



# THE TRANSCRIPT

THE OLDEST  
CONTINUALLY  
PUBLISHED  
STUDENT  
NEWSPAPER  
IN THE COUNTRY

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## MFL film series promotes culture

By Sarah Slager  
Transcript Correspondent

Students have an opportunity to view foreign films, learn about world languages and increase cultural awareness free of charge this spring with the Modern Foreign Language House. MFL is hosting a mini-series of foreign language films over the course of the spring semester. Films are being shown that represent the different languages spoken by residents of MFL and that are relevant to languages studied by students, according to junior Ali Castelero, one of the MFL residents in charge of organizing and putting on the house project. An assortment of movies will be shown intermittently the next few weeks.

The first film of the series, “Frida,” was shown in English on March 1, at MFL. “Frida” is a 2002 film starring Salma Hayek that depicts the life of Mexican artist Frida Kahlo.

Senior Audrey Hudson attended the event and said a number of people outside the MFL community were there to view the film.

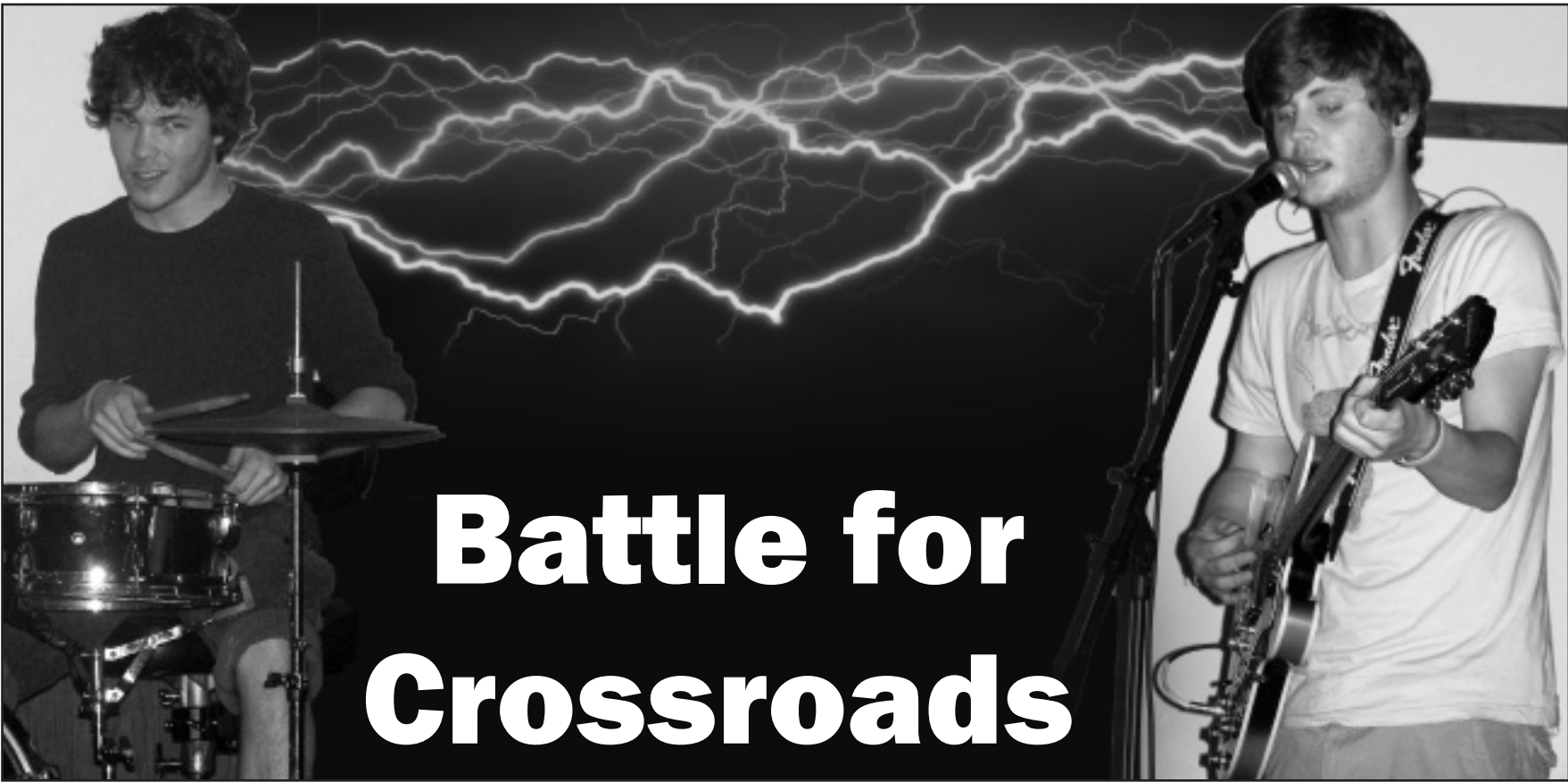
“I thought the event went pretty well. Lots of people came and many had to sit on the floor,” she said. “The movie was excellent, and was a great choice for the MFL film series.”

Hudson said the movie touched upon many topics including foreign language, Latin American studies and art, which she said are all subjects residents of MFL are passionate about. She said the film captured the attention of students who weren’t particularly interested before in these topics.

Castelero said the event was well-received.

“I think overall it went well, and the people in attendance enjoyed it,” she said. “It was a good group of people and a good size for watching a movie.”

There will be events throughout the remainder of spring semester.



## Battling bands show both competition and companionship

By Tim Alford  
Transcript Reporter

The band Hairy Tribe of Conquerors lived up to the latter part of its name after winning the vote to open for Crossroads, but it was not all about competition at the Battle of the Bands. Crossroads is a night of concerts sponsored by the Student Union on Black Awareness (SUBA), Campus Programming Board (CPB) and WCSA. The Battle of the Bands competition was held to decide which of the six acts would be the opening act for Crossroads. At the end of all of the performances, the audience voted on who they wanted to see as the opening act. “We are a little surprised; we were

not really looking at it competitively,” freshman Ben Anderson, drummer for Hairy Tribe of Conquerors, said. “But at the same time, we are not too taken aback because we are musicians, and this will be a sweet growing experience for us.” The band played all instrumental songs, making use of complicated guitar riffs and effects by sophomores Brihat Sharma and Alex Michener and keyboard effects by sophomore Alex D’Amore-Braver. D’Amore-Braver said they consider their music to be progressive rock, but said they have played many types of music, even including reggae. Anderson said the band started in the first semester of this school year. The band members aren’t planning to

become a big group. They just want to have fun. “If we feel like playing, we play,” Sharma said. While the event was competitive, there seemed to be a sense of unity among the bands performing. In fact, there were students who played for multiple bands throughout the night. Sophomore Mike Cormier and senior Bobby Kuhlberg played for both Log Jam and Pop’s Lake. Cormier was the drummer for Log Jam and for the first song by Pop’s Lake. He then stepped out from behind the drums to sing a trio with the other members of Pop’s Lake, sophomores Sam Sonnega and Erika Nininger. Kuhlberg played guitar and sang for Log Jam and played bass for the first

song of Pop’s Lake. “I hadn’t rehearsed with Pop’s before the show, they just asked me for some help, so I filled in some of the low end,” Kuhlberg said. Kuhlberg said he was excited to see that many of the band members playing throughout the night were freshmen and sophomores. He said when he was younger Log Jam was the only band on campus. “Despite having literally no competition (when he was younger), I think that fact ultimately hindered us because we lacked the support system that these younger folks enjoy now, the encouragement of a music community,” he said.

See BANDS on Page 3

## With ‘sighs too deep for words’ Memorial service honors OWU student Jake Von Der Vellen

By Marissa Alfano  
Editor-in-Chief

Students, faculty, family, fraternity brothers and friends gathered in Gray Chapel on Friday at 4 p.m. to honor the memory of Jakob F. Von Der Vellen, who died in a car accident March 16. The entire lower level of Gray Chapel was occupied by members of Von Der Vellen’s family and Sigma Phi Epsilon brothers seated in the front few rows, and students lining the length of the back walls. Students sat holding hands and waiting for the service to begin and tissue boxes could be seen spread throughout the rows.

Attendance was so high there were not enough memorial pamphlets to go around. President Rock Jones began the memorial service and the celebration of the life of Jake Von Der Vellen by reflecting upon the 125 years of gatherings the Ohio Wesleyan community has shared together in the historic Gray Chapel. It is the location that opens the academic year for freshmen and closes it for seniors, the building where lectures occur and Greek awards take place, and the site of moments such as the memorial service. “The news of Jake’s death was shocking one week ago, and it is still shocking today,” Jones said. “We gather today with hearts heavy, questions with no answers, and,

as the apostle Paul said, we gather with ‘sighs too deep for words.’ “Today we come together to hold one another in love, to remember Jake and the impact he had on each of us and on so many others we will never know. We will allow his values and being to give shape and meaning to our future. Now, with many faiths joining together, we can look to the future with the promise of hope, fulfillment, purpose, the gift of life and the return of joy.” He said that only 18 months after Jake sat in Gray Chapel listening to his freshman convocation, his impact on OWU had already been enormous through his outreach in service and role as a mentor. His modest personality was an attribute people knew well, according to Jones. “Greek awards were held here less than two weeks before Jake’s death, and he accepted the chapter philanthropy award on behalf of Sig Ep,” Jones said. “His character being so modest and quiet, he exited the stage before the photographer could even get a picture of him.” Jones said that it was important for the OWU community to attend the memorial together and to help one another heal. He said Jake’s life and memory would be a source of celebration and hope for tomorrow. “We come to share memories, to feel the depth of pain

of an inexplicable loss and acknowledge with gratitude the blessing of a young life well lived,” Jones said. “We will share and cherish memories with Jake’s family here today: his OWU family and his family woven together by bonds of love are a wellspring of hope. We celebrate his life. May God of many names and lands, grant us strength at these moments, peace for these days and hope for what lies ahead.” Shortly after, the Rev. Jon Powers, university chaplain, began the call to worship and prayer. “As we enter this time of worship, praise and prayer,” he said, “we collect our hearts and minds to recall all the ways Jake touched our lives during this hour as we already have this past week with a particular focus on the holiness in our midst.” Reading from a reflection letter from Associate Chaplain Chad Johns’ spring break mission trip group, Powers spoke about true holiness. “I now know what holy is,” Powers read aloud, “Holy is the love that turns men into brothers, the ritual that binds them together, the trials and times that turn brotherhood into a verb, when silence screams louder than words.” Father Augustine Okpe from St. Mary’s Parish then led the gathered in prayer. “We come before you in sorrow and pain, but in confi-



Photo by Natalie Duleba  
Chaplain Jon Powers speaks to students Friday.

dence of your infinite mercy, oh God,” Okpe said. “Give life to Jake’s immortal soul, give peace and consolation to friends and family left to mourn his passing.” The quiet that followed was broken by the organist beginning to play “Amazing Grace,” as those in attendance sang along. Assistant professor of New Testament, Dr. David Eastman, read 1 Corinthians 15:50-54, and Fr. Okpe read


John 14: 1-3, 18-21 to those gathered. The first passage was a message about the mortality of Earthly life and the more beautiful immortality of the next. The ending of the passage said that immortality would eventually triumph over death. The second reading said that those who die first prepare the way for their loved ones who will one day join them.

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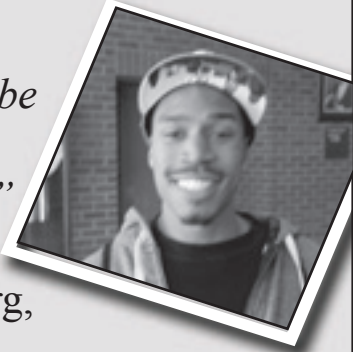




# What are your thoughts on Lloyd and Hello Goodbye performing at Crossroads?


*"I think that StepShow should be separate from Crossroads."*

--Jeremy Stursburg, '13




*"I'm upset they picked them. There was another band for a third of the price that more students would enjoy."*

--Ellen Defenderfer, '13




*"I didn't even know it was happening."*

--Andrew Hennessy, '12




*"I've never heard of them. I live under a rock."*

--Caleb Dorfman, '15



*"I've never heard of Lloyd, but I'm really excited for Hello Goodbye. I've listened to them a lot."*

--Frida Hess, '14



# GREEK OF THE WEEK

NICK PERANZI  
ALPHA SIGMA PHI

Senior Nick Peranzi is this week's Greek of the Week. Aside from his significant contributions to the Greek system, Peranzi possesses all of the qualities one looks for in a Greek student: incredible intelligence, stunning good looks, a voice fit for radio and the ability to pick things up and put them down.

He is a 2012 graduating class trustee, member of the senior class council, former-Alpha Sig president and economics management fellow.

**Fun fact:** His only weakness is gluten.



## ΑΣΦ

# Activists educate on dangerous disease

By Eric Tiffitt  
Managing Editor

Sisters United joined forces with the Women's Resource Center, VIVA, SUBA and Rafiki Wa Afrika to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS in women of color on Monday in the Hamilton-Williams Atrium.

Students read poems and cited facts about the HIV/AIDS epidemic during the program.

Sophomore Kimberley Trought, Caribbean representative of Rafiki Wa Afrika, emceed the event, stating facts and statistics of the HIV/AIDS epidemic between performances.

"Today is HIV and AIDS Awareness Day," Trought said. "Together we must raise awareness to fight the misconceptions of the disease and strive to educate those around us."

Sophomore Nola Johnson, president of Sisters United, organized the event to educate students on campus about the prevalence of HIV/AIDS.

"Young people think that they're invincible," Johnson said. "They think the disease can't touch them. But it can, and it does."

Sophomore Kate Johnson, representing the Women's Resource Center, said that one in 500 college students have HIV. She also said that condoms greatly reduce the risk of spreading the virus.

"The Women's Resource Center has plenty of free condoms," Johnson said. "Condoms alone can help control the spread of HIV on college campuses."

Chaplain Jon Powers said HIV/AIDS is a mystery of the scientific and social world.

According to Powers, five people die of AIDS every minute. Additionally, nine new infections of HIV occur every minute. These statistics are doubled when it comes to people in the black community, Powers said.

"This disease particularly hits people of color," Powers said. "There are layers and layers of need and we are tipping the iceberg of this need today."

Trought said she hoped to dispel some of the misconceptions of HIV/AIDS.

"Homosexuality is not the only way HIV gets spread," Trought said. "It's a disease that can affect anyone in any relationship. (HIV is) a disease that has no face."

Powers said awareness events are a good first step in combating a social issue.

He said some of the hardest things to come together and discuss, such as HIV/AIDS, are the most important.

"Awareness of HIV is the beginning, but it's not enough," Powers said. "HIV is rampant and it is not going away. We need more than con-

doms and HIV awareness. It is important to provide support and care for those affected by the disease.

"We need funding for research, medical care clinics, hospice care and in orphanages for children who have lost parents to AIDS."

Powers said the stigma of HIV/AIDS is not the same as it was when he first dealt with instances of HIV on campus in the 80s.

"Because of awareness, we've broken down some of the stigmas about HIV," Powers said. "Many of us know someone who has HIV or AIDS or who has died from the disease."

According to Johnson, the Delaware General Health District is administering free, oral HIV tests at the Student Health Center next Monday from 1-3:30 p.m.

Students can call the Health Center to make an anonymous appointment at 740-368-3160.

# Panel recommends internships for experience, resume building

By Heather Kuch  
Transcript Reporter

Last week students had the opportunity to listen to fellow students talk about their internships and give advice about landing one at the annual Student Internship Panel offered by Career Services.

The panel featured four students who had all participated in different internships last summer.

The students were seniors Celeste Taylor and Tim Carney, junior Chris Brooks and sophomore Rachel Vinciguerra.

Taylor interned with the United States Senate in the office of Senator Sherrod Brown.

For her internship, she was responsible for answering phones, reading and sorting mail and occasionally went to Senate briefings.

She advised students interested in a future on Capitol Hill to pursue an internship because of the highly competitive nature of the field.

"If you want to get a job on Capitol Hill or with the government, you should get an internship because this field is highly competitive and networking matters," Taylor said.

Carney was a research intern with City Voter, a small startup company which runs best of polls for local media outlets.

His advice to students is that the intern's attitude is what determines whether or not the internship is worthwhile.

"Just because your job title says 'intern' doesn't mean that that is all you are," Carney said. "An eager attitude can make your internship a fruitful experience."

Brooks was a student research assistant with the OSU Wexner Medical Center where he analyzed data for an ongoing project and made sure everything was in order for safety checks.

He said that his internship will be useful as a resume builder when he applies for medical school.

"My internship puts me ahead of other medical school applicants who don't have research experience that they can put on their resume," Brooks said. "I also got to be a co-author on a paper, which is something that not everyone can say they've done."

Vinciguerra was a production intern and work study coordinator with Summer Stages Dance.

There she laid dance floor, plotted lights and managed the artists.

She said that she got a great experience out of the internship and was offered her job back.

However, she said her internship showed her that this is not the job she wants to do in the future.

"I thought I wanted to pursue arts management, and the internship was enjoyable, but it showed me that this is not what I want to do," Vinciguerra said. "I don't regret taking it though."

The panelists all agreed that networking is vital to obtaining an internship, and a crowd member asked how students can develop a network.

Taylor said standing out from the crowd can help with getting into the network.

"If you have no connections, do something else that stands out," Taylor said. "Send a thank you note and show that you are more than just a sheet of paper."

Carney agreed with Taylor and said often small companies are a good alter-

native to internships for students without connections.

"Small companies need help and don't want to go through the effort of posting an internship," Carney said. "Email their HR or CRO and find out if they are hiring. It's a matter of stepping outside of your comfort zone."

Another crowd question focused on whether freshmen have any hope of getting an internship.

Brooks said for science internships, age is a factor, but volunteer work is always an option.

"In the sciences it's harder when you are younger because you don't have the courses they want you to have," Brooks said.

"I would recommend volunteering because you can get almost the same experience and networking as you would with an internship."

Carney said that age is only a factor for certain fields, and it is more about the student's work ethic.

"The smaller the company, the less harsh they are on resume experience," Carney said. "It's not how old you are, it's how hard you will work."

Nancy Westfield, the assistant director of OWU Career Services, said her advice to students is to apply to multiple internships and to talk to people to create a network.

"I would advise students to apply to as many internships as they have time to apply for and to talk to as many people as possible," Westfield said. "The value of an internship cannot be overstated because it helps students to develop confidence which makes them much more marketable."

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By Tyler Sheetz  
Transcript Correspondent

A new Delaware restaurant is partnering with an adult day program to bring Cajun food to the Delaware community and provide business training and opportunities to local individuals with disabilities.

J. Gumbo’s owner, Richard Upton, plans to start business at the former 12 South Deli venue on Sandusky Street with a grand opening celebration on May 4.

The restaurant is part of a franchise-operated chain that features menu items like gumbo, po’ boys and jambalaya. Upton said the most popular menu item is the Bumblebee Stew, because it can be paired with some of the spicy entrees to balance the heat.

He said the dishes are prepared with fresh ingredients at the central commissary in Louisville, Ky., before being distributed to individual restaurants.

“In the restaurant, we use a specially made machine to bring the food to the perfect serving

# J. Gumbo’s: Offering opportunities to disabled adults through new Cajun cuisine

temperature, while maintaining the freshness, texture and consistency that it had when prepared in the commissary,” Upton said. “We boil the rice fresh in the stores and use local vendors for our French breads.”

Upton said he chose Delaware for his new J. Gumbo’s because it is “prime for a new choice in eateries” and “a very forward thinking, sophisticated city and county.” He also said since people are accustomed to so many Mexican and Chinese/Japanese restaurants in the city they will also enjoy J. Gumbo’s.

Upton said, however, that there will be plenty more to this restaurant than great Cajun food. He said the lack of training and employment opportunities for the disabled population “has been an issue for decades,” and it has been his personal goal to change this reality.

“I am teaming up with Wilma Justice and Ann Kelly, owners of Life Builders, to administer a new training concept we have developed to provide real world, ongoing training for individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities,” he said.

Wilma Justice, co-owner of Life Builders day program for adults with disabilities, said she and her business partner Ann Kelly first got to know Richard at the central Ohio regional council of PATHS, which is “a statewide organization sanctioned by the state to provide training and a credentialing program to direct support professionals.”

Justice said Richard envisioned the concept

of a new program, and then worked with her and Ann to fine-tune the details. They call it the Business Education Learning Liaison, or BELL, Training Program.

“Combined, all of our strengths fit together to create a group capable of designing this program,” Justice said.

According to Justice, the program will work by ensuring each individual is first proficient in basic job skills, and then personalizing each program to reflect the motivation and ability level of the participants.

Upton said the BELL program uses many proven educational methods, but with a few novel differences. The first of these is that the path to education, training, employment and even potential business ownership is truly decided by each individual in the program.

“They choose the path, we light the way,” he said.

“The participants will not be on any type of set schedule or deadline that expels them from the program before they have been given the opportunity to reach their full potential. It will not be uncommon for some participants to remain in for six months, and others for over three years,” Upton said.

“We do not have start and stop points,” he said. “Once (an individual is) a member of the BELL family, we are there whenever we are needed.”

After completing the “Boot Camp” portion of the program at a Life Builders campus, individuals will be proficient in areas like personal safety, job site communication and interviewing, according to Upton.

“Once a Boot Camp participant has ‘graduated,’ (he/she) is eligible to apply as a candidate

to the BELL Training Program,” Upton said. “We anticipate a waiting list but participants may remain in Boot Camp to build on their skills until space is available.”

Upton said participants then go on to be interviewed and hired at a participating venue like J. Gumbo’s, where they will continue to work on job skills and job exploration tactics.

He said that by the time the program is fully operational, BELL program participants could easily make up over 50 percent of the J. Gumbo’s staff. He said the BELL program will also work to develop bonds with other business to “allow full immersion in the operation of the compan[ies].”

“The long term goal of the BELL Training Program is to offer supported employment for the participants who graduate the program to work in the community or open their own small business,” Upton said.

Upton said Ohio Wesleyan students are strongly encouraged to apply to work at J. Gumbo’s through [www.jgumbos.com](http://www.jgumbos.com). The restaurant plans to be open Monday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., and that they would love to be part of OWU’s meal points program.

“The Public Image Network campaign theme for 2012 is ‘Our Community is Better Together’, Upton said. “This theme is something Ann, Wilma and I truly believe in. That is why we are committing to the BELL program.

“That is why I am bringing a J. Gumbo’s to Delaware. We will show that theme. We believe this is the place where the theme will take hold.

“We look forward to a longtime affiliation with OWU, area businesses and the community as a whole.”

# Sagan courses take OWU students’ learning to new heights in Costa Rica

By Leah Hively  
Transcript Correspondent

Sagan courses in 2011 and 2012 provided opportunities for students to engage in travel learning in Costa Rica, through two different courses of study.

Students from a course in Tropical Biology traveled to Costa Rica over spring break to study “the biology and ecology of tropical organisms and complete independent research projects,” Linda O’Horo wrote on the Ohio Wesleyan website. This course was co-listed as botany-microbiology and zoology.

Junior Aubrey Alamshah was one student who took the course and traveled to Costa Rica.



Photo By Allie from Vancity

**Hundreds of species of animals and plants were spotted during the Costa Rica travel learning course over spring break.**

“It’s one thing to talk about the high tree diversity or the low amount of light that hits the forest floor, it’s another to actually be in the middle of it,” Alamshah said.

“We visited three different places, all at different elevations. Tirimbina was in the lowland rainforest, Poca Sol was in the mid-elevation, and Monteverde was at high elevation,” she said.

“I did most of my research at Monteverde on hummingbirds, and they were really amazing”

She said that in Ohio, only two types of hummingbirds can be seen and they are very small.

In Monteverde, she was able to see seven different species that differed greatly in size, shape and color.

“You had everything from the tiny Green Hermit with a bill that was so long and bent that he couldn’t land on the hummingbird feeder, to the giant Violet Sabrewings which were about as long as my hand and bright purple,” she said.

Alamshah also loved the country itself.

“Costa Rica is a really laid back country,” she said.

“They just don’t stress out about everything like we do in the United States, it was really nice. I know that I could definitely learn a lot from them,” she said.

This was Alamshah’s second travel learning experience.

“(Travel learning) not only makes it so much more interesting (to learn), but easier to remember and understand,” she said.

“I honestly think that this is the best way to learn any subject.”

Senior John Riverso was also in the course.

“Pocosol probably had the most impact on me due to its isolation from civilization; it was the most pristine site, and really opened my eyes to what needs to be saved,” Riverso said.

“Seeing things for yourself is an altogether more enriching experience. I wish I had taken advantage of other travel learning courses in my time at OWU.”

Economics Professor Andrew Meyer taught last year’s course that traveled to Costa Rica titled Sustainability, Ecotourism, and Eco Certification. According to O’Horo on

the OWU website, the point of this course was “to examine issues including climate change, natural resource degradation, economic development, environmental quality and tourism—all through the lens of sustainability.”

Meyer said his goal in teaching the course was to help students “formulate what they think the important factors are in determining whether an ecotourism project succeeds or fails, both environmentally and economically.”

Economics Professor Alice Simon also went on the Costa Rica trip last year. She said the biggest impact that the trip had on her came from the rain forests which were amazing to see and from the coffee plantation where values of family pride and doing work by hand were visible.

Junior Andrea MacVay was one of the students on the Economics Costa Rico trip.

“During our trip to Costa Rica we learned about specific policies the country was enacting to protect the environment,” she said.

“We took guided tours through the Cloud Forest, learning of the great biodiversity there, and were able to experience first-hand the principles of ecotourism and the beauty of Costa Rica. Aside from learning a great deal of the biology and history of the country and its environmental practices, we also learned of different efforts to protect endangered species there.”

MacVay said that hiking in the rainforest and up to a waterfall were her most memorable experiences from the trip.

She also said courses that come with a travel experience are important because they help to re-enforce ideas learned in the classroom.

She also said there were benefits of traveling to other cultures for personal reasons.

“Experiencing new and different cultures helps broaden your perspective on life – you get to see how other people live, and what they view as important,” MacVay said.

# Budget system makes club funding accessible

By Kelsey King  
Transcript Correspondent

Ohio Wesleyan boasts over 130 clubs, providing students with a number of interest groups to join. This year, thanks to student activity fees, every club is permitted funding.

Junior Marshall Morris, Wesleyan Council on Student Affairs treasurer, presented the budget information in two meetings last week.

This new system adds more transparency and allows both WCSA members and students to track club budgets better.

In previous years, clubs requested funds from WCSA in large, full school year sums, but this year, the budget committee decided to divide club funding by semesters to cut overhead costs.

Using OrgSync’s tools, students can easily apply for fall club funds. A list of club forms is nested within each club’s profile.

Senior Matthew Hill, president of the Medieval & Renaissance Recreational Combat Association, said he likes the new semester-by-semester funding system.

“I like that it will get clubs thinking about new programming in advance, and better planning can always make the difference in ensuring a good event,” Hill said.

Junior Ashley Madera, a vice-president of VIVA, is unsure if the new funding process for clubs will be entirely effective.

She said some future expenses are hard to predict, especially if a club intends to host a speaker.

“I think it is difficult for clubs because not all of the events we host are annual events,” she said. “Some events, like screenings or bringing a speaker, cannot be (itemized) because it sometimes requires talking to people a whole year in advance, and estimating the costs for speakers which could involve travel, honorariums, and other expenses.”

The new funding system takes many precautions against misuse.

The entire path to funding is lined with forms. There are forms to request extra event funding, to ask for supplemental funding and to reallocate event surplus.

Junior Kamila Goldin, a member of the WCSA budget committee, implored students to pay attention to which forms they complete.

“All we want to do is throw money at you. ... Just fill out the right forms. It makes our lives easier,” Goldin said.

Clubs must turn in budget forms by Friday April 6, at 6 p.m. to receive funding.

## BANDS, continued from Page 1

The band members of Hairy Tribe of Conquerors are also involved in the music community Kuhlenberg described.

“We all participate in different groups on campus, but we still all stay together as

a group,” Anderson said.

Hairy Tribe of Conquerors will take stage at “Crossroads” on this Saturday, March 31, at 7 p.m. in Gray Chapel.

The band will get to play a 20 minute set before the headliners for the evening, Lloyd and Hellogoodbye, begin their shows.

Tickets are \$10 with an OWU card and can be purchased at [www.owutickets.com](http://www.owutickets.com).

“I am ecstatic that Hairy Tribe won the contest,” Kuhlenberg said.

“I am close with some of them and they definitely deserved it, hands down. For once, a vote reflected wisdom!”

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# Relay for Life



By Sarah Jane Sheehan  
Transcript Correspondent

Gordon Field House was filled with OWU students and faculty, community members and most importantly, cancer survivors Friday at 6 p.m. for the university’s annual Relay for Life.

The event began with opening services that honored sophomore Jake Von Der Vellen, who had been the committee chair. Senior Alexis Plaga, president of Colleges Against Cancer at OWU, and other Relay members recalled their memories with Von Der Vellen and dedicated the event to him.

After the opening speech, the first walk began. Survivors and Von Der Vellen’s family walked around the track as everyone else in the arena cheered. After the first lap, caretakers joined. The last lap was the team lap and the start of the continuous walking. During the event, the rules are that at least one team member must be walking at all times.

Teams were made of fraternity, sorority, sport, club and community members. Each team had a booth with food, games and other activities for fund raising as well as information about the type of cancer they chose to promote awareness about. Friends and more members of the teams came and went throughout the night to show support and walk a couple of laps.

All money raised will be going to Relay for Life and the American Cancer Society, according to Plaga.

Freshman Ashley Truxell said this was her first relay and she was very excited, considering her past experiences with similar

events. “They used to have a weekend event in my town and I always wanted to do it,” Truxell said.

Music played throughout the event as those gathered sang and played games.

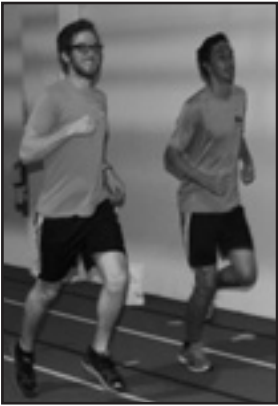
The Luminary ceremony, held later in the night was a part of the event to walk to celebrate the lives of those lost. The lights in the field house were turned off as senior Solomon Ryan spoke about the ceremony and what each luminary represented: the life of someone lost to cancer. Luminaries lined the track as all the participants took a lap of silence to honor lost loved ones. Relayers could buy luminaries and dedicate them to someone they had known.

Games and activities were planned throughout the night to keep participants awake and engaged. The Mr. and Mrs. Relay competition had Relayers from each team dress up and collect money. Sophomore Sean Anthony won the Drag Race that was held. Zumba, three-legged races and a rap competition were just some of the other activities.

By 1 a.m. many teams had set up their beds for the night. There were air mattresses, tents and sleeping bags at every team’s station. However, some Relayers continued walking throughout the night. The event went to about 10:30 the next morning.

This year’s Relay for Life raised around \$16,000 and every team helped contribute to this sum.

Plaga is hoping to raise more money to donate to the American Cancer Society. Overall, she thought the event was a success.



Photos by Natalie Duleba  
Clockwise from top left: Junior Marshall Morris tows sophomore Amelia Randall and freshman Samantha Weeks around the track; freshman Ford Milligan entertains himself while supporting his Sigma Chi brothers; freshman Garrett Van Shaik represents Sigma Chi in the rap competition; sophomores Karli Amstadt and Alex Keren-sky make jewelry using recycled materials like bottle caps at the Habitat for Humanity/Environment and Wildlife Club table; Chi Phi Junior Zeke Brechtel and sophomore Richie Karban run around the track; Sophomores Ashley Taylor Ashley Taylor and Erika Kazi walk with Taylor’s Boston Terrier. Junior Nola Johnson gets a pass in during an impromptu volleyball session.

JAKOB, continued from Page 1

Sophomore Alexandra Oney sang an original composition, “Untitled” with piano following the readings.

After a few moments, Powers took the podium again to introduce the beginning of testimonies in memory of Jake.

“There is no way any one of us can capture the kaleidoscope of personality or the vibrancy that was Jakob,” Powers said. “I invite you to take a moment and close your eyes and be present with Jakob that last time you were with him, the last moment of conversation or of quiet or of fun or classroom or studying. Just go there for a moment and recollect and sit with it.”

The chapel was silent.

“I invite you to hold the moment, hold it precious and weave that experience with what the next speakers are about to share,” Powers said.

Mona Spalsbury, office manager for the student involvement office, took the podium.

“Anyone who knew Jake knows he’d hate all this special attention,” she began, a few members of the crowd laughing.

She said when Jake was hired his freshman year, his resume said that at his previous job he answered the phone, greeted people and filed paperwork. However, she said his phone skills consisted of “Hey, student involvement office,” and when asked who had called, he would say, “I don’t know.”

Spalsbury said Jake was quiet when first hired.

“The first few months he used to duck in and out of the office quickly to avoid my motherly, annoying questions. Did you go out this weekend? With who? Any girls? Did you do your

homework? Second semester he was more open to conversation and even started asking me how my weekend was. We always talked ever since. I told him he looked spiffy at Greek awards and his face turned red. When he shared the news of his Presidency in Sig Ep, we screamed and clapped and got him all embarrassed.”

Spalsbury said she used to make Jake build shelves and move club gear all around Ham-wil, but that he always did it with a smile.

Tearfully, she continued, “To Mr. and Mrs. Von Der Vellen, thank you for sharing your son with us and allowing us to watch him grow and for raising a boy with fantastic morals and a shining smile. Love, Nancy (Rutkowski), Dana (Behum), Dawn (Wright) and I (student involvement office staff). Thanks for letting us know such a fine young man.”

Taking the podium once more, Powers introduced Jake’s family.

“Jake had a father and mother who were the salt of the Earth and loving sisters,” Powers said. “He came by his goodness honestly.”

Kent Von Der Vellen, Jake’s father, spoke next. He thanked the Sig Ep brothers, faculty, staff and student body for their overwhelming love and support, saying it was a great source of comfort. He said he felt a great amount of pride hearing each of the speakers say how important their relationship was with Jake and how he found it personally so humbling.

“Jake avoided doing things for recognition. He did them because he cared. He excelled at all he did. He didn’t brag. He just did it.”

He said Jake did well in school, without ever being told to do his homework. He always made honor roll and graduated in the top five percent of his high school class. Jake par-

ticipated in Medina High School’s band, tennis team and NHS. He was on the homecoming court, a mentor for middle school students and a Link Crew member, helping freshman adjust to high school life. Jake loved sports. He had a passion for Medina’s Relay for Life, as he was the OWU 2012 Relay For Life Chair. Relay for Life was scheduled to commence and be dedicated to Jake later Friday night.

“It was so appropriate that Jake was involved in the Big Brother, Big Sister Program because that was the role he always played. He was a big brother to two sisters, Katie and Kerry, and always the oldest among friends and family and outnumbered by girls. He took it in stride, playing ghost in the graveyard and flashlight tag with his younger cousins.

Von Der Vellen said Jake and his two sisters were always very close.

“He loved his sisters. The three of them stayed up late at night playing video games. They watched Youtube videos together, laughing at skits. He would hangout at his sisters’ bonfires with their friends and get to know everyone. He was a man of few words, always contained and under control. You had to work to get him to laugh, but his sisters could. We treasure these moments.”

According to Von Der Vellen, Jake regularly made time to talk to his mother and keep updated on family life. He and Jake used to play catch together in the front yard for hours and they always stayed close. Von Der Vellen ended by saying what the community could do to honor Jake’s legacy.

“Jake volunteered time and used his leadership role to encourage others to get involved and he gave strong hugs. That’s how he showed

he cared. All of us want to honor him. It’s an end, but a call to action. Next time you can help someone, remember to do what Jake would have done. Thank you all for being a part of Jake’s life.”

Sig Ep sophomores Greg Hock and Jason Lonnemann spoke on behalf of the brothers to bid Jake farewell.

“Jake was a genuine person that put others before himself,” Lonnemann said. “He was the most dedicated and passionate person I knew and I am honored to speak on behalf of my brothers. Jake had a passion for Sig Ep and kept thinking of new ideas to make it the best it could be. He loved his little brother (from Big Brother Big Sister). He taught us how to be an honest man, brother and friend. I think I speak for all of the brothers when I say we miss him, but are grateful for the time we had with him.”

The all-female a capella group, Pitch Black, sang “I’ll Fly Away” while those in attendance sat in deep reflection. Powers then began his closing remarks.

“God of all light, yesterday we committed brother Jake’s body back to Earth and then committed his soul to your eternal care... Fly away now Jake. Hover over us like God’s Holy Spirit and Jake, God will raise you up on eagle’s wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you, Jake, to shine like the sun and hold you, Jake, in the palm of God’s hand,” Powers concluded.

Jake’s seated family and Sip Ep brothers stood, lowered their heads and slowly filed out of the chapel while the rest of the crowd sat in solemn silence looking on. As the organ played, students hugged one another, stood together and exited the building in silence.





Photo by Kathleen Dalton  
Students march across campus holding candles and chanting, “Whatever we wear, wherever we go, sexual assault has got to go” and other chants led by members of the Women’s House as part of Take Back the Night.

# Take Back the Night vocalizes women’s fight against abuse

By Kathleen Dalton  
News Editor

Sophomore Jenna Dworetsky cites Take Back the Night as “one of the most powerful and pivotal experiences” in her college career. Take Back the Night, a forum for students to share experiences of sexual violence and raise awareness of realities of violence, was held Thursday at 8 p.m. in Bishop Café. The Women’s House hosted the event.

Dworetsky gave a reflection on her experience with rape at the event and spoke with the Transcript about both this experience and the healing community she found at Take Back the Night.

“After I was raped, I felt ashamed, embarrassed and dramatic. Although I had both the support of my family and many close friends, some made me think that I was making mountains out of mole hills. This was arguably worse than being raped; nothing feels more hurtful than someone who is unwilling to accept your story and emotions,” said Dworetsky. “For a year I was unable to use the word ‘rape’ to describe my attack because I felt that the ‘r’ word was too strong for what happened. However, Take Back the Night changed everything for me.”

Dworetsky found the compassion exhibited by those gathered at Take Back the Night as a powerful force, enabling her to stand before those gathered and share her experiences.

“This was the first night that I was able to describe my attack as a rape,” Dwortesky said. “This event is so amazing because there is an audience of people who are willing to listen and share in your sorrow. They are not there to judge you, they are there simply to provide comfort and a lending ear.”

Advocates for the Sexual Assault Response Network (SARN) of Delaware County echoed Dworetsky’s sentiments concerning the powerful, compassionate group gathered Thursday. Advocates said they commended Ohio Wesleyan students for their compassion and dedication in participating in Take Back the Night.

A SARN advocate who opened the two hour program Thursday said her desire for Take Back the Night is to one day become a celebration of the non-existence of sexual violence at OWU.



Photo by Kathleen Dalton  
Students stand outside the Delta Tau Delta house in a show of respect for the students marching around Fraternity Hill.

This statement was followed by stories from countless students who have survived sexual violence, many during their college years.

Stories shared by students were full of struggle and desperation, but every speaker stressed the importance of a supportive community in overcoming experiences of sexual violence.

Those gathered Thursday in Bishop Café represented such a community.

The members of the Women’s House, the chief organizers of the event, carried in extra chairs and benches to accommodate the immense crowd gathered for the program. Students sat on tables or stood. Every chair was occupied.

Paige Ruppel, Women’s House moderator and chief organizer of the event, asked those gathered to refrain from clapping between shared stories.

Those gathered took this request to heart. Students listened. No words were uttered and no applause met the completion of a shared story, only acceptance and compassion.

Students cried and held hands, but few shifted in their seats. Eyes were fixed, unwavering upon the person at the mike.

Common threads spun the stories shared by students together. Several themes emerged, many of which shed a glimmer of light upon the realities faced by those who spoke and those who listened.

Survivors said they appreciated the support of friends, family, sorority sisters, teammates, housemates, respectful men and total strangers. Silence stifles the ability of those affected by sexual violence to grow and develop past these crippling experiences. Survivors said they need an outlet,

a way to express their feelings. Music and poetry were two such outlets discussed.

Sophomore Matthew Jamison said he was struck by the gentle, safe nature of the atmosphere.

“Sometimes horrible things can lead to beautiful things, and the sense of love and support in that room was truly beautiful,” he said. “I was so proud to be a part of this campus community, coming together to create a safe space for healing and growth.”

The importance of education and understanding in the eradication of sexual violence was a reality commonly expressed by those gathered as well.

Junior Charlie Waldo became involved in SARN as an advocate. She said she cherishes the ability to help those in need through the program.

“Everyone in here is supportive and they’re listening and they’re going to believe you,” said Waldo, encouraging those gathered at the start of the program.

Further educational outreach opportunities were advertised at the program. A representative of the Delaware County Coalition of Victim Services and the Delaware County Sexual Assault Response Team passed out flyers for the “Walk a Mile in Her Shoes” event April 22.

Counseling services representatives Colleen Cook and Eric Johnson talked about the importance of counseling in empowering survivors. They encouraged students to come speak with them. They said they felt as though the event empowered and encouraged those gathered to end sexual violence.

“(Take Back the Night) encourages broader communities to work to end all forms of sexual and domestic violence

by raising awareness regarding the prevalence of sexual violence in all communities,” said Cook.

Ruppel said she was taken aback at the power of the event. This is her third year organizing Take Back the Night. She said the event has changed her every year.

“I think it is very easy to forget how much violence still exists in our society, and Take Back the Night helps to draw attention to this ... I am always struck by the incredible strength and resilience of people,” she said. “Take Back the Night allows us to come together as a community and talk about a very difficult subject in a positive way.”

Ruppel said she knows the event will continue until sexual violence is no longer a reality on campus.

Following the completion of event in Bishop Café, those gathered congregated outside HamWill, lighting candles, sharing hugs and preparing themselves for a march across campus.

“Whatever we wear, wherever we go, sexual assault has got to go!”

Students chanted as they marched in a line up the JAY-walk, through Fraternity Hill, down the steps to Smith and back toward the Women’s House where WoHo members had prepared a bonfire. The path marched by these students was lit with luminaries.

Some students walking about campus giggled at the line of chanting advocates. Others whispered to friends, unsure of the nature of the chanting line of students. But, others still, stood in respect of the peaceful protest. The brothers of Alpha Sigma Phi, Delta Tau Delta and Sigma Chi stood at the doors of their fraternity houses, holding candles to respect the marchers. The brothers of Chi Phi stood guard at the Women’s House, also holding candles.

Regardless of the event’s acceptance on a campus wide level, it positively impacted the lives of many gathered.

“This night is so incredible because it allows victims to feel empowered in a situation when they are stripped of all choice and control,” said Dworetsky. “Take Back the Night allows you to realize that you are not crazy for having emotions about your attack, that even though you may feel alone, there are actually people willing to listen, and that there is always hope for a future free of pain.”



## A week of womanhood

By Sophie Crispin  
Transcript Correspondent

Women’s week, which happened from Monday, March 19 through Friday, March 23, was organized by several students on campus as part of Women’s History Month. It consisted of programs ranging from slam poetry to sexual violence awareness.

Junior Anna Cooper, an intern at the Women’s Resource Center, played a supportive role in the week’s events.

“(Women’s week) is an opportunity for us to do programming focused on issues that primarily affect women and to raise awareness on various women’s issues. Women are still treated as a marginalized community, so this is a time to focus specifically on women’s history and women’s issues,” said Cooper.

Junior Paige Ruppel is the moderator of the Women’s House, where much of the women’s week programming stemmed from. She said she agreed with Cooper, saying that women’s issues are still relevant today and to our campus.

“The fact that people ask why we even need a women’s week shows that there isn’t enough conversation being generated around these issues,” Ruppel said.

The week began with a display of shirts from a Clothesline Project, which addresses issues of violence against women. Students were invited to join members of the Women’s House in decorating shirts with empowering messages before spring break. These shirts were then hung, lining the JAY-walk all week.

Take Back the Night, a sexual violence speak out and march, is the biggest event of the week, with each member of the Women’s House participating.

Freshman Mady Smith attended the event for the first time on Thursday, March 29.

“I expected it to be emotional, but not as emotional as it was,” Smith said. “I was really proud of everyone who spoke, and I admire them for being able to tell their story.”

Sexual violence can be a difficult subject to breach, which is why Ruppel and the Women’s House organize these events.

“It can be hard to talk about issues of sexual violence, but it needs to be addressed, especially on college campuses,” said Ruppel. “These events create spaces for those conversations to occur.”

Smith said that sexual violence awareness is important. “I think it’s hard to understand that this can happen to anyone, and people need to know that it does happen.”

Other women’s week programs included a performance by slam poet Andrea Gibson, a documentary on hate speech amongst female peers of the Greek community entitled “Betches Love to Hate,” an open house at the Women’s House, and fundraising for Heifer International, which donates livestock to global communities living in poverty.

## WoHo opens its doors to campus, closes women’s week

By Noah Manskar  
Transcript Reporter



Photo by Noah Manskar  
Senior Ed Howland, a resident of WoHo, talks to junior Sam Irvine at the WoHo Open House

The members of the Women’s House opened their home to the campus community last Friday to cap off Women’s Week.

WoHo residents hosted students and professors with snacks, sodas and homemade black bean burgers.

House moderator Paige Ruppel, a junior, planned the event as her house project. She said its primary purpose was “building community.”

Junior WoHo resident Colleen Waickman said she hoped the gathering would help make her house and the rest of the SLUs seem more inviting.

“I think sometimes the SLU community seems intimidating to people, and I think this event is definitely centered around letting people know

we’re not intimidating and we’re not scary,” she said.

Freshman Kyle Simon, who will be living in WoHo next year, agreed the event is a good opportunity to change the house’s sour reputation on campus outside of the context of formal programming.

“A lot of people kind of stereotype Women’s House as being super intense and really serious, but the open house gives people a specific event where people can just hang out and find out what it is without having to actually go to an event,” he said.

Professor of Botany David Johnson, Ruppel’s academic advisor, attended the open house at her invitation.

“I have supported the Small Living Units in general as a valuable

living option on campus, and thus try to support their activities whenever I can,” he said.

The open house followed Thursday’s Take Back the Night, a combined sexual assault speakout and cross-campus march. According to Simon, all current and future WoHo members help to plan and execute the annual event.

Ruppel said another goal of the open house was to provide a more “uplifting and fun” atmosphere for students and faculty at the end of Women’s Week.

“It’s a good way to regroup after last night and start the weekend a little bit,” she said.

Waickman agreed the open house is a good juxtaposition to Take Back the Night’s somberness.

“(Take Back the Night)’s heavy,” she said. “It’s emotional. After a time like that, I think it’s good for our group and our campus to come together and process that a little bit, whether we talk about the event or just spend time together.”

Johnson said he didn’t attend Take Back the Night or any other Women’s Week programs, but he “fully support(s) the WoHo’s campus programming on important social issues.”

Simon said Women’s Week is meant to have a positive, uplifting message overall.

“Everyone thinks it’s supposed to be super serious, but you can be an activist and be laid back at the same time, so you can have fun with everything that you do,” he said.



# Opinion

## Your trash is Universitronics’s treasure

A decapitated laptop with only three buttons on its keyboard. An iPod, with a screen dim enough to make one wonder what fruit represents “Apple Inc.” A Giga Pet. Those are all things people have tried to sell me at Ohio Wesleyan University.

I run a business at OWU called Universitronics™, where I buy and sell OWU students’ working and broken electronics. I see all kinds of crazy things every day. (In case you were wondering, I did buy the laptop, iPod, and Giga Pet.) I try not to ask questions unless I need to. So, often--after a transaction--I am left wondering: “What in the world happened to these electronics?” How is it that only three keys are left on a keyboard? HOW? Did they test out a new chain saw? Did they try to sharpen a cheese grater?

Maybe you have seen me around campus tabling. I post where I’m going to be on “www.owu.org”. So far, I’ve been all over campus. I took a tour of the residential halls to see which produced the most customers: Bashford, Smith, Thomson or Hayes. All had problems. Bashford lounge is a huge, wide-open space, but it has a relentless heater that sporadically makes earsplitting bangs. Smith second floor lounge lacks a toilet within driving distance. Thomson first floor lounge simply doesn’t have enough traffic. And the furniture in Hayes’ lounge is too awkward to table with. “What about Welch,” you may ask. I never tried it. Students actually attempt to study there. I am not allowed to conduct business at the fraternities or other living facilities.

Lately, I’ve settled in front of the Thomson store. Well, to the side of the Thomson store, next to the chips (the school says I can’t block traffic). It’s a popular place, although I can never tell when someone wants to do business with me or buy a bag of chips. More often, students go for the chips. I wish the students were at least torn between the two choices: “Chips--no. Money! Chips! No, electronics--no. Chips!”

Students’ inclination towards chips aside, I really think Universitronics™ does a good service by giving students money for something they don’t want or are about to toss out, whether it’s working or broken. This benefits the community on many levels.

Suppose you no longer want an iPod. Instead of tossing it, giving it away, or selling it to someone without much interest (aka for an ultra-low price), Universitronics™ will buy the item from you at a fair price, add value to it (e.g. cleaning, hardware modifications), and pass it on to someone who needs it or will break it down for parts. Universitronics™ simultaneously provides a valuable service to the OWU community and helps the environment.

Suppose you are taking photos on the JAY-walk, and you run into President Rock Jones. This startles you, and you drop your camera. The lens smashes. Normally, you would toss the camera and add to America’s already expansive waste problem.

But, now with Universitronics™, you have the option to both help the environment and get money for what you once called “trash.” Universitronics™ will buy your busted camera and harvest it for parts. In short, Universitronics pays the OWU community to get rid of stuff they no longer want. So next time you’re sick of the feel of your iPod, or your laptop shorts-out, don’t toss it! Don’t let it collect dust! Save your wallet and the environment, and sell to Universitronics! More information about Universitronics and tabling times can be found at [www.owu.org](http://www.owu.org) or [www.universitronics.com](http://www.universitronics.com).

Andy Wittenberg  
Sports Editor

**Quote of the week:** “Everyone thinks it’s supposed to be super serious, but you can be an activist and be laid back at the same time, so you can have fun with everything you do.”

--Freshman Kyle Simon , future WoHo resident



## Invisible Children has visible flaws

By Suzanne Samin  
A & E Editor

Earlier last week on my way into the Thomson store, I tore down a flier.

This flier was for the screening of “Kony 2012,” a documentary created by the organization “Invisible Children.” This documentary should be screened on campus today.

It was only after tearing down the flier, which showed the merchandise that will be sold at the screening, writing some statistics on the back of it and then hanging it back up that I realized I was engaging in censorship – which is something I really do not support.

So, instead of continuing to tear down these fliers, I will explain my difficult and conflicting feelings about this documentary in a more constructive way.

Invisible Children is an organization dedicated to drawing attention and raising awareness of the Lord’s Resistance Army – a theocratic military group in Uganda, which is comprised of abducted children that are oftentimes abused, sexually assaulted and forced to kill their own families. Invisible Children calls for the U.S. to begin a military intervention in Central Africa in order to put an end to the LRA and its leader Joseph Kony.

The film, which is about 30 minutes long, was released and spread across the Internet in a virulent fashion, making its way across Facebook, Tumblr, Twitter and various other social media websites in a matter of days.

As of March 24, the video has over 85 million views on Youtube.

In the film, the director and co-founder of Invisible Children, Jason Russell, details his experience in Uganda, learning about the LRA from survivors.

After people saw this film, it seemingly became a race not only to make others aware of Kony, but also to make others aware that they were aware of him. Facebook statuses shared the link to the film and called for action against this man’s diabolical behavior.

Conveniently, Invisible Children makes it known in their documentary that, to truly dedicate yourself to the cause, you can order an “action kit,” which contains posters, stickers, buttons and other publicity materials.

It costs thirty dollars. But to many,

thirty dollars was a reasonable price to pay in order to “make Kony famous.”

People, mostly college students, began to organize rallies in their communities under the slogan, “Cover the Night.” People come together to rally against Kony in order to, yet again, raise more awareness.

It seems that people love to make other people aware of things. At the very least, they like to make people aware that they are aware of things and that other people should be aware of it, too. We feel if we make other people aware of something bad that is happening, maybe they will do something about it.

This is not to speak against awareness campaigns, but there is something to be said about this never-ending, ineffectual cycle. What, exactly, does raising awareness accomplish?

Unfortunately, awareness campaigns fall prey to what social psychologists would call “diffusion of responsibility,” which, in layman’s terms, is when the sense of responsibility to take action in a scenario is diffused amongst a group because “someone else will do it.”

What I can assure you is that funneling your money into “action packs” will do almost nothing to benefit the children of Uganda, and here is why.

According to Visible Children, an anti-Invisible Children blog, the company has spent only 33 percent of its \$8 million dollars in spending on “direct services” – and by that, of course, they mean the children. This means that the thirty dollars you shell out from your small paychecks working as a student on or off campus or from your parents’ wallets may never even see the continent of Africa.

Invisible Children is also a fan of the Ugandan army: which is notorious for raping, pillaging and abusing civilians, according to Human Rights Watch Africa.

As if the financial disparities are not enough, we also have to confront the fact that some of the information within the documentary itself is not factual.

For example, Russell states that the LRA has over 3,000 children in its ranks. According to most documents it currently has around 250 and has not had thousands of children since 2007, if ever.

A quick Google search will show you how Russell has been reacting to the emergence of all these figures and criticisms of his campaign.

These are the things that make me completely and totally unwilling to support this organization. “But what about the children,” one might ask. How can I be so heartless as to call out an organization that is helping children no matter how much of it is being spent on paychecks, alcohol and trips to Sea World?

Let me make it clear that my outrage towards this campaign has nothing to do with my lack of desire to help people. Kony and the LRA are important things that people should know about.

However, I find myself disgusted that an organization that cannot even keep its books straight would target impressionable young people from middle-class environments, who feel deeply guilty about the misfortunes of others around the world and feed off of their guilt in order to make money to line their pockets.

I also am generally growing sick and tired of encouraging people to spread the word about things instead of taking charge themselves. Does Kony make you mad? Does the LRA make you mad? Go join the Peace Corps. Find a way to get involved in humanitarian efforts in Africa. Send your money to organizations that check out in terms of financial integrity. Do not support those that look only to harp on your guilt and privilege, acting as if they are some kind of savior that can only exist on your dollar.

There are some people who will continue to plaster up fliers and hash-tag their statuses and tweets, “#kony2012.” They will accuse those of us who acknowledge that charity organizations are by no means infallible or incapable of evil of “not caring about the children.”

Here is the cold hard truth, reiterated to you: charitable organizations, non-profits, and the like are by no means infallible or incapable of lying to the public. Invisible Children has clearly been called out on several occasions about being a little fishy. Be wise about the causes you send your money to. Check them out.

I do encourage everyone to go watch the documentary in order to learn about the situation in Uganda. I hope it makes you angry, and I hope it makes you want to inspire change.

I hope you go forth to inspire that change – because people at this university really do have that ability. I just hope you do it in ways that will really count.

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# Arts & Entertainment

## Theta Alpha Phi brews talent at Coffee Haus



Photos by Suzanne Samin

Left: Junior Andrew Rossi performs improv with the Babbling Bishops; Right: Junior Alex D'Amore-Braver sings and plays an original song at Theta Alpha Phi's annual Coffee Haus Saturday.

By Suzanne Samin  
A&E Editor

Low lights and smooth jazz transformed Bashford Lounge into an ambient coffee house last Saturday.

Theatre honorary Theta Alpha Phi hosted their annual “Coffee Haus,” where students could be served coffee and small desserts, and be entertained by student performers.

With a three dollar admis-

sion, and snacks costing less than a dollar each, the proceeds went directly to funding the honorary.

Ohio Wesleyan students performed in various mediums, such as slam poetry, stand-up comedy, song, dance and improvisational comedy.

Freshman Shannon Dean said, “I think Coffee Haus is really cool. I went to the Red and Black Revue, and I liked that they had a more informal

setting here so that people could come up, perform and have fun with it.”

The event had a casual tone to it, with students coming up who had not even planned to perform. They pulled up poetry on their cell phones and sang songs they had memorized on their own time.

Some improvised their own comedy acts, telling funny stories about professors and experiences they have had.

The audience participated in many of the acts, providing background music, engaging in call-and-response and providing feedback.

Dean said it was fun watching other people having fun when they are onstage, because as a theatre major, she knows that when someone is on stage who does not want to be, everyone in the audience can see it. She said she appreciated Coffee Haus because

everyone who performed truly wanted to be there.

Junior Liz Anderson, a TAP member, said, “I think Coffee Haus went really well. It’s a great place for the campus to come together and see each other’s talents and support them.”

Anderson said they had a number of really great acts including a capella music by Pitch Black, improvisational comedy from the Babbling

Bishops, poetry by sophomore Gus Wood, and a performance by student band Rob and Todd in the Morning.

She said there was a great turnout of people in the crowd, as well.

Junior Alan Massouh said, “I thought it was awesome. I think it should happen once a month or on a more regular basis because it seems people were having a lot of fun bringing out their inner artist.”

## Say Anything preserves their own original sound with newest album

By Noah Manskar  
Transcript Reporter

To know Say Anything’s music is to know Max Bemis’ life story.

The prolific frontman’s songwriting is always deeply personal, and the band’s discography chronicles every aspect of his life, positive and negative.

The sexually frustrated teenage Bemis emerged on “Baseball,” Say Anything’s debut; the sophomore “...Is A Real Boy” brought his struggles with drug addiction and bipolar disorder to the forefront; and the epic “In Defense of the Genre” portrayed a man in a state of recovery, reflection, anger and confusion. On the 2009 self-titled record, he had found solace in marriage and continued work in facing his demons.

The story is a roller coaster—a disconcerted boy turns too quickly into an angry, alienated man at the hands of mental illness and addiction, realizes and confronts his flaws in a flurry of catharsis, and as a result finds love and takes a break from being indignant.

With “Anarchy, My Dear,” Say Anything’s fifth full-length release, the saga continues.

Present here is a much more conscious Bemis—he’s surfaced from his previous haze, and while certainly happier, he’s still as angry as ever.

This is a major departure from the preceding self-titled record. There, Bemis was making light of his hardships in an attempt at moving on.

Here, Bemis has realized there’s still work to be done. He knows his demons are still lingering, but their presence doesn’t stop him from hating them. This is obvious on “Peace Out.” Accompanied by harps and acoustic guitars, Bemis sings a sardonic, biting ode to his former self.

“I’ll be fine,” he croons. “Sever



this for all time/Laugh it off when this ends/You can just go get high with all of your dumb friends.”

Along with this newfound animosity toward his own history, Bemis maintains his loathing of his critics.

On “Admit It Again,” the continuation of a hate letter to his detractors began on “...Is A Real Boy,” he berates the hipsters who are “fueled by a potent mixture of cocaine and latent insecurity, defining (their) own self-worth by the opinion of a stupid website with Satan as its figurehead.”

In addition to being once again filled with rage, Bemis is as in love on “Anarchy” as he was on the self-titled release. His infatuation with his wife, Sherri DuPree of indie rock quintet Easley, is exhibited clearly on “So Good” and “Say Anything,” which could have been blared from John Cusack’s iconic boom box - were he an anarchist punk rocker.

Bemis’ writing provides tangible evidence of his increased happiness.

His words may be scathing in some places, but his voice sounds less tortured than on “...Is A Real Boy” and “In Defense of the Genre.” The instrumentation is less lighthearted and more stripped down than the self-titled record, but it’s cleaner and much more polished.

Many Say Anything fans claim the self-titled album was Say Anything’s worst because of its brighter sound and lack of emotional depth. They wanted an angrier Bemis, the anguished twenty-something heard on the band’s earlier work.

Their desires are sated on “Anarchy,” and it’s good to hear Bemis angry again.

But it’s also refreshing that he’s holding onto the positivity in his life. Someone who has been through as much as he has, and been completely open about it in his work, deserves to do so.

## Documentary examines women’s questionable roles within mass media

By Katie Carlin  
Transcript Reporter

The Benes Rooms were filled with frequent gasping, shaking of heads and laughing last Monday.

As part of celebration of Women’s History Month, “Miss Representation,” a documentary about gender inequality, was shown to students. Men and women filled the Benes Rooms to view the film.

Written and directed by Jennifer Siebel Newsom, Miss Representation exposes how mainstream media contribute to the under-representation of women in positions of power and influence in America. The film challenges the media’s limited and often disparaging portrayals of women and girls, which make it difficult for women to achieve leadership positions and for the average woman to feel empowered.

Sophomore Rachel Tallmadge was one of the students who planned the screening.

“I have always been interested in gender equality,” she said. “This film addressed many issues with gender equality and supported them with facts.”

Tallmadge said she was amazed by movements the documentary has sparked across the country.

“The action and attention that this film has caused really sparked my interest to get involved,” she said.

Stories from teenage girls and provocative interviews with politicians, journalists, entertainers, activists and academics (including Condoleezza Rice, Nancy Pelosi, Katie Couric, Rachel Maddow, Margaret Cho, Rosario Dawson and Gloria Steinem) voiced their opinions and shocking statistics were presented.

Senior Michael Raszmann said he really enjoyed the film and what he liked the most was the political dialogue explained.

“I like how they made the very clear distinction between the pragmatic rise of the media and sexism through capitalism, they made that very distinct,” Raszmann said.

Junior Clare Whitaker said she thought the documentary was fascinating.

“I thought some of the things they brought out were so true, one of the biggest points was the idea that half of the population doesn’t support the other half,” she said.

Whitaker said it is amazing how men never watch the things that women are in, which portray women as protagonists - a point that was stressed throughout the film

“I feel like, after watching this, it’s so important for women to watch it and learn to be confident and learn to be individuals, but I think men should also view this and embrace it because they need to understand the same things as women,” she said.

Senior Ann Merrell, who helped plan the screening along with Tallmadge, said she is going to be more critical of the way the media portrays women.

“I am someone who loves chick flicks and fairytales, but I think it is important to remember the effect that those kinds of stories and films have on women and their image of themselves,” she said.

“I think that we know that stripper scenes degrade women, but also these fairytales where women are powerless and need a man are also very harmful. So I am going to pay attention to that,” Merrell said.

Tallmadge said she was really excited that a lot of people showed up and came to this house project.

“I think it sends an important message to the campus,” she said. “The action doesn’t stop here. I hope people are inspired by this to spread the message.”

“We are still discussing how to keep the action going,” said Merrell.

She said she is hoping the communities she is a part of will be open to dialogue about the representation of women in the media.

“I want to give members of the Ohio Wesleyan community a chance to get involved in the beginning of this wave of change and education,” said Tallmadge.

Seen a good movie? Seen a really awful movie? Tell us about it! Send it to The Transcript at [owunews@owu.edu](mailto:owunews@owu.edu)



