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THE TRANSCRIPT

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'Wait and see' is university's economic plan

2**By Mike DiBiasio**
Lead Reporter

While many colleges and universities are suffering significant losses in their endowments due to the current financial crisis, Ohio Wesleyan administrators are pleased that substantial increases in the endowment over recent years has helped offset newly incurred losses.

This offset is possible because of a broad investment portfolio which keeps the university's investments from feeling too harshly the losses of one particular sector such as stocks or bonds, said Eric Algoe, vice president for finance.

Regardless of these offset losses, the university's endowment has still suffered significant losses tracking with the market, according to President Rock Jones.

"We will carefully and prudently assess any political impact on our budget planning processes," Jones said. "The investment policy was designed to maximize opportunities for growing the endowment while also protecting the universities resources in difficult times. We will continue this policy."

According to Algoe, the university's investment strategy in response to the financial crisis has been to wait and see.

"There's a lot of discussion right now about how colleges and universities should be handling this crisis and the answers are all over the board. It's very difficult at this point to pick out a trend," Algoe said.

"We're in a period now where we are holding steady. We are not implementing changes at this point. We are trying to observe what happens in the marketplace and look at different scenarios that might play out over the next couple of months."

Additionally, the university has no plans of halting construction projects or implementing faculty salary freezes as other institutions have been forced to do in coping with losses.

"Our construction plans for a new aquatics center remain in place, as the funds have already been received and are restricted for this purpose. We will continue to invest in our academic program, including faculty, while exploring ways to reduce expenses in other areas," Jones said.

Some of those reduced expenses will be in operating funds and short-term money which help to pay for things like electricity bills. Algoe was clear that cost of tuition would not be influenced by these economic hardships.

Moreover, the university is preparing for the effects that the economy will have on current students' ability's to finance their education as well as the difficulty for incoming freshmen when looking for college loan.

"We will do everything possible to minimize the impact of these conditions on our ability to fill next year's freshmen class. We will work with all applicants and their families to address their financial need," Jones said.

Jones also mentioned that the Office of Financial Aid is waiting to help any current students who are experiencing

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Student arrests increase

By Kailey Miller
Transcript Correspondent

Ohio Wesleyan students are feeling targeted as the number of arrests for underage drinking climbs, quadrupling in the last year.

According to the Delaware Police Department's records, from Sept. 1 to Oct. 5 31 students have been arrested for underage drinking. This number is nearly four times the amount from Sept. 1 to Oct. 5 of last year, in which there were only eight arrests. This steep escalation can be credited to two things, either a huge increase in underage consumption or a stronger focus by the Delaware police on the OWU community.

During the weekend of Sept. 5, 2008, when junior Taleb Shkoukani was given a citation for underage drinking, 14 students were arrested, compared to the very next weekend when there was only one student arrest.

A Public Safety officer informed Shkoukani, that the night was a "target night." Shkoukani was told that, during target nights, the Delaware Police Department sends out undercover officers to patrol a certain area.

Delaware Police Capt. Bruce Pijanowski says he doesn't know why there is an increase in student arrests. He reiterates that Delaware police are not targeting OWU students. He explains that there was a targeted patrol that weekend where officers target specific problem areas such as alchohol and noise complaints. He says the officers are not undercover they're just in unmarked cars, "you may think

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Trick or treat? You decide...

Photo by Sara Mays

Jungle savages roam the hallways during Chi Phi's annual haunted house last weekend. Proceeds from the event went to Big Brothers Big Sisters. Pictured from left to right: Brian Trubowitz, Abe Gustavson, Gus Steiner, Austin LeVert (gorilla), Carlos Cerezo.

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Increased resources aid students' writing

By Danny Eldredge
Managing Editor

This semester, the Writing Center has started implementing some new initiatives aimed at better promoting the center and more effectively serving faculty and students.

Dr. James Stull, who just took over the position of Writing Center Coordinator, said he has been thinking about expanding from a tutor-only writing center for a while.

"Working in one-on-one tutoring still remains our most important service," Stull said. "We're developing an outreach program that better supports faculty and staff, targets a more encompassing cross-section of students and includes at least some self-directed learning."

Stull laid out a four point plan outlining his goals for the Writing Center: The plan includes (1.) promoting the Writing Center across campus; (2.) gathering information and profiling student populations; (3.) developing a learning-focused Writing Center model; and (4.) offering a more programmatic and integrated plan for supporting specific categories of students.

Stull has tried to promote the Writing Center more effectively by giving presentations to freshman students and parents at StART, meeting with residential assistants, and making visits to various classes to inform students about the Writing Center, particularly English 105.

"I think the number of class visits we've made this semester has encouraged more first-year students to seek help in the Writing Center," Stull said. "In fact I made a class visit on Tuesday (Oct. 21) and two students from that section of English 105 showed up and scheduled appointments for next week."

The Writing Center is not only trying to attract first year students; fourth year students are another student group that can benefit from a trip to the Writing Center. These students can receive personal statement guidelines for law school and medical school, as well as receive one-on-one tutoring in writing these statements. The center also plans on developing a comprehensive teaching package for students who want to practice the writing component of graduate school admission tests.

Stull said another major goal is to be able to accommodate more students. In the past, students who received a "U" in a course from the previous semester were a significant priority. This made it fairly difficult for students to make an appointment on their own, even if they had been referred by an instructor, at least toward the beginning of each semester.

"Now, any and all students can make appointment starting the first week of the semester," Stull said. "In addition, for certain papers, we schedule 30 minute appointments, instead of 60 minute ones."

Writing Center Tutor Annie Stinemetz said people should call still call in early for an appointment.

"Call on Monday if you need an appointment for that week," Stinementz said. "They fill up fast. If you need immediate help there has to be a cancellation."

See WRITE, page 2

Retention, reputation, residency priority among faculty

Julian Ginsberg
Transcript Correspodent

Faculty met in Corns on Monday, Oct. 20 for the monthly faculty meeting, during which President Rock Jones spoke at length on the direction he plans to take Ohio Wesleyan in the near future.

The topics that received the most attention included the economic status of the university, its standing among the nation's colleges, the freshman retention rate and the election of the new vice president. Jones also mentioned the idea of purchasing land near campus to build townhouses or other living units for students.

"As we weather these times I know we will arrive stronger because of them," Jones said, regarding the current financial crisis.

Speaking optimistically about the university's future, he said said, "We enter these times in a position of strength."

But nevertheless, he is campaigning in 30 states over the next two months, meeting with valued alumni in an attempt to keep the influx of donations coming during these turbulent economic times.

Jones reported that in terms of academic representation, Ohio Wesleyan is ranked 69th nationally. The president was enthusiastic about Ohio Wesleyan's quality as a liberal arts college, but expressed concern about some of its current standings.

He said what troubled him most was last year's freshman retention rate, which was 79 percent, down from 84 percent the year before.

"We need to attract more, better students," he later said.

Jones spoke of some of his plans to improve the university's academic standing, although he did not provide specific costs or means of funding. The major goals he mentioned included improving faculty compensation and improving the school's technology.

"Many of our systems are limited because of our lack of technology," he said.

He also told the faculty that a vice president will be chosen by Thanksgiving, and that hiring a vice president is particularly important given the times.

Additionally, he said building new living units on land near campus is another of his main objectives, primarily as a strategy to improve the quality of student life and increase retention rates.

In other business, the Executive Committee of the faculty, the Academic Policy Committee and the Academic Status Committee gave reports. Two classes were voted to become permanent additions to the curriculum: BOMI 355 (Plant Responses to Global Change) and SOAN 221 (Archeology of North America.)

A memorial resolution for Richard F. Bauerle, a former linguistics professor who passed away recently, was also given by English Professor Joseph Musser. The tribute, strongly poignant and times humorous, ended with a moment of silence.

Delta Gamma flag football raises money

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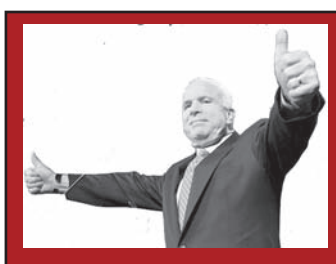

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Lady Bishops fall in overtime to Denison

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Panel discusses economic crisis

By Mark Dubovec
Transcript Reporter

The American economy is trouble, and on Oct. 21, Ohio Wesleyan's Woltemade Center for Economics, Business and Entrepreneurship, in coordination with the Delaware Area Chamber of Commerce, hosted "Understanding the Financial Crisis: Its Causes, Effects and Potential Solutions" in Benes Room B.

The program began with a presentation from Economics Professor Dale Larson.

"The current crisis began with the bursting of the housing bubble, for which many actors share the blame," Larson said.

Larson traced the growth of the subprime mortgage market and the history of Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae as private corporations sponsored by the federal government.

"A bad idea," Larson said. This allowed them to aggressively expand into risky mortgages and securities markets.

At the same time, the government's emphasis on home ownership led to increased household borrowing and debt and the decrease of the value of homes. Lowered interest rates, increased investment in the U.S. bond market by foreign investors and poor ratings from credit rating agencies further inflated the values of homes and mortgages.

"The credit rating agencies did a terrible job of rating securities and poor-quality mortgages," Larson said. "Normally, such agencies rely on historical data when determining ratings, but this new category of investment had no precedent. "What they should have done was simply refuse to issue ratings," Larson said.

"Deregulation played only a small role," Larson added. "It was a failure of regulation to expand to cover financial innovations…This crisis is not a consequence of unfettered capitalism."

Larson also said that both Democrats and Republicans are to blame.

Economics Professor Barbara MacCleod followed Larson. She said many investment banks forgot a basic rule of investing.

"You can reduce risk, but you can't eliminate it," she said.

Banks and other investment companies gave loans and sold mortgages. These mortgages, many of them subprime, were then bundled and resold on a secondary market among other banks and shareholders on the New York Stock Exchange. As more banks and firms bought into them, the values on these securities increased.

"A market has been developing based on credit risk," MacCleod said.

In this unregulated market, investors were paid when loans defaulted and loan originators compensated for the numbers of loans they made. This led to a lowering of standards that are required to get a loan and an increased emphasis on subprime mortgages so that more loans could be made.

"This was based on the idea that rising house values would allow for a cushion," MacCleod said. "Never believe anyone who says something will always keep rising…Risk comes home to roost."

As subprime mortgages and other bad loans defaulted, MacCleod said, the debt market became concerned about the housing market, causing values to drop.

"Large investment banks did not have the cash to meet their obligations, she said. "The security everyone thought was there evaporated. A house of cards collapsed."

When this happened, large companies began hording cash, and this created a liquidity crisis.

"Think of your money as blood," MacCleod said. "It has to keep flowing for you to be healthy."

The liquidity crisis led to the government bailout.

"I think it was necessary," MacCleod said. "We need to restructure so that ownership involves risk."

MacCleod advocated more levels of regulation that would keep special interests out of the market.

After the presentations by Larson and MacCleod, a panel of Delaware County economists offered various takes on the situation and took questions from the audience.

Jeff Benton, president of the Delaware County Bank, said, "Generally, the local economy is in good shape. There has been a slowdown…There is money to lend to people who managed their credit well."

Patrick Hart of Huntington National Bank said, "Those who have good credit history will still get credit."

Hart encouraged college students to save early and often and said that the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) is now insuring accounts worth up $250,000.

"Things are not as bad as the media would like you to think," said Mike Lamping, CEO and chairman of the board of the Ohio State Bank. "If you look at the problem, we got away from the fundamentals of economics."

Lamping urged patience regarding the bailout. "We seem to think that $700 billion is going to go through the economy in days," he said. "Seventy percent of our economy is based on us buying things. That's a problem."

Lamping added that "[y]ou can't buy your way out of debt."

Dave Bernon, vice president of National City Bank in Delaware, said although banks would be offering some traditional services and products, the availability and nature of others would change. "Some products will not be available," he said.

"The real issue today is getting back to some level of certainty and confidence between banks to improve liquidity," Bernon said.

In regards to the volatility of the market, Bernon added, "Nobody gets hurt on the roller coaster. They get hurt jumping off."

Also a part of the panel was Mike Bowers, regional director of the Small Business Development Center. "We've been seeing for the past six to eight months the credit score requirements for loans inch up," he said. "Small businesses that got loans in the past are not getting credit now."

Bowers believes small businesses will be pivotal in resolving the crisis. "It's going to be that small business owner who innovates, develops business and moves the economy forward."

ARREST

they are the same thing but to me there is a difference."

Bob Wood, director of Public Safety, was surprised by the numbers; he said that the number of students who were written up by Public Safety has decreased since last year. He doesn't believe there has been an increase in underage drinking but possibly there has been an increase in off campus drinking. Students are more likely to get in trouble off campus due to the noise complaints from neighbors.

Sophomore Kelley King echoes the general grumbling heard from students around campus when she remarks, "I don't understand way they feel the need to do Public Safety's job, I don't feel safe walking around campus anymore, I don't want to be arrested."

"We are not targeting students, we're not targeting groups, we are focusing on the problems." He said the department receives frequent noise complaints from Delaware residents on behalf of off-campus students. Pijanowski says the problem is, "off-campus students aren't respecting the neighborhoods."

In response to the comparison of student arrests, sophomore Claudia Henning argues that the Delaware police have been focusing more on student drinking this year, "the amount of partying couldn't have increased that much, obviously we are just being singled out by the town of Delaware." Henning asks the question, "doesn't anyone remember what it's like to be in college?"

WRITE

The Writing Center will still tutor students receiving a "U" in a course. A "U" is an unsatisfactory writing notation given along with a student's final grade in a course. A student's performance in a course may be fine, but the instructor may give this notation if the student has a problem writing effectively. Students given a "U" must meet with a Writing Center instructor for weekly professional tutoring the following semester, which is usually completed within eight weeks. The Writing Center is giving more information to faculty in order for students to know what is expected of them so students can avoid receiving this notation, and so faculty will know when to give it to a student.

"It is interesting that so few students know what a "U" is until someone gets it," Stull said.

Dr. Samuel Katz, a professor in the Education Department, said he regularly refers students to the Writing Center.

"Improving one's writing is a process that takes time, and the Writing Center is a valuable resource in providing structure, support, and strategies for all writers," Katz said.

Stull said working with "U" students is important, but also said the Writing Center is not a remedial center or a writing lab. He said they work with any and all students interested in improving their writing skills.

"We work with a wide range of students on an equally wide range of writing assignments and projects and on all aspects of the writing process," Stull said. "Yes, we work with struggling and less experienced writers, but we also work with seniors on seminar papers."

Writing Center Tutor Emily Lugg said a wide variety of students seek help in the Writing Center.

"Sometimes students have a specific problem. One student just had a hard time writing a thesis. So you just have to talk it out with them and get to light bulb to turn on," Lugg said. "When there are multiple issues you start big and then go small. You may see several things you could work on, but can't cover in an hour-long session, so you ask them to come back."

Stull emphasized the fact that the purpose of the Writing Center is not to fix papers or correct sentence-level errors. He said they provide constructive suggestions and guide students through various aspects of the writing process.

"We have a saying in writing-center circles: we improve the writer, not the paper," Stull said. "If a student brings a course paper to a tutoring session, their may improve because of it. But our ultimate goal is to help students think independently and become more empowered writers."

PLAN

or foresee financial distress.

"The criteria for receiving loans are tightening up," Algoe said. "Hopefully by the time students get to the point where they consider taking on some debt to help finance college, some of the normalcy should have returned to the system by then."

Algoe is afraid that making any drastic changes in the university's investment strategy at this point would only solidify the losses.

"Because this situation is one that really has no precedent there really aren't a lot of great answers out there right now. No one has the answer at this point, and given that I think our approach of holding steady and seeing how things work out seems to be the most responsible approach," Algoe said.

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Sunday 12-9
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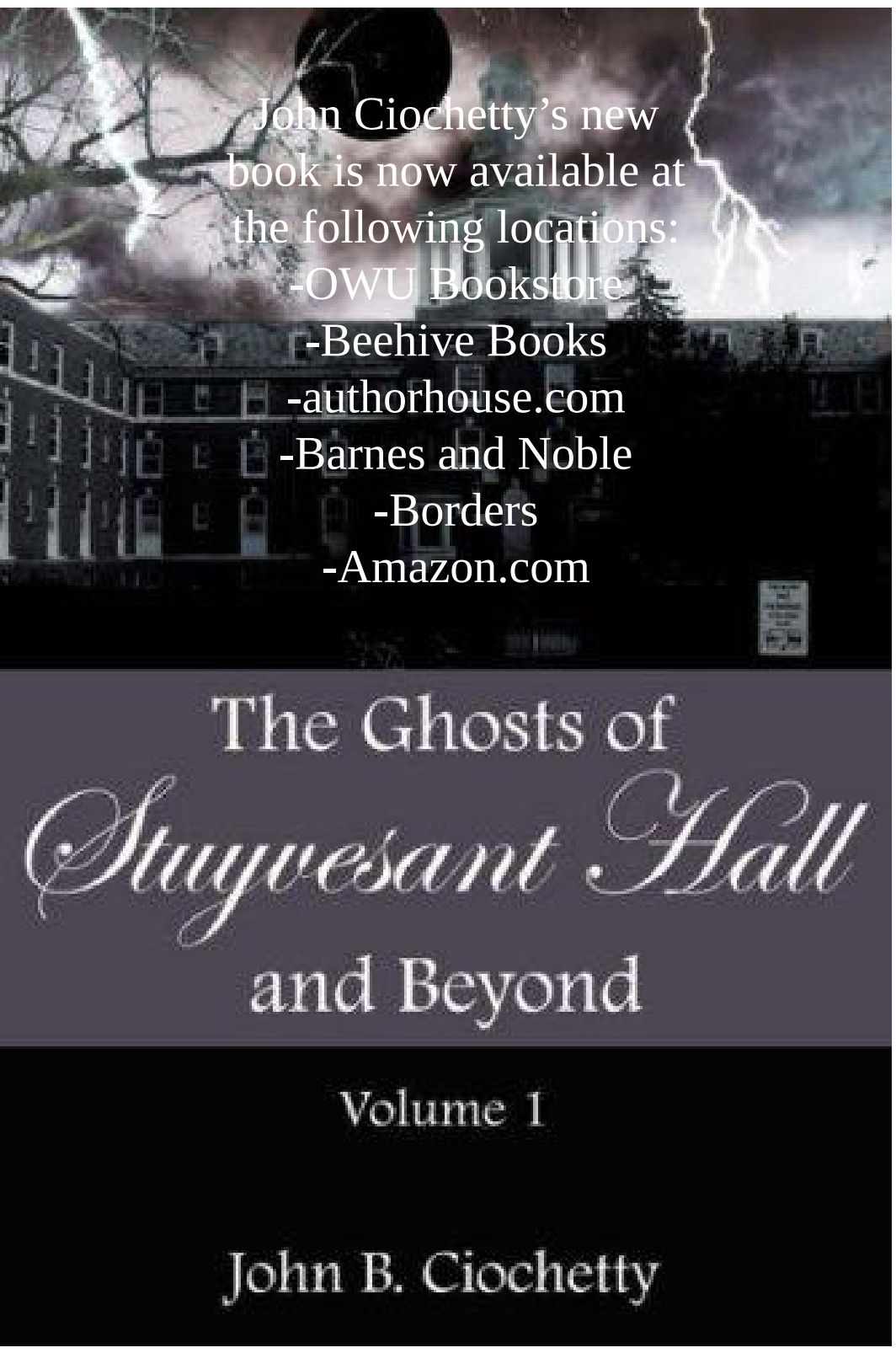

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Chi Phi puts a chill in your spine

Photo by Sara Mays

Senior Forrest Raub plays an inmate in an insane asylum over the weekend during Chi Phi's haunted house. The asylum was one of several different horror exhibits set up at the house; the others were a human butchery, a pitch-black maze, and a scene of deranged aboriginal islanders.

By Kailey Miller
Transcript Correspondent

If you were searching for the kind of Halloween thrill to make you mess your pants, you should have headed down the road to Chi Phi's annual Haunted House, held this past weekend.

Every year, Chi Phi turns their house into a sinister and eerie home of horror, with each floor decorated in a different theme.

This year's different themes included a pitch-black maze that had visitors clutching the nearest person for safety, an insane asylum that left all screaming in fear, a human butchery that brought about a queasy feeling and a floor where deranged aboriginal islanders caused thrill-seekers to tremble.

"It's the creep factor we go for," said sophomore Abe Gustavson.

For Chi Phi, it's all in the details, including crooked paintings, blacked out windows, bloody body parts and even narrowed hallways, making anyone feel, undoubtedly, more than a little claustrophobic. With these efforts, it's clear that the house went above and beyond.

Sophomore Claudia Henning said meticulous planning went into creating the haunted house.

"It's amazing how much work and detail they put into the house; it really looked believable," said Henning.

The Chi Phi brothers have been supplying the campus and community with the haunted house for the past 24 years to raise money for their philanthropy, Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Big Brothers Big Sisters, as explained on its website, is a non-profit mentoring program for children in need of a friend.

The Chi Phi brothers worked on the house and perfected their ideas for three weeks, committed to horrifying each person that walked through their door. In the end, 50 brothers and volunteers scared and guided the public through the house, with opportunities to back out if it all became too much to handle.

For students, admission cost five food points, or four food points if the student brought a canned good for donation.

The house is not just decorated for students, Gustavson said, but also for the children and other Delaware residents who come up to see the house.

All proceeds go to charity, and "the more the merrier" is the attitude shared by the brothers about the event.

Flag football benefits school for the blind

By Katharine Mannix
Transcript Reporter

The women of Delta Gamma held a flag football event on Saturday to raise money for the Ohio State School for the Blind. According to Greek Life, Delta Gamma's philanthropy is service for sight. Although the sorority's main philanthropy event is Anchor Splash, which takes place in the spring, the flag football event was also effective in raising money.

The entrance fee for each team was $50, and the event took place on Fraternity Hill, which was split into two fields -- one for the women and one for the men. All five sororities were involved, as well as most of the fraternities and sports teams on campus. Junior Leanna Bucceri of Delta Gamma said she thought the event was a great success.

"The barbeque was a lot of fun, and the turnout was really good," she said.

Sigma Phi Epsilon and Alpha Phi Alpha competed for the overall winner for the men's teams. In the end, Alpha Phi Alpha won the final men's flag football game, and the women's basketball team won the women's final game.

Money was also raised through raffles. Local businesses such as Nova and 3rd Degree donated items such as gift certificates to be raffled off. Delta Gamma also held a barbeque for everyone who was there to support their cause.

Senior Emily Molchan of Delta Delta Delta also said she thought the event went very well.

"It was really competitive, especially watching Sig Ep play against Alpha Phi Alpha to determine a winner," Molchan said.

The games started around 2 p.m. on Saturday and went over an hour past the scheduled end-time of 4 p.m.

"Even though it lasted longer than it was supposed to, everyone still enjoyed it," Bucceri said. "Many sorority members showed up to cheer on their teammates, even if they didn't particpate in the actual game."

Sig Ep provided speakers for the event, and music blared on all corners of the hill. The brothers of Chi Phi also helped out, providing the grill for the barbeque.

Junior Alexander Linde, a spectator, said it looked like everyone was having a blast.

"It was a great way to raise money, and the raffle items were things that students would actually want," Linde said.

The money raised from the flag football event will support the marching band at the Ohio State School for the Blind.

According to an MSNBC article, the marching band plans to play in the 2010 Tournament of Roses Parade.

This will be the first time that a blind band has ever played in the parade, which takes place in Pasadena, California.

Photo by Sara Mays

Emily Steger from Delta Delta Delta lofted the football over Heather Lamb of Delta Gamma. Money was raised for The Ohio State School for the Blind.

Expert discredits Reagan's role in Soviet Union's fall

Richard Combs discusses the collapse of the Soviet Union, in relation to his new book on the subject

By Clay Davis
Transcript Reporter

Students got an inside look at the fall of the Soviet Union and its lasting impact into the 21st century when Richard Combs came to speak to students last Wednesday night. Sean Kay, professor of politics and government and a specialist in American foreign policy, introduced him.

"Dick was one of the core group of Foreign Service officers who specialized throughout the last 20-30 years of the Cold War, working at the Soviet and Eastern European Affairs Division in the State Department," Kay said.

Combs discussed the fall of the Soviet Union and reasons behind it, following along the subject of his new book, "Inside the Soviet Alternate Universe: The Cold War's End and the Soviet Union's Fall Appraised."

"The main purpose of my book…is to examine the available facts about the end of the Cold War and the fall of the Soviet empire," Combs said. "My book is not based on new evidence, but primarily on a new, analytical framework for evaluating the existing evidence."

Combs said that up until this point, there has not been great analysis in evaluating the evidence, which meant there was no "compelling account of how and why these astounding historical events occurred."

Many credit former President Ronald Reagan as the sole reason for the collapse of the Soviet Union, Combs said, but he disagrees. The main reason for the Soviet's collapse, he said, was Mikhail Gorbachev's reform efforts.

Combs discussed the three main parts of his book. He called the first part "Reminiscence" because it talks about an "alternative, psychological world" that the Soviet Union lived in -- a world that Combs saw first-hand as a diplomat.

The second part of the book is called "Reflection" because it takes the idea of a "unique universe" and uses it for an approach to Soviet decision-making. Combs said "Reflection" attempts to show the reader what Gorbachev was thinking about in terms of making reforms, and what he accomplished as well as what he failed to do.

The final part of the book, "Relevance," comes up with lessons from the analysis from part one of the book. Combs mentioned three important segments to this, with one being, "How did the Cold War end, and how did the Soviet Union come to its end?"

For Combs, it not only involves examining the issues at the time, such as Gorbachev's reform measures, but also taking a look at the present day and how Americans view the past.

"Our understanding of the present day and the near future depends critically on our understanding of the recent past, particularly our understanding of historical turning points like the Cold War's end and the Soviet Empire's fall," Combs said.

"Russia is no longer a super power, but it is a major regional power," **Combs said**. *"It does have vast energy among which Western Europe is very dependent."*

Combs used the example of neo-conservatives, who use Ronald Reagan as the standard-bearer for present and future policies. Combs explained how many neo-conservatives attributed the fall of the Soviet Union to Reagan because of toughness and resolve. This is important, Combs said, because their view of the end of the Cold War has led to current foreign policy decisions, most notably those concerning Iraq.

The second important question that Combs asked was, "What are the prospects for Democracy and reassertion of the empire in today's Russia?"

Combs said he believes that while the country is no longer the superpower it once was, it is still important for other nations to be alert.

"Russia is no longer a superpower, but it is a major regional power," Combs said. "It does have vast energy, on which Western Europe is very dependent."

Combs emphasized the point that Russia has a "huge stockpile of weapons of mass destruction: nuclear, chemical and biological." According to Combs, there are also "hundreds of strategic nuclear warheads."

Combs said he believes it is important to know what has changed and what has not changed in post-Soviet Russia. Combs used the example of the Russian invasion of Georgia, because it could mean a return to the old Bolshevik ways; or, it could signal the last remnants of the Bolshevik era in Russia.

The final question Combs laid out was, "Why did everyone in the US, which includes the intelligence, policy, and academic communities, fail to anticipate and to really understand how the Cold War ended?"

The keys to that question are the blind spots that Americans face, he said.

Combs described the blind spots as ways to ignore what people and nations think and feel. Combs examined this idea, which says that if someone disagrees with our foreign policy, then we tend to think of them as our enemy.

Combs contended that, instead, we need to understand what others think and feel about situations, particularly Russia.

Junior Kevin Fahey agreed with Combs on potential blind spots in foreign policy and that they must be addressed to have adequate relations with countries like Russia.

"His argument that we should learn how our enemies see the world makes sense here, because if Russia thinks it is so powerful, then it would see itself justified in exercising its power in Georgia, North Korea, the Ukraine or Iran," Fahey said. "Since intervention in these countries tangles with our own security concerns, it should be in our interests to understand Russia's priorities."

Fahey also learned more about the Russian government from Combs' presentation.

"What stood out most to me was that the Russian government was much more paranoid than I had imagined," Fahey said. "That should frame our relations with them in the future."

WCSA Elections

November 17th

Executive Elections

President - 1
Vice President - 1
Treasurer - 1
Secretary - 1
At-Large Appointments - 3

Total = 7

December 5th

Class of '12 Rep - 2
Class of '11 Rep - 2
Class of '10 Rep - 1

Total = 3

January 21st

Residential Reps - 12

Total = 12

Late April

Senior President - 1
Off-Campus - 2
SLU Rep- 1
Fraternity - 1

Total = 5

Power vote makes environment top priority in up coming election

By Brittany Stojsavljevic
Transcript Correspondent

Young voters are engaging in a powerful new idea: holding politicians and leaders accountable. Ohio Wesleyan students have become involved with Power Vote, a national campaign that has young voters pledging to make environmental issues a top priority in the upcoming election with the hope of making leaders more responsible.

The Power Vote campaign is spearheaded by the Energy Action Coalition with the purpose of promoting clean and safe energy, and then holding elected officials accountable. The main component of the campaign is for young voters to take a pledge. The pledge states that a clean energy economy, green jobs for all, and securing the climate are prominent factors in making a voting decision.

Matt Reitman, the coordinator of the Ohio Student Environmental Coalition (OSEC), introduced Power Vote to OWU's Environment and Wildlife Club (E&W). Reitman visited campus to promote environmental issues, including Power Vote. After meeting with E&W, Reitman helped brainstorm ideas to bring Power Vote to OWU. OSEC also provided pledges to be used.

To spread Power Vote, E&W has gone door to door in the dormitories, tabled at the Hamilton-Williams Campus Center, and promoted it outside of National Colloquium events. As the pledges are collected, they're electronically sent to Power Vote. Currently, there are about 160 OWU students pledged.

A large component of the Power Vote campaign has been electronic and viral campaigning. The pledge can also be taken online. Facebook, Flickr, and YouTube have all been used to spread the message, and Al Gore had a live webcast on Wednesday.

The president of E&W, Jack Stenger said that he liked the Power Vote campaign because it's easy to get people involved. The pledge is a simple method of raising awareness.

"It's something you should attempt to do." Stenger said. "It's the foundation of democracy. Things like this should make a difference."

Reitman agreed, saying that Power Vote is important because it has been successful in engaging young people, starting conversations, and building a base for the prominent environment and economy issues.

"It's the opportunity of our generation," Reitman said.

This campaign also feels different to Reitman than others that he has participated in.

"People come up and ask me what I'm doing." he said, pleased to find that young voters have a genuine interest in Power Vote.

OSEC's goal was to have 4,000 young voters in Ohio sign pledges. Pledges collected by OSEC were delivered to the state Democratic and Republican offices in Columbus on Saturday. There are also plans to return to these offices in November to make certain elected officials have not forgotten the issues that are important to a large part of voters.

Powershift 2009 is another event that will follow up Power Vote by serving as a reminder to elected leaders. In February 2009 young people will converge on Washington D.C. to spread the message about clean energy. They will participate in strategy, training and action.

Reitman said that Powershift 2009 is important because it continues the work that Power Vote is starting.

International students feel economic crunch across globe

By Rafaya Sufi
Transcript Reporter

While its neighbor is on its way to the moon, Pakistan is stuck between Islamic militants and combating terrorism—all the while running out of money, fast.

The global economic crises alongside a series of political strife are affecting Pakistanis in many aspects of everyday life, both locally and across the globe. Pakistani students on campus are affected especially hard, according to junior Hassan Nasir.

"The dollar to Pakistani rupee exchange rate has gone up exponentially," Nasir said. "Last year around this time, it was Rs.64. Yesterday (Oct. 24) it was Rs.88."

Pakistan, since December '07 has experienced political turmoil in a string of events. When member of popular political party Benazir Bhutto was assassinated, everything went downhill from there, according to Nasir.

Nasir, a native of Pakistan, said he was lucky enough to escape the violence caused by the assassination in Karachi. He said it was tough for many of his peers to escape the violence to return to their universities outside of Pakistan because airports were blocked.

"Following her assassination, the coalition government was formed," Nasir said. "It turned out to be useless. Why wouldn't it? Both parties that formed the coalition have never, in the history of Pakistan, agreed on anything."

Nasir said the coalition government, although sounded promising at the beginning of their formation, did not much to help stabilize the Pakistani government.

"That form of government was dissolved just recently," Nasir said. "Then President Musharraf resigned after succumbing immense pressure from the Pakistani population in August this year. For many, he had been a great leader but in my opinion, the man was too controversial."

Freshman Murtaza Naqvi, also from Pakistan, said a major dent for Pakistan's political stability was caused by the recent bombing of Islamabad's Marriot Hotel. The bombing killed more than 50 people including staff and guests, which included both expatriates and diplomats alike.

"Who would ever want to invest in Pakistan after seeing what they see on television?" Naqvi said. "To the outsider, Pakistan looks like a constant strike at the den of Western decadence. Marriot in Islamabad represented exactly that, but this kind of news represents only a fraction of Pakistan's instability."

Naqvi said as a Pakistani living abroad, he has to constantly defend his country because many non-Pakistanis are under the impression that Pakistan is a hotbed of Islamic extremism.

"That idea, to a large extent is true but you have to realize that all such activity is affecting those of us who aren't even in Pakistan," Naqvi said. "That's the saddest part. We leave our country so we can get the best education and live a comfortable life, but everyday events in Pakistan are also affecting us."

Junior Mehmud Dawood said he represents a fraction of Pakistani society, an affluent one, but the global economic crises and political instability is hard-hitting on him.

"I checked ticket prices to go home this winter, yesterday," Dawood said. "I can't find anything under $2500 so far. Even though I can afford it, I can't help but wonder what Pakistanis who are living in the United States do who have family back home and they have to support themselves and their families. It's getting ridiculous."

Dawood said many of his Pakistani friends are choosing to stay back over break just because the ticket prices are so expensive.

"It makes sense to do so," Dawood said. "Spending $2500 for less than three weeks of holiday is really pricey. Plus these tickets are all from JFK. Flying from here to JFK is expensive itself. Then getting home requires sitting in a plan for 14 hours. So much time and money is spent."

Freshman Saleeha Shah who is from Lahore, Pakistan, said she is scared of receiving a call from her father one of these days asking her to return.

"The dollar is so freakishly expensive these days that it is getting tough for parents to pay so much money," Shah said. "It's not even like my parents are earning in dollars or sterling that it would be easy to fund my education. They are earning in rupees."

Shah said if she was a US citizen, it could be a little easier for her because then she would be able to "file for that FAFSA thing everyone always talks about."

"The irony in all of this is that my dad was Pakistan's finance minister until recently," Shah said. "Even he thinks Pakistan's case is pretty much hopeless."

Senior Natalia Tariq said there are strong rumors going around Pakistan these days that there is hardly any money left in Pakistan's treasury.

"This is directly related to Pakistan's godforsaken corrupt politicians," Tariq said. "Our president, Asif Ali Zardari, is called Mr. Ten Percent and spent nine years in prison. Now he's the president. These are the kind of people we vote for because we don't have a choice. Most of the times any elections that are held are rigged so really, we don't have a choice."

Tariq said because Pakistan is losing money so fast, many people are taking out all their foreign exchange, local currency and precious jewelry out of banks and lockers because they are scared their accounts might be frozen.

"At this point, Pakistan does not want money to be going out of the country at all," Tariq said. "This means any foreign exchange our parents have cannot be taken out of the country. This basically means that this will be a nuisance because paying American university bills will be hindered."

According to Tariq, many of her mother's friends back in Pakistan were rushing to the banks to close down their lockers before the government takes over them.

"Once you take money out of your lockers, where do you keep it?" Tariq said. "In our homes? The security threat will worsen and violence will take shape in the form of theft among other things. No one can be trusted."

Junior Siham Gheewala also a native of Pakistan, said because she reads and hears about problems plaguing Pakistan everyday, she is almost "tempted to just stay back in the States."

"On one hand, I would like to return to my country and help my education help others, but on the other, I am almost too scared to return."

Gheewala whose sisters also attended Ohio Wesleyan, said one was lucky enough to receive a working permit called the H1-B in the United States out of a lottery system, and the other applied for permanent residency after getting married.

"Since I'm not a US citizen, I will probably have to try to find a job that will be able to sponsor my H1-B but since it is becoming a lottery system, jobs are based on capability level anymore," Gheewala said. "It's just luck now. I almost feel I should apply for grad-school right out of college just so I don't have to worry about losing my status as a student."

Nasir said although he agrees with the rest of his Pakistani peers on campus about Pakistan's worsening situation, he said he would like them to view their own country's future with a more positive attitude.

Sophomore Humza Ghani said for him, "Pakistan will always be home."

"As literate citizens of Pakistan, it is our duty to help our country. We need to bring jobs back to Pakistan. We need to stabilize Pakistan's political situation. If we don't, who else will?"

Class teaches self-defense

Photo by Sara Mays

Students in the self-defense class stand in their caution contact position.

Parents most influential on party ID

By Kate Miller
Transcript Correspondent

Despite headlines about detached parents and hyper-independent teens, parental influence has emerged in an unexpected place: politics.

The majority of students tend to share the political views of their parents, contrary to the constant media images of totally self-sufficient young people.

"If both parents agree on issues and on party identification [Democrat, Republican, Independent, or other] there is about a 75 percent chance that the son or daughter will be of the same party identification as their parents," says Craig Ramsay, chair of the Politics and Government department at Ohio Wesleyan. If the parents' party identifications are different, Ramsay says, the child is more likely to relate to the mother's party identification.

Senior Amanda Thompson, though, shares political views with her father. "My mom was born in Jamaica and her father was a member of Parliament there. Because she grew up in such a political family, she didn't want to impose that on me." Thompson, who is a Politics and Government and Humanities double major, says that she formed her views separately from her parents.

According to Ramsay, influences such as media, peers, and school have an increased effect on an individual as he or she develops into a teen. However, statistically, parents still have the most impact.

Freshman Sarah Chizmar's political views are similar to her parents', but not because she passively followed their lead. "During the primaries, I researched the candidate's platforms and came to my own conclusion. Although I eventually decided on the same candidate as my parents, I feel that I developed my political views independently."

By the time they've reached college, most people have shaped their political views, and it generally does not cause a change in their basic views, says Ramsay.

College Republicans President Ethan Baron says that in his experience, parents generally have not particularly shaped student's political perspectives. Baron, rather, notes, "My parents actually kind of conformed to me."

Arts & Entertainment

Real-world work found in NYC

By Samantha Beany
Transcript Reporter

Senior Jessica Ferguson drew elaborate pictures in the air with her fingers and then laughed. She sat back against the couch, took off her glasses and wiped her eyes.

"I forgot about that," Ferguson said. "It was so funny."

She was referring to an incident that occurred last semester, which she spent with GLCA (Great Lakes College Association) New York Arts Program.

"They called me the techie dwarf because the way the set was built -- I ran stage right, and had to sit in this little corner and pop out to hand actors props," Ferguson said. "I remember I scared the stage manager one time. It was so funny."

Senior Jenny Herron crossed a New York City street while on the phone for an interview.

"I'm on my break," Herron said. "We're in the middle of tech. I've been putting in 14 hour days."

Herron works with the New Group, an off Broadway company, as a production assistant controlling stage right. (Ferguson worked for the same company in the same position as Herron.)

"I make sure the actors get on, the props get on, the crew gets on," said Herron. "It's a great job because it's not just something the interns do. It's a real job."

Ferguson worked on two productions, *2000 Years* by Mike Lee and *Rafta Rafta* by Ayub Khan-Din, and spent seven months with the New Group.

"When it was time for me to leave, *Rafta* was going into tech," Ferguson said. "They asked me if I wanted to stay on as the production assistant and I said I didn't have the financial means to stay in New York. They offered to pay for my housing and I said, 'Okay, I'll stay.'"

Senior Katie Fergerson also spent the 2008 spring semester in New York. She worked with the Vineyard Theatre, also off Broadway, located in Union Square. She, like Ferguson and Herron, was a production assistant.

"The PA is essentially the third member of the stage management team," Fergerson said. "Yes, it is the lowest on the totem pole, and yes I did a lot of copying and made a lot of coffee."

According to the New York Arts Program web site, the program is designed to "provide opportunities for qualified students to gain experience in their field in an urban setting, explore career options, participate in seminars and discussions with guest artists, create a network of contacts, and gain academic credit."

"You get five chances to find a place to intern, and the cool thing is that once you have your interview, the person you're interviewing with has to tell you right there if they will hire you," Fergerson said. "You do this whole process before the semester even starts."

Junior Jon Wright is in the middle of this process.

"I'm going in a few weeks to feel out a few different options but I know I'm going to score a production," Wright said.

Wright is a theatre major with a music minor.

"From what I know, I'm the first music student to travel abroad," Wright said. "I'm excited because, well, I'm in New York City and I believe a semester of real work will be extremely beneficial. I look forward to working in a professional atmosphere."

Ferguson, Herron and Fergerson agreed that one of the most beneficial parts is meeting people and networking.

"It is a very small community," Ferguson said. "All the theatres collaborate and most people work at more than one theatre. So it's important to just be nice. If you make one enemy, you make a lot of enemies."

"It is so helpful in making contacts," Herron said. "The real world of theatre is really, really small. All of a sudden you're connected to large names."

"Theatre in NYC is one of a kind," Fergerson said. "It's a great feeling knowing I have places and people I can call after graduation to try and find a real job."

Both Ferguson and Herron shared a favorite part of the internship: The Broadway Show Bowling League.

"Our team is number two in the league," Herron said. "It gets competitive. And where there's a strike, there is usually some twirly dance move that follows. It's very theatrey."

The bowling league is part of the Broadway Cares Organization that donates money to the fight against AIDS, cancer research, and the families of Equity actors that have died from AIDS.

"It was phenomenal," Ferguson said. "We bowled against the *Avenue Q* team, the *Grease* team, the *Mary Poppins* team. It was just phenomenal."

Fergerson said her experience in New York was overall positive.

"I learned an invaluable amount of information, met amazing people and got to work backstage on two off-Broadway shows," Fergerson said.

Herron said she could talk about New York all day, but summed it up as follows:

"Val and Fran (the New Group stage manager and assistant stage manager, respectively) are the best," Ferguson said. "They do a good job and they are supportive and they treat me like a colleague. The experience has been really, really positive."

"I think it's important for people to know about this because it's good for majors outside theatre, like fine art. They work in galleries with artists. My roommate was a writing major and she worked at *National Geographic*."

High school TV struggles with maturity

By Kaitlin Thomas
Entertainment Columnist

Most television shows based in high school rarely make it past high school graduation.

"Dawson's Creek" went downhill after the gang graduated from Capeside High. "Gilmore Girls" lost a little bit of its flair when Rory went off to Yale because the mother/daughter atmosphere had changed. And let us not forget "Saved by the Bell: The College Years." On second thought, I would love to erase that memory from my mind.

So why do these shows, which often flourish in the teenage atmosphere, rarely transition to the college era successfully? It's a case of art imitating life. Let's look at some facts relevant to our own college experiences.

Exhibit A: Moving away to college inevitably means independence that most 18-year-olds have never experienced before. Most groups of friends do not attend the same school (though many television shows try to keep their core cast together this way), which means a fresh start for all.

This freedom no doubt has an impact on the people we become during the four years (or more for those less motivated folks) we spend in college. We grow into our true selves as we experience college. And let's face it, we rarely remain the way we were during our awkward high school years.

But when it comes to TV we expect our favorite characters to stay the same and never change. Everyone grows and everyone changes. So as our favorite characters change and develop, we stop caring and stop watching. Or we get mad when childish characters *don't* develop and mature. Either way the show will have its critics.

Exhibit B: With college also come new friendships. Think of it as the introduction of new characters to a show when the main cast goes to college. These new characters often take a more prominent role while the old characters are moved to the back burner and have smaller storylines. The same can be said for real life.

New friendships are formed in college between roommates, teammates and classmates. These relationships begin to slowly overtake the old, mostly because of the proximity to these friends, the activities one partakes in together, and for no other reason than it's hard to escape people on a campus this small.

No one means to lose touch with their high school friends, but it happens. Because as you make new friends, your old friends also make new friends. Over time your dependence on one another slowly decreases.

Now I am not saying all friendships from high school come to a close after graduation; I am saying the friends you make in college tend to be the important friendships later on. I have some close friends from high school that I still talk to every single day, but I can also say I no longer talk to many people I used to consider best, or at the very least good, friends.

So maybe it makes sense when shows don't last past high school graduation, because life rarely stays the same afterwards. Embrace the different life that college provides. It's alright to try to hold on to those high school relationships, but don't let it get in the way of building new ones. Because where are your high school friends when you need them to hold your hair back on Saturday night? Probably holding someone else's hair. Think about that.

Beehive Books hosts jazz-classical group

Photo by Sara Mays

German pianist-composer Simone Weisenfels (right) and American multi-instrumentalist Adam Smith (center) play improvised and composed material ranging from jazz to classical to electronic at Beehive Books on Friday.

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Opinion

VOTE OBAMA

By Danny Eldredge
Managing Editor

This presidential election is an extremely important one for college students and young people in general, because one candidate clearly benefits this demographic. That candidate is Barack Obama.

Young people should support Barack Obama for several reasons, including his policies regarding the economy, education, and national security. Young people should also stand up against the despicable tactics of the McCain campaign, which has attempted to sway voters with outright lies and by inciting fear. They have capitalized on hate and discrimination to garner support for the election, which is evident in cases where they tolerate supporters yelling out "terrorist" and "kill him." John McCain has lacked good judgment throughout the campaign, which is most clearly exemplified by his choice of Sarah Palin as a running mate. That choice is an insult to all Americans' intelligence.

The economy might be the most important issue for young people. As expenses rise for young people across the country, McCain wants to retain the Bush tax cuts for the wealthy, continue to give tax cuts to companies that ship jobs overseas, and keep the minimum wage stagnant. Obama plans to raise taxes for the wealthy while cutting taxes for 95 percent of Americans, penalize companies for shipping jobs overseas, and increase the minimum wage, tying it to inflation. This will help young people in the short term as they work low-wage jobs during school, and benefit them in the long run with more available jobs and lower taxes.

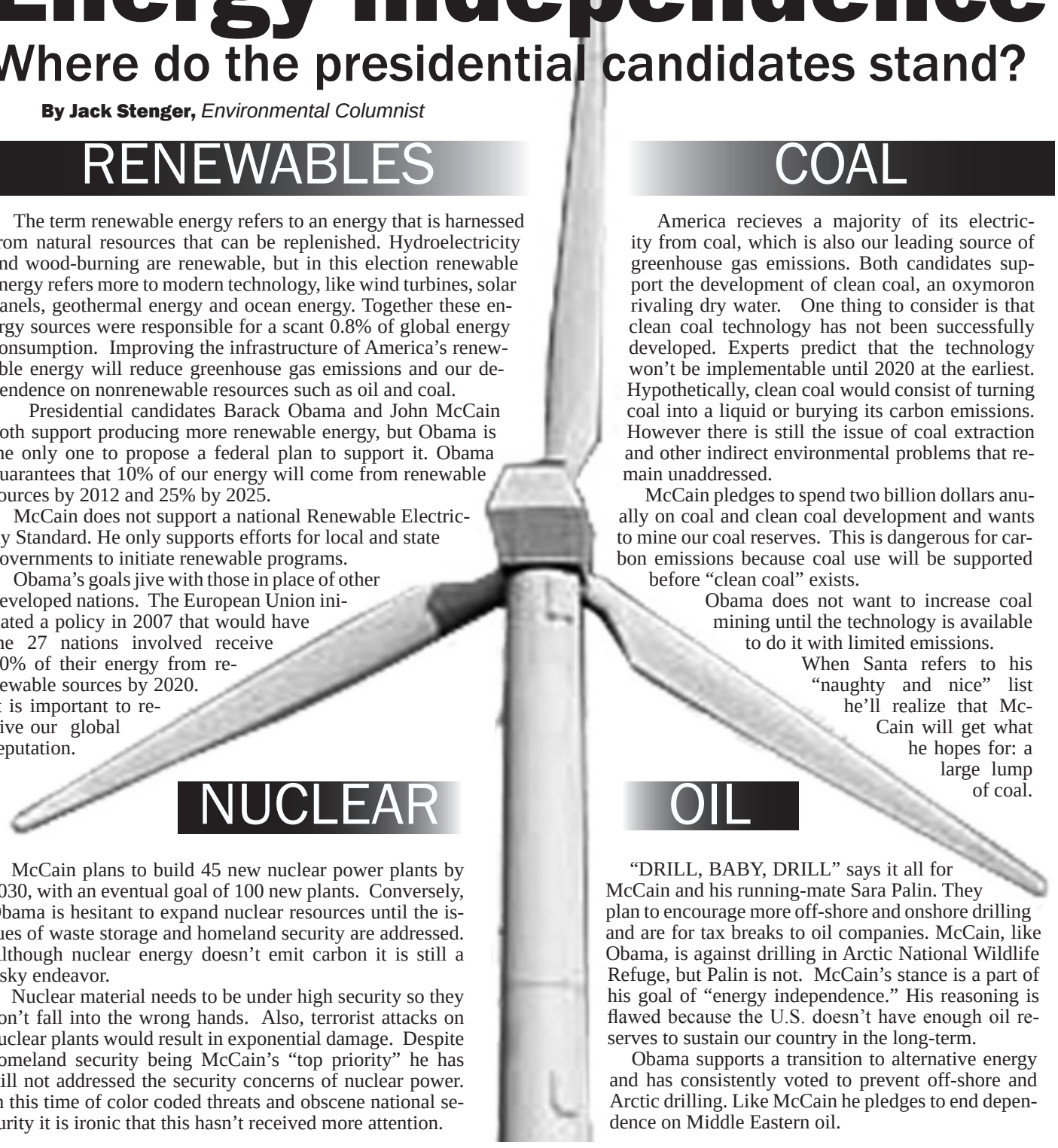
Obama also has a more beneficial plan in regards to making higher education more affordable. He has proposed a $4,000 tax credit for college in exchange for 100 hours of community service. Also, the unnecessarily complicated FAFSA will be done away with under Obama, and families will merely have to check a box on their tax form to apply for federal financial aid. McCain offers no plan to make college more affordable, and even proposes cutting some existing federal lending and grant programs.

Finally, on national security, Obama is the right choice despite his relative inexperience. Obama has shown good judgment in this area by opposing the Iraq War from the beginning, and by selecting a foreign policy expert as his running mate. One candidate has shown the thoughtful leadership necessary to clean up the mess George Bush will leave, and to implement new policies to give young people a better future. That candidate is Barack Obama, and he should be elected the 44th president of the United States.

Energy independence

Where do the presidential candidates stand?

By Jack Stenger, *Environmental Columnist*



RENEWABLES

The term renewable energy refers to an energy that is harnessed from natural resources that can be replenished. Hydroelectricity and wood-burning are renewable, but in this election renewable energy refers more to modern technology, like wind turbines, solar panels, geothermal energy and ocean energy. Together these energy sources were responsible for a scant 0.8% of global energy consumption. Improving the infrastructure of America's renewable energy will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and our dependence on nonrenewable resources such as oil and coal.

Presidential candidates Barack Obama and John McCain both support producing more renewable energy, but Obama is the only one to propose a federal plan to support it. Obama guarantees that 10% of our energy will come from renewable sources by 2012 and 25% by 2025.

McCain does not support a national Renewable Electricity Standard. He only supports efforts for local and state governments to initiate renewable programs.

Obama's goals jive with those in place of other developed nations. The European Union initiated a policy in 2007 that would have the 27 nations involved receive 20% of their energy from renewable sources by 2020. It is important to revive our global reputation.

COAL

America recieves a majority of its electricity from coal, which is also our leading source of greenhouse gas emissions. Both candidates support the development of clean coal, an oxymoron rivaling dry water. One thing to consider is that clean coal technology has not been successfully developed. Experts predict that the technology won't be implementable until 2020 at the earliest. Hypothetically, clean coal would consist of turning coal into a liquid or burying its carbon emissions. However there is still the issue of coal extraction and other indirect environmental problems that remain unaddressed.

McCain pledges to spend two billion dollars anually on coal and clean coal development and wants to mine our coal reserves. This is dangerous for carbon emissions because coal use will be supported before "clean coal" exists.

Obama does not want to increase coal mining until the technology is available to do it with limited emissions.

When Santa refers to his "naughty and nice" list he'll realize that McCain will get what he hopes for: a large lump of coal.

NUCLEAR

McCain plans to build 45 new nuclear power plants by 2030, with an eventual goal of 100 new plants. Conversely, Obama is hesitant to expand nuclear resources until the issues of waste storage and homeland security are addressed. Although nuclear energy doesn't emit carbon it is still a risky endeavor.

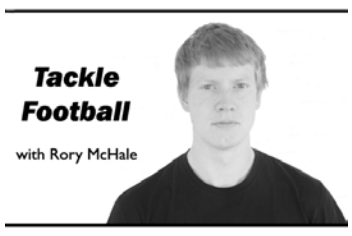
Nuclear material needs to be under high security so they don't fall into the wrong hands. Also, terrorist attacks on nuclear plants would result in exponential damage. Despite homeland security being McCain's "top priority" he has still not addressed the security concerns of nuclear power. In this time of color coded threats and obscene national security it is ironic that this hasn't received more attention.

OIL

"DRILL, BABY, DRILL" says it all for McCain and his running-mate Sara Palin. They plan to encourage more off-shore and onshore drilling and are for tax breaks to oil companies. McCain, like Obama, is against drilling in Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, but Palin is not. McCain's stance is a part of his goal of "energy independence." His reasoning is flawed because the U.S. doesn't have enough oil reserves to sustain our country in the long-term.

Obama supports a transition to alternative energy and has consistently voted to prevent off-shore and Arctic drilling. Like McCain he pledges to end dependence on Middle Eastern oil.

Excessive campaign coverage steals attention from necessary headlines



The coverage of the two presidential campaigns is important. (Important qualifier: coverage of some of the many other presidential campaigns is important as well, but so removed from possibility that I have chosen to not make much of a point of it). Yet there is a two-fold problem:

Firstly, the coverage has been ongoing, dominating the news cycle for so long that surely anyone interested has had ample time to view the candidates. If not, the Internet hosts a wide variety of free newspapers, as well as the candidates websites, and several other outlets for finding out about the candidates and their relevant positions. As most issues have already been covered (at least within the narrow spectrum of difference between the two major parties, not in the manner some of the "third-party" candidates would do, which could be enlightening) news outlets have resorted to, throughout the news cycle, meaningless stories on personality quirks, fashion/clothing/bowling ability, etc.

Which Americans, I ask, who plan on voting, have not yet made up their minds? I do not wish to be harsh on some individuals who have been working so hard that they have not had time to decide or educate themselves, but I feel such a category is a small minority of these undecideds/independents/whoever.

I suppose for the person who hasn't decided but is supposedly paying attention, coverage of idiotic meaningless quirky bullshit could be what they are waiting on. (Jerk: Should they be allowed to vote at this point? Rory: Of course you undemocratic monster!). I liken the situation to little children who have realized as long as they do not give an answer to a question they will continue to receive candy and attention from candidates and pollsters.

To discuss the second problem, let me begin with a hypothetical. How would you feel if the following occurred: A Canadian man goes to Syria, kills their president, and flees to the United States. In pursuit, Syrian military helicopters chase him into America, and strike, killing him, as well as a random American, who just happened to be in the area. Outrage? They entered our territory, without permission, and killed one of us!

Well the analogy is pretty loose, allow me to tighten it. Let's say the Canadian did not kill the president, he was merely smuggling weapons into Lebabon, which Syria had been fighting a war against. And when this man fled to the U.S., the Syrians didn't just kill one American, they killed eight, including a whole family, women and children. Would we or would we not now be bombing Syria?

Well the time for analogies is over. The reversal of this situation occurred between the US and Syria on Sunday, and for all my ingenuity, I could not come up with an analogy to capture it as well as the truth.

The U.S. has been waging an illegal war in Iraq (for those unsure about if it's right or wrong, remember: We are currently fighting against Iraqis, in Iraq, which we invaded and executed the leaders). An Iraqi (note: not a Syrian) suspected of smuggling arms and money into Iraq (for, godforbid, the wrong Iraqis), was killed by Americans using helicopters in Syria, which also killed Syrian construction workers and a family. I think all that is needed here is the most basic empathy of trying to see the situation as if it had happened to us.

The U.S. refuses to apologize, although I have not seen any calls for apology from anyone besides the Syrians. If people are going to get in trouble for smuggling weapons, money, and fighters into Iraq, shouldn't the U.S. be in trouble? I guess once you start smuggling out in the open, it becomes okay.

The problem with the coverage of the presidential election that focuses on meaningless topics is that it happens at the expense of real news. Like innocents being murdered.

VOTE MCCAIN

By Kelsey Guyselman
A&E Editor

As a section editor on the Transcript staff, I have nothing but respect for those I work with here, and when it came time for our staff editorial endorsing Senator Barack Obama in the upcoming election, I knew that I would be able to make my dissenting voice heard.

However, I'm not going to take my space here to try and convince you to vote for Republican Senator John McCain. Of course, I do think you should vote for Senator McCain, and I'd be glad to discuss my rationale with you at any time. And if you still want to vote for Obama, I won't agree, but I'll respect that decision—as long as you are voting for the right reasons.

While I realize that many college students, especially at this university, are somewhat educated on the issues, there are still many who are not. Much of Obama's initial appeal comes from his dynamic presence and excellent public speaking skills- I've been to see Obama speak, and there is no denying that he is good at stirring emotion in a crowd.

However, this has lead to the image of Obama as "the chosen one" and perpetuated almost a celebrity sort of hype around him. I have heard more people than I care to think about who are unable to defend their support for Obama based on any substantive policy platform, and worse yet, don't see what is wrong with that. True story: I once had someone justify their vote by saying "Well, Ben Affleck supports him."

I think it's awesome that so many people our age are fired up about this election because of Obama, but I think that everyone, no matter their political affiliation, can agree that there is nothing worse then uneducated voting. It takes so little time to sit and look up a few websites about each candidate's policies- an hour or two could make a big difference. And if you think that sounds like too long, think about how long four years is.

So while I doubt that my 250 word editorial will sway many voters on Tuesday, I do hope that you will take time to sit down and look at BOTH candidates' stances on policy issues before you cast your ballot. Think about our country, this current situation we're in, and what the long term impact of each candidate will be. This is truly a crossroads in our country, and however you choose to vote, please make sure that you choose based on the truth, not just on a catchy slogan.

VOTE NOVEMBER 4

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

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

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

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Bishops Sports

Photo by Cliff Williams

Sophomore Christa Cocumelli brings the ball upfield.

Men's basketball prepares for NCAC conference finals

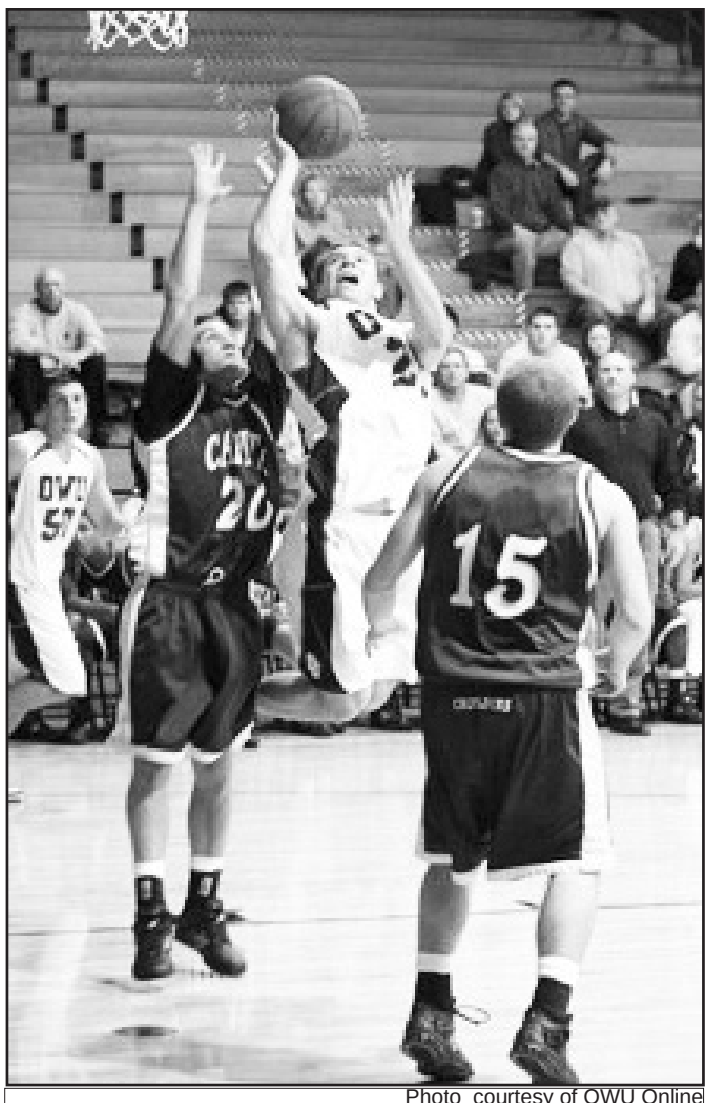


Photo courtesy of OWU Online

Senior Kyle Holliday drives to the basket in a game against Capital last year.

By Josh Powers
Transcript Reporter

Coming off a 22-8 season, the basketball team looks to defend their conference title with some key returning players and a strong freshmen class.

"We need to understand that we are not last year's team anymore," said senior Mitch Noggle. "We definitely have the talent to repeat last year, but we will have to play to this year's strengths, which are our speed and ability to push the ball, rather than our dominate post play."

The team lost six seniors, including leading scorer Dustin Rudegeair, who averaged 15.8 points a game last year.

"We graduated six seniors last year, and two of them were first team all-conference post players," said senior Kyle Miller. "We're going to need big minutes from our post players, and our returning guards must carry a significant load as well."

The team has a road dominated schedule, including an early game against Wooster, who they lost to twice last season.

"Of course they are highlighted on our schedule, and I'm sure we are highlighted on theirs as well," Noggle said. "We may not have the best record against them, but it's always a battle between us, and last year I felt they just had a few more plays go their way than we did."

This may be just another league game in the standings, but it's a game the seniors will want to win.

"I transferred in right before my sophomore year, and we played Wooster in the conference championship; so, I'm actually 0-5 against Wooster," Miller says. "With Wooster being a top team in our conference, it's always a big game, and one we all desperately want to win.

"But in our conference, especially this year, there are going to be so many tough teams. You can't highlight some and overlook others. Each time we take the court, we have to know it's going to be a big game."

The team will play in some away games this year, which were very close competitions last season.

"It's really nothing new for us," Noggle says. "Last year prepared us a lot because we played a number of nationally ranked teams. Our coaching staff does a great job with scouting other teams and preparing us for each game."

The team finished last year with an 8-2 home record, and had multiple games where the attendance was over 1,000.

"Large crowds always help us play better, especially when that crowd is on our side," Miller said. "The crowd is vital for us when we are trying to change the momentum of a game and when we're going on a run."

Noggle agreed and said he thinks the crowd helps the team fight back when they are struggling.

"Our fans are great, and last year's attendance was unreal.

"Yes, it makes a big difference when you're playing and you know your school and community are behind you. It makes every game that much more special, and there have been times when we have been down and the fans have brought us back. There's nothing like hitting a big shot and hearing the roar of the crowd."

Upcoming Play

Lee Pfund Classic
(@ Wheaton)

Nov. 21
-Ohio Wesleyan vs. Wis.-Eau Claire
5:30 p.m.

-Staten Island vs. Wheaton
8:00 p.m.

Nov 22
-consolation game
5:30 p.m.

-championship game
8:00 p.m.

Field Hockey tops Denison Big Red

Courtesy of OWU Online

Freshman midfielder Alyse Marotta made a timely defensive save and scored to put Ohio Wesleyan ahead to stay, and freshman attacker Mimi Anthony scored what proved to be the game-winning goal to give Ohio Wesleyan a North Coast Athletic Conference win over Denison on Saturday at Selby Field. The win helped the Bishops improve to 9-1 in the NCAC and to a 12-4 record overall.

Marotta preserved the scoreless tie in the 24th minute. Denison's Kristen Schneider sent the ball toward the Bishop cage, and Ohio Wesleyan keeper Krista Murray came far out to make a play on the ball. The ball skipped by Murray, but Marotta chased it down and sent it harmlessly away from the goal line.

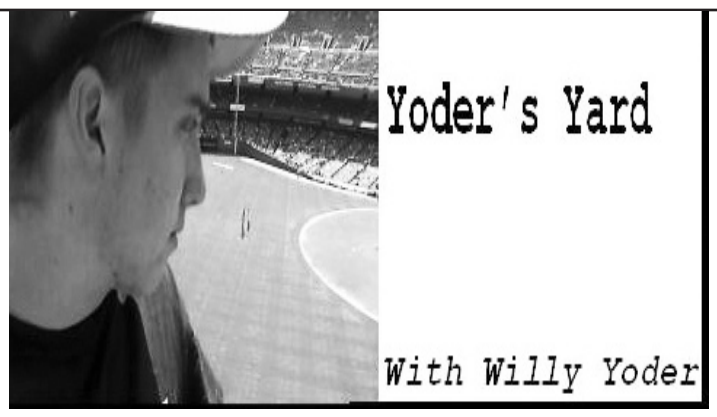
Later in the first half, the Bishops had moved the ball into the Denison circle. Sophomore attacker Christa Cocumelli ripped a shot which Big Red keeper Kait Fiore saved, and freshman attacker Macie Miller followed with a shot, but again, Fiore was there for the save. The ball caromed over to a pack near the left post, where a foul was called on the Big Red and a penalty stroke was awarded to Ohio Wesleyan. Marotta stepped up and converted the stroke for a 1-0 lead with 4:48 left in the first half.

Ohio Wesleyan increased its lead to 2-0 early in the second half. The Bishops had earned a penalty corner, and sophomore defender Melissa Martin blasted a shot from the left side of the circle. Sophomore attacker Caiti Goodman redirected the shot, and Anthony tipped it in from point-blank range with 30:18 left in regulation time.

Denison closed to within 2-1 as Molly McCue made a run into the Ohio Wesleyan circle, with the Big Red receiving a penalty corner on the play. On the ensuing corner, a foul was called and Denison was awarded a penalty stroke. McCue converted the stroke to make it a one-goal game with 11:32 to play, but the Bishop defense held on to the lead to seal the win.

Ohio Wesleyan outshot Denison, 24-8. Murray had 1 save during the first half and freshman Liz Searfos made one save during the second half. Fiore finished with seven saves in the Big Red cage.

Tampa Bay: a new ray of hope for Major League Baseball



This time last year, the World Series was overshadowed by the looming prospect of the Michel Report; Major League Baseball's tell-all document on past and present steroid use in the sport. By the time it was over, even the biggest baseball fans felt disheartened and disenfranchised with the game they love. They had grown tired of the disappointment from the players they laid their hopes in, and weren't optimistic on the future integrity of the game. Baseball needed a change.

Maybe the Tampa Bay Rays improbable run this year was the baseball gods' way of setting things right. Whatever the reason, it happened; the youth movement in southern Florida has not only been impressive, but outright refreshing for fans and non-fans alike. There are no players on this team left over from the shadowy steroid era, and no unrealistically oversized stars. Most importantly, however, the Tampa Bay Rays represent change, because unlike any other team in baseball, they in no way benefited in terms of cheap winning seasons with the aid of performance enhancing drugs. Through the steroid era, they were just plain awful.

Like so many teams that come out of nowhere and put together thrilling seasons, the Rays have been built on players earning second chances. But the Rays players receiving those second chances this season weren't middle-aged former starters, who magically gained 25 pounds of muscle to resurge their career, as we have become so accustomed to seeing. Instead, they were young prospects who had just about been given up on by most people; but not by Tampa.

In 2003, Rocco Baldelli burst onto the scene for the Rays as the teams' future. He was young, talented, and hey, he had a quirky name. His fluency on the field drew comparisons to the legendary Joe DiMaggio, and it seemed the franchise had a player to build around; but injuries plagued Baldelli in the years to come. No one quite knew what was wrong with him; only that he couldn't stay on the field. People called him soft, lazy, and worst of all, "a bust." It was discovered only this spring that Baldelli had been suffering from mitochondrial disorder, a serious illness that causes extreme muscle fatigue. Despite the threats to his health and career, Baldelli returned this August to help lead the team into the postseason.

Budding young pitcher Matt Garza and slugging first basemen Carlos Pena were both their respective teams' top prospects only a few years ago. Garza had lights-out stuff and was projected to be a top starter, competing with Johan Santana and Fransico Liriano for the Twins' ace job. Pena was supposedly the next Don Mattingly, who would be a staple in Arlington, Texas for years. After their parent clubs had given up on them for failing to reach their potential, the Rays picked them up and put them in sports psychology programs to give them the confidence to succeed. They are now two of the bigger producers on the team.

B.J Upton was a super prospect for years for the Rays. He broke into the bigs with a Major League ready bat at the age of 19. Upton had a dream of being a shortstop, but just couldn't learn to field the position at the big league level. He lost years in the minors trying to become the next Alex Rodriguez when he could have been an immediate star in the outfield. The Rays gave him time, and let the decision be his to switch out of the infield. Now, he is having one of the best first postseason performances ever.

The most refreshing thing about the comeback stories of the Rays, however, is that the players earning redemption didn't do anything wrong. They are not former steroid users coming back clean, former drug addicts or men who broke the law. They are young prospects who used their love of the game to stick with it, and have now reached the highest level. Their ascension represents a brand new face for baseball; an untainted team that wins by trusting in its players, and giving their fans the model players they can trust. Regardless of whether or not the Rays win this series, Major League Baseball has won with the rise of Tampa Bay.

Bishops Sports

Big Red beats the Bishops in overtime

Photo by Cliff Williams

Senior Megan Quinn carries the ball past a Mount St. Joseph defender in a match last Tuesday.

Courtesty of OWU Online

Senior forward Allie Cozzone gave Ohio Wesleyan a 2-1 second-half lead with her second goal of the game, but 12th-ranked Denison rallied to send the game into overtime, then got the game-winner to escape with a win in a battle of North Coast Athletic Conference unbeatens on Saturday at Roy Rike Field.

The Big Red jumped to an early lead. Jen Clemmer made a run toward the Ohio Wesleyan goal, but Bishop keeper Laura VanHoey came out near the top of the penalty area to smother the shot. The ball caromed over to the left side of the goal, where Denison's Kim Oshita scored into the empty net just 2:53 into the game.

Denison keeper Courtney Cobb kept the Bishops off the scoreboard twice, snaring a header by sophomore defender Carly Topper in the 11th minute, then grabbing a redirect off the foot of Cozzone midway through the half.

Cozzone attacked in the 24th minute, serving the ball into the penalty area from about 35 yards out, putting it in the net.

Cozzone broke the tie early in the second half, making a run into the Denison box, then dishing off to freshman midfielder Makinzie Krebsbach on the right side. Krebsbach ran down the ball along the end line and sent the ball back to Cozzone, who dunked it into the left side of the Denison net with 36:41 left in regulation time.

Ohio Wesleyan's defense clung to the lead, with senior forward Megan Quinn clearing a shot by Denison's Angela Coderre off the goal line in the 62nd minute and VanHoey grabbing a header by Julie Dean off a long crossing pass from Kate Henderson in the 65th minute.

The Big Red got the equalizer in the 80th minute, with the play again starting when a Bishop defender blocked a shot by Clemmer. This time, the ball rolled to Anna Rusch, whose follow shot tied the score with 10:23 left in regulation time.

Both teams had a chance to win in regulation; the Bishops when a header by freshman midfielder Jenny Howe was saved by Cobb with 7:44 left, and the Big Red just over a minute later, when Sarah Ash's shot from the right side was cleared off the goal line by sophomore defender Tori King.

VanHoey made the play of the first overtime, grabbing Oshita's chip from near the top of the box to keep the game alive.

Ohio Wesleyan had a couple of chances in the second overtime, first when Cozzone made a run into the Denison penalty area and passed to Krebsbach, but Krebsbach's shot was high. A minute later, Quinn lofted a high shot toward the Big Red goal which Cobb punched away.

Shortly thereafter, Ash sent the ball across to Clemmer near the top of the Ohio Wesleyan penalty area, and Clemmer's shot ended the game.

Photo by Cliff Williams

Senior Janna Dagley is honored at senior night in OWU's game against Oberlin.

Lady Bishops drop one to Oberlin on senior night, falls to 5-8 in NCAC

Courtesty of OWU Online

Senior night was spoiled as Ohio Wesleyan Volleyball fell to Oberlin Wednesday night in the Bishops last home contest of the season. With the loss, the team fell to 5-8 in the NCAC and 7-20 overall on the season.

Oberlin won the match by scores of 25-23, 25-21, 20-25, 25-21.

The Bishops led most of the way through the first set, breaking a 6-6 tie with kills by sophomore outside hitter Alexa Bean and Kekic to take the lead, and getting kills from Bean and Owen and a block from senior middle hitter Janna Dagley and sophomore setter Sarah Marshall on the way to a 17-12 lead. The Yeowomen rallied for the next 5 points, getting a block from Amanda Wysk and Maggie Jacobson and a kill from Rita Kaplon en route to tying the set at 17-17. After ties at 18, 19 and 21, the Bishops looked to end the set, getting points from Owen and Kekic to take a 23-21 lead, only to see Oberlin rally for the final 4 points, with Anna Frackman recording a kill and Wysk scoring on a tip over the Bishop front line for the 25-23 decision.

Oberlin raced to a 6-1 lead in the second set, with Frackman providing a kill and Kaitlyn Moushon zipping a service ace. The Bishops gradually closed the margin to 13-12, with Owen and Kekic providing 2 kills apiece and Dagley scoring twice on tips into the heart of the Yeowomen defense. Ohio Wesleyan was still within 20-18, but Oberlin's Sara Blankemeyer ended the Bishop rally with a kill and followed with an ace to stretch the lead to 22-18, and kills by Frackman and Elizabeth Wong put the Yeowomen on the doorstep at 24-19. Ohio Wesleyan rallied with points from Owen and sophomore middle hitter Stacey Tighe,but Wysk answered with a kill to finish off the set for a 2-0 Oberlin lead.

Photo by Cliff Williams

Sophomore Sarah Marshall prepares to serve the ball

Trailing, 10-9, in the third set, the Bishops reeled off 4 straight points to take the lead for good, with Dagley contributing a kill and Bean blasting a service ace along the way. Oberlin closed to within 15-14 on an ace by Blankemeyer, and were still within 19-18 when Ohio Wesleyan assembled a 6-2 run to close out the set, getting kills by Owen, Marshall and freshman outside hitter Sara Morris before ending the set on an Oberlin kill error.

Looking to square the match at 2 sets apiece, Ohio Wesleyan rallied from an early deficit to take an 8-7 lead, with Dagley kicking in 2 kills and Kekic and Marshall providing a kill apiece. Oberlin bounced back by scoring the next 5 points, sparked by a pair of kills from Frackman, and getting 2 more kills by Wysk for a 13-9 Yeowomen advantage. Frackman and Wong helped Oberlin open up a 17-12 lead, and the Yeowomen extended their edge to 20-14 before Ohio Wesleyan rallied. The Bishops got kills from Marshall and Kekic in shrinking the gap to 24-21, but Wysk ended the Ohio Wesleyan comeback and the match with a kill.

Owen led the Bishops with 12 kills, while Kekic finished with 10. Marshall had 38 assists for Ohio Wesleyan.

Defensive leaders for Ohio Wesleyan included junior libero Katie Schlaudt, who had 19 digs, and Bean, who finished with 16 digs; and Dagley, who had 4 blocks.

The night saw the team say goodbye to their sole senior and captain, Janna Dagley. Dagley has been a letter winner and middle hitter for the Bishops for the last four seasons.

The Bishops also fell to Denison Saturday night to drop their fourth in a row. Denison won the match with scores of 25-21, 22-25, 19-25, 25-22, 15-9.

Men's soccer clinches postseason with win over Wabash

By Steve Ruygrok
Transcript Reporter

This past Saturday night, OWU men's soccer powered their way past Wabash College with an important 3-1 conference victory. With the win, the Bishops remain undefeated in conference play with a 7-0 record.

Heading into the final week of the regular season, Ohio Wesleyan holds sole position of first place with a one game lead over Wittenberg, who is 6-1 in the conference this year. These two teams will clash heads in the biggest game of the season thus far at Wittenberg on Wednesday, three days before the Bishops' season finale at home against Allegheny.

Wabash took an early lead in the 34th minute Saturday night with a goal by sophomore Andre' Hall. Ohio Wesleyan answered with an early goal in the 47th minute by sophomore Brian Greene, starting the second half strong. During the 69th minute, OWU would capture the lead for good, courtesy of Ryan Harmanis' third goal of the season. The Bishops added an insurance goal in the 71st minute to seal the game.

Together, the teams combined for 40 fouls, with Wabash committing 21 fouls and Ohio Wesleyan taking the remaining 19.

"We tried to play one- and two-touch and move the ball around to avoid their physicality," junior Kevin McGowan said. "We also played a little more physical ourselves."

While the team did not play their best Saturday night, it was their will that carried them to victory over Wabash.

"Last night wasn't one of our best games, but we worked hard and refused to lose the game," McGowan said. "The best thing we did was fight for every ball, especially in the second half."

With the win, the team looks forward to the rest of the season, including the clinched playoff spot they earned Saturday night.

"The team is really excited about heading towards the playoffs," McGowan said. "We have a big game against Wittenberg on Wednesday, and if we win that, we clinch first place in the conference and home field advantage in the tournament, which is what we are looking for."

With the Bishops a lock for the 2008 NCAC playoffs, they now have their sights set on earning home field advantage. If the Bishops win on Wednesday night against Wittenberg, they will clinch first place as well as home field advantage. However, if they lose and the Tigers do not suffer another defeat for the rest of the season, then the tournament will be held at Wittenberg.

The Bishops' next home game will be Saturday, November 1st, against conference foe Allegheny, at Roy Rike Field.