



THE TRANSCRIPT

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Perkins
Observatory
sees little
student use

By Hiroki Suzuki
Transcript Correspondent

Despite open access to the campus and community, Perkins Observatory sees little use from Ohio Wesleyan students.

Robert Harmon, professor of astronomy and physics, said he urges students to take advantage of the facility.

“Astronomy 110, 111 students and the Astronomy Club are pretty much the only OWU students who utilize the Perkins observatory,” Harmon said.

He said the facility is open to anyone interested in visiting it.

The telescope is one of the largest in the nation.

“One of the reasons I came to OWU is because I saw the 32 inch telescope,” Harmon said.

However, not many people get to see through the telescope before graduating.

Sophomore Meredith Merklin said she thinks the telescope is a valuable asset to campus.

“I haven’t been there, but I feel like it’s one of the places that every student on campus should hit at least once during their academic year,” Merklin said.

“I would go if I had the chance.”

There are no prerequisites for using the telescope and it is easily within access for those who are curious.

Freshman Elizabeth Parker saw the Orion Nebula and Saturn through the telescope at Perkins Observatory.

She said the experience was exciting and it was also her first time seeing something she had always taken for granted.

One drawback of the observatory is the telescope can’t be put to its full use during cloudy nights.

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Students ‘Take Back the Night:’ Annual speak out calls for an end to sexual violence

By Solomon Ryan
& Rachel Ramey
Transcript Correspondent
& Editor-in-Chief

One woman out of every three will be sexually assaulted in her lifetime.

To break the silence and the stigma associated with sexual assault, and give students an opportunity to voice their personal experiences with sexual assault and abuse, the Women’s House sponsored Take Back the Night on April 6.

Take Back the Night is an open mic speak out for those with personal stories of sexual assaults and abuse.

Senior Gloria Clark, co-chair of the event, said WoHo has been holding this event for a couple of years.

“It’s probably the biggest event the Women’s House has,” Clark said.

The event, held in Bishop Café, opened with some statistics about sexual assault.

For example, one percent of people lie about being raped; men can also be raped and even if the sexual assault is unsuccessfully attempted, the victim can still suffer from after effects that include depression and lack of sleep.

After the factual presentations, the floor was opened up to anyone who wanted to talk about being a victim or being a friend of a victim of sexual assault.

Due to the safe space of the sexual assault speak out, none of the victims will be named or quoted.

Women were not the only ones to speak at the event, and all people were invited to share their stories.

After hearing many ac-



Photos by Rachel Ramey

Two of the many t-shirts hung along the JayWalk, as part of WoHo’s annual Clothesline Project to make issues surrounding rape and sexual assault visible to the campus. The project was held in conjunction with Take Back the Night.

counts of sexual assault, a spokesman from “Walk a mile in her shoes” not only promoted the event he was sponsoring, but gave some advice to the listeners.

“It is important to believe them [the sexual assault victims],” he said.

“Walk a mile in her shoes” will be on April 16.

Men will walk one mile in high heels in a show of solidarity and support for survivors of sexual assault and violence.

The event, an “International men’s march to stop rape, sexual assault and gender violence,” is having its 10th anniversary, according to the organization’s website.

Men gather to raise awareness and also funds for “local rape crisis services and do-

mestic violence shelters,” according to their website.

All proceeds from the Delaware aware march will go to the Delaware County Protection Services.

The next speaker was Hazel, a nurse from the Grady Memorial Hospital in Delaware, who has specialized in sexual assaults at their emergency room for four years.

She said one of the most important things to do if someone tells you about being assaulted is to encourage that person to come forward and report the incident to the proper authorities.

His or her report might be the only way to save another person from being a victim, according to Hazel.

Following the speeches,

students were given candles to march across campus. As they held their candles and walked from Hamilton Williams Campus Center to the Peace and Justice House, the students chanted phrases into the night in an extension of “taking back the night.”

Some of the shouted sentences were, “Many voices breaking silence, demand an end to sexual violence; one in three, too much for me; these streets are ours, take back the night.”

During the procession, paper bags holding lit candles lined the streets and members of some fraternity houses stood outside holding candles to support the march.

March leader, junior Misa Farslow, said she was glad she

participated in the event.

“As a member of the Women’s House, I was proud of what we did,” Farslow said.

In conjunction with Take Back the Night, WoHo organized their annual Clothesline Project.

A national campaign, the Clothesline Project was started in 1990 to, “address the issue of violence against women,” according to the organization’s website.

On March 31, students decorated t-shirts with words, phrases and pictures to show their feelings about sexual assault and violence.

The shirts were hung from clothespins in front of Ham-Wil and along the length of the JayWalk; the Clothesline Project shirts remain on display.

Social pressures increase suicide rates on college campuses

By Michelle
Rotuno-Johnson
Managing Editor

Suicide on college campuses is often linked to factors of race, gender, sexual orientation and psychological state.

The suicide of Rutgers University freshman Tyler Clementi on September 22, 2010, sparked a nationwide discussion on the prevalence of anti-gay bullying and the importance of suicide prevention practices. Clementi was one of five gay teenagers who committed suicide that month. Their tragic acts left a nation wondering why.

Campaigns such as The Trevor Project Lifeline and It Gets Better are dedicated to saving the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) youth. But LGBT teens and young adults aren’t the only ones who are at risk for suicide. Many things factor into depression and suicidal thoughts, particularly on college campuses.

The U.S. Department of Education reported there were 4,861 colleges and universities with 18,248,128 students in the United States in 2007. More students arrive on campuses yearly.

But a small number -- about one student for every college or university in America -- will commit suicide over a

four-year period.

According to a 2010 study conducted by the University of Maryland, suicide is the second leading cause of death among college students (automotive accidents are the leading cause). Approximately 1,100 student suicides occur every year.

A 2008 survey by the American Psychological Association in Boston showed more than half of college students had considered suicide at some point in their lives, and 5 percent had attempted it.

“Relief from emotional or physical pain” was the top reason students gave for suicidal thinking, followed by problems with romantic relationships. An overall desire to end their lives was next, and then problems with school or academics. The study estimated that at an average college with 18,000 undergraduate students, 1,080 of them would seriously contemplate taking their lives in any year.

However, the University of Maryland’s study shows a link between suicide and a person’s race, gender or sexual orientation. The study group tested 1,253 college students throughout their years at a large, public mid-Atlantic university. Students were categorized based on race, gender, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation and psychosocial

risk factors such as alcohol usage and family history of depression.

Over four years, these students were studied and asked annually about any suicidal ideations or behaviors. The first year, 1,085 students responded. The results are below:

During the first year of this study, 14 percent of students said they had either thought of committing suicide, had persistently thought of committing suicide or had planned/attempted committing suicide. Of this 14 percent, 73 percent were females, 28 percent were non-white and 18 percent were non-heterosexual.

Compared to those students who said they had no thoughts of suicide (women at 51 percent, non-whites at 25 percent and non-heterosexuals at 6 percent), it seems as if gender, race and sexual orientation play a part in an individual’s suicidal tendencies.

But there’s more to suicide risk than race or gender. An assessment published by the Journal of American College Health in 2008 reported there are many psychological factors that have to do with suicide. Some are developed while in college, but others were present before the student began school. Students can experience low self-esteem, school-related stress, de-

pression, loneliness, financial concerns and trouble adjusting to college life. All can contribute to a state of depression or suicidal tendencies.

Of course, colleges and universities are required to provide help for students in need. The International Association of Counseling Services (ICACS) set the standards for mental health services. The ICACS recommends that to keep students safe and healthy, a college campus should have a minimum of one therapist for every 1,000 to 1,500 students. When a school falls significantly short of that, and many colleges do, the waitlists for students seeking help can stretch to a month or more.

Students who can’t get help are more likely to drop out than those who get timely counseling. But they are also more likely to have worse depressive or suicidal symptoms.

Also, when there is a shortage of counselors, students who have less serious problems often get left behind.

“Students in crisis tend to get the greater share of limited resources, resulting in less assistance to other students who are not so acute, but who are dealing with more traditional adjustment and developmental disorders,” an ICACS position paper reports. “These students may fall through the cracks.”

NPR reported a national

trend in counselor shortages in 2009, saying the number of students seeking psychiatric help is on the rise.

Ohio Wesleyan University (OWU) experienced a shortage of counselors in the fall of 2010. There was almost a month-long waiting list, according to an article in The Transcript student newspaper.

Ohio Wesleyan has approximately 1,800 students enrolled, and a counseling staff of three full-time professionals.

Sarah (name changed) is a student at OWU who said she is hesitant to schedule an appointment because she feels as if she will not be a priority.

“I’m in no danger of killing myself,” she said. “I’m not depressed; I’m not going through family issues. I mean, I have before, but not now. I just get stressed out sometimes and need someone to talk to.”

Sarah identifies as a lesbian, and said she knows many LGBT friends who have gone to Counseling Services at school. She said her stress is not related to her sexual orientation.

“I think gay people just have more to deal with,” she said. “People don’t know how to address our relationship problems or our image issues.”

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Increased rates of depression affect college students

By Katie Carlin
Transcript Correspondent

Depression among college students is on the rise due to increased stress and an over reliance on social media outlets.

Depression is defined as a mental state characterized by a pessimistic sense of inadequacy and a despondent lack of activity.

According to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders IV, a manual used to diagnose mental disorders, depression occurs when a person has at least five of the following nine symptoms at the same time: a depressed mood during most of the day, particularly in the morning; fatigue or loss of energy almost every day; feelings of worthlessness or guilt almost every day; impaired concentration, indecisiveness; insomnia or hypersomnia (excessive sleeping) almost every day; markedly diminished interest or pleasure in almost all activities nearly every day; recurring thoughts of death or suicide (not just fearing death); a sense of restlessness -- known as psychomotor agitation -- or being slowed down -- retardation; significant weight loss or gain (a change of more than 5 percent of body weight in a month).

The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) pays special attention to college students and mental illness.

The organization has reported there is an alarming increase of mental illnesses on college campuses; specifically, depression among students is on the rise. They believe 44 percent of American college students reported feeling various symptoms of depression.

Hara Marano, who prepared the report for a May newsletter published in association with Psychology Today said, "Mental illness is absolutely going off the charts on college campuses. College counseling centers used to be the backwaters of the mental health care system. Now they are the front line."

The New York Times released a story in January entitled, "Record Level of Stress Found in College Freshmen."

The article dissected national surveys conducted on emotional well-being in the United States. In the survey "The American Freshman: National Norms Fall 2010," involving more than 200,000 incoming full-time students at four-year colleges, the percentage of students rating themselves as "below average" in emotional health, rose.

Meanwhile, the percentage of students who said their emotional health was above average fell to 52 percent. It was 64 percent in 1985. The study reported that every year, women had a less positive view of their emotional health than men, and that gap has widened.

The New York Times reported campus counselors said the survey results are the latest evidence of what they see every day in their offices — students who are depressed, under stress and using psychiatric medication, prescribed even before they came to college.

Sophomore Emily Lundstroth, a psychology student at Ohio Wesleyan, has done extensive research on mental illnesses, specifically depression.

She said the causes of depression are very complex.

"It is very common that depression is caused by a combination of genetic, psychological and environmental factors are involved in the onset of clinical depression," Lundstroth said. "At times, however, depression occurs for no apparent reason. Regardless of the cause, depression is generally treatable."

Studies within the last several weeks have linked Facebook to depression.

Junior Mason Tice, a self proclaimed Facebook "junkie," said Facebook has not caused him depression but he can see how it could negatively affect people's emotions.

"If you did not have many friends and spent a lot of time

on Facebook, you may see status updates, pictures and wall posts of other more popular people and start to feel very depressed," Tice said.

According to WNCI Columbus, the average 18-24 female checks her Facebook, on average, 24 times a day. According to an online survey conducted at Ohio Wesleyan, 24 out of 30 (80 percent) of students said they check their Facebook on average between 12-15 times daily.

Tice said it is "complicated" because Facebook is a great way to communicate, but it also causes social anxiety and what he called "FOMO" or fear of missing out.

Facebook, along with other social media outlets, has been an outlet for cyber bullying, which can lead to serious emotional problems.

The widely publicized suicide of a 15-year-old Massachusetts girl last year occurred after she had been bullied and harassed in person and on Facebook.

In 2010, a higher percentage of college students reported being depressed compared to years past. According to a study done by MSNBC, 42 percent of college students reported being hopeless several days during the past two weeks, and 13 percent showed signs of being at risk for at least mild depression, based on the students' answers to a series of questions that medical practitioners use to diagnose depressive illness. Eighty-five percent of those surveyed reported feeling stressed in their daily lives in recent months, found the poll of 2,240 undergraduate students ages 18-24 at four-year colleges.

"There is no doubt that during college, students experience great amounts of stress," Lundstroth said. "As I have learned in my psychology courses, college is a tender age developmentally; it is a period when we [young adults] begin taking responsibility for our lives. We have to selecting our future professions and move towards financial independence, establish more serious

relationships and make future plans."

Junior Maddy Hargis said she has sought out professional help for depression both through OWU and through various specialists at home.

"Experiencing depression while enrolled in college is not easy," Hargis said. She said it is difficult to be away from her family and have to deal with emotional problems.

She said she couldn't estimate a percentage, but believes many of her peers have some varying degree of depression.

"Due to various factors including lifestyle, lack of structure, prevalence of drugs and alcohol, and amount of free time and new independence; it is not hard for college students to call into depression or depressive tendencies," Hargis said. "It does not help that you go back to a small lonely room at the end of the night when all of the days are so routine and the same. I do not have that family support, the constant love and all of the little things. I think some of the most depressed people on this campus, you would never know they are depressed."

Junior Emily Fitzgibbons said she has also experienced short-stints of depression but said she disagrees with Hargis.

"I think it is not necessarily the environment that causes depression; I think it is the stage of life you are in that causes depression," she said.

Fitzgibbons said college students are in a transitional stage where they are between adulthood and adolescence. She said she thinks it is, "very scary to not know our future, especially since there are a lot of economic pressures right now."

"Yes, college is a time for such growth, it is when you are figuring out who you are, but I feel like there is a strict time limit," Fitzgibbon said.

The immense amount of academic pressure combined with this need to grow up and figure things out can lead to depression and anxiety for a lot of students.

Chartwells and WCSA 'spice up' campus food

By Rachel Ramey
Editor-in-Chief

WCSA and Chartwells have coordinated to bring changes to the variety of food on campus, including coffee at Welch, clearer labels on vegetarian options and a de-emphasis on the burrito bar at Ham-Will.

Sophomore Carly Hallal, Class of 2013 Representative and Chair of the Residential Affairs Committee, said the food committee under Residential Affairs was created last year in response to student complaints.

"We worked to improve transparency between Chartwells and the students," she said. "Gene [Castelli, director of Dining Services] has been a huge help and really tries to make the students happy."

Hallal said her committee meets monthly with Castelli to discuss campus dining options and voice student opinions. She said changes under the committee have been labeling vegan and vegetarian options more clearly, bringing coffee to Welch, extending Thomson store hours, getting more variety in Thomson store and tackling the "burrito situation."

"All of these changes needed to happen," she said. "Recently, we tabled with Gene during the lunch hour in Ham-Will so that passing students could stop and directly tell Gene what's bothering them. This went really well and we are hoping to do it more in the future."

She said WCSA has had a lot of involvement in the changes to the food system.

"Our actions have made a significant impact on the student body," Hallal said.

Sophomore Anthony McGuire, Class of 2013 Representative and Campus Relations Committee Chair, said WCSA has tried to incorporate student opinions in the new changes through surveys and personal conversations.

"Gene has always been very supportive of student input and in fact encourages as much student feedback as possible," McGuire said. "WCSA served as a student mouthpiece and was able to effectively communicate to Chartwells the wishes of OWU students."

McGuire said the addition of coffee will be a better option for students.

"The coffee in Welch will definitely give everyone living nearby another outlet for caffeine that wasn't previously available," he said. "Especially at later hours of the night, this addition will help studious students power through the night, academically."

McGuire said the burritos will not be offered for the week of April 11, with a possibility of a de-emphasis on the burritos in the future.

He said based on the changes to Dining Services, Chartwells will be able to make further decisions regarding the burritos and all of their food in general.

Castelli said he has a reservation

about taking the burrito bar out of Ham-Will, but the WCSA committee pushed for taking it out and changing it.

"In the end, I am more than willing to see if that makes a majority of students happier," he said. "The old adage 'you can't please all the people all the time' is our daily challenge."

Castelli said Chartwells has always worked with WCSA to modify Dining Services.

"The current WCSA is by far the most actively involved and committed to improving the dining program, which is a wonderful thing," he said. "The current WCSA team led by Carly Hallal has a fantastic grasp of the reality of combining program changes with the checks and balances of how the economic side works."

Castelli said most changes to Dining Services occur after interactions with students.

"Our basic rule of thumb is if it makes sense from a standpoint of improving service and doesn't impact the financial model greatly, we'll do it," he said. "If it does impact the financial model, then we look to see what balancing we can do within the program to make it work."

Castelli also said he is excited about the level of cooperation between Chartwells and WCSA, and he hopes to continue building the relationship.

Junior Sharif Kronemer, president of WCSA, said WCSA was the driving force behind the food changes.

"WCSA collected the concerned comments and correspondingly, created a task force to address these concerns," he said. "Carly Hallal and the other members of her committee have been working very hard to meet with Chartwells and come to an agreement on how often burritos were offered at Ham-Will."

Kronemer said he thinks students will appreciate having burritos offered less in Ham-Will because it will allow for more variety.

Senior Sam Spiridellis said she hasn't eaten a Ham-Will burrito because she doesn't like burritos, but she said she appreciates the changes to the menu.

"From an outsider's perspective, [burritos every day] seem sort of boring and dull," she said. "That's cool that they're de-emphasizing them."

Spiradellis said she is excited about coffee being offered in Welch because it was previously offered during her freshman and sophomore years.

"I think that's awesome," she said. "It's not very convenient to walk to the library or UDF at night. It will be easier to stay on res side, be safe, comfy and get coffee."

Spiradellis also said the collaborative changes brought by WCSA and Chartwells show they are taking student opinion into consideration.

"It lessens the divide we have between the student body and the structural system," she said.



What do you think about next year's off-campus food point options?

"I've never been to Hamburger Inn but now that it's on my food plan I'm gonna try it."
-Anna Hoffman, '12



"I really wish they worked with Chipotle!"
-Ben Jedd, '12



"We have Hamburger Inn, right? It would be great if I had food points..."
-Brad Ingles, '14



"I was kind of hoping Chelley Belly would be on there. It's like Panera but better."
-Charlie Waldo, '13



"I think they're good choices."
-Jessee Swartz, '13



Bored with Facebook? Sick of Twitter?
www.owutranscript.com is much more fun!

PRIDE week celebrates campus diversity



Sophomores Ariel Hivley and Tessa Cannon performed a routine for the drag show in the Hamilton-Williams Campus Center on PRIDE’s Love Day April 6, as part of the club’s annual PRIDE Week.

By Emily Hostettler
Transcript Correspondent

Whether they dressed in drag or signed an ally pledge, Ohio Wesleyan students and faculty showcased their love and support for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, inter-sex, queer/questioning and ally (LGBTIQA) community during PRIDE Week.

PRIDE swept through the campus last week, April 4 to April 8, to raise awareness for LGBTIQA individuals and to collect money for The Trevor Project, an organization providing suicide prevention services to LGBTIQA youth, according to The Trevor Project’s website.

PRIDE Week is an annual event hosted by PRIDE (People Respecting Individual Diversity Everywhere).

Freshman Gabrielle Gayheart, PRIDE treasurer, said PRIDE week should be both educational and fun.

“The daily events were chosen to bring together the OWU community and celebrate diversity in gender and sexuality,” Gayheart said.

Freshman Anthony Peddle, vice president of PRIDE, said the daily activities were based on the letters of the LGBTIQA acronym.

Members of PRIDE began the week on April 5, by tabling in the Hamilton-Williams Campus Center for “Ally Appreciation Day.”

Students and faculty were encouraged to write down why they support LGBTIQA individuals in order to receive a free cookie.

Sophomore Tessa Cannon said she likes that PRIDE week allows the campus to become more involved

with PRIDE and realize what they do on campus.

“I think PRIDE week creates an atmosphere of acceptance and openness that is pretty rare,” Cannon said.

“Love Day” was held on April 6, and featured a drag show with students dressed in clothing of the opposite gender singing and dancing in front of a panel of judges that included Alexis Stevens, a local professional drag queen.

After watching multiple students strut around the Ham-Will atrium, Stevens showed off her dancing skills supplemented by crude humor that made the small crowd gathered on the couches cheer and giggle.

Sophomore Katie Pappenhagen said she enjoyed the drag show and likes supporting PRIDE whenever she can.



Photos by Emily Hostettler



(Above from left to right) Alexis Stevens, a local professional drag queen, Mery Kanashiro (‘10), Sue Pasters and Chaplain Powers served as judges. The judges provided American Idol-esque commentary on their performances and chose the best performance at the end of the event.

(Left) Alexis Stevens performs for students and faculty members to top off the enthusiasm showcased by participants in the Love Day drag show.

Holi festival welcomes spring to OWU

Bollywood-themed party provides students a chance to celebrate cultural festival

By Haneya Hasan
Transcript Correspondent

To officially welcome spring at OWU, Horizons International celebrated the first ever Holi Festival, which was followed by a Bollywood-themed party.

Holi is an Indian festival of colors which is celebrated at the onset of spring.

The traditional ritual is to wear white on a sunny day, have a color fight using powdered colors with your relatives and peers, dance to the beats of Indian music and eat traditional food.

On Friday, April 8, Horizons International in association with the WCSA organized a Holi celebration.

The evening was full of festivities. The Benes rooms were draped in colorful decorations.

There were numerous, diverse Indian-style dance performances, from classical and contemporary to hip hop. Af-

ter the dance performances, a dinner was served to the event attendees.

The dinner menu had traditional Indian food which comprised of peas and potato curry, pita bread, samosas with mint sauce, cheese curry and Basmati rice.

For dessert, gulab jamun – sweet tasting balls made of

said, “I am glad to see that the OWU community is celebrating Holi with us.”

She said she was impressed by the massive turn out at the occasion.

“The purpose of this event was to give the OWU community a glimpse of this colorful Indian festival,” Shah said.

Freshman Aara Ramesh,

“Holi is a big deal in India, it is more of a cultural festival than a religious one,” freshman Aara Ramesh said.

sugar and dried milk -- were served.

The long, never-ending line for food reflected the eagerness of the students to have Indian food.

Chaplain Powers said he was pleased to see the dance performances and have the delicious Indian food.

Senior Yashika Shah, one of the organizers of the event

who is from India, said this was her first Holi away from home and she was delighted to celebrate it here with her friends.

“Holi is a big deal in India, it is more of a cultural festival than a religious one,” Ramesh said.

To go with the vibrant theme of Holi, the paper plates and paper cups used at the

event were also colorful.

“Back home, we go outside and throw powdered color at each other to the point everyone and everything around us is completely colorful,” Ramesh said.

Senior Maisha Rashid, treasurer of Horizons International, said she was glad to participate in organizing the festival.

She is from Bangladesh and she said she had only heard about Holi from her Indian friends, but was excited to actually celebrate it because it gave her a chance to share in their cultural traditions.

Junior Meghan Finneran said, out of the entire evening, she enjoyed the dance performances the most because they were interesting to watch.

The Holi festival was followed by a Bollywood-themed party with DJ Aavi, from Ohio State University, where students danced the night away under the strobe lights decorating the Benes Room.

Students volley for American Red Cross

By Michael Yontz
Transcript Correspondent

Delta Tau Delta will hold their annual Beach Bash event this Saturday, April 16, raising money for their national philanthropy, the American Red Cross.

The brothers are selling raffle tickets for gift cards to Delaware restaurants and will also be holding a beach volleyball tournament to help raise money.

The tournament is being held on the sand volleyball court next to the Delt house and will be accompanied by a cookout next to the court.

Sophomore Pablo Villa, Delt’s philanthropy chair, said he hopes the event does well.

“Hopefully the event is a success,” Villa said. “Each team that wants to play has to pay a 40 dollar entry fee, and must have a minimum of six players.

“That should give us a good amount of money for our phi-

lanthropy, but hopefully the raffle ticket sales will also generate a lot of revenue.”

The Beach volleyball tournament will start at noon on Saturday, bringing some entertainment in for the people at the cookout.

Sophomore Will Cohn said he hopes he can get a team together to play in the tournament.

“I played varsity men’s volleyball all four years of high school,” Cohn said. “I really would like to get a team together because I really think we can win.

“I am a Delt brother as well, so I don’t know if I will be able to field a team or not, we may be too busy with the event. Hopefully I get a chance to play.”

Other groups around campus, including Delta Gamma, are forming teams for the event.

Sophomore Michaela Kim, a DG sister, said she is hoping to extend their winning streak.

SUICIDE, continued from Page 1

Senior Jae Blackmon said she has not sought help from Counseling Services.

She said she would rather talk to people close to her to relieve stress or solve problems.

Blackmon is African-American, and said there are issues minority students have to deal with that other people may not have to deal with.

“OWU is empowering, but at the same time it knocks you back,” she said. “It has been

challenging in some classes because I’m the only black person.”

She said she can understand why females, minority groups and LGBT youth struggle with depression and suicide.

At Ohio Wesleyan, the most recent suicide was in 2009. A freshman student, Vincent Alozie, committed suicide in his dorm room on the first weekend of the fall semester. The Delaware County Coroner ruled acute depression and other pre-existing factors were the cause of Alozie’s suicide.

The small campus has less of a risk than larger schools

for student suicides. Before Alozie’s death, the most recent suicide was in 1996 when sophomore Wendy Sunderlin killed herself at her parents’ home. Still, the school struggles with finding students the help they need.

Many student organizations at Ohio Wesleyan and beyond reach out to minority groups and classmates in need. Still others, such as Active Minds, focus specifically on suicide awareness and mental health.

As the need for professional help grows, perhaps student groups will see a boost in membership from those who

are not able to get the counseling they require. Or maybe resources such as The Trevor Project and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline will feel a greater pull.

And as the landscape of America changes, perhaps college campuses and their methods of helping students will as well. Minority groups are growing, and those at a greater risk for suicide are entering colleges in larger numbers.

Colleges and universities must reflect this change, or the number of students who die by suicide may increase dramatically in the next several years.

PERKINS, continued from Page 1

However, there are still many activities at the Perkins Observatory for cloudy nights, such as the exhibition, browsing the library, using the observatory computers and checking out the gift shop.

Another issue for students is the distance of the observatory.

“The road can be rough if you don’t have a car,” Harmon said.

The Perkins program always consists of orientation, a

safety talk, astronomy lectures and a tour of the observatory. Additionally, the program may consist of observing sessions through the telescope and rocket launches during the day time.

Perkins Observatory was funded by Hiram Mills Perkins, professor of mathematics and astronomy at OWU prior to the Civil War. Work on the observatory began in 1923 and the building has been connected with OWU since, according to the observatory’s website.

For more information on when to visit, go to the Perkins Observatory homepage.

Feeling the effects of overcrowding?

An overview of population growth in Delaware

By Mary Slebodnik
Transcript Correspondent

Gov. John Kasich's lament during his March 8 State of the State Address on the exodus of Ohio's youngest and brightest adults to other states did not apply to Delaware county.

The 2010 census showed Delaware County increased its population from 2000 to 2009 by 53.4 percent, making it the 20th fastest growing county in the nation. The county's 54 percent growth is a staggering number compared to the next highest county, Warren, at 34.3 percent. Union comes in third at 27.8 percent, and after that, the numbers drop-off quickly. Seventy counties either had negative, or single-digit growth percentages.

Forbes Magazine ranked Delaware county number two of 10 on its list of places for young people to "get ahead." It based the ranking on income increases (10.5 percent) and employment growth (2.2 percent) for the county between 2008 and 2009.

The article called the area a suburb of Columbus. It said moving here could seem like a sacrifice to up-and-coming professionals, but the move could result in better success than flocking to New York City or Los Angeles.

A bold claim, but the thousands of people who have moved to Delaware county in the last 10 years either love failure, or truly believe living in this county will help them succeed.

Growth has divided the county into three distinct regions. The newcomers stay close to Columbus. A few venture to Delaware city in the county's mid-section. The rural, sparsely populated northern townships provide a reminder of how the southern townships looked 30 years ago. They remain intact—little has changed in them except better roads and closer proximity to expanding urban communities like Lewis Center and Powell.

Powell
Carolyn Guercio-Wisler and her husband, Steve Wisler, have lived in Powell city since 2001, when they ditched their plans to build a house in the country in the Buckeye Valley school district. The reasoning? Olentangy local schools and proximity to

Columbus.

Guercio-Wisler and her husband both work in Franklin county and pledge to immerse themselves in the city when their sons grow up and leave home. She took U.S. Route 23 to Columbus on a regular basis when she lived in Delaware but increased traffic, partly as a result of population growth, made living 30 minutes from Columbus inconvenient.

"We drove to Columbus for fun," Guercio-Wisler said. "It was nothing for us to drive a half an hour to go to dinner."

She has two sons who influenced her decision to seek a school system with a stand-out record like Olentangy's. Olentangy has the second-highest Performance Index of all school districts in Central Ohio, and 98 percent of its graduates attend college.

Her oldest son, Ethan, 16, has Asperger's Syndrome, and while he excels in math, Guercio-Wisler said she was thankful for the school's responsiveness to his needs. Alex, 9, benefits because math is not his best subject, but the school's strong curriculum helps him compete.

Property values in the Olentangy district increased after the county population boom began in 1990. The strong tax base provided by Powell residents supports the school district, which in turn attracts more high-income earners to Powell. As of 2000, the median income for Powell families was \$115,904. That same year, the median income for Delaware city families was only \$46,030.

The number of families flocking to Powell, which increased its population by 84.09 percent since 2000 to give it a total of 11,500 people, have put a strain on the school system. They have had to construct new buildings, hire more teachers and convince the tax base to fund it.

"Schools are number one, but they're the number one worry," she said.

The case of the Olentangy school district reflects the double-edged sword population growth wields over the communities of southern Delaware county. Dave Betz, Powell director of development said residents moving to suburban areas from the city expect more government services than rural citizens.

Services include maintaining the police department, sidewalks, park and roadways. The family-oriented interests of Powell residents also require recreational programming, like summer festivals.

Betz said the revenue new residents bring in the form of income taxes (Powell's rate is .75 percent) should, in theory, pay for maintaining the city's infrastructure and planning new projects. In reality, it can be difficult to make sure the revenue gained will provide for the needed expenditures.

Delaware city has tried to solve the problem by requiring people building new houses to pay "impact fees" totaling up to \$12,000. The money funds services and infrastructure upkeep inflicted by population growth demands.

Powell has no formal impact fees. The city draws from the building permit fees already in place. The city council has discussed impact fees over the years, but, so far, have declined to implement them.

"About 80 percent of our general income is due to income tax," Betz said.

Powell's .75 percent income tax is low in comparison to New Albany, a Licking County community of a similar size and upper-class demographic as Powell. New Albany's income tax rate is 2 percent, and Delaware's is 1.85 percent.

Betz said the term "bedroom community" would describe Powell, which means the majority of residents sleep in Powell, but do not work in Powell. These residents have a possible .25 percent income tax credit.

Property taxes pay for the schools, and income taxes provide for city services. Wisler said property taxes ask large sums from Powell residents. She said this guaranteed anyone who owns a house in Powell has to be at least middle class.

"Nobody's poor," she said.

Powell's poverty rate ranks far below Delaware city. A comparison of the number of free lunches given out in elementary schools reveals the overwhelming economic prosperity of families in Powell. The highest number of free and reduced lunches in Delaware



Delaware's east side shopping center developed as a direct result of population expansion. It includes Meijer, opened in 2009.

Photo by Mary Slebodnik

city are given at Woodward Elementary (74.51 percent of students) and Conger Elementary (49.51 percent).

The highest number of free and reduced lunches given in Powell? Scioto Ridge, 6.7 percent, and Liberty Tree, 4.33 percent.

Kevin Crowley, executive director of People in Need, said working and lower-middle class families feel Powell's draw, too, but can't always sustain themselves in the high-cost environment.

"They [risk] everything," he said. "The mortgage rates are astronomical."

Wisler said if a low-income family wanted to move to Powell, they could avoid paying property taxes by renting housing and taking advantage of

available government programs to meet their needs.

While Crowley expressed uncertainty over how comfortable an impoverished child would be while surrounded by richer classmates, Wisler said status symbols played less of a role than she expected when she first moved in.

Competition between kids to have brand name clothing exists, but Wisler said kids are kids. They outgrow clothes, and when she volunteers at the library once a week, she sees they have holes in the knees of their pants.

"We've been pleasantly surprised," she said.

Delaware City

Frances O'Flaherty grew up in Delaware city, and after liv-

ing in New Mexico for a few years, returned here to raise a family. She said although it has grown, Delaware has kept its "small town flavor." A remarkable achievement for a city that grew by 9,510 people in the last decade.

Delaware increased by 37.67 percent, bringing its 2010 population to 34,753. It has provided a marriage point for the rural northern third of the county and the up-and-coming, urbanized southern third of the county, which is home to Powell, Lewis Center and parts of Dublin, Westerville and Columbus.

Frances's husband, Pete, works as a police dispatcher for the city. He said despite the population growth and the city of Delaware's urban qualities, for the past week there has liter-

ally been "a cow on the loose" in the area. The rural character of Delaware city has not completely been extinguished.

City Manager Tom Homan said Marion, a city home to Marion County's government and of comparable size and make-up to Delaware city, grew by 4.3 percent since the last census. He said while Delaware city has grown far less rapidly than Powell, it still challenges city and county officials to provide services.

Frances, a member of the Delaware City School board said growth has put pressure on the district to expand and get creative with existing funding. The state has cut Delaware City's funding by 24 percent with the new budget. It now takes taxes from nine houses to

pay for one student.

Delaware city differs from Powell in two important respects. It has been a large city longer, which means it has a larger base of people who have lived here for generations. Second, it has a more diverse range of people living in the city.

According to 2000 census data, two-thirds of Powell's adult population held bachelor's degrees or higher. Conversely, the majority of Delaware city adults held a high school diploma or attended college and did not graduate.

O'Flaherty said while the Powell community is pretty homogenous in terms of socioeconomic status, the Delaware community's different demographics can be outlined according to its elementary

schools. Woodward Elementary educates the poorest students in Delaware on Liberty Street, with its free and reduced lunch rate of 74.51 percent. Carlisle and Schultz, located in the western portion of the city where most of the new housing is located, have rates of 32.81 and 38.57 percent respectively.

O'Flaherty's husband, Pete, commented, "Take Delaware and remove the bottom socioeconomic level, and you can have Powell."

She said the bedroom community trend has isolated new residents from the city. O'Flaherty teaches science at Utica High School in Licking County, but works on Delaware School Board to stay active in the community. She said moving into one of the new housing

developments on the edge of town and simply sleeping here without involving yourself in the community any other way leaves you unconnected to the city.

"That's not the same as living here," she said.

Benefits Versus Challenges

Comstock said the county survives on sales tax. Therefore, the migration of high-earning families to Delaware county benefits infrastructure and services in the county as a whole.

Just as a stronger tax base for property taxes and income taxes mean more money for schools and city services, more disposable income to generate sales tax means better roads and the possibility of building a new water plant.

High-levels of disposable income make it easier to attract businesses to move to Delaware County.

Since the population boom began in 1990, visible changes to Delaware County besides the housing developments include the construction of the shopping center on the east side of Delaware city, the re-formatting of the U.S. Route 36/37 interchange and the building of a new fire station. The next target for remodeling near the city is the U.S. Route 37 and I-71 interchange.

Visible changes in Powell include sheer expansion, new parks like Adventure Park, the building of Giant Eagle and the building of new schools, as well as numerous walkways and work on the bike path system.

Communities that do not experience drastic change from year to year have few decisions to make. If a city doesn't need a new stoplight, the council doesn't have to decide when to buy it and where to put it.

Delaware has had to decide which businesses to allow to build in Delaware and where, along with traffic pattern decisions. Powell has had to make those same decisions, and many more.

City officials, citizens and Liberty township officials all have to keep each other reasonably happy.

For example, at a city council meeting on September 17, 2002, the council discussed where the developers of Golf Village should install trees and fencing along Sawmill Parkway. The original agreement said the fence would be installed 39 feet from the curb. The developer wanted to pull it closer for a "warmer, more aesthetically pleasing appearance."

Liberty Township said the developer could pull the trees closer, but wanted the fence to remain at 39 feet. Council members preferred moving the fence closer, but ultimately decided to avoid prolonging the decision by entering into dialogue.

Fences, signs, neighborhood association rules and businesses present Powell citizens with difficult decisions, which Powell residents debate thoroughly, down to the last aesthetically-pleasing detail. Wisler said Wal-Mart and Kroger have not built stores in Powell because of re-

sistance from citizens. She said Powell residents are within easy driving distance to those stores already. Building more would waste resources and valuable space in the growing community. On top of that, those stores are not aesthetically pleasing.

Wisler laughs about the rules that emphasize aesthetics and uniformity in her neighborhood, Golf Village. She found out the hard way she cannot place potted plants in her front yard.

Her son, Alex, wants a basketball hoop, but she has to install a hoop of a certain height and cannot use a rolling basketball hoop instead. Residents have a pet limit, two dogs and two cats.

"They don't want RVs, they don't want boats, they don't want cars on blocks," she said.

The list of requirements is long. Violating them results in a letter and a fine from Golf Village Association. But so far, she said, if she ever cuts corners on rules for gardening, she has been able to appease her neighbors with cucumbers.

Overall, population growth brings revenue to the city and county, and all the benefits that go with it. Yet when an article states Delaware County is the 20th fastest growing county in the nation, it's important to remember that growth is not evenly distributed across the whole county. It isn't evenly distributed in Delaware city, either.

Crowley said the increase in upper-income citizens should not fool Delaware county residents into ignoring the high numbers of low-income citizens throughout the county.

He said it's important for the upper-class citizens coming into Delaware, and for citizens who have lived here a long time, to challenge their tendencies to flock together and instead build economically integrated neighborhoods.

"They just don't want to integrate in any way," he said.

The growth of Delaware county doesn't show signs of stopping yet, and citizens and public officials will have to continue to adapt to the wave of young professionals seeking success and families seeking friendly communities and good schools.

The trick will be to preserve those good qualities without allowing them to become exclusive.



Photos by Mary Slebodnik

Left: Adventure Park provides a place for the growing number of children in the city to play.

Middle: The city changed Delaware's Y-intersection as a result of increased traffic-flow.

Right: Olentangy Schools have felt the strain of population growth in recent years.



Opinion

Quote of the Week: “xxxxxx”
—xxxx, xxx

Letter to the Editor:

Academic advising at OWU is a two-way street

Last week’s “Transcript” contained an article that expressed dissatisfaction with the quality of academic advising that students receive at Ohio Wesleyan.

Perhaps the Office of Academic Advising needs to take additional steps to ensure consistency in the quality of academic advising as there are always new faculty and other staff members that come aboard. But there are also constructive steps students themselves can take to improve the situation. Allow me to outline a few of them here:

As the OWU Catalog states, students are ultimately responsible for their own academic program and for meeting degree requirements -- that approach is intentional and in line with OWU’s Statement of Aims. The idea is to create mature students who excel in intellect, leadership and character. Spoon-feeding and coddling students would not achieve that goal. As the name suggests, “advisors” advise, counsel and guide students. His or her advice is not binding; it is merely a recommendation. So, please do your homework and find out yourself what it takes to major in your discipline and to graduate within four years.

Not infrequently, advisees walk into an advisor’s office without an appointment. In the future, please make an appointment ahead of time to give the advisor time to look over your transcript and the degree requirements for your division and major(s). Sometimes there are questions involved that need to be investigated beforehand. If all students stopped by, called or emailed ahead of time, the quality of advising would probably markedly improve.

At other times, an advisee may have made an appointment, but shows up completely unprepared. That is not helpful either. It slows things down, and it can be frustrating to both sides. Please make an effort to become more knowledgeable about your degree requirements and come prepared with a list of four to six courses of your choice. Your advisor will then discuss with you the remaining competence and distribution requirements you need to fulfill to major and to graduate.

If you do everything right and are still not satisfied with the quality of academic advising you receive, take initiative and look for a new advisor. A new student is initially assigned an academic advisor, based on the student’s indicated area(s) of interest. Sometimes, however, a science advisor may not be available to a science student. Or, reversely, a student may decide that science is not for him/her after all. That should not be a problem during the freshmen year because students are expected to focus on their general university requirements.

If necessary, however, students should eventually replace their temporary academic advisor with someone who is knowledgeable about the major(s) they are pursuing. In fact, I myself urge all my advisees to switch to a new advisor once they have decided on a particular course of study. It is a no-brainer that someone in economics can mentor you better if economics is your primary major. S/he is also more competent to help you with job and graduate school applications. If there is an econ professor that you know and like, don’t be shy about asking if s/he is willing to take you on as an additional advisee. Most faculty members would be flattered to be considered and would happily consent.

Changing to a new advisor is an easy process. Pick up a change-of-advisor card at the Registrar’s Office in the basement of University Hall and fill it out. The card needs to be signed by your new advisor only, not by your old one. Then, drop it off at the Office of Academic Advising (UNIV 107) so that the change can be made. A thank-you note to your old advisor would be nice, but is not expected in this day and age.

Dr. Thomas K. Wolber
Modern Foreign Languages

Steps toward eco-consciousness



Green Scene
By John Romano
Guest Columnist

Consciousness- A lot comes to mind when thinking about this word. Whether it’s spiritual or intellectual consciousness, it can play a huge role in shaping how we interact with the world around us.

Last week in Green Scene we discussed the impacts and benefits of maximizing water conservation in the shower. And while the potential for water savings through this one activity alone are huge, there are also plenty of other ways that we all can conserve water throughout our daily routines that require little to no effort at all. Instead, they all merely require us to simply be conscious of our consumption patterns and habits.

It is estimated between 10 and 15 percent of the average American’s domestic water use is consumed through our bathroom’s sink each day. This accounts for the water used while performing basic personal hygiene activities like brushing our teeth, washing our hands and face, shaving and everything else in between.

The sad fact of the matter is a lot of us are extremely negligent when it comes

to water consumption, for reasons that we previously discussed a few weeks ago.

Consider the fact the many people actually leave the water running while they brush their teeth each day. Turning off the water while brushing is simply one of the easiest ways to save water, yet many of us still do it anyways.

Letting the faucet run while brushing your teeth, for three minutes in the morning and three minutes at night, wastes up to nine gallons of water each day. Considering it only really takes a few ounces of water to wet your toothbrush and rinse, the waste in this case is staggering.

In fact in most cases when you leave the faucet running while brushing, the waste rate can be upwards of 90 percent. Wasting 90 percent of anything else that we consume would be an outrageous thought to anyone, why should water be any different?

That goes for other activities in our daily routine like washing our hands and face and shaving. By turning the water off when you don’t need it, we could each save as much as 70 percent of our daily water use at the bathroom sink alone.

Changes like these, much like shortening showers, require little to no effort at all and can end up making a huge difference. And while these changes may seem like “no-brainers,” the fact of the matter is that water conservation is almost all about consciousness, and very few of us actu-

ally put these ideas into action.

Think about your daily routine. Your daily routine has been developed through years of repetition, performing the same simple tasks time after time until it became nearly automatic. By simply incorporating these water saving ideas and actions into our daily routine, we can all turn these actions into habits that will end up yielding huge positive results.

And while you may not think the water consumed through these daily activities could amount to much at all, the numbers tell a different story. By reducing our water consumption at the bathroom sink each day by a mere 5 gallons per day, Americans can collectively save over 1.5 billion gallons of water each day.

How much water *is* 1.5 billion gallons, you ask? Considering the U.S. Institute of Medicine recommends the average person should consume around 1.5 liters of water each day to remain healthy, this 1.5 billion gallons of water would be enough to provide nearly three days worth of ample drinking water for the entire population of the African continent, a staggering figure.

While the ideas for water conservation are incredibly simple, remember it all comes down to consciousness. If we let complacency overtake our diligence when it comes to our own personal water conservation, our consumption habits and routines will follow.

Foreign politics? Leave it to Bieber



Word Vomit
by Michelle "RJ" Rotuno-Johnson

I didn’t know that I could walk through fire...I didn’t know that I could feel the burn.

I’m in a Justin Bieber kind of mood lately. Maybe I practiced too much for my performance of “Baby” at Miss OWU. Or maybe it’s because the Canadian Invasion is all over my damn Twitter feed.

The Biebs is in Israel right now, being chased by the paparazzi, declining opportunities to meet with children from war zones and preparing for a concert. It’s all in a day’s work for JB, who has been railing against the paps online and updating his Twitter like mad. Apparently he’s hot stuff over there.

Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu also wanted a piece of that Canadian bacon. According to the prime minister’s office, Netanyahu and Bieber

had a meeting scheduled. However, it was canceled after Bieber refused to meet with children from southern Israel (an area of the country that is frequently bombed by Gaza militants). Bieber’s party denies such a meeting ever existed. Sounds like guilt to me.

Netanyahu has met with other famous stars, but Bieber may very well be the youngest...and the least experienced when it comes to the global stage. He hasn’t made any claims that he can see Russia from his backyard or anything, but if the prime minister hoped to get a deep and meaningful conversation about global politics with Bieber, he probably has another thing coming.

Who can forget Bieber’s controversial *Rolling Stone* interview from a few months ago? There were a few political gaffes woven in through that article.

When asked what party he would support if he were old enough to vote, Bieber didn’t know; “I’m not sure about the parties,” he said. “But whatever they have in Korea, that’s bad.”

He also doesn’t like America. Okay, it was a joke. Of course he does. But he certainly doesn’t want to be a citizen. “You guys are evil,” he remarked to *RS*. “Canada’s the best country in the world.”

What about war? Israel is pretty war-torn right now. But as a denizen of the

Great White North, our friend Bieber doesn’t believe in that.

“I don’t really agree with war either, necessarily. I think everyone should just get along. I don’t understand why people attack. What’s the point of killing people -- power? If no one cared about power, then no one would have wars. Canada doesn’t go around attacking people.”

Truer words were never spoken.

Of course, Bieber is only 17. If he were any other 17 year-old, he might be preparing for his senior year of high school or even his first year of college right now, instead of being wrapped up in foreign politics and mad photographers.

Even at OWU, which is a pretty socially-conscious university, we don’t all know every detail about what’s going on in the world or where we stand on certain issues. Bieber’s even younger than we are, so we can excuse him a few misguided words. But public figures seem to be held to a higher standard than the rest of us. Can we blame a 17 year-old for not knowing about politics? Maybe he just wanted a vacation, and didn’t want to discuss tough issues with the prime minister.

And who knows, maybe Mr. Netanyahu is just a fan of Justin and wanted to meet him face-to-face. I don’t want to picture the 61 year-old dancing to pop music, but you never know.

From the editor: bring back knowledge and apply it to the OWU community

By Rachel Ramey
Editor-in-Chief

Ohio Wesleyan has a long history of service, social activism and student involvement within the campus and Delaware community.

This past weekend, I went to the Reproductive Rights conference at Hampshire College in Massachusetts with eight other students. As far as conferences go, this one was top notch. Three of the many workshops I went to were on immigration, oppressing reproductive rights in prison and one on subverting the main-

stream media. There was also an abortion speak out to bridge the social stigma associated with the procedure.

I probably learned more last weekend than I have in some of my classes.

Awesome. Now I have all of this new knowledge, but what do I do with it? With only a few weeks left in the semester, I’d be hard-pressed to get signatures for a petition against shackling female inmates during labor (which, by the way, is illegal).

I also don’t think there’s time to bring students together for a panel discussion or lec-

ture on the repercussions of the federal funding changes to Planned Parenthood.

Does this mean I can’t really use anything I learn at the conferences I attend? Definitely not. Educational workshops and conferences are only as powerful as the people who attend them. The primary purpose of the conference was education and mobilization, but it can only be effective if participants bring back what they’ve learned.

The next time you drive 12 hours in a van to attend a conference, or even go to Columbus to hear a speaker, think

of ways to apply what you’ve learned.

It’s true that immediate actions of petitions, demonstrations and organized panels have direct correlations to newfound knowledge, but it’s also important to apply this in a broader sense. I can take something I learned at a conference and apply it to other activities and actions I’m a part of on campus.

The best social actions and social movements are those that are all-encompassing. The LGBT, immigration, reproductive and minority rights movements are all con-

nected. People say that there is strength in numbers, and this can be applied here.

Become a part of other initiatives on campus. Share your knowledge and insights with other organizations and it might help them develop a stronger program.

At conferences students feel energized, motivated and really excited to make some sort of change in the world. Sometimes though, these feelings of energy and excitement don’t return with the students to campus. They have class, work, friends and so many other things to occupy their

time.

There are many ways to apply your ideas. Even having a dialogue with friends, teammates or classmates about your ideas will help spread knowledge.

The important thing to remember is to bring back your knowledge and apply it to your life. No matter how small, or in what way you utilize your new ideas, don’t let them go to waste.

They say, “a mind is a terrible thing to waste.” I would say, that the educated mind of an activist would be the most terrible mind to waste.

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...To maintain an open forum for discussion of campus issues and other pertinent matters.

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Arts&Entertainment

Sigmas steal the show: NPHC Greeks step for a cause

By Alex Hooper
Transcript Correspondent

Three National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) step teams showed their skills at the 13th Annual Greek Classic Step Show, presented by the Student Union on Black Awareness (SUBA).

The show was held on Saturday, April 9, in Gray Chapel and raised money for the Black Student Retention Fund for students of color who struggle financially.

Sophomore Ray Perez said Step Show is one of the biggest events to raise money for the fund.

“Step Show does so much for the OWU community,” he said. “It allows the multicultural students and the students at OWU to become aware of and recognize the NPHC Greeks and the traditions of stepping, strolling and chanting.”

The NPHC is a collaborative organization of nine historically African-American, international, Greek-lettered fraternities and sororities. The NPHC organizations are col-



Above: Newcomer Mike Jagger opened the 13th Annual Greek Classic Step Show on Saturday, April 9, in Gray Chapel. He was followed by the main performance by rapper Twista, who delivered a medley of songs including “Overnight Celebrity” and “Slow Jams.”

Below (from left to right): Kappa Alpha Psi, Fraternity, Inc. stepped with their signature canes to show off how the “Pretty Boys Rock;” Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. won over the judges with their intensity and pride to their “House Party” routine; Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. performed a series of traditional synchronized steps.

Some of the steppers included Steven Brown (‘10) and senior Carleton Levert. (Not pictured).

lectively referred to as the Divine Nine.

Step Show included step performances from the men of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.

The show was opened by recording artist Mike Jagger and starred Grammy nominated rapper Twista.

Sophomore Brianna-Chelsea Meikle said she enjoyed Twista’s performance.

“When he sang his old songs the crowd got so excited,” she said. “When he sang ‘Wetter,’ I was so excited.

“It was one of my favorite songs last year. Twista coming to OWU made my birthday weekend complete.”

Meikle said she also en-

joyed the performances by the fraternities. The members of the fraternities rehearsed their routines for several weeks prior to the event.

The men of Phi Beta Sigma took first place in the step competition and the Kappa Alpha Psi and Omega Psi Phi men tied for second place.

“I was pulling for the Kappas to win,” Meikle said. “But the performances were all so good.

“I was impressed with Sigma’s performance and I wasn’t disappointed when they won.”

Sophomore Gene Sludge, president of SUBA, said the Step Show itself required months of planning and networking.

“It was hard for me being the new president this year,”



Photos by Paul Gruber

he said. “I didn’t realize all the preparation we had to do, contacting all the different artists, frats and organizing all the help.

“It was worth it, the Step Show turned out great.”

Perez said this year’s Step Show was more successful than last year.

“The people on the SUBA committee did a much better job this year,” he said. “We got a much better artist this year.

“I feel like he is much more well-known than last year’s. Also, we were able to have more frats perform this year.”

Perez also said he would like to see the entire Divine Nine perform next year.

Sludge said his main focus was more philanthropic.

“The main purpose of Step Show is to raise money for the retention fund,” he said. “As the new president, I’m still learning and it can only get better in the future.

“We put on the show in hopes that our fellow students enjoy the experience and get their money’s worth to support a good cause.”



Take me out to the ball game: Thetas raise money at KATS and Bats

By Amer Dadabhoy
Transcript Correspondent

The ladies of Kappa Alpha Theta (Theta) sorority organized a festive gathering on the Hill for an afternoon of whiffle ball at KATs and Bats.

The event is Theta’s annual spring philanthropy, which raises awareness and funds for CASA, Court Appointed Special Advocates.

Hotdogs, hamburgers, drinks and raffle tickets were sold as the friendly Greek-on-Greek competition began.

Music blasted from the Sigma Phi Epsilon house while the fraternities and sororities played against each other. At the end of the tournament, Delta Gamma sorority and Delta Tau Delta fraternity were the champions, receiving a golden baseball bat as a prize.

Sophomore Clint Saunders said he enjoyed himself at KATs and Bats, even though his team didn’t win.

“I was disappointed not to win because it did get competitive,” he said. “It was a well spent Saturday afternoon. Occasionally, I enjoy participating in such events.”

Junior Michelle Strong, a member of Theta, said she thought the event was a lot of fun.

“We supported an important cause and it was a good example of bonding between Greek Life affiliated students,” she said. “We raised over a thousand dollars.”

Freshman Annie O’Brien, a new member of Theta, said she was pleased to have helped out with her first KATs and Bats competition.

“The event was conducted in an official manner and it was a fun afternoon meeting up with fellow Greeks,” O’Brien said.



Photos submitted by Mark Schmitter

Above: Members of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority hosted their annual spring philanthropy, KATS and Bats on Saturday, April 9, on the Hill.



Above: Delta Gamma sorority poses following their successful win at KATs and Bats.



Above: Delt members hoist junior Sean Tate, current chapter president on their shoulders as they pose with the golden baseball bat prize.

Juice Box Cabaret returns to Stuyvesant Hall

By Alex Crump
Photography Editor

Juice Box Cabaret has returned to OWU.

Their performance was on Friday, April 8, in the Stuyvesant Smoker.

Juice Box Cabaret is a political and social show that started last year during a Sagan National Colloquium class.

During the course, students were given the opportunity to produce their own performances for five weeks.

Sophomore Andrea Kraus said although the projects were challenging last year, many people enjoyed it so much that they wanted to bring it back.

“After the first show, many of us knew we wanted to continue doing these cabarets for the rest of our time at OWU,” she said. “So we decided to try and make a club.

“It’s been a long and difficult process, as many of us are theater majors who have little to zero time.”

Even with the time commitment, Kraus said the group is working hard at making Juice Box an official club next year.

The performance began with the cast singing their own version of “Hey Jude” by The Beatles, replacing “Hey Jude” with “Hey Juice.”

True to its name, there were indeed juice boxes for the audience to enjoy along with snacks.

Coffee was also offered to the audience as a chance to lower their admission price from \$3 to \$2 if they brought their own mug.

The content of the skits performed by the cast covered topics ranging from pop culture to politics.

Junior Ed Howland said he found the skits enjoyable.

“They had a great piece on the new confession app for the iPhone,” he said.

The iPhone skit poked fun at the confession application saying, “Just press absolve and ‘Voila!’”

“It was a really well conceived piece about religion trying to keep up with technology and the modern world and failing miserably,” Howland said.

Another skit displayed the current issue of a woman tripping down a flight of stairs while pregnant.

Sitting in the emergency room, the woman mentions that she had considered getting an abortion. A nurse then called the police because she assumed the woman had intentionally fallen down the stairs.

Kraus said these are the real life issues the cabaret strives to perform.

“The goal of Juice Box performances is to nourish thought and awareness mostly,” she said. “We also feel that it is a challenge to us as individuals to learn and be creative about what we care for.”

Sophomore Ellen Defenderfer said she was able to feel the emotions from the actors in Juice Box Cabaret.

“I enjoyed seeing fellow college students that are passionate about social and political causes,” she said.

“I also liked that the actors seemed to know what they were talking about.”

Bishops Sports

Men’s lacrosse wins in six overtimes

By Christopher Lathem
Transcript Reporter

It took six overtimes and several hours, but the Ohio Wesleyan men’s lacrosse team found a way to beat Wooster 10-9 in an NCAC conference game last Saturday.

Sophomore Pat Basset scored the game-winning goal in the sixth overtime to capture the win for the Bishops. The goal ended the longest game in Ohio Wesleyan history.

The longest game in NCAA Division I men’s lacrosse was a seven overtime game between Virginia and Maryland in 2009. However, Division III does not have a published record for the longest game in its history, so the status of this OWU game in terms of history is unknown.

Senior Scott Chester was amazed by how long the game lasted.

“It seemed like the game was never going to end,” he said. “Everyone had to stay extremely focused and dig deep to find the energy to keep playing.”

This game also eclipsed the longest game in Ohio Wesleyan history, which was an 11-10 double-overtime Bishop’s victory over Kenyon in 1960.

Senior Shaun Crow said, “The satisfaction of winning in overtime is unparalleled to any other game.”

The Bishops trailed 9-6 late in the fourth quarter and needed to rally to extend the game.

Junior A.J. Pellis scored all three goals in the last six minutes of regulation to tie the game and sent it into overtime.

The first five overtimes were a stalemate between two teams, until Basset’s eventual game winner in the sixth overtime, after more than 80 minutes of lacrosse.

“Playing in six overtimes was unlike any other game I have played in,” said Crow. “Being an offensive player, I was nervous when Wooster was on offense because of the sudden death rule. However, our defense is led by mainly seniors, so I always have confidence in them.”

The Bishops were lead by Pellis, who recorded five goals and an assist. Crow and freshman Spencer Schnell added two more goals apiece.

Chester said he was pleased with the win, but thought the team could have performed better.

“Overall, we could have played a much better game,” he said. “We really didn’t show up to play until the fourth quarter and the six overtimes. That being said, we will definitely take the win.”

The win over Wooster had an added sense of importance, because of the loss to conference rival Denison two weeks ago.

“Every game is important to win,” said Chester. “But there is an added sense of urgency now that we had a loss in the conference.”

Next up for the Bishops is another conference game against Kenyon on Friday, April 15, at Selby Field.

Experience the games

Third annual Bishop Games a success for all participants

By Heather Kuch
Transcript Reporter

On Sunday, April 11, the sun shone down on athletes of all types. Runners, jumpers and throwers all gathered at Selby Field.

They were ready to compete in the third annual Bishop Champion Games.

Around 65 mentally and physically handicapped athletes came to Selby Field to compete.

The Bishop Games is an event for special needs athletes designed by the Ohio Wesleyan University Athletic Council (OWAC) that provides an opportunity for individuals with disabilities to compete just like college athletes. The event is for children and young adults aged eight and up. It includes 10 events in which the athletes can choose to participate.

The event was headed by senior Sean Patrick, an OWAC member and Julie Duffy, OWAC’s advisor and head women’s lacrosse coach.

Patrick said organizing an event like this is something that he has always aspired to do.

“This event has been a dream of mine for a long time, and to be able to make it happen for three years now is a dream come true,” Patrick said. “Seeing the Bishop Games athletes interact with the OWU student-athletes touches my heart and it’s a great experience to be able to sit back and watch it all happen.”

The events this year included a football/softball throw, standing broad jump, long jump, high jump, 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m and the Bishop Relay, which is a 4x100m relay with an Ohio Wesleyan athlete running the last leg of the event.

Members of OWAC said the event wouldn’t be possible without the help of the representatives from each OWU athletic team.

These representatives help to run the individual events and are also there to encourage the participants as the cross the finish line or complete an event.

Duffy said the large number of volunteers that turned out to support the athletes helped to make this year’s games a great experience for all involved.

“I think that this is another great year for the Bishop Games because we have a perfect number of participants and a great number of student-athlete volunteers,” said Duffy. “It also really helped that Oberlin came out to help with 15 student-athlete volunteers.”

A majority of the participants have been coming out for all three years and some even participate on other Special Olympic teams such as Steph Herriott, who will be playing for a Special

LEFT: Photo by Heather Kuch
RIGHT: Photo by Brittany Vickers

LEFT: Savannah Wilson sprints towards the finish line as she breaks the Bishop Games 50-meter dash record.

RIGHT: Rebekah Fehrman participates in the softball throw.

“The looks of excitement on the athlete’s faces when they get to stand on the podium...is priceless,”
--said senior **Kate Tampke.**

Olympic soccer team. On Sunday, Herriott participated in the high jump, the softball throw and several of the running events.

All participants received a custom Bishop Games rubber bracelet and a competition t-shirt that served as a jersey. Following the competition, an awards ceremony took place giving every athlete the opportunity to stand on the awards podium in the place they finished in their event.

The participants get to run through a “tunnel” of student-athletes and then they take their place on the podium where the winner of each event receives a medal.

OWAC member senior Kate Tampke said the awards ceremony is the most important part of the day.

“For me, the best part of the event is the awards ceremony,” Tampke said. “The looks of excitement on the athlete’s faces when they get to go stand up on the podium and have their names announced is priceless. The whole experience is a great opportunity for both the participants and the student-athletes and it’s a lot of fun to be a part of it.”

Women’s lacrosse gets first conference win over Oberlin

George Wasserman
Transcript Correspondent

The women’s lacrosse team won its first conference game last Sunday, defeating the Oberlin College Yeowomen 19-14 at Selby Stadium.

Seven members of the Bishop team scored throughout the game.

Senior midfielder Marlowe Mavian and sophomore attacker Annie Swanson led the Bishops with five goals apiece.

Mavian also had two assists while Swanson had one.

At the end of the first half,

the score was 13-8. Freshman Paul O’Laughlin, a spectator at the game, said he was expecting scores in the 30’s.

“It seemed like there was no defense at times,” O’Laughlin said. “I just remember after the first 10 minutes I looked up at the scoreboard and saw 15 goals or something. I was thinking this was going to be a long game.”

The Yeowomen scored first in the second half, but then one minute later, freshman midfielder Cate Bailey scored, followed by Mavian another minute later. With ten minutes remaining in the game, the

score was 18-10.

The Yeowomen scored four unanswered goals, but ran out of time as the game ended.

Junior defender Kat Enders said she was pleased with the game.

“It was great to have our first conference win,” Enders said. “I think as a team we are really coming together and finding our playing style, and it’s helping us perform better.”

Junior Nick Chilkov, a spectator, said the Bishops needed the win.

“They played well enough to win, but they didn’t play

their best,” Chilkov said. “It was a little sloppy at times. But it was important that they got their first conference win, a loss would have been a disappointment.”

O’Laughlin said this was his first time seeing the women’s lacrosse team play.

“I am really surprised they have only won two games,” O’Laughlin said. “They looked like a really strong team. They had a lot of fast breaks and took advantage of Oberlin’s mistakes. The team looked organized and the defense looked strong. Their goalie [junior Lauren Figgie, who

had 10 saves] looked well-kept in front of the net.”

Sunday’s victory was the team’s only victory in three home games last week.

On April 6, they lost to the Wooster Fighting Scots in a conference game 16-8. During that game, one player had 12 fouls. Last Friday, they faced off against the Notre Dame Falcons (a division 2 team). They lost that game 21-10.

The women’s lacrosse team’s next game is on Friday, April 15, against Washington and Jefferson under the Selby Stadium lights for senior night.