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THE TRANSCRIPT

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WCSA to furnish student center

Staff Report

WCSA approved a resolution Monday to allocate \$13,765 to purchase furniture and televisions for the new student center.

Senior Jason Ramsay, WCSA treasurer, said in introducing the resolution that the University was planning to use "old crappy furniture" from Smith to furnish the center, because costs for the renovation of the former Alpha Tau Omega (ATO) house were running higher than predicted. He added that the WCSA currently has extra money that could be used for this purpose.

Senior Marie Rymut, WCSA president, said the student government might contribute more to the project later.

"It would be irresponsible of

[WCSA] not to help out," Rymut said. "We have done a good job budgeting this year. We now have some leeway. We now have some leeway at the end of the year."

The allocation includes \$1,197 for three flat screen televisions, \$1,699 for a projection television, and \$399 for a sound system. The rest of the money will pay for a sofa, chairs and tables.

"The Park Avenue Project Committee came up with those figures," Rymut said. "They came up with basic first year needs, found things students would want to use. Then they went out and priced those items."

President Mark Huddleston announced in December that he would use money in his discre

See WCSA, p. 2

Looking for a hole in the defense



Photo by Emily Bigelow

Freshman Dan Richards shoots the ball Tuesday against Oberlin. Richards tallied a goal in the Bishops' 20-8 victory. For the full story, see page 12.

Mission trips' goal to help others

By Phil Salisbury
Editor-in-Chief

Instead of going home or traveling, 82 students are using the week off from classes to help people around the world.

There are seven spring break mission teams traveling from Rome to El Salvador to Franklin, W. Va. next week.

The El Salvador trip, led by junior Katie Donnan, is a new trip where students will help at an orphanage. Football coach Mike Hollway, who is the faculty advisor for the trip, submitted the idea for the trip because he heard a story about a woman volunteering where the team is assisting.

"She found a group of children living in a dump, surviving by eating the food in the dump," Hollway said. "The children had

families, but the families weren't able to support them. The woman started this orphanage for those children to provide for them spiritually and physically."

The Benedictine Team is traveling to a monastery in Eerie, Pa. Senior Laura Coonfield, leader of the trip, said in an e-mail interview the team is going to participate as if they were a full part of the monastery.

"The Benedictine motto is ora et labora, pray and work, and that is exactly what we are doing," Coonfield said. "We will be working in a variety of different areas, including an art house, a soup kitchen, and an infirmary."

We also plan to have a series of informal discussions with the sisters on topics such as faith and

See Mission trips, p. 2



Photo submitted by Megan Dillhoff

Members of last year's Rome spring break mission team. The Rome Team is one of the seven teams traveling to various locations next week during spring break.

Admissions receives more applications than ever before

By Myra Blackburn
Staff Reporter

The increase of applications has given the admissions office more flexibility to select students who will make a great contribution to the Ohio Wesleyan community.

"We try to pick from this greater pool of students who will add significantly to our university," Carol Delpropost, vice president of Admissions and Financial Aid, said. "They bring their talents to us, and we try to continue to strengthen the university and achieve a greater diversity of students here."

Delpropost said The Admission Office goal is not to have more students than usual. She said the target number is 565 incoming freshmen because it allows the university to have a better oppor-

tunity to select students to OWU.

"I know that everyone I admit is not going to come here," Delpropost said. "I may have to admit 300 to 400 [students] in order for 100 students to come here."

Although they need to admit more students, doing so does not affect the same amount of incoming freshmen annually, nor does it affect tuition increase, Delpropost said.

"The [number of incoming freshmen] had been the same," Delpropost said. "We don't anticipate [crowded] housing, loaded class size, and overloaded academic advising. Two years ago, we had a greater number of students who chose us then what we expected. Faculty worked very hard to accommodate these students and did a great job. Last year, we were right on target, we had [approximately] 565 students."

Delpropost said there is a lot of effort which goes in building and recruiting strategy. The Admission Office looks at demographics, students who have similar characteristics to those who are at OWU, and have strong skills in higher education.

"Our [top] priorities are the Washington DC area, Chicago and suburban areas, Delpropost said. "They tend to be more important. We also look at states like Texas and California to increase our diversity efforts."

Delpropost said The Admission Office also look at different combinations of cities such as New York City, metropolitan areas and cities surrounded by colleges. She said other good marketing strategies for attracting students to OWU are faculty members who know

See Applications, p. 2

FPC changes recusal guidelines

By McCarton Ackerman
Staff Reporter

Last week, the faculty voted unanimously to make changes to the University's recusal policy based on the recommendation of the Faculty Personnel Committee (FPC) at Ohio Wesleyan.

The recusal policy pertains to when faculty members should be excused for proceedings. When discussing a faculty member's merit for promotion, only that member would leave the room. The new changes call for people in that faculty member's department or who have business and personal relationships with them to leave the room.

Committee member Joseph

Musser, chair of the English department, said changes were made to make sure the policy reflected current practices.

"Faculty used to be hired into departments rather than a specific program," said Musser. "That has changed with recent faculty being hired directly to certain programs."

Botany/Microbiology professor David Johnson, head of the FPC, said the changes will ultimately strengthen the recusal policy.

"The changes broaden the description of potential conflicts of interest that make it advisable for a committee member to leave the room during discussion of a particular faculty member," said Johnson.

Both Musser and Johnson were confident that educated decisions could be made about faculty members even if those in present at meetings did not know them directly.

"There is plenty of other evidence," said Musser. "We rely on the student board, course evaluations, student comments and self-evaluations among other things."

Johnson said the faculty at Ohio Wesleyan has been overwhelmingly supportive of the recent changes made to the policy.

"There was minimal discussion on the proposed changes at the February faculty meeting and the changes were approved unani

See FPC, p. 4

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IFC teams up with PS for extended SafeWalk hours

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Spring break hotspots at OWU and Columbus

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Chojnacki finishes career as 12th highest scorer

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Women take NCAC track championship

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Mission Trips

social justice and monastic prayer and liturgy.”

Senior Jon Smith, leader of the Katrina Team, is supervising 14 students who will go to New Orleans to assist with the cleanup. He said they hope to clean a house every day.

“Since some houses were under water for as long as three weeks, they got really moldy and very damaged,” he said. “We’ll have to remove the contents of the house, and knock the drywall and everything out. All that will be left will basically be the studs of the house.”

Sophomore Tricia DiFranco, leader of the Rome Team, said in an e-mail interview the team members do not have to be Catholic to go on the trip.

“We’ll have to remove the contents of the house, and knock the drywall and everything out. All that will be left will basically be the studs of the house.”

-Jon Smith, Katrina Team

“Being emerged in Vatican City will allow us to learn more about the Catholic faith and I’m sure will inspire us to examine and explore our own personal faith,” DiFranco said. “Being in Rome will allow us to see the universality of the Catholic faith, as it is an extremely important place for pilgrimages, especially during the season of Lent.”

Sophomore Benjamin Goodrum, head of the Lakota Nation Team, said he group is going to Rosebud, S.D. to immerse themselves in the culture of the Lakota Nation.

“We’ll be doing mostly carpentry work during the day,” Goodrum said. “At night, we’ll have

more cultural events and speakers. I hope that we act as representatives of the mainstream population to a part of people who have been repressed by American society.”

Junior Laura Harden, leader of the Border Team, said her group will do several things during the week in both El Paso, Texas, and Juarez, Mexico.

“We will be staying with families from the poorer slums of the areas,” Harden said. “We’ll visit a domestic violence shelter, orphanages, and a group of migrant workers who try to farm for a living. Lastly, we’re going to go to an organization to help the families of victims of crimes in the area.”

Junior Steve Yang, head of the Habitat for Humanity Trip, is taking his team to Franklin, W. Va. to assist in building or repairing houses.

“The area where we’re going to this year is a very poor area of the country,” he said. “We had and amazing experience last year and I hope to repeat that this year.”

Senior Katie Ayers, leader of the Appalachian Service Project, said in an e-mail interview they will travel to Appalachia to repair homes in the impoverished area.

“Many of the families ASP cares for are living at or below the poverty line with average family incomes below \$15,000,” Ayers said. “While there, our unskilled hands will help out with light repair work, painting, and remodeling, but our main objective during

“When you go on a trip, it allows us to reflect on our own values and learn about the values of others.”

-Benjamin Goodrum, Lakota Trip

this visit is to show the people of Appalachia that we care.”

(from page 1)

There is another trip that goes to North Ireland in the summer.

Why go on the trips

The reasons the team leaders gave for why they are going on the trip vary almost as much as the trips themselves.

Smith said he feels the work they will do next week is the least the students could do.

“When [the people of New Orleans] go back to their houses there is a ton of work to do,” he said. “It’s complete chaos for them. The least we can do is start the first couple of steps so they’re on the right track.”

Goodrum said he was drawn to the Lakota trip because of the tolerance of the group.

“People aren’t judged from where they come from,” Goodrum said. “That’s what drew me to the project initially, aside from the service aspect. When you go on a trip, it allows us to reflect on our own values and learn about the values of others.”

Donnan said this trip appeals to what she wants to do after college.

“When I graduate, I want to teach English as Second Language,” she said. “I figured this would be a good idea to combine it.”

DiFranco said this will be her first time outside of the country.

“I am eager to learn the roots of my religion and experience Rome while also providing service to God’s people,” DiFranco said. “It will be a completely new place for me to explore my faith. I also hope that I can help my team members to grow in their faith and friendship with one another.”

For the teams that travel outside the country all American students needed were passports and a second form of identification. Harden said one of her team members, freshman Yu Hu, needed to get more documents because he is not from the U.S.

WCSA

(from page 1)

tionary budget to renovate the former ATO house into the as of yet unnamed student center. The renovations are expected to be completed sometime this month.

While Huddleston would not comment on the costs for the construction, Rymut estimated the figure to be at least \$100,000.

“He’s just letting the construction take place without worrying about the costs,” Rymut said. “At this point in time, we don’t have an exact figure.”

The resolution states that the purchase must take place this academic year and that the university must ensure that the funds be used to buy the items listed on the resolution.

Admissions

(from page 1)

about college areas.

“We don’t recruit just in the United States, we recruit nationally,” Delpropost said. “We have a person who travels abroad to different high schools. Much of our application increase this year is from multicultural students such as African Americans, Latinos and Asians who have significantly increased over the last year.”

During the summer the Admission Office begins sending applications out and distributing accepting letters in September and early October, Delpropost said.

“Students can accept their admission at anytime before the deadline of May first,” Delpropost said. “We expect everyone to tell us their decisions like other colleges. [Professionally] we call this the National Candidate Rely Date. We want our applicants to know that we are eager to have them here and we don’t want to wait until the month of May to tell them that.”

News Briefs

StAP applications due after break

Students looking to apply for a StAP position must apply online at stap.owu.edu. The deadline to apply is Tuesday, March 11.

Honors society now accepting applications

Phi Eta Sigma, the freshman honors society, is now taking applications. Freshmen must have a GPA of 3.5 or higher to apply. The deadline for applications is Tuesday, March 20. For more information visit Psychology Professor Vicki DiLilio’s office in Phillips Hall

Deparment requires students to register for class in advance

Students looking to take a senior seminar course in either the ECON or EMAN departments must pre-register with Economics Secretary Patti Krebehenne between Monday, March 19 and Friday, March 23.

Office looking for volunteers for Alumni Weekend

The Alumni Office is looking for student volunteers for Alumni Weekend and preparation before. Applications are in the Mowry Alumni Center. For more information, contact Brenda DeWitt at x3329.



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Swimming is sweet when helping diabetics



Photo by Emily Bigelow
Graphic from OWU Online

Kaitlyn Scott from Willis Intermediate swims lap to help raise money for the Delaware County Diabetic Association in conjunction with the Central Ohio Diabetes Association at Sunday's Swim or Walk for Diabetes at Edwards Gym and Pfeiffer Natatorium.

Due to lack of candidates, WCSA to delay elections

**By Matt Murphey
Correspondent**

WCSA elections for president, vice president, treasurer and secretary have been moved back one week, to April 4.

Colleen Byers, WCSA senior class representative, said the week postponement will lead to a more democratic election season.

"Postponing the election process by a week was done in order to afford the opportunity for more students to pledge their commitment to run," Byers said. "We support the presence of a competitive election that provides students with options as they vote for those who will represent them on their student government."

Byers said without options the elections will no longer serve their true purpose.

"We hold elections in order to give students a choice in their representation," she said. "If WCSA fails to produce viable candidates and competition, we in some way

fail our fellow students."

Byers said in addition to getting students to run for office, WCSA also wants as many students as possible to vote.

"The Campus Relations Committee, which is the WCSA committee that handles the coordination of elections, will be using various publicity techniques to inform students of elections," she said. "These will include Facebook, e-mails, flyers and campus mailings."

Junior Keller Sehringer said more needs to be done to promote the elections.

"This is the first time I have heard about the elections," he said. "I didn't realize they were coming up so soon."

Senior Marie Rymut, WCSA president, said some other ideas have been proposed to increase student voting.

"We might have another ballot issue which will pull more people to the polls," she said. "An example of this would be a question

asking students what off-campus restaurant they would prefer from a list of possible choices."

Senior Dale Stewart, WCSA vice president, said any student may run for executive office, but those who run often have prior student government experience.

"The election is of course formally open to all students, but it makes for an easier transition when the [election winner] knows how WCSA works," he said. "Those running have usually been involved in WCSA before."

Stewart said although in the past those running have usually had WCSA experience, work has been done to make it easier for those without experience.

"This year through lots of extra effort, the executive body has really tried to institutionalize things so we can move from one administration to the next," he said. "This extra effort from the executive body has hopefully helped make the transition smoother no matter who wins."

Meeting for club budgets today

**By Maygen Hall
Staff Reporter**

Campus organizations planning to continue or start up next year will be attending the annual Spring Funding meeting today at 4 p.m.

According to an email sent out by senior Jason Ramsey, WCSA treasurer, the meeting is mandatory and must be attended by at least one representative of each organization on campus.

Any organizations that will be in need of funding, from WCSA, for the 2007-08 school year are required to attend, according to Ramsey. There was also a meeting yesterday.

"We are really emphasizing [these meetings] this year because of the changes in WCSA. So many times in the past there was a lack of understanding between many campus organizations about the funding process," Ramsey said.

Ramsey said having these meetings annually helps WCSA and campus organizations run easier.

"We want to make sure [organizations] know completely about the process," Ramsey said.

Sophomore Kenneth Williams, incoming Black Men of the Future president, said he was happy these meetings were held.

"The meetings are great because they keep people informed on the process of getting their organization funded," Williams said.

He said he believed if these meetings did not exist, no organization would understand the funding process and no organization on campus would be properly funded.

"It helps me because knowing this information is essential to the success of all BMF events next year," Williams said.

Sophomore Tricia DiFranco said attending these meetings and sending in a yearly budget request to WCSA cuts down on the amount of individual meetings organizations would have to undergo during the year.

"Clubs will not have to worry about coming in to request funding next year, thus WCSA won't have a billion and one things to do during the year, regarding funding," DiFranco said.

She said a lot of changes have been made to the funding process to make it more efficient and clubs definitely need to attend.

"With these yearly budget proposals, all clubs will know the amount of funding they will receive next year," DiFranco said.

An unlikely pair
Frats team with PS for SafeWalks

**By Maygen Hall
Staff Reporter**

Public Safety (PS), in conjunction with the Interfraternity Council (IFC), has implemented a new SafeWalk program to provide secure late-night transport for students, which officially began last night.

According to a campus wide email, SafeWalk will be available for OWU students living on or near the campus on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday nights between the hours of 12am and 3am.

Robert Wood, director of PS, said there are already escort systems available for students between 7 p.m. and 12 a.m.

"Some people [students] felt that because of [several] incidents that happened last semester, it would be better if the student walks operated later," Wood said.

Wood said the walks will be carried out by students in the on-campus fraternities. The idea for the SafeWalk came from IFC because it wanted to participate in additional community service.

"After PS student workers get off at 12 a.m., two students from the fraternity organizations will continue the services [SafeWalk] until 3 a.m.," he said. "The walks are something that everybody wants, but not many people take part. Yet if one person benefits from them, it is all well worth it."

Woods said that because SafeWalk is in its pilot stage, PS and IFC will monitor and gauge its success over the next few weeks.

Senior Ben Owen, a member of Chi Phi fraternity, said he had already taken part in the program and thinks it is terrific.

"[I think the program] allows members of the Greek community to be of assistance to the OWU community," he said.

Bowling benefit to raise money for youth program

**By Cliff Williams
Correspondent**

Members of Ohio Wesleyan will be participating in Bowl For Kids' Sake 2007 on March 30 from 9: 30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m at Delaware Lanes. Money raised from the event will go to the Delaware County Big Brothers/ Big Sisters organization.

"Bowl for Kids' Sake is a national event which has been around for many, many years," said Sue Pastors, director of Community Service. "It is the traditional annual fundraiser for Big Brothers Big Sisters. The Delaware event is relatively new and quite small compared to the national program."

Pasters said that in past years the OWU Bowl For Kids' Sake has raised anywhere from \$5000 to \$7000.

Natalie Starlin, the assistant director of the Delaware Big Brothers/Big Sisters program, explained how the money raised

would benefit the organization.

"The funds will help their one adult, one child program and the money will also go to supporting the Willis Intermediate School program," she said.

While the reason people participate is to raise money, Pastors said the actual event is a fun time.

"We always have to kick people out [when the event is over at 12:30]," she said. "It's a very social event."

Pasters said the Willis Big Brothers and Willis Big Sisters is an after-school program OWU students participate in.

"A typical day [at Willis Intermediate School] consists of about equal parts homework/tutoring time and free time to play in the school gym," she said.

Kerri Robe, the director of Delaware Big Brothers/ Big Sisters, said in 2006 268 youths were served by the program.

Pasters said that teams consist of 5 people, but some teams will bring 10 people because there

are two separate games that are played.

"We have teams from Building and Grounds, Housekeeping, the Accounting Office, fraternities, sororities, small living units, dorm floors, service clubs and organizations, and, on occasion, we have had faculty teams," she said.

There are prizes given out to the student team and the faculty/staff teams that raise the most money.

Each receives a trophy engraved with the name of their organization or department, which they keep for one year.

"We will stop the bowling at certain points and have contests," Pastors said. "We have contests like bowling backwards or bowling on your stomach. Whoever knocks down the most pins during these contests also win a prize."

Starlin said it is great to see the students, faculty, and staff of OWU participate in the event and have a good time for a good cause.



Photo courtesy of Sue Pastors

Members of the Willis Intermediate School's Big Brothers/ Big Sisters program at last year's Bowl for Kids' Sake. This year, the event will take place on Friday, March 30.




Opinion



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Mission Statement

To provide our audience with accurate information about news, safety, health, sports, entertainment, politics and campus living regarding the members of the OWU community.

To serve as a check on WCSA, the administration, and the Board of Trustees.

To maintain an open forum for the discussion of campus issues.

To educate students working on the staff in the procedures of a working newspaper and provide them with journalism experience.

Just be brilliant And remain thankful in life



After my Modern Temper professor, Dr. Kent, handed out our first exam earlier this semester, he gave the class three words of advice: just be brilliant.

I laughed. Then I wrote until I couldn't feel my hand any more. Brilliant? I can't be the judge of that. But it would be remarkably in keeping with the modernist writers, musicians, artists, and cultural icons we've studied thus far this semester to *just be brilliant*.

One hallmark of classic modernism is evidence at an early age of inordinate talent and skill. In other words, modernists tended to be brilliant from day one. Whether or not they ever garnered fame, fortune, or happiness, brilliance is one category into which most modernists fit.

But what about the rest of us?

With the exception of the few of us who actually *are* brilliant (I'm certainly not included), on what are the rest of us supposed to rely? I say gratitude.

Why gratitude? Because gratitude is the key to happiness—and if you're happy I believe you have everything you need.

For example, unhappy people don't say thank-you. It's the happy ones who do. Unhappy people don't express their appreciation for family and friends who mean the most to them. It's the happy ones who do.

When was the last time you saw a thankful, unhappy person? Probably never. That's because

they don't exist.

Granted, happy people can be made unhappy by anything: long lines, rude service, unexpected expenses, not feeling well, losing, and so on. But gratitude is the answer.

Rather than cursing that which you cannot change in life, why don't you be thankful for what you do have an impact on and never stop letting people know about it?

There is no quota for the number of times you can thank someone in one day. Nowhere does it say you can only be thankful for three people in your life and no more.

I challenge you to say thank-you every time your mother or grandmother or whomever it is in your family who taught you to say thank-you would want you to say thank-you.

When someone holds a door open for you, buys you lunch, sends you mail, gives you a hug, helps you study for an exam, loans you their car, pays for your movie – the list goes on and on.

It is getting easier and easier to take everything that we have for granted; after all, most of us have been blessed enough to be a *have* and not a *have-not* person for most of our lives.

Remember, though, that it may have been just one or two generations ago that someone gave your family a helping hand. When someone takes a chance on us, we must be grateful. When someone reaches out to us when we need it most, we must be grateful. When someone accepts us for who we are and loves us as we are, we must be grateful.

Gratitude: it's easy to talk about, but I would argue one of the hardest things to put into action. Here is your chance to just be brilliant.

Editorial 'Conflict' causing debate

We'd like to take this opportunity to explain one of the tenets of journalism that relates to the top two letters to the editor below.

A conflict of interest is a situation in which a reporter's ability to remain objective and unbiased is compromised, and just as important, the *appearance* of such a situation.

Readers decide whether or not a story is biased. In the two cases referred to in the letters, readers may think the story is biased if they know that the reporter is a member of the organization he or she is writing about, even if the story is completely free of bias.

It is with this concept in mind that The Transcript editors told a student reporter from a journalism class that it would not publish her story about the track team, because she is a member of the track team. Period. It had nothing to do with how she wrote it – the fact she wrote it in and of itself is a conflict of interest. In the other case involving a story last week, The Transcript was unaware the reporter was a member of the swimming team.

Of course, conflict of interest is not limited to journalism. There's a story on page 1 today of a refusal policy that mandates that faculty peers from the same department cannot deliberate on each other's personnel decisions. A city official whose brother bid on a city contract cannot vote on the acceptance of the contract – if he did, that's a conflict.

Former Gov. Bob Taft paid a hefty fine last year for accepting golf outings and other gifts from lobbyists – the appearance was that Taft would grant them political favors in exchange for the gifts, even if he didn't actually return the favor.

A conflict of interest doesn't have to mean that, in the case of journalism, the reporter gains something out of it. Again, it's the appearance of a situation that, in simpler terms, just looks funny.

The letter suggests that our sports editor, a member of the women's soccer team, has a conflict because she writes about sports. But soccer isn't in season, so therefore no conflict. And if there was a

story to be written about women's soccer, she wouldn't write it.

Our Editor-in-Chief is a member of Phi Delta Theta, and under no circumstance would he write an article about greek life.

Conflicts of interest are something journalists have to deal with constantly. If that is questioned, then our objectivity, ability to judge newsworthiness, and credibility are also questioned.

With a school the size of ours, we have to pick and choose our battles. Most people on campus are involved in several organizations.

We're sorry that the letter-writer thinks The Transcript "does a poor job of covering many athletic events." We're not perfect, but we try to cover the more popular and accessible sports with our small staff (that would be two) of sports reporters, and rely on OWU Sports Information for details of the sports we can't cover. A student contacted The Transcript Monday about the track teams' recent success, and you can read that story on page 12. Also, we would like to address Coleman's claim about how we don't cover the sports fairly.

We face many problems in trying to cover campus. The main one is space. We have about the same number of pages in the entire paper that even a small town paper has in one section. Expanding beyond 16 pages is unfeasible given our resources.

The Transcript staff are student journalists. We have academics, extracurriculars, and our lives to worry about along with the paper. Also, there is a fluctuating involvement with the paper each semester. We wish we had stories of every event on campus every week, but since that is currently unfeasible, we have to prioritize what gets covered.

If you take a look at a major newspaper, it focuses its coverage on what is most popular. For sports, we observe soccer, football, basketball, baseball and lacrosse to be the most popular at Ohio Wesleyan.

We made efforts last semester to have students and faculty submit story ideas so we could attempt to cover campus events better. That offer stands. We sincerely hope that no one takes offense at any lack of coverage.

Letters to the Editor Prof. apologizes for oversight

Dear Editor,

In the March 1 edition of *The Transcript*, you published a story that was written by a writer in my Journalism 110 class about the swim team. I regret to inform you that the writer of that story is a member of the swim team and that, of course, represents a clear conflict of interest by any standard of journalism.

I hasten to add that I take full responsibility for that oversight. The student who wrote the story is not at fault for this violation of an important and longstanding journalistic principle. As a professor of journalism, it is my responsibility to teach this ethic, encourage our students to avoid

conflicts of interest, and to ensure that students do not write stories about issues or organizations in which they have a direct and personal relationship.

In light of this story and other story conflicts that have been brought to my attention, it is obvious that I was not clear in my instruction to our Journalism 110 students or in subsequent discussions that they should avoid these conflicts of interests. That failure is mine and mine alone and should not reflect on the student who wrote the swim team story or any other student in our journalism class.

As a result of this incident, I have revised my curriculum to

focus more on this important journalism principle earlier in the course so students fully understand when a conflict of interest exists, and that readers can once again be assured that information published in *The Transcript* is produced independently and free of any potential conflict of interest.

Based on the foregoing, I offer my apology to the editors of *The Transcript* and anyone at Ohio Wesleyan University who might have been affected in any way by this oversight.

Sincerely,
Jim Underwood
Journalism Professor
Ohio Wesleyan University

Student doesn't buy 'conflict'

Dear Editor,

I recently submitted a story to The Transcript regarding a national qualifying performance by a member of the women's track team. It seems that this is a "conflict of interest" because I am on the track team myself.

As I understand the meaning of this phrase, my story would have had to have earned some personal benefit for me or my team. Conflict of interest you may call it, but I call it recognizing a truly outstanding performance that would otherwise go unnoticed.

The fact of the matter is The Transcript does a poor job of cov-

ering many athletic events. In fact, my hometown newspaper gives more coverage to Ohio Wesleyan cross country and track than The Transcript does.

Your own sports editor is on an athletic team at this university. No, there's no conflict of interest there. I was told, before my story was even read, that it would not be published for being "biased" and that it would lower the "believability" of the story. Believability? Biased? Believability ought not be a factor in a sport's recap!

There's no denying that the athlete qualified for nationals or ran the time she did. These are

pure facts, not opinions or even a controversial topic. It's not an attempt to improve the current status of track and field athletes. It's simply recognition for an outstanding performance. Actually, I'd call it respectful to acknowledge such a performance.

There is no harm in recognizing her accomplishment, besides the fact that another precious sport may lose some page space.

Sincerely,
Catie Coleman ('09)

Editor's Note: For a further explanation of conflict of interest, please read the editorial

Letters to the Editor must be typed, signed and include a telephone number for verification purposes. They must be received by noon on Monday. Please try and limit letters to 300 words. Letters may be edited by *The Transcript* for length, but not content. Send letters to: Phillips Hall 106 or via email at: owunews@owu.edu.



Arts & Entertainment



Vacation getaways close to home

Julia Smith
A&E Editor

Many students are anticipating leaving Delaware for spring break. For those who aren't, Delaware and its nearby Columbus have plenty to offer.

Students may forget that although Delaware may not be a cultural hub, Columbus is a metropolitan city with a number of activities available. In the Thursday, Feb. 15 edition of Columbus's *alive!* readers voted on their favorite restaurants, shopping, arts, and nightlife giving students a resource for near by fun during break.

Junior Angela Javorina, a Columbus native, said she loves the energy you can find in different neighborhoods in Columbus.

"I like the Short North neighborhood near downtown," Javorina said. "The restaurants have great food and there is always some interesting art gallery showing an exhibit and good shopping. Columbus is a city that has a lot

of different neighborhoods and areas that all have different feels. It's not difficult to find something somewhere."

Mahan Gallery at 1042 N. High St. in the Short North was voted by the readers as the best art gallery in Columbus. The gallery shows contemporary art pieces of local artists across different media. The gallery also host performance art and musical performances to accompany the art that changes on the first Saturday of every month. The Columbus Museum of Art at 480 E. Broad St. downtown was voted the best museum in Columbus according to *alive!* readers. According to *alive!* "The Columbus Museum of Art is a treasure chest in the shape of a beautiful old building."

Readers ranked the Arena Grand Theater, at 175 W. Nationwide Blvd., as the best movie theater in Columbus. The theater, located in the Arena District downtown features eight auditoriums with plush seating and the most current technology

in screening and sound. "Dead Silence," "Zodiac," "Black Snake Moan" and "300" will all be showing during spring break.

Readers said that the Funny Bone Comedy Club at 145 Easton Town Center made them laugh the hardest. Drew Hastings, an Ohio born comedian uses his British wit from his English mother and his relatable humor to bring in his audiences. Hastings will be performing at the Funny Bone Thursday, March 15 through Sunday, March 18.

Alive! readers voted El Vaquero's the best in Mexican food. El Vaqueros' has multiple locations, including 259 S. Sandusky St. The restaurant has a great number of meal combinations and even has a mariachi band available to serenade night time dinner goers. "Eating three square meals each day at this favorite Mexican joint, it would take nearly two months to try each of the combinations listed on the extensive menu," according to *alive!*

Readers chose Skully's Music

Diner at 1151 N. High St. in the Short North neighborhood as the best dance club. The nightclub offers two bars and a large dance floor as well as themed nights. "Soul glo Sundays, mixtape Mondays and ladies eighties every Thursday all attract hip crowds looking to groove first and ask questions later," said *alive!*

For those unable to travel to Columbus, Delaware has events to entertain during break as well. Saturday, the Maple Sugar Festival will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Stratford Ecological Center at 3083 Liberty Road. Admission is \$8 for adults. The Delaware County Cultural Arts Center, at 190 W. Winter St. will have "Through the Eyes of a Third Grader: Memories of Delaware" a photography exhibit running through April 2, using photographs and articles from the early 20th Century to show Delaware's history. The materials for the exhibit were prepared with assistance from the Delaware Historical Society.

'Hogs' funny, big names fall short

Hassan Nasir
Film Columnist

The four stars of *Wild Hogs* are all talented actors, which is why it's disappointing - if not surprising - that this buddy flick isn't funnier.

Woody (John Travolta) leads the pack as a man whose friends think has it all- money, looks and a supermodel wife. He is actually broke and about to get divorced. Desperate for a way to rekindle better times, Travolta convinces his motorcycle pals, Bobby (Martin Lawrence), bored dentist Doug (Tim Allen) and computer geek Dudley (William Macy) to take a road trip.

It seems like a good idea for four middle aged actors, most of who are on the downside of their careers to make a movie. where they try to fight old age to recapture their youth. All four friends seem to be hitting a life low point at the same time, and so they decide to try being bikers for real.

Woody talks them into a cross country ride, where they'll rediscover the freedom they've given up in getting older on the open road. At least in theory. In practice they end up in a standard comedy of errors. The guys do plenty of middle-aged male bonding.

Highlights include eco-friendly Dudley who carries his own poop, sleeping next to each other on a small inflatable bed and getting mistaken for gay partners. This comedy of errors happens over and over again throughout the movie.

The only time the script breaks from the rigid format is when Macy wonders off by himself to leave the others without their comedy relief. Then the baton passes to Lawrence, who postures and flails around doing his overconfident gag.

The story therefore is pretty much predictable and overly structured, but the cast is decent enough to find good performances between the movie's rigid lines.

John Travolta however is more of a train wreck than anything. The guy has no business at all doing comedy. When he has attempted it before he usually played the straight man. When asked to be funny in *Wild Hogs*, he seems to interpret that as bizarre facial contortions and mugging for the

camera. He seems completely lost in nearly all the funny scenes.

With the spring break coming and too many horror flicks being released, it won't be a bad idea to try out something different in *Wild Hogs*. Not too much of a bad investment, both in terms of time and brains.



<http://movies.yahoo.com>

Wild men, John Travolta, Tim Allen, Martin Lawrence and William H. Macy ride on their motorcycles looking for their youth in the new movie *Wild Hogs*.

Arts Briefs

Performance to rock Mean Bean

Tomorrow, singers and song writers Jeff Dernlan and Brad Knull will be performing at The Mean Bean at 7 p.m.

Women's Month to be celebrated in March

The Women's Resource Center is celebrating women's month during the month of March, continuing with International Women's Day being celebrated today.

Community film series to continue with *The Birds*

Tuesday, March 27 through Wednesday, March 28 the Ohio Wesleyan department of English and The Strand Theatre will continue their community film series with the showing of *The Birds*, a 1963 Alfred Hitchcock film. Showings will be at The Strand, with all Tuesday showings beginning at 9:15 p.m. and all Wednesday showings beginning at 7 p.m. Admission is \$5 at the door.

Pitch Black album now available

Pitch Black, Ohio Wesleyan's a cappella group is now selling their debut album, *The Black Album*. The album is on sale in the Hamilton-Williams Campus Center at noon for the remainder of the week for \$10. Featured songs include *Galileo*, *Lean on Me* and *Sweet Dreams*.

Artist to discuss Afghani women exhibition

Tuesday, March 20 at 7 p.m. in the Benes Rooms Peggy Kelsey, a photographer whose work focuses on portraits of Afghani women, will come to campus to discuss her current exhibit showing in Gallery 21 located on the first floor of the Beeghly Library to the left. Each photograph in the exhibit includes portions of interviews with women Kelsey spent time with in Afghanistan in 2003. The exhibit is sponsored by the women and gender studies department and student board, Dean Steinmetz, the art department, the history department, the MFL House, and the Peace and Justice House.

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John Carroll UNIVERSITY
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The Strand Theatre

Showtimes for
Friday, March 9th- Thursday, March 15th

Wild Hogs (PG-13)
Friday: 5:00, 7:30 & 9:30
Saturday: 1:30, 4:00, 7:30 & 9:30
Sunday: 1:30, 4:00 & 7:30
Monday-Thursday: 5:00 & 7:30

The Number 23 (R)
Friday: 5:00, 7:15 & 9:30
Saturday: 1:30, 4:00, 7:15 & 9:30
Sunday: 1:30, 4:00 & 7:15
Monday-Thursday: 5:00 & 7:30

Ghost Rider (PG-13)
Friday: 5:00, 7:15 & 9:30
Saturday: 1:30, 4:00, 7:15 & 9:30
Sunday: 1:30, 4:00 & 7:15
Monday-Thursday: 5:00 & 7:30

Arts & Entertainment

Letters getting everything out in the open



In the Feb. 22 *Transcript*, Drew Lenox's sports column, "NBA 'show' provides little entertainment," attacked the NBA and its All-Star Game with the typical porous arguments of a diehard college basketball fan.

I support the NBA, but I'm not here to argue that. I wanted to express my dissatisfaction with the Letter to the Editor in last week's *Transcript* issue, written by an OWU student whose name I will change to Lee Harvey Oswald, which attempted to insult Lenox and defend the NBA.

Let's summarize the debate.

Lenox didn't waste any time getting to the point of his column.

The first sentence read, "I hate the NBA." Okay, good way to start. From this, I gathered that Lenox did not support the NBA. This initial sentence was the first of many sentences that must have sparked Lee Harvey Oswald to fire back.

Possibly written on the sixth floor of a book depository, Oswald wrote is his letter, "*The first line made me know how much I would hate this article, 'I hate the NBA.' My first question was, 'Why write about it?'*"

If Oswald stands by this statement, he believes you shouldn't write about a topic unless you want to make love with it. But that's not the best part.

Oswald's entire Letter to the Editor was about how he *hated* Lenox's column, quite possibly the most fantastic contradiction I've ever read. Oswald hated Lenox's column and wrote about it, breaking the rule he created only twenty words earlier.

Imagine a world where columnists only wrote about what they enjoyed—Grandma's farm, the dog birthing a litter of puppies, Uncle Woody sending a birthday card with \$5 in it, the root beer social, messing around with Betty Lou in the alley after school. Gosh darn it, life is grand. Everyone grab hands and ring around the frickin' rosie.

You hear all the time about how viewers and readers get upset being exposed to too much negativity. Violence in the news is a hot topic. Audiences get discouraged when they are exposed to crime and murder on a daily basis.

I'll be the first one to admit the media gets carried away at times, especially in how they manipulate fear. But I'll take a good old-fashioned neighborhood violence story over a heart-warming feature on the bed-stricken child and the professional athlete who inspires them any day of the week.

Many people are even opposed to the word *hate* itself. I don't have a problem using the word, in fact, I use it all the time, mostly to describe Fall Out Boy, mushrooms, the architecture of the men's restroom in the science library, Lee Harvey Oswald's Letter to the Editor, and popped-collars.

I'm not exactly sure what the main point of Oswald's letter was, but Lenox deserved to be attacked.

In his first paragraph Lenox wrote, "I really only watch [NBA basketball] on my nightly dose of Sportscenter."

He went on to assert many strong opinions about a topic he admittedly lacks a thorough knowledge of. This was upsetting to me, and probably to Oswald.

Last year, I tried my hand at a political column about the Iraq War. I follow the news closely, but my background in the topic is rather weak. It was in a simi-

lar vein to Lenox's NBA column—"Now I'm no expert, but..."

The column was somewhat humorous and I got my opinion out, but from a political standpoint, it didn't make much sense. The following week, I was called out in a Letter to the Editor, and although it was incoherent and poorly written, I still deserved some kind of retribution from the opposing side.

In the end, columns are opinions and the columnist can share their views on any subject. But be prepared because anything released into the public forum is open game. As the audience, you have great power. You can turn the page, change the channel, send in your dissenting opinion or go eat a bagel. Choose wisely.

I'm sort of hungry now. I think I actually might go get a bagel. It will probably be an everything-bagel and I'll spread cream cheese all over it.

Picking a successful spring break vacation



Life is full of tough choices. Paper or plastic, Natty Light or Miller High Life (it's the champagne of beers!), cremation or burial – we all have to make decisions. However, every college student must make a decision in his or her life above all others: where to spend Spring Break.

With the doldrums of winter setting in and summer vacation seemingly forever away, Spring Break is the perfect time of year to spend your parents' money on foam parties and all-you-can-eat coconut shrimp.

Fortunately, with the help of Google and my own preconceived stereotypes, I was able to compose a list of this year's top destinations, as well as advantages and disadvantages of each, to aide in such hedonistic pursuits. So, without further ado:

Cancun

Pros: An orgiastic party atmosphere, a lowered drinking age,

and plenty of Girls Gone Wild-sponsored wet t-shirt contests to enter.

Cons: The release of Girls Gone Wild tapes, with subsequent knowing smiles and sidelong glances from your roommate's little brother when he comes to visit.

Perfect if you like: Basking in the sun and having no morals.

Verdict: It's worth it. You know you like the attention, you needy tramp.

Daytona Beach, Florida

Pros: The ideal college spring break destination: great beach, lots of booze, and willing, intoxicated strangers.

Cons: NASCAR and its resulting followers.

Perfect if you like: Draft beer and collectors' plates.

Verdict: Nix it. Spring Break lasts a week, but memories from "accidentally" hooking up with a toothless inbred (or three) last forever.

Los Angeles, California

Pros: In such a versatile city, you can act like a movie star in the Hills by day and roll around Compton like the gangster you are by night.

Cons: Paris Hilton, Brandon Davis and Lindsay Lohan.

Perfect if you like: Getting rejected from all of the clubs you read about in *Us Weekly*.

Verdict: Pass. Whatever Paris gives you probably won't be curable.

Hilton Head Island, South Carolina

Pros: A high-class vacation spot for the well-to-do. And we all know rich kids have the best drugs.

Cons: It's one of the favorite destinations for the elderly. Just when you're coming back to the condo, Grandpa's on his morning bike ride, and boy oh boy, does he have wandering eyes.

Perfect if you like: Feeling superior to others and playing bingo.

Verdict: Grandpa's wife is 29 and uninhibited. Worth it, unless you fear being caned to death by an angry, retired CEO.

Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

Pros: It's super trashy, which means freedom to wear wife-beaters and eat at buffet restaurants, just like the good Spring Break

gods intended.

Cons: This place is extremely family-oriented. Nothing ruins a body shot like finding out a really mature-looking twelve-year-old is under all that salt.

Perfect if you like: Neon lights, bottomless drink specials, and girls who wear a little too much eyeliner.

Verdict: Worth it. There's only a small chance the family will press charges.

Thailand

Pros: Consistently rated as having best beaches on earth and bootlegged copies of "Rumor Has It."

Cons: An oppressive government and child prostitution.

Perfect if you like: Opium and Buddhism.

Verdict: This one really depends on where your interests lie.

Road Trip

Pros: The ultimate bonding experience – traveling the country, tongue-kissing randoms and singing in karaoke bars a la Britney Spears in "Crossroads."

Cons: Remember how uncomfortable car rides could be when you were a kid? Imagine how uncomfortable they'll be when you've

traveled with your five best friends for an entire week and then slowly realize you hate all of them.

Perfect if you like: Roadside diners, hostels, and the lyrics to "I'm Not a Girl, Not Yet a Woman."

Verdict: Check your state laws in reference to stuffing your travel-mates in the trunk.

Your Hometown

Pros: Relatively cheap – you can always earn money by doing chores around the house!

Cons: Lingering violent thoughts towards your younger siblings and awkwardly running into everyone you hated in high school.

Perfect if you like: Drinking at the same bar your dad does.

Verdict: Self-explanatory in above "pros and cons" section.

Good luck, everyone, and Happy Spring Breaking!

Editor's Note: This article was originally printed on www.CollegeHumor.com and written by Emily Rose. The article has been edited for content.

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Photo courtesy of Warren Hyer

Sunday, March 4, The Central Ohio Symphony performed Beethoven's 9th Symphony in Gray Chapel under the direction of Conductor Jaime Morales-Matos. The 60 member orchestra was accompanied by a special chorus of students from the Ohio Wesleyan Choral Art Society, the Ashland Chorus and the Miami University Collegiate Choral. The performance also included mezzo soprano Jason Hiester, professor of music, Danielle Walker, soprano, Ellen Graham, tenor and William Bausano, baritone. The performance was the first time Beethoven's 9th Symphony was performed in Delaware.

ROCKET MAN

BY SOPHOMORE ERIK HAUBER

Skyla Flies as the ROCKET MAN

By Erik Hauber

I WAS SKILLED AT THE COSTUME DESIGNING

WASH

... HOWEVER, NOT WITH THE SIMPLE THINGS IN LIFE

MY MOTHER SAID I'D BE THE ROCKET MAN

TO BE CONTINUED...

Character Profile: Vultan

RULER OF THE CITY IN THE CLOUDS

FLASH GORDON

By JIM KEEFE

PICKING UP CREW MEMBERS EN ROUTE, FLASH'S TASK FORCE RACES TO THE LOCATION OF A DOWNED CRAFT.

APPROACHING RENDEZVOUS SITE WITH VULTAN AND HIS HAWKMEN.

PAYLOAD BAY DOORS OPEN.

VULTAN'S MEN HAVE BOARDED, MY KING. KING FLASH?

AND WHO ARE YOU, MY DEAR? ONE OF HIS LOVELY LOYAL SUBJECTS?

HER NAME IS TENGSI AND SHE'S PART OF OUR CREW. I'VE ALREADY TRIED TO IMPRESS UPON HER THE UNNECESSARY USE OF REFERRING TO FLASH AS ROYALTY.

PALE... AND AS BEAUTIFUL AS EVER!

DOCTOR ZARKOV, WOULD YOU MIND TURNING UP THE HEAT?

IT SEEMS TO BE RATHER CHILLY IN HERE.

TO BE CONTINUED...

Wishing Well®

2	4	7	3	4	3	6	3	2	3	2	3	6
U	E	G	B	V	E	A	A	S	U	E	T	R
4	7	5	7	3	6	4	6	4	2	7	6	2
E	O	H	A	Y	T	N	I	T	C	L	S	O
7	8	7	8	4	5	4	3	7	6	8	4	6
S	S	N	P	U	E	A	E	O	T	R	L	I
8	4	6	3	2	6	7	4	5	2	8	5	3
E	S	C	N	M	V	T	U	L	M	A	P	D
6	2	5	3	8	6	8	7	4	6	2	3	5
E	O	I	U	D	N	J	A	C	T	N	R	S
3	7	3	8	7	4	6	7	2	4	5	6	8
E	L	S	O	T	C	U	E	S	E	N	R	Y
5	7	4	6	4	2	5	7	2	7	2	5	2
E	R	S	E	S	E	A	E	N	D	S	R	E

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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MAGIC MAZE ● OAK CITIES

PKURPMJHECZXUSQ

NOAKFORESTLJGET

CZAOAKVILLEXVES

DTRKEOPNLLJHEL R

CNLARNRDKKIYWAU

VEAGTIOEOARHPDH

YNKLLKDLTOOIKKK

GAECKBZGXRWEWAA

ONAMKAODERAKVOO

USRPOMOLJUIHAIG

EDBAYXWUTBSQCOL

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Burr Oak	Oak Forest	Oakdale	Oakville
Charter Oak	Oak Grove	Oakhurst	Oakwood
Live Oak	Oak Hill	Oakley	Red Oak
Lone Oak	Oak Ridge	Oakman	

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POPEYE

HY EISMAN

THESE PUZZLES GIT TOUGHER 'N TOUGHER!

... I JES' NEED THE THREE MIDDLE LETTERS...

R-R-RING!

... A GREEN OVOID FRUIT... FIVE LETTERS... HAM?

... SO FAR I GOT THE FIRST LETTER 'O' AN' THE LAST LETTER 'E'

... I'M SORRY, OLIVE... I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF SUMTHIN'.

I'LL BE OVER AS SOON AS I CAN!

WHERE THE @//ARE YOU? YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE HERE AN HOUR AGO!

... LESEE NOW... A GREEN OVOID FRUIT... FIVE LETTERS...

KATZENJAMMER KIDS

BY HY EISMAN

I'VE ATTACHED AN ELECTRODE TO THIS PIE PLATE!

EVIL BEFALLS THOSE WHO PLOT VILLAINY... FORSAKE THIS BASE DEPRAVITY ERE IT'S TOO LATE

WHEN THE BRATS GRAB THE PLATE... ZAP!

... IT'LL TOSS THEM ONTO THIS CUSHION FULL OF CACTUS NEEDLES!

NOW ALL I HAVE TO DO IS PLUG IN THE POWER LINE!

... AND ENJOY THE ENSUING DRAMA!

PLUG IN PER CHOICE!

POOR CHILD!

DO NOT SQUANDER YOUR SYMPATHY, MISS TWIDDLE, HE IGNORED MY ADMONISHMENT

King Crossword

TRIVIA TEST

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1. MUSIC: Who sang the 1980s hit "Manic Monday"?

2. FAMOUS QUOTES: Who once said, "It is better to jaw-jaw than to war-war"?

3. LITERATURE: Who penned the lines, "Let me tell you about the very rich. They are different from you and me."

4. LANGUAGE: What the acronym OPEC stand for?

5. RELIGION: In what decade was the Living Bible completed?

6. HISTORY: How many volumes are in "The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire" by Edward Gibbon?

7. TRANSPORTATION: What kind of conveyance is a landau?

8. ART: Wassily Kandinsky was a leading artist in what well-known movement of the early 20th century?

9. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of the Republic of Fiji?

10. HISTORY: Who was known as "The Citizen King," a 19th-century leader of France?

Answers

1. The Bangles

2. Winston Churchill

3. F. Scott Fitzgerald

4. Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries

5. 1970s

6. Six volumes

7. A large horse-drawn carriage

8. Expressionism

9. Sans

10. Louis Philippe

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

1		2						7
	4			8				2
	7		1	5				
	6		5		3			
3				2				4
		9	7				1	
	1			8	9			
2					4			8

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging ★★★ HOO BOY!

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult ★★★ GO FIGURE!

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Bishops Sports



Late-season injury doesn't mar stellar career

Chojnacki finishes 12th on all-time scoring list

Ryan Jones
Staff Reporter

It shouldn't have ended this way—not for someone as zealous and unpretentious as Ben Chojnacki.

Amid ascending the OWU career scoring list and preparing the Bishops for the final stretch of the regular season and conference tournament, Chojnacki tore his anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) in a home contest on Wednesday, Jan. 31 against Wabash.

Chojnacki sustained the injury in the second half when he jumped to gather an inbounds pass and landed awkwardly on his left leg.

"My first thought was that my career was over as soon as I hit the floor," Chojnacki said. "But after I calmed down and the trainers performed some tests I didn't think it was that serious."

Chojnacki had an MRI performed on Monday, Feb. 5 and actually walked to the training room the next morning to receive the results.

"I had progressed nicely in the first few days [following the injury] and was really optimistic," he said. "When they told me I had torn my ACL I was surprised."

The injury required surgery, but the training staff told Chojnacki if he wanted to rehab and try to play they would fit him with a brace and show him how.

"Regardless of what I chose to do, I was going to have surgery," he said. "I decided to get myself in shape so I could help the team. I knew that I wasn't going to be the player I was before, but I had a lot



of experience and thought I could contribute something."

Chojnacki, who missed the final five regular season games, rehabbed his knee up to three times a day and made it back to play in all three NCAC tournament games, but failed to score in any of them.

He finished his stellar career 12th on the all-time scoring list with 1,349 points, and had a 13.1 per game average. He was a three-time All-NCAC 1st Team selection and a two-time ESPN the Magazine second-team Academic All-District selection.

Chojnacki was averaging about 15 points at the time of the injury, and had he been healthy, he would have cracked the top 10 on the all-time scoring list.

His final line, 16 minutes played and 0 points, in the NCAC championship loss to Wooster, 86-51, was a far cry from his normal production.

Chojnacki said he never even thought about his numbers suf-

fering as a consequence of him taking the court.

"We had a special group of guys and had a chance to make a run in the [NCAC] tournament," he said. "What was most frustrating was that I wasn't able to be a bigger part of that."

The Bishops reached the NCAC championship game for the first time since the 1989-90 campaign, bringing them one step closer to reaching the NCAA Division III tournament.

"Unfortunately, every year that we have had a chance to get the postseason [NCAA Division III tournament] we've had to beat both Wittenberg and Wooster in the conference tournament," he said. "That's a tough task because in recent history they have arguably been two of the best teams in the nation."

Coach Mike DeWitt said everyone close to the team knew Chojnacki was going to try to make a comeback.

"Even if he could only play on one leg, we knew he was going to give it a shot," he said. "For him to be able to help us in the tournament is something I'll never forget. I respect and admire him."

DeWitt said the injury exemplified Chojnacki's selfless attitude as a team-first player.

"He worked really hard to get the chance to play again and it wasn't because he cared about his scoring average," DeWitt said. "He told me, 'Put me in where you need me coach. I'll do whatever I can to help the team win.'"

Although Chojnacki admitted the injury was not the way he wanted to end his career, he said he was prepared for having something he loved taken from him.

"Throughout my career I had the mind set that I was going to enjoy every moment," he said. "I wanted to make the most of what I did, and even when I was injured I think I was able to do that. I'm able to go to sleep at night knowing that I gave my all."

In the beginning

Chojnacki cherishes the moments he shares with others because even though losing the latter part of your senior basketball season is disappointing, it pales in comparison to losing your number one fan—especially when she's also your mother.

"My mom began her struggles with cancer when I was in high school," Chojnacki said. "She pretty much was on her death bed two or three times, but came back."

Chojnacki said when he went home to visit during his freshman year, she was often bedridden.

"Even under those circumstances she still made it to every one of my home games my freshman year and managed to climb up the bleachers," he said. "She refused to let terminal cancer end her life."

His mother, Leslie, eventually lost her battle with cancer after Chojnacki's freshman year.

"She was my number-one supporter," he said. "It was strange not having her there."

Chojnacki said his mother's passing changed his outlook on life.

"It gave me more perspective," he said. "Her death brought me to faith, but more than anything ingrained in me that the characteristics that made me who I am came from her. By not having

her around I realized the traits we shared. The work ethic and determination I have come from her, and have pushed me to work even harder at my own life."

Born and raised in Medina,

exactly sure why," Chojnacki said. "I called Steve Moore [Wooster's coach] immediately after my visit and told him I was headed to OWU. It just seemed to be what I expected from a university. I



Photo by Phil Salisbury

Senior Ben Chojnacki drives the lane against Wittenberg as the Bishops knocked off the Tigers 57-52 in the NCAC semi-finals on Friday, Feb. 23.

Ohio, Chojnacki spent a lot of time with his fraternal twin brother, Matt.

"Matt drove me to be more competitive," Chojnacki said. "Everything we did was a contest to be the best because he was always doing the same things I was. It was a constant motivator."

At Medina High School, Chojnacki developed into a star athlete. He won all-conference and all-county honors in basketball and football, but ultimately decided basketball was the sport he wanted to play in college.

"I had a pretty good junior season and was recruited by a fair amount of schools earlier than most players, but I broke my left foot at the very end of my junior year and had to sit out the entire summer," he said.

Chojnacki had a solid senior season; he averaged 13.5 points per game and was named to the Division I Academic All-Ohio Team. He had offers from Wooster, OWU and a walk-on offer from Division I Miami of Ohio.

Wooster original choice

Chojnacki said he had his mind made up that OWU was the one place he wasn't going to attend.

"I was planning to go to Wooster because it was close to home," he said. "I knew many people associated with the team."

Another factor pushing Chojnacki away from OWU was that while in high school, he was a teammate of Travis Schwab ('04), who then played for the Bishops. Schwab ended his career second on the all time scoring list behind Scott Teder ('88).

"My whole life I was compared to Travis Schwab and people were always telling me that I was going to be the next Travis," he said. "I was sort of in his shadow throughout high school and wasn't sure how things were going to be at OWU. Travis and I are good friends, but we are totally different basketball players."

It was Chojnacki's mother who encouraged him to give OWU a closer look.

"I took a visit and just fell in love with the place, and I'm not

tion in academics."

Chojnacki, who has made the dean's list every semester, said it took his first semester to understand how important it was to manage his time.

"I had to learn how to earn good grades at OWU," he said. "This wasn't like high school where you could just show up and get a good grade. If I hadn't experienced hard times academically, I would have questioned why I was here. One of the reasons you pay for a school like OWU is so you can gain some valuable knowledge from some very learned people."

Chojnacki's role on the basketball team was also a learning process, and changed drastically from the time he was a freshman to his senior year.

"We had Travis and Charlie [Smith ('04)] here when I was a freshman, and they were true post players," Chojnacki said. "It was my job to adapt to what they had established and so I really concentrated on being a post player."

The Bishops finished 19-8, but needed players to step up the following season to replace the production of Schwab and Smith.

Schwab, an assistant basketball coach for Kenyon, said Chojnacki did a great job of taking over the leadership role when he graduated.

"You could tell he was a natural-born leader from the time he was a freshman," Schwab said. "He was a big part of our success his freshman year. When it came time for him to be a leader he stepped up, and I don't think OWU missed a beat. Not only was he a vocal leader; he led by example too. You won't find a better leader in the conference."

Chojnacki also began to employ a more versatile attack on offense, something Assistant Coach Jon VanderWal said made him a unique Division III player.

"At 6-foot-5 as a freshman he was more of a post player, and a scrappy, rebounding type of guy," VanderWal said. "He developed

See Chojnacki, p. 10



Photo from Sports Information

Chojnacki battles for a rebound against Wittenberg in a Jan. 17 home contest. He finished his career with 1,349 points, 12th on the all-time scoring list.



Bishops Sports



Neal’s future dependent on NCAA decision

By Ted Thode
Staff Reporter

The men’s soccer team will have to wait three to four more weeks to find out if All-American senior Craig Neal will be back for a another season.

Recently, the NCAA has denied Neal’s appeal for an extra year of eligibility. Neal is in the process of appealing this decision. The reason Neal applied for an extra year of eligibility because in 2005 he missed most of the season because of injuries. (See story, for details).

This past season Neal played a key role in leading the team to the NCAA Final Four (The Bishops lost 1-0 to Wheaton in the Semifinals). Neal led the NCAC in scoring(11 goals) and points(25 points) and was named NCAC offensive player of year and named first team All-NCAC.



Neal was also named to the NCAA first team All-American, the 11th player in OWU soccer history to achieve this status.

Neal said he did not expect to be named first team All-American and was more concerned about the team than himself.

“All that stuff is icing on the cake. I was more concerned with the success of the team,” Neal said. “Going to the Final Four was a good thing but we felt as a core we could have gone all the way and won the whole thing. I was thinking more about that at the time than All-American awards,”

In an email interview, Neal’s father, Dennis said his parents, were very proud of him when he was named All-American. Kimberley, Craig’s mother even cried, Dennis Neal said.

“Everything he worked for had finally paid off,” Dennis Neal said.

Neal’s Leadership

Coach Jay Martin said the team would likely have not reached the Final Four, without Neal.

“As our acknowledged leader on the field, we would not have made it to the Final Four, I can guarantee you that,” Martin said.

Senior Jeff Sullivan, Neal’s teammate for four years said in those four season Craig has become a more confident player and has become more aware of the impact he can have on the game and his teammates.

“People expected him to play a big role this season and he came through, which doesn’t always happen,” Sullivan said.

The Injury Filled Season

Neal’s career has not always been filled with great moments. His junior year, Neal

tried to battle his way through a sports hernia throughout the season but he played limited time in 11 games. He only scored one goal all season.

During the season he thought he had a groin injury, but it was not until after the season he learned he was misdiagnosed Neal said.

“After the season, I went to the Cleveland Clinic,” Neal said. “They declared it was a sports hernia and said I should not have been playing,”

Neal said he did not think about sitting his junior year out to keep his eligibility. He said he was just like any other college athlete who tried to play through an injury.

“When a coach asks you if you want to try and play,” Neal said. “Of course you are going to say yes and try play,”

Neal said because of the sports hernia, he was able to jog but was unable to sprint or kick a ball.

“Anytime I tried to kick a ball, I felt a lot of pain in my stomach,” Neal said.

Dennis Neal said it was tough watching his son not play because he knew how badly Craig wanted to be on the field with his teammates.

“Soccer is his passion and when that was taken away from him, it was obvious that he was upset,” Dennis Neal said.

Martin said if Neal was healthy during the 2005 season he might have prevented Calvin from upsetting the team in the second of the NCAA tournament.

“You never know, but with Craig Neal, we [may not have lost] in the second round of the tournament,” Martin said.

Neal said during the season it was frustrating because he wanted to play so badly but was not able to because of his injuries and they were not getting any better despite what Neal did. He said there was still some good in the season.

“I tried to practice and I did everything necessary to get better, but nothing was ever working,” Neal said. “At the same time as a team our success was unreal. We went undefeated, so it was good seeing that,”

Senior Tim Kelly, another teammate said during that sea-



Photo by Adam Guy

Senior Craig Neal celebrates after scoring the first goal of the game in the second half of the Bishops’ match against Oberlin on Oct. 11.

son he could tell Neal was disappointed he could not play.

“We was still the captain and lead as a leader,” Kelly said.

Neal said during the winter months after the season, he did everything possible to get physically.

“I could not kick a ball when I was injured so I had to try and run,” Neal said. “I had to do a lot of ab sit ups to build my core muscle back. I did a lot of training, work-out and did a lot of swimming. I was finally cleared to play in April just in time for the spring season.”

Dennis Neal said he noticed how hard his son worked hard.

“Craig was very determined to get back on the playing field,” Dennis Neal said.

An Early Start

Neal was born in Columbus. He said both his parents are deaf while his hearing is fine.

Neal said it was different growing up with deaf parents but it made him a better person.

“I learned sign language before I could talk,” Neal said.

Jeff Vincent, Neal’s soccer coach at Worthington Kilbourne high school, said he thinks by having deaf parents it forced him to grow up and it has also made him more compassionate. Vincent said it has helped make him the individual he is today.

“He is one of the kindest kids,” Vincent said. “I have a daughter and one of her favorite players is Craig because he was al-

ways so nice to her. He was nice to her not because she was coach’s daughter but because that is how he is.”

Neal said he started playing soccer when he was four or five.

“I started seriously playing soccer when I was 10 years old,” Craig Neal said. “I started to play for a traveling club team here in Columbus called Cosa Express.”

According to Vincent, in high school Neal played all four seasons on varsity. Vincent said Neal was a significant part of the team even as a freshmen.

“He wanted to win,” Vincent said. “He was a person who you build a team around even as a freshmen,”

Vincent said not only did Neal work hard but he also had the skill to go along with his work ethic. As Craig progressed through high school, Vincent said he learned he had duties on offense as well as defense.

“He is one of my all-time favorite players,” Vincent said.

Vincent said Neal had his eye on playing soccer at OWU because it had a strong soccer program and it was a good school.

“Playing soccer at a college level was important to him, so when OWU was interested, it was pretty much a no-brainer,” Vincent said.

Neal said education, being close to home and Jay Martin were some of the main reasons why he choose to come to OWU.

Martin said he thinks the reason why Neal choose OWU is because of their previous relationship.

“I had coached Craig as a sophomore and junior in the ODP (Olympic Development Program) so we had a relationship before the recruiting process really began,” Martin said. “I suppose I was mildly surprised but I thought we had a really good chance to get him because of that early relationship.”

Looking Ahead

Neal said going to the Final Four his senior year, playing in Crew Stadium as a freshman and getting to know his teammates were some of the highlights of his career at OWU.

Neal said after college he wants to continue to play soccer whether it be over here in the States or over in Europe.

“Jay has a lot of connections [in Europe],” Neal said. “I could get a couple tryouts over there. It would be nice to go over there and make a living for a couple years.”

Both Vincent and Martin said Craig has a future in playing professional soccer. But Martin said he hopes ultimately Craig ends up coaching.

“He would be a great teacher and a great coach, and that is what I hope he ends up doing,” Martin said. “I think he has a future playing beyond Ohio Wesleyan if he wants it and I think he does at some professional level. I hope after that he gets back to teaching and coaching.”

Chojnacki

his game a lot and became our best three point-shooter this year. He put increased pressure on defenses because he was able to score from anywhere as soon as he crossed half court.”

Tweaking the goods

His sophomore year Chojnacki led the team in scoring at 17.5 points per game and earned NCAC 1st Team honors, but the increased offense didn’t translate to wins as the Bishops finished 12-14.

“After my freshman year I kept asking myself, how I could best contribute to the team?” Chojnacki said. “I had to learn when to defer to teammates and when to take over a game.”

Chojnacki said a lot of the credit goes to the players and coaches who allowed him to experiment on offense.

“I was blessed with a great group of guys who had great faith in what I was doing, and I had great faith in

them,” he said. “The relationship we had was the number one reason I was able to be successful.”

DeWitt said Chojnacki was exceptional because he was already a reliable player when he came to the program, but had the determination to keep working.

“He spent a lot of time in the off season lifting weights and conditioning to make himself the best he could be,” DeWitt said. “His effort on the court seemed to be a step above everyone else’s throughout his career. He always seemed to come up with tough rebounds and loose balls. That type of desire isn’t something you can coach, or even teach, it was a desire he had within. Ben wasn’t the most naturally-talented, but because of his hard work he made himself into an all-conference player and one of the best to play at OWU.”

By his junior season, Chojnacki said he felt more comfortable in his role as team leader. His scoring

average dropped to 12.7 points per game, but the Bishops flourished and posted an 18-9 record, including a triumph over #1 ranked Wooster, 86-83, to close out the regular season.

A lasting legacy

When he first arrived at OWU, Chojnacki said he did not know what goals were reasonable to set for him and the team.

“I wanted to be a leader and have a solid season my freshman year,” he said. “After we played Wooster and Wittenberg, [senior Ted Uritus] and I decided it would be our role to get the program to the level of those upper echelon teams. We no longer wanted to be a mediocre team in the NCAC, but wanted to become a team that was rising to the top.”

“We’ve come a long way in the past two years,” Chojnacki said. “I think there are now three teams in the NCAC you don’t want to play—

Wittenberg, Wooster and us.”

The Bishops will have a solid nucleus of players returning next year and are poised to build upon the success of this season. They got a taste of what playing without Chojnacki will be like when he went down with the knee injury.

Chojnacki said he will miss the relationships he formed while being a basketball player at OWU.

“I’ll remember the people I’ve met off the court and the experiences I’ve shared with my teammates and coaches much more than getting a rebound, or scoring a point,” he said. “I’ve been fortunate to be a part of the OWU family and to share experiences with all my teammates and their families has been something special. There’s a lot of history and a lot of good people connected to each other through the basketball program.”

DeWitt said Chojnacki has left a lasting impression upon him.

“I’m a coach who thinks there’s

more to coaching than just wins and loses,” he said. “The personal relationships with players are more important to me. Seeing him everyday and watching him become successful because of his hard work is what I’ll miss most.”

As one chapter of his life is coming to a close, Chojnacki has been busy planning the next phase.

He wants to attend law school and is in the process of applying to Case Western Reserve, Capital, Marquette, and Louisville.

Chojnacki laughed at the thought of having a legacy, and said he wasn’t sure if made that big of an impact.

“If people do remember me, I’d like to be thought of as a person who realized there was more to life than what happened on the basketball court,” he said. “I’d hope people saw that I used basketball as an avenue to give back to the community and to accomplish things that otherwise would have been impossible.”

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Bishops Sports



Women's Basketball

Last call for hoops

Two seniors finish their careers

By Ryan Jones
Staff Reporter

Coach Nan Carney-DeBord said numerous times throughout the season that the leadership embodied by her two seniors played a large role in the team's success.

Seniors Emily Lloyd and Rachel Messaros helped guide the Bishops to a respectable 14-12 record that included six game winning streak in NCAC play.

Unfortunately, the Bishops dropped five of their last six games, including their first NCAC tournament game, 54-44, to Kenyon.

Even though the team fell short of capturing either a NCAC regular season or tournament championship, Messaros said the season was successful.

"We really wanted a championship," Messaros said. "Even though we didn't win the championship we wanted, we learned a lot from each other and we competed. We also won some big games and did things that we hadn't done in a long time. I am grateful to have had the chance to lead the team this season. I feel that we really came together as a team and accomplished some great things."

Lloyd said her and Rachel agreed that one of their goals was to make sure the team improved throughout the season.

"Our team made some great strides," Lloyd said. "We came together and made improvements. We never gave in and competed all season."

What few outside the Bishop huddle knew was that Messaros, who led the team in scoring at 14.5 points per contest, played her senior year in constant pain.

For much of the past three seasons she has suffered from plantar fasciitis. A condition that causes

tendonitis of the fasci, or the band that runs along the bottom of the foot from the heel to the toes.

"It was extremely bad this year in my left foot, and towards the end of the season the pain became unbearable," Messaros said. "I was having trouble even walking and pretty much lost all the range of motion in my foot and toes."

Messaros sat out of practice for the last week and a half of the regular season, but rather than call it quits, chose to have her heel injected with numbing medication so she could play.

"My season ended in the final game of the regular season against Denison when the tendon completely tore from the bone as I went up for a lay-up in the first few minutes of the game," she said. "I unfortunately was not able to play in the tournament game against Kenyon."

Messaros, who was an All-NCAC first-team selection, said being a captain of the team was a new role for her to take on, but one she enjoyed.

"In everything I did I put the team's best interest before mine or before anyone else's," she said. "I led by example, but I also tried to be as vocal as I could be. I am someone who loves a challenge, and at times my role was just that, but I am thankful that I had support and commitment from my team throughout the season."

Lloyd said being a captain was a great experience. Lloyd is tied for second on the team with 9.8 points per game and is a second team All-NCAC selection.

"One of my main jobs was to keep a positive attitude no matter what the circumstances were," she said. "I had to keep everyone going in the right direction even when things weren't going our way."



Photo by Emily Bigelow

Senior Ali Long waits for her opponent to serve during Tuesday's game against Ashland. They won 7-2.

Basketball

Six Bishops named to All-NCAC teams

-OWU Online

Ohio Wesleyan senior Rachel Messaros, senior Emily Lloyd and junior Steffi Graf were named to the All-NCAC women's basketball team, which was announced Friday, February 23.

Messaros was a first-team All-NCAC selection, Lloyd was a second-team all-conference choice and Graf was an honorable mention pick.

Messaros, a wing player for the Bishops, led Ohio Wesleyan in scoring with an average of 14.5 points per game. She ranks third in the NCAC in scoring and third in free throw percentage (.762).

Lloyd, a point guard, was third on the team in scoring with an average of 9.8 points per game and led the Bishops in assists with 68. She is second in the conference in steals (2.31/game) and was an honorable mention All-NCAC selection last year.

Graf, a wing player, was second on the team in scoring with 9.8 points per game. She leads the league in free throw percentage (.813).

The Bishops finished the season with a 14-12 record and tied for fifth place in the NCAC championship race.

The men also joined the women in these honors. Senior Ben Chojnacki, junior Dustin Rude-

gear and junior Jesse Jean were named to the All-NCAC men's basketball teams.

Chojnacki was a first-team all-conference selection, Rudegear received second-team all-conference honors and Jean was an honorable mention all-conference pick.

Chojnacki, a post player for the Bishops, led the team with an average of 13.0 points per game. He ranks second in field goal percentage (.609) and 3-point field goal percentage (.493). Chojnacki missed 5 games after suffering a knee injury and returned to see limited action in each of the Bishops' 3 NCAC tournament games. He was a first-team All-NCAC selection for the third straight season.

Rudegear, a post player, ranked second on the team in scoring and rebounding with averages of 12.8 points and 5.9 rebounds per game.

Jean, a post player, ranked third on the team in scoring at 10.0 points per game and led the Bishops in rebounding with 6.5 per game. He ranks fourth in blocked shots (1.39/game) and fifth in field goal percentage (.565).

The Bishops finished the season with an 18-10 record. They finished third in the NCAC championship race and advanced to the championship game of the NCAC tournament.

Federer unstoppable in men's pro tennis



Quick! Name a male tennis player. You can probably name some of the ladies like the Williams sisters, Maria Sharapova, and Anna Kournikova.

If you are not a tennis fan, you might still be having trouble naming one of the men. Well, allow me to introduce you to the face of male tennis and one of the most dominant athletes in the world today, Roger Federer.

Since turning pro in 1998, Federer has won 46 tournaments, his latest at the Dubai Open last weekend.

Not only has he won regular tournaments but he also has won ten major titles at the Grand Slams. He has won the Australian Open, Wimbledon, and the US Open.

With these kinds of numbers, Roger Federer became the World's No. 1 player on February 2, 2004 and has not relinquished this title since. He has now been No. 1 for 161 consecutive weeks.

Even though Federer has accomplished a lot in the past and has gained great popularity in the present, it is the future that the

25 year old is concerned with and the quest for history that he has a chance to change.

Federer's immediate goal is to hold the record for longest consecutive matches won. He is at 41 now and is only 5 short of the record set by Guillermo Vilas in 1977.

Last time he lost, in August, sports fans still thought the Pittsburgh Steelers had a chance to win the Super Bowl and most did not yet believe the Detroit Tigers could make it to the World Series.

Federer has some focus on becoming the best tennis player of all time as he chases Jimmy Connors' record of 109 titles and the record of 14 majors held by Pete Sampras.

Federer looks to Sampras for the record of weeks as the World's No. 1 player at 286. Federer is fifth all time on this list.

With all these records in possible reach of Federer, the two words implanted in his mind are "French Open."

Despite many tries, the French Open is the only major tournament Roger Federer has not won. He has come close, making it to the final's last year, but he just can't seem to win on the French clay court.

Federer will have another opportunity in May to get this monkey off his back. Even if he doesn't, though, he still is the No. 1 player in men's tennis right now. I wonder if he's any good at ping-pong.

Sports Briefs

Men's Lacrosse

The men's lacrosse team traveled Sunday to Lynchburg, Va to play #5 Lynchburg in a non-conference game. The Bishops suffered a tough loss, 17-8. Tuesday the team took on Oberlin in their first NCAC conference game of the season. The team crushed Oberlin, 20-8. This brings their record to 2-1 going into their spring break games against #1 Salisbury and Neumann.

Baseball

The first game of the season took place on Friday at Ohio University. Juniors Jerrell Johnson and Nick Collinger drove in runs during a ninth-inning rally that brought the Bishops within 9-6, but Ohio University still prevailed. The team travels to Port Charlotte, Fla for their spring break games. They will take on 7 different teams including: Ramapo, Carthage, Central, Concordia, Greenville, Wooster and ending their trip with Hope.

Golf

The golf team begins their spring season in Wilson, N.C. The team will participate in the Barton College Intercollegiate over spring break.

Men's Tennis

Wooster and Oberlin swept all 6 singles and 3 double teams in two different matches on Wednesday, Feb. 28 and on Saturday against the men's tennis team. The team will continue competition when they play in Hilton Head, S.C. over spring break. Tuesday, March 20 they travel to Capital.

Women's Tennis

Monday the women's tennis played their first home match of the season and beat Ashland 7-2. Senior Ali Long and freshman Annie Worth won at No. 2 doubles, giving the Bishops a sweep of doubles play. The women join the men in Hilton Head, S.C. over spring break. The team will play Rhodes and Virginia-Wise. They then will travel to Olympic on Saturday, March 17 to compete in their first NCAC match against Oberlin.

Softball

(from page 12)

work on this year," Simmons said. "We are consistently raising the bar, getting better, never settling or staying on the same plane."

Cunningham said everyone has been working hard for the past six weeks in order to prepare ourselves for our first game during spring break against Keene State.

"I've been creating pressure situations and keeping intensity levels high in practice," Cunningham said. "I also keep building their confidence in one another."

Cunningham said the only concern that she has for the team this

season is injury prevention and maintaining confidence, since it is a young team.

"We are just going to take each game this season one at a time," Cunningham said.

Simmons said this year will be somewhat of a struggle.

"People are going to counting on us to lose," Simmons said. "That doesn't bother me because we expect to win no matter what the odds are. We've really come together as a team. We do leadership exercises and support each other. You can't ask for more than that, and because of those things we'll have a successful season."



Bishops Sports



Track and Field

Women bring home NCAC Championship

By Emily Steger
Sports Editor

For the first time in 13 years, the women's track team broke the tape at the finish line to come in first at the NCAC conference championship.

Coach Kris Boey was named NCAC Coach of the Year for the first time in his five seasons as coach at Ohio Wesleyan.

"I think the key to our success was preparation that can be traced all the way back to the summer training, and even back to previous seasons," Boey said. "Our team members have worked

very hard to get to this point. However, that's only half of the story. The sense of purpose, and focus, and belief of this group of young people was truly our best asset going into the season, and the NCAC Championships."

Saturday and Sunday the women's team, along with the men, competed in the NCAC championships. The men came up just short finishing second behind Allegheny, 159-114. The women won the meet crushing second place Allegheny 183-112. This is the women's first conference win since 1994.

Freshman Casey Ridgeway

helped lead the Bishops to a conference win when she had 2 first place finishes, while breaking 2 school records. She won the 200-meter dash and the 55-meter dash and received all NCAC honors.

"I was really nervous going into the [NCAC] meet, but I get nervous going into any meet," Ridgeway said. "I knew this meet was huge because it has been our main focus this entire season."

Ridgeway and two other freshmen, Erica Wehner and Ashlie Britton, combined with senior Ericka Newell to win the 800-meter relay. They set the school record, which had been held since 1990.

"We had great leadership on our team and I especially saw it in Ericka Newell," Wehner said. "She was instrumental in my season and really stepped up for the conference meet. She was an inspiration to me, especially because she was on the same relay team as me."

The women's distance medley relay team with senior Kristen Snyder and sophomores Catie Coleman, Caitlin Chesnut and Valerie Sloboda earned all-conference recognition with their second-place finish.

"After winning the NCAC relays earlier this season and now having won conference, we are going

into the outdoor season confident and prepared with our focus on winning the outdoor conference meet as well," Coleman said. "The season isn't over yet for one of our teammates, Sarah Shinn, who will be competing in the national championships this weekend."

Freshman Sarah Shinn qualified for the NCAA championship not at the conference meet, but at the Denison Last Chance Meet on Friday, Feb. 23. She ran the 800 in 2:14.57, which was 2.3 seconds faster than the NCAA division III provisional qualifying mark.

"I was too tired to be anything but happy," Shinn said.

She has the ninth fastest time in the nation. If she would have been a Bishop last year her time would have placed her fifth in last year's championships and qualified her as an All-American. She was an Academic All-American for cross country this fall.

"Shinn is phenomenal," Ridgeway said. "She is that athlete you can put in any event and the coaches know she will excel and bring in points for the team. She is honestly one of the most well rounded athletes I have ever met and I look forward to seeing her and our team transition from the indoor to outdoor season."

Although the men's team

didn't come in first, there were outstanding performances with their second place finish.

Sophomore Ryan Ellis won two events and also helped two relay teams win, which won all-conference honors. Ellis was named Sprinter/Hurdler of the Year.

Sophomore Nathan Osborn said fellow teammate Ellis improved his performances from last year.

"Last year [Ellis] didn't do as well in the indoor NCAC, but outdoor he was determined and got first in the 200 and second in the 100, which is sweet as a freshman," Osborn said. "He built up from that outdoor season and took that momentum into our indoor season this winter."

Freshman Matthew MacKenzie said time and time again the team had season and personal bests in meets leading up to and including the NCAC Championship.

"We had expected to finish well, but I think few expected us to put it together as well as we did," MacKenzie said. "Throughout the season Coach Boey has done an excellent job planning and helping us execute our workouts. This attention, along with the fellow coaching staff has been an enormous aid in helping us reach our potential."



Photo submitted by Ashley Shaffer

The women's track team displays their banner and trophy on Sunday after winning the NCAC championship.

Men's Lacrosse

After tough loss to #5 Lynchburg, Bishops take revenge on Oberlin

By Will Bridgeo
Staff Reporter

Coming off a tough loss Sunday to fifth ranked Lynchburg, the men's lacrosse team knew they needed to take care of business against Oberlin, in Tuesday's NCAC opener at Selby Field.

The Bishops, led by junior

Chris Eccles, 4 goals, and freshman Chris Ehlinger, 2 goals and 2 assists, did so with ease, defeating the Yeomen 20-8.

"The Lynchburg game was a tough pill to swallow and we needed to put it past us and move on," said Coach Sean Ryan. "Each year our number one goal is to win the NCAC, and being our first league

game, we needed this one."

Sophomore Dave Castignola opened up the scoring less than 2:00 into the game to set Ohio Wesleyan off on a 6-0 first quarter run. Eccles finished off the run with :25 left to go in the quarter by bringing the ball down alone off of a face-off and sniping a shot into the top right corner of the goal.

Bryan Harfenist put Oberlin on the scoreboard :15 into the second quarter on a man-up situation to make the score 6-1.

Eccles made it 7-1 at the 12:07 mark when he fired a rocket of a shot into the top left corner from 15 yards out.

Ryan said he emphasized the importance of Eccles in the team's offensive scheme and said he would continue to be heavily relied on to produce scoring.

"Eccles is a prime time player who will continue to put up big numbers and be a leader on the team. Last year he had to carry the load a lot, but this year he's got a great supporting cast," Ryan said.

Oberlin got as close as they would halfway through the second quarter, scoring three consecutive goals to make it 7-4.

OWU would respond with goals from freshman Rob Young and Ehlinger. On a man-up with 5:00 remaining in the half, junior Harrison Iuliano fed Ehlinger with a backdoor pass. Ehlinger faked a high shot and then slipped the ball under Oberlin goalie Drew Zambelli's legs.

Ryan said he thinks Ehlinger is showing signs of becoming a great player.

"He improves each game and is the type of player that goes hard all the time," Ryan said. "He has no excuses and with that attitude [he] will only get better."

The bishops would go on a 4-0 run halfway through the second quarter led by a goal and an assist from freshman Craig Aronoff, to put the game out of Oberlin's reach.

Freshman James McCready rounded out the scoring in the final three minutes by scoring the first two goals of his collegiate career.

The Bishops will face their biggest challenge of the season on Sunday when they play #1 Salisbury.

Softball

Season to begin over break

By Jenna Narwicz
Correspondent

With only two returning players and a new coach and assistant coach, the softball team still has high hopes for its upcoming season.

Cassie Cunningham joins the Bishops as their new coach along with Elizabeth Hestand as the new assistant coach. Cunningham was the assistant coach at Capital University for six years before coming to OWU.

New additions to the team include nine new freshmen and one transfer student. Junior Miranda Simmons said, youth is both the strength and weakness of the team.

"It's our weakness in that only three of us have experience playing college ball," Simmons said. "Our youth is also our strength though, in that we're naive almost to the point of recklessness. We're not afraid to go after things or try new stuff and we tend to just play raw, natural softball."

Cunningham said, despite the team's youth they still work very well as one.

"Our leadership is strong at all levels, no one plays as an individual," Cunningham said.

Last year the team finished second in the NCAC tournament.

Senior Theresa Longenecker said, the goal this year is to make it to the NCAA tournament.

"Throughout the season, however, we are looking to remain consistent, positive and learn from our wins and losses," Longenecker said.

According to Simmons playing consistently is the team's biggest goal.

"It's something we've struggled with in the past under great upperclassmen leadership and I think it's something we'll have to



Photo by Emily Bigelow

Senior Chad Pouliot fights Oberlin for the ball in Tuesday's game. The Bishops crushed the competition winning 20-8.

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