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THE TRANSCRIPT

THE OLDEST
CONTINUALLY
PUBLISHED
STUDENT
NEWSPAPER
IN THE COUNTRY

Forum addresses student concerns

By Sophie Crispin
Transcript Correspondent

Student outcry over “low flow” shower heads was addressed this week in a campus-wide forum held by WCSA and Sean Kinghorn, energy conservation and sustainability coordinator.

The forum was held on Wednesday, Feb. 1 at noon in Benes. Students voiced concerns about the shower heads themselves, but a call for better communication was also a major theme.

Sophomore Erika Nininger was one of relatively few students who attended the forum.

“I’m not sure how much debate this particular issue is worth, but it’s a good opportunity for students to voice their opinions, and it’s also good to see who’s running things.”

Sean Kinghorn answered students’ questions alongside representatives from the Residential Life office and Eric Algoe, a senior administrator.

“I explained to students that we held a pilot test in Bashford Hall and let students vote, which many students weren’t aware of,” said Kinghorn.

Apparent lack of communication between students and administration about this issue was an underlying criticism that both WCSA and Kinghorn hope to address in the future.

“I’m planning on holding sustainability forums in each of the residence halls to brainstorm with students about future projects and get their ideas and input,” said Kinghorn.

The low student attendance rate belied the amount of student frustration about the issue, a fact that junior Carly Hallal, vice president of WCSA, attributes to poor communication as well.

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‘Everest’ strives for peaceful understanding

By Margaret Bagnell
Transcript Reporter

Students were granted the opportunity not only to watch a powerful documentary with a message of peace, but also to speak with the writer and director of the documentary himself.

“‘Everest: A Climb for Peace’ was produced for public television and has been shown in 44 states on over 300 channel programs,” said Jodi Kushins, associate chaplain for Jewish life. “It has also been shown in some international film festivals.”

On Jan. 31, students viewed the documentary, narrated by Orlando Bloom, in Corns 312.

The documentary was followed by a Skype session with the founder and director of the film, Lance Trumbull.

The documentary viewing was hosted by Ohio Wesleyan’s Jewish organization, Hillel, and paid for by the Wesleyan Council on Student Affairs (WCSA).

Kushins said Hillel has been trying to get the documentary to campus for two years.

“We’re really excited to finally show it,” she said.

Lance Trumbull started the Everest Peace Project to help unite peoples of different cultures and faiths around the world.

Nine climbers representing different countries and beliefs met in Katmandu to begin preparing for the 60-day climb to the summit of Mt.



Director and Founder of the documentary, Lance Trumbull, Skypes with students to answer questions and explain his mission about actively spreading peace.

Everest.

The film shows the power struggle between the climbers such as those from Israel and Palestine who held separate beliefs about what land belonged to the other.

Before the climbers headed for the base camp, a “puja” was performed.

A “puja” is a Buddhist blessing that consists of prayers and the throwing of rice to ensure good luck.

The climbers were assisted by a group of Sherpas who are indigenous to the mountain and known to be the strongest climbers.

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DPD responds to possible gunman at Sigma Chi

By Marissa Alfano and Eric Tifft
Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor

The Incident

Just before 6 p.m. Monday, students reported seeing Sigma Chi members flee the fraternity house at 30 Williams Drive. Sophomore Eric Dixon, a member of Delta Tau Delta Fraternity, said he was in the library of the Delt house on 20 Williams Drive when the incident occurred.

“I saw multiple Sig Chi members running from their house,” Dixon said. “One member stopped and hit the emergency beacon multiple times and kept running.”

Minutes later about seven Delaware police officers approached Sig Chi with assault rifles drawn to establish a perimeter around Sig Chi, Dixon said. Sophomore Sigma Phi Epsilon Vince Donofrio said the event unfolded quickly.

“I looked out my window and saw police with assault rifles like in ‘Call of Duty,’” Donofrio said.

Officers arrived three minutes later at 5:51 p.m., at which point the scene was contained. The reporting officer, John Radabaugh, said the student was charged with trespassing and after a thorough search of the premises, no weapon or ammunition was found, according to DPD.

“I saw him with a gun on his desk and a magazine being loaded.”

At 5:48 p.m. Monday, Delaware Police Department (DPD) received a call alleging that junior Zachary Glazer had a gun in the Sigma Chi Fraternity house on 30 Williams Drive.

A brother of Sig Chi placed the call after he said he saw the suspect with a gun on his desk loading a magazine. He was in communication with a DPD

dispatcher for six minutes and 16 seconds. Below is a portion of the conversation:

(:37) Dispatcher: “You said there’s a man with a gun?”

(:39) Caller: “Yes.”

(3:06) Caller: “I saw him with a gun on his desk and a magazine being loaded.”

(3:14) Dispatcher: “Okay. I’m sorry, you saw him physically with a gun?”

(3:18) Caller: “Yes.”

(4:38) Dispatcher: “Do you know what kind of gun it is that he owns?”

(4:40) Caller: “It was a handgun.”

Fraternity hill evacuates

Sig Chi and Delta Tau Delta fraternity men were directed to evacuate and were relocated to Sigma Phi Epsilon’s chapter room, according to Sig Ep sophomore Hank Owings.

Members of Delt were just sitting down for dinner when an officer entered the house and instructed everyone to evacuate to Sig Ep, said sophomore Jonathon King-Kaplan.

“Most of us were huddled around windows trying to see what was going on,” King-Kaplan said. “I figured they evacuated us to Sig Ep so there would be a buffer in case bullets began to fly.”

Students remained at Sig Ep for an hour and a half to two hours. The location was chosen because of Sig Ep’s sound emergency floor plan.

According to Sip Ep Residential Assistant (RA) Senior James Dibiasio, Sig Ep does not have a standard procedure for the situation that happened, but they do have evacuation procedures in place for similar emergencies that could arise.

“We practice twice a semester. I think it would be beneficial to have PS officers talk to people in case anything like today happens so people have an idea what to do in the future,” Dibiasio said.

Out of the Loop

Dibiasio said he was eating dinner during the incident and was unaware of what was going on. When evacuated men showed up at Sig Ep, he was surprised.

He said he did not receive a phone call, text or any other notification from Public Safety about the situation until everyone was at the house.

No one on campus received any sort of OWU alert until after the incident had occurred, at 7:10 p.m. Monday night.

According to a mass e-mail sent to the campus community, an alert was not issued because the scene was contained so quickly and the suspect was in custody.

However, many students were upset that an emergency notification was not sent out at the time of the incident.

“It is times like these that we have an emergency alert system,” King-Kaplan said. “Look at the incident at Virginia Tech; students were alerted within 10 minutes of the shooting. I am appalled that the campus was not notified as to why a dozen heavily armed officers were present on campus.”

Junior Wesley Barnes, a member of Delt, said the incident was on Facebook almost immediately.

“It’s a little ridiculous that most of the students were alerted by reading the Facebook news feed,” Barnes said. “Maybe we should switch the emergency alert system to Facebook.”

Safety in numbers

“I knew we were all safe here (at Sig Ep),” Dibiasio said. “PS responded quickly. We were together, and I found safety in that. As a Greek community I am glad we came together and helped them in their need and they could feel safe here.”

Donofrio said he was relieved the situation ended well for everyone. “It was scary, but I’m glad that things worked out and the Greek community came together,” Donofrio said.

Background

According to DPD reports, on Sunday at 9:24 p.m., Zachary Glazer was arrested for disorderly intoxication following an incident at 30 Williams Drive.

The report states that the suspect had been recently expelled from the fraternity and was becoming argumentative with other members and a PS officer. He was then arrested and held in the city jail until sober.

Resolution

At 6:13 p.m., officers communicated with the student by cell phone and, at 6:16 p.m., he voluntarily exited the building. Police report that he was cooperative at all times.

According to Delaware City Police reports, no gun was ever observed and no weapon was discovered during an extensive search. The student, who is from California, withdrew from the university on Tuesday afternoon, according to Cole Hatcher, director of media and community relations.

A message from the president

In an e-mail at 11:59 a.m. on Tuesday morning, President Rock Jones said he wanted to remind the campus that student and employee personal safety was a priority.

“We work closely with the Delaware City Police and Fire departments to address issues quickly and effectively,” Jones said. “It also is important to note that City of Delaware statistics indicate serious crimes are trending downward in the community—by as much as 18 percent since 2005. Despite

this drop in crime, there is increased communication about safety issues being shared with Ohio Wesleyan students, employees, and parents. Awareness is critical to crime prevention and personal safety.”

Jones said he would like to continue to remind everyone not to walk alone at night, not to listen to loud music with headphones that block outside sound, and to be aware of one’s surroundings at all times.

He also said he encourages people to report any concerns immediately and to utilize OWU’s SAFEwalk escort service, available from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. daily.

“We all play an important role in public and personal safety,” Jones said.

Jones said not to hesitate to contact him with questions or concerns.

Safety First

Hatcher said students may get tired of reading emails about not walking alone or wearing headphones with music blaring, but these pieces of advice are really important.

Hatcher said PS, Student Affairs and he always evaluate protocol after an instance to decide if actions taken were effective during an incident and that if any students have question he wants to know what they are.

“We must take actions to support student safety,” Hatcher said.

A message from Sig Chi

“The Brothers of Sigma Chi would like to address the campus in explaining the events that occurred at our house in the afternoon and evening of Monday the 6th of February, 2012.

“At around 5:45 p.m., one of our brothers witnessed what he believed to be parts of a firearm on the person of a

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Sound off OWU:

If you were to vote for the Republican nominee today, who would it be and why?



“Not a single one because I don’t believe in their ideologies.”

-Tori Schlaudt ‘13

“I don’t know but I’d say Ron Paul at the moment. I’d be interested to see the rest of the debate.”

-Chris Janiak ‘12



“None of them. I don’t like any of them.”

-Charles Ababio ‘13

“After the last political debate, I felt that neither of the candidates had the necessary qualities to take on the next presidency.”

-Rachel Tallmadge ‘14



“I would vote for neither because I feel our political system is broken and participating in the system projects power onto it that it is not worthy of.”

-Sam Weedon ‘12

“I don’t like any of them. I’ve been kind of keeping up with it, but lately I don’t have time.”

-Katrina Mason-Bentz ‘15



“If I had to choose I would vote for Santorum because Obama would definitely win.”

-Nola Johnson ‘14

Bishop Bikes return for Spring 2012

By Heather Kuch
Transcript Correspondent

The absence of the Bishop Bikes program in the fall of 2011 raised many questions and affected those students who utilized the bikes as a form of transportation.

The Bishop Bikes program began in the fall of 2009 as a bike-share program created by senior Christina Fesz. Students paid five dollars each semester for a universal key which would unlock any of the program bikes on campus.

While the same bike a student rode to class could be taken by someone else, it was believed that the bikes would circulate so the bikes would be available all around campus at any time.

Fesz said she simply enjoys the experience of biking.

“I just love biking, and how it is not only useful in getting from one place to another, but how a simple ride can instantly improve your day and brings you closer to your body and the environment.”

The program began to experience problems when three of the bikes went missing in the 2009-2010 school year. In the 2010-2011 school year, many of the bikes were mistreated and others would not be locked up, which resulted in people from outside the program taking the bikes.

“People from outside the school were gaining access to the bikes, and in fact, one man spray-painted a bike white, and tried to sell it back to Breakaway Cycling,” Fesz said. “I was also told that some students were stashing the bikes in their rooms, or hiding the bikes to make sure that they were the only

ones using that bike.”

Fesz issued a survey to the student body in the spring of 2011 about the program and found that most students didn’t like the uncertainty of having a bike available at any given time or location. Other concerns included the mistreatment and hoarding of the bikes and the lack of advertising of the program.

“Although I liked the premise of the first-generation program, with its purely community-based foundation and its reliance and focus on sharing and trust between students, the people in the program have to buy into the system 100 percent, and this was not happening,” Fesz said.

Following the survey, Fesz created a revised plan for the bike program which will include only one checkout location at the Hobson Science library. Students who sign up for the program can check-out a bike at the library desk during its normal hours. They will then be issued a key, which unlocks a specific bike that will be stored in a rack outside of the library. The student then has the bike for 24-48 hours and returns it to the library. A small fee will be issued for returning the bike late.

Fesz plans to add more bikes to the program, and members of the program are helping to fix up some of the current bikes. The program will be launched in early March and anyone who is interested in helping with the program, or has any questions or suggestions, can contact Christina Fesz at ccfesz@owu.edu.

“It’s so easy to get enthralled in a ride, and I would love all students to have the resources to experience the convenience and enjoyment of riding a bike,” Fesz said. “Get ready to ride, OWU!”

Going once, going twice, sold: Rafiki wa Africa to hold date auction

By Alex Hooper
Transcript Reporter

Rafiki wa Africa will be auctioning off dates to the highest bidder on Feb. 10. All proceeds will go to raise funds for Rafiki wa Afrika’s philanthropy.

Rafiki wa is an African and Caribbean based club that focuses on political and social issues. Yelena Coulibaly, president of Rafiki wa, said the purpose of the club is to share African and Caribbean cultures through performances, shows and parties.

Jonel Richardson, originally from Brooklyn NY, is one of the three social and cultural chairs of Rafiki wa. Richardson said she joined the club to connect with students who are similar to herself as well as for the philanthropy that the organization promotes.

“I joined Rafiki because my family is from the Caribbean and I figured it will be a nice way to meet people with the same background,” Richardson said. “Since I have been in Rafiki, I have learned so much about the different African and Caribbean cultures that are represented within the club. It has helped me to bond and make great relationships with everyone in Rafiki. Together we have put on several great events.”

The next event Rafiki plans to bring to campus is a Date Auction. This will be the first auction that the organization has presented.

Coulibaly said the goal of the auction is to raise funds for the Global Outreach Show, which is a talent show focused

“We think the auction will be a good way for people to bid on their perfect mate while at the same time benefiting a good cause,” said Yelena Coulibaly, junior.

on raising money for the Ghana Student Education Fund (GSEF).

GSEF is an OWU student initiative organization that started in Dec. of 2006 to provide better education for bright, but needy students in Ghana, West Africa.

Coulibaly said, with Valentine’s Day right around the corner, it was an incentive to do the auction.

“Valentine’s Day is coming up and we think the auction will be a good way for people to bid on their perfect mate while at the same time benefiting a good cause,” she said.

Richardson said although the ultimate purpose of the event is to raise money, just having fun is also a goal.

“We figured it would be a great way of helping people enjoy it by being able to go on a date with our awesome volunteers,” she said. “Besides raising money, we hope that OWU would simply have fun with this event.”

According to Richardson, to prepare for the event the club searched for volunteers who would be interested in participating. They had volunteers send their pictures and a personal profile of themselves so they could be marketed.

Rafiki Wa also had to find a restaurant that would give

a good deal on food for the dates.

Both Richardson and Coulibaly said there were some common difficulties in putting on the event; including finding a venue that would accommodate all of the dates at the same time.

They said the hardest part was finding people to do the auction. “Not everyone is comfortable standing in front of people to be auctioned,” Coulibaly said. “We had a difficult time finding consistent volunteers because of (their) fear of not getting selected.”

Junior, Tonisha Lee said she wasn’t afraid to participate and wanted to do the auction because she thought it would be fun and it was for a good cause.

“Yelena and Indira asked me to participate in the date auction one day as I was walking out of Hayes,” she said. “I decided to do it once they explained to me [what] the proceeds were for. It’s important to have events like this because it allows for students of all different nationalities, ethnicities and backgrounds to come together and participate in something for a wonderful and meaningful cause.”

The Date Auction will be held on Friday, Feb. 10, from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Ham-Will Atrium.

New student IDs high tech

By Kelsey King
Transcript Correspondent

The OWU ID is a student’s life condensed into plastic: it is used for food, library books, and building access all over campus. But if broke, it can be the bane of a student’s very existence.

The cheap, 50-cent cards have design flaws, however. Director of Public Safety, Robert Wood, said that the school has postponed replacing the system for years, using the funds for other projects.

“I think it’s a top priority... by this point, we’re already two generations behind in technology,” Wood said.

According to Wood, Ohio Wesleyan has had the swipe-card system for the last 20 years. However, technology has evolved rapidly since the equipment was installed—the IDenticard parts are no longer manufactured.

“We’ve been considering changing systems for the last few years, but what really pushed us was the fact that the parts stopped being manufactured over the summer,” Wood said.

To deal with the wear-and-tear, Ohio Wesleyan has considered phasing in smart-cards. Smart-cards would be a substantial upgrade from the current system as they hold their own information.

“The current swipe cards need to talk to the computer system: if it’s down, students can’t get food,” Wood said. “Smart cards contain their own data, so each purchase is tracked inside of the card. The total system upkeep would be lower.”

The school has not yet switched systems because of high transitional costs. Wood said that it would cost the school between 75,000 - 200,000 dollars to replace all of the current mechanisms.

In addition, the new cards would cost up to 2.50 dollars more than the current ID cards. Wood said the school plans to create smart-swipe hybrids so the transition process moves smoother. Hybrid cards would allow the school to slowly switch systems and mitigate costs.

Wood estimated the hybrid cards would be introduced within the next few years to incoming freshmen because the lagging technology has affected current students.

Junior Alison Evans said that she has had to replace three cards so far. “They always break in the same spot, right down the middle,” Evans said.

However, students have proven to be resourceful, finding ways to fix their cards.

Sophomore Madeline Lank said she has seen a variety of ways to keep cards working in her two years as a student.

“I’ve seen people using tape over the magnetic strips so they can scan,” Lank said. “Or holding it together so they don’t have to throw down cash for another one.”

Everest, continued from page 1

“Four percent of people who try to climb Mt. Everest die; it’s the highest mountain in the world,” said Jamie McGuinness, a climber in the film.

Following the viewing of the film, Dr. Kushins was able to set up a group discussion with Trumbull on Skype.

Trumbull began the discussion by explaining his inspiration for completing this climb.

“In 2000 I was going through a difficult time, a divorce, and I wanted to do something radically different. So I sold everything and moved to Katmandu. Then on Oct. 2, 2002 I was on a moun-

tain in India and I had this vision that I was going to create a world peace climb on Mt. Everest.”

Trumbull wanted to show the world that people from different cultures can overcome separate beliefs and do something monumental.

Trumbull jokingly said, “If we could only get our politicians on a mountain top, I think they could suddenly solve a lot of issues.” Students responded well to the documentary. Junior Tammy Winkler said, “What makes it so great is that they have different beliefs, but they have that one common goal.”

Students inquired about the fundraising for such a project.

“Fundraising is not a fun thing, it’s quite difficult. I spent eight years funding this,” said Trumbull.

“I didn’t want the climb to be a profit making thing, but people needed some financial stake, so each climber had to put in \$10, 000 of their own money,” said Trumbull.

Trumbull ended the discussion with a final message,

“You have to actively get out there to do things, and make peace. The action of peace makes the world a better place.”

Information about the Everest Peace Project and the upcoming climb on Mt. Kilimanjaro can be found at www.everestpeaceproject.com/.

Public Safety Reports

– At 11:45 a.m., Feb. 1, Public Safety was dispatched to the Ham-Will Campus Center parking lot on a minor motor vehicle accident involving an OWU student and a University owned vehicle. There were no injuries to the involved parties in this case.

– At 11:40 p.m., Feb. 1, Public Safety dispatched to the Ham-Wil Campus Center on a theft report. The vending machines on the ground and first floor women’s rest rooms had been broken into and an unknown amount of money was taken out of them. Investigation on this issue is still ongoing.

--- At 10:30 a.m., Feb. 3, an OWU student was transported from the Schimmel Conrades

Science Center to Grady Hospital Emergency Room by Delaware EMS after suffering an apparent seizure.

-- At 11:38 p.m., Feb. 3, an OWU student was referred to student conduct for alcohol prohibition.

-- At 3:50 p.m., Feb. 5, Public Safety officers assisted Delaware City Police with a domestic dispute involving two non-OWU personnel in the vicinity of Welch Hall.

-- 9:15 p.m., Feb. 5, an OWU student was arrested for disorderly conduct following an incident at 30 Williams Drive.

Local businesses serve sweet treats at Chocolate Walk

By Elizabeth Childers
Online Editor

Mainstreet Delaware hosted its fourth annual Chocolate Walk Friday night, giving 30 businesses the opportunity to open their doors to new customers and get involved with the community.

The Director of Mainstreet Delaware, Frances Jo Hamilton, spoke about the origins of the Chocolate Walk.

“Mainstreet is a nationally based organization associated with the National Trust for Historic Preservation,” Hamilton said. “We are one of 31 communities in the state of Ohio, so we all kind of share ideas. We call it, ‘rip off and duplicate’ so when something works really well you’ll see other communities kind of following suit.”

The Chocolate Walk sells 200 tickets each year at 10 dollars each.

“The money goes to Mainstreet Delaware,” Hamilton said. “We are non-profit and we operate solely on individual memberships. We do get a little bit of funding from the city, from the county, but most of our funding comes from fundraisers and individual membership.”

Ohio Wesleyan Director of Media and Community Relations, Cole Hatcher, volunteers on the Board of Mainstreet Delaware. Hatcher said that this year was the first year the Chocolate Walk has ever sold out before the night of the event.

“We’ve always sold out, but this year they went really quick,” Hatcher said. “It’s going to be a sweet night in Delaware.”

Businesses involved in the Chocolate Walk promote their business by providing a free chocolate treat for people who are on the walk. Treats included cookies and muffins from the Central Ohio Symphony, chocolate wine shots from Vito’s and chocolate donuts from



Photos by Elizabeth Childers

Clockwise from top left: Sandusky street at dusk with street vendors fundraising and promoting businesses. Junior Ellen Defenderfer, junior Mary McNeal and senior Erin Clayton from Up ‘til Dawn sell chocolate goodies in order to fundraise for St. Jude’s Research Hospital. Cole Hatcher exchanges tickets for bags sponsored by Community for Older Adults to hold any goodies not eaten right away.

Hamburger Inn.

Businesses like Fantasy’s of the Flesh on Winter St. are new to the community and participate to get the word out.

Pudgie, an employee at Fantasy’s of the Flesh, said, “We’re doing the Chocolate Walk for the simple fact that we’re new to the area and we’d like the community to know that we’ve (got) some pretty good guys.”

Margo Bartlett of the Central Ohio Symphony said they’re favorite part of the Chocolate Walk is the people

coming in to the office for the baked treats.

“I think it (the chocolate walk) makes people more aware that we’re here, and they can come in and buy tickets and visit us,” Bartlett said.

The Chocolate Walk also allows groups to purchase a table spot on the sidewalks of Sandusky Street. Junior Ellen Defenderfer and friends were out selling chocolate treats Friday night.

“We are fundraising for Up ‘til Dawn, which is a fundraising branch of St. Jude’s Re-

search Hospital,” Defenderfer said. “Normally you have to pay a fee of 35 dollars to have a table out here, but they actually let us do it for free because we’re fundraising for St. Jude’s.”

The Up ‘til Dawn student group ended up raising over 100 dollars for St. Jude’s Research Hospital.

Businesses also have the opportunity to offer things other than chocolate.

“I always encourage them (the vendors) to give their customers something unique

if they have some sort of business focus themselves so it will emphasize their business,” Hamilton said. “I also encourage them to give something to the customers that will make them come back. A coupon, an ad or a flyer.”

Many businesses take Hamilton’s advice. Avvio’s gave customers of the Chocolate Walk a coupon for Valentine’s Day, and Global Village handed out a coupon with their Madagascar organic fair-trade chocolate for 10 percent off of All Palestinian products as

well as Swazi and Ugandan Shea Butter.

Other businesses offered entertainment such as live music at their location for the customers to listen to as they snacked.

Anyone who would like to participate with Mainstreet Delaware events is welcome to attend the promotional committee meetings at Beehive Books on the Thursday before the first Friday of every month at 9 a.m. or contact Frances Jo Hamilton at mainstreetdelaware@yahoo.com.



Photos by Elizabeth Childers

Photos clockwise from right: Laurie Davis of Hamburger Inn shows the chocolate donut treat given to Chocolate Walkers; Aaron Straw of Vito’s wine bar shows off the chocolate wine they served on the chocolate walk. Above: Many people on the chocolate walk made the Delaware City Arts Center their first stop. Below: A band warms up in Delaware Antiques for a crowd munching on chocolate delights. A guitarist warms up on Amato’s bar side stage. Linda Shearer, Margo Bartlett and April Nelson of the Central Ohio Symphony offered cookies and muffins to chocolate walkers.



FRAT Continued from page 1

former OWU student trespassing on our property.

“This individual had a history of irrational behavior that warranted us taking every precaution, and while we believe that he would never wish harm upon any student, the members of Sigma Chi always endeavor to take every precaution when firearms are concerned.

“Whenever the safety of any member of the student body is at stake, we take no chances and strive to respond as swiftly and effectively as possible.

“As such, once the threat was identified, we immediately evacuated the area and notified all appropriate authorities.

“We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Ohio Wesleyan Department of Public Safety, the Delaware Police Department, and all other campus officials involved in taking all necessary measures

to ensure complete safety on campus.

We would also like to thank Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity for serving as a temporary safe house for the members of both Sigma Chi and Delta Tau Delta.

“No firearm was found after an exhaustive search, and our chapter house has been secured and is completely safe.

“The individual in question is no longer on campus and is barred from our property by both school and police policy.”

FORUM Continued from Page 1

“The OWU daily isn’t seeming to work the way it was supposed to. We (WCSA) have a blog and a twitter, too, but it seems like we need a better way to reach students,” said Hallal.

Communication seemed to be more harshly criticized at the forum, and an understanding over the shower heads was established by

its closing, according to Nininger.

“It seemed that aside from one or two people that there was a consensus that the switch was entirely worth it,” she said.

WCSA hopes to hold similar forums in the future to better communicate with students about changes on campus.

“We try to be as transparent as possible and we really want to hear what students have to say,” said Hallal.

**Ever wonder why your
friends call you Mandy?**

**Ever wonder why everyone can
sing along with Copacabana?**

**Ever wonder where your parents
had been the night you were conceived?**

Wonder No More

MANILOW

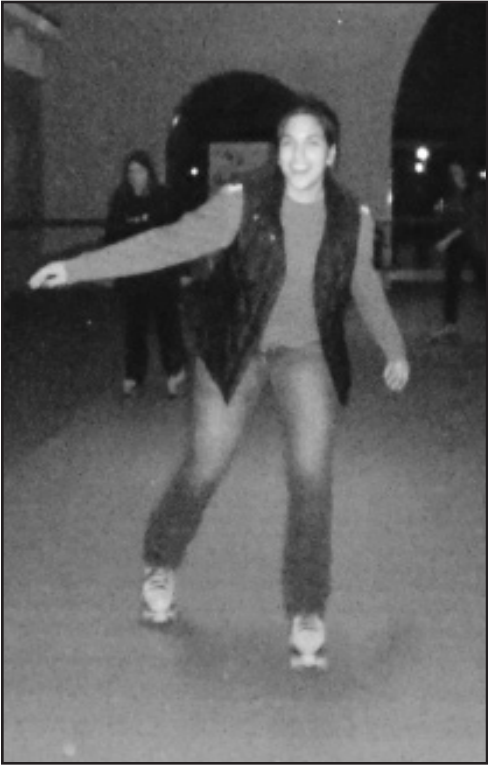
**Saturday, April 21
Schottenstein Center**

Tickets start at \$20 are available at
800-745-3000 or **www.ticketmaster.com**

Roller skating transforms Benes



Photos By Marissa Alfano



The Campus Programming Board (CPB) hosted a roller rink event Friday, Feb. 3, from 7-10 p.m. in the Benes Rooms.

Above: A special floor was put down over the carpet to make roller skating possible, and a disco ball gave the rooms a festive tone.

Right: CPB members check out roller skates to students. Attendance for the event was high. At one point, students had to wait in line for roller skates because they were all checked out.

Left: Sophomore Jenna Ortega skates to “Stronger” by Kanye West, while other skaters take a breather.



New WCSA representatives elected and ready for change

By Katie Carlin
Transcript Correspondent

Fourteen new WCSA Residential Representatives were elected to office last week. These members will make up the Residential Affairs Committee which is responsible for studying and initiating appropriate actions on residential living issues that concern students.

In addition to Residential Representatives for dormitories, representatives were elected from the SLUs.

“This year, Anthony and I felt that SLUs need more representation on WCSA, so we have made room for two SLU reps this year,” said Carly Hallall, vice president of WCSA and chair of the residential affairs committee.

Sophomore Alex Kerensky, one of the new SLU representatives, said she is dedicated to make positive changes for the SLU community as well as the rest of campus.

Kerensky said some people are intimidated by SLUs and she wants to make the benefits of SLUs available to the rest of campus.

She said the SLU community can sometimes come off as exclusive at times, but they have a lot of great things going on that all of campus would enjoy.

One of Kerensky’s main goals is to convey to the student body what WCSA does.

“I’d like to make WCSA more transparent and less of a mystery,” said Kerensky. “I am also looking forward to working with Sean Kinghorn on the sustainability committee to further the environmental advancements on campus.”

Sophomore Anthony Fisher, a recently elected second-term residential representative, also said one of his goals

is better communication between WCSA and the rest of the student body.

“Every candidate on every campaign trail, national or small scale, will say they want transparency; this is such a generic term,” said Fisher.

He said his goal is to make WCSA more transparent by allowing the student body to voice their opinion freely.

“Through the mediums of our easily accessible web sites, public forums, surveys, and tabling events, I feel we can grasp the student body’s opinion,” Fisher said.

Fisher said the aspect of residential life that needs to be changed the most is removal of off-campus privileges.

“Many students go away to school for the sole purpose of learning to mature and become independent. How will a student be able to do that if they live in dormitories for four years?”

Fisher said that the university should promote independence

“Some may say that the Greek community does allow some independence, however there is nothing like having to pay bills, cook, and clean in your own residence,” he said.

Sophomore Alvince Pongos, a new residential representative, said he looks forward to being a leader on campus.

He compares his position on the committee with nature.

“My goal as a representative is to be like water,” Pongos said. “I hope to reflect the voices and passions of the student body, to adapt and work with the limits of our resources, and with this to move mountains and carve our mark into the world.”

He said the most urgent issue on campus is the overcrowding in dormitories, specifically Smith.

cifically Smith.

“The problem with overcrowding is that it hinders the students’ ability to accomplish some of the goals of college life,” Pongos said. “Some of the goals of college life include gaining knowledge and with this reserve of knowledge to find inspiration and with this inspiration to create.”

He said overcrowding in dormitory life hinders every level of progression in this system.

“Our minds function like a flowing river. When there is clutter and overcrowding, our thoughts become dammed,” said Pongos.

“Thus, we become beings of stagnation, unmoved and bounded, he said. “However, when our environment is clear, the flow of progress is boundless and moves beyond the horizon.”

Improving and sustaining an environment that benefits the growth of students is another one of Pongos’ goals.

“It is understood we are partially products of our environment,” said Pongos. “Thus, it is a constant endeavor to create an environment that will aid in the intellectual, emotional, and maybe even spiritual growth of the students.”

Pongos said he will accomplish improvement through gaining knowledge of self and his environment and using the information to make changes.

Pongos said the first step of solving a problem is finding out what the problem is.

“By keeping an open ear, and empathetic heart, I hope to gain understanding of the needs of the student body.”

“By gaining knowledge of systems of political leverage at OWU I hope to make efficient positive change.”

Time to travel

By Tori Morris
Transcript Correspondent

This semester OWU’s travel-learning courses will be sending students to Ghana, Bangladesh, various places in the United Kingdom, Rome, Alaska, Taiwan, Japan, Ireland, Costa Rica, Iceland and Tanzania.

Professors in the geology and geography department Karen Fryer, Ph.D. and Bart Martin, Ph.D., are teaching the course Tectonics, Volcanology and Geothermal Energy in the North Atlantic: The Geology and Energy Resources of Iceland. The course will travel to Iceland in May.

Fryer said she is glad to be teaching a travel-learning course for the first time and they are a good example of a well-rounded liberal arts experience.

“I really enjoy the interdisciplinary nature of the course,” said Fryer. “Less than half of the class are geography majors, and the students really bring the interdisciplinary aspect.”

Fryer said students are excited for the Iceland trip.

“One of the students taking the course is especially interested in languages... she will hopefully be able to teach us some Icelandic words.”

David Johnson, Ph.D., professor of botany-microbiology, and Jed Burt, Ph.D., professor of zoology are teaching the tropical biology course.

Johnson said there are many benefits to taking a travel-learning course.

“I really do believe in the saying, ‘travel broadens the mind,’ said Johnson. “I think gaining a new perspective can be very beneficial to

understanding and applying what is learned in class,” said Johnson. With any(botany-microbiology or zoology) course, we would typically go to a laboratory to apply what has been learned. Traveling to Costa Rica will help students learn even more.”

Lee Fratantuono, Ph.D., associate professor of humanities-classics, will be teaching the course, “The Roman Republic”. Fratantuono said one of the greatest advantages of taking a travel-learning course is students will be able to supplement readings and assignments to actual visits.

“Students will have a chance to see some of the very sites associated with the readings they complete for the course; they will be able to walk past the same monuments as Cicero, Augustus, and Nero,” said Fratantuono.

In addition to this, students will learn life lessons.

“Having to look after yourself and others in the group is good training for life,” said Johnson. “We have some students who have never traveled out of Ohio.”

Johnson said he learns through teaching the course.

“I learn something new every time we (travel),” said Johnson.

Fryer said learning new perspectives are an important aspect of the travel-learning experience.

“(Students can learn) just by being in a place that isn’t like home and learning what it’s like to live there,” she said. “It will be interesting for students to get the Icelandic view of the U.S. and their perspective of the global economy. It’s a great way to finish off a liberal arts education.”


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Opinion

Quote of the Week: “I looked out my window and saw police with assault rifles, like in Call of Duty.”
–Sophomore Vincent Donofrio, Sigma Phi Epsilon

From the Editor:

Early birds miss the worm
Lack of weekend breakfast leaves busy students hungry

The first week back on campus was formal recruitment for all sororities, as most people probably already know. It was a crazy, but exciting week full of sisterhood and new friends, but by the time Sunday morning rolled around, I was thoroughly exhausted.

Trying to follow one of my 2012 resolutions to be healthier, I resolved to wake up early on Sunday and get in a solid breakfast before going over to the Delta Gamma house for a full day of formal recruitment.

It was not until after I had gotten up and ready for the day that I realized there is not a single place to eat on campus before 11 a.m. when Smith opens.

Needing to be at the house by 10, this of course was not an option. Instead, my two friends and I decided iced coffee and bagels at Tim Hortons’ was our best bet at a good breakfast for the day, so they picked me up and we drove over only to find what seemed like every affiliated woman on campus waiting in a line that stretched all around the store and nearly out the door. Hungry and out of options, we ended up waiting in line for almost 50 minutes and getting to the DG house late.

This got me thinking: why are there so few food options on campus for students on the weekends? Aside from Smith Hall and Thomson Store which opens at noon, there is nowhere else on campus to grab breakfast or lunch.

Personally, my weekend schedule is strange. It’s full of homework, extraneous club meetings, and oddly timed sorority events. Trying to coordinate my schedule around the limited dining hall times so I can eat has gotten fairly difficult lately.

I usually end up having to take an inconvenient break to run over to Smith and catch the very end of a meal. Other than Bishop Café opening Sundays at 5 p.m. and Welch pizza delivery at 5:30 p.m., Smith is also the only option for dinner.

Don’t get me wrong -- I love Smith, but twice a day is too much for this girl.

During the week I feel like we, as students, have a great variety of times and dining hall options available to us--Ham-, University cart, science center cart, Bishop Café, the bakery-which may have spoiled me in the first place and be the reason why I’m so disappointed on the weekends.

It would be nice if we could have just one location open 24/7 or if the administration could convert Welch into a breakfast buffet on weekend mornings before 11 a.m.

When I wake up for church on Sunday mornings, I cannot get breakfast before, nor directly after mass; I have to wait around until 11.

If this is my biggest problem with Ohio Wesleyan, life’s pretty good; but as a food lover, I’d appreciate a few more options on the weekends.

By Marissa Alfano
Editor-in-Chief

Cure for divisiveness is learning how to talk

By Noah Manskar
Transcript Reporter

People like to talk.

It’s nearly impossible to find a public space, especially on campus, that is completely void of voices. It seems to be in human nature to talk to one another—it doesn’t matter to whom, or about what; we just want conversation.

Conversation is a necessity. It satiates our desire for social interaction, provides a medium for the exchange of ideas and allows us to purge from our hearts and minds the things that bear the greatest weight on us as individuals.

This is why we talk. And it’s good we make this a regular practice, because if we didn’t, we’d more than likely bottle up our thoughts and emotions and send the world into a state of perpetual silence.

Lately, however, it seems we’ve forgotten how to talk.

My experience is that the majority of conversations that involve debate, even among even the most respectful and well-meaning parties, devolve to intensely polarized shouting matches if any difference of opinion exists. This is especially relevant at Ohio Wesleyan—whether it’s in a club meeting discussing broad philosophical topics or in the Smith Hall lounge over who gets control of the TV, participants in an argument can enter as friends and exit as bitter enemies.

This pattern is by no means a positive one. Conversation is supposed to make human life easier and foster the growth of community, not further isolate us from one another. Conversation should allow new, different ideas to flourish, not eradicate them. Conversation should create solutions, not more problems.

The question, then, becomes: how do we fix this?

How do we, as scholars, as friends, as members of society, put an end to the acrimony created by simply talking to each other?

The answer is a simple seven-letter word: respect.

The overall concept of respect is certainly helpful in

“The human experience is an incredibly unique and diverse one, but all people are intrinsically connected in sharing it.”

creating an environment conducive to better conversations, but the “respect” I’m referring to is an acronym developed by Rev. Eric H.F. Law in his “Guidelines for Respectful Communication.” Each letter in the word stands for a technique that can be implemented to make conversation more productive and respectful for all involved.

Each part of the acronym is important to meet this end, but for me, two stand out especially. One is the first E of “respect,” which stands for “use empathetic listening.”

Empathy is a difficult thing to grasp—it is often hard to understand another person’s point of view simply because we cannot be that person, and cannot fully see where their thoughts and feelings come from.

This obstacle, however, does not make it any less crucial to respectful conversation. A lack of empathy and careful thought about different perspectives results in personal attacks deeply rooted in ignorance. Having empathy doesn’t mean knowing every aspect of someone’s perspective (as that would be impossible), but it does imply making connections with others based on the one trait we all share—being human.

The human experience is an incredibly unique and diverse one, but all people are intrinsically connected in sharing it. As Rev. Law notes, society arbitrarily divides people into different categories—races, genders, political identifications, sexual orientations, etc.—but our differences should not negate our grand similarity.

This, then, leads into what I see as the other most significant letter of respect—T, which stands for, “trust ambiguity, because we are not

here to debate who is right or wrong.”

According to Rev. Law, the aforementioned categories society separates us into—what he refers to as “-isms” (i.e. racism, sexism, ageism, classism, and ablist)—often lead to debate among their members. Conversations often lose their focus, he says, when participants from different backgrounds turn against each other and argue over which of their respective groups has experienced more oppression or pain. If all these prejudices and labels were removed, then, those arguments would become irrelevant, and the original focus of the conversation could be restored.

For me, respecting ambiguity is also important with regard to the topic of the conversation. In my experience many talks aiming to address broad, abstract issues often get too caught up in the use of hypothetical situations to prove a point or achieve a specific solution. This causes the focus of the conversation to often shift to determining whether or not a hypothetical situation is likely to happen or whether it is fitting to the broader topic being discussed.

This is where respecting ambiguity can play an integral role. Abstract problems and questions often don’t have any answers or solutions; that is why they have remained abstract. Acknowledging this lack of actuality can sometimes be confounding, but no less confounding than a futile pursuit of making them concrete.

I’m glad people like to talk. Conversation can be an incredibly powerful tool in strengthening our common human bond. I just think we need to remember that bond, and remember how to talk to each other with respect.

Smokers should learn the rules

By Elizabeth Childers
Online Editor

The issue of whether or not to allow smoking on campus was a hot button issue last year, to say the least. I myself find smoking to be a less than healthy habit, but it is not my place to walk up to every smoker, take their cigarette and shout, “Smoker, no smoking!”

However, I do find it my place to address a few issues with said smokers. The Ohio Wesleyan Student Handbook states, “Smoking is prohibited in all University buildings and areas immediately adjacent to doors and windows. (Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3794 – Smoking Ban)” Standing directly in front of a dorm door, regardless of the weather, is in direct violation of this policy. Also, it’s just plain rude. Smoking in a doorway allows the smoke to travel inside, either through the direct openings or ventilation. If you want to smoke, fine. However, some of us don’t want to smoke with you.

The next thing to address with smokers is not a violation of school policy, but a subtle request to those students who smoke on their way to and from classes. If you choose to light up on the JAY, please be considerate to people walking behind you and let them pass, especially if the wind is blowing so that they will inevitably inhale the smoke from your cigarette. For people who do not partake, the smell of cigarette smoke can be nauseating, and in the case of someone who has breathing issues, even harmful.

For nonsmokers on campus, there is a document called, “The Non-Smoker’s Bill of Rights,” which states that: nonsmokers have the right to clean air, and this right supercedes the right to smoke when the two conflict; the right to speak out, meaning nonsmokers have the right to express - firmly but politely - their discomfort and adverse reactions to tobacco smoke and they have the right to voice their objections when smokers light up without asking permission; and the right to act, meaning nonsmokers have the right to take action through legislative channels, social pressures or any other legitimate means - as individuals or in groups - to prevent or discourage smokers from polluting the atmosphere and to seek the restriction of smoking in public places.

Whether OWU should be a smoke-free campus is ultimately up to the student body.

I believe that the option should still be available to those who wish to continue smoking.

However, for the right to smoke on campus, shouldn’t smokers also respect a non-smoker’s right to breathe clean air?



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Arts & Entertainment

Alumnus’ work returns to campus

By **Natalie Duleba**
Photo/Copy Editor

Ohio Wesleyan alumnus Mohsen Shirzadian’s artwork has made a return to campus, showcasing his passion and talent for photography.

Although his photography has been displayed before, the photos currently on display in the Alumni Gallery in the Mowry Alumni Center have never been seen by campus.



Shirzadian

Displayed on two floors, the photos depict subject matter ranging from nature to portraits to Iranian market scenes. The dates the photos were taken range across three decades; some photos date back to 1980, when Shirzadian was still a student at OWU.

According to Shirzadian’s artist statement, his interest in photography started during childhood.

“I remember my father taking me on trips, each time inevitably accompanied by his camera,” wrote Shirzadian.

“His main interest was placing me in his favorite locations and taking pictures that would capture both the landscape and myself. This, I think, marked the start of my interest in photography.”

Shirzadian’s photography depicting photographs taken during his return trip to Iran in 2006 were displayed in Beeghly Library in 2009. He also gave an illustrated speech to the campus about his work.

Justin Kronewetter, museum director and fine arts professor, is one of the main people involved in choosing whose art is displayed on campus.

Kronewetter said he believed Shirzadian’s work merited another visit to campus.

“He (Shirzadian) was invited back



Photo by Natalie Duleba

One of Shirzadian’s photos, entitled “Cara,” currently on display on the first floor of the Mowry Alumni Center gallery.

because his previous exhibit was shown mostly to students who have graduated,” Kronewetter said.

“There’s different generation of students on campus. An artist can be invited back two to three times.”

When Kronewetter chooses artists, with the help of his staff, to be displayed on campus, he said he looks for a talented individual with a point of view to share and who will benefit the campus.

Shirzadian’s work is no different, Kronewetter said. “It wouldn’t be here if I didn’t think highly of his work.”

Not only is Shirzadian’s photography of high caliber, but it also is relevant to a world view, said Kronewetter.

“Rock Jones emphasizes a world view at OWU and encourages off-campus study and awareness of other cultures,” Kronewetter said. “Mohsen is from Iran and has strong politics regarding the Iran situation. His photog-

raphy is a picture window into a different part of the world.”

Kronewetter said Shirzadian is going to come to campus at an undecided date to discuss his photography as well as his world view.

The photography displayed in the alumni gallery is only half of the entire exhibit.

After mid-semester break, the other half will be replacing the photography currently installed.

Guest author captivates audience with reading

By **Gabriela Melgar**
Transcript Reporter

“Colorful as a rainbow.”

This was how senior Mary Slebodnik described the work of Mark Brazaitis, an award-winning poet, in her introduction on Jan. 26 when Brazaitis read from his collected works in the Bayley Room of Beeghly Library.

Slebo-dnik also introduced him as a father, the basketball coach of his daughter’s team, and a political columnist in Cleveland.

Brazaitis is also the director of the creative writing program at West Virginia University and the winner of the ABZ Poetry Prize.

He was also awarded the Benedum Distinguished Scholar Award by West Virginia University.

His book of poetry, “The Other Language,” is composed of work inspired by his time spent in Guatemala.

Brazaitis was sent to Guatemala as a Peace Corps volunteer, turning what might be considered a cliché out-of-college experience into a collection of literary merit.

Some of the poems delve into the effects of a 36 year civil war in Guatemala, recounting tales from the people he encountered.

Brazaitis also examines the complications of being American in Guatemala.



Mark Brazaitis

In his poem, “Conversations in Wartime,” Brazaitis talks about Americans he met who “...spent their careers amid this war that isn’t theirs.” He posed the audience with

a question:

“When you’re abroad and you see something you don’t like, what do you do?”

His reading ended with a less serious but engaging story called, “The Boy Behind the Tree,” a piece about a son wanting to live up to his father’s ideals.

Senior Diane Bizarro was fond of Brazaitis’ reading.

“I really enjoyed the range of things he read. The subject matter crossed a lot of genres,” Bizarro said.

Senior Steffany King had a preference for his poetry over his other work.

“The themes related to my recent experiences abroad,” said King, who had recently

studied in Germany.

English majors such as Bizarro and King are required to attend 10 of these poet and writers’ readings hosted by the English department. The styles and genres of authors greatly vary, exposing students to a wide range of work.

When Brazaitis was asked about advice for aspiring writers he said, “It is important to write often. Whether it’s writing in a journal, or old-fashioned letters to friends, or long emails, or even writing for the newspaper.”

He also emphasized the need to have “meaningful experiences.” His last bit of advice was to “have an adventure after graduation.”

Professor encourages students to visit zoology museum right next door

By **Thomas Wolber**
Associate Professor of German

Many people do not realize that Delaware has a small museum for natural history and that it is located right here on campus (SCSC Room #166). Although it is free and open to the public, it seems to be a well-kept secret even among many OWU students and staff.

The other day I spent a lovely hour in the Zoology Museum, as it is called, and walked away with interesting new information, such as the history of science at OWU.

The original Science Hall was Merrick, whose large third-floor room contained a natural history museum.. Unfortunately, half a century ago the college gave away most of its holdings to OSU because of space restrictions. The current museum was finalized after six display cases from the Smithsonian arrived in 2009. The evolution of homosapiens

is also displayed alongside human and primate skulls.

Despite the small dimensions of the gallery, it is chockfull with specimens. Every corner, wall and even the ceiling is mounted with various animal species. Birds dominate, no doubt due to museum director Dr. Jed Burt, an internationally-renowned ornithologist and published author.

There must be close to a hundred birds in the various display cases and on the shelves, from the smallest humming bird to the largest turkey, owl, eagle, and albatross. Both domestic animals and species from around the world are present. Then, there are exhibits of numerous bird skulls and eggs. I have never seen so closely the formidable beak of a kingfisher, which makes digging the long underground tunnels that lead to their nesting chambers possible.

Also noteworthy is an ex-

hibit entitled “The Top 10 Phyla”: a display case with coral reefs and marine shells; a collection of teeth (check out the large teeth of sperm whales!); a group of reptiles; etc. Hanging from the ceiling is a hornet’s nest, a great horned owl and the skeleton of a large beluga whale.

Above the doors are antlers of a moose and caribou as well as a bison’s head. Guarding one of the entrance doors is a two-headed calf that young visitors love to touch.

Given the small size of the museum, it is not surprising that some animal groups are missing. Only about 10 percent of the Zoology Department’s collections are actually on display because there is no room for the rest. For example, some 20,000 insects are stored out of public sight.

The little museum, primarily used as a teaching collection, is fairly traditional and conventional. At present, there are no interactive activi-

ties such as computers and/or loudspeakers. For school children, there is one laminated activity sheet (accompanied by a teachers guide.)

Perhaps a few more educational hand-outs could be made available, not only for children but also for visiting adults. For example, it is almost too much to absorb the rich information about the top ten phyla in one visit, so a leaflet containing that information would be helpful. You probably heard of mollusks and arthropods, two of the phyla, but perhaps you did not realize that we mammals belong to the phylum of so-called chordata (vertebrates), along with bony fishes, birds, reptiles and amphibians.

One other comment, if I may. The little museum, as cute as it is, seems a bit out of step with modern times not only in terms of technology. Its science is somewhat dated and stale, too. For example, you see a passenger pigeon,

but there is no mention that the bird became completely extinct in the 19th century. You see an eagle and an osprey, but the exhibit does not mention Rachel Carson’s courageous fight against DDT, the pesticide that almost wiped out all North American raptors. The modern concepts of conservation, environmentalism and sustainability are sorely missing.

Some day, if the right donor(s) can be found, the museum should be modernized. It could be a major attraction for prospective students, a travel destination and a shining beacon on campus.

However, it is worth seeing even at it is, especially the bird collection. So, if some day you have a free hour, or if the weather is bad outside, go visit the Zoology Museum. And if you are very lucky, you will find a student curator working in the back room who would be happy to answer your questions.

MLK Day builds community

By **Jordan Ahmed**
Transcript Reporter

To me, Martin Luther King Day used to mean a day off of school. It meant that I would hear my first grade teacher tell me about freedom and race and an assassination—all things that, at seven years old, I did not understand.

It is strange how 13 years later I am feeling the impact of that man heavily upon me.

Working on a march in Dr. King’s honor for the President’s Commission on Racial and Cultural Diversity, I was able to take part in a small but simple march from Slocum Hall to Hamilton Williams Campus Center at the beginning of this semester.

Even though no more than 20 showed up, the march had an intimate impact on me. I was walking to reflect on the life of a man I would never meet, a man I would never hear speak.

Still, in hearing the opening and closing words of Chaplain Powers and President Jones, I felt connected to Dr. King’s dream.

It all came to a head for me when I was watching the short documentary, “The Witness: From the Balcony of 306” in Ham-Wil last week among housemates and peers.

I was struck, not only by the content of the documentary, highlighting Reverend Samuel “Billy” Kyles’ friendship with Dr. King, but also some of the images and moments around Dr. King’s death.

Now that I think about it, I probably saw some of these images in first grade, learning about MLK Day. It was the images of the Memphis Sanitation Workers Strike that moved me the most. Men in the strike lined the streets wearing signs that said only, “I am a man.”

Despite the perhaps unfairly gendered nature of this statement, it hit home for me in my life. Outside of their race, jobs or religion, all of the men striking were just that—men.

It reminded me that despite all of the labels society places on me: gay, ex-Muslim, multi-racial, liberal—I am still a man. I am still human.

It is this humanness that I want to remember from the work of Dr. King. What was then called a brotherhood of men could be transposed to a family of humans. We all have an underlying humanness that we share.

We are bound not by our race or our religion. Instead we are only bound by our commitment to our fellow members of the community, our friends, our family and our classmates.

Everything that I have said has most certainly been said before, but for me it is the reminder that counts.

I think it is important that we recognize the bonds we share as a community.

I think we should embrace that community, if not in honor of Dr. King, then in honor of all the relationships that have been founded at this great university.

Bishops Sports

Men’s and women’s lacrosse prepare for season

By Tim Alford
Transcript Reporter

Men’s Lacrosse

Coach Michael Plantholt is going into his second year as coach with OWU men’s lacrosse. He will try to continue the success the team had last season.

Last year, the Bishops went 10-4 overall and won a share of the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) championship.

The team also made it to the NCAA playoffs last season. Plantholt said the team lost in the first round of the NCAA playoffs by one goal, which was scored with one minute to go in the game.

While the team graduated some key players, including starting defenseman Jack Hall, All American Tony D’Abarno and All Conference players Shaun Crow and Scott Chester, Plantholt said there are some key returners to the team.

All Conference players Colin Short, Drew Scharf, Pat Bassett and Steve Ford and Rookie of the year Spencer Schnell are all returning.

“We are doing a 180 from last year when it comes to age,” sophomore midfielder Spencer Schnell said. “Last year we had a veteran defense that had been playing together for a while, and the offense was mostly guys in starting spots for the first time. This

year, we are lucky to have almost our entire offense back with a year of playing together under our belts. On defense, we are pretty young, but the freshmen have really stepped up and are looking really comfortable in their roles.”

“Any time you have that many freshmen competing for time, it’s exciting because they’re just starting to understand what it takes to be great at our level,” Plantholt said.

According to Schnell, the team is playing this season with the motto of unselfishness. He said the mentality will be that every goal will be a team goal.

“We have all the talent we could ask for, so right now we are looking to put our talents together to work as a team,” Schnell said.

Plantholt said that in a week and a half of practice, they look like a team with incredible potential. Schnell said the team is looking forward to scrimmages.

“The coaching staff has done a really good job of keeping us competitive during practice which keeps everyone working hard,” Schnell said.

Plantholt said the team’s goal is always to win the championship, but they do need to do the little things right.

“Fundamentals, effort, and attitude will go a long way in



Photo by Tim Alford

Sophomore Spencer Schnell takes a shot during a shooting drill at practice on Friday at Selby Field.

determining our success this year,” Plantholt said.

Schnell said the team matches up well with the teams in the conference.

He said they have a “sour taste” in their mouths about Denison since they knocked the Bishops out of the tournament, and they had to share

the NCAC title with them and Wittenberg last year.

“We are definitely looking for a little redemption [to] regain sole ownership of the conference title,” Schnell said.

The first game for the men’s lacrosse team will be at 12 p.m. on Feb. 25 at home

against Concordia.

Women’s Lacrosse

The OWU women’s lacrosse team will be heading into their season with a new coach and new approach to the game.

After serving as the assistant coach last season, Coach Margaret Grossman will be taking over as head coach. Junior Meredith Wholley, a midfielder, said the team dynamic has been positive to a new coach and the team has responded well to her.

“The good part about being an assistant is you get to know the players in a different way than if you were the head coach,” Grossman said. “So I think already knowing the girls will help with the transition.”

Last season, the Bishops went 3-12 overall and 1-5 in conference games.

Grossman said the team did not lack the skill or want last season, it was that confidence, determination, and enthusiasm was lacking.

“I am working with them to not only improve their skill and fitness, but to show them the enjoyable side to lacrosse again,” Grossman said.

Grossman said the team graduated two seniors last year, but the team is returning six upperclassmen.

She said they also have a great group of sophomores and a strong freshmen class

who will immediately impact the them.

“Like last year, we do have fewer upperclassmen and more freshmen and sophomores,” Wholley said. “However, I think this will only help the team in the future and even this year because they have talent, they work hard, and they are willing to learn.”

Grossman said she thinks they will improve because the whole team is willing to work to their limits.

Wholley said they had been practicing for 2 weeks and doing much more conditioning.

“I think the conference is competitive and any team can come out on top,” Grossman said.

“From what I have seen, I do not know why the team on top couldn’t be us,” Grossman said. “It will come down to determination and focus every time we take the field, but we will be able to better compete this year and I think the team is looking forward to it, I know I am,” she said.

Wholley said, “We are just focusing on improving and working hard to prepare for a great season.”

Grossman said the team has good competition lined up for the season.

The first game for the women’s lacrosse team will be at 3 p.m. on Feb. 25 at home against Thiel.

OWU track members named Athlete of the Week for great performances



Photo by Andy Wittenberg

From left to right: Hannah Benzing, John Rux and Ethan Freet. Benzing and Rux both won the weight throw at Wooster’s track quad on Jan. 28. Freet won three events on Jan. 21.

By Andy Wittenberg
Sports Reporter

Every week, the OWU sports homepage shines the spotlight on athletes dedicated to their sports as “Athletes of the Week.” Last week, the featured spot on the page could not fit all the honored players. Each athlete is chosen by the North Coast Athletic Conference. This week, four OWU track and field athletes were honored.

Currently, the athletes of the week include senior Jon Rux, who was named Men’s Field Event Performer of the Week, and junior Hannah Benzing, who was named Women’s Field Event Performer of the Week by the NCAC.

Rux, who won first place in weight throw and shot put at the NCAC Quad at Wooster, said he attributes his success to being agile for his size, having excellent technique, and supportive coaches. He said Kris Boey, the men’s and women’s track and field head coach, showed him that throwing is not the individual sport it appears to be.

Boey said performing well has a domino effect; other team members will be inspired by one’s performance and do well.

Benzing, who won the weight throw and came in third at the NCAC Quad on Saturday, said she started her track career with middle school long jump but “realized she was not going to go

anywhere good” and switched concentrations.

Benzing said she has a different mentality than most of her teammates because of her natural ambitions.

“I don’t know; I just want it,” she said. “I think it’s a confidence thing.”

She said she was inspired by two seniors who pushed themselves.

“I don’t think I would have been as dedicated to the program,” Benzing said. “I could (have) foul(ed) out.”

Junior Ethan Freet was the athlete of the week for the week of Jan. 23; he was named Men’s Sprinter/Hurdler of the Week by the NCAC.

Freet, a two-time all-American NCAC winner, said track is a hard sport.

“The better you do, the worse you feel,” he said. “I have been really, really, lucky I have had great inspirations both on and off the track. My high school coaches made sure we made good decisions ... Boey will put you in a position to be successful; you just have to be willing to put in the work.”

Boey said Freet is one of the easiest people to coach.

“He is extremely low maintenance, easy going,” Boey said. “... There are no challenges with him ... He makes my job easy. I think you can say that about most of our athletes, but he’s a special one.”

Other track and field athletes of the week include junior Silas Joliff, who was named Men’s Sprinter/Hur-

dlar of the Week and freshman Katie Reid, who was named Women’s Distance Runner of the Week by the NCAC.

Boey said the athletes of the week share some common characteristics.

“They want to be great, are talented, work hard (and) are in the weight room.”

Boey said he also attributes some of the teams’ success to self-sacrificing coaches who work at night, drive far distances for practice and don’t work just to fatten their resumes.

Boey said there will always be athletes who are talented and do not work hard. He said he would not nominate those athletes for Athlete of the Week.

“In the end, they will be outperformed,” he said. “It never fails. I would rather have someone with moderate talent and a great attitude and work ethic than someone who doesn’t work hard. The password in our field is not talent but commitment and hard work.”

Boey said the players are extraordinarily talented, and that he just recruits them.

“I can’t want it more than they want it,” he said.

This Friday the men’s and women’s track and field team are competing in the OWU open at Gordon Field House, and this Saturday they will compete in the All-Ohio Division III Championship in Westerville, Oh.

Check www.battlingbishops.com for details.

Cheer squad graduates strong leaders



Photo by Coley Kaeser

Seniors Coley Kaeser, Yvonne Hendricks and Alex McCarty leave big shoes to fill.

By Eric Tifft
Managing Editor

Senior leadership is an important asset for any sports team. For the cheer leading squad, the seniors act as leaders and role models for younger squad members.

Whether rain or shine, home or away, veterans or rookies, the cheerleaders are the biggest fans of the Ohio Wesleyan football and men’s and women’s basketball teams. They shout, toss, tumble, jump, and chant to lead the Battling Bishops to victory. Even when the Bishops are not fortunate enough to win, the cheerleaders are just as supportive in the next game.

At the end of the 2012 school year, the cheer leading squad will graduate three seniors. Because the squad does not have team captains, much of the leadership stems from the seniors and upperclassmen.

This will leave several opportunities for younger and new squad members to step up as leaders.

The three seniors said they each benefited by being a part of the OWU cheer team. Team unity is the central glue

that holds this squad together like many other varsity and club sports teams.

The three seniors, Alex McCarty, Coley Kaeser, and Yvonne Hendricks shared their own experiences and are deserving of recognition. According to sophomore teammate Frida Hess, the seniors are the main motivators of the squad and act as the liaisons between the coaches and the rest of the squad.

“The role of the seniors is mainly one of leadership,” Hess said.

McCarty brought many years of experience to the squad all the way from San Diego, Calif. She cheered all four years in high school, in addition to cheering for four years at OWU.

When not on the sideline of a Battling Bishop game, she works as a tour guide and is a member of Kappa Alpha Theta.

McCarty said the team is one big family. “We would always get together after cheer practice and really bonded as a team”(sic).

Kaeser came to OWU with no cheer leading experience. Instead, she played softball and field hockey in high school in Weston, Conn.

Kaeser said she decided freshman year to give cheering a try and ended up joining the squad that year.

She enjoyed the family atmosphere of the team and built friendships and trusts that run deep, she said. “The stunting part of cheer leading can be very dangerous,” Kaeser said. “You have to be able to trust your team mate that she will not drop you.”

Hendricks cheered in middle school for two years in Hartford, Conn. and has been cheering for OWU since her freshman year.

She said that because she has no family in Ohio the cheer squad acted as a family away from home for her. Hendricks is also in Terpsicorps, Orchesis and Delta Gamma.

Like Kaeser, Hendricks stressed the importance of team trust.

“I am a back spot and we are essentially responsible for the safety of those that we toss into the air,” she said.

Currently, the cheer squad is a club sport. McCarty said that they hope to be able to attend competitions in the future, but were unable to this year because of budget and time conflicts.