



Photo by Sara Mays

Fifteen percent of the attendants at the Hunger Banquet, held on Dec. 3 in the Benes Room, were treated to a four-course meal at a set table. The remaining students were served beans and rice or just rice on the ground. This breakdown represents the disparity in income, food consumption, and environmental footprint throughout the world. The Hunger Banquet was one of the many events OWU groups hosted during Human Right's Week.

By Meghan Finneran and Celeste Taylor
Transcript Correspondents

The Hunger Banquet, held on Dec. 3 in the Benes Rooms, forced students to face the terror of chronic hunger, which affects 854 million people and kills 30,000 children daily.

"Tonight is not only food for your stomach, but it is food for your thoughts," said senior Christopher Kelley as he introduced and explained the 2008 Hunger Banquet. "The seating arrangement is set up according to the disparity in the world."

The amount and type of food students were able to eat was determined by a slip of paper, indicating their socio-economic class for the evening.

While the high income of José from Mexico would allow him to eat a four-course meal fit for a king, Anna Pedro, a low-income woman of Mozambique, was given a small bowl of rice.

José ate on a lavishly decorated table, alive with candlelight. He sat amongst several other students: those 15 percent representing the world's wealthy.

The low-income students attending the Hunger Banquet sat on cardboard squares on the floor.

The yearly per capita income of a member of the top 15 percent is \$10,726. The middle class, or 35 percent of the population, has a yearly per capita income ranging from \$875 to \$10,000.

'FOOD FOR THOUGHT'

Empty plates fill minds during annual Hunger Banquet

Anna Pedro represented the 50 percent of the population that makes a maximum of \$875 a year, the equivalent of \$2.40 a day.

Joan McLean, associate dean of first-year students, addressed the students at the banquet, saying hunger is "about power and the misuse of that power."

McLean described the world's current scenario as unfair cause-and-effect.

"Those committing the least crimes against our planet pay the highest price," she said.

The rich do everything wrong for the planet, she said, yet the poor are those struggling through global warming-related storms that destroy the small farms or shops that feed their families.

Fifty percent of all humanity,

McLean said, "live to survive, not thrive, day by day, sometimes hour by hour."

"I feel like I'm lucky to be alive right now," said a low-income member reflecting on her socio-economic status for the evening.

McLean told students about Nicaragua's Miskito people, who have been so affected by global warming that their seasons are completely flipped. They can only farm in the thin time span seasons allow.

She talked about how the carbon footprint left by the wealthy tends to affect those in the lower income brackets by destroying their environment and thus their livelihood.

"We can make little changes, along with the corporate changes," she said. "It is up to us as individuals to stop harming the planet. Seize

your power. Be the change."

McLean also brought attention to the randomness with which people are placed in their various socio-economic classes. It is dependent more on climate change than individual choices, she said.

"Because of the power dimension, it is out of their control," McLean said.

Sociology Professor Mary Howard experienced this perverse power distribution firsthand during the five years she spent in Mount Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, among East Africa's wealthiest people.

"Like the rest of the world, there are pockets of poverty," Howard said.

Howard told the story of a young girl suffering from Kwashiorkor, a protein-deficiency disease that caused

her to die at age 4.

"A beautiful child, lost to the world," she said.

According to Merck Hospital, Kwashiorkor makes "bones protrude, and the skin becomes thin, dry, inelastic, pale and cold." The young girl's skin was so thin that she experienced pain if anyone touched her, Howard said.

Starvation causes physical and mental stunts as well, and Howard told of a two-and-a-half-year-old boy who had not yet begun walking because of complications related to hunger.

Complications such as these are common, yet little is known of them in the U.S. Kwashiorkor is the leading killer of children globally, yet "it's so far away, it's something not many people want to be confronted with," Howard said.

Kent Beittel, executive director and CEO of The Open Shelter, Inc., spoke about the local homelessness problem. He said 600 people per night sleep without proper shelter, and instead of helping, the Columbus government simply keeps moving them around.

"We see around 200 people a day," Beittel said, referring to the shelter he runs in Columbus. "It's a very big deal to come volunteer and actually experience real people."

He added that it is important that people "find ways to find the folks you don't think are you so you can discover that they are."

There are over 2,000 people who

See **HUNGER**, page 2

New WCSA class reps prepare for upcoming terms

By Michael DiBiasio
Lead Reporter

Five WCSA class representatives were elected last Friday after one round of voting, and despite the low voter turnout – with as few 66 voters in one class election – the representatives-elect are optimistic about serving their classes.

Lara Kobelt, class of 2010 representative-elect, said earlier this week that her first concern will be gathering student input, and she has already sent out a campus-wide email asking students for problems and issues to address.

"I hope to serve in the best interest of the students by encouraging them to share their concerns with me," Kobelt said. "This way, you can make sure that WCSA has at least the

opportunity to try to resolve problems or initiate change."

Kobelt, who beat Kevin Fahey by two votes, plans to promote heightened campus involvement as well as advocate the environmental platform of the newly elected administration.

Austin Levert, 2012 representative-elect, said he is a proponent of retaining the knowledge and practices of this year's Sagan National Colloquium.

"A class representative is responsible for ensuring that his or her peers in the student body are accurately and fully spoken for, and that decisions made by WCSA are not only neutral in terms of their effect on a given class, but are beneficial to that group," Levert said.

"Environmentalism carries considerable momentum at OWU as of late. Therefore, fur-

thering environmentally friendly practices at OWU is one thing I hope to focus on during my tenure as class representative."

Sharif Kronemer, also a newly elected 2012 representative, agrees with Kobelt and Levert on the university's responsibilities to the environment, but he also admits to a lack of understanding on pressing issues regarding students.

"Perhaps my greatest weakness as a representative is being still fairly new to the OWU community and, therefore, not having the depth of knowledge that upperclassmen have in regard to issues that affect our community," Kronemer said.

"However, I think this is also simultaneously my greatest strength, as it forces me to be dependent on what issues my peers noticed or are concerned about. And I shall be highly

receptive to these interests, issues and concerns."

In the 2011 representative election, sophomores Ethan Baron and J.P. Phan ran unopposed. Phan, who said he plans to work for the best interest of the student body now and in the future, is also concerned about WCSA regaining respect from the students.

"How will I work to regain the respect of these students? There is only one word to describe it: action; which is to turn words into action. That's the only way," Phan said. "Students are tired of candidates making promises and letting them go. What they want to see are changes, and WCSA is supposed to make those changes happen."

* Ethan Baron was contacted for this article but was unable to respond by deadline.



Darby Tills speaks on the flaws of the death penalty

-- Page 4



CAH holds jam session open to all

-- Page 5



Bishops beat Earlham in NCAC opener

-- Page 8

Film educates on the struggles of humanitarians

Mary Siebodnik
Transcript Correspondent

Ohio Wesleyan supported Human Rights Week Tuesday by screening the documentary, “Once in Afghanistan,” at the Strand Theater in downtown Delaware.

The film showed the state of Afghanis 40 years ago and the efforts of Peace Corps members to administer smallpox vaccines to Afghan families.

According to the documentary, 17 American women joined the Peace Corps to help provide the human right to health care by administering smallpox vaccines to Afghan women and children from 1969 to 1971 .

The volunteers learned little about their destination from the time they met for training in Tucson, Ariz., to when their plane landed in Afghanistan.

“Go to the map in the foyer and see where [Afghanistan] is,” one volunteer said when she received her assignment.

Volunteers said in documentary interviews that Afghanistan seemed like a new world. They said they had to relearn basic life skills, such as how to go to the bathroom. They said Afghan men handed them rocks to use as toilet paper.

Due to water shortages, the volunteers said they sometimes had to bathe with tea. However, volunteers emphasized the hospitality Afghans extended to them in food and shelter.

“We knew they were giving us all they had,” a volunteer said.

“Afghanistan is a hard country,” another volunteer said in reference to poverty and disease they encountered.

“All those huge problems and you could do so little,” another volunteer said.

Volunteer Rita Hackett came to the “Once in Afghanistan” screening. She said volunteers received medical treatment for rabies, dog bites, and hepatitis. Kristina Engstrom, a Peace Corps trainer, also came to the screening and said some volunteers were infected by parasitic worms.

The documentary showed cultural differences between American and Afghan women in terms of dress and relationships with men.

According to the documentary, men made most decisions in families and women avoided making eye contact with men in public to avoid punishment. The Afghan women asked how the Peace Corps women could travel without male escorts.

The documentary said men could not touch Afghan women by social custom. One volunteer described how an Afghan woman felt the volunteer’s body from head to toe to make sure she was a woman before she would let the volunteer administer vaccines.

The Peace Corps volunteers said there was contrast between Afghan women’s social roles and American women’s social roles. The volunteers also said they met loving and happy families, and connected with the women despite cultural differences.

A volunteer said she had tea with an Afghan woman. They came from different cultures, different generations, and spoke different languages, yet she says they made a connection.

“I’m interested in you. And you’re interested in me. Let’s sit here and have tea together,” she said to the women.

Jill Vickers and Jody Bergedick co-produced the documentary. Vickers attended the Tuesday screening and said the film responds to negative perceptions of Afghan people following Sept. 11.

“The idea was to put a face on people Americans have had very little opportunity to come to know,” she said.

Vickers said profits from the “Once in Afghanistan” screenings benefit Afghanistan rebuilding projects.

“Once in Afghanistan” premiered in October 2008.

The departments of women’s and gender studies, sociology and anthropology, international studies, and film studies, and the student chapter of Amnesty International sponsored the Tuesday screening.

Chaplain’s Office programs extensive

By Chris Gong
Transcript Correspondent

From two small office rooms to a floor and a half, from one chaplain to nine, the Chaplain’s Office has grown a lot during the 20 years Chaplain Jon Powers has worked at Ohio Wesleyan.

The office’s most well-known community service programs, mission trips over the spring and summer breaks, now collectively see participation from 10 percent of the student body each year. Beyond that, the office provides spiritual consultation and programming for student organizations, faculty members and individual students.

When Powers came to OWU in 1988, he was the only chaplain and had a secretary three days a week -- that was it. The Chaplain’s Office consisted of two offices on the second floor of the old student center, which is now a computer room in the Corns Building.

Not until five or six years ago, when OWU received a \$2.5 million Lily Grant along with 87 other colleges nationwide, was the office able to recruit more staff and to fund more programs, such as the mission trips.

The Lilly Endowment Inc., a private foundation based in Indianapolis, was created in 1937 by members of the Lilly family, which is associated with the famous Eli Lilly and Company.

“They(theLillyEndowment) want us to do things like what we do now – to help students think more clearly and more theologically about their lives and careers, what kind of calling and passion they have,” Powers said.

Thanks to the Lilly grant, some mission trips provide scholarships for team members to participate. Associate Chaplains Chad Johns and Kelly Adamson also joined the office under the Lilly Grant.

According to Powers, the ‘09 spring break mission teams, which have more participants than ever in the past, include 12 mission teams (four abroad and eight domestic teams), as well as four wilderness teams.

Proposals for mission trips can come from groups or individuals, faculty members or students. For example, senior

Laura Coonfield, a pre-med and philosophy double major, has created her own program in Hartford, Conn., this year.

Before her proposal, she didn’t have any connections with the Catholic Worker house in Hartford, where the team will be staying and working.

But she made this happen through networking with a member of Potter’s House while she was on a Washington, D.C., mission trip this past summer, as well as by making connections with the C.W. organization in both her hometown -- Houston, Texas -- and Hartford, Conn.

Participants have said there are a lot of good reasons to be part of a mission trip experience.

Senior Mark Miller, an economics major, has been on three trips in the past -- with the Appalachia Service Project in Chaviez, Ky.; Habitat for Humanity in Goldsboro, N.C. (as team leader); and the CCNV Homeless Shelter Project in Washington, D.C. The Lakota trip this coming spring will be his fourth one.

He explained his motivation for going on a mission trip every year.

“I want to take time to change gears for a change, put my academic or compensatory work to the side, and realign what I consider (or should consider) my top priorities, to revisit the big picture of the real world that academic and campus life can so easily distract a student from seeing,” Miller said.

“Mission trips are means for me to give back, to pay it forward, either from the time given towards the community service on the trip, or from the learning that makes me a more informed and concerned citizen,” Miller said.

As a team leader for one last year’s mission teams, the Habitat for Humanity team, he expressed his confidence in how the program is structured.

“They do a great job of requesting and responding to feedback as to how the program could be improved,” Miller said. “However, perhaps getting the word out more at the beginning of the year, before applications are due, is one of the few ways to improve I can think of. I talked with a number of freshman and

sophomores who were not that familiar with the mission trip program and who did not apply as a result. “

Beyond the traditional spring-breakandsummer-break mission trips, the designing and planning of community service programs also includes many surprises.

Two weeks ago, the Jubilee Team went to Columbus for a “secret city mission” – the staff members managed to keep their service destination a secret. The service members had no idea where they were going before the van stopped.

The team members eventually found themselves at a halfway house for women who are victims of sexual trafficking and who were able to get out of prostitution and start their lives again in the house. The team worked there during the weekend.

According to the Chaplain’s Office, the Jubilee Team is currently preparing for the annual Jubilee conference, a three-day Christian conference, by discussing issues of social justice from a biblical perspective.

“We created our own programs here, but we would swap ideas with other schools, too,” Powers said.

Although a lot of programs are very young and novel, such as the Hartford Catholic Worker Mission team led by Coonfield and the weekend-long service trip, the mission trip tradition at OWU has gone way back.

According to OWU online, Ohio Wesleyan, founded by Methodists in 1842, was known early on as the “West Point of Missions” because of the number of graduates who served abroad as missionaries.

“One of the projects I’m working on is to reconstruct some of our history,” Powers said, “We’ve identified 30 other schools in the world started by Ohio Wesleyan alumni, in places like Malaysia, Africa and South America.”

Collaborating with International Student Services, Minority Student Affairs, Counseling Services, Career Services, Residential Life and faculty members, the Chaplain’s Office has long been helping to create and assist programs of many other groups and individuals on campus.

“I give faculty guest lectures, or talk to an individual student. I’m also an academic advisor,” Powers said.

The staff of the Chaplain’s Office also talks to students with personal needs, which are not necessarily restricted to religious groups or related fields.

These might be students with family financial problems, having “difficulty with roommates, difficulty with professors, difficulty with family members, or difficulty getting along with themselves – somebody who’s unconfident with themselves,” Powers said.

“We sometimes help students to make decisions about what they want to do for their lives – should they go to graduate school, should they enter a profession? A recent conversation was with a student thinking about whether he should go to the military,” Power said. “I got a student calling me the night of the (2008 presidential) election,”

He and Colleen Cook, coordinator of Counseling, Career, and Health Services, showed up in Welch hall at 9:15 p.m. on Nov. 5 “just to see if there would be any students wanting to talk about the elections, if they are hurt because they’ve lost.

“So every day in the morning when I come in, I never know what my day is going to be like. My schedule may say what Sarah (the secretary of the office) thinks my day is going to be like, but any moment something is changed, so we have to stay flexible.”

As chaplain at OWU, Powers has performed over 400 wedding ceremonies during his tenure, mainly for alumni. He also has traveled to Russia, Vietnam, Cuba, Argentina and many countries in Europe on mission trips or church conferences. He is planning to go to Ghana this summer with the Ghana mission team.

“It’s the best job I can possibly have in the whole world,” he said. “The biggest perk I have being OWU’s chaplain is probably to get to know students, faculty and staff, and not knowing from one hour to the next, what is going to happen – there is always joy of surprise.”

HUNGER, from page 1

find themselves homeless in Columbus each year, and Howard created the documentary “Swept Out” in 2006 to address this issue.

The actual segregation among classmates seemed to have as profound an impact on the students as the speakers did.

Freshman Adrian Morrison, one of the privileged chosen to dine as upper class, said, “It’s almost embarrassing now that you know so many other people were watching, and you kind of got chosen for no real reason at all.”

Maren Oehl,also a freshman, agreed. “I feel guilty, especially that we can see them and how

little they get,” Oehl said. “It’s random. It kind of shows how the world is random, too.”

Zeal Jagannatha, a freshman who was seated on the floor, said, “It was a little degrading to eat rice and see everyone else eating cake.”

“After a while it was just bland,” sophomore Sam Spiridellis said. “Imagine what it would be like to eat it every single day.It just puts everything else into perspective.”

McLean told students to donate canned goods, walk to class, recycle and buy fair trade products in an effort to fight hunger and poverty.

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Corrections

In last week’s issue, an article entitled “Celebration marks Year One’s anniversary” incorrectly reported that the “First Year Festival” was intended to celebrate the Year One Program, when it was actually an event for all first-year students.

Also from last issue, the women’s basketball team defeated the Notre Dame College Blue Falcons, not the Notre Dame Fighting Irish.

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Kappa and Sigma Chi win holiday lights comp

Lights, festivities, and cocoa used to win over judges
Rock Jones, Craig Ullom and Wendy Piper

By Kailey Miller
Transcript Correspondent

Sigma Chi fraternity and Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority took this year’s prize in Greek Life’s 1st annual “Holiday Light-up Night.”

Fraternities and sororities were judged on their houses’ holiday decorations and were evaluated in four different categories: best usage of lights, best usage of props, incorporation of the organization’s name and incorporation of a theme.

Sigma Chi and Kappa will both receive a catered meal provided by Chartwells Dining as a reward for getting into the holiday spirit.

President Rock Jones, along with Dr. Craig Ullom and Ms. Wendy Piper, braced the cold temperatures to judge the event.

The judges walked from The Hill to the sororities on Winter Street and finished up judging on Franklin Street at Chi Phi fraternity.

With an assortment of light displays and decorations, fraternity participation was strong. The sorority involvement fell short in comparison, with only Kappa decorating with holiday lights. Most of the sororities felt they weren’t notified soon enough to prepare for the competition.

Junior Sydney Fitzpatrick, member of Kappa Kappa Gamma, said the sororities didn’t learn of the contest until the week of the event.

“It was hard to quickly find the time to dig up all the decoration and put them up,” said Fitzpatrick. “I don’t know

if the fraternities knew before us or not, but knowing about it before hand would have been much better.”

Fitzpatrick said she would love to participate next year and is happy about receiving a catered meal being a member of the winning team.

Sophomore Kelley King also says they didn’t have enough time before the judging.

“This is a new thing for sororities; the fraternities have always decorated their houses so we felt unprepared,” said King.

All the fraternities put a different twist on the contest.

Sigma Chi blared Christmas music and greeted the judges with hot cocoa, while Delta Tau Delta suspended their Greek letters largely in blue lights.

Alpha Sigma Phi outlined every window and a side staircase with lights and Phi Delta Theta ornamented their balcony with lights and their front lawn with an immense snow globe.

Sophomore Wesley Hatch said he had a fun time setting up the lights and decorating with his brothers.

“It got me into the spirit of Christmas,” said Hatch.

Junior Taleb Shkoukani , member of Sigma Chi fraternity, said the brothers put immense effort in decorating the house and took pride in winning.

Alpha Sigma Phi had the largest quantity of lights but believes Sigma Chi was the most involved in the event, said Shkoukani.

“Our whole front yard was lit up with a variety of lights, our roof and chimney were even decorated,” said Shkoukani.

Central Appalachian mission team raises money for spring break trip

By Katie Tuttle
Transcript Correspondent

On Thursday, Dec. 4, the Appalachian Service Project spring break mission team held a “Traditional Appalachian Dinner” to help the team fundraise.

This spring, the team will head to Chavies, Ky., to repair homes for underprivileged families. Chavies is located southeast of Lexington, Ky., about 320 miles from OWU’s campus.

The Appalachia Service Project (ASP) “provides vital housing services to low-income families living in Central Appalachia.”

It also gives “life experiences to those we serve, volunteers offering their service, congregations involved with ASP, and entire communities.”

Each year, nearly 400 to 500

homes of low-income families are repaired by about 15,000 volunteers, mostly high school youth. Since its beginning, ASP has repaired more than 12,500 homes.

This spring’s team consists of junior Shannon Sedgwick, sophomore Kate McLam, junior Lyndsey Planicka and freshman Tung Tran. Jean Castelli and Sue Cooperidge are the faculty advisers.

Sedgwick participated in ASP this past summer as a paid staff member and will be team leader of the OWU spring team.

The dinner’s Facebook event boasted “good eats and bluegrass” with a note that tickets were \$5 presale or \$6 at the door.

The entire week leading up to the dinner, members of the team tabled in Hamilton-Williams. They signed students up for their dinner while also

advertising to others who were unaware of the event. By Wednesday night, they had nearly \$100 raised toward their trip.

Catered by Chartwells and held in the Benes Rooms, the dinner consisted of pulled pork sandwiches, egg salad, macaroni and cheese, cheesy potatoes, corn muffins, coleslaw and an assortment of pies ranging from pumpkin to cherry.

Attendees sat at round tables chatting while at the front of the room a projector showed a slideshow of pictures Sedgwick had taken while she worked for ASP over the past summer. In the background, soft bluegrass music helped set the mood.

The dinner ran from 6 to 8 p.m., and by the end of the night the team had made a total of \$200 toward their trip.

“I was really happy with

the turnout,” said Sedgwick. “It was a Thursday night and finals are almost here... I didn’t expect a lot of people to come and we had [about] 30 to 40 people attend.”

Sedgwick wasn’t the only one satisfied with the dinner. Attendees were heard commenting on the different dishes.

“Aren’t these cheesy potatoes good?” said Morgan Waddles.

Others laughed at the humorous pictures on the screen, or seemed surprised at the condition of the homes photographed.

Although the team did raise a decent amount of money, it isn’t enough to cover the cost of their trip. The group is brainstorming other fundraising ideas. At the top of their list is a talent show.

“We need to raise 3300,” said Sedgwick.

Ohio Wesleyan brightens campus with new tradition



Photo by Sara Mays

OWU students and faculty gathered Sunday to light the Ron Hudler Memorial Christmas Tree and to honor the alum’s memory. The tree has been planted in front of Edwards Gymnasium, near the intersection of Park Avenue and Sandusky Street.

Campus challenged by National Colloquium’s Paperless Campus Day

By Brittany Stojasavljevic
Transcript Correspondent

How many sheets of paper would be saved if Ohio Wesleyan students didn’t have to write term papers?

Members of Sagan National Colloquium decided to find out by hosting Paperless Campus Day on Dec. 2, encouraging OWU to decrease paper usage.

After measuring the amount of paper being ordered by each office, two colloquium groups, Every Second Counts and Paperless Campus, compiled a campaign to help reduce the amount of paper being used.

“OWU has a lot of room for improvement,” said junior David Ebenhoh, leader of Paperless Campus.

Paperless Campus Day served as an open invitation for OWU to meet this challenge. The groups offered tips on how to reduce paper usage, so no one was forced to participate, but given the opportunity to change on their own. No one was pressured to

participate, but the campus was strongly encouraged. Students were urged to turn papers in electronically, print only final drafts, and recycle paper.

“We didn’t want a negative response if we forced people,” said sophomore Bridget Kahey, leader of Every Second Counts. “We wanted a more positive effect in the long run. We want people to become habitual in this action.”

Every Second Counts and Paperless Campus promoted Paperless Campus Day by sending out e-mails, making a Facebook group, and hanging a banner. A letter was also sent out to faculty members, requesting they show support for Paperless Campus Day.

Kahey’s group, Every Second Counts, selects a different topic to promote each month.

The group has an emphasis on activism and awareness on an individual basis. She spoke to other colloquium groups about potential ideas, and Paperless Campus, a participating class, expressed interest in a joint effort.

Overall, both Kahey and Ebenhoh felt Paperless Campus Day was a success because it raised awareness.

“There was a good response,” said Kahey. “A lot of people were talking about it.”

Faculty members paid attention to Paperless Campus Day as well; some agreed to accept assignments electronically.

Kahey plans to continue working next semester. She will run another colloquium group, although she isn’t certain what the group’s theme or project will be.

Kahey also said she was worried that some people may feel overwhelmed by the pressure to change so much in order to go green.

“I want to encourage people to find one habit,” said Kahey. “If people find their thing to work on, one action that they become concentrated on, it will make a big difference, especially with the numbers on campus.”

She also said everyone should remember to send electronic Christmas cards.



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President’s Ball a hit among students and faculty

By **Lucas Bezerra**
Transcript Correspondent

Usually, the Conrades Wetherell Science Center atrium is filled with comfy chairs and small tables used for studying and relaxation.

But on Saturday, Dec. 6, the chairs and tables were removed, and the atrium transformed into a ballroom suitable for presidents.

More than 300 students attended.

Every year before the first semester ends, the President’s Club sponsors this night and

dubs it President’s Ball, or as students call it, Pres Ball. This year the atrium was decorated with holiday ornaments and filled with all the food that the school could provide.

The Pres Ball is no average college dance; it calls for formal wear and an entrance fee of \$7 per person and \$10 for couples.

The beginning of the night was for seniors only. It was highly attended, and all those seniors who went had the option of participating in the cocktail party sponsored by their own senior dues.

Fondue fountains were surrounded by fruit, marshmallows and anything a formally dressed student could imagine dipping in ebbing creamy chocolate. The Ohio Wesleyan catering services supplied the fondue and many other hors d’oeuvres.

The ball opened with a two-hour performance by the Park Avenue Jazz Ensemble of Ohio Wesleyan that invited students to waltz about the atrium with their favored partners.

Some students came with date,s and some just by themselves to enjoy the sounds of

the jazz ensemble.

Sophomore trombone player Ben Wallingford said he had a great time playing for all the students in attendance. He said he particularly enjoyed the last 30 minutes when about 35 couples were dancing to the music he was playing.

“This is the roots of music; it’s not rap, and all this music takes skill to play,” Wallingford said.

Wallingford also noted that the last President’s Ball kept the lights on the majority of the time, but this year was much better because the dim lights

that they used really “changed the atmosphere.”

Wallingford has been playing the trombone since the fifth grade and remembers his first classes being in the girl’s locker room of his high school.

For the last three hours of the ball, two Ohio Wesleyan students were hired to be the disc jockeys to entertain the students with much more modern music.

The two DJ’s were put on the second floor balcony of the science center and chose the music that came out of four different box speakers that be-

long to one of the campus fraternities.

Students were not the only ones who could attend, as professors were invited, too. An economics professor, Barbara McCleod was one of the numerous professors who put her grove on as the jazz ensemble played.

This past Saturday night was a night where the men and women of Ohio Wesleyan had the opportunity to dress up and act like gentlemen and ladies as they danced to celebrate the close their fall of 2008 semester.

Darby Tills presents human rights week



Photo by Sara Mays

Darby Tillis, who was incacerated on Death Row for nearly 10 years for a crime he did not commit, spoke in Ham-Will on Dec. 4 to enlighten OWU’s factuly and students on the ethical, legal and moral flaws of the death penalty.

Students get philosophical on Tuesdays at Socrates Café

By **Gwen Fitzgerald**
Transcript Correspondent

“If the fact were God does not exist, would it be the downfall of humanity to know the truth?”

This was the question debated at the Socrates Café on Tuesday, Nov. 18. The Socrates Café meets every Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the Smith Piano Room, on the second floor of Smith East.

Socrates Café is the house project of Mike Frye, a junior who lives at the House of Thought. He moderated the discussion. The purpose of the café is to provide an open forum for people who want to discuss philosophical issues.

Currently, it is not a school

club and does not receive funding, but Frye said he hopes that will change soon.

Jessica Kyler, the second-in-command with the official title “word-meister”, described the discussions as “laid back.”

At the meetings, the group gets in a circle, usually around a table, and Frye goes over the rules of the club – talking in turn and not attacking other people.

Everyone then writes a potential debate question on a piece of scrap paper and submits it to Frye, who reads them all out loud while the club votes on what they want to talk about.

Some of the other potential questions posed this evening by its members were “Is a woman

being portrayed in a sexual manner always degrading?” or “Is no government better than a corrupt government?”

“A lot of times it gets heated,” said Kyler, but the group stresses an inviting atmosphere. The debate question from Tuesday was met with several opposing viewpoints, but the discussion respected each person. The club does not shy away from controversial topics.

The club’s attendance is usually in the teens, but it varies. “Last month, we had about 20 people,” Kyler said. Attendance is higher at the “feature discussions,” which are held every month in the Benes Rooms and are heavily advertised than the regular meetings.

Former Death Row inmates challenge ‘unjust’ system

By **Mike Dubovec**
Transcript Reporter

“My name is Darby Tillis, and I spent nine years, five months and one day on Death Row for a crime I did not commit.”

Tillis was one of two former Death Row inmates to speak at “Live from Death Row,” a presentation highlighting the flaws of the death penalty that drew around 80 students to the faculty dining room of the Hamilton-William Campus Center on Dec. 4.

“Death Row is hell. Feels like hell. Smells like hell. It is hell,” Tillis said. “Every day you die a little bit. Every day you suffer.”

Stanley Howard, the other speaker, spoke from a cell phone held up to a microphone. “I’ve been held captive, against my will since 1984 for a crime I didn’t commit,” said Howard. His sentence was commuted in 2003, but he remains incarcerated.

Howard is a member of the Death Row 10, a group of 13 Death Row inmates who were tortured by Chicago police officers into confessions between 1973 and 1993. The Death Row 10 were among 170 African American men abused by officers under Detective Jon Burge. Today, 25 victims remain jailed.

Howard said officers “choked, kicked, smacked and punched me.” He was suffocated with a plastic bag and forced to play Russian roulette. “The criminal justice system is racist, unjust, broken and needs to be dismantled,” Howard said.

Also at the event was Julien Ball, a member of the Campaign to End the Death Penalty. “The whole process is cruel and unusual punishment,” Ball said. “It’s playing with human lives.”

Ball then described the case of Troy Davis, who came within hours of death three times despite seven of the nine witnesses who testified against him recanting.

Ball said the death penalty discriminates against the poor. “The U.S. is the only Western society that still has the death penalty,” he said. “Presumably we save it for the worst of the worst, but in actuality, it’s saved for those who can’t defend themselves [in court].”

While those who can afford attorney avoid the death penalty, those who can’t must rely on public defenders that are often overworked or disinterested in the cases.

Ball also challenged the merits of lethal injection. “People assume lethal injection is a medical procedure, and the person goes to sleep,” Ball said. But numerous executions have resulted in numerous prisoners suffering violent convulsions and pain. “The makers of the drug used in

lethal injections say it shouldn’t it be used to kill humans,” Ball said.

All three speakers labeled the capital punishment system as racist. “In 80% of cases where the death penalty is applied,” Ball said, “the victim is white.” This, Ball said, occurs despite murder affecting blacks and whites equally. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, there were 1,345 African Americans on Death Row in 2007 out of a total of 3,220 inmates.

“The death penalty is used primarily in former slave states,” Ball added. “It’s not an accident they call the death penalty ‘legal lynching’.”

Out of 1,135 executions since 1976, 935 took place in the South, according to the Death Penalty Information Center.

The jury that convicted Tillis was all white, and over 30 blacks were rejected. “I was a political prisoner,” Tillis said. “I was kidnapped, abused and misused to send a message to black folks: black-on-white crime will not be tolerated.”

Ball said the death penalty is not a deterrent to crime. “Western nations that don’t have the death penalty have lower crime rates [than the U.S.].” Ball attributes this to social programs that target the root causes of crime, like poverty and drug abuse.

“It costs more to execute a man than it does to keep him alive for the rest of his life,” Tillis said. According to the Death Penalty Information Center, the cost of a death penalty case in Texas averages \$2.3 million, three times the cost of imprisoning someone for 40 years.

All three speakers said the death penalty is kept in place because it allows politicians to project the image that they are tough on crime.

Tillis said testimony exonerating him was suppressed from the trial by political forces in Chicago at the time because, “They didn’t want exposure...Mayor Daley would rather I die innocent than go free and reveal the flaws of the death penalty.”

Howard said his extracted confession was accepted for the same reason. “The courts didn’t care because they were more interested in protecting the public officials involved in the cover-up,” he said.

“Most politicians don’t speak out against the death penalty,” Ball said. “So it’s not a surprise most people think the death penalty is a solution to crime ..., but the more they know about it, the less they like it.”

Despite being pardoned and released from prison, Tillis remains haunted by his time on Death Row. “I was released,” he said. “I was not freed. I will never be free, but I will continue to fight for the rest of my life.”

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Arts & Entertainment

Professor's final film showing at the Strand

Professor Helmut Kremling's last picture show will take place Dec. 12' at 6 p.m at the Strand. It's the final film of his last film course at OWU, and all are invited.

The movie is the acclaimed *Schultze Gets The Blues* (Germany, 2005). It features an unlikely protagonist, a tubby and aging retired mine worker from the former East Germany. His life inevitably seems to be approaching an ennui-filled end until he and his accordion encounter a new love, namely zydeco music.

Before long, he is cooking jambalaya and dreaming about an odyssey in the bayous. For more information about this bitter-sweet comedy, visit [imdb.com](#) on the web. Roger Ebert's review, as usual, is a good place to start.

There will be some introductory comments by John DeSando, of NPR's WCBE 90.5 FM "It's Movie Time" and "Movie Classics," and also by Kremling. The traditional discussion at the Mean Bean will follow the film.

The admission charge is \$4, with half going to the People In Need assistance organization.

One act plays showcase talent



Photo by Sara Mays

OWU's directing and playwriting classes worked to put on a series of one-act plays in the studio theater at Chappellear Drama Center. Here, Elliot Ares and Jake Barkett portray the title characters in Samantha Beany's 'Jack and Drew,' who face some difficult issues the night before their wedding.

Sweet melodies



Photo by Sara Mays

Members of the Creative Arts House SLU performed music and welcomed others to bring their own instruments and join in the session.

Spring semester full of theater, concerts

Through Feb. 8 – "Eye of the Beholder," featuring Nebraska artist Wanda Ewing, who uses imagery found in popular culture to address issues of race, beauty, sexuality, and identity, and "Building the Collection," featuring sculpture, photography, basketry and more from Ohio Wesleyan's permanent collection, at Richard M. Ross Art Museum.

3:15 p.m. Jan. 18 – Faculty recital featuring Carpe Diem String Quartet with Cameron Bennett, piano. The event will take place in Jemison Auditorium inside Sanborn Hall

8 p.m. Jan. 24 – Directed by Indira Satyapriya, artists from the Nalanda School of Dance will perform on the Main Stage in Chappellear Drama Center. The professional dance artists, including Anish V. Doshi and Santha Parmeshwaran, will showcase traditional and contemporary dances based on the Bharatnatyam style, one of the major classical dance styles of India.

3:15 p.m. Jan. 25 – Senior recital featuring Jessica Merrill, soprano. The event will take place in Jemison Auditorium inside Sanborn Hall

8 p.m. Feb. 6, 7, 13 and 14, 2009; and 2 p.m. Feb. 15, 2009 – "Twelfth Night," Shakespeare's classic comedy of mistaken identities and intrigue, in the Studio Theatre in Chappellear Drama Center. The play will be directed by Elane Denny, professor of theatre and dance, with costume design by Jacqueline Shelley and scenic design by guest artist Jeff Gress.

3:15 p.m. Feb. 8 – Senior recital featuring EvaCecilia Koh, soprano. The event will take place in Jemison Auditorium inside Sanborn Hall.

Feb. 19 to April 5 – "Recurring Themes," featuring the works of Paul Henri Bourguignon, at Richard M. Ross Art Museum. Bourguignon's later paintings have been described as "expressionistic, often with whimsical, vulnerable, or tragic figures revealed in delightfully complex interactions of brushstrokes and texture."

8 p.m. Feb. 19-21 – "OWU/NOW," a three-concert festival celebrating "The Music of Our Time." On Feb. 19 and 20, Ohio Wesleyan presents "The Music of Our Time." On Feb. 21, the university presents "Schickele Mix," hosted by Peter Schickele. All three events will take place in Jemison Auditorium inside Sanborn Hall.

8 p.m. Feb. 22 – "Peter Schickele & PDQ Bach: The Jekyll & Hyde Tour," starring Peter Schickele. The show will take place in University Hall's Gray Chapel.

Celebrity obsession defines generation

By Kaitlin Thomas
Entertainment Columnist

In 1998 "Dawson's Creek" premiered on the now-defunct WB Network.

In 1997, the name Dawson was number 734 on the "Top 1,000 Baby Names" list, according to the Social Security Administration website.

In 1998, the number jumped all the way to 175. It topped out the next year at 136.

Is this a mere coincidence? Maybe, but I doubt it. I believe it is a sign of how unoriginal Americans are. Or more correctly, I believe it is an indication of how popular culture affects the world around us.

My friend Meredith wants to name her future child Theodore. She asked me for advice about a middle name. The first thing that popped into my head was the name, Logan. Why? Because Ted "Theodore" Logan was the name of Keanu Reeves' character in the movie "Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure."

I am a product of popular culture. We all are. Unless you are holed up in a cave Osama Bin Laden-style, you cannot escape popular culture. That is what makes it popular culture.

In today's society, it is easy to view popular culture in a negative light.

People like Perez Hilton and Ryan Seacrest have helped fuel this idea that popular culture is merely obsessing over celebrities and pseudo-celebrities and the myriad inane details of their lives.

In reality, popular culture reflects the attitudes, literature, politics, television, art, music, fashion, movies and people who shape the world during a specific period of time.

At the Ohio State University, undergraduate students are now able to minor in popular culture studies.

According to the website, the goal of the program is "to provide tools for undergraduates to build bridges between the popular, public and material cultures of their daily lives and the cultures that are the traditional objects of study."

While sometimes pop culture is regrettable (one day women will look back upon this era of Uggs boots and leggings the way we now look at feathered hair and acid wash jeans), it is by no means unimportant.

Years from now, when students are studying the early years of the 21st century, they will be studying the trends, the fads, the people and the media that molded these times.

Robert Thompson, director of the Bleier Center for Television and Popular Culture at Syracuse University, has said, "To understand the history of a culture of a country, you can't only study its wars and presidents. You have to understand its cheeseburgers, lawn ornaments and all of that stuff."

So while it seems strange and stupid to name your child after the world's most annoying television character, it is also a sign of what the culture was like during the late 1990s. "Dawson's Creek" was a huge hit. Anyone (read girl) between the ages of 10 and 25 probably watched the show and fell in love with Pacey, and after a season or two, hated Dawson.

While I mocked Meredith for her baby name choices, I truly have no room to talk. My future child, Luca Brasi, is not entirely my own idea, after all.

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Opinion

Drinking laws too harshOld issue shows past OWU

By Kyle Sjarif
Guest Columnist

College is the time in a person’s life when he or she free from the boundaries of parents. It is a time when students submerge themselves in all the academic and extracurricular activities a school has to offer.

Whether playing sports at the varsity or intramural level, joining a variety of clubs or simply trying to focus on school work, the average college student works hard throughout the week. When we’re all burned out from the papers and lectures and quizzes, the weekend amazingly creeps up on us, and we have two whole days to relax.

When that Friday night rolls around, many college students participate in one of the most popular college pastimes around the country, and probably one of the most effective ways to socialize and meet their fellow undergraduates -- that is, they party.

Weekly partying typically involves the consumption of alcoholic beverages. At this stage of our lives, whether freshman, sophomore, junior or senior, we have officially begun our journey to completing higher education. Save for the occasional college dropout, this means we have the mental capacities necessary to at least understand the effects of alcohol on our growth, development and judgment. We’ve all taken AlcoholEdu.

I don’t condone alcohol consumption, but I do want to analyze the actions taken by the city of Delaware against the people who do. I feel compelled to express an opinion because of the severity of punishments I have heard regarding alcohol consumption or possession by minors. Obviously, those caught multiple times should be prosecuted harshly, but I feel that the punishments handed out are extreme.

Ohio law states that any person charged with underage consumption, purchasing or possession of alcohol could be charged with a maximum sentence of \$1,000 in fines and/or up to six months in jail. Let that soak in, because

for the few of you that this applies to, such punishment could possibly end your collegiate career instantly.

Ohio law also states that operating a vehicle under the influence results in a maximum fine of up to \$1,000 and/or up to six months in jail (\$250 mandatory fine and mandatory three days in jail). The probability of receiving the maximum fine for underage consumption is slim to none, unless there are multiple offenses. But consider the fact that driving under the influence, an action that not only endangers the driver but also the lives of fellow drivers and pedestrians and could possibly result in death, incurs the same penalty as a 19- or 20-year-old having a beer or two.

I am worried for college students because going to jail for a few days because of multiple offenses could be detrimental to their lives. There is a belief is that a bigger school means that you don’t necessarily get caught as easily and that there is more tolerance. Such an attitude should be applied everywhere.

The notion that a 19-year-old could spend a week in jail for being caught with a beer twice truly frightens me. Again, I am not condoning underage consumption, but I hope that this column is taken into consideration for all those that participate in such activities.

A good friend of mine was caught twice at an “off-campus party” by the Delaware Police Department and did not receive a breathalyzer test. He is required to pay court fees of \$800, complete 20 hours of community service, be put on one-year probation and serve a 10-day jail sentence in March. He is hoping to exhibit good behavior and petition the jail sentence.

I felt obliged to warn the student population of the severity and harshness of punishments handed out and encourage them to be alert and careful when planning out their weekend activities. The legal limit in Ohio is .020 for anyone under the age of 21.

If college is a time for youth to learn and explore the world around them, then shouldn’t the law let kids be kids? To an extent, of course.

Hawley’s letter a disappointment

To the Editor:

In response to the “Election a Sham” piece by Trevor Hawley that appeared in the Nov. 20 issue of *The Transcript*, I am very disappointed on many levels.

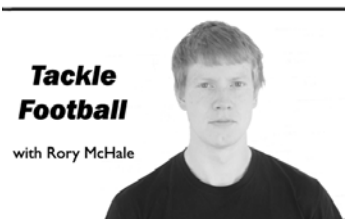
First, I do not know Trevor Hawley. I don’t recall ever meeting him in person or even talking to him on the phone until he called me on Nov. 18. This call was in regard to a campus-wide e-mail message he submitted for distribution to all students around 10 p.m. on Nov. 17 – an e-mail message that contained much of the same sort of content as his Nov. 20 piece in *The Transcript*. He wanted to know why it wasn’t distributed, and when I pointed out that it was purely editorial and that there was no legitimate reason that his (or any other student’s) personal opinions on any topic – even WCSA -- warranted being sent out to all students, he acknowledged that position but continued to insist that his e-mail should be sent out. I refused and also told him that I did not have to justify this decision to him, as I was following established campus-wide e-mail policy and procedures. At that point, he told me I was being rude and hung up on me. But let me be perfectly clear: I did not use any expletives during the course of our conversation, and I certainly did not use the specific profanity that he accused me of saying. Period. To give Mr. Hawley the benefit of the doubt, perhaps he *thought* I said that. I did not. In fact, in the more than nine years that I have worked at OWU, I cannot ever recall a time when I used any profanity in any situation even remotely like that -- no matter how heated the exchange may have become.

Second, shame on *The Transcript* for even publishing this piece. Allow me to first provide one of the definitions of “libel” from the *Oxford English Dictionary*: Any published statement damaging to the reputation of a person. Then allow me to quote from *The Transcript’s*

“Letters to the Editor” policy contained in this very publication: The editors reserve the right not to publish letters containing defamatory or obscene material. What strikes me about Mr. Hawley’s letter is that it was both defamatory *and* obscene, and yet its publication was allowed. If *The Transcript* were a professional newspaper, I would have solid legal standing to sue. It would be one thing if Mr. Hawley had called me an incompetent jerk (or whatever) because of what I had allegedly done, because he has a right to his opinion. But the instant he falsely, publicly accused me of something I did not do that, in turn, damaged my reputation, Mr. Hawley crossed the distinct line between editorial license and pure libel. And yet his letter was published. Even if Mr. Hawley did not know any better, *The Transcript* should have.

Finally, I have to wonder what this says about the broader OWU community. When a student feels entitled to publicly attack a university official with self-perceived impunity, and when the student newspaper seems to just go along with it, what does that mean? There has long been an unspoken perception on campus that administrative staff members are often regarded and sometimes even treated as second-class citizens at OWU, and this chain of events brings that abstract observation into sharp focus. If you think I’m now stretching this incident a bit too far, consider this: What if these same accusations had been leveled against a tenured professor rather than me, “just” a director? Would Mr. Hawley have been so quick to submit that letter to the editor? And would *The Transcript* staff have been so quick to publish it? If you’re thinking “no” -- and I’m guessing you are -- then, again, I have to wonder what this says about the broader OWU community.

I remain very disappointed on many levels.
Jason LaMar
Director of Information Services



Greetings, fans.

I recently came across a copy of *The Transcript* from April 2004. Might I say, it was quite an eye-opener. I often feel (KICKBALL) things were cooler here when I was a freshman. There were all these dinosaurs and fires all the time. I dismiss this thought by acknowledging that I have changed/grown/multiplied/exploded these last few years, and the changes are in me.

But after reading that issue, I am back on board with the theory of today’s lame campus (not that I am innocent of the crime of being a campus-member).

Front Page: “Religious Group Gets Banned from Campus,” “Students to March in Washington, D.C.,” and “Bill Cosby Coming to Campus.”

The paper also included a bizarre article on a joint Environment and Wildlife Club (E&W)/Interfraternity Council celebration of Earth Day, six letters to the editor (taking part in a lively debate over an incident of alleged racism), a professionally written article on the healthcare benefits (or lack thereof) afforded to OWU employees, a real sex column and a page length letter from

Chartwell advertising the results and consequences of a food survey taken earlier.

Among the less impressive sections was a “Point/Counter-point” column that claimed to offer conservative and liberal views of issues. Although I do not doubt that the listed Bush/Iraq-apologist was indeed a conservative, the “from the left” representative left me in convulsions. He mostly listed reasons to moderately disagree with George Bush, while maintaining the utmost respect. I will acknowledge that I knew this person and he/she was indeed a political/social “non-baller.”

Anyways, for my point. What the hell is wrong today? There are enough exceptions to this to avoid naming them (E&W comes to mind), but it seems like no one (students/clubs) cares about anything today. For example, there was a brewhaha (or whatever) over WCSA elections a few weeks ago (for the 10 percent who have heard of WCSA).

What was the result? One embarrassingly misinformed letter and an equally weak report a week later.

Admittedly, any more complaints would have caused me personal difficulties, but if it came at the price of students being outraged (or even annoyed), it would have been well worth it. WCSA has over \$400,000 a year to do with as we please and represents all students in most imaginable capacities. There is so much

opportunity to do something funny/meaningful/effective or anything else. That’s a minor example. Aren’t there still religious groups and wars and things to protest or at least write a letter to the editor about?

A thought has occurred to me and I have decided to immediately interrupt my column. I never proofread this thing. It could be so much better each week. I have no idea if all the writing above this paragraph is coherent or makes sense to you. And none of it is funny.

What about how we are spending our winter breaks? That could have been funny. Me you ask? I’m going to Europe with my beautiful Sierra and will travel around drinking fine wines and having the type of enjoyment available only to those in the prime of youth; we know people who will offer free accommodations everywhere we’ll go; upon return, I expect acceptance letters from several Ivy League law schools to be waiting in my mailbox.

But such commentary couldn’t stretch out a whole column. Instead much has been devoted to an old copy of *The Transcript* I found. In fact, I am going to go back and edit the first few paragraphs of this column before sending it in. In exchange, you must now return to the beginning and try to see which parts were different.

I didn’t change much.

2008 marks global shifts

By Alexandra Panait
Transcript Columnist

As the year comes to an end, it is imperative to step back and look at the connection of politics and economics. 2008 saw major shifts in regional powers and interests.

From Kosovo’s declaration of independence in February, to Medvedev’s Russian Presidency, to the August Georgian War, to a world-wide recession and a major shift in American politics with the Obama election, the international scene is dynamic.

Inevitably, there are challenges, mainly at the national level where sovereignty continues to clash with regional interests and human rights. Nevertheless, repercussions have no boundaries and thinking regionally no longer suffices. The overall challenges proved, once again, the need for international cooperation.

At the turn of the year, two major reforms are under way, both part of the European project. The Treaty of Lisbon that generated debate and increased controversy set as a target date for ratification Jan. 1, 2009, preceding the European Parliamentary election. Marking a departure from the old structure, the treaty supported by the current EU presidency of

France aims at adding flexibility to the EU policies to better address transnational issues.

The treaty focuses on new issues of globalization, climate change, demographics, security threats and energy sources, subjects extending not only regionally, but globally. Even in a successfully integrated Europe, narrow interests prevail, as the Irish rejection of the treaty indicates.

The signing of the treaty in December 2007, which was aimed at redesigning the political, social and economical challenges facing the EU, further reflected in the institutional structures of the union. With Europe lacking a supranational governance, the treaty is bounded to the individual country’s procedure for ratification, in line with its national constitution.

Most of the new EU members (Romania, Bulgaria) have been firm supporters of increased liberal values and intra-national cooperation; however, such status reflects the little political weight Eastern European members have on EU decision-making.

The Czech Republic and Sweden further complied with the treaty seen as compatible to their national constitutions. Despite the overall result, Europe is signaling the need

for common policies, pooling resources and extending the enclosed ideas of citizenship and nation state.

In terms of security, Norway, alongside other 100 nations, firmly drove the signing of Convention to Cluster Munitions on Dec. 3. The main objective envisioned by the treaty addressed the clearance and destruction of all existing cluster munitions, as well as new measures for victims’ human rights and access to education, health care and decision making.

The extent of the treaty indicated the feasibility of establishing an international standard against the use of weapons and further tightening the social aspect of the problem. The effectiveness of these objectives is dependent solely on the nation-states. Regardless, the treaty demonstrated the global concern and need to reduce the use of weapons and the old security mindset.

Being global and thinking globally are powerful statements that each country and individual should ponder. Not only one has to be aware, but also responsible for, consequences of one’s actions.

As the world becomes global at a fast pace, I wish you a snowy, international winter break.

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Letters to the Editor

The Transcript welcomes letters to the editor. All letters must be accompanied by the writer's contact information for verification. Letters may be edited for length and grammar/usage. The editors reserve the right not to publish letters containing defamatory or obscene material.

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Mission Statement

-- To provide our audience with accurate news about safety, health, sports, entertainment, politics and campus living relevant to the members of the OWU community.
-- 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.
Founded in 1867 as The Western Collegian, *The Transcript*



Bishops Sports



Photo from OWU Online

Kyle Miller soars for a lay-in last season at Branch Rickey Arena

Men’s basketball falters in two straight games

By **Steve Ruygrok**
Transcript Reporter

This past Wednesday, Dec. 3, the Ohio Wesleyan men’s basketball came up short 82-70 at 12h-ranked Capital. OWU was led in scoring by senior Kyle Miller who finished the game with 17 points. Senior Kyle Holliday bucketed 12 points, and junior Rob Gardiner deposited 10 points for the Bishops. The Bishops’ Pat Pellerite dominated the boards on both sides, totaling 14 rebounds. The loss stalls the Bishops record at 3-2. “Defensively, we didn’t execute the fundamentals when we were guarding their two man offensive weapons,” Miller said. Miller said they were unable to keep Capital out of rhythm and from scoring

a lot. “Our offense became stagnant at times as well when we didn’t move the ball around,” Miller said. “I think as the year progresses we will be making vast improvements from where we are now, and defensively we need to play with more intensity if we want to win the conference,” Miller said. “Offensively, we have got to take care of the ball and we will be able to keep getting good shots.” Miller said he thinks the team has a good attitude and that they play a tough non-conference schedule with their two losses coming against ranked opponents. “I think everyone understands we have a legitimate shot to win the conference, we just have to understand it is going to take a lot of hard-work and determination,” Miller said.

“We have got to take what we learned in games like Capital and Wheaton and use them to help us beat teams in our conference,” Miller said. “I think that with the progression we have made so far this year that we can accomplish a lot this year.” The Bishops also fell Saturday in their conference opener to NCAC rival and powerhouse Wooster, 82-65. Wooster’s Ian Franks was the leading scorer for the Fighting Scotts with 18 while also contributing eight rebounds and three assists. The Scotts were able to stay on top of the Bishops with good shooting, finishing at 47 percent from the field. The Scotts also out-rebounded Ohio Wesleyan 46-33. Seniors Kyle Holliday and Kyle Miller contributed 15 and 13 points respectively for the Bishops in the loss.

Eight BCS teams make it on Santa’s nice list



Thoughts from the Third Row

with Drew Lenox

Up at the North Pole, Santa Claus stared at his naughty list and looked at some of the names on the it. He saw Georgia, Missouri, West Virginia, LSU, Clemson, Auburn and Wisconsin and sat in disbelief because only a few months earlier, these teams had looked so nice. Right as St. Nicholas began to check the list again, he heard a ruckus from the workshop. Santa walked into the room and saw a disaster. The elves were running around, telling each other how some of the wrong presents were sent and how all of the remaining labels were gone. They told Santa that Charlie Weis was supposed to receive a pink slip but somehow was sent a Hawaiian vacation. Santa noticed that the remaining gifts were all bowls to be delivered to different universities across the United States. There were presents of all shapes and sizes and 10 larger gifts in the corner that were marked BCS. The elves made sure that Santa knew some of the rules as he tried to sort out the chaos. A school only had to be nice half the time to get a gift and there were six big groups of schools that would receive gifts. The group of ten out west was only given five gifts and the group with the biggest lot of presents was the ACC with ten. Once most of the smaller gifts were relabeled and sent, Santa turned his attention to the BCS boxes. Eight of them read “Big Christmas Surprise” and the two biggest ones had a one and two on them. In determining who would receive these most important presents, Santa was instructed that he couldn’t send three of

them to the same group and that he couldn’t give the two biggest gifts to two teams in the same group. But there were too many options for the number of presents and the big guy needed some help. He asked Mrs. Claus, the elves and even the reindeer what they thought. Their opinions were calculated and the schools were put into the North Pole computers to try to figure out who was nicest. It was decided that Texas Tech was not quite nice enough and they were sent a bowl of cotton. Boise State had been perfectly nice all year long but the consensus was that they should get a Big Christmas Surprise. But what to give them? They passed up Papa John’s pizza and Chick-Fil-A sandwiches. Boise couldn’t get insight on an emerald. Instead the school went from big time consideration to getting a very small box full of Poinsettias. Now down to ten teams, Santa had to figure out which two should receive the big one and two. Utah had been really nice but the Dasher and Dancer did not think they were great. The other candidates were toward the top of the nice list at some point but had slipped up and had been naughty. After each school was naughty, they spent the rest of the year trying to convince everyone they were the best. Dear Santa letters filled up the sleigh every week as people told Santa what they wanted for Christmas. Oklahoma was even sending 60 each and every week. All the gifts were taken outside, labeled and put in the sleigh. It was voted that Oklahoma and Florida would get the two biggest gifts and that Texas would get the snow job. Maybe next year schools would not have to try to appear better and move back up the nice list. Maybe the best presents could be decided in a big snowball fight instead of them being determined by a bunch of computers and people you never see.

Men’s soccer turns rocky beginning into D-III National Championship

By **Colin Magruder**
Transcript Reporter

The 2008 season for the men’s soccer team was a filled with its ups and downs. The team finished with an overall record of 18-5-1, including a perfect conference record of 9-0. After opening the season with a convincing four-game streak of going 4-0 and outscoring the opponents 14-2, the team hit a rough patch. Coach Jay Martin said, at this point, “we started out slow, and we had goalkeeper issues and coaching issues early.” After losing to Capital in overtime, the team won its

next two but then had a streak of three losses in their next four. It was after this point that the team was able to find its rhythm and turned it around. “The guys came together as a team, and at the end ,we were as good as anyone in the country” said Martin. The Bishops put up 12 straight victories on their way to winning the NCAC regular season title behind game winning goals from players like Brian Greene and Ryan Harmanis. They were then able to take the next two against Kenyon and Wittenberg to give them the tournament title as well, and an automatic bid to the NCAA tourney.

The regular season finish marked the 17th time in the last 25 years that the Bishops have won the conference. The ensuing trip to the national tournament also marked the 31st time the team would attend, which is an NCAA national record. The Bishops’ defense was excellent all season, clamping down on opponents’ offenses and recording 10 shutouts. Their tournament run started with a thriller against first timers Susquehanna in a game that looked like it was going to go to penalty kicks for the second straight game. However, with just two seconds left, Matt Bonfini hit an amazing shot into the upper 90 of the

right corner to put the Bishops through to the next round. The next game was against Carnegie Mellon in horrible conditions on a field that had been rained on all day and throughout the game. Matt Bonfini again scored, picking up the first goal for the home team. Phil Serfaty then came on for OWU to score a pair of goals and give the Bishops a 3-0 win which would send them to a match up with nationally top-ranked Trinity. Trinity was a tough game for the Bishops ending their long win streak, and their national championship hopes. The Bishops lost to Trinity in heartbreaking fashion in

the Sectional Semifinal of the Division III National Tournament. Trailing 1-0 for much of the game, the Bishops were able to tie the game on a goal from freshman forward Matt Bonfini. However with only 4:56 remaining in regulation, Trinity was able to put one in to take the lead for good over the Bishops. Trinity would go on to lose in their next round against Amherst. “Against Trinity it showed that we could play against anyone,” Coach Martin said. Seven Bishops were named to the All-NCAC teams, with Brian Greene, Kevin McGow-

an and Tyler Wall earning first team honors. Ryan Harmanis and TJ Trigg earned second team honors, and Matt Bonfini, and Matt Giannetti made honorable mention. With only graduating one player, defender TJ Trigg, the team looks to be good for the next few years. The recruiting is going well with a focus on goalkeepers and defense, where past the starters is thin. Coach Martin applauded the play of goalie Richard Ott, who he said was the most improved player on the team, and also singled out Brian Greene and Ryan Harmanis for their ultra consistent play.

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Bishops Sports

Bishops pick up two conference wins

Courtesy of OWU Online

OWU 94, Earlham 44

Sophomore guard Pam Quigney scored 8 points during a 22-0 first-half run that broke the game open as Ohio Wesleyan defeated Earlham in the North Coast Athletic Conference opener for both teams on Wednesday in Richmond, Ind.

Ohio Wesleyan opened the evening's scoring with a jumper by senior post Katie Hamilton and took the lead for good when sophomore post Kayla Gordon buried a 3-pointer to break a 2-2 tie.

The Quakers closed to within 8-6 on a lay-in by Nikki Darrett just under three minutes into the game and were within 11-9 after sophomore wing Tyler Cordell and Earlham's Tasha Merrill traded 3-pointers, the latter with 14:34 left in the first half.

Ohio Wesleyan would hold Earlham scoreless for the next five minutes in breaking the game open. Lay-ins by Cordell and Quigney started the run, and freshman post Dany Finck contributed a pair of steal-and-lay-in plays, converting a 3-point play on

the second. A Cordell lay-in, another pair of Quigney baskets, and a 3-pointer and a lay-in from freshman wing Lea Mackenbach followed before Quigney's lay-in with 10:07 remaining in the period stretched the Bishop lead to 33-9.

Andrea Thompson ended the Earlham drought with a lay-in with 9:47 to go, but the Quakers would not score again for nearly three minutes. Meanwhile, Cordell hit a lay-in and a 3-pointer to cap a 9-0 run that gave Ohio Wesleyan a 42-11 advantage with 7:07 to go in the half.

Earlham fought back with a 12-0 run late in the half, with Darrett contributing three lay-ins during that run, to pare the margin to 19 points, but Ohio Wesleyan responded with a 7-0 burst to close out the half courtesy of a Mackenbach 3-pointer and lay-ins by Gordon and Hamilton, the latter on a putback just before the buzzer, for a 51-25 lead at the break, and the Quakers would not come closer than 25 points during the second period.

Cordell led the Bishops with 19 points, while Mackenbach finished with a sea-



Courtesy of OWU Online

Junior Rachel Seibel drives the ball against Hiram

son-high 16, Gordon posted a double-double with 11 points and a career-high 13 boards, and Quigney added 10 points and a career-high 7 assists.

Darrett led Earlham with 17 points.

OWU 78, Hiram 50

Junior wing Rachel Seibel converted a 3-point play to kick off a game-opening 11-0 run that started Ohio Wesleyan on its way to a North Coast Athletic Conference win over Hiram on Saturday at Branch Rickey Arena.

After Hiram's Brittany Mayle misfired on a lay-in on the opening possession of the game, senior post Katie Hamilton cleared the rebound and sent an outlet pass to sophomore guard Pam Quigney, who found Seibel for a fast-break lay-in just 19 seconds into the game. Seibel was fouled on the play and hit the free throw for a 3-0 Bishop lead.

Ohio Wesleyan followed with baskets by sophomore post Kayla Gordon, Quigney, Hamilton and sophomore wing Tyler Cordell to extend the lead to 11-0 exactly five minutes into the contest.

Tiffany Shields hit a jump-

er to end the Terriers' shooting slump, and when Caitlyn Reese followed with a fast-break lay-in, Hiram had cut the deficit 11-4 with 13:49 to play in the period.

The Terriers were still within 23-13 courtesy of 3-pointers by Pamela Spencer and Tiffany Shields, but Ohio Wesleyan slammed the door with a barrage of 3-pointers.

Quigney buried a 3-pointer to stretch the Bishop lead to 26-13, and after a Hiram miss, Quigney found freshman wing Lea Mackenbach, who knocked down another 3-pointer.

Mackenbach then cleared a defensive rebound and returned the favor, passing to Quigney for a third Bishop trifecta in a span of 55 seconds. The 3-point flurry gave Ohio Wesleyan a 32-13 lead with 5:02 left in the first half, and the Terriers would not come closer than 13 points during the remainder of the contest.

Gordon led the Bishops with 17 points and 9 rebounds, while Cordell followed with 14 points and a team-high 6 assists. Hamilton scored 13 points and Quigney added 12 points.

Mathias sweeps to give track team Purple and White



Bryce Mathias

Courtesy of OWU Online

Junior Bryce Mathias won three events as Ohio Wesleyan took the team title at the Purple & White Invitational, hosted by Capital University on Saturday in Columbus.

Ohio Wesleyan won the meet with 151 points to 129 for host Capital. Central State finished third with 66 points, followed by Wilmington (59), Kenyon (37) and Otterbein (28).

Mathias won the 60-meter hurdles in :08.98 and took the 200- and 400-meter dashes in respective times of :23.41 and :53.43.

Also claiming first-place finishes for Ohio Wesleyan were junior Kyle Faris, who won the shot put with a throw of 47-2 1/4 and added a second in the weight throw; and senior Jon Smith, who won the pole vault by clearing 13-6 1/4.

Other standouts for the Bishops included sophomore Jordan, who was second in the 60- and 200-meter dashes; freshman A.J. Sayed, who finished second in the long jump; freshman Phillip Forsgren, who placed second in the 400-meter dash; sophomore Sean Patrick, who finished third in the 200-meter dash and fifth in the 60-meter dash; sophomore Nate Goodall, who was third in the long jump; and senior John Wessel, who placed third in the shot put.

Also of note were freshman Matt Haines (Downingtown, Pa./Delaware County Christian), who was fourth in the 200-meter dash and fifth in the 400-meter dash; junior Scott Hassee, who was fourth in the 500-meter run; freshman Jon Rux, who finished fifth in the shot put; and freshman Ben Andrews, who was fifth in the 800-meter run.

By Clay Davis

Transcript Reporter

After a surprising 10-6 season in 2007, the Cleveland Browns became the trendy pick among NFL pundits for the 2008 season. Delusional Browns fans (myself included) thought a Super Bowl appearance was not out of the realm of possibility. From day one in Cleveland, high expectations were placed on a team that has never won a Super Bowl, and on a city that has not seen a championship since the Indians won the World Series in 1948.

But those expectations quickly disappeared after the Browns went 0-4 in the pre-season and were thrashed by the Dallas Cowboys 28-10 in the season opener. It has now come to the point where I am not watching the Browns in hopes of seeing a win, but merely for comic relief. Yes, it has been that bad of a season. I have been a Browns fan my entire life. But it is getting to the point where I, along with every other Browns fan, cannot enjoy a Sunday afternoon of football.

There are a lot of people who could be blamed for the problem, including owner Randy Lerner. But it is hard to shift the problems to him, considering he has spent the money needed to win and has not become a meddlesome owner like Count Chocula (excuse me, Al Davis) or Jerry Jones.

He gave the reigns to Phil Savage, who has certainly made his fair share of mistakes, from the handling of Kellen Winslow's staph infection to the infamous email he sent to a Browns fan. But without a doubt, the current Browns have the most talented group of players that Cleveland has seen since its rebirth in 1999.

Let's not forget that Savage made one of the best trades in 2008 when he dealt cornerback Leigh Bodden, along with a third-round pick, to Detroit for defensive tackle Shaun Rogers. He also found a diamond in the rough in undrafted free



Week 1
vs. Dallas
L 10-28
Week 2
vs. Pittsburgh
L 6-10
Week 3
vs. Baltimore
L 10-28
Week 4
vs. Cincinnati
W 20-12
Week 6
vs. NY Giants
W 35-14
Week 7
vs. Washington
L 11-14
Week 8
vs. Jacksonville
W 23-17

agent Joshua Cribbs. Clearly, the Browns have under-performed at almost every position, with the exceptions of defensive tackle and special teams. Just one year ago, Braylon Edwards had 80 receptions for almost 1,300 yards and 16 touchdowns and Jamal Lewis ran for over 1,300 yards, his best season since 2003.

But unfortunately, it did not translate to success this year. A reason could be the relatively soft schedule last year, but a bigger reason is the ineptitude of the current coaching staff, which led the team to 10 wins last year, mainly because of talent.

Romeo Crennel is a nice guy; there is no denying it. But being a great person does not necessarily make him a great



Week 9
vs. Baltimore
L 27-37
Week 10
vs. Denver
L 30-34
Week 11
vs. Buffalo
W 29-27
Week 12
vs. Houston
L 6-16
Week 13
vs. Indianapolis
L 6-10
Week 14
vs. Tennessee
L 9-28
Overall Record
4-9

coach. Before anyone complains about "poor Romeo" getting fired, please remember that the guy makes over \$3 million a year and is still owed \$12 million.

From his clock management skills, to his decision to randomly (and illegally) calling timeouts and his obsession with kicking field goals when the team needs touchdowns, Romeo's coaching flaws are hard to overlook. Not lost in this is his inability to control in-house problems, whether it is allowing team leaders like Lewis or Cribbs to tell the media that players have "quit", or his inconsistency in benching players.

There is also the fact that you never know which Browns team will show up. One week,

the team beat the Super Bowl Champion New York Giants, scoring 31 points. The next week, they lost to the Washington Redskins, only scoring 11.

Let's take these coaching "skills" that Crennel has and add the fact that he is 0-7 against the much-hated rival Pittsburgh Steelers. Here is another perspective: would Jim Tressel still be coaching at OSU if he were 0-7 against Michigan? Heck no. But the Browns, at least in the past, seem to be more concerned with continuity than finding the right coach. Now, change seems to be coming. Some say both Savage and Crennel should go, but I disagree. This is what I would do:

Keep Savage as general manager. While he has not been perfect on every personnel decision he has made, he has done a relatively good job. It is not even a known fact that Savage hired Crennel (Lerner reportedly had decided on Crennel before he hired Savage), so Savage should be given another shot.

Hire a passionate head coach. The Browns need someone who not only fires up the team each week, but will hold players accountable for their actions. This is something Crennel has failed to do.

The next Browns coach needs to understand what it means to put on the Orange and Brown.

He needs to understand the tradition and respect of the rivalries the team holds. Three coaches would certainly fit this criteria: Bill Cowher (former Browns player), Marty Schottenheimer (former Browns coach) and Josh McDaniels, the young offensive coordinator of the New England Patriots who grew up in Canton, Ohio. Any one of these guys could right the ship.

Sadly, Browns fans are once again looking forward to the NFL Draft instead of watching their team in the playoffs. Hopefully the decisions this franchise makes in the off-season will restore confidence in the greatest fan base in all of sports.