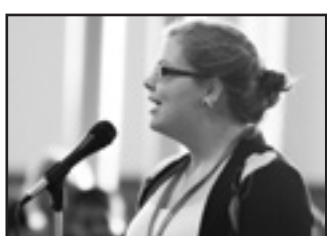


Mock Convention:

Students nominate Mitt Romney for president and Steven Colbert for vice president

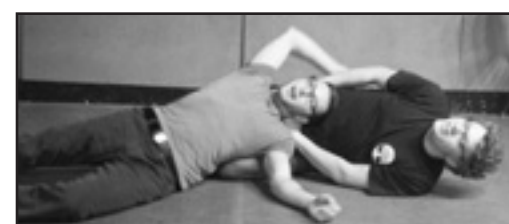
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Babbling Bishops:

Back from Chicago and ready to go

-- Page 7



THE TRANSCRIPT

THE OLDEST CONTINUALLY PUBLISHED STUDENT NEWSPAPER IN THE COUNTRY

Friday, Feb. 17, 2012

Volume 149, No. 15

SLUs reapply for housing

By Ellin Youse
Transcript Correspondent

Last week each of the eight Small Living Units (SLUs) applied for renewal to return to campus as living options next school year.

SLUs are required to reapply for their house through the renewal process, which includes an application and a roster for the following year.

SLUs must also give a presentation about their mission statement and importance to the Ohio Wesleyan and Delaware communities to a panel comprised of faculty, Public Safety officers and students.

If a SLU makes changes to its mission statement, it must explain why such amendments are necessary.

These presentations took place on Friday, Feb. 10 from 1-4 p.m.

Junior Paige Ruppel said the renewal process is necessary because the presence of SLUs on campus is beneficial not only to those students in SLUs, but also to the entire OWU community.

"We account for a lot of the student programming that goes on (on campus)," Ruppel said. "Each house member must put on a program each semester as a requirement to live in the house, and with so many projects on campus, SLUs address a broad range of issues. With eight houses on campus, most everyone can find a cause of interest to them."

Sophomore Martin Clark, secretary of WCSA, agreed with Ruppel on that idea.

"I feel that the SLU community is a great asset to the campus," Clark said. "It delivers a valuable living experience separate from the fraternities or dorms. The SLUs hold many events throughout the year that help facilitate important conversation about various topics throughout different social groups on campus."

See SLUs page 8

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Protecting yourself to protect others

Condom cause

Condomgrams promote healthy sex at home and in developing countries

By Ellin Youse and Cara Foley
Transcript Correspondent and Transcript Reporter

The House of Thought and House of Peace and Justice are combining forces this week to raise money and safe sex awareness in honor of a pregnant teen in Kenya.

Senior Abby Godfrey, a resident of HoT, said she began doing holding condom fundraisers when she became a Great American Condom Campaign Safe Site during her freshman year. She said she was awarded \$500 in condoms to distribute on campus.

"My sophomore year, I was again a Safe Site, was awarded the condoms, and decided to amp up my efforts, make it a HoT project and ended up raising twice what I did the year before," said Godfrey. "My junior year, I was both a Safe site and was given an Envoy position with Sir Richard's Condom Company."

She said she was awarded 500 Trojan condoms along with 1,000 Sir Richard's condoms, and that she was able to spread the love much more widely than ever before.

"I am now a senior and am focusing more on distributing Sir Richard's Condoms because I believe they are truly a better quality condom and they are a very socially conscious company."

Sir Richard's produces condoms that are "vegan friendly"; they do not contain the animal by-product casing and are 100 percent latex. For every condom sold during the



Photo by Suzanne Samin

From left to right: Senior Michael Raszmann and junior Erinn Colmenares sell Condomgrams on Valentine's Day, courtesy of Sir Richard's Condom Company, for students to send to their friends.

Condomgrams fundraiser, Sir Richard's donates one condom to Partners in Health, a foundation that provides relief to those suffering abroad. Partners in Health will then distribute those condoms to Haiti and Rwanda with the goal of promoting safe sex.

In previous years, the funds raised from Condomgrams and similar sales have been donated to the Abzyme Research Foundation, which is currently researching a vaccine for HIV. Godfrey said that while she still fully supports the Foundation, she has decided to raise

money for a cause close to her heart.

"This year's fundraiser is not only my house project, but also my Senior Seminar in Applied Sociology project," she said. "I am raising money to build a house for a 13-year-old orphan (Fletcher) in Kenya."

Godfrey worked in an orphanage last summer where she met children unable to attain proper information or materials to protect themselves from unwanted pregnancies or STDs. When Godfrey learned one of the girls she worked with was recently dismissed

from the orphanage because of a pregnancy, she said she decided to hold the Condomgrams fundraiser to benefit this young girl and other teens in similar situations.

"I want to be able to raise enough money to build her a house," Godfrey said. "Or at least provide her with enough money to set up a foundation and get her off the streets."

"Not only are my proceeds going to a good cause, the revenue from the condoms themselves is going to a very philanthropic, socially conscious company," Godfrey said.

The cause of the fundraiser relates to the mission statements of both HoT and P&J. Both houses promote critical thinking on campus and work to promote conscious awareness of global issues.

"A lot of social justice issues tend to fall through the cracks of curriculums and not a lot of people are aware of how dire the circumstances are for the majority of people all over the world," Godfrey said.

See CONDOM page 5

New WCSA officers work to trim fiscal fat

By Noah Manskar
Transcript Reporter

The accession of a new Wesleyan Council on Student Affairs executive body has brought several changes to the organization's budgetary process in an effort to make it more efficient.

A primary instrument in this has been the installation of new software that allows WCSA Treasurer Marshall Morris to see in real time how much money is in the account of each individual student organization.

According to Morris, the treasurer and budget committee were not previously privy to this information. Requests to see an account balance for any organization was "all done by paper," a process that took two days.

"Many of the budget requests that came before the committee were kind of allocated in the dark, not knowing how much money the club actually had," Morris said.

The program was headed in part by the Financial Affairs office. According to Eric Algoe, vice-president for finance

and administration, it was installed in the summer but there were some difficulties with its operation in the fall semester.

"There was a period of time in the fall when the accounts were not easily available online while we were implementing our new systems, but the accounting staff of the university met with the WCSA treasurer during that time to provide as much support as possible in making their initial allocations," he said.

Morris said the software has made his job as treasurer easier overall.

"I really do like it," he said. "I think it provides a more clear understanding of what the status of each club is. That protects us from over-allocating money to them."

Morris also said he has experienced some difficulties with the program. Despite being able to view balances for individual organizations, he and the budget committee does not have permission to see how much money is in the aggregate WCSA account.

WCSA's budget comes from the student activity fee, a flat rate of \$110 paid by all stu-

"Many of the budget requests that came before the committee were kind of allocated in the dark," said Marshall Morris, WCSA Treasurer.

dents each semester; the budget committee can therefore make a rough estimate of the balance of the WCSA account by multiplying the number of currently enrolled students by 110. Morris said while this is helpful, he'd like the ability to know the exact amount of money he and the committee have to work with.

According to Morris, deciding balances he is allowed to see is entirely up to the administration.

"This was something so far above any student organization," he said. "The students really didn't have a say, but this is something they thought would help maintain accounts on their level. They have so many more accounts and stuff than I do. I was just granted one little sliver to help better accurately fund organizations."

Algoe said the administra-

tion has "exercised almost no influence or control" over the WCSA account, only handling money transfers and ensuring "nothing illegal happens with the funds." He was unaware the lack of permissions would be an issue for the budget committee since "the amount is very straightforward," but it would be an easy problem to fix.

"It's as simple as us adding one more line to the permissions of what they [the committee] can view using the online tool," he said.

He added that there are some idiosyncrasies with the aggregate account at the beginning of the year, so the committee would need to be prudent in its actions during that time.

"The one thing we will need to work with the treasurer to understand is that the amount will fluctuate during

the first few weeks of each semester as students enroll late or withdraw and have their fees refunded," he said, "so it will be important to hold back around 10 percent from the initial allocation until the dust settles, so to speak."

Furthering his efforts to make WCSA more "fiscally responsible," Morris has also redesigned the budget request form student organizations use to solicit funds.

The new form requires an itemized list of each specific expense needed for any event or program. Instead of listing broad categories such as "transportation" or "lodging," organizations must now determine how much money they need for each item within those groups.

"That's what we need as budget committee to more effectively and accurately allocate funds to the club or organization," Morris said.

According to Morris, the new form is "much more streamlined."

See WCSA page 4

What was the worst event that happened to you on Valentine's Day?

"In grade school, one time someone didn't give me a valentine when they were supposed to give everyone a valentine"
-Maina Netzei, '12



"In 5th grade, it was the last year to hand out group valentines, but I was sick and didn't get to go. I was upset!"
-Kat Pickens, '14

"Nothing bad because most of the time, any relationships I had ended in the fall. So my parents got me some candy and I was happy."
-Arie Leffel, '15



"Only good things happen to me on Valentine's Day."
-Haley Hessler, '12

"I went to an all boys high school, so all of my Valentine's Days were uneventful."
-K.C., '13



"In 3rd grade, I told a guy I liked him, and he didn't like me. He told me I was ugly."
-Nora Anderson, '14

"Nothing really ever happens to me on Valentine's Day."
-Jennifer Eltringham, '14



Myths debunked during Siegfried lecture

Eating disorders are topic of discussion to promote treatment

By Elizabeth Childers
Transcript Reporter

Nicole Siegfried, an eating disorder lecturer, urged students to not fall prey to myths concerning eating disorders during her Feb. 9 lecture. Siegfried's lecture was part of the Food Course Connection.

Assistant professors of Psychology, Vicki DiLillo and Jennifer Yates, hosted the lecture.

"[The] food course connection is one of those interdisciplinary course connections that is trying to look at a specific theme or topic from a variety of different disciplinary perspectives," DiLillo said. "We thought that having someone who could come in and talk about eating disorders would be of interest to students and would be potentially helpful to them."

Siegfried's lecture dealt with myths behind eating disorders, such as eating disorders are effective weight management.

"The truth is, disordered

Tips to help those with eating disorders

- Set a time to talk.
- Communicate your concerns
- Ask your friend to explore these concerns
- Avoid conflicts or a battle of the wills
- Avoid placing shame, blame or guilt
- Avoid giving simple solutions
- Express your continued support

eating such as restricting, vomiting, (or) laxative use are not only dangerous, but are not effective measures for weight loss," Siegfried said during her lecture.

"In fact, a majority of individuals... who go on diets or severe diets gain their weight back and then some."

Other myths included the modern adage that says most college freshmen gain 15 pounds.

"This is actually a myth," Siegfried said. "It makes it more likely that [college freshmen] might set the stage for restrictive eating."

Siegfried said half of freshmen will gain weight and another half will lose. However,

the difference between them is only five pounds.

Siegfried, who works at a treatment facility for those who suffer from eating disorders, speaks at many events, both in her area and at national conferences.

"I really want to help educate especially college students on what eating disorders are, understanding how to identify them either in themselves or their friends and how best be able to approach someone who has an eating disorder to help get them the help they need," Siegfried said before the lecture.

Senior Ane Shoemaker was one of many students to attend the lecture.

"I have had an eating disorder in the past, and so I'm interested in seeing more modern information on it and just being updated on that information," Shoemaker said. "Some of the myths were surprising to me."

Siegfried mentioned many ways to help loved ones who may have/have an eating disorder. Siegfried also mentioned that using phrases like, "You look too thin," should be avoided, since that may send the message whatever disordered eating is being practiced is wrong.

Shoemaker had advice to those who may be approached about having an eating disorder.

"Be open," Shoemaker said. "If someone approaches you; they're really trying to help you. They care about you, they're not trying to bring you down. They're worried about your survival. They don't want you to get hurt or fall prey to this more than you already are."

Students hopeful with dates after date auction

By Samantha Simon
Transcript Correspondent

Rafiki Wa Afrika's first Date Action raised auction prices skyward while overall funds were well beyond expectations.

All proceeds are going toward the Ghana Student Education Fund, an organization that looks to better the education of students in Ghana and allows brilliant and deserving children a chance at achieving their dreams.

Students gathered in the Hamilton-Williams Campus Center Atrium on Friday at lunchtime to watch their fellow classmates be auctioned off, and to have a chance to bid on someone. There were 17 students auctioned off; eight women and nine men.

The opening bid was \$10, and the auctioned-off date would accompany the highest bidder to a fixed dinner at Bun's Restaurant later that evening. There was plenty incentive to make a bid: all of the students being auctioned off were dressed to impress, lobster was on the menu and all the proceeds were going to a good cause.

Sophomore Sophie Kiendl attended the auction and had hopes of bidding on her fellow classmate and friend Dylan Porter. But when someone bid \$70 on him Kiendl couldn't offer any more money, explaining that Porter is a great guy, but he wasn't worth that high a price.

Other students thought different about shelling about large amounts of

cash, especially sophomore Elizabeth Smith, who bid \$300 on sophomore Danyal Omar.

Junior Jacqueline Osei-Bonsu, who led and ran the date auction, said that Smith was excited to donate the \$300 because she cares so much about the Ghana Student Education Fund, and wanted to take Danyal out for a nice meal.

This was the first time Rafiki Wa Afrika has ever held the auction, so Osei-Bonsu anticipated running into a few organizational problems.

"It was really hard getting people together and trying to finalize things when we couldn't reach people, but in the end it all came together," she said.

Osei-Bonsu said that the main problems included finding a place for the students to have their date and rounding up the auctioneers. She said she was nervous that students wouldn't bid, but was thrilled everyone was auctioned off, and the lowest bid was \$20.

The total for all 17 students was \$1075, with an average bid just above \$60. This number was way above Rafiki Wa Afrika's expectations.

The entire Rafiki Wa Afrika club was very excited about being able to donate \$1075 to the Ghana Student Education Fund.

Sophomore Porter was asked if he would auction himself off for the cause, and he said he couldn't say no.

"I'm always one for helping, and if my mere smile can help raise some

money I'm totally in" said Porter. "I am a bit disappointed I wasn't the highest bid, but hey I was nervous on stage and didn't do questionable things like fellow auctioneer Pierre Freed did, like take my shirt off in efforts to raise more money. The dinner at Bun's was quite the treat, and I got to meet new people. Overall I am happy I was able to contribute, and hope I can next year as well".

Freshman Maria Urbina also auctioned herself off. She said she was originally nervous to go up on stage, but when two of her friends got into a bidding war, she said she was flattered.

Junior Chris Ostrowski ended up winning Urbina, but he was unable to take her on the date to Bun's because he had a lacrosse game that night. Freshman Jane Suttmeier, a friend of Urbina, filled in for Ostrowski.

Suttmeier said although the atmosphere at Bun's was a bit awkward between the other dates, she had a great time and was happy to see so many classmates participating in a great cause.

Because of the auction's success, Osei-Bonsu and Rafiki Wa Afrika have plans of holding another next year.

"I feel the event went extremely well and I heard feedback from other people which helped in drawing my conclusion that it all turned out almost perfect and we just had to work on a few more things to make it perfect for next year," said Osei-Bonsu.

Teammates forget the past and press full court

By Liza Bennet
Transcript Correspondent

Freshman Mary Corbett and Sarah McQuade were once rivals but now work together on the Ohio Wesleyan Women's Basketball team.

Corbett and McQuade went to competing High Schools in Ohio and the two became known for their rivalry due to their similar skill set, age, and talent.

Corbett and McQuade first met their junior year of High School at a basketball program where the two, much to spectator's surprise, became close friends.

"At first it was awkward because we knew who each other were but we became best friends after playing with each

other," Corbett said, "She is a reason I came to Ohio Wesleyan because I knew we both came from successful high school teams where we both had been very well coached and I liked the idea of being on the same team as her."

McQuade echoed Corbett's thoughts and feel the two work very well together.

"I think it makes us play better together because we both know each other's strength and weaknesses and what each other is going to do out on the court," McQuade said, "Our rivalry in high school doesn't affect us at all but to outsiders, I'm sure they think it's funny to see us playing together."

The Bishop's are in somewhat of a transitional year, their assistant coach for the

last four seasons, Stacey Reed, has now become their head coach and the young team is lead by mostly freshman and sophomores.

Freshman Caroline Welker, who was the top scorer in the team's December 31 game against Wittenberg with 18 points, believes the team is constantly improving the way they work together.

"We have been continually improving throughout the season, but we have still have been struggling to bring it all together in one game," Welker said.

McQuade believes the team's task to replace three leading scorers from last year is happening at a steady rate.

"If you just looked at our record, most would say we're

having a down year but were growing together. There are four freshman starting and a sophomore so we are very young," McQuade said.

Corbett also believes the team's transitional phase will pay off going into the end of the season.

"I think our performance this year has not been a direct reflection of all the talent and potential we have as a team," Corbett said, "We have gone through a lot this year as a team and I think our experience now will help us grow for the end of the season."

The Bishop's defeated Oberlin on Saturday 81-74 and their record currently is 8-13. The Bishops next home game is Wednesday against Wooster in the Branch Rickey Arena.

Weekly Public Safety Reports

--On Feb. 7, at 11:15 p.m., PS officers were dispatched to Thomson Hall on a welfare concern. The student was transported to Grady Hospital by Delaware EMS.

--On Feb. 8, at 11:45 p.m. Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity was referred to student conduct for an unregistered party following a routine safety check by Public Safety officers.

--On Feb. 8, 11:58 p.m., an OWU student was referred to student conduct for alcohol prohibition.

--On Feb. 9, 7:36 p.m., Public Safety officers were dispatched to Stuyvesant Hall on a report of several individuals attempting to push the portable toilet over. Upon arrival the perpetrators had left the scene after knocking the portable

toilet over. Investigation is ongoing.

--On Feb. 10 at 4:45 p.m., Public Safety dispatched to 20 Williams Drive on a welfare concern. Emergency transport was not required.

--On Feb. 10, at 11:10 p.m. a Bashford Hall resident was charged with possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

--On Feb. 10, 11:40 p.m., two Bashford Hall residents were referred to student conduct for alcohol prohibition.

--On Feb. 11, at 2:10 a.m., Public Safety and Delaware City Police responded to a security alarm at the Beeghly library. There were no signs of forced entry. A search of the premises failed to locate the cause of the alarm.

Fiji searches for founding fathers

By Brittany Wise
Transcript Correspondent

Four years after the doors of Phi Gamma Delta (Fiji) closed at Ohio Wesleyan, the fraternity has returned to restore the values it once held on campus.

During the mid-2000s Fiji's numbers started to decline, and their members were straying from the values of the fraternity. In 2008, the graduates decided to close the chapter.

They worked in partnership with the university, knowing they could return in the future and re-establish the chapter with a values-based recruitment effort, according to Brett Pytel and Josh Moore, representatives of the International Headquarters of Phi Gamma Delta.

After presenting to a Greek Life Expansion Committee, it was decided that Fiji would return to campus Spring of 2012.

With the help of Pytel and Moore, the chapter will choose men to be the founding fathers of the chapter. The men chosen will have the unique task and opportunity to build the foundation of OWU's reestablished Theta Deuteron chapter.

"The organizational structure, tone and presence at OWU will be determined by values, determination and motivation of each individual member," Pytel said. "They will be responsible for becoming fully contributing members throughout the OWU community."

The process of selecting the founding fathers will extend



Photos by Brittany Wise

Fiji representatives Josh Moore, left, and Brett Pytel, right, are spearheading the effort to reestablish an OWU chapter of the fraternity.

over six weeks.

During this period, interested men will have the opportunity to learn more about the organization, ask questions, hear about experiences from graduates and meet men that share the same interest of rejuvenating Fiji.

On March 8, the initial founding fathers will be chosen and pledged to the fraternity. The same evening a dessert reception called "Evening with the Fijis" will be held off campus.

"Everyone on campus will be invited to this formal event to help celebrate the return of Phi Gamma Delta to Ohio Wesleyan," Pytel said. "The Fraternity will introduce the new men, give away their scholarships, philanthropy money and thank the entire campus community for being such gracious hosts."

Because academic achievement is one of Fiji's values,

several academic-based scholarships will be available for students.

According to Moore, all the men who join Fiji and uphold at least a 3.0 GPA will receive a \$500 Academic Achievement Award. There will also be scholarships available to those who don't go through initiation.

"There is no commitment to join the organization or even participate in the recruitment process to be eligible to receive this scholarship," Moore said. "The graduates from the chapter wanted to show their commitment to having a strong relationship with the university with their return and give back to the community at the same time."

The next event will be an information session on Feb. 19 at 7 p.m.

Pytel said he was looking forward to reaching out to the OWU community and reaching out to individuals who

thought they wouldn't consider Greek life.

"Being a fraternity man is more than wearing a Fiji t-shirt," he said.

Fiji's sister sorority is Kappa Alpha Theta, which has an active chapter on campus.

Sophomore Sarah Hartzheim, a member of Theta, said she is excited to have the brother fraternity of her sorority on campus again.

"The Fiji recruiters have really impressed us by meeting with sorority chapters, coming to school events and being so enthusiastic about their recruitment," she said. "I hope this will encourage all students in Greek life to support school events and the other chapters. We (Theta) definitely plan to really get to know Fiji once they're back on campus."

The Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity has over 7,700 undergraduate members on 140 campuses throughout the U.S. and Canada.

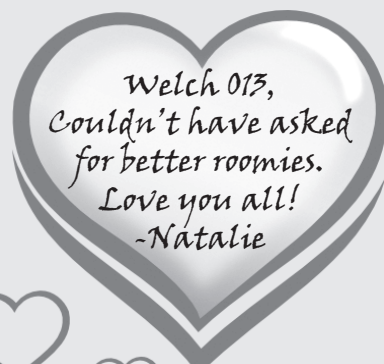
Other chapters in the region are located at the University of Toledo, Bowling Green State University, The Ohio State University, the University of Cincinnati, Case Western Reserve University and Michigan State University, to name a few.

The Theta chapter of Fiji at OWU was founded on Oct. 25, 1869. Notable alumni include Charles W. Fairbanks (1872), Cecil J. "Scoop" Wilkinson (1917), Dr. Norman Vincent Peale (1920), Bob Bauman (1953), Douglas Ditttrick (1955), Phil Meek (1959).

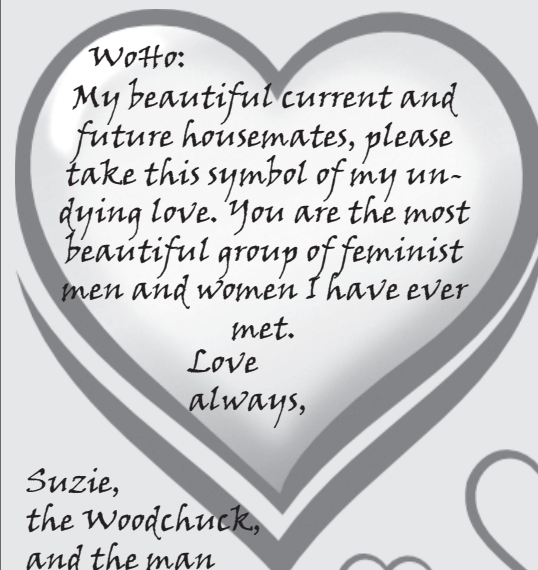
Transcript Valentines



To the best roommates ever, my wonderful Transcript Staff, and my lovely DG sisters.
Happy Valentine's Day!
-Marissa

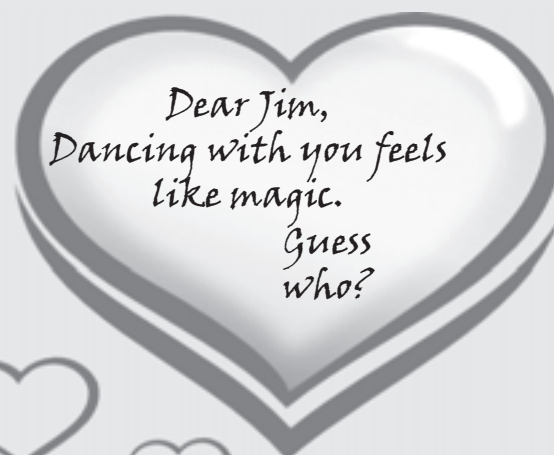


Welch 013,
Couldn't have asked for better roomies.
Love you all!
-Natalie



WotHo:
My beautiful current and future housemates, please take this symbol of my undying love. You are the most beautiful group of feminist men and women I have ever met.
Love always,

Suzie,
the Woodchuck,
and the man
in the basement



Dear Jim,
Dancing with you feels like magic.
Guess who?



Lois Lane,
I love you.
-Superman



Families are like fudge,
sweet and a little nutty.
IF House love.
-Rachel V.

Don't worry, Dickens isn't dead: Canonical author lives on at Beehive birthday party

By Margaret Bagnell
Transcript Correspondent

Ohio Wesleyan students and Delaware residents gathered on Feb. 7 at the Beehive Bookstore on S. Sandusky St. to celebrate the work of Victorian poet and novelist Charles Dickens on his 200th birthday.

The celebration was an all-day affair for Dickens fans, according to Chaplain Jon Powers. Beehive provided free cupcakes throughout the day.

The festivities culminated in the evening when locals gathered to sing "Happy Birthday" to Dickens and cut a cake in his honor.

Some celebrated by enthusiastically reading their favorite Dickens pieces.

Others, like OWU graduate Leanne Williams, dressed up in traditional costume representing the Victorian era.

"My life motto is when you have the opportunity to dress up, you should take it," she said.

The idea of a Dickens birthday celebration began with Powers's love of Dickens's work. "This began for me some weeks ago when I decided to re-read all of Dickens' work for fun, and then discovered that today was his 200th birthday," he said. "I spoke to Mel, the owner of Beehive, about the possibility of having a bit of a celebration



Photo by Margaret Bagnell

Chaplain Jon Powers presents the birthday cake for Charles Dickens at the Beehive Books celebration.

at Beehive for (the) campus and the community, and she thought it was a great idea, so we decided to do this, an open ended, informal birthday party with cake (and) open time for anyone who wanted to share their favorite readings."

Dr. Dennis Prindle, who read at the Beehive celebration, appreciates the modern

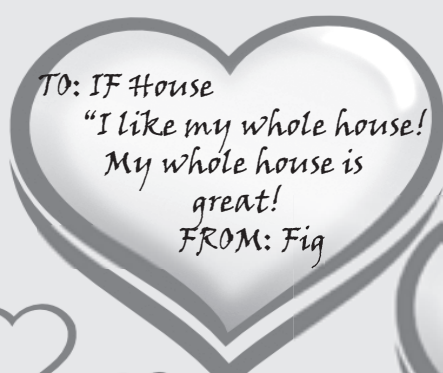
fascination with Dickens.

"What's so great about Dickens is that everything he wrote is online now and there are websites dedicated to Victorian life," he said. "What little Dickens didn't tell us about his life, his best friend later did."

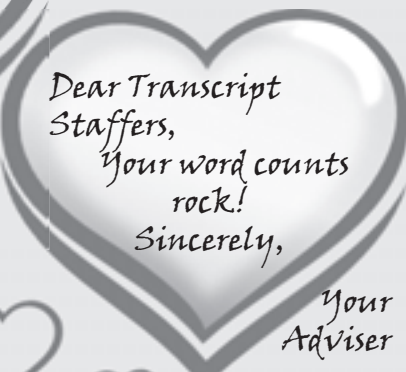
During one of the readings, the life of Dickens inspired

the group to look up his will, which they found supposedly listed exactly what he wanted at his funeral ceremony when he died.

Dickens is noted for his classic and memorable works such as "The Adventures of Oliver Twist," "A Tale of Two Cities" and "The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club."

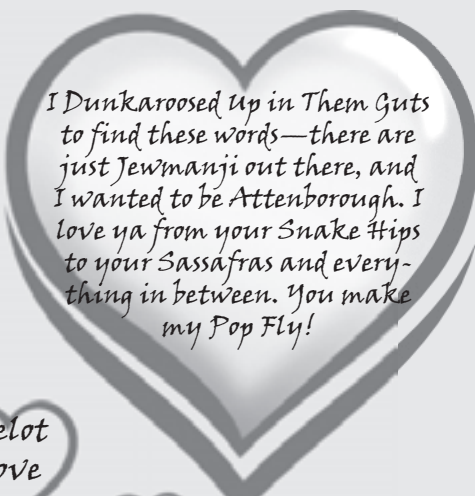


TO: IF House
"I like my whole house!
My whole house is great!"
FROM: Fig



Dear Transcript Staffers,
Your word counts rock!
Sincerely,
Your Adviser

Ocelot Love



I Dunkaroosed up in Them Guts to find these words—there are just Jewmanji out there, and I wanted to be Attenborough. I love ya from your Snake Hips to your Sassafras and everything in between. You make my Pop Fly!

Happy Valentine's Day

‘RIGHT PARTY, RIGHT TIME’

OWU gets into the Republican spirit

By Kathleen Dalton and Natalie Duleba
News Editor and Copy/Photo Editor

Spectators, state delegates, state chairs and political gurus sported cheese hats, plush corn cobs, red, white and blue face paint and American flags at the 2012 OWU Mock Convention Feb. 10 and 11.

Banners surrounded the balcony in Grey Chapel, each promoting a different state through clever sayings and decorations. Cardboard cutouts of Abraham Lincoln and Ronald Reagan joined those of current Republican presidential candidates Mitt Romney and Newt Gingrich.

The convention started Friday Feb. 10 at 4 p.m. and ended Saturday at 11:30 a.m. Participants were provided with dinner and musical entertainment from groups such as the OWTsiders, the Hayes High School Junior ROTC and OWU's Brass Ensemble.

Students, professors and alumnae alike milled about Grey Chapel cheering, booing, chatting and discussing political issues and candidates with unparalleled fervor.

The student-led convention allowed politically-minded students to discuss and show support for the political candidates and issues. The convention, a primarily friendly affair, promoted participation in American politics and allowed students to think about and view political issues through a different perspective than they

usually would.

"It's so interesting to vote a different way politically and find a way to support it," said senior Maren Oehl, the Oklahoma state chair.

Oehl announced her state as the "reddest state in the U.S." each time she submitted votes on behalf of her delegation during roll call votes.

Students were able to discuss controversial political issues they felt strongly about, such as gay marriage and the death penalty.

"States can propose an amendment and 75 people need to sign and then we can vote on it," said sophomore Rachel Vinciguerra, a delegate for Washington, D.C. "I think it's kind of fun."

The chapel was separated into sections according to states, and delegates from each state sat together. Security personnel guarded the stage where the organizers of the event, Tim Carney and Megan Hoffman sat. Each person who entered the event was asked to wear a credential and take it off upon departing from the convention.

Senior Chad Williams was one of the guards for the event, and spent the majority of his time guarding the stage. There were no large security threats but Williams still felt the need to be careful.

"Seeing people excited and dressed a little silly keeps you on your toes; it could get chaotic," said Williams.

Williams felt, however, that the mood of the event was

largely positive.

"Everyone's here to really get down to business," he said.

Junior Meredith Merklin echoed this sentiment in a statement to the entire convention.

"(There is) a lot of passion on both sides of the debate," she said.

An example of this was found in the debate on domestic policy, namely the use of marijuana in the United States. This debate, titled the "War on Drugs" featured debates by students from several different states. Each debater stated the opinion of their state and supported it with examples. These examples and opinions, in some cases, were ones the students themselves may not necessarily have agreed with. Arguments garnered boos, cheers and even laughter depending upon their content.

After debate on that plank of the Republican Party platform, the minority option replaced the original text, which moved to end the "War on Drugs" as the "official" stance for the Republican Party.

Senior Alex Bailey's statement that "(The Founding Fathers) founded this country on morality and we (the Republican Party) are God's chosen party," was met with an uproar.

A particularly controversial amendment proposed at the convention was "The Undead Protection Amendment," proposed by Puerto Rico's state chair Mark Esler, professor of politics and government.

The amendment stated,

"The party that supports the unborn should also support the undead."

This amendment was eventually passed, and many students participating believed it brought down the serious tone of the convention. Others, such as the Wisconsin delegation, followed the zombie route by submitting a vice presidential nomination form for "Zombie Ronald Reagan" on Saturday.

Ultimately, this nomination was not taken into consideration despite the fact that the required number of signatures was obtained.

"It is the opinion of the Chair that nominees should have a pulse," said Honorary Chair John Peterson.

Students took the mic to support nominees of their choice.

Up for presidential nomination was Mitt Romney, Jon Huntsmen, Rick Santorum and Ron Paul. Vice presidential nominations went to OWU senior Kate Raulin, OWU President Rock Jones, Condeleeza Rice, Stephen Colbert, Ron Paul, Jon Huntsman and Ashley Baiser, associate professor of politics and government.

Raulin was eventually disqualified from the race due to ineligibility—she is not old enough to run—and Jones voluntarily dropped out of the race in favor of OWU.

After much debate, the convention settled on Mitt Romney and Stephen Colbert for the Republican Presidential ticket.



Top: U.S. Representative Pat Tiberi speaks on the first day of the Mock Convention. Tiberi is currently the House Representative for Ohio's 12 congressional district and has been serving since 2001. An active Republican, Tiberi spoke on a variety of political topics.

Above: James Franklin, associate professor of politics and government takes the mic to voice his opinion on an issue under debate. Franklin was one of the faculty advisors who helped plan and put on Mock. He also acted as a delegate during the Convention.

Left: Participating State Chairs and Delegates mingle with each other during a break on the second day of the Convention.

Photos by Mark Schmitter

WCSA, continued from Page 1

"The previous one had a lot of things to get lost in," he said. "This is the bare bones of what we need, and we only want the information we need."

The committee recently granted People Regarding Individual Diversity Everywhere \$3,000 to fund a trip to the Midwest Bisexual, Lesbian, Gay, Transgender and Ally College Conference from Feb. 10-12.

PRIDE President Anthony Peddle said he thought the new form made the request process easier.

"It helped us a lot to make sure we allotted enough for each specific thing," he said.

Sam DeJarnett, vice-president of the Student Union on Black Awareness, disagreed.

"It's very tedious," DeJarnett said. "If you've never done it before it can be confusing."

The budget committee recently granted SUBA and Sisters United \$3,400 to fund a Feb. 25 event titled "Death of the Diva," which the two organizations are hosting in conjunction with the Women's House; the House of Black Culture; Black Men of the Future; and the women's and gender studies and theatre and dance departments.

"Basically, you have to leave no stone unturned," said Alexis Williams, former Sisters United vice-president.

In addition to the form, organizations wanting WCSA money must make a presentation of their request before the budget committee to decide if they will receive funding.

Morris said the primary purpose of the presentations is to thoroughly inform the committee about what it will be funding.

"If we're unclear on something, instead of granting them zero dollars we'll ask them to

come back," he said.

Peddle said his presentation was casual and easy.

"We just presented the basic conference necessities, what we want[ed] to do at this conference and what we hope[d] to gain from it," Peddle said. "It was just an informal conversation so they could learn more about it and make a better-educated decision."

DeJarnett said her recent presentation for "Death of the Diva" went smoothly, but she has experienced difficulty with procuring funds in the past, especially with regard to SUBA's annual Step Show.

"Since the beginning of Step Show there's always been some difficulty," DeJarnett said. "I don't know whether it's the concept that's difficult to grasp or just the allocation of funds in general, but there's always some miscommunication. I find it weird that it was easy to get

\$3,400 from WCSA, but these organizations [SUBA, HBC, Sisters United, BMF] struggle all the time."

In addition to ad hoc presentations for specific events, student organizations are now required to make annual funding presentations each semester, a process previously undertaken only once a year.

Peddle said these proffers do not require the specificity of those for single events.

"The ad hoc budgets are more specific and itemized, whereas the general budgets are more generalized and overviews of events," Peddle said.

Morris said the committee uses the annual allocations they offer to organizations as a guide when hearing ad hoc proposals.

"If a club is consistently only doing supplemental funding, then we're like, 'This club's not really on the ball,'" he said.



Photo of what Public Safety Officer John Ciochetty says is a spirit in Elliot Hall.

Ghosts haunt campus, Ciochetty says

By Gabriela Melgar
Transcript Reporter

"Everyone loves a ghost story," said Public Safety Officer John Ciochetty, author of two books, "The Ghosts of Stuyvesant Hall and Beyond Vol.1," and "Ghosts of Historic Delaware, Ohio."

Ciochetty is known throughout OWU for his ghost expertise and captivating tales. Each year he leads freshman on the "Ghost Tour," taking the new students around the haunted parts of campus and presenting electronic voice phenomenon recordings as well as photos of spirits.

Students seem to have a rising interest in the "Ghost Tour." Ciochetty has had as many as 200 attendees and says that it continues to grow each year.

Ciochetty began working at OWU in 2001, but his fascination with ghosts started much earlier in life at the age of four. When he lived in West Virginia, Ciochetty observed what he calls an "apparition," or a spirit.

"I ran to my parents in the middle of the night and turned around to see in the other room a spirit run through my bedroom wall through the other wall across the room," he said.

On his high school graduation night, Ciochetty camped out with friends at the Old Pioneer Cemetery in Belpre, Ohio in search of ghostly encounters.

He brought a tape recorder and called out to the graves, "Hey, is anyone there?"

When he returned home, Ciochetty said he heard a response from a "gutter-voiced" male in the recording replying, "Hello."

Ciochetty continued to experience paranormal encounters when he joined the army in Fort Bliss, Texas. During his time there, Ciochetty stayed in a housing complex above an old battle ground where the Mexican-American War was

fought.

He said he remembers doing laundry with some peers and coming back to find their clothes soaking wet on top of the dryer. Ciochetty said he recalls hearing the lids clanging up and down as well as footsteps at the end of the hall. He said that it was "common knowledge" the place was haunted.

"You always felt like you were being watched," he said.

After obtaining his graduate degree in Criminal Justice at Marshall University, he was called back to the army reserve, serving as a platoon leader in Kentucky.

When Ciochetty started working at OWU, he began to hear tales of campus ghosts from students, staff and alumni. He also felt that "something was out of kilter" here.

One of the tales Ciochetty is familiar with is that of the ghost of Elliot Hall. Elliot Hall was first constructed in 1833 as a luxurious resort called the "Mansion House Hotel."

It is believed that a young woman named Laura was murdered at the resort. Ciochetty says that Laura has been witnessed on the third floor balcony, but that he has not personally seen her.

A ghost that Ciochetty said he has personally experienced is that of a previous OWU student, Scotty.

Scotty resides in the Chaplepear Drama Center and now "pulls pranks" on the Drama Crew, fiddling with equipment and lights.

"Sometimes I go in there, turn the light on, go back down the hallway and it's off," says Ciochetty.

Ciochetty said his most striking experience with a ghost on campus was "Sean," the spirit of a thirteen-year-old boy in Gray Chapel who Ciochetty said died "goofing off on the top floor" of the building.

"Sean" is "what we call him," Ciochetty said. During

an investigation, Ciochetty recorded the voice of Sean. "From what I can remember, Sean said, 'There's a bad spirit, run!'"

Many of the buildings at OWU seem to have their personal ghosts. Sanborn Hall, Hayes, Welch, Ham-wil, University Hall, Mowry Center, Edwards and Beeghly Library are just some of the buildings believed by Ciochetty and others to be haunted.

Of the haunted buildings of OWU, the most well-known is Stuyvesant Hall, which is currently being renovated. Stuy provided much of the material for Ciochetty's book, "The Ghosts of Stuyvesant Hall and Beyond Vol. 1"

He said he supports the renovation of Stuyvesant Hall.

He said he thinks it will be gorgeous when it is done and he said he has "no doubt" Stuy will continue to be haunted even after its new renovation.

When asked about why our campus is haunted, Ciochetty replied, "I don't know exactly, but (it) could be a combination of things."

He said he believes such factors to be "tragic events" that have happened here, and our location above old "Indian land," upon which much violence occurred.

Ciochetty said he believes ghost experiences on campus happen when they're, "unexpected," and can occur at "any time."

"I don't go looking for them," Ciochetty says, although he sometimes partakes in paranormal investigations, often when they are requested.

He is called in when places are thought to be haunted, whether a home or a public building.

When Ciochetty takes on an investigation, he said he first gathers the details people come to him with, and then looks for ways to "debunk" their ghost theories with other possible explanations.

He calls himself a "skept-



Photo By Gabriela Melgar
Public Safety officer John Ciochetty talks about the ghosts at OWU.

tic," needing for things to be proven.

When Ciochetty finds something worth investigating, he brings tools such as electromagnetic meters, motion sensors, a digital camera, a recorder and a laser grid to record spirits. Ciochetty has managed to put in print the unique paranormal experiences he has found both at OWU and in Delaware.

"The main reason I write the books is because I'd hear all these stories and never saw them in print," he says.

His two books, "The Ghosts of Stuyvesant Hall and Beyond Vol.1," and "Ghosts of Historic Delaware, Ohio" are sold in Barnes and Noble, and other book stores around the nation as well as internationally.

Ciochetty has been on local and national radio stations, book signings and is currently working on his third book about the ghosts of Delaware County. He plans to use some of the proceeds from his second book as a donation to Ohio Wesleyan.

"It is my desire to give something back," Ciochetty said.

Ciochetty's books can also be found at Beehive Books. "Ghosts of Historic Delaware Ohio" is due to appear in e-book form in the near future.

Students celebrate lessons learned through teamwork

By Cara Foley
Transcript Reporter

Nathan Barnett

Senior Nathan Barnett has been on the men's lacrosse team for the past four years.

An Ohio native, Barnett is from Upper Arlington and has played on a lacrosse team throughout his high school career.

Standing tall at 6'0" and weighing in at 185, Barnett plays longpole midfield and co-captains the OWU men's lacrosse team this spring with senior Dave Walter and juniors Colin Short and Patrick Bassett. Barnett said he has played sports as long as he can remember.

"I played soccer, basketball and baseball, but once I got to middle school and started playing sports for school, I switched to football, basketball and lacrosse."

Barnett said he was unsure whether he wanted to continue playing lacrosse after high school until his senior year.

"I had a good year and my team won the state championship," he said. "One of our assistant coaches was also the assistant coach at OWU and he was the biggest influence on me coming here."

He said the first played lacrosse was in seventh grade.

"The first game I ever played I think I had four penalties and spent most of the game in the penalty box because I didn't understand the rules of where I was allowed to hit people," said Barnett.

He said he thinks being a collegiate athlete helps him with nutrition and diet because it forces him to keep in shape and eat healthy.

"If I don't eat the right kind of food or eat enough I feel tired or sluggish at practice," he said. "It also forces me to stay in shape even in the off season, because I know if I try to start a season in bad shape I am much more prone to injury."

Barnett said there is definitely more of a strain getting work done during the season, but over the course of his four years at OWU, he said he feels he has learned to balance schoolwork and playing a sport very well.

"I think the most important thing I do that helps me get my work done is I utilize my time during the day in between classes to get a lot of my work done," Barnett said. "This makes my nights after practice much less stressful because I can get dinner and relax instead of doing homework every night."

Barnett said the ultimate

goal for any athlete is to win whatever championship they are playing for.

"With that being said, my ultimate goal in lacrosse is to win the Division III National Championship this year," he said.

Barnett has lettered each year and last year he was on second team all NCAC long-pole midfielder.

He was also recognized as one of OWU's top 50 Student Athletes last year.

Ryan McMahon

Freshman Ryan McMahon from Springfield, Virginia will begin his OWU lacrosse career this spring. McMahon is 5'10 and 200 pounds. He said he wasn't always crazy about sports while growing up.

"I think I'm about the only kid to never play pee-wee football, soccer, baseball or basketball," he said. "Growing up all I did was swim competitively until I started playing lacrosse in fifth grade."

McMahon said the reason he wanted to play lacrosse was to be part of a team.

"Being part of something greater than yourself is a pretty unique experience," said McMahon. "Plus, there's no feeling like game day."

McMahon will join the team as goalie.

"The first time I ever played lacrosse was in fifth grade and I was a midfielder," he said. "I was pretty nervous because I had never played in an organized game before."

McMahon said being part of a team has taught him nothing is more important than the teammate to your left and right.

"When one player struggles, we all struggle," he said. "You have to totally forget about yourself and work your hardest for the betterment of the team."

"I came to OWU for the great education it has to offer and playing lacrosse was just an added bonus," he said.

McMahon said he wanted to play lacrosse for OWU because Coach Plantholt, Coach Fiorentino, and Coach Bulus have the program headed in the right direction.

"My ultimate goal for my lacrosse career at OWU is to win the NCAC all four years and to win a national championship," he said.

McMahon said team camaraderie team is special.

"The freshman and upperclassmen are a pretty close-knit group of kids," McMahon said. "They won't admit it, but they love the rats this year."

Students want changes in dining

By Sophie Crispin
Transcript Reporter

Bishops can expect several new dining alternatives on campus beginning next year, as WCSA and Chartwells work to expand options.

According to junior Anthony McGuire, WCSA President, students and staff can expect extensive changes to campus dining.

"They want to expand the food court in Ham-Wil, add a fourth register, and put in a salad bar," McGuire said. "They're also planning to bring in new options like Papa John's," he said.

Other projects include expanding the Thomson store to almost twice its current size. This expansion would be done by building outward into the

current lobby area in front of the store. Additionally, the newly-renovated Stuyvesant Hall will include a late-night food option. This would be similar to Trattoria Pizza, currently located in Welch Hall. More options are important to students, especially those with dietary restrictions, like sophomore Rachel Vinciguerra.

"I have celiac disease, which means that if I eat gluten I don't get any of the nutrients and I get sick," Vinciguerra said. "I feel sick for a few weeks afterward while my body tries to process it."

She said she would like to have more choices available for students with allergies. These changes have been happening. Vinciguerra said there are more options since her freshman year.

"I think they've gotten better; the bakery now has gluten-free cookies, for example," she said. "But I still have to eat a lot of pre-packaged, microwaveable meals in Ham-Wil."

Junior Stephanie VanVliet would like to have cheaper options and longer hours.

"As far as college dining goes, we have pretty good choices, but I think it's too expensive," VanVliet said. "I feel like it's more than I would pay for food if I lived in an apartment. I would like to see coffee on the residential side of campus, and dining options on weekends before 11 A.M. "I feel like I can't start my day until the afternoon because I'm waiting to eat," she said.

Many of these concerns are being addressed by WCSA and Chartwells.

CONDOM, continued from Page 1

Junior Erinn Colemanares said she got on board with the fundraiser to promote awareness.

Sitting at the Condomgrams booth in HamWill on Monday, Colemanares tried getting the attention of passing students.

"Condomgrams! Fifty cents to send to friend. No judgment!" she said.

The students continued walking and Colemanares sighed.

"A lot of people don't even acknowledge our presence here when selling Condomgrams," Colmenares said.

"But condoms are good! We're college students who love sex and not babies."

Sitting next to her was senior Michael Raszmann, who nodded his head in agree-

ment.

"Safe sex is great sex," said Raszmann, a resident of P&J.

Raszmann says that the fundraiser comes at an opportune time, being held during the Valentine's Day season, but that it did not significantly influence the fundraiser.

"We would have definitely done this anyway, but we just thought it'd be an especially good motivator," he said. "Abby's been involved with (these types) of causes since her freshman year."

Raszmann said the two houses will hold fundraisers similar to Condomgrams again, fundraisers Colemanares said she will be sure to encourage.

"We're using condoms to promote a good cause as well as safe sex, to put the empha-

sis out there," said Colemanares. "That's what (HoT) is all about--yes, I want to have safe sex, and I want others to as well."

Godfrey said she is, and always has been, very interested in issues of sexual and reproductive health both domestically and internationally.

She said she hopes to be doing work surrounding issues like these for the rest of her life.

"It is very important to me that people are aware of, and have access to the information and materials they need to have healthy and positive sex lives," she said. "Like it or not people have sex; they may as well be protecting themselves and having fun, so why not support a great cause while they are at it?"

Opinion

Quote of the Week: "Everyone loves a good ghost story... The main reason I write the books is I'd hear all these stories and never saw them in print."
--Officer Chichetty, author of The Ghost of Stuyvescent Hall and Beyond Vo. 1 and Ghost of Historic Delaware, Ohio

Mock teaches students to embrace politics

This past weekend I participated in an event that gave equal rights to the Undead and produced a nominating ticket of Mitt Romney for President and Steven Colbert for Vice President of the United States. I witnessed heated arguments, passionate outbursts and many political jokes.

You guessed right; I was at OWU's historic Mock Convention.

I participated as a delegate for Missouri and found the experience to be one of the best yet for me at OWU. Through actually acting out the motions of a real convention, I learned first-hand how American political parties operate.

Before Mock Convention, I was interested, but had no idea how party platforms were decided upon. A mere two days later, I feel like I have a firm grasp on how it is done.

I also found myself fascinated with the art of negotiating for support within the ranks of a party itself.

Being a Republican, I found the convention especially interesting because I was able to put myself in the shoes of my party's delegates during this critical presidential election year and to hear all different arguments regarding my party's stances. It was interesting to see how diverse peoples' opinions could be about any given topic. I found it exhilarating to argue my stance on certain issues and to hear the gavel decide the verdict.

What seemed to be most impressive to those around me and to myself was the power of a single signature to make or break a petition. No matter how good an idea was, it could never even be voted on if it did not receive enough signatures of support in the preliminary proposal round.

I was a little skeptical when people said Mock Convention was a pivotal moment in their lives, drawing them to politics, but I now understand exactly what they meant. I've always been interested in government, which explains my double majoring in P&G along with journalism, but the convention truly re-affirmed my love of politics. By the end of Friday night, I had made myself a promise that I would one day take part in a National Republican Convention and make a difference in my parties' platform.

I found the light-hearted moments of nominating Rock Jones for president and proposing a digital war with China a good way to break up the tension and keep the convention not only educational, but fun as well. It truly was a unique experience to be able to interact with the rest of OWU on such a learning-conducive and personal level.

During the convention, I had the privilege of sitting by three OWU alumni who were friends in college and decided to come back for this event together. They are all now practicing law and I had fun interacting with them and hearing about how they used to spend their time at OWU.

They proposed an amendment to rename New Mexico to Better Mexico and we had a lot of fun advocating their cause throughout the convention. They also provided me with some useful insight about the pursuit of political activism after OWU, giving me some good advice for the future.

After experiencing it, I can honestly say the Mock Convention is truly a once in a college-life-time experience and I hope that everyone enjoyed it as much as I did.

Marissa Alfano
 Editor-in-Chief

Chartwells sacrifices for OWU: Student values quantity over quality in food choices

By Kelsey King
 Transcript Reporter

The Hamilton-Williams Food Court serves lunch to over 650 students every week-day.

Shortly after noon, people flood into the court, swiping sandwiches, sushi, and drinks. The cashiers and servers are awash with business until, an hour later, all students have trickled out.

Yet students' most frequent complaint is not about the Food Court's flow or space, but the amount of variety which it offers.

Simply looking at Chartwells' menus can refute the notion that employees always serve the same food.

Most dishes move on a 17 day cycle, appearing infrequently on the serving line. Cooks prepare sushi, sandwich

stackers and varying items at the salad bar. And the static grill items are served for a reason: the campus' best-selling items are french fries, chicken fingers, and pizza.

Does the lunch-time rush cloud perception? Or do students only remember meals that look appetizing?

I have heard many students grumble about food presentation, taste, and texture. The pizza is too greasy, they say. Rice too dry, ravioli tasteless.

Campus food may not look or smell tantalizing, but students gain more from small sacrifices in taste.

Chartwells chose convenience over food quality, a decision which often goes unappreciated.

Ohio Wesleyan is unique in that it offers 10 different dining locations, from a pizzeria to a bakery. Nearby colleges

do not offer nearly as many options.

Denison only has four locations, and Kenyon only one.

Imagine, in this cold weather, trekking to Ham-Will for every meal. No Smith buffets, Thomson grocery shopping, or Science Center coffee.

Chartwells keeps these many locations open at its own loss; to run efficiently, they should only maintain four stations.

It is possible the decreased food quality allows the school to continue funding six more dining locations than logical.

To reduce spending, Ohio Wesleyan would have to close a few locations.

How would the school decide which places to close?

Putting the choices to a vote might prove unfruitful, as each store provides convenience for certain professors, and majors.

Another complaint which students voice is about food pricing.

Yet Chartwells takes losses for the students in this area as well.

In the last year, inflation has increased food prices by 4.47 percent.

Yet OWU has only increased student food prices by 3%, saving students approximately 30 cents a day.

While the savings might seem insignificant, the implications are important.

The school could, if it wished, burden students by basing prices solely on the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

But the school avoided such actions, saving students money.

Personally, I value convenience over taste. So, on the whole, I am very thankful for Chartwells and their services.

Liberal students make mockery of GOP convention last Saturday

By Ariel Kolman
 Guest Editorialist

Support for abortion, same-sex marriage, withdrawal of American troops from foreign bases, and amnesty (possibility of citizenship and federal benefits) for illegal immigrants all made it onto Mock Convention 2012's Republican platform.

What ought to have been Ohio Wesleyan's genuine reproduction of the upcoming Republican National Convention devolved into a mockery of the Republican Party, featuring the passage of truly laughable amendments that literally reversed the GOP's stance on just about everything overnight, a feat that would put any Democratic politician to shame.

From economic issues to foreign policy, certain Mock participants zealously advo-

"Mock Convention is supposed to be an exercise for those with a genuine interest in American electoral politics, with some fun elements to boot."

cated their own opinions over what their respective states would have actually pushed for.

It was appalling, at best, to see delegations from Southern states give emotionally charged speeches about the merits of allowing women to choose abortion, as if this argument could sway life-minded conservatives.

One of Mock's headlining 'achievements' was the nomination of comedian and Democrat Stephen Colbert for the

Republican vice presidential ticket. Rather than voting for a likely Republican candidate, fellow participants elected the eminent Flaming Sword of Justice-wielder in a bid to do no more than have themselves featured in a segment on his show.

Mock Convention is supposed to be an exercise for those with a genuine interest in American electoral politics, with some fun elements to boot.

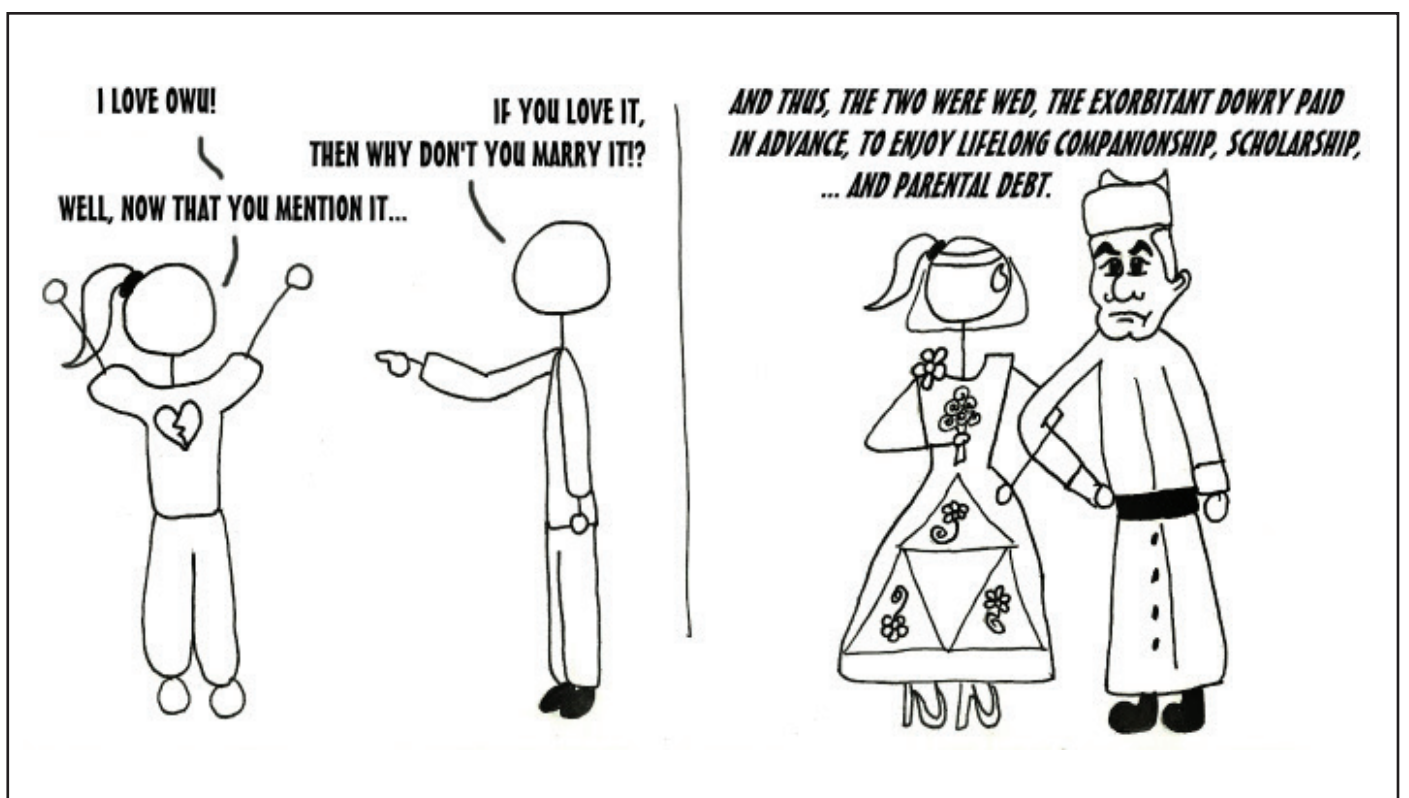
The remarkable intransi-

gence of those who had their own agendas in mind was not only in poor taste, but detrimental to the experience of those who earnestly wanted to participate in a setup that was artificial yet conducive to constructive, educational debate.

I'm not asking for people to betray their conscience. I understand how difficult it is to promote viewpoints, even in a fictitious setting, one might consider heinously unjust and incompatible with modern society.

The entire point of Mock, however, is to act like someone who sincerely holds such views. It is an educational experience, not a soapbox.

Had unwaveringly liberal and/or wisecracking students not ruined the integrity of Mock Convention by at least trying to play Republican for a night, it could have been so much better.



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 ...To report, gather and interpret the news in a thorough manner which empowers all members of the OWU community and promotes a fair and open discussion.
 ...To maintain an open forum for discussion of campus issues and other pertinent matters.
 ...To provide students with journalistic experience while educating them in the procedures of a working newspaper.
 ...To practice professional journalism.

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The Transcript welcomes and encourages letters to the editor as well as press releases and story ideas.

All letters to the editor must be accompanied by the writer's contact information for verification. Letters may be edited for grammar and defamatory or obscene material. Please email letters or ideas to owunews@owu.edu or delivered to the Department of Journalism, Phillips 114.

Before submitting story ideas or press releases, please consider how the potential story pertains to the Transcript's audience and include that in your submission.

The views expressed in letters, columns and cartoons are the opinions of the writers and artists and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Journalism or the university.

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Arts & Entertainment

Guest choreographer brings edge to Orchesis

By Alex Hooper
Transcript Reporter

Orchesis dancers learned not only new techniques, but a new appreciation for the art of dance from alumna Kristen Jeppsen Groves, who spent a week guest choreographing.

According to the OWU website, Orchesis is the annual contemporary dance concert. The student dance company showcases the works of student choreographers along with works by faculty and guest choreographers. This year, 23 students will present 12 dances exploring a diverse range of themes.

"The concert represents the rich history of dance at OWU and opens a new chapter as talented students perform lively, energetic, thought-provoking, and always entertaining."

Marin Leggat is in her first year as assistant director of dance and artistic director of Orchesis. Leggat said she wanted to bring something different to the showcase this year.

As a new face to the OWU committee, Leggat brought in a guest choreographer to assist with one of the dances for the show. Groves is currently working as an independent artist in Italy as well as directing "Artist, Interrupted" a non-profit, art collective that focuses on supporting female artists who balance family and art life.

Leggat said Groves' love and appreciation for dance was what inspired her to bring the alumna back to campus.

"Kristen (Groves) is one of my former high school students," she said. "We laugh at this now, but at the time, she was pretty closed-minded about modern dance. Having been studio-trained, Kristen really only understood dance as a competitive sport, not necessarily as an art form. When she went to college, she ended up falling in love with artistic dance."

Leggat said she hoped Groves' presence would inspire students.

"I felt this would be a fabulous opportunity for OWU dancers," Leggat said. "Many of whom have had a dance background similar to Kristen's, to see how their studio training can be valued and also expanded to find a unique voice as a dance artist."



Kristina Jeppsen Groves, international guest choreographer for Orchesis, poses on a city street

Groves' worked intensely with a cast of eight dancers during the first week of this semester, (Jan 16-21). From Mon-Sat, dancers rehearsed with Groves daily for three hours. She directed improvisational scores, taught choreography, and trained the dancers how to perform her particular style.

"Most viewers of my style have called it fierce, physical, complex, and athletic choreography," Groves said. "My dancing style is a fusion of precision and isolation with traditional modern dance technique. I have always loved to challenge my physical level as a dancer and most of my teaching and choreography is focused on developing athlete-artists."

Grove said her choreography embodies more than just an art form, but a

gateway for political and social issues.

"Dance is about expressing ideas," she said. "Opinions, and narratives that can influence audiences to think more carefully about complex situations. Most of my work has a political focus; I love to choreograph socially-relevant work. To me, dance is advocacy, dance is a debate, and dance is persuasion."

Leggat said students were excited at this new perspective on dance but were also creatively and physically challenged.

"Kristen (Groves) put everything together during the week," she said. "By the end of their last rehearsal, the cast was sore, but very excited to be closing the concert with this high-energy piece."

Both Leggat and Groves are confi-

dent and enthusiastic about the showcase. Groves said she hopes she can bring something new to not only Orchesis but the dance program.

"Any strong dance program needs exposure to lots of different styles of movement and different perspectives on approaching dance training," she said. "My goal was to help the students bring together a strong conceptual idea with strong choreography and movement vocabulary. My movement style is unique in terms of its physical complexity and I wanted to give the students a chance to really push the limits of their physical abilities."

"Orchesis 2012" will be held at 8 p.m. March 2 and March 3 in Chappellear Drama Center.

Poetry reminds us to live intensely

By Jordan Ahmed
Transcript Correspondent

Anthony Zerbe, through his performance of "It's All Done with Mirrors," encouraged his audience last Friday to "live deeply."

"It's All Done with Mirrors" is a performance of a portion of poet E. E. Cummings' work—both poetry and prose.

This year it was part of the theatre department's Performing Arts Series.

In the talkback after the show, Zerbe said he strung the different poems and prose together to inundate his audience with Cummings' imagery, without a clear narrative.

Having read a lot of E. E. Cummings' poetry, I appreciated Zerbe's attempt to recreate the specific and unique feeling of Cummings' poetry. Zerbe, in pointing out one of Cummings' lines, "Damn everything but the circus," demonstrated a main theme of his show.

With a set of balloons and an occasional circus music track, he highlighted some of the more nonsensical elements of Cummings' work.

In focusing on an inundation of images and feelings, Zerbe sometimes lost his audience. Switching between poems as different as "may i feel said he" and "Humanity i love you," Zerbe achieved two different effects from performing such varying work without much transition: he gave a large sampling of Cummings' work, but the poems and prose sections lost a lot of their individual impact.

Despite some of the more confusing aspects of Zerbe's performance, he was able to play the varying characters of Cummings' poetry with ease and good humor.

He performed "may i feel said he" particularly well, establishing two distinct characters and capturing the audience in that moment.

It was refreshing to hear from someone established in the world of acting.

Zerbe told the audience how he loved his life because he lived in the moment.

Bringing this aspect of Cummings' life to the stage was a great reminder for me to enjoy the present.

Babbling Bishops take improv to a new level

By Suzanne Samin
A&E Editor

Ohio Wesleyan's improvisational comedy troupe, The Babbling Bishops, knows the business of being funny is more than just funny business.

After their recent trip to Chicago to hone their skills through improv workshops, the black t-shirt clad and barefoot "Babblers" are gearing up to put their new knowledge to practice.

Junior Andrew Rossi, also known by his troupe-given name "Attenborough," explains that the Babblers' annual trip focuses mainly on strengthening the skills of the troupe.

"Chicago is college for the Bishops," said Rossi. "We go to be critiqued, to learn new methods of improv and to refine our form both individually and as a group."

A fellow member, junior David "Pop Fly" Reitan, elaborated a little on what these workshops involve.

"While we were in Chicago we took workshops at the Improv Olympic Theater (iO)," Reitan said. "This is, I believe, our third or fourth consecutive year that we have been taking lessons there."

"We were under the instruction of Greg Hess, a guy who's been in the biz for about 10-12 years and is part of two groups at iO, one of which, The Cook County Social Club, is revered as the best improv group in Chicago."

In these workshops, the Babblers focused on their dynamic and how to better interact on stage.

"One of the big things we



From left to right: Senior David Ordosch, junior Dave Winnyk, senior Brock Schludecker, sophomore Gus Wood and junior Andrew Rossi walk back from Chicago's Field Museum.

worked on was reacting to and building with our scene partners, and not stepping on stage with a rigid plan of how the scene will go," said senior Brock "Snake Hips" Schludecker.

The Babblers hope what they have learned from their workshops will allow them to better fulfill their purpose on campus. Rossi explained that the Babbling Bishops are fun; they give the campus a regular dose of original, improvised comedy.

He said they exist to entertain the campus and to ensure the audience has as

much fun watching the shows as they do performing and practicing.

Senior David "Jumanji Schenberg" Ordosch explained he had tried out for the Babblers during his freshman year, after attending the workshops they put on for new students. He enjoyed himself greatly, and wanted to join the troupe.

After not being admitted the first time he auditioned, he was inspired to work hard on his improv skills. He then came back the next year for auditions and made the troupe.

Reitan expressed similar

sentiments, and said he was impressed that people his age were able to get up on stage and do something like improv. After seeing the first show of the semester, he was hooked, and went to every show there afterwards.

At the end of the year, after the senior show, he made a pact with his friend to audition the next year.

The troupe strives to bring not only humor to campus, but also a stress relieving activity.

Junior Dave "Dunkaroos" Winnyk said the Babbling Bishops bring a "pressure release valve of humor" to the

stressful college climate.

The comedy, however, does not end on the stage. Many of the Babblers have a deep attachment to comedy and what they do.

"Ever since I was a youngster, I loved comedy," Winnyk said.

"From when I was super little, walking around asking grownups 'ya wanna hear a joke,' to memorizing my favorite stand-up routines to impress my high school peers, I love to make people laugh... I think comedy and laughter keep us from getting too down on what can a lot of times be a cruel, awkward, and uncomfortable world."

Reitan explained that the Babblers are more than just an activity to him; they also connect on an emotional level.

"The most rewarding part of this experience is that I get to spend a couple hours a week with some of the most creative, fun, caring, quick-witted people I've ever met, that I've ever loved," he said.

"I will be hard-pressed to find some other group like this one. In some ways I hope I don't, in some ways I hope I do. To be a Babblers is to be part of 20-year history that is exclusive to OWU. I find that to be one of the most special things about my life to date."

Overall, OWU's improv comedy troupe is very dedicated to their work.

Their desire to bring humor to campus, coupled with their drive to maintain continued excellence in their performances, makes them a deeply committed and tight-knit entertainment group on campus.

The Transcript is interested in hearing about up and coming artists, musicians and dancers. If you know someone you would like to see featured on the A&E page, email your story idea to ownews@owu.edu.

Bishops Sports

Men's basketball loses to Wooster, remains positive

By **Tim Alford**
Transcript Reporter

The Ohio Wesleyan men's basketball team gave up a lead at half and lost a close game to Wooster on Wednesday night. The final score of the game was 54-50.

Turnovers and missed shots plagued the Bishops in the second half, as the team was out-scored 27-13.

The Bishops led the game up until 4:22 was left on the clock. Wooster tied the game there 45-45. Wooster continued making shots and took the lead by 2 points with 3:05 left in the game.

OWU kept the game within reach, as they were down 53-50 with 10.5 seconds left. Junior point guard Andy Winters drew contact and missed a three-pointer in the final seconds, but no foul was called.

"We were trying to create a mismatch for Wooster and find the best play to make a 3 and tie the game," Winters said.

OWU made one last at-

tempt at athletic superiority and fouled Wooster with 1.8 seconds left. Wooster, however scored one of the foul shots to seal the victory.

The Bishops jumped out ahead of Wooster in the first half to gain a 10 point lead at halftime.

Wooster was able to chip away at the lead all second half while keeping OWU from scoring.

"Once we get a lead, we do not need to play the score," Winters said. "We need to continue to play our game which is what got us the lead in the beginning."

Wooster's defense was also able to force the Bishops to take difficult shots in the final seconds of the shot clock. Coach Mike DeWitt said he had to give credit to Wooster for picking up their defense.

"They were consistently switching screens and we were not able to read it quickly enough to get the shots that we wanted," Junior forward Greg White said.



Photo by Tim Alford
Junior guard Eric Easley (right) drives to the basket as sophomore center Reuel Rogers (left) fights to get open. Rogers finished the game as the Bishops' second highest scorer with 12 points. This was the players' last game of the season.

OWU softball team hopes to repeat success this season



Photo by Sarah Blake
Senior Abby Walsh bats against Kenyon College during the softball team's regular season last spring. The Bishops' first game is on March 12.

By **Heather Kuch**
Transcript Reporter

The OWU women's softball team will be heading into their season hoping they can match the success of last year.

Last season, the Bishops finished with a 23-14 record overall and a conference record of 11-3. The Bishops tied for second place in the North Coast Athletic Conference with Hiram.

Ohio Wesleyan University will once again play under the leadership of head coach Cassie Cunningham. This will be her sixth season as head softball coach at OWU. Last season Cunningham was named NCAC Coach of the

Year by her colleagues, the second time she has received that honor.

There will be twelve players returning to the squad from last year and there are six freshmen that will be joining the team this season.

Senior Abby Walsh said that the closeness of the team will help them to perform well as a whole.

"In term(s) of this coming season, I think we are in a better position than we've ever been in," Walsh said. "Looking at our team you would not be able to tell the difference between the under and upper classmen, which is rare on a lot of teams. It's this cohesiveness that allows us to communicate so well and be success-

ful in games."

The team has been described by their classmates as being one of the closest teams on campus because they are always seen together outside of practice and competition.

"I think it's exciting that other people describe us as being one of the closest teams on campus, because I think many of us actually feel that way," Walsh said.

"Coming into this program we have all been a part of countless other softball teams, but we continually say that the closeness felt on this team is unlike that of any other team we've been on. I think that's a huge testament to the all the hard work we put into supporting ourselves on and off

the field, which puts us in an excellent position to be successful."

The Bishops will open their non-conference season with their annual trip to Florida. OWU will play ten games against teams from around the country.

The Bishops are hoping to match last year's success (they were 9-1).

"We are all looking forward to Florida," Walsh said. "The best part, in my opinion, is just the fact that we get to spend a whole week with each other playing a game we love. It's exciting to just be able to totally commit yourself to something without having to worry about everything else that is going on."

Baseballers train hard to increase win record

By **Eric Tift**
Managing Editor

With the first pitch of the Battling Bishop's 2012 baseball season just two weeks away, the team has been training tirelessly in the off season to have a successful showing.

Last season the Battling Bishops went 25-16, a winning record that Head Coach Tyler Mott hopes to increase this year.

"We will be just as good, if not better, than we were last season," Mott said. "We are returning seven or eight everyday starters who are working hard to make sure this team succeeds to their fullest potential. We also have a lot of depth with our pitchers."

Sophomore Sean Vollenweider said the team is bringing a lot of experience into the 2012 season.

"We are taking a step up from last year," Vollenweider said. "We lost a few key players but we are returning the entire infield so we have a lot of experience which is key."

Mott said the baseball team has implemented different off season training strategies that are a positive addition to the program.

"We've included workouts in the pool on Sunday, free swims to take advantage of the beautiful Meek Aquatics Center," Mott said. "We have also increased the

intensity of strength workouts. Overall the changes are definitely positive."

Junior Brandon Segal said the off season has been very productive so far. The pitchers have been practicing pitch accuracy rather than velocity. The batters have also been getting a lot more swings in during practice to correct errors, Segal said.

Vollenweider said the off season practices are more intense and up-beat than they were last season. This gives the Battling Bishops a greater advantage going into the start of the season, Vollenweider said.

"We are mixing very well as a team, so it should be an exciting season this year," Vollenweider said.

Mott said there are several freshmen who will contribute to the team's success. However, he said he would like to see a little more consistency out of them.

Vollenweider said he is pleased with the freshmen's performance so far.

"They all have great potential and quite a few should be able to contribute right off the bat," Vollenweider said.

Mott said he would ultimately like to see the team get better every day. Team expectations are high and they would like to win the NCAC championship, Mott said.

The Bishop's first game is on Saturday, Feb. 25.

Tennis serves up narrow win

Above: Jordan Leslie of OWU's number one doubles tennis duo also including Becky Simon was defeated 8-0 by the Otterbein Cardinals. OWU narrowly edged out Otterbein winning five out of nine matches. The Bishops are facing the Allegheny Gators for the second game of the season Saturday at 1 p.m. at The Gordon Field House.

Photo by Andy Wittenberg



SLUs, continued from Page 1

Although enrollment is down, members of both SLUs and WCSA are not worried about the SLUs ever being unavailable as a living option.

Freshman Lauren Holler, a WCSA class representative, said if there is any debate over the necessity of SLUs on campus, she's "never heard anything negative about (the SLUs)."

"SLU living is not for ev-

eryone, but some students really enjoy the concept of living in themed houses," said Holler. "Wesleyan Council on Student Affairs believes that SLUs are an integral part of residential life at Ohio Wesleyan."

Ruppel said she is not worried about the SLUs going anywhere.

"I think that the entire campus, including administration, realizes how valuable the SLUs are, so if there is any opposition, I have not noticed it."

Attention all wanna be sports photographers: The Transcript is seeking work from people like you.

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Be sure to include identification of individuals in the photo and the photojournalist's name and contact information.