



THE TRANSCRIPT

THE OLDEST
CONTINUALLY
PUBLISHED
STUDENT
NEWSPAPER
IN THE COUNTRY

Thursday, Feb. 23, 2012

Volume 149, No. 16

Fraternity members want food points

By **Brittany Wise**
Transcript Correspondent

Despite having their own cooks, the brothers of fraternities would like to see some food points added to their meal plans.

Every fraternity has a contract through Chartwells that provides each house with a chef.

After joining a fraternity, food points transfer over so the new member may eat at the house, according to sophomore Brad Ingles, a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

The chef employed for each house provides meals Monday-Friday.

During the weekend, the members of the fraternities eat the leftovers from the week. Ingles said during the weekend the kitchen at Sig Ep is always stocked and unlocked for the brothers.

Ingles said the chef at his house is more than a chef—she is like a mom, continually keeping the brothers accountable for their behavior, academics and the cleanliness of the house. He said she treats them well.

“She even has a binder filled with recipes that we brought from home that our parents make, and she tries to cook one once every two weeks to give us that taste of home feeling,” Ingles said.

Junior Marshall Morris, president of Phi Delta Theta, said he appreciates eating at his house.

“I do enjoy being able to hold meals at the house,” he said. “It provides an additional avenue to bond with our brothers.”

Senior Tyler Mather said he absolutely loves the cook at his fraternity, Delta Tau Delta, but wishes food points were offered as part of the meal plan.

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Babbling Bishops at it again!



Left to Right: Seniors Brock “Snake Hips” Schludecker and David “Jumanji” Ordosch work with juniors Natalie “Sassafras” Aument, David “Pop Fly” Reitan and Dave “Dunkaroos” Winnyk during the troupe’s most recent improv show on Wednesday, Feb. 15, in Benes B. The troupe enacts a scene where Ordosch and Aument’s characters fight in a room filled with Skrillex dubstep and a giant disco ball. Each member takes on an element to make the scene come alive.

Photo by Jenny Ripper

Little Rock Niner challenges the status quo

By **Marissa Alfano**
Editor-in-Chief

“Race has no true validity but we act as though it does,” Dr. Terrence Roberts said during a lecture in Benes Room A last Thursday at 7 p.m.

Roberts spoke first-hand about the rules of segregation and the fear that made people abide by them.

He was a member of the Little Rock Nine, a group of African American students who, in 1957, were the first to integrate Little Rock Central High School in Little Rock, Ark.

Gene Sludge and Shelby Austin, co-presidents of the Student Union on Black Awareness, asked Roberts to speak during Black History Month.

Dr. Rock Jones, president of OWU, introduced the speaker to the crowd.

“It’s not often that we have the opportunity to be with a true American hero—a person whose life has helped shape the way society and our lives are lived today,” said Jones.

Roberts was born in 1941 in Little Rock, Ark. He said he anticipated joining a community of people who loved him, but instead, he got a very hard message.

“It’s like people said, ‘Boy, there is something very wrong with you. You are clothed in black and the color is white, don’t you know that?’

“I figured I was in the wrong place,” Roberts said. “It occurred to me there had to be sane people outside of Little Rock, where everyone is insane. Well, I was wrong. Everybody in the United States was totally bonkers.”

Roberts said he quickly learned the difference between life and death and lived by learning the rules of segregation and obeying them.

“From 1619-1954, a 335 year span, we the people thought it’d be best to live compartmentalized lives built on race segregation,” Roberts said, “During that period it was in fact legal to discriminate. Constitutional, if you will, to discriminate in these United States of America. If you are discriminating for 335 years you get good at it; it becomes second nature.”

The 1954 Supreme Court Brown v. Board of Education case was not a popular decision, according to Roberts. One

“I’m pretty sure we all thought death was preferable to life under segregation.”

-- **Terrence Roberts, one of the Little RockNine**

hundred congress members signed the southern manifesto saying, “We will do everything within our power to not permit implementation of this Brown v. Board decision.”

In 1954 Roberts was 13 years old and he said he was overjoyed by the monumental case. The law had changed. Unfortunately, he said, even though the law changed, nothing else changed with it. The social, cultural and ideological hatred remained embedded in the character of the country.

Roberts said he decided he did not have to play by the rules of segregation anymore.

“I was erroneous,” Roberts said. “When you’re 13, you do things. You just don’t think as you would as an ordinary human being. I violated one of the sacred laws of segregation. Chrystal Burger hamburger joint was a white owned restaurant, but they let black people go through the front door.

“I usually walked in, made my order, and it was always to go—the cardinal rule was blacks couldn’t sit down. Someone once joked that the way to end problems in the south would be to ‘get rid of all the seats.’ Anyway, I ordered a burger and fries and sat down. Immediately everything in the Chrystal Burger stopped as if someone has pushed pause on a VCR. All heads swiveled towards me. No words were spoken, but the nonverbal message was palpable. ‘Boy you better get some sense in your head.’”

Roberts said he suddenly awoke and realized what had happened. He cancelled his order and ran out.

“Something snapped inside me,” Roberts said. “I cannot continue to pretend to

obey these rules. The year 1954 looms large in my head.”

Roberts said he remembers a boy being killed in Money, Miss., because he allegedly whistled or winked at a white female.

“He was savagely murdered,” Roberts said. “His brutalized body displayed for the universe to see because his mom insisted on that. I was afraid I would wind up that way. There were so many stories like that.”

Two years later he joined the Little Rock Nine. Initially, there were more than nine. At a school assembly, Roberts said 150 students volunteered.

“The count was in fact off by one because I had both hands up,” Roberts said. “Then everyone went home-- kids rethought their situation and parents vetoed the idea.”

Then there were 10 people left. Jane Hill was the student who left. According to Roberts, her dad got an employee call threatening to fire him if he sent Jane to school, so he pulled her out and lost his job anyway.

“He crossed the line just thinking of sending his daughter,” Roberts said. “People without kids in school lost jobs.”

Roberts said the most amazing thing to him was to watch the kids treat him and his friends with such disdain, as if to say, ‘we have the right to abuse you, don’t you know?’

“Even though we hadn’t discussed it together, the nine of us were committed,” Roberts said. “I’m pretty sure we all thought death was preferable to life under segregation. We were all eager to go to school; we loved school.”

The governor, however, was not eager to integrate. He called the National Guard to keep the children out and they did. Roberts and the other eight called the Little Rock police. He said he was almost killed that day.

“The situation was so dire that there was some talk of letting the mob hang one kid in order to get the other eight out,” Roberts said.

The third time the Little Rock Nine showed up to school, they were able to enter the building.

See **ROBERTS** on Page 2

WCSA looks for alternate off-campus options

By **Sophie Crispin**
Transcript Correspondent

WCSA and campus administrators are brainstorming ways to allow off-campus housing for OWU students during the 2012-13 academic year.

The OWU Residential Life (ResLife) office announced last semester in a campus-wide email that students would not be offered the option of off-campus housing.

In the past, upperclassmen have had the option to enter a lottery for off-campus housing.

According to the ResLife email, Stuyvesant Hall’s reopening next fall means they anticipate having “adequate housing for all students who are not commuting from home.”

Student response to this development has not been uniformly positive.

“I think people are upset because living off-campus is an opportunity to experience greater responsibility before you graduate,” said junior April Warner.

Juniors Anthony McGuire and Carly Hallal, WCSA president and vice president, agree, although they understand the university’s motives.

“I know the main reason is enrollment,” said McGuire, “They would love to let people off-campus, but an empty floor in Stuy would look bad.”

Communication between ResLife, WCSA and the student body has also been a problem in the past, which both Hallal and McGuire want to improve.


“I was upset when I received the email because my committee had worked closely with the Residential Life office, and they hadn’t mentioned it before,” said Hallal. “Most of the issues with ResLife have been communication.”

Hallal and McGuire, along with other WCSA members, have come up with a few ideas to make off-campus living a possibility, and campus administration has been receptive to listening to their ideas.

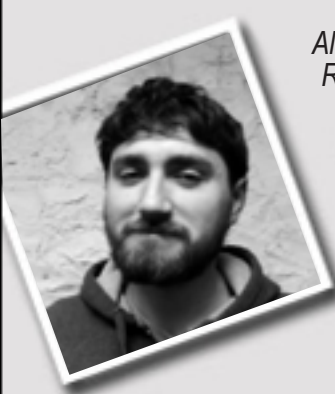
“We’ve had several meetings with (OWU President) Rock Jones and Craig Ullom (vice president of student affairs). One idea is to put three people in Smith Hall instead of four, so it would take fewer students to fill those rooms, and then more people can have singles,” said Hallal.

“It would also help cover costs because singles are a little more expensive,” said McGuire.


“It was something Tim Carney (former WCSA vice president) and Sharif Kronemer (former WCSA president) came up with before they left WCSA.”




What were your reactions to Mock Convention?




"Overall, it was fun. Although running zombie-Reagan was ridiculous."
- Cole Oberli, '13



"I thought it should be a learning experience, a way to show another perspective. I think it's great that people are expressing opinions, this just wasn't the place for it."
- Ariel Koiman, '14



"It felt like there were two sides, the serious and the silly. The first night dragged on a long time, and it was around then that the first Zombie acts were pushed. Everything was so serious up to that point, so it was a welcome change. One person wanted to keep it serious, but she was booed from the microphone."
- Lauren Boisseau, '14



"I really enjoyed it myself. It's true it wasn't as serious as it could have been. We were having fun with it, and I was amused by the results."
- Cassie Smith, '12

ROBERTS, continued from Page 1

“Eisenhower sent in the army to help,” Roberts said. “Not because he cared about our welfare, though. The Arkansas governor had made noises about ceding from the union. But it’s okay to be a secondary beneficiary.”

With the army at his side in school, he said he and his friends still were almost killed. Children would run behind him, push him down the stairs and hit him with urine-filled balloons. He recalls being bruised and battered daily.

“The nine of us took a vow of nonviolence,” Roberts said. “It didn’t work like I thought. We were seen primarily as stationary targets. Running was my default option. I enjoyed running away. My mom once told me that lower animals like rats and cats and dogs fight because they can’t talk and negotiate so why would I ever want

be like a rat?” So I took my humanity and ran with it.”

The army was there until the end of year, according to Roberts. One boy graduated and the other eight were not allowed to attend because it was too dangerous. The next year, the six-time re-elected governor closed down all public high schools in Little Rock.

“I met the governor not too long ago,” Roberts said. We both appeared on Good Morning America. Backstage, I confronted him. ‘Your actions could have killed all nine of us.’ He said he had to do it otherwise he would not have been re-elected.”

Roberts said he went to Los Angeles, Calif., to live with his Grandma when the schools closed in 1958, and he persuaded his family to move there a few months after too.

“I technically am Californian at this point,” Roberts said. “I don’t pledge allegiance to geography, though. I

What’s that monkey doing with my fries?

By Suzanne Samin
A&E Editor

Students craving midnight snacks can now find salvation in the form of a monkey holding a paper bag.

This is the logo of Bag o’ Fries, a new student-run business and venture capital with Chartwells.

The business, which supplies generous bags of fries with the customer’s choice of a number of dry and wet seasonings for the price of three dollars, has made its debut on campus. Run by seniors Brian Trubowitz and Andika Hartawan, Bag o Fries has been a year-long effort to break into student-run business.

“There’s only two things open at night (on the weekends),” said Hartawan, “either the Hamburger Inn or Dan’s Deli. So we thought for a first time business, why don’t we just do that? ... Back home (Indonesia), McDonald’s tried to do something with French fries, but I guess people didn’t like it. I said, you know what, what if we gave more toppings and stuff. I’m sure college kids would love deep-fried stuff at night. So that’s how it came to be.”

Hartawan explained that Chartwells

guided them through the appropriate processes for launching their business. Additionally, they provided their kitchen and insurance, and helped them get their supplies.

However, Hartawan and Trubowitz are personally funding the entire project. Upon stepping into Smith, students are greeted by the smell of fries and a long list of flavors to choose from.

Senior Josh Decker, who attended the free sample debut, said, “I believe this is a good twist on a traditional recipe. It’s the future of the French fry industry, and I am a fan of all the different flavors and toppings they have to offer.”

“It all started from going to Kroger’s (supermarket) and walking down the aisles picking up what looked good,” Hartawan said. “It was sort of like an experiment.”

With experimenting came mishaps, Trubowitz said.

“We tried a sesame ginger sauce, which was terrible,” said Trubowitz.

Hartawan added that straight garlic powder and straight mango sauce were amongst the other mishaps. The top flavors so far have been the “Funky Monkey

sauce,” the ingredients of which are secret, French Toast, and the Tango Meriyaki (a mango teriyaki sauce). On their first night in operation, Bag o’ Fries attracted many students with free samples.

“We sold 60 pounds of fries within the first 45 minutes,” Hartawan said. He added that on their next night when they required students to pay, they sold about 43 bags of fries in a couple of hours.

Trubowitz said that Bag o’ Fries has not worked extensively on their marketing, but so far their feedback from students has been overwhelmingly positive.

He added that the monkey logo, designed by Hartawan, has played a major role in attracting customers.

Hartawan and Trubowitz said they endeavor to break even in six months. Trubowitz expressed uncertainty that the venture would be able to become an independent business.

Hartawan and Trubowitz both hope that Bag o’ Fries will help build their resumes, give them something to talk about and enhance their college career.

Bag o’ Fries hours of operation are from midnight to 3 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays in Smith Hall.

Sexuality and marriage: Is there a right answer?

By Gabriela Melgar
Transcript Reporter

A sexuality, marriage and homosexuality debate was held last Wednesday to address the intersection between gay marriage and the church.

The lecture was introduced by Emmanuel Twesigye, Aden S. and Wollam Benedicts professor of Christian studies, who began with the topic of polygamy in African cultures. Twesigye talked about the benefits of polygamy and how it is a symbol of power and wealth as well as “(a) system of community” within the family.

He also talked about homosexuality in Africa, and how the cultures there are against it. He focused on his home country of Uganda, where homosexuality is illegal.

Twesigye said that in the past, “(a) man who got caught in the act would be put to death,” but now, the laws are being modified to punish homosexual acts by long imprisonments.

Twesigye connected both the controversial topics of polygamy and gay marriage. While homosexuality is condemned in most African countries, strong support for gay marriage can be found in the United States.

On the other hand, polygamy in African nations such as Uganda is highly valued, yet

shunned here in America.

Twesigye continued by saying, “maybe you should let us have many wives, and we’ll let you have homosexuality.”

The next presenter was Reverend Charles Wilson, the director of St. Peter’s Episcopal Church in Delaware. He said, “next to abortion, the issue of homosexuality is one of the greatest of our time.”

Wilson believes people have developed negative views of homosexuality from religious text. He provided an example of homosexuality in the Bible from Leviticus 18:22, which says, “You should not lie with a male as with a woman.”

Wilson argues the concept of homosexuality as we understand it now was not present when the Bible was written.

He talked about Biblical teachings of sex, and how God encouraged men and women to reproduce. He recited from Genesis, where God says, “Be fruitful, multiply.” Wilson argued this passage portrays sex as natural and as a gift from God in order for humans to reproduce.

One of the main reasons homosexuality was condemned in the church, Wilson believes, is because it discontinues reproduction.

“We agree that heterosexuality is preferred for the reason of procreation,” Wilson said.

He believes that “cultural norms created by the power of the state and religion” have established the idea that sex should be used for the production of children.

Wilson pointed out, “children have always been the main reason for having sex.” He added that historically, children were the ones who would provide for parents when they reached old age.

Because homosexual sex is non-reproductive, Wilson said gays are viewed as “doing something opposite of God. Gays have been demonized,” and the gay community has been “used as a boogeyman” and “monster” to scare children into being “manly.”

He believes that sex is viewed differently today. Wilson used the media as an example. He talked about Beckham’s underwear ads and the Modern Family actress, Sofia Vergara, who has been titled “sexiest woman,” in order to address the way sex is encouraged and used to sell in our culture.

Wilson talked about an “evolution of sex,” which “allows us to view non-reproductive sex in a less negative light.”

He later went on to talk about marriage as an establishment. Wilson said people get married because “we human beings do is organize things.”



Photo by Gabriela Melgar
Reverend Charles Wilson speaks about the negative image of homosexuality.

In terms of same-sex marriage, Wilson believes gays should have access to the same rights, and “they should allow same sex marriage across the board.” Junior Victoria Wehner was pleased with Wilson’s discussion. “I liked how he mentioned that humans are organizational,” she said. “He brought up some really good points.”

As a member of the LG-BTIQ community, freshman Ryan Haddad was happy to see a religious figure in a position of support for gay marriage. “Seeing religious figures that say it’s alright to be who you are is very important,” said Haddad. “(It) gives us comfort and is empowering,” he added. Haddad believes it demonstrates that “not everyone will exclude us.”

Weekly Public Safety Reports			
Feb. 16 8:50 a.m. – Public Safety and Delaware City Police officers were dispatched to 23 and 35 Williams Drive on a report of vandalism. Several pieces of furniture in the common areas of each residence had been turned over, and a television was destroyed at the 23 Williams address. Investigation is ongoing.	bite wounds to the lower leg. The student was treated and later released from Grady Hospital ER. A report was filed with the Delaware City Police Department.	noise complaint.	
Feb. 16 5 p.m. – an OWU student reported an alleged sexual assault at an off campus location on February 11. The case remains under investigation.	Feb. 17 8:35 a.m. – OWU Housekeeping staff recovered a wallet and turned it in to Public Safety. The owner of the wallet reported that cash was missing from the wallet.	Feb. 19 5:45 p.m. – Public Safety dispatched to the JAYwalk on a report of a suspicious person. A search of the area failed to locate the individual, described as a white middle-aged male of medium height and slim build.	
Feb. 17 7:30 p.m. – damage to a vehicle in the Smith Hall parking lot was reported.	Feb. 18 2:40 a.m. – Public Safety and Delaware EMS personnel were dispatched to Hayes Hall on a report of an unconscious person. Upon the arrival, the student was conscious and coherent. The student refused treatment.	Feb. 19 11:48 p.m. – a Bashford Hall resident was referred to student conduct for drug, alcohol and criminal damage offenses. Delaware City Police also issued citations for drug abuse and paraphernalia.	
Feb. 17 10:30 p.m. – an OWU student was attacked by a dog in the vicinity of 31 South Washington Street and suffered	Feb. 19 1:30 a.m. – Public Safety officers were dispatched to Welch Hall on a	Feb. 20 1:33 a.m. – a local resident was arrested and charged with trespassing after Public Safety and Delaware City Police officers were dispatched to the Beeghly Library on a security alarm activation.	

am a citizen of the universe.”

At this point, Roberts began to accept questions, but there were rules.

“When asking questions, you are not allowed to use the word like,” Roberts said. “We are going to work on that tonight. This is your opportunity stop cold turkey. Stand and speak with your diaphragm.”

A student in the front row of the room asked, “Um why don’t you believe in race?”

Roberts’s response—“You have now been relieved of the need to say um.” He continued to say that the word race itself is new to the lexicon. It was first recorded in 1530.

“A group of pseudo-scientists

developed it with a hierarchy from white to black and sold it to we the people and we bought it without thinking about it,” Roberts said. “Scientifically there has never been any such thing as a race. Every single human in the universe is unique.

“No one has been you and no one will be unless the people that got a hold of Dolly the sheep get a hold of you. Difference is the one thing that confuses us so we grab onto race. You too are a citizen of the universe. But we confuse it with all kinds of little lines.”

Another student asked, “Why is there still racism?”

Roberts said that even

though slavery was abolished legally, it did not stop.

“If people wanted to change, we could,” Roberts said. “If you can do nothing else you can change you. Most people like to coast through life. You run the risk of being judged never to have lived. I take the best each person has to offer of whomever I am with and I let the trash go.”

Students also inquired about the importance of education to inner city black men.

Roberts said he was sent to school at the age of six. His first grade teacher said he had to become CEO of his own independent learning enterprise.

“When you take on execu-

tive responsibility nothing gets in the way of learning,” Roberts said. “You make decisions hourly to make it all happen. We need to find out more answers. It is imperative that we don’t buy the first thought that comes. We should challenge it and dig deeper.”

At the end of the Q & A, Roberts was presented with a book by an OWU class of ’82 alumnus, Byron Pitts. The book, called “Step Out on Nothing: How Faith and Family Helped Me Conquer Life’s Challenges,” was signed by Pitts and by everyone in the audience for Roberts to take away as a memory from his experience at OWU.

New food court to feature low cost changes

By Kelsey King
Transcript Correspondent

The Hamilton-Williams food court is long overdue for a face-lift. Neither furniture nor equipment has been replaced since the campus center was built 20 years ago.

Luckily, the food court will receive a makeover soon. Gene Castelli, Resident District Manager of Chartwells, met with WCSA recently to discuss summer renovations.

The renovated food court will serve much of the same food, keeping the sushi, sandwich, Healthy Bishop and salad stations. But it will also bring change, incorporating more brand-name food.

This would allow for more variety and convenience. A Papa John's pizza station will allow students to quickly grab individual-sized pizzas. Chartwells is also deciding between two local brands to replace the current grill station.

The school has been reluctant to involve brand-name products in the past because most companies demand commissions. So far, Starbucks and Coca-Cola are the only brand-names on campus.

The food court's layout will change as well. The same architect who planned Smith Dining Hall drafted the new floor plan.

The renovations aim to increase efficiency, angling the cash registers so students can flow through more easily. These changes also affect the dining areas, which will look different without losing seating.

Castelli said the renovation would cost \$500,000 - \$600,000, a modest budget compared to recent projects.

"Considering the school spent \$13 million on Stuyvesant, this amount doesn't seem like much," Castelli said.

This project would cost less than previous dining hall renovations. Smith Dining Hall was given \$1 million for its renovation in 2007.

Senior Eric Charette said he remembers how Smith Dining Hall looked before the changes.

"I had dinner in Smith as a prospective student, and it was disgusting then," Charette said. "When I came back in the fall, I recognized the renovations immediately because it was so starkly different."

In fact, a survey conducted soon after the renovations showed a 41 percent increase in student satisfaction of Smith Dining Hall.

The food court renovation is only one of Chartwells' proposed campus changes. Castelli also mentioned the Thomson Convenience Store

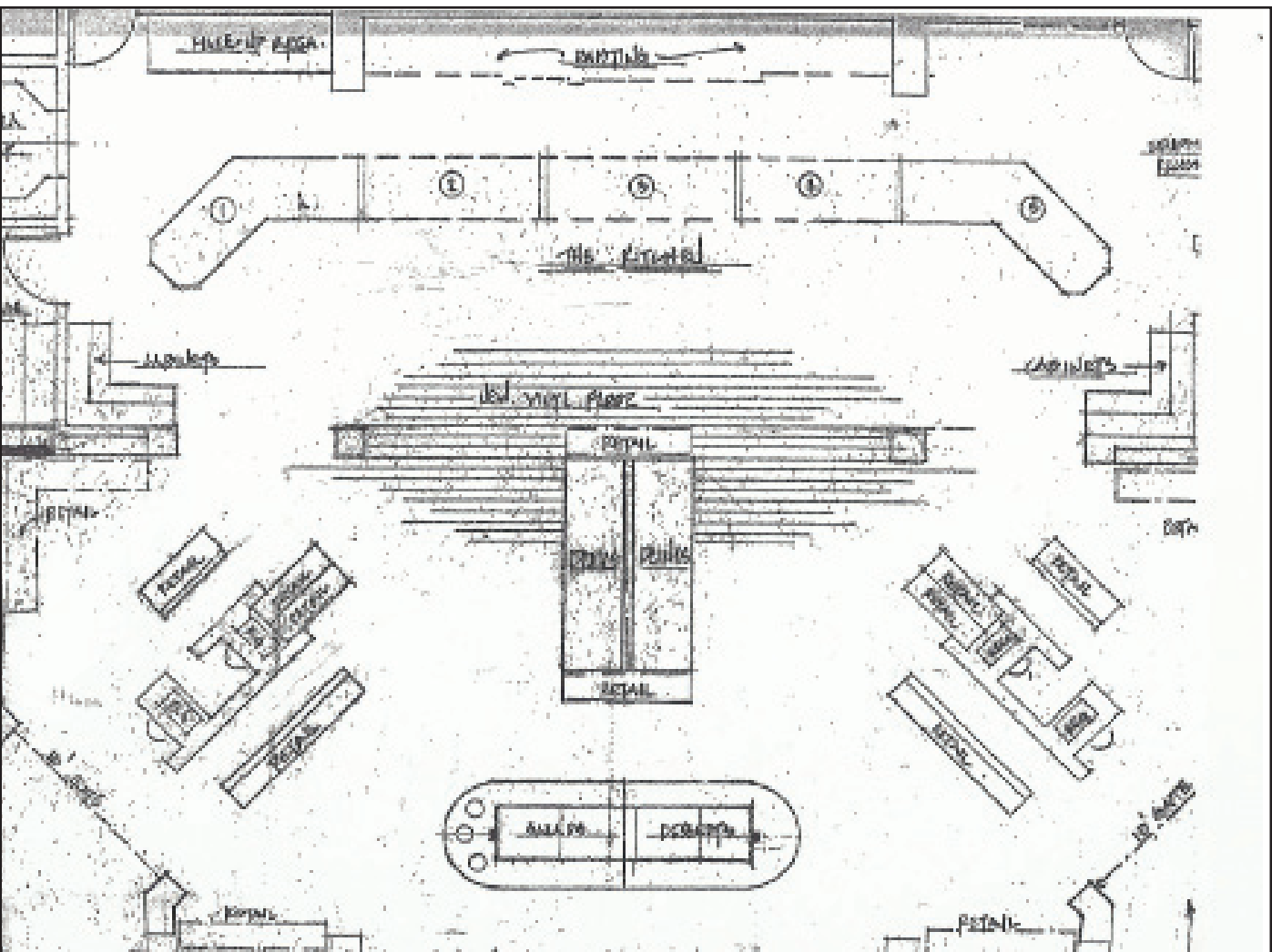


Image Provided By Kelsey King

The new floor plan blueprint for Hamwilton-Williams food court reveals renovation plans in the making. There will be more open space for the lunch time rush and strategic placement of cash registers to make the area less crowded.

might be remodeled within a few years, although current students should not expect to see these changes soon.

Sophomore Ariel Koiman has worked extensively with Chartwells as a WCSA Representative.

He said he is looking forward to the renovations, and thanked Chartwells.

"I think it's an excellent idea" Koiman said. "They're doing the renovations for us. Honestly, I don't know how they make a profit."

Strand prices change, but the tradition still remains

By Elizabeth Childers
Online Editor

The Strand Theater has provided the cinematic experience for locals and students for many years. The theater also has had close ties to Ohio Wesleyan since 2002.

"In 2002, Ohio Wesleyan took over ownership of the theater," said manager Kara Long. "Then in November of 2008, they formed a separate non-profit group called The Strand Theater and Cultural Arts Association. It's a fifteen member board of directors. Now we have the ability to fundraise on our own and get grants to keep the building up."

Prior to OWU taking over The Strand, "(Business) was very slow," Long said. "I changed film buyers when I took over in 2002. We were not getting our fair share of movies. The previous owner's film buyer was not fighting. So, I found one that would say, 'That's not fair, we have every right to make money as



Photo By Elizabeth Childers

The lighted sign outside of The Strand indicate the movies showing each night.

anyone else in town."

The Strand Theater and OWU still maintain a close relationship.

"Of the fifteen board members, Ohio Wesleyan appoint eight, so they kind of retain a little bit of control," Long said. "It was a good thing, if anything would go wrong – if the wheels would come off the bus, as they say – they could pull it back under. It's a kind of safe guard."

Upon returning to campus

school students were already five dollars, so it was the logical step. It made the studios get off our back. It's the last thing you want to have, the studio on your back, looking at your prices. They can't tell you what to charge, but they can make life difficult."

Taylor Clark, 18, has been employed at The Strand since 2008.

"My mom and my grandma also worked here," Clark said. "It wasn't planned that I work here, it just happened. It was just irony."

Clark said she loves working at The Strand.

"Working in a historical building (is the best part)," Clark said. "You learn a lot about film, which not many people know much about. This is like a Delaware classic thing, so it's nice to know the insides of it."

Clark said if she had to choose between seeing a movie at The Strand or a bigger theater like the Rave in Columbus, she would choose The Strand.

"Much cheaper, and it's homey," Clark said.

Sophomore Lauren Foote said she would rather see a movie at The Rave.

"If it didn't count on price?" Foote said. "The Rave. Just because it is a lot bigger, and a lot more options. I can watch 3-D movies or movies The Strand doesn't have."

Foote also spoke about the advantages of the historical theater.

"It's affordable, it's on a very close street to campus, so if I want to go see a movie I can drive and it take six seconds or I can walk with friends," Foote said. "It shows recent movies, it's not like narrow indie films. They show movies that are actually out. And they have good popcorn."

However, Foote said, there were a few draw backs to the Strand.

"It could be a little bit bigger," Foote said. "They only have three rooms, and the seats are a little outdated. A little bit of refurbishing would be helpful. Otherwise, (I don't

have) many complaints about The Strand."

Long assists the film buyer in choosing which films to show.

"Her and I consult every Monday on what's coming and going," Long said. "Sometimes I know like on March 2 we're going to get Project X and The Lorax, but I don't know what the third picture will be."

"Next week, I know we'll be picking up The Artist for next Friday, I don't know what the other two films will be. This time of year, we just go to boxofficejo.com, and let's say I have requests, so we pull them in... This time of year is when we get the chance to pull in the Oscar stuff. Once we get past the first weekend of May, then the gloves come off and we start first run," Long said

The Strand Theater is located on Winter Street, and students can find show times, upcoming movies and events at their website: <http://www.thestrandtheatre.net>.

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From the far side of the tracks...



Common Ground Free Store links volunteers with community

By Rachel Ramey
Transcript Correspondent

Clean underwear, solid shoes, blankets and a warm cup of coffee. Simple items, but they make a world of difference. For many, it's a struggle to provide themselves and their families with these. On the far side of Delaware, quite literally across the tracks, the Common Ground Free Store sits nestled on a corner of Central Avenue, waiting to offer these essential things to new arrivals.

The heavy wooden door swings inward and blows a burst of cold air into the lobby. A man and a woman enter, dark hair matted with snowflakes. They rub their hands together briskly while taking a seat on the left side of the store.

"Get them a paper towel for their heads," instructs the woman to my right. "They look freezing. Maybe you two would also like a cup of coffee?"

Beth Trigg, assistant director of the store, slowly sips her own hot beverage as she greets the visitors. She's wearing simple shoes, jeans and a warm red jacket. Her no-nonsense approach to the store is like a mother caring for her children on a Sunday afternoon in the park. When she talks about the store, it's clear she loves the place.

Trigg, who started as a volunteer more than four years ago, has worked in every capacity at the store. Cleaning toilets, organizing clothing, making pots of coffee and serving visitors have all previously fallen onto her duty list.

She said all of the wonderful volunteers are what makes the Free Store operate, but the patrons make it worthwhile. The store is open to any individual or family. Pay stubs, social security cards and proof of welfare aren't necessary for seeking help here.

"All of god's people are welcome," Trigg said. "The stories that turn out well are few and far between, but we have a relationship with these people. They're not just a number."

When they first enter, shoppers sit in a small lobby. Square black chairs with metal arms offer rest for weary bodies. Coffee, cookies and lemonade are distributed. Peering through the doorway behind the lobby desk offers a view of the hospitality area. Families and individuals are seated at several odd sized chairs. Volunteers enter a small kitchen on the far side of the room to retrieve food.

The walls of the hospitality area are covered in signs, fliers, certificates, news clippings and photos. They all tell part of the store's story. Many of these highlight the store's activities. One sign translates a list of courtesy phrases into Spanish. Another handmade poster-board, decorated with colorful marker, tells the reader they may obtain a child's birthday cake for free.

Old men, young children and couples line the lobby walls, waiting to enter the hospitality area where today's meal of hot dogs, egg salad, and Johnny Marzetti is being served. While guests wait for their turn, the desk attendants catch up on their children's lives, hear about life on the farm and praise the glory which is UDF ice cream.

One visitor, an elderly man with a weathered ball cap and a blue jumpsuit, sits across from me in the lobby. He says hello to me, then is approached by the woman behind the desk. Her short brown hair barely stirs and her glasses stay firmly perched on her nose as she walks towards him.

"Would you like some coffee today," she said.

"No, I already had some," he said. "I forgot my thermos, so I had to drink it real quick like. Do you have anything cold?"

"Why yes, let me get you some lemonade," she said.

Upon her return he swigs the lemonade in two gulps and says, "Well that's good. I'm gonna go shop, then maybe have some more

of that."

He hands a small parcel to the woman behind the desk and waits for her reaction.

"Oh, black walnuts," she said with a smile on her face. "These are good for cakes and the like."

"Yeah, I was just pickin' and grinnin'," he said, revealing the self-same grin.

Thirty minutes later he walked away with a bag of clothes and a wet whistle.

Trigg said that's why the location is great. Like this man, many of the store's guests either don't have cars or money for gas, so they walk. While the organization doesn't own the corner brick building, she said they're hopeful that expansion and purchasing a building are in the future.

A short walk through the store highlights the necessity of expansion. Goods are crammed in every nook and cranny of the place. The store offers clothing, household goods, books, videos, shoes and other miscellaneous items to the public. These are spread on shelves, organized in bins, hung from racks and stacked in every corner.

Christopher Parsons, my assigned guide through the racks and bins, has been a volunteer with the store for about a year. Dressed in sensible slacks and a warm plaid jacket, his graying hair and glasses are a welcoming sight.

He points out his favorite parts of the store, animatedly highlighting each important section on our walk. Parsons has been working with homeless individuals in the Columbus area for about four years, but said the free store is the best organization of its kind he has seen.

"It's amazing how many families we're able to serve," he said, illustrating his point by showing me the line at the checkout station.

"It's a good social practice. It lets people see the other side of the street."

With a solid spirit and admiration in his voice, Parsons spoke of two men who entered the store that morning who hadn't eaten in three days. To him, it's the little miracles and duties of the store which create immense change and satisfaction. He continued to focus on the good works of the free store throughout the journey. The path we walked through the store, which all shoppers take, began when we exited the hospitality area.

There's a long hallway off the hospitality area which serves as one of three main shopping areas. To the right are shelves filled with books and videos, bins with clean underwear, and household items like towels, convection ovens and tea kettles. Lining the racks on the other side of the wall are baby clothes, boy's clothing and girl's clothing. These two white metal racks, one knee level and the other much higher, are divided by age level.

Leaving the hallway sends the shopper into another world where an elaborate mural covers the play space. Flower tendrils creep up the walls, lush bushes line the baseboards and sturdy oak trees grow around the windows to the outside. A squirrel and a rabbit frolic on one of the trees while grass cushions the feet of the tired shopper.

Tonka trucks have been tossed on the floor by the last child to come through. Bookcases are filled with smiling teddy bears and board games. These toys are calling out, waiting to be picked up and loved by a child in need. The toy room appears to be one of the more well-used sections of the store, because children linger and play.

Since there is a 15 minute shopping limit to ensure access to all shoppers, the children are unable to linger very long before making their toy selections and moving into the next room with their parents.

The next and final room of the store houses the adult male and female clothing racks. Similar to the set up in the hallway, three walls are lined with two tiers of clothing racks. Rather than age,



these racks are organized by type. Dresses and skirts are on the right, sweaters and pants are across from the door. A central shelved island filled with shoes completes the visit for many. Next to the exit, two volunteers staff a long checkout station where items are counted, bagged and taken off of a shopper's monthly limit.

20 articles of clothing, 8 accessories, 4 toys, 4 household items, 10 books and 1 winter coat. These are a few of the "per person" totals adhered to. Last year, the store distributed 57, 236 articles of clothing and 9,939 diapers, among a multitude of other things.

These numbers seem high until you hear that the store serves anywhere from 40 to 90 families each of the three weekdays it's open. With so many families served, and 986 new families added in 2011, it's hard to believe the racks are stuffed with clothing every day. Until you enter the back room.

The organized chaos which is the back room is evidence of the store's productivity. Two large tables in the center provide a flat surface for volunteers to sort items and clothing. Three walls of the space are lined with large wooden shelves, towering up to the high ceilings. This place is the miniature warehouse which feeds the store. Crates, bins, boxes and bags are on the shelves. Some have hats, appliances, clothing, shoes, art supplies and even spare cups for the hospitality area. Opening the Employees Only door reveals a hornet's nest of activity and for today, Wanda Davenport is the queen bee.

Davenport began volunteering at the store 15 months ago when she took her daughter's place for the day. While she said she usually likes to stay out of the limelight, she admitted that she'd talk to anybody if it was about the store.

She said the organization is always in need of donations. Primarily, these donations come from local churches and individuals. The store gets a surplus of certain items and sends these on to other locations like Volunteers of America and the Salvation Army for processing. Looking around the back room, she spotted an interesting donation she wanted to share. Several bins were filled with bundled pairs of Hanes socks and tighty whities. These came from one church which recently held an Undie Sunday. Every child at the church brought in a new package of underwear or socks. She said in total, they brought

in more than 300 pairs for the store.

"This really is the coolest place," she said. "The first day is confusing, but after that you'll love it. When you think about the services we offer, it makes you realize that without us, some of these people would have nothing."

Aside from the volunteers and the donations, Davenport said the children who come to the store are her favorite part.

"The kids are the greatest," she said, while continuing to unpack boxes. "They're really good and have a lot of fun. My 6 year-old granddaughter even volunteers here."

In addition to the boisterous children, she said some of the most amazing events have occurred which make volunteering worthwhile. One day a young woman came in who was set to be married in a short while. Her August wedding was set for the beach and her colors had all been chosen. She walked into the store and found the perfect white dress, paired with a complimentary jacket. Several days later the store received flowers and boutonnieres. They were the bride's colors.

"Now, you tell me where else something like that could happen," Davenport said, raising her eyebrows and smiling wide beneath her glasses.

Volunteers like Trigg, Parsons and Davenport have helped the store function and grow, but a variety of events entice shoppers to come together for community bonding several times a month. A monthly bingo night is held for registered shoppers. The prizes of toilet paper and laundry soap may seem unrewarding for the average reader, but these items are vital for the families who visit the free store. The bingo prizes are provided by sponsoring churches, which also offer babysitting services during the event, and are items which can't be purchased with food stamps. On the third Sunday of every month the store also offers an open church service.

Trigg's passion for the bingo night and the Sunday services is clear. She beamed with pride when she informed me that no one is discouraged from attending or sharing at these services. Anyone with a message in their heart is welcome to share.

As she continued to greet customers, she spoke about the future of the store. The organization would like to expand on these events and become even more involved in the community. A children's garden in Eastside Park, vacation bible school, a boys fishing event and Mommy & Me classes are on the horizon for the store.

Pausing in her sentiments, Trigg instructed the main door greeter to collect hats and caps from the shelves and put a bin next to the door.

"Silly goose, he needs to pick up a new coat with a hood today," she said, lightly chastising one of her regular visitors.

For the rest of the afternoon, visitors to the store were offered caps to keep their heads warm in the winter weather.

"I wish I had a nickel for everybody who asks what this store is about," she said, slowly shaking her head from side to side.

For Trigg and others, the store is a window into the lives of those who need assistance. It is a vehicle of change in the community and a helping hand for those in need. For those who ask, help will always be given at the store. Shoppers, volunteers, churches, donors and community members come together on the common ground this space has created. This is a place of love, caring and acceptance.

For some, the store appears to be on the wrong side of the tracks, in a less fortunate part of town. For the volunteers and the people who visit the store, it is definitely the right side. Perfectly located where it may do the most good, the store opens its doors and stretches its arms out, calling for all to come enjoy the benefits of a warm coat and a hot meal.



Counter-clockwise from top: The Common Ground Free Store resides on the corner of Central Avenue in Delaware. Rows of donated clothing are displayed for purchase at the store. Volunteers help sort through donations at the site so those in need can receive these items. Shoes line the shelves for the needy to try on. Underwear is piled in a box and labeled for size and age. A volunteer moves bags to separate donated goods from one another. Shelves are labeled in the store, such as 'women's business clothes,' the store offers many good to those in need.

Photos by Rachel Ramey



Opinion

Quote of the Week: *“I had dinner in Smith as a prospective student and it was disgusting then. When I came back in the fall, I recognized the renovations immediately because it was so starkly different.”*
—Senior Eric Charette

Chartwells responds to hungry journalist

On Feb. 8, I wrote an editorial titled, “Early birds miss the worm: Lack of weekend breakfast leaves busy students hungry”. I was pleasantly surprised to see in my OWU e-mail inbox a message from Daniel Magee, director of Chartwells’ dining services, on Feb. 15.

I was not expecting such a timely response, let alone any response at all. In his e-mail, Magee said my editorial made him want to change the current dining situation on campus.

“Your argument was persuasive and clearly illustrated the plight of students on the weekends looking for early morning food options,” Magee said. “So, here is my idea. We will open Smith on Saturdays and Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a. m. for a light breakfast, which will include the following:

1. Cereals and Hot Oatmeal
2. Fresh cut fruit and whole fruit
3. Bagels, English Muffins, Pastries
4. Yogurt, Cottage Cheese”

Magee began starting the service on Feb. 18 and plans to run it until the end of the semester to gauge student response. Breakfast costs \$5.50.

I am very impressed with Chartwells’ prompt response to my concern and their amply sufficient solution to it. You can definitely plan on seeing my face at Smith on Saturday and Sunday mornings—come join me for breakfast!

Marissa Alfano
Editor-in-Chief

Fountain construction on the Jay: Learning to love the ‘62 alumni gift

Tom Wolber
Modern Foreign Languages

Some students have objected to the new JAYWalk fountain because there was a lack of information and consultation; because it impedes the traffic flow; because it creates a safety risk; because it attracts mischief; because the money for it should have gone to higher-priority items; and because it wastes water when we should be saving and stretching our natural resources.

It’s great that OWU students feel a sense of ownership and care about the campus enough to engage in a passionate public debate.

An open discussion about the pros and cons of an issue can lead to an even better final product, as is the case here.

I think we can all agree by now that there were plenty of opportunities for people to weigh in, for example at the open WCSA forum that was held on Feb. 2.

As far as the traffic flow is concerned, I envision the fountain as a sort of roundabout. It may slow you down a tad, but essentially pedestrians and vehicles can move on quickly and efficiently without losing precious time.

Is the fountain a potential safety risk?

“ I am sure that once the fountain is completed students will accept and embrace it with heart and soul and wonder what life was like without it.”

I overheard someone say that an intoxicated student might inadvertently stumble into the water and drown. I pay close attention to safety issues of all sorts, but in all my life I have never heard of a single case where someone fell into a shallow fountain and drowned.

If anything, the cold water will wake you up. You are more likely to drown in your own bathtub at home.

Yes, the new fountain is likely to attract some mischief until its novelty wears off. You won’t get any ideas for misbehavior from me, but occasionally the water may need to be replaced.

I am sure Public Safety will patrol the new fountain to ensure that it does not get abused or damaged.

By the way, if someone decides to dip their bare feet into the water on a hot summer day or if once in a while a dog jumps in to cool off, that does not constitute misbehavior in

evaporation, spraying, or intentional splashing.

The new fountain will be beautiful and a welcome addition to OWU.

The final design (option G) blends vegetation and open water and provides plenty of seating opportunities on all four sides.

It looks fantastic. Once finished, it will quickly become the pulsating heart and center of Campus.

In Europe, where I grew up, fountains are ubiquitous and create popular gathering places for locals and visitors alike – a place where people casually congregate, sit, talk, read, or eat an ice cream cone.

There, fountains serve an important social function.

Water does have a magnetic effect on people because it resonates deeply with our innermost human nature. It also has calming, healing powers and provides a feeling of serenity and belonging. I am sure that once the fountain is completed students will accept and embrace it with heart and soul and wonder what life was like without it.

As far as I am concerned, I would like to see even more fountains on Campus – perhaps a smaller one outside the President’s office in University Hall or in front of Slocum?

Virginia legislature passes controversial laws about abortion

Noah Manskar
Transcript Reporter

Virginia is passing some frightening abortion legislation.

The state’s House of Delegates recently passed one bill that would declare a fertilized egg at any stage of development a person under Virginia law. This means zygotes and embryos would be subject to the same rights and privileges as adults and other people.

Another bill would require women seeking an abortion to have an ultrasound test performed so they could see images of the fetus. Applying this stipulation to even the earliest, most proactive abortions (which the legislation does) would require a transvaginal ultrasound—a procedure in

which a probe is inserted into the vagina to produce images of the reproductive organs that a traditional, external ultrasound wouldn’t be able to provide.

Both these measures are incredibly flawed and are extreme affronts to women.

The first is scientifically, logically and philosophically unsound. A fertilized egg in its earliest stages of development is certainly a living organism, but to qualify it is a person carries major implications.

An embryo is wholly dependent on its mother to survive. It subsists on everything she ingests—food, water, air and a number of other things. It is not biologically developed enough to live on its own.

This does not sound like a person to me.

I cannot think of a living human being who lacks the ability to eat, drink and breathe—to live—on his or her own. While people do depend on others, it is of their own conscious choice to do so. Embryos do not have that choice.

The ultrasound legislation is even more disturbing. Forcing a woman to view images of her own internal organs is a clear effort to influence her decision whether or not to have an abortion.

I personally feel that women are perfectly capable of making such a decision on their own. Legislation such as this implies that women lack the cognitive ability to do so and that it’s the government’s responsibility to do it for them. Virginia’s lawmakers need

to understand that women are not mentally incapable. This bill would make legal intensely loaded methods of coercion. Men aren’t required to go through counseling or view an ultrasound of their testicles before having a vasectomy.

I fail to see the necessity of government regulation of what women do with their own bodies when there is no question of those decisions by men. These sexist double standards imply that women are somehow intellectually inferior and that they should be given no faith or freedom.

Furthermore, the bill’s ultrasound requirement would arguably legalize rape.

A transvaginal ultrasound, which the bill would require if a traditional ultrasound couldn’t produce sufficient

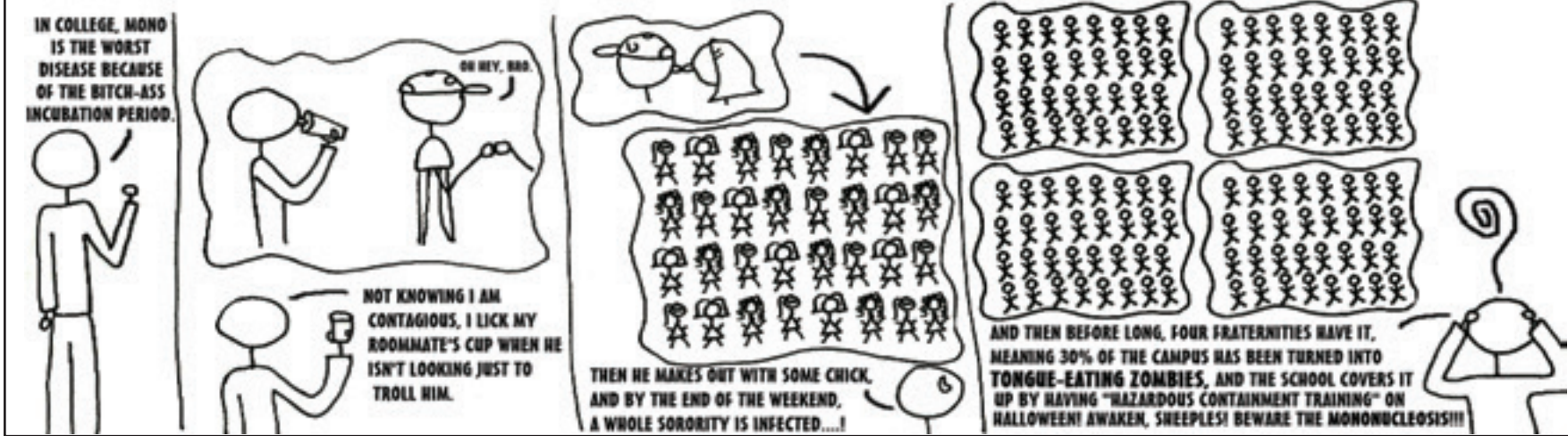
images, is a decidedly invasive procedure.

Under this legislation a woman seeking an abortion would be forced to have an object inserted into her vagina; an amendment to require the woman’s consent was even expressly rejected by the Virginia legislature.

According to the United States Department of Justice, this is rape. In January, the DOJ redefined rape as “The penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim.”

The transvaginal ultrasound stipulation fits this definition to a T—it is nonconsensual penetration of the vagina. I can understand the posi-

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106 Phillips Hall
Ohio Wesleyan University
Delaware, OH 43015
(740) 368-2911
owunews@owu.edu

Arts & Entertainment

The Vagina Monologues

Performance raises awareness on women’s issues

By Jordan Ahmed
Transcript Reporter

The women of “The Vagina Monologues” asked where “all the good men are” last Friday and Saturday during two sold out performances in the Studio Theatre.

“The Vagina Monologues,” written by Eve Ensler, are a collection of monologues based on interviews Ensler conducted with more than 200 women about their personal experiences with subjects ranging from sexuality and female orgasms to global issues and rape culture.

In the last piece of the night, “Over It,” performed by senior Gretchen Curry, Ensler calls out to men in the line, “I am over the passivity of good men. Where the hell are you?”

Junior Macauley O’Connor said Ensler’s expression of frustration in this instance was “an absolutely just one.”

“I think that a lot of men honestly just don’t know what to do to help, and because of that they don’t do anything,” said O’Connor. “The thing that they don’t realize is that the opportunities are out there for anybody to help out with. I know that I’m not going to wait around for more people to get involved in supporting the cause. I’m going to do whatever I can to be as un-passive as possible.”

Sophomore Kate Johnson, one of the show’s producers, said the lines are “a direct challenge to all men to regard violence and rape as a very serious matter, as one that shouldn’t be taken lightly.”

“Many of the monologues focus on issues of violence against women by men, but a lot of them also focus on the fact that the men in our lives are vital and positive forces regarding our sexual and emo-

tional well-being,” Johnson said.

““The Vagina Monologues’ want to make people aware that one in three women will be raped, sexually assaulted, or abused in her lifetime, but they also want to show that not all men are part of the problem, but rather the solution.”

Johnson said that a student who attended the performance for a class approached her after the show to tell her that he had never thought about rape in the way that it was presented in the production.

Johnson said the student told her he was glad he attended and he realized the seriousness with which women regard issues of violence and rape.

Junior Leah Shaeffer, co-director of the show and actor in the performance, said that one actress’s father approached her after the first night of the performance to tell her that those lines in “Over It” affected him as well.

“He was so affected by the line about the passivity of good men that he said his blood was boiling over and he just wanted to get out in the world and change every man’s perspective on violence against women,” Shaeffer said.

“Even if this man was the only person so affected by our performance, every minute and dollar that went into it was worth it.”

Senior Mollie Kalaycio, one of the performers in the show, said she felt some men did not fully grasp what the show was trying to say.

“A lot of guys came to see us, and we were really grateful,” said Kalaycio. “I feel like we touched a lot of them with the harsh facts about violence against women, but I also know that some of the men who saw it were a little uncomfortable and didn’t re-



Photo by Alexandra Crump

From left to right: Sophomore Megan Pinto, junior Anna Cooper, junior Colleen Waickman and sophomore Kate Johnson perform ‘The Vagina Workshop,’ a part of ‘The Vagina Monologues,’ which were performed Thursday, Friday and Saturday at the Chappellear Drama Center.

ally grasp the reality of what we were saying.”

Kalaycio said she thinks if men who understood the show could talk about it with other men who might have been confused, the message could come across better.

Sophomore Gus Wood, a new member of the Women’s House, read the play before seeing the performance and said he “did not anticipate the waves of emotion that true heartfelt readings of the material would bring on.”

However, Wood said that as an active member of the feminist cause, he felt that some of Ensler’s views were “antiquated.”

“There is a large subset of men who are not only advocates against rape—many are victims of it,” said Wood. “I

think the message was an important one, but a little women-centric. Hopefully men who do stand on these issues will stand up and join the fight based on the performance as a whole.”

Wood said he was moved by the women’s performances, and he hopes the campus sees the play as a “catalyst for more active roles in feminist causes.”

Senior Andrea Kraus, co-director and actor in the performance, said they decided to bring the production to OWU because of its relevance to the campus community.

“I wanted the show to reach an audience that included a diverse sampling of the OWU community,” said Kraus. “This means people who are already involved in these issues and

people who have never even heard the term ‘rape culture.’”

Kraus said she hoped people took the idea that we are all connected away from the show.

“What happens to women in Bosnia affects the women of the Congo and the women in New Orleans and Delaware, Ohio,” she said. “Women need to support women. Men need to support women. We need to support each other no matter what our sex or gender might be.”

In addition to the play’s focus on rape and sexual violence against women, the show also aimed to de-stigmatize vaginas.

Sophomore Erin Parcells said that the monologues aim to let women know that “your vagina is your vagina.”

“Every female’s vagina is different and that’s okay,” said Parcells. “It’s about feeling good about your vagina and owning that.”

Junior Kaitlin Lentz said she hopes the performance changed the way people think about vaginas.

“It should not be a topic that is made trivial,” Lentz said. “It should be embraced and celebrated because where would we be without vaginas?”

Ninety percent of the proceeds from ticket sales and donations for the show is going to be donated to the foundation CHOICES for Victims of Domestic Violence, a program that addresses the needs of battered women and their children in Franklin County and additionally provides services to Delaware County.

City Art Center seeking to pique public interest

By Nicole Harvey
Transcript Correspondent

Of the many restaurants, shops, and businesses to visit throughout downtown Delaware, one destination has eluded the attention of many OWU students.

The City Art Center on Winter Street, next to the Strand Theater, has been a part of the Delaware community for a short number of years. The center has drawn little attention from the OWU campus.

Students on campus, who have been living in the Delaware area for many years, have not made it a point to visit the gallery often.

Junior Liza Blakeslee said she had never been inside the building, but has looked at displays and advertisements in the windows.

The center is a non-profit organization that, according to its website, cityartcenter.org, has a “vision to be an active

partner within the community in developing an enriched cultural landscape”.

“It also intends to promote an awareness of and appreciation for the arts by trying to “foster creativity, spark new thoughts, and facilitate conversation...meanwhile establishing a network for artists and the public.”

In order to help promote the organization and its monthly exhibits, the center has partnered with the Strand Theatre for March’s exhibit, entitled, “The Strand Theatre: Scenes from Behind the Screen.”

According to Jessi Walker, the owner and operator of the City Art Center, this new event might be just the thing to bring in the right amount of attention.

“Aside from free popcorn and a rich cultural art experience, the public can catch glimpses into places within our beloved Strand Theatre that no one normally has access to,” said Walker.

Walker also said that, thanks to this upcoming event, the Center will have the benefit of exposing their art space.

“With each exhibition, more and more people find out what we are doing here, so that is very helpful to us. The CAC is operated 100 percent by volunteers in the community, so the more that people discover our space, the more people become involved in making it happen.”

The volunteers at the center said they hope students from OWU can come and check out what the art space has to offer and that they also hope to bring in more appreciation for art and how it operates through the community.

The upcoming event, “The Strand Theatre: Scenes from Behind the Screen” will begin on March 2 and the center will continue to show the exhibit throughout the month. To visit the center, stop by between 4 and 7 p.m. on Fridays and 2 and 7 p.m. on Saturdays.

to eat in Smith or grab a coffee and a doughnut with a friend in HamDough,” said Mather.

Ingles and Morris both said they would also like to have food points they could use around campus.

“I personally am happy

with the chef and Chartwells. I wish we had some food points and she could help hire other chefs for fraternities so everyone can share the joy we have the privilege of experiencing everyday,” said Ingles.

Band of Skulls’ music like great lit

By Noah Manskar
Transcript Reporter

A car made Band of Skulls famous.

The Southampton, England, blues-rock quartet were virtual unknowns when the fine folks at Ford Motor Company wisely chose to use their song “Light of the Morning” in an ad for the 2011 Mustang. The track leads off the band’s 2009 debut “Baby Darling Doll Face Honey,” which was largely praised by critics.

“Light of the Morning” defines that record—it’s a short, loud jam that leaves the listener wanting more. That want is satisfied, as 11 tracks follow it on “Baby.”

The much-anticipated sophomore album, “Sweet Sour,” takes the band’s sound in a different direction, but by no means fails to achieve what Band of Skulls are best at: enticing.

The lead, title track achieves this end most successfully. The opening riff is easily the sultriest and most seductive I’ve ever heard.

Frontman Russell Marsden’s guitar work and the vocal harmony between him and bassist Emma Richardson are hypnotizing, the song’s abrupt, single-chord ending, serving as the snap of the fingers releasing listeners from its spell.

The final four tracks are an equally beguiling group.

“Navigate” and “Hometowns” are so despondent and depressing that a song like “Light of the Morning” is necessary to prevent anyone from contemplating suicide.

The band delivers with the penultimate track, “Lies,” an audacious return to the prevalent sound of Baby. The record’s title is even referenced in the lyrics: “How can you not have a little fun/Doll face honey?”

After “Lies,” the only fitting end to the record would be equally vigorous, right?

Wrong.

“Close to Nowhere” is the bleakest of all 10 songs on “Sweet Sour.” Minimalistic guitar work and a dark, chanting rhythm conjured by drummer Matt Hayward partner with almost nihilistic lyrics about not knowing one’s purpose in life to bring back the wave of gloom “Lies” was supposed to send away.

The track is a prime example of the record’s darker, more personal lyrics.

“Lay My Head Down” deals with a reluctant relinquishing of love, and “Bruises” has overtones addressing the adverse, outward effects of mental illness. The stripped down compositions on these more somber songs succeeds at letting their lyrical themes show through.

The album as a whole, as its title suggests, is a bit of a paradox. The loud, forceful sound of “Baby” is staunchly

present on Sweet Sour—“The Devil Takes Care Of His Own” sounds like it could have been on an AC/DC record, and the driving drums and swift guitar and bass of “You’re Not Pretty But You Got It Goin’ On” are just plain fun to listen to.

After the first time around the album, the listener is left somewhat wanting.

This could be a result of the contrast of expectations created by “Baby,” or the desperate thirst for optimism after hearing “Close to Nowhere.”

But this aural teasing is what Band of Skulls are best at. After a few more listens ,the effect they create becomes clearer, and the record gets better and better, but there are still no definite answers. Even after hearing it a multitude of times, it is still packed with wonderful ambiguity.

“Sweet Sour” is like a great piece of literature—the first time through it’s apparent there’s an incredible amount of depth and substance, but it’s uncertain exactly what it is.

After examining it again and again, the meaning is still unclear, but that ambiguity allows for the open development of different interpretations.

With “Sweet Sour,” Band of Skulls have definitively proven that they should never be underestimated.

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continued from Page 1

“The only disadvantage to having a cook is sometimes running out of food on the weekends and not being able

Bishops Sports

Men’s basketball scores 3rd place NCAC finish

By Tim Alford
Transcript Reporter

The Ohio Wesleyan men’s basketball team defeated Wabash on Wednesday night and Denison on Saturday afternoon to secure third place in the North Coast Athletic Conference and end the regular season.

This also secured a first round home game in the NCAC tournament on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. against Hiram.

At Wabash on Wednesday night, the Bishops won in double overtime. With 41 seconds left in the second overtime, junior point guard Andy Winters made a 3-pointer to put the Bishops up 81-79.

After a Wabash miss, senior guard Tim Brady was fouled and made a foul shot, putting OWU in the lead by 3 points.

Wabash was then fouled on a 3-pointer, but the last free throw was missed, ending the game with a final score of 82-81, the Bishops on top.

At halftime, Ohio Wesleyan had been up 32-22 against Wabash. However, Wabash was able to fight back in the second half to force the game into two overtimes.

Winters said the team needs to keep playing every possession as hard as they can during the second half.

“We need to keep attacking offensively and not worry about our first half leads,” Winters said.

Brady said, “We just need to continue

to play hard for all 40 minutes, not for just one half or for most of the game.”

Coach Mike DeWitt said he hoped winning a tough game against Wabash would give the team confidence as the regular season finishes.

“Our mentality in the overtimes at Wabash was one of determination and perseverance,” DeWitt said. “We overcame some mental mistakes and poor decisions and beat a good team.”

Winters said the team worked together to win.

“Everyone contributed at an important time during the game and it has created more confidence because we beat a very good Wabash team,” Winters said.

In the final game of the regular season on Saturday against Denison, the Bishops won a game that was back and forth the whole time.

While Denison led 35-31 with only two minutes remaining in the first half, the Bishops were able to go into halftime with a 4-point lead.

Brady made some critical 3-pointers in the game, as he went 6-8 from the 3-point line and totaled 32 points for the entire game.

In the last minute of the game, the Bishops were able to hit seven free throws to seal a victory with a final score of 83-77.

DeWitt, Winters and junior forward Marshall Morris all used the word “per-

severe” to describe the wins against Denison and Wabash.

“In the end, we made just enough plays to beat a very good team,” DeWitt said. “We just kept coming up with a big possession.”

“We are beginning to develop a refuse-to-lose mentality,” Morris said.

Saturday was senior night, as Brady and senior forward Danny Flanagan were honored at the start of the game along with the senior members of the cheerleading squad.

“It felt great to win my last regular season game at home,” Brady said. “It’s hard to believe that was my last regular season game, but I have really enjoyed playing in Branch Rickey Arena for my four years here and winning on Saturday was a great way to cap it off.”

With those wins, the Bishops finish their regular season with a record of 19-6 and a conference record of 11-5.

This is one of the best records the OWU men’s basketball team has finished the regular season with since the 1988 season when the team went on to win the NCAA Division III championship.

“To win back-to-back tough games going into possibly both tournaments (the NCAC and NCAA) is big because I feel we are playing with some momentum,” Brady said. “Hopefully, we will catch fire and play our best basketball here these coming weeks.”



Photo by Tim Alford

Junior forward Marshall Morris tries to block a Denison forward as he goes for a layup on Saturday. Morris had 10 points and 7 rebounds in the game. The Bishops went on to beat Denison 83-77.

New football head coach excited to be in OWU family

By Eric Tifft
Managing Editor

Ohio Wesleyan hopes to re-energize its football program with the hiring of a new head coach, Tom Watts, in early February.

After Head Coach Mike Hollway left the program after 25 years, Watts beat out over 200 applicants to be chosen by the football head coach search committee as the head coach of the OWU football program, Athletic Director Roger Ingles said.

Ingles and many of the football players are excited about the energy and enthusiasm that Watts will bring to the program.

“Coach Watts will bring high energy, enthusiasm and passion for football,” Ingles said. “He will work very well with our current staff of coaches and will attract quality assistants to work with. Tom is a very good recruiter and has the highest of recommendations.”

Junior James Huddleston, a two-time letterman defensive end, said Watts will bring changes to the program that are not limited to the playbook.

“Coach Watts brings fresh ideas, not just on the field but in the classroom too,” Huddleston said. “He has implemented a system to help us track our academic success.”

Watts is excited for his future with the OWU football program.

“(OWU) has a great academic reputation with an excellent location,” Watts said. “It also has a very proud athletic tradition, which with those combined is a great opportunity to build an excellent football program.”

“There has been a huge commitment from administration and alumni to build the program the right way and make it into a championship program.”

Sophomore Mason Espinoza, quarterback, is optimistic of the energy and excitement Watts will bring to the program.

Espinoza said one problem the team has had in the past is the retention of players.

He said he hopes Watts will be able to make the program a quality place where players can stay for four years.

“(Watts) is an energetic and personable guy and I think that he will definitely get the team and people around the community and on campus excited about OWU football now and in the future,” Espinoza said. “Coach Watts also



Tom Watts

has made a very good effort to connect with the current players and learn about us on an individual basis, which is something we respect.”

Watts stressed the importance of student athletes earning their degrees before trying to win championships.

“There are three things we have stressed to the team,” Watts said. “First, we’ve stressed the importance of earning an excellent degree from OWU. Second, we want our athletes to be prepared for the real world when they graduate.

“Finally, we want to win championships!”

Huddleston said the team aims to win the conference championship next season. He said he hopes Watts will help lead them in the right direction.

“The team is excited to move forward, Coach Watts will lead us in right direction,” Huddleston said. “He has a lot off experience and has been a strong part of turning around programs before.”

Watts said the team has been working hard this spring in preparation for next season.

Watts has a tremendous background in

football, Ingles said. He is a fourth-generation coach from a family line of great football coaches.

“His great grandfather coached at Baldwin Wallace, his grandfather won state championships at Canton McKinley and his father coached at three different high schools,” Ingles said. “He has great experience, been very successful in his past positions.”

According to the OWU athletic homepage, Watts has spent the last three seasons at Baldwin-Wallace as an assistant coach.

Prior to coaching at Baldwin-Wallace, Watts served the 2008 season as the defensive coordinator and linebackers coach at Westminster College (Pa.).

He also served four seasons as the defensive coordinator and defensive backs coach at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Watts said.

Watts’s coaching career began at Waynesburg College (Pa.) as a co-defensive coordinator and graduate assistant coach in 2003, Watts said.

“I have no qualms about leaving the Baldwin-Wallace community,” Watts said. “It’s a great place with a lot of great people, but my family could not be more excited to be a part of the OWU family!”

OWU men’s tennis capitalize the Crusaders in singles, doubles

By Andy Wittenberg
Sports Editor

The Ohio Wesleyan’s men’s tennis team easily out-played the Capital University Crusaders in a non-conference match Feb. 17, winning 7-2.

Doubles

No. 1 OWU doubles duo junior John Rissell and sophomore Richie Karban demonstrated tentative superiority against the Crusaders. Their rapport helped propel them.

The duo’s cohesion rang clear, especially in pressing times, against the No. 1 Capitals doubles players Kenny Duncan and Tommy Stein.

In one rally, Rissell shoots his racquet with too much topspin. The ball tries, but just cannot clear the net’s peak: sweetwords by partner Karban, maybe a high-five or two later, and Rissell is back on his game, serving aces and spitting winners.

That is how the majority of the match went—general dominance by Rissell and

Karban with short spurts of inconsistent shots remedied by excellent team cohesiveness.

From the forefront it was clear: the Rissell-Karban combo had the communication and togetherness their opponents lacked. Rissell and Karban’s moves were calculated and strategic while Duncan and Stein stayed stagnant. Rissell and Karban clinched the match, 8-4.

Rissell said he and Karban have been playing together for over a year.

Singles

OWU No. 1 junior Will Thieman dominated in singles against Capital No. 1 John Murray.

After the first game and a few self-motivating shouts: “I need to focus, I need to focus”-- he was off. Pushing almost no unforced errors, Murray would have to win each point to beat Thieman, said Bishop tennis coach Eddie Echeverria.

Each game Thieman won in the first set seemed to cause visible redness in Murray’s face. Game after game after game

after game went to Thieman. His opponent made false calls: “Out,” Murray indicated with an open finger. Murray’s own teammate on the sideline said, “That was in.”

Thieman goes on to beat Murray in the set 6-0. In the second set Murray fared a bit better, but was trumped by Thieman’s persistent consistency and collectedness, who won the set, 6-2.

Thieman said he has been playing tennis since he was 10 and has learned to stay mentally tough. Despite his high match scores he said he thought he would do better.

Overall

Echeverria said the team did very well. “It helps build confidence (for the upcoming match),” he said.

Echeverria said he expected an overall win, but warned that it could lead to player overconfidence.

“Once a man gets lazy, a man’s legs get lazy. Overconfidence brings error and the opponent feels they have a chance,” he said.



Photo by Andy Wittenberg

Junior Will Thieman serves against Capital on Feb. 17.

Despite a rough overall season, the Bishops swim strong at its end and break records

By Liza Bennett
Transcript Reporter

Despite Ohio Wesleyan’s eighth place finish in the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) Championship, individual swimmers and divers finished the season strong.

The championship took place in Canton, Ohio over a four-day period starting Feb.

15 and ending on the 18. At the meet OWU swimmers and divers shattered records and ended the season on a good note.

OWU women’s 400 medley relay record, which has been in place since 1991, was cleared from the record books when senior Anne McComas and sophomores Kate Helfrich, Melissa Ward, and Olivia Gillison broke the record on the second day of the competition.

McComas said all members of the relay swam the best time they had all season. “It was very exciting to break the school record, we had tried for the record last year, but missed it in this event by a few tenths of a second,” she said.

“This year our goal was to

go out and swim our best and if we got the record it would just be an added bonus to a great swim,” McComas said.

Freshman Matthew Mahoney led the Bishops with the best individual finish on the second day of the competition.

Mahoney said it felt great to know that his good performance helped set the tone for the meet.

“The team as a whole performed very well at conference and we had many individuals place high in their events and drop large amounts of time in their races,” Mahoney said.

He said that the swim team had many individuals step up and demonstrate how talented the team is and placed in the finals.

Senior Ali Russ said it

was one of the best jobs they had done in her four years at OWU.

“Even though we have some of the fastest teams in the nation in our conference including Kenyon, Denison and a new addition this year, DePauw, we were able to swim fast and compete very well at our conference meet,” Russ said.