment obligations.

## Metal smith

By Brad Russell  
Transcript Reporter

Acclaimed metal smith and jewelry maker Tom Muir visited Ohio Wesleyan to work with students and speak about the art of metal work.

Muir came to OWU as a part of the Jarvis Stewart Lecture series. The head of Jewelry and Metal Smithing at the School of Arts at Bowling Green State University, he has competed in over 300 different national and international design competitions. One of his pieces, thanks to various best in show and first place awards he has won, is estimated to be worth \$26,000.

He spoke about the craft of metal working and described his process to the members of the audience. Muir said he gains inspiration from all over.

"I look at trees, and I always imagine their root structure," he said about one of his influences.

Muir has also been inspired by reflections on ponds, the forest around his house, Egyptian mummies, sea slugs and even Sideshow Bob from The Simpsons.

Muir also recounted his career starting as a student working in the studio, as well as his experiences as a teacher. His career began when he experimented with stainless steel, creating light and airy pieces. From there, he moved into creating vessels. Muir has also done a collection of tea pots and tea infusers (devices to steep tea).

His process from start to finish involves collecting visual information. Then, he draws pictures and conceptualizes the work, recently using digital renderings and computer-drawn blueprints. Finally, he begins to mold the metal.

His works have been featured in magazines, the Art Institute of Chicago and in the White House Collection of Crafts.

"It was an honor to hear some of the detailed techniques of one of the most renowned metal smiths in the world," said junior Taylor McClenaghan, who is currently enrolled in a metals and jewelry-making class.

Although Muir is a renowned metal smith, he admits to his mistakes.

"I have had some poor planning in pieces," he said in reference to one top heavy piece that would fall over easily.

Muir took questions and comments during a reception in his honor.



Photo by Kimberly St. Louis

OWU students join ProgressOWU in hearing the informal speaker, Vincent, a former chronically homeless man speaking at ProgressOWU's Homeless at OWU event Friday.

## ProgressOWU experiences homeless life on the lawn

By Kimberly St. Louis  
Transcript Reporter

Plywood, plywood, plywood, a piece of wood on top and tarp made the roof for a temporary living space at the camp of Vincent, a former chronically homeless man, before he was taken off the streets by the Columbus Coalition for the Homeless.

Vincent - he gave no last name - was the informal speaker at ProgressOWU's Homeless at OWU event Friday. About 35 people came to hear him, and 20 spent the night on Welch Lawn. Six were ProgressOWU members.

Vincent said that where he was staying wasn't home, but a place to stay. He said his floor was similar to the one created by ProgressOWU: one made of broken down cardboard boxes. "Being homeless is not a lifestyle; it is a life situation," Vincent said.

He said it is not a choice; no one wants to be without a place to live. He also said he hated living in shelters because they aren't the safest places, and like living on the streets, he had to take all of his belongings with him everywhere he went.

Vincent said where he lived was cold, but was able to build a fire. He said he'd stay warm and sleep at night by heating up bricks, wrapping them in newspapers and placing them under his feet and arms.

Sophomore Michele Gilbert said she was interested in the event because she felt it was unique and would allow people to put themselves in the shoes of others.

"You never know until you confront the problem directly," Gilbert said.

ProgressOWU is a student organization that holds the Hunger Banquet in the Fall to raise awareness about hunger and whose members volunteer at Common Ground Free Store Ministries, Andrews House in Delaware and the Columbus Open Shelter, said president Lauren Wells, a sophomore.

Wells said she believes that by volunteering, ProgressOWU is interacting more directly with, and becoming connected to, the people they try to help.

"Anyone can fundraise and throw money at a problem, but when you interact directly with people, you put more heart into it," Wells said. "You gain more knowledge of the issue and are



Photo by Kimberly St. Louis

Students spent Friday night outside in an attempt to get a feel for the life of a homeless person.

more active in solving the problem."

Wells said ProgressOWU thought doing an outdoor event on homelessness and poverty would be good for the spring, because the warmer temperatures would permit such an activity. She said putting on the event was a consensus among ProgressOWU members.

"We found the dates and constructed the idea ourselves," Wells said. "It evolved as we thought of it."

Wells said the purpose of this event was to expose the OWU community to a pseudo-homeless experience and to disprove common misconceptions, show how it is attainable and raise awareness about homelessness and poverty. She said many people live from paycheck to paycheck.

"Homeless people are not just all beggars or lazy; they are trying to help themselves," Wells said. "In America, we as citizens should want to help each other and reach out to the homeless and not be afraid of them."

Wells said members were asked not to bring electronic devices such as iPods but were encouraged to bring items such as guitars and books.

"It's not just a party on the lawn," Wells said. "The point is See HOMELESS, page 2

## Faltering economy may deter democracy

By Mark Dubovec  
News Editor

In the 1920s and '30s, economic crises led to the rise of dictatorships and World War II, and with the current economic situation, one scholar fears the same thing could happen in Latin America.

Mitchell Seligson, Ph.D., a centennial professor of political science at Vanderbilt University and founder and director of the Latin American Public Opinion Project (LAPOP), presented his viewpoint in "Challenges of Democracy: A View from the Americas Barometer, 2008" on Wednesday, March 18, in Benes A and B.

The Americas Barometer is a project conducted by the LAPOP as a public opinion survey about democratic stability in North, South and Central America and the Caribbean. In 2008, the program interviewed 38,033 people in 33 countries and was funded by numerous organizations, including the U.S. Agency for International Development (U.S. AID) and the United Nations Development Program.

"The political health of democracy is tied in a crucial way to the successful maintenance of stable, high employment and living opportunities," Seligson said, quoting the book "Economics" by Paul A. Samuelson. "In Latin America, we have a very long tradition of democratic breakdown."

In 1960, Seligson said, seven out of 10 nations in South America were democracies, but by 1976, there were only two.

"Worldwide, 38 percent of 114 instances of democratization - countries that went from dictatorships to democracies - between 1960 and 2003...were reversed, broke down, at least for a

period of time," Seligson said.

Seligson attributes this to the theory of Italian economist Giovanni Sartori: in times of economic crisis, people will abandon democratic parties and support polarizing parties. "[R]ather than be democracy's salvation, ordinary people can be its undoing," Seligson said, adding that Latin America is dealing with a slowdown in exports, lower remittance (the money sent home from workers in the United States), less tourism and smaller inflows of foreign direct investments.

**"The political health of democracy is tied in a crucial way to the successful maintenance of stable, high employment and living opportunities." -- Mitchell Seligson, director of the Latin American Public Opinion Project**

Four questions comprised the heart the Americas Barometer survey: do people believe democracy is the best system, do they believe their system is legitimate, are they satisfied with their lives and do they approve of violent participation?

The survey was conducted on two levels: the individual and country. The individual level consists of characteristics like gender, age and economic status. "We want to understand how these characteristics, at the individual level, how their personal economic conditions and perceptions affect democratic stability," Seligson said.

## No order on the border

Mission team stays north of border due to drug violence

By Sam Beany  
Transcript Reporter

The Border Servant Corps mission team had plans to travel to Juarez, Mexico. The group was going to work with social service organizations like women's safe houses and AIDS clinics to try to understand the Mexico-US border relationship.

Two weeks before they were supposed to leave, the United States issued a travel warning, stating, "A war between criminal organizations for control of the lucrative narcotics trade continues along the border. Foreign visitors, including Americans, have been among the victims."

When word reached the team, they found themselves in limbo. Would they still be going into Juarez? Would they just be going to El Paso, Texas? Finally, about four days before they left, word came that they'd be staying in El Paso.

"Naturally, finding out that we wouldn't be crossing into Mexico was a disappointment," said freshman Jamie Hamilton. "I think what should be really drawn from this situation is that while violence is spiking, the current wave is only a more visible and intense incarnation of a problem that has plagued that area and the entire border for the last thirty years."

Before leaving, senior team leader Forrest Raub said, "We plan to achieve perspective, a thorough knowledge of the issues surrounding the border and the opportunity to provide dialogue and discussion with fellow students and faculty surrounding the border."

The experience has certainly achieved all those things.

"I can't stress enough the importance of looking beyond the romance of the 'rich, young and dangerous' lifestyle associated with these cartels and gaining a deeper understand-

See BORDER,  
page 2

The country level refers to factors such as unemployment rate and economic growth for entire nations.

On the individual level, 70 percent of the respondents agreed democracy was the best political system, but the least support was shown from young people, ages 16 to 30. Seligson said this is likely due to the fact that older generations experienced dictatorships firsthand.

Seligson said personal economic conditions -being rich or poor - didn't affect belief in governments' legitimacy or faith in democracy. He said those beliefs depended more on satisfaction with the performance of the government. "Satisfaction with government is strongly correlated to belief in democracy," Seligson said. "[A]s things get worse, will presidential popularity fall, and will it drag down with it support for democracy?"

The Americas Barometer also found a connection between the democratic support and economic inequality. "Democratic support at the country level is lowest when inequality is highest," Seligson said.

Most troubling, Seligson said, was that support for violent acts such as riots and overthrowing regimes was strongest among the poor and the young, but he added most people don't support such violent participation.

Chairperson and professor of politics and government Craig Ramsay opened the presentation and called Seligson "one of the real experts of Latin America."

"These sources he gets funded by, they want this information. They want to learn what he's finding," Ramsay said.

See DEMOCRACY, page 2



# Bright idea

**Light Bulb Group to re-charge community by combatting local energy usage**

**By Alexis Reid**  
Transcript Correspondent

One subgroup of Ohio Wesleyan's Environment and Wildlife Club is shedding light on a way to reduce energy usage in Delaware.

The goal of the Light Bulb Group is to bring energy-efficient light bulbs to as many people as possible, and the group is working on establishing a Community Light Bulb Exchange. Through this program, people in Delaware may exchange their incandescent bulbs for compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs), which use 75 percent less energy than incandescent bulbs and last ten times longer, said sophomore Matthew Jordan.

Working with Energy Star, a government program for lowering energy consumption, the Light Bulb Group can post their potential order of CFLs.

Companies that sell CFLs then bid on the order, allowing the group to get offers as low as \$1.15 per bulb, said sophomore Kate Ball.

The Light Bulb Group's eventual goal is to replace 1,000 incandescent bulbs with CFLs, Ball added.

Along with reducing energy consumption in Delaware, the group hopes to heighten awareness about the benefits of conserving energy.

"A major component of this project is the issue of environmental and social justice," said Jordan.

"We are going to be targeting some poorer areas that can really benefit from lower electricity bills and education about sustainable practices."

Building community is especially important to Ball.

"We are particularly concerned with establishing a positive OWU presence in the Delaware community because we don't live on an island," she said.

"We really are part of the town."

This dedication to community is apparent in the group's decision to exchange with a local church, school and Delaware's Common Ground Free Store. The initiative won't end there, said Jordan.

"I see this as an ongoing, long-term project," he said. "We plan to really get established in the fall semester."

However, the Light Bulb Group does face certain obstacles. The main concern, Jordan said, is that CFLs contain small amounts of mercury. People will need to be educated about how to properly recycle the bulbs.

Time constraints are another challenge, as the group may have limited time and resources with which to work.

"The school year is almost over, plus it's difficult to be a full-time student while trying to tackle such a big project," said Ball.

"We'll need a lot of time to raise money to buy the CFLs and to advertise the Exchange.

"We want to reach as many people as possible."

## CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

### HOMELESS

to have a real homeless experience, and live how they live."

Wells said considering this was the first year of the event and it was held on a Friday night, she felt it went extremely well.

Although temperatures dropped down to 29 degrees that night, no one wanted to move to an alternative inside location.

"ProgressOWU will definitely hold the event next year due to the great first year success, and we can only hope for a little warmer weather and a higher number of participants," Wells said.

Senior Echan Yang said she saw flyers and knew what the event was about and glanced over, but she didn't stop by because she didn't know anyone in the group.

Freshman Emily Stein said she wanted to participate and said she admires people that did, but she didn't go.

### DEMOCRACY

Democratic stability wasn't the only topic Seligson discussed. Senior Erik Jensen was curious about changes in demographics because of

the economic crisis.

"Would the population flock to the city under these circumstances, or would they return to subsistence agriculture and Dr. Seligson suggested that they'd return to subsistence agriculture," Jensen said.

The lecture was part of the Benjamin F. Marsh Lecture Series on Public Affairs, endowed by OWU alum Benjamin Marsh, '50.

Marsh himself has attended almost every lecture and sat in the front row with his wife Martha.

### BORDER

-ing of the root causes of the current turmoil," said Hamilton. "Ultimately, the most important of these are US and Mexican domestic and foreign policies that have succeeded in depressing the border region economically and simultaneously failed to stem the production and importation of fantastic amounts of cocaine, heroin, marijuana and meth."



## INCIDENT REPORT

March 10 - March 22

• On March 10, a staff member reported damage to an exit door leading from a second-floor study room in Stuyvesant Hall. Upon inspection, the damage appeared to be intentional.

• On March 15, a member of the housekeeping staff reported damage to an outdoor safety light near Beeghly Library. A bike rack was also found overturned.

• On March 18, several members of Sigma Chi reported an intruder found inside the fraternity. A short time later,

one house member discovered his laptop computer and wallet missing from his room. Because the intruder had earlier been identified, the Delaware Police made contact with him at his residence and recovered the missing property. The suspect was arrested and charged with burglary and theft.

• On March 18, a Hayes resident studying in the library reported her wallet stolen when it was left unattended in a study area on the second floor.

• On March 18, a staff member in Stuyvesant Hall reported finding an exit light in the basement area and an emergency light on the third floor destroyed.

• On March 19, a false fire alarm at the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity occurred when someone accidentally "bumped" a fire alarm pull station.

• On March 20, two residents in Stuyvesant reported their cell phones missing and presumed stolen. The phones were reportedly left unattended in unsecured lockers in Edwards Gymnasium.

• On March 21, Public Safety responded to a fire alarm at the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity. The cause of the alarm was a damaged smoke detector in the basement area.

• On March 21, a staff member reported damage to a fire alarm pull station in Smith Hall. Further damage was found to a cover on the fire alarm sprinkler system.

• On March 21, a student living in Smith Hall was referred to student judicial for drug abuse, possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia. Further charges are pending through the Delaware Police

Department.

• On March 22, a Stuyvesant Hall resident was transported to Grady Hospital for consuming too much alcohol, along with prescription drugs. A later, cursory search of the resident's room revealed drug paraphernalia and evidence of recent drug use. Charges of disorderly conduct, prohibition, drug abuse and possession of drug paraphernalia are pending through the Delaware Police.

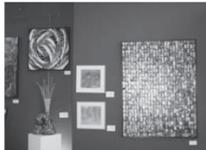
• On March 22, responding to a noise complaint coming from a fifth floor room in Smith Hall, eight students, most of whom reside in Smith, were referred to student judicial for underage possession/consumption of alcohol.

• On March 22, while on routine patrol, Public Safety discovered a fire alarm pull station in Stuyvesant Hall was damaged.

--compiled by Micah Klugman

(not on the)

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Mark these dates:  
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 Sat, Mar 14<sup>th</sup> – St. Patty's Pub Crawl  
 Sat, Mar 21<sup>st</sup> – 50 Day Club Kick Off



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# Pipe dreams in sight for Meadows

By Katie Tuttle  
Transcript Reporter

Being a music major at OWU gives students the chance to study a variety of instruments, but Chris Meadows is currently the only student focusing on the organ.

As a freshman in high school, Meadows, a junior, began teaching himself the organ by practicing at his church.

"It looked enjoyable," he said. "I really enjoyed the sound and thought it was a unique instrument. It's not something a lot of people would play. I was self-taught. I didn't have any organ lessons until I got here [to OWU]."

When he graduates, Meadows will be certified to teach band, choir or orchestra for children in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. His preference is elementary school band.

Along with teaching, Meadows will also continue playing the organ by giving lessons, playing for a church or both.

"No matter where I teach, there will be a church needing an organist," he said,

indicating a current lack of organists across the U.S.

At OWU, Meadows takes 10 to 11 classes a semester, with applied lessons on the organ in Gray Chapel, which he has 24-hour access to. According to the OWU website, the Rexford Keller Memorial organ in Gray Chapel is "the largest of only six Klais concert organs that exist in the United States." It has 4,522 pipes, the tallest being over 20 feet and the shortest less than half an inch. It was built in 1980 by Johannes Klais from Bonn, Germany and has 82 ranks and 55 stops.

"A rank is a specific set of pipes, for example, a trumpet rank," Meadows said.

"Stops are the draw knobs on both sides of the console that let you decide which rank of pipes (from one individual rank to all of them) to sound when you are pressing down on the keys. Hence the common term 'Pull out all the stops.'"

Meadows also played trumpet in the fifth grade and continue to play it and 25 other instruments, including the piano.

These include woodwind,

percussion, strings and brass. Meadows currently plays trumpet in the OWU wind ensemble and teaches piano lessons on the side.

Robert Griffith, a 1962 graduate and the applied organ professor here at OWU said Meadows had a natural musical talent.

"When I first heard Chris play, I recognized that he possessed natural musical instincts," Griffith said. "Believe it or not, not all music majors have innate musical talent, so it is always refreshing to hear someone play who does have this rather elusive gift."

Griffith also commented on Meadows' teaching skills. "Chris is a natural for the teaching profession. He exudes personality and has enormous enthusiasm for music and teaching. I think he will become a distinguished music educator." He added that Meadows' students "will love him."

"I have loved working with Chris during the past 3 1/2 years and look forward to his senior organ recital next fall." Griffith said in an email. "He is a special person, and I shall miss him after he graduates."





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# P&J looks back on 23 years

By **Brittany Stojasavljevic**  
Transcript Reporter

The historical house of the Perkins is home to Peace and Justice (P&J). Members said this arrangement allows them to enjoy connections to OWU and Delaware's past.

According to Professor of Astronomy and Physics Barbara Andereck, Hiram Perkins and his wife Caroline both attended OWU. After he graduated, Perkins became a professor at OWU, but also took a brief hiatus during the Civil War to sell pork.

Andereck said the Perkinses were responsible for the building of the Student Observatory and the Perkins Observatory, but both died before the Perkins Observatory was completed.

They contributed over \$200,000 for the construction.

Andereck said the Perkinses strengthened OWU's astronomical heritage.

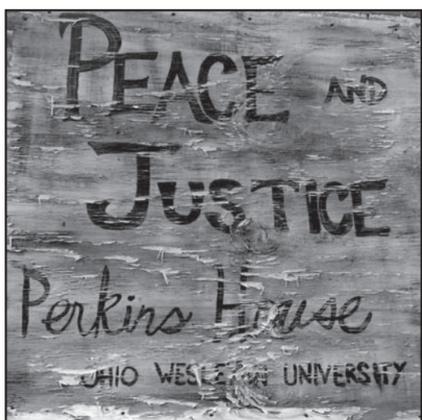
"Less than 20 small colleges in the country offer astronomy or astrophysics majors," Andereck said. "The public in the central Ohio area has benefited from many decades of public programs at Perkins Observatory."

Perkins taught at OWU until 1907, and after the couple passed away, their house, located next to the Student Observatory, was donated to OWU.

According to Senior Michael Cohen, a member of P&J, P&J has been located in the Perkins home since 1986.

Cohen said several changes had to be made to the structure in order to make it compatible for student living.

"Rooms were divided off and hallway walls built as separators," Cohen said. "The basement and the third floor have both been locked-off due to structural concerns. Another staircase was constructed at some point so the house could meet fire safety requirements."



Cohen said house members have also left their own legacies in the house over time.

"I am honored to be a part of the legacy of the Perkins house," Cohen said. "I am most fascinated by the individual nature each past house member has left, between painted designs in the bathroom walls and framed paintings in our common room."

Sophomore Katherine Kristensen, a member of P&J, said she also enjoys the legacy of living in the Perkins house and feels it benefits P&J's mission.

"The house has a feeling of roots," Kristensen said. "It's rooted in a spot that matches Delaware. P&J is concerned with social justice, which means reaching out globally and locally. Being a part of Delaware is important to the local aspect of that."

However, there are some issues that arise with historical buildings. President Rock Jones said these buildings present a particular challenge to the campus.

"The buildings were not designed for modern amenities," Jones said. "Foundations can shift, materials can deteriorate and other things can happen that create maintenance challenges. Still, when possible, it is important to preserve these homes because of their architectural and historic significance."

Jones said the future of historical housing Small Living Units (SLUs) is being examined as part of a study of residential life at OWU.

Kristensen said despite the issues, she enjoys living in a beautiful and historical house.

"I would live there even if it was crumbling down," Kristensen said. "It's actually a home."



## Relaying 'round research

By **Joey Sandmann**  
Transcript Correspondent

For hundreds of years, a deadly enemy has plagued the human race. Now, Ohio Wesleyan students are invited to join the fight against it.

On March 27, OWU faculty and students will put on their walking shoes for the Relay for Life at Richard Gordon Fieldhouse.

Senior Jo Hartley is participating in Relay for Life for a third time this year.

"It's held all across the country to raise money and to celebrate cancer survivors and remember those we've lost," said Hartley.

Hartley was Entertainment Chair of OWU's first Relay for Life last year, and will take on the same position this year.

"All night long, participants take turns walking around the

track, and there are tons of fun events and entertainment throughout the night and into morning," said Hartley.

According to Hartley, the event's entertainment will include movies, games and a dodgeball tournament. There will also be performances by the Owsiders and the Babbling Bishops. A professional drag queen will host the Mr. and Mrs. Relay Pageant.

Participants form teams to collect donations for cancer research. The relay starts at 6 p.m. on March 27 and ends at noon on March 28. At least one member from each team must be walking at all times.

Sophomore Kristen Kalinowski is participating in Relay for Life for the first time this year. She is part of the Delta Zeta team, and has mostly been sending emails to friends and family to raise money.

"Students should participate because cancer affects everyone, not just those who have it," Kalinowski said.

She speaks from personal experience. Her uncle is dying from cancer, and it already took the lives of two other family members.

According to Hartley, this tragedy is not uncommon. One in three people will be diagnosed with cancer in his or her lifetime.

"Relay helps raise millions of dollars each year for cancer research, education and advocacy, and it's important to have strong community involvement to help support those battling cancer as well as to make sure those who've lost the fight will never be forgotten," said Hartley.

"Once you've participated in Relay, you'll realize why it's such a wonderful event."

# Hearing the Qur'an is believing

By **Dianne Macasu**  
Transcript Reporter

On March 22, listeners to the lecture of Loren Lybarger, Ph.D., knew the power of "to hear is to believe" and the powerful impact on the relationship of sound and meaning in Qur'an.

"Qur'an is meant to be heard," Lybarger said. He said if people attempt to read a book, there is a schema which signals the expectation of that book to be read. "Unlike Qur'an, it is not meant to be read from cover to cover."

The lecture was entitled "Hearing the Qur'an - Recitation and Meaning in Islam's Holy Book." Lybarger is a professor of Modern Islam at Ohio University. He also published the book "Identity & Religion in Palestine."

"The topic of Islam and Qur'an and its relation to others is extremely important, especially in United States," he said. This contributes to the growing Muslim community.

"To think of about Islam is to think about the U.S. and the West."

Lybarger stressed the importance of knowing the Qur'an before reading it.

"Qur'an overtime will reveal itself to you if you have pa-

tiency; if you have sit and read the text prayerfully throughout the meaning, the text will reveal to you," he added.

There was a moment of silence when Lybarger played a recitation called The Sura of Destiny and asked the audience to repeat after it. The recitation he said evoked the feeling of sadness.

"The idea is that Qur'an is a reminder to society. It is sent to people who are fundamentally forgetful," Lybarger said.

He also discussed different assumptions most Americans have towards Qur'an, one of those being the notion about Jihad.

While some portion of the lecture focused on the language, format and chronology of the Qur'an, Lybarger also presented the debate between Muslims and non-Muslims about the history of the text.

Senior Muhammed Adil Fareed said the most interesting part of the lecture was hearing the recitation.

"I liked how he relates the meaning of the text through sounds," Fareed said. "Those are the things I know by heart. The way he explains it and when I listen to the recitation; that was remarkable."

Fareed added that the lecture was helpful.

"I should have known better, because I've been a Muslim for so many years," he said. "But I think it was useful for the Christians who attended the lecture as well."

Sophomore Stephanie Heiser, a non-Muslim, said the lecture was insightful.

"I got goosebumps as I listen to the recitation he played, and it sparked something in me and made me want to learn more about Qur'an," Heiser said.

Sophomore Rana Mohamed said the lecture was educational.

"Most of what he said is accurate, and he touched a lot of good points about Qur'an," Mohamed said.

Both Mohamed and Heiser felt disappointed, because few students attended the lecture.

Fareed, who is also president of the Tauheed, OWU's Islamic Society, added that they are trying to get speakers, but the problem is the students' lack of participation.

"If nobody shows up, that shows disrespect for the speaker," he said.

The lecture was held in Benes B from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., and was sponsored by the Chaplain's Office and the Central Ohio Great Books discussion group.

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- **The Daily Kent Stater** - Kent State University; published Mon-Fri; 10,000 circ; 22,500 campus
- **The Transcript** - Ohio Wesleyan Univ.; published Thurs; 1,000 circ; 1,850 campus
- **The Tan & Cardinal** - Otterbein College; published Thurs; 1,500 circ; 3,000 campus
- **The Clarion** - Sinclair Community College (Dayton); published Tues; 5,000 circ; 23,000 campus
- **The Independent Collegian** - Univ. of Toledo; published Mon & Thurs; 10,000 circ; 20,700 campus

# Battle of the Greeks



Photo by Sara Mays

Above: Senior Dave Curran of Sigma Chi and junior John Kirsop of Alpha Sigma Phi race to the finish in a pie eating competition on Saturday, the last day of Greek Week. The Greek Week winners were Delta Zeta and Alpha Sigma Phi.



Left: Junior Curry Wilson, president of Delta Gamma, laughed after being surprised with whipped cream.

Below: Greek students wait in line to dunk Delta Gamma member Sarah Bruno, a junior, into the water.



## Courage, experience guide Mda's message from South Africa

By Caitlin Goodman  
Transcript Reporter



Zakes Mda

South African novelist, poet and playwright Zakes Mda graced the list of OWU's finest visiting writers on March 10 in the Benes Rooms.

Past the food displayed gracefully across a table in the back of the room, a silent crowd sat patiently waiting as Zakes Mda was seen sitting in front, seemingly contemplating his presentation to the students.

After the drawn out introduction, although helpful in laying out a basis of who he is, Mda finally got his voice heard.

He began by describing his life, and, slightly muffled under his thick South African accent, he explained his sudden change from playwriting to novel writing.

"I have been writing plays for 30 years," Mda said. "The only reason I moved from writing plays was a political one."

After living in South Africa for many years, his family was exiled after they were found to be apartheid activists. Mda then finished his schooling in Lesotho.

"We did not have the luxury of sitting down for months on end writing something such as a novel," Mda said.

After much talk of living in South Africa, the schooling he had, the experience of moving to and living in America, his experiences during such a time as apartheid and the oppression of blacks in South Africa, it was difficult to determine what inspired him to become a writer and, more importantly, write his most recent novel, *Madonna of Excelsior*.

However, he made it very clear that this novel, and his writing in general, had a purpose for his people in South Africa, to whom he would explain America.

Yet, it seemed to have an affect on the American public more than he had ever expected.

"Americans have explained to me that I have a lot of courage to write such a novel," Mda said, "Since such things are simply not discussed."

His truthful nature and tone of voice made his reading of the excerpts seem flawless and

**"Mda represents a positive figure in the black community, because he uses his poetry to represent himself and inspire others in the black community to listen, read and maybe even write like him."**

**—Sophomore Jordon Exeter**

confident.

The crowd's growing bewilderment of this man's experiences became clear in the many questions that were asked after the presentation.

Sophomores Jordon Exeter and Parone Mulrain said they both enjoyed the presentation and were pleasantly surprised by what he represented, having not expected much in attending for their contemporary black poetry class.

"Mda represents a positive figure in the black community, because he uses his poetry to represent himself and inspire others in the black community to listen, read and maybe even write like him," Exeter said.

Exeter and Mulrain explained how they gained a lot from attending and felt a sense of inspiration from his life.

"We're usually not able to see someone in person like Mda who has experienced apartheid and such life experiences that would make him write the way he does," Mulrain said.

## Girl Talk: the talk of Springfest

By Jen Shepard  
Transcript Reporter

On April 24, OWU's annual Springfest will feature multiple musical acts for the first time ever, including one of today's most popular performers, Girl Talk.

Springfest 2009, which will be held inside the Gordon Field House, will feature musical acts by Yo La Tengo and Gregg Gillis, better known by his stage name of Girl Talk.

About 3,000 tickets are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Tickets can be purchased at the Hamilton-Williams Campus Center and are \$20 for the general public and \$10 for university students

Springfest Chair Griffen Waterman said event coordinators are making a

strong effort to make the upcoming concert bigger than ever before.

Waterman said Springfest 2009 will be different from those in previous years, in that it will be styled like a festival.

While the event has always attracted nationally-known musical acts, Waterman said it has never before featured multiple acts or musicians as famous as Girl Talk.

According to Waterman, Girl Talk performed two concerts in Columbus earlier this year, with both selling out within a matter of days. With Girl Talk's tremendous popularity, Waterman said he's confident "the event will reach its full capacity for the first time in Springfest history."

"In my two-and-a-half years coordinating Springfest, I've never seen tickets sell this quickly," Waterman

said. "The event has always been relatively popular with students, but this year's turnout is going to be like nothing we've seen before."

Girl Talk, an alternative musician, is unique compared to other musical acts the Springfest event has featured in the past.

Instead of using traditional instruments like previous Springfest performers, such as Gym-Class Heroes and Ben Folds, Girl Talk uses his computer to combine segments of popular songs into dance mixes.

Sophomore Alyssa Fried said she is amazed by how much excitement Springfest has generated.

"Last year, none of my friends bothered with Springfest because no one really cared for the band that was performing," Fried said.

Fried also said she felt that many students were surprised to learn that Girl Talk would be coming to OWU.

"He's definitely one of the biggest names in music right now, and to see him perform here on campus is going to be surreal," she said.

While this year's musical guests have stimulated a lot of enthusiasm amongst students, sophomore Carly Topper, who attended Springfest in 2008, said she'll be returning this year because of the overall atmosphere of the event.

"I'm not involved in any clubs or Greek life, so Springfest is something that I can really look forward to all year," Topper said.

"It's just a genuinely good time, and if students happen to really like the band that's performing, that's just icing on the cake."

## On duty: a day - or night - in the life of a resident advisor

By Sam Beany  
Transcript Reporter

"Hi, this is Jeffrey"... "This is Eunice"... "Hi, this is Scott, I'm"... "Hi, this is Beth, and I'm starting"... "This is Jackie; Eunice and I are starting"... "Hi, this is Becca; Pooja and I are starting duty."

This is the first, and hopefully only, call the RA duty phone will make or receive during a shift. Since every call must be recorded, logging it is the next step in the RA evening.

Then, it's time to start the evening report.

Blue pages are binder clipped after the white phone record pages and have a space for the RA's name and the start and end time of all rounds, as well as space to record what, if anything, happened on the round.

They fill out what they can, and start the 7 p.m. round.

A round for Welch-Bashford-Thomson (WBT, pronounced 'wibit') is when the on-duty RA walks all 585 feet of hallway and all 256 steps to check on the 430 residents. Sunday was junior Jeffrey Thongsawath's turn.

The duty phone in his pocket, he carried the duty binder with a pen and a dry erase marker in hand to change the laminated green sheets outside each RA's door, letting residents know who is on duty.

"We check everything," he said, poking his head into a study room. "Nobody can sleep in the study rooms. We check the kitchens to make sure the ovens are off. It's also our job to take down old posters."

The RAs also turn off lights in rooms nobody is using, turn on lights in hallways, write work requests, pick up the trash in the stairwells and close windows that shouldn't be open.

In Thomson, Thongsawath spots a violation. Some pictures have been ripped off a bulletin board.

"I have to document that," said Thongsawath.

"The bulletin boards are considered community damage, because the funds come out of RA money, and we put time into them."

In Thomson, one bulletin board reads, "An RA is . . ." and features pieces of paper characterizing an RA.

"A role model, an event planner, a team player, an 'amusement park', a friend, Google, a calendar, a confidant, a fountain of information that hopefully never runs dry, the yellow pages, a creative mind, a shoulder to lean on, a person, an advocate, a super hero (especially when you get locked out)."

"It's not an all-consuming job," said junior Beth Mayers.

"You can be as involved [with other things] as you want."

But junior Becca Kelly said she disagrees, passing by the laundry she hasn't had time to remove from the dryer.

"Sometimes normal would be nice," she said.

"There are times when it's a lot more work," junior Jackie Radefeld said. "When you're on duty, when you've got a bulletin board due, when you have a lot going on in class."

Mayers's first duty alone came one Thursday night.

"It's nice to do things the way I want to do them," she said as she walked the building.

While the route is always similar, some RAs prefer to walk up to the top floor of a building and work down while others prefer to walk each floor until reaching the top.

There are three rounds from Sunday through Thursday. On Friday and Saturday, there are four.

But even when not doing rounds, "you are never off duty," Mayer said. "It's so important to keep up with your residents, especially for me, since I started mid-year."

Every RA has a bi-weekly meeting with their RLC and for WBT, that is Brandon Moss.

In the meeting, "Brandon will sometimes take out a map of your floor, point to a room and ask you how so-and-so is doing," said Kelly.

"We try to get to know our residents, but when I see them in the hallway and they introduce me to their friend, I am always introduced as 'this is my RA' and it's frustrating," said junior Pooja Goswami.

And what do current residents think RAs do? The answer is anything from "doing nothing" to "providing floor community."

RAs are required to provide at least two programs for their floor. One program has to be social, like senior Scott Williams' Oscars party or Thongsawath's karaoke night. The other program must be enriching, like the information session Kelly and Goswami organized to talk about women's health.

"I'm lucky," said Radefeld. "My residents come to my events."

"It's a good feeling when they respect you like that."

The RAs also plan building programs, like the heritage dinner WBT had at the beginning of the year. The RAs prepared food from their home countries.

"We had around 100 people there," Kelly said. "Some RAs ran out of food, and some had enough, but it was social and fun."

Another popular answer to the question "what do RAs do?" was "let you back into your room when you get locked out."

Williams said he dealt with a lockout on a Wednesday duty. After letting the resident into her room, he collected \$2.

"We aren't celebrating surviving," he said.



OWU Online

Thomson Hall is a part of the RA rounds for WBT.

"The money goes toward a staff development fund."

One night, Kelly and Goswami are on duty when they must deal with an incident. After arriving at a room that has triple the allowed capacity, they confront the issue and ask many of the people to leave. Ten minutes later, they check again.

"They were very nice, and that's how you want to be," said Kelly.

"At your hearing, you would probably prefer your RA to come in and say, 'They were very nice to me. They did everything I asked them to do.'"

"We don't go looking for violations," Kelly and Goswami said. "What matters is safety."

At 7 a.m., duty is over.

Jeffrey, Eunice, Scott, Beth, Jackie, Becca and Pooja key into the office and put the binder on the desk. They turn off the phone and lock it up.

Another night logged, another duty ended.

# Opinion

**Quote of the Week:** "Naturally, finding out that we wouldn't be crossing into Mexico was a disappointment. I think what should be really drawn from this situation is that while violence is spiking, the current wave is only a more visible and intense incarnation of a problem that has plagued that area and the entire border for the last thirty years." – Freshman Jamie Hamilton, Border Mission Team

## Turtleball team not your grandmother's typical intramural

I am not much for favors. Just last week, I refused to recant my fatwa on Rushdie. Even though, I admit, I had been thinking about it for some time. But when "Tall-Guy" Tavish Miller asked me for a solid, I could not refuse.

### Tackle Football

with Rory McHale



Anyways, Tall-Guy is creating an intramural team and needs new members. As the Transcript sports columnist, I thought I could help him

out. As you may or may not be aware of, OWU offers several intramural sports programs—soccer, basketball, turtleball, flag football and others.

Tall-Guy is running a turtleball team and needs the following positions filled: 1) first baseman, 2) pitcher and 3) left field.

Oh, a quick reminder to those of you grossly ignorant of sports knowledge:

Turtleball is a relatively new game (like lacrosse). The rules are very similar to baseball, but instead of using a wooden bat, you use a giant snapping turtle. Someone (who am I kidding? It's the pitcher) throws the baseball, and the "batter" swings his giant snapping turtle to try and hit the ball as far as possible and round the bases before either stopping or being tagged.

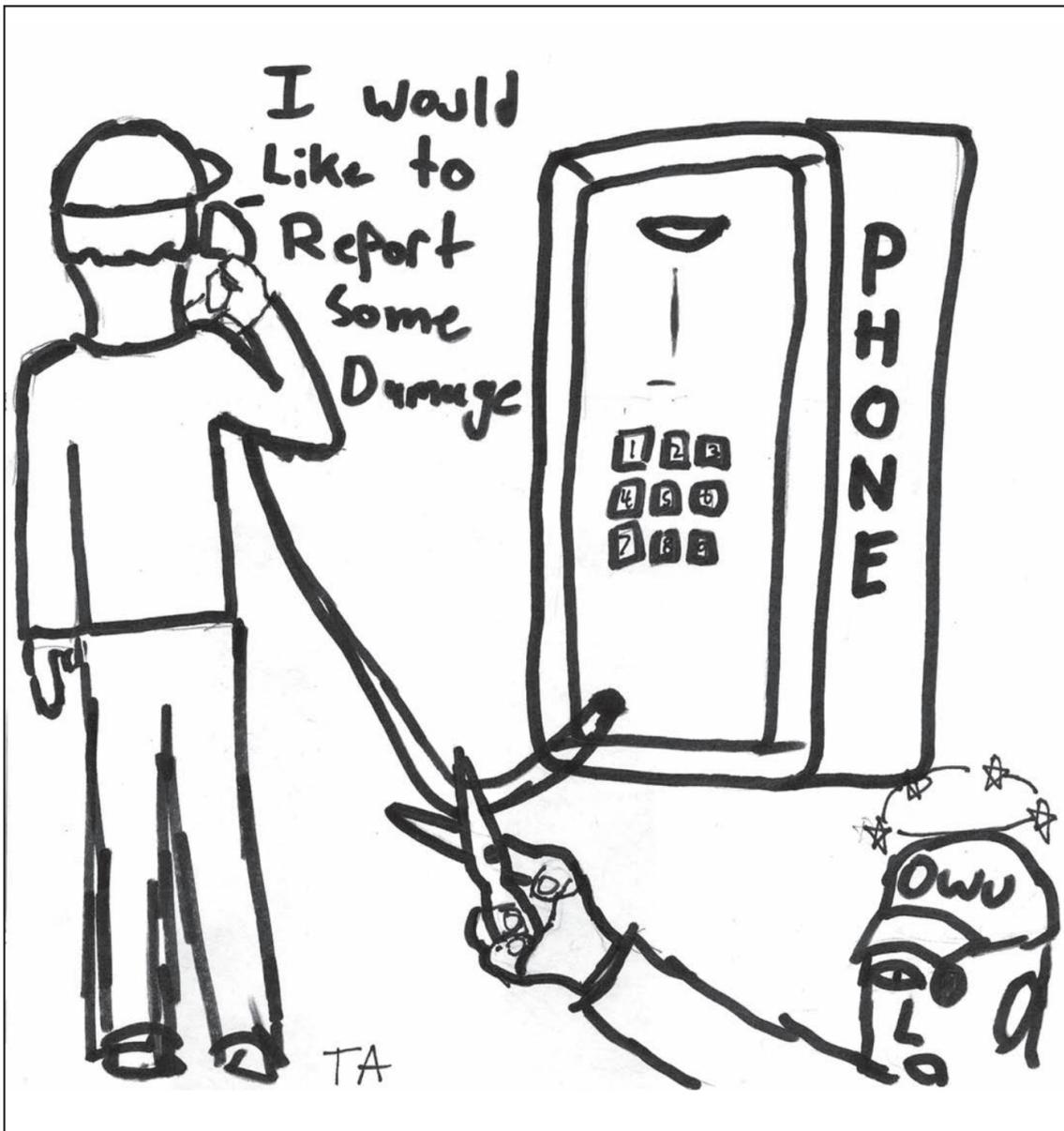
Tall-Guy runs a mean racket, so be prepared for two practices a day, a strict diet, no drugs or alcohol and a daily, belittling, profanity-laced tirade over the state of the economy and the Korean War. Also, before the season begins in April, Tall-Guy runs an intensive, one-month training camp out in the hills of North Carolina.

This camp is in the high 90s temperature-wise and fun-wise. Tall-Guy provides meals, and all camp participants provide their all, including a huge, surprisingly so, fee for attendance. Rumors are that Tall-Guy uses these monies to fund a better turtleball team, but I digress.

Anyone interested please write a letter to the editor to let me or Tall-Guy know. You may also set up a giant banner on the JayWalk (James A. Young Walk).

Please everyone, if we can be serious for a moment. Notre Dame University, which we all know and love, has invited "President" Obama to speak at this year's commencement ceremony and receive an honorary degree. I know, I know. He is an anti-life extremist on issues we all value. Issues such as: traditional marriage, not using stem cells to help people and abortion. The Cardinal Newman Society, a proud Catholic group, is leading the valiant charge against this travesty. Please visit notredamescandal.com and add your name to a very important petition.

Lately, I've really been using Craigslist to solicit prostitutes. It's becoming problematic. Firstly: what is Craigslist? Wikipedia defines it as a centralized network of online communities, featuring free online classified advertisements -- with jobs, internships, housing, personals, erotic services, barter services, community, gigs, résumés and pets categories -- and forums on various topics. I was mostly joking about the prostitute thing, but supposedly that's becoming a real problem/opportunity for the police/men.



## Stimulated economies come from stimulated cooperation

**Alexandra Panait**  
Transcript Columnist

Europe's economic problem hinges on ideas and debate, with social and political problems from West to East. More than ever, various institutions' cardinal role is the struggle for regional influence, the reshuffling of income and financial domination -- all brought about by the shifting economic forces.

But the result is rather superficial, manifesting the same economic and power concentration in some Western European countries and Russia.

The fragile Eastern European countries are caught in the middle again, promised much and concretely lacking the basis for an adequate political structure and support from the EU leadership.

It's imperative to bridge social and political discrepancies among European countries (despite geopolitical differences) and to mobilize efforts for common banking and other economic reforms for revitalizing the credit sector. There appears to be no visionary solution to the current economic recession, but clear, unified reform is a lesson Europe will never learn.

While Ukraine is literally, economically and politically collapsing, high tension with neighboring countries such as

Russia and Romania leaves it even further paralyzed in nonsensical promises of Euro-Atlantic integration.

Despite an evident but unofficially recognized economic downturn and political crisis in its Parliament given unqualified politicians, Romania still continues as a significant regional player, sustaining of Ukraine's Western integration.

Simultaneously, the EU's narrow preoccupation with labels and infringement upon minority rights in Belarus reflect the humanitarian issues and political games meant to discredit and reduce artificial notions such as state, East-West divided development lines, mentality and culture.

Europe forgets the terrifying public control imposed on everyday life in Belarus and Moldova, the surging of Ukrainian prices up to 40 percent in a matter of months, driving people to despair because they do not have enough to eat.

At the same time, no one is paying attention to the Russian military deployment in Moldova and the tremendous opportunity for political shifts in the region.

Europe is now resigning itself to Merkel's declaration of abstract support for the Eastern European countries "in trouble," seen in terms of market potential for German and other Western European

exports. There is no mention of the slight drive of economies in Eastern and Central Europe clearly correlated to the recent financial infusion in Western banks and dominating most of the Eastern banking sector.

This trend, although aimed at putting the credit system into place, cannot be sustained in the long-run as it is fueled by billions of Euros, draining the European Central Bank.

While EU institutions are losing grip due to domestic economic problems and little coordination at the economic level, IMF is gaining relative political and economic position in the periphery of Europe worst hit the crisis.

Russia estimates a decline of 7.9 percent of its GNP, the equivalent of 50 percent decline in the overall incomes.

Announcements have been made by Vladimir Putin, stressing a deficit amounting to \$88 billion, analogous to 3,000 billion rubles.

In the stressful time of a widening economic gap between rich and poor, most notably in huge financial hubs such as Moscow, governments printing money comes as an unreasonable policy that could drive the inflation beyond the country's capabilities.

Russia is confronting a destabilizing devaluation of its domestic currency that plays a negative role in

its economy, given that the Russian economy was built in the post-Cold War period.

The banking system is based on the credit-generating sector, stimulating consumption, foreign investment and very little domestic production.

It is thus not only Russia that is confronting the paradox of fragile, even superficial economies of Eastern Europe that received little attention from the West-driven obsession with liberal ideas and abstractions.

Even after 20 years marking the European ideological division, there is this impetus in Western Europe not to look forward and reach outside the traditional boundaries of East-West and stereotypes.

Eastern Europe has forgotten the communism mentality as seen by the vitalized capitals, the Western-oriented youth and the "catching up" in an accelerating rhythm inconceivable in the Western Europe.

The time has come to look forward to a new era historically marked decades ago and actually stimulate cooperation in concrete forms and with support from Western politicians and society.

This crisis provides an opportunity for long-term rapprochement among divided European factions.

The EU leadership needs to seize the opportunity, rather than forget the past.

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- To practice professional journalism.

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# Arts & Entertainment

## Freshman Creates a Sunny World on New CD

C.D. Review

By Thomas Lawrence  
Transcript Reporter

Remember when your English teacher told you to "Write what you know about?" Freshman Ben Andrews took that advice to heart when writing his debut CD, the whimsical, light-hearted, pseudo-comedy record "I Am Ben Andrews."

The self-made album is at its grooviest (and more importantly funniest) when Andrews writes about situations and people he knows, but his lyrical ability falters a bit when he strays to other topics.

The problem with such personal topics dominating the album is when do the topics become impossible to relate to and therefore less funny?

The song "Sharif. A Love Affair" describes a good friend and teammate of Andrews. Here, Andrews is at his best, building a great melody and a catchy, simple chorus. The use of the drum machine is validated by the laugh-out-loud inducing bridge, but lyrically, it's hard to laugh since you have no idea who this Sharif kid is.

This wouldn't be a huge issue if more songs were easier

to relate to.

Two promising songs, "Chirp, Chirp and Tweedle Dee" and "Bop, Bop and Doo-dee Song," really just serve as musical filler with no plot and few laughs to be had.

The opener "Noodlin' Man" is more abrasive than humorous with its annoying, high cartoon voice.

Fortunately, "Noodlin' Man" is the only time Andrews' vocal delivery hurts the song. This isn't to say that he is a particularly gifted vocalist.

His voice does crack on occasion, but the sheer energy and varieties of vocal deliveries, ranging from his normal baritone to a sailor-like grovel to a hilarious caricature of English professor Dennis Prindle, makes for an enjoyable experience.

The lyrical style is very whimsical, with seemingly random ideas popping in and out of the songs.

This generally works well with the childlike melodies Andrews writes, but occasionally, the randomness becomes overwhelming and drowns a song like in the previously-mentioned "Chirp, Chirp and

Tweedle Dee."

Occasionally, Andrews develops an acute case of 'bridge-itis,' an affliction a friend of his named for times the lyrics of the bridge become hard to rhyme and make sense contextually.

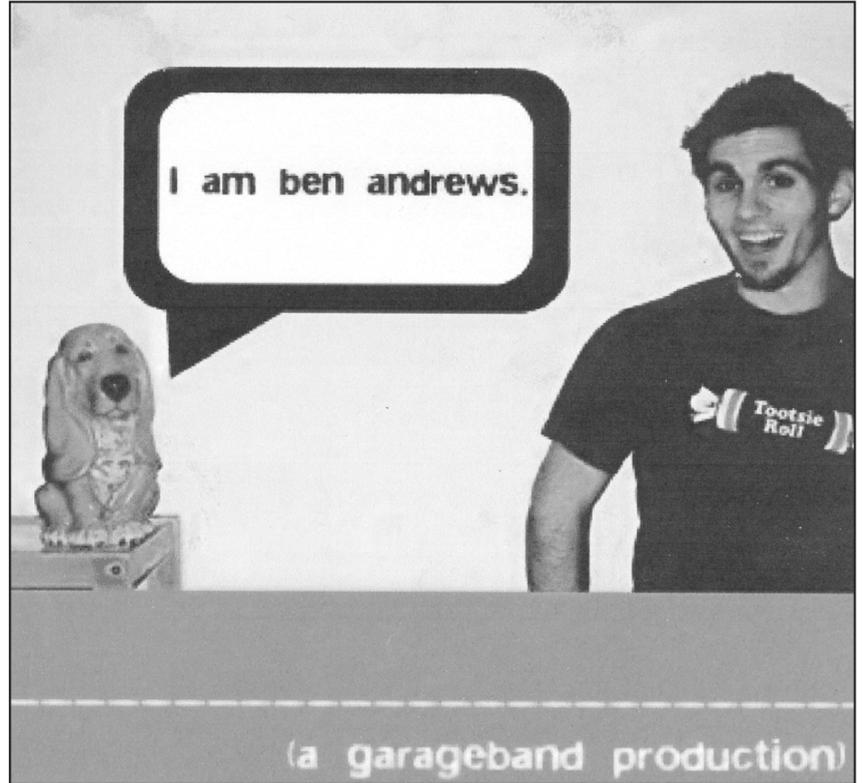
This problem pops in and out of the CD as about half the songs have bad bridges.

Andrews' strongest asset is his ability to write a clean, catchy chorus.

The melodies are simple and infectious; chances are, you'll be singing the chorus to "Alex...Clapp" out loud before the end of the song. Also, his lively guitar strumming and vocal delivery exudes enough positive energy for one to at least smile when listening to it.

That's what it's all about. What Andrews wants more than anything else, even more than making you laugh, is to make you smile.

He wants to put you in a good mood, lift you up from the troubles of your day and just make you feel better, and for the most part, he succeeds, creating a world that is brighter and happier than our everyday lives.



The CD cover for freshman Ben Andrews' self-made album, "I am ben andrews." Free copies were distributed last week in the Hamilton-William Campus Center. Andrews sings lighthearted and comedic songs about teammates and English professor Dennis Prindle, among other topics.

## Dirty South rap polluting the genre of hip-hop



I feel the need for a good rant.

We all have that ubiquitous build-up within ourselves every so often. It was at full tilt as I sat down to write this column. It's a safe assumption to make that I am not the biggest hip-hop fan. On iTunes, my library is, at most, one-tenth rap. But that is not to say I don't enjoy it. It is more a case of today's releases frequently leaving a bitter taste in my eardrums to mix a metaphor.

Why? I blame the emergence of rap from the "Dirty South."

In the '70s, the airwaves were punctuated by the sounds of Pink Floyd, Simon and Garfunkel, the Jackson 5 and the Bee Gees, among others.

At the end of the decade, new music was creeping out of New York City and Englewood, N.J. The Fatback band from New York, better known for the funk and disco releases, released "King Tim III (Personality Jock)" on their disco album "XIII."

Across the Hudson River, the Sugarhill Gang released "Rapper's Delight" a few weeks later.

While "King Tim III" was released several weeks before, "Rapper's Delight" was the first commercially successful hip hop song.

Grandmaster Flash & The Furious Five, Fab 5 Freddy, Afrika Bambaataa and more would follow into prominence.

Then Run-D.M.C exploded, introducing the next wave of artists.

Their music was percussive in root, with distinctive lyrical flows. Electronic dabbling and DJs displaying their scratching talents elaborated on their R&B origins.

Some artists were more musical, like Jurassic Five. With multiple MCs, their music is frequently like a spoken-word, barber shop-quartet.

The groups who emerged from the Native Tongues Posse (the most prominent being De

La Soul and A Tribe Called Quest) innovated jazz into their hip hop while continuing the good times lyrics of their genre's forefathers.

On the other side of the spectrum, groups such as N.W.A. and Public Enemy iterated the political injustices and social quagmires their angst-ridden members experienced on a daily basis. Ladies and gentlemen, this is the rap that I love.

But with the introduction of southern hip hop into the main stream, it brought new transitions to the genre which took it further away from its roots.

While groups like the Geto Boys were similar in style to their priors, many artists developed a sound revolving heavily around the bass in order to get the dance floor started.

The effect? Production values become a pandemonium, use of electronics are more common than any time since disco, and a guy named Jon gets to scream single or double syllable words in songs at the top of his lungs.

Worst of all, the trends infected the established East and West Coast scenes, creating an influx of generic aural toxicity that now serves as another chapter in the major record labels handbook, "Ways to Make Money in the Music Business With Minimal Talent."

Ok, so that was a little harsh.

There are definitely some very talented groups and artists recording music from the dirty south. But it's hard to argue against the fact that hip hop has sold at least a fragment of its soul.

OutKast has become one of the most famous groups in the history of rap, but they're of a select group, as is frequently the case with pioneers. Too many others put way little effort into their lyricism and could care less about innovation.

Would it kill anyone to step up, buck the trend and bring something consistently heartfelt to the table again, a la Tupac? A little poetic intelligence? Maybe a good verbal kick to the groin like Chuck D or Dr. Dre? Please? Because it sure as hell isn't going to come from me: I play the bass.

## 1. If you got the talent, we want it!

We all know that we have a very talented campus. We have singers, dancers, actors and actresses, artists, comedians .... You name it, we got it. Well, if you are one of those very talented people, it's your time to shine!

Alpha Phi, the theatre honorary, is hosting an Open Mic Night and Coffee Haus!

For those of us who like to sit in the audience and be entertained, this is going to be a great night. The coffee will be provided by Beehive Books, that cute little bookstore on Sandusky. And if you haven't been there yet, you need to go! I went last weekend and had an iced Almond Joy. Let me tell you now, it was so good! I was so mad when I finished! I might have to stop by today to get another one!!

People, you don't want to miss this! Saturday, Stuy Smoker, 7 p.m. Oh yea, \$3.



## 2. Get those lips nice and glossy!

And just to add even more excitement to the mix, SAGE will be hosting a Lipsync Contest. Yes, you read it right! Lipsyncing! Now I know I'm not the only one who used to dance in front of the mirror with my brush acting as if I had the voice of the Scary Spice, Britney Spears and TLC.

And no, you won't get stripped of all your dignity like Milli Vanilli back in 1989. This is legit fun!

Get a group of friends together, and go clown it up on stage! Support a great cause! It's only \$3 to get in, and the proceeds go to the Epilepsy Foundation of Central Ohio.

Tuesday, March 31, 6 p.m., Bishop Cafe

## 3. All you can eat!

This week's top3 is full of ways to give back! Get your last \$3 together, and go out to support the Relay for Life team. They will be hosting an Italian buffet. Yes, buffet!! All you can eat for just \$3? You can't beat that! And I can tell you now, it's going to be a lot better than that Ham-Will food! Get on it people!

Tomorrow, lunch hour, Benes B.



## SHADE'S TOP3

Never know what to do because "there's just too much going on" or "there's never anything going on"?

This weekly column will point you to the top three things to do at OWU and beyond the Delaware city limits, because we know how much you love to leave.

Entertainment doesn't even have to go beyond your bedroom limits, as future columns will also feature books and movies in this "Top3."

If you have any suggestions for what to include in next week's Top3 (maybe an event your organization is sponsoring or in which you're performing), shoot an email to owunews@owu.edu. w/subject: Top3

## BOOK OF THE WEEK

Outliers: The Story of Success by Malcom Gladwell.

Dive in as Gladwell explores the keys to success. Perfect read for college students!



# Bishops Sports

## Baseball getting in full swing

## Blog entry sparks five year debate



Photo by Stephanie Brill

Junior Matthew Struble winds up for the pitch against third-ranked Heidelberg in the team's home opener on March 18. The Bishops defeated the Student Princes by a score of 7-6 behind junior catcher Steve Ruygrok's two-run home run in the third inning. Freshman second baseman James DiBiasio and senior shortstop Logan Hronis both added two hits each. The win went to freshman lefthander Mason Farr. At the time of this writing, the Bishops are 8-8, with a conference record of 2-2 in the NCAC West. OWU was picked in the NCAC preseason polls to finish second in the conference. This past weekend, the team traveled to Indiana to take on Wabash in a double header on Saturday and then another double header on Sunday. On Saturday, the Bishops lost the first game 5-2 but defeated the Little Giants 12-7 in the second game. On Sunday, the same results happened. Wabash won the first game 2-1 and Ohio Wesleyan won the second game 6-4.

So far this season, both DiBiasio and sophomore outfielder Zach Frentsos are batting over .440, and Hronis leads the team with 12 RBI. Frentsos has two triples and four doubles, while Ruygrok leads in homers at two. The only player to start all 16 games has been freshman first baseman/pitcher Tim Knzovich. Farr has the best pitching record at 3-0, and sophomore Eric Livingston leads the team with 21 strikeouts. After games this week against Thomas More and John Carroll, the Bishops will travel to Case Reserve for a double header on Saturday. The first game starts at noon. They will return home for their fourth home game of the season on Sunday to take on Mount Union at 1 p.m.

The Battling Bishops will continue their season throughout the month of April and will enter into the NCAC tournament in the first week of May. The team looks to continue a winning tradition and will make OWU history if they are able to win their third consecutive conference championship in baseball.

THOUGHTS FROM THE THIRD ROW WITH DREW LENOX



The blogisphere was buzzing this week with Curt Schilling announcing his retirement. It is in no way sudden or surprising, but it will start the five-year debate about whether or not he should have a spot in Cooperstown.

The postseason stats are in his favor. He was on four different teams that went to the World Series, and he won three world championships.

He finished 11-2. This is the best win percentage of any pitcher with at least 10 games.

His postseason ERA, 2.23, is good as well, and many argue the Diamondbacks and the Red Sox would not have been champs without him on the mound. They all hail his arm and the glory of his bloody sock.

But, there are things that can work against Mr. Schilling. He only won 216 career games and had an ERA of 3.46.

Fans of Bert Blyleven would point out he had 287 and has not been elected yet.

In his 20-year career, Schilling never won a Cy Young and never won an ERA title.

Another thing going against Schilling is his attitude. Personal experience should not affect writers and voters, but it does, and Schilling has definitely made some enemies with his personality and his blog commentary.

If my calculations are correct, however, he might be up at the same time as Roger Clemens, Barry Bonds and Sammy Sosa. Some writers might just make a statement and vote in the "clean" Schilling to make a statement to the players they believe to have been dirty.

I would have to think and research more, but I think if I had a vote and voted today, I would have to say no.

## OWU Coach's Corner:

### Jon Whithaus keeping team on course

By Colin Magruder  
Transcript Reporter

Years at OWU: 12

Assistant Coach at OWU for two seasons. Is the fifth golf coach since 1948.

**Fall Season:** First place finishes at the Denison Fall Classic, the OWU Fall Intercollegiate and the Oberlin Fall Invitational

**Last Spring:** Finished 14th at the NCAA Division III tournament

**Hometown:** Findlay, Ohio

**Graduate of:** OWU in 1991

**Degree:** Economics Management

**Master's Degree:** Sports and Exercise Education at Ohio State in 1997

**Favorite Subject:** Monetary and Fiscal Policy with Dr. Simon

**Biggest Influence:** Former OWU Coach and Athletics Director Dr. Richard Gordin -- "Excellent influence in all parts of life."

**Favorite Golfer:** Tom



**Jon Whithaus**  
Coach: Golf

Watson

**Favorite Food:** Pizza

**OWU Playing Career:** 1988-1991 -- the teams he was a part of finished third, second and third in the Division III National Championships

**Playing Honors:** Three letters in golf; two-time All-NCAC honoree

**Favorite Brand of Clubs:** Ping Eye's

**Best Part of OWU:** The players on our team  
**Goals for the Team:** "For every guy to be prepared

enough to have a chance to win every day."

**Favorite Sports Teams:** Columbus Blue Jackets and the Detroit Red Wings

**NCAC Coach of the Year:** -2000 -2002 -2004 -2006 -2007 -2008

**NCAC Titles:** Seven of the last nine years

**NCAA Division III Tourney:** 2008, 14th; 2007, 3rd; 2006, tie for 6th; 2004, 7th; 2003, tie for 3rd; 2002, 7th; 1999, tie for 8th

**March Madness Pick:** Louisville

**Favorite TV Show:** Monk

**Best Vacation:** Jamaica

**Also Serves as:** -Instructor in the Physical Education Department -Director of the Central Ohio Golf Academy -Teaching professional at Oakhaven Golf Club -Committee Member for the Gordin Collegiate Classic

**Next Contest:** This weekend at the Camp Lejeune Invitational in North Carolina

## Bishops swinging towards Nationals

By Clay Davis  
Transcript Reporter

The Bishops golf team passed the first test in the fall when it snagged first place in the NCAC.

Now, they face the final round in the spring, and the team has not backed down on its goals for the rest of the way: lock up a trip to nationals and shoot for bringing home a title.

"I think that deep down, everyone wants a national championship," senior Kyle Martin said. "We are definitely one of the best teams in the country, and an ideal end result would be a championship."

In order to get an automatic bid, the Bishops must win the NCAC. So far, the team seems well on its way to accomplishing that.

"As a team, we played pretty well last fall," junior Jordan Benner said.

"We have a big lead in our cumulative league scoring race, so it is likely we will lock up our conference's automatic bid to nationals."

With big goals in site, the Bishops plan to work on their game and improve on their areas of weakness.

That is why complacency is not a word in the Bishops' dictionary.

"One issue that we had last year was a lack of consistency in our scoring from day to day, tournament to tournament,"

Martin said. "Now, we are sending our best five to tournaments every single week, and it is producing very consistent results. Although this consistency is fantastic, we still have some work to do if we want to compete on the bigger stages throughout the spring."

Junior Tommy Harman is confident in the current core group of guys and believes they can reach the next level at nationals.

"We feel very confident as a team," Harman said. "We have five All-American guys .... We definitely have the guys who can play. We are just taking it one tournament at a time."

The key, according to Harman, is patience. While it would be easy for the Bishops to look ahead towards nationals, their focus seems to be on the present.

Harman sees every tournament as vital.

"We tend to view every tournament as important," Harman said. "Our mindset is not to say 'to get back into the swing of things.' We have the expectation and capability to do well every tournament."

What may separate the current Bishops from past teams, or from other teams in the NCAC, is team chemistry. It may be the glue that holds the team together.

"Team chemistry is huge for us; this is honestly the closest team I have ever been a part

of," Benner said.

"We do a lot of things in the off-season to enhance our team chemistry, such as pickup basketball ... other simple things like eating together as a team, going out as a team and living together."

For the Bishops, it is a team sport, not an individual sport. That is something that Martin believes has worked in their favor.

"I think that it is a common misconception that golf is not a team sport," Martin said.

"At this level, the team must be cohesive to be successful .... If we are not all on the same page, and if we are not all sharing the same goals, we will not be successful."

Having fun while playing golf is an important factor for Harman.

"It is fun because we enjoy being around each other," Harman said. "If it was not that way, the game would be much harder."

Focusing on the process of the game, rather than getting caught up in the score, has been a winning strategy for the team, and they plan to continue to use it.

"We all recognize that we cannot be consumed with results," Martin said.

"In order to play our best, we need to give ourselves opportunities to be successful by following the process. We struggle when we only base success on results."