

Students sign petition to prioritize Counseling Services

By Breanne Riley
Transcript Correspondent

More than 800 Ohio Wesleyan students and staff have signed a petition addressing the counseling services wait list and a need for counseling services to become more available.

The petition states, “Administrators, we are counting on you to demonstrate a commitment to the mental health of students and employees on campus. Please pay attention to the needs of our counseling services staff and make funding choices that reflect our shared commitment to a healthy community.”

Senior Kami Goldin, resi-

dent of the Peace and Justice House, said the petition is not an attack on the administration, but an attempt to engage in conversation about the importance of all students’ mental health.

“The petition is symbolic and we’re not looking to pressure or strongarm anyone,” she said. “I’m sure that the administration will care about what students care about.”

The petition also states, “The mental health of students must be a priority for this university... Too often, students must wait days or weeks to see one of the wonderful therapists available through Ohio Wesleyan University’s Counseling Services. Please, help

ensure the mental health of our students and the mental health of the counselors who support them by ensuring that they have the funding and resources they need.”

“We’d like to start a conversation, in which the petition represents student concern over this issue, but isn’t the central focus,” Goldin said. The conversation should be one in which we all talk about whether access to counseling services is an issue (because an important step is just getting everyone to agree on this premise) and then start to creatively plan ways to improve the situation.”

Goldin said the petition started at the house of peace

and justice at a SLUSH event in January. She created the petition and circulated it along with others dealing with national issues.

The petition was based on conversations Goldin had with many classmates about their experiences trying to access counseling services at OWU.

“When I collected the petitions again after the event, I saw that most of them had gathered between eight and 18 signatures, except for the one about mental health at OWU, which had gathered 45 signatures,” she said. “This indicated to me that there was a real energy on campus about accessing counseling services.”

Goldin then set her goal to

collect 1000 signatures, “because it’s a nice round number and represents a significant population of students,” into a house project, and approached Active Minds to collaborate.

Goldin said people generally have three types of reactions to the petition: concern, gratitude or defiance.

She said signers who are concerned say they hadn’t known that this was an issue or that mental health services are available as a resource. Those who are grateful know it is a huge problem, either for themselves or for their friends who have sought counseling, and sign the petition. A minority of people say the issue does not affect them and that they

think it is not important.

The Office of Counseling Services in Hamilton-Williams Campus Center room 324 currently has three counselors. According to Colleen Cook, director of counseling services and assistant dean of student affairs, the counseling services wait list has existed for two years.

“Prior to that, our office worked to do everything we could to avoid a wait list since we know that it can often be difficult for students to make the decision to set up an appointment, and we didn’t want to discourage them when they

See PETITION on Page 3

Chartwells reaches out to student body

By Jacob Beach
Transcript Reporter

In an effort to bring better food and service to campus, Chartwells has recently extended a hand to both students and the Wesleyan Council on Student Affairs.

This semester Gene Castelli, resident district manager for Chartwells, has been meeting with students for lunch on a regular basis.

Junior Martin Clark, WCSA president, said the idea was conceived by the WCSA executive body as a way for students to “interact directly with Gene (Castelli), to tell him what they liked and did not like about food on campus.”

According to junior Alex Kerensky, WCSA representative, the meetings address “small specific issues at Thomson and Smith to larger issues like labeling of food, vegetarian options and how Chartwells deals with different allergies.”

Clark said WCSA and Chartwells have previously worked together on a number of occasions.

Chartwells, in another effort to reach out to students about its dining servers and buildings, recently conducted a student survey asking questions about what types of food they would like to see more

of to what they thought of the current seating situations in certain facilities.

Castelli referred to the survey as a “gut check” to make sure student views are in line with the future of the food courts and services, specifically Chartwells’s plans for the summer.

The first question—the most important, according to Castelli—asked the participating 163 students which food they would prefer to have served in the Food Court.

59 percent of the 163 respondents prioritized healthy food options; 51.5 percent favored a rotating weekly food schedule.

Among other issues that received overwhelming responses was Bishop Café—64.9 percent of students said they wanted “improved speed of service.”

Castelli said Chartwells will order Turbochef, a toaster oven able to cook four to six sandwiches at once. The current machine can only cook one sandwich at that time.

Students also responded strongly when asked about bringing a national brand to campus. Castelli said Chartwells is considering installing

See SURVEY on Page 2



Photo by Nola Johnson

Acknowledging racism: Junior Jenna Culina (left), president of PRIDE, sophomore Meredith Harrison (middle), vice-president of PRIDE and historian of Sisters United (SU), and junior Shelby Alston (right), member of SU and the Student Union on Black Awareness, participated in a demonstration during the lunch hour in the Hamilton-Williams Campus Center on Wednesday, Feb. 20 to raise awareness of the racism and stereotypes that continue to plague people of color, both on and off campus. See pages 4 and 5 for the full story.

Anonymous donor starts discussion about Merrick Hall’s potential

By Taylor Stoudt
Transcript Reporter

The lonely gray building to the east of University Hall is receiving some love as donors express interest in its future.

University President Rock Jones said a particular donor started “preliminary conversations” about how to best use the building and “the resources available to fund its restoration.” He then formed a committee chaired by Dale Swartzentruber, associate dean for institutional research, to explore the university’s options for Merrick Hall. Swartzentruber presented details about the potential uses for the building were discussed at the

faculty meeting on Feb. 11.

“A couple of months ago Rock (Jones) asked me to put together a task force of what turned out to be 17 faculty and staff, to come up with some ideas for the renovation of Merrick Hall should funds become available for that renovation,” Swartzentruber said.

The committee held two meetings. In the first, the group toured the building and was asked by Jones to compile a list of ideas that Ohio Wesleyan might want to execute and a donor would be excited about funding. In the second, the committee opened up two discussion groups, one for students and another for faculty and staff, to share ideas and

hopes for the building.

“It was a consensus of the surveys and the committee that this proposal would essentially look at the building as a home for a students-centered approach to the curricular initiative for co-curricular as well as academic engagement,” Swartzentruber said.

In working with the idea of co-curricular engagement and a move towards academic excellence, Swartzentruber said it would be fitting if the building included space for the Office of Academic Advising, the Academic Resource Center, the Office of International Studies and Off-Campus Programming, and the Office of Career Services.

In addition to using the building as a student-centered space, there are hopes for classrooms in Merrick that would be shared among the different departments and groups looking for more space.

“What we do with the building has to be consistent with the school mission and the faculty has to feel comfortable with it,” Swartzentruber said. “But if a donor comes along and gives us however many millions of dollars we need then the donor has a lot to say with what we do with the building.”

Currently, the building consists of three floors and a basement. The first two floors are about 15 feet tall; the third is

upwards of 20 feet. The building also houses a lecture hall with stadium seating divided into two separate classrooms.

The basement could be made taller by digging further into the ground, and the walls currently dividing the floor into small offices could be removed to make it one large room.

“Virtually everyone agrees that that room should be opened up and used in all its majesty,” Swartzentruber said. “It could be a really nice space with the wooden beams that go the entire width of that top floor, and the tall windows are just beautiful. It’s an impressive space that, given the re-

sources, I think we would all be very proud to make good use of.”

In the 20 years Swartzentruber has worked at Ohio Wesleyan, he has never seen the building used for university purposes.

“I think it’s a real shame to have a building in that location and that is that dominant and not have any use for it,” Swartzentruber said. “It’s a huge stone building made from stone from our local Blue Limestone quarry, but it’s very excit(ing) to think that there’s a good possibility that we’re going to be able to make use

See MERRICK on Page 2



Living in SLUs increases rate of retention for students

Page 3



Paquet album invigorates music scene in Delaware

Page 7



NCAC title goes to men’s basketball

Page 8

New OWU custodial workers leave their mark

By Sadie Slager
Transcript Correspondent

With a new system of daily or weekly custodial checklists posted throughout common areas and dormitory bathrooms, students are told who cleaned their bathroom, when they did it and which duties were performed.

In many common areas and buildings cleaned by the Ohio Wesleyan Aramark Custodial Department, pink flyers outline days the spaces are cleaned and differentiate between deep cleaning and regular cleaning.

Deep cleaning procedures include dry mopping of floors, emptying of trash, dusting of surfaces and cleansing of fixtures.

In student bathrooms, custodial services are responsible for replenishing toilet paper, cleaning the shower, emptying trash, wiping down surfaces and mopping the floor. Once custodial workers have finished these weekly tasks, they leave a checklist with the date, time and their signature.

Freshman Ann Sharpe said she is satisfied with the current state of custodial services. She said her bathroom is "cleaned thoroughly each week" and always has sufficient supplies.

"We currently have 8 rolls of toilet paper ready to be used," she said.

Sharpe said when she and her suitemates leave belongings out in the bathroom, the custodial services staff leave a reminder and give them a second chance to clear the room.

"When we forget to take our belongings out of the bathroom she usually writes a note that she'll be back the next day to clean if we remember to clear out our things," she said.

Sharpe said OWU is unique in that weekly

custodial services are provided for each student's room.

"I feel like I can't complain about our cleaning services because most of my friends at other schools have to clean their own bathroom," she said.

Sophomore Saige Bell said the cleanliness of her bathroom depends on whose job it is to clean it that week.

"One person doesn't give us enough toilet paper; one does," she said. "Sometimes I think they check things off on the checklist that they didn't really do. The walls of the shower aren't always cleaned."

Sophomore Sam Weeks said her bathroom is not always cleaned frequently because she doesn't always completely clear the area of personal belongings.

"They always leave a note saying they couldn't clean because I had stuff in the way," she said. "But I don't get why they can't just clean around it."

Weeks, who now lives in Stuyvesant Hall, said she was more satisfied with how her bathroom in Smith Hall was cleaned last year.

"My bathroom in Smith was always cleaned wonderfully," she said. "I think it depends on who's cleaning."

Weeks said while some spaces are always well-cleaned in the dormitories, she would like to see some more changes.

"I feel like the common areas in Stuy are cleaned very well, and the common bathrooms," she said.

"I'd like them to clean around the stuff I have on my sink and not skip the days they're supposed to clean. And I don't have enough toilet paper."

'I Love Female Orgasm' entertains, educates diverse student audience

By Emily Feldmesser
Transcript Correspondent

On February 18 the "I Love Female Orgasm" event, sponsored by Sisters United (SU) and the Women's Resource Center (WRC), was presented to Ohio Wesleyan students, male and female alike.

Hosted by sex educators Marshall Miller and Kate Weinberg, the event "combines sex education and women's empowerment with a hearty dose of laughter," according to the program's website, to "illuminat(e) the subject of female orgasm for everyone."

"Events like this put women's health and pleasure on people's radars, and help educate all of us on healthy sexuality," said senior Kamila Goldin, a WRC intern.

"I think programs like this are important to have because it's a form of sex education but its fun at the same time. I think the fact that they made it fun made it more enjoyable for people," said sophomore Mariah Powell, president of SU.

Junior Madeleine Leader, vice-president of SU, said their role in the program was marketing, student involvement and providing the financial backing.

"It wasn't too difficult to get this program to OWU, thanks to the support of Sis-

"By focusing on female pleasure and empowerment now, we hope to affect the culture of the future," said senior **Kamila Goldin**, Women's Resource Center intern

ters United and WCSA, who helped secure and provide the funding or else it would have been too expensive," Goldin said.

Leader also said OWU is very open to different kinds of events, which is why it was easy to get this event to campus.

One aspect of this program was that it was a part of the Panhellenic trilogy events. According to senior Amber Callen-Ward, Panhellenic Council president, trilogy events require at least 75 percent of each sorority chapter to attend programs "that we believe will be educational or informative for our community."

"I would say that many women were excited by the event, which can be seen by the fact that all the sororities had over 75 percent of their chapters there," Callen-Ward said.

Leader said because "Female Orgasm" was a trilogy event, attendance was quite high, but "there were so many people that came by their own volition."

Powell said she noticed the event was so full, that students were sitting on the floor in or-

der to be a part of the talk.

Fraternities were also required to send 75 percent of their members to this event, which the organizers were glad to see.

"I would hope that the males who attended this event learned more about the female body and they became more comfortable talking about sex," Powell said.

Goldin said she hoped the event "underscored the importance of consent and communication in sex."

Freshman Kristina Wheeler said she thought the event was "fantastic."

"It put a spotlight on the often taboo subject of female sexuality," she said.

Goldin said she thinks the information presented is important to disseminate for two reasons.

"The first is immediate: it makes life better," she said. It makes it easier to communicate with partners. The second reason is because most cultures are horribly disrespectful to women. By focusing on female pleasure and empowerment now, we hope to affect the culture of the future."

OWU students getting festive for the fight against cancer

By Emily Hostetler
Transcript Correspondent

Colleges Against Cancer (CAC) will unite the campus to walk for a cure through the Relay for Life program.

On March 22, teams of students, faculty and staff will gather in the Gordon Field House, where at least one person from each team will be walking laps for 18 hours.

Junior Jessica Martin, president of CAC, said the organization has been planning Relay for Life since September.

"This event means creating more birthdays," she said. "It's a really powerful event to show people the small part of the journey a cancer patient would go through."

This year, the theme for the event is "holidays," and each team has to pick a holiday to plan fundraising events around.

"We thought holidays would be fun because people can have fun with it," Martin said. "We are planning an Easter egg hunt, caroling and a Halloween dress up contest at the event."

Martin also said one of her favorite parts about the event is the annual cross-dressing contest.

"We always have a cross-dressing contest with (professional)

drag queens and all the contestants are encouraged to cross dress and have a pageant," she said.

While there are many events to keep students awake and active during the event, there will also be a Luminaire ceremony, at which candles are lit, and memorials for Jeffrey Thongsawath '10, who recently died from pancreatic cancer.

Junior Jija Dutt, team development recruitment chair for CAC, said she is really happy with how the year of planning the event has gone so far.

"I am most looking forward to everyone coming together," she said. "We have all the fun stuff and ceremonies like the Luminaire to honor people who have lost their lives and are battling cancer and take moments to be thankful."

Meghan Feran '06, American Cancer Society staff partner to the Relay For Life of OWU, said there are 23 teams signed up to date—the most OWU has ever had—with over \$6,000 raised for the cause.

"Seeing collegiate committees collaborate and pull together such a life-saving event out of selflessness and passion to the cause in the fight against cancer is simply amazing," she said. "The committee is small but mighty and doing a phenomenal

job."

CAC is a national organization committed to implementing programs in colleges aimed at eliminating cancer.

The organization is a main sponsor of Relay for Life and holds events such as the Great American Smokeout to encourage people to stop smoking and focuses on raising awareness about all cancer types.

"Freshman year I lost my mom to Leukemia," Dutt said. "I had to fly back home to India... I came back all charged up and ready to be involved. While we are still here and still have time to do something about it (cancer) we should."

Dutt said cancer can be unpredictable, which is one of the scariest things about it.

"Something like cancer should be important to everyone," she said. "It affects people in more ways than one. You never know who is going to be touched by it."

Martin said she joined CAC because her mom survived Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia as a child and because of that she has always been really passionate about cancer.

"I've seen the effects of cancer and I really believe that if we dedicate ourselves to research, we will find a cure," Martin said.

MERRICK, continued from Page 1

of it."

The restoration of the building is estimated between \$5 million and \$10 million. The donor who expressed interest in the project wishes to remain anonymous.

"The only reason we're not using it is because it

would cost millions of dollars to make it useful," Swartzentruber said. "And we're functioning well without it. We just want to function better. So it's not that we require the use of the building, but we'll be a better school if we make good use of it."

Jones said the university is currently "issuing a request for proposals" from

design contractors that could be helpful in completing the project.

No university money has been spent.

"In the mean time, I'll be having additional conversations with the individual who first proposed the question and we remain open to any and all input that the campus might have to share," he said.

SURVEY, continued from Page 1

Chickendippity, an internal chicken franchise, at OWU. A contract with Papa John's Pizza is also a strong possibility.

"They wouldn't deliver, but would be available to students to make personal 8-inch pans and would be

fast, clearing up a lot of congestion in the Food Court," Castelli said.

In an attempt to reduce congestion in the Food Court it was suggested the salad bar be removed, since pre-packaged salads are offered. Survey results proved correct. Castelli's prediction students would not like the idea.

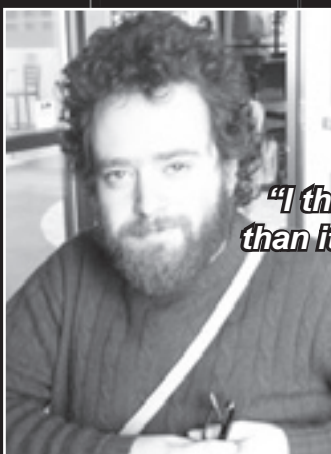
About 57 percent of re-

spondents said they would rather make a salad from the salad bar, while 10.2 percent said they preferred pre-packaged salad.

Castelli said much of the information used in the survey has and will be considered during the planning process for renovations of the HWCC Food Court and dining areas.

Sound-Off OWU

What do you think of the parking system on campus?



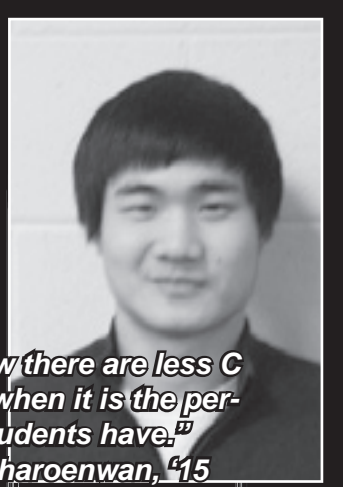
"I think it could be a lot worse than it is." - Sidney Kochman, '13



"It definitely could be more efficient. They need to enforce the parking rules more and there needs to be more parking in general." - Amanda Caserta, '14



"It could be improved. It's really inconvenient. There are not enough spots for the lower letters. People might not as well buy a permit and park on the streets." - Derek Bruno, '13



"I don't like how there are less C parking spots when it is the permit most students have." Kaneat Nimcharoenwan, '15



"It is useful in residential lots for certain people. It's useless for academic side. Although it is pretty cheap considered what you would be fined by DPD for parking on the streets. Basically if you don't have a B permit it's almost impossible to park on residential." - Nicole Stinemetz, '14



"It's annoying. You can only park in so many places. Why should there be a letter system? If you live near Bashford, park there. If you live in Hayes, park there. You shouldn't park all the way across campus from where you live." - Sara Hamilton, '16

SLU membership boosts retention for students

By Cecilia Smith
Transcript Correspondent

Students in Small Living Units may be less likely to leave Ohio Wesleyan due to increased campus activity and a heightened sense of community, according to members of the SLU community.

Many SLU residents said they would have transferred if they had not been able to be a part of the community.

Senior Erinn Colmenares, a resident of House of Thought (HoT), said she definitely believes SLUs have a higher retention rate within OWU, partly because students who decide to live in SLUs are already less inclined to leave.

"It's like a commitment," she said. "We make a series of subconscious agreements during the interview process. It's like, 'OK, you seem really interested and we'll see what you're like.' By interviewing and us accepting you, the people we interviewed still have the power to say no. I'd say that happens more than people leaving school when they're already living in (a) SLU."

HoT lost one member this year, though not for reasons related to the university itself, according to senior Mikala Back.

Dale Swartzentruber, associate dean for institutional re-

"If you live with one roommate who's a great roommate it does a lot for your college experience, but if you're living with 10 good roommates it does even more," said senior Mikala Back, a resident of House of Thought, a Small Living Unit

search, said 87.2 percent of last year's sophomores returned in fall 2012. He also said in an email 93.2 percent of juniors returned as seniors in fall 2012. Overall, the university's retention rate between the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 academic years was 87.4 percent.

Senior Aubrey Alamshah, who has been an RA at Hayes Hall for the past two years, said most of the upperclassmen she has known who've left OWU did so because they either failed out or had difficulty paying tuition. Alamshah said students in SLUs might have an easier time with academics at OWU.

"I find that people who join SLUs tend to be more commit-

ted and more focused on academics," she said. "I think the good thing about SLUs is that they force (the students living in them) to be more accountable. I think there's a sense of responsibility that people in SLUs have that makes them more committed."

Back said living in HoT gave her a bigger sense of community than she had living in the dorms on campus.

"I lived in the dorms the past three years and it wasn't horrible but I didn't know people very well," Back said. "I never really felt like I identified with my roommates in the way I identify with the people here. And being in the dorms, it's easier to be a homebody but here there are new people coming in the house every day....If you live with one roommate who's a great roommate it does a lot for your college experience but if you're living with 10 good roommates it does even more."

Colmenares said living in a SLU is like interviewing for a dream job.

"There are the jobs that you're thinking of seeing how it goes, the jobs you want to leave and the jobs where you know you want to stay," she said. "Living in a SLU is kind of like the job where you know it's not like you're saying you'll do it but you're already thinking of leaving. It's not like working at McDonald's."

Finding the right one: Modern foreign language department close to end of long search for permanent faculty

By Hannah Urano
Transcript Correspondent

The modern foreign language department continues its search for two full-time French professors as finalists visit campus.

According to German Professor Thomas Wolber, it's been a long process of trial and error that the department hopes will end successfully before the end of the academic year.

When French professors Margaret Fete and Susanna Bellocq died last winter, Susan Binkley and Adela Lechintan were hired as visiting assistant professors to fill their spots.

Meanwhile, Wolber said, the department was in the early phases of finding permanent replacements.

According to the faculty handbook, it is university policy to hold a nationwide search



Photos courtesy of OWU.

The new teachers will replace professors Margaret Fete and Susanna Bellocq, who lost their battles with cancer in 2012.

to fill tenure positions.

"In my opinion, it is always preferable to have a tenure track position over people who come and go," Wolber said. "You want continuity, you want stability, you want some-

one who is totally committed and does not always have one foot in the job market."

According to Wolber, the Academic Policy Committee approved the department's request to hire two new pro-

fessors last fall and job descriptions were distributed nationally: one for a metropolitan French literature professor and another for a Francophone studies professor.

Francophone studies involve non-metropolitan French speaking areas including the Caribbean, Maghreb, Sub-Saharan Africa, North America and Southeast Asia.

"We have many French students," Wolber said.

"We didn't want the program to die. I think it is fair to state that the university is very committed to maintaining French and seeing the program rejuvenated."

According to Wolber the university has since received almost 100 applications for each position. A search committee "narrow(ed) down the candidates," conducted interviews and brought the finalists to OWU.

Six candidates have visited or will visit the university in the final leg of the job search, three for each position.

"We are close to the end of the search," Wolber said. "We have excellent candidates; we are happy with the quality."

While on campus, each candidate gives a "scholarly presentation" to the search committee that's open to students. They also have a chance to meet with students at an informal lunch.

Sophomore Kerrigan Boyd is not a French major, but has met with many of the candidates, as she is a member of the MFL student board.

"Most of the candidates I've talked to seem like their areas of study would fit quite well with the Ohio Wesleyan cross-disciplinary learning philosophy," she said. "Even though I'm not a French major, it's still important to me to

find a professor that would fit well with the department and help it grow as a whole."

Wolber said it is important to hear students' opinions are heard.

"I think student sentiment is always taken very seriously," he said.

"If that were not the case I would not be very happy. Students need to be heard. Ultimately our business is all about the students, I think it would be unconscionable not to consult them."

Junior Nora Anderson, who is majoring in French, said all of the candidates she's interacted with "are lovely people and they have much broader takes on the Francophone world than I'm used to, and I'm glad to see that."

"I'm excited to finally get permanent faculty, and I hope to work with them next year," she said.

PETITION, from Page 1

did," she said. "Unfortunately the demands for counseling have continued to increase every year, and the demands became too great for our office to continue to keep up."

Cook said the term "understaffed" is likely relative to there being a waitlist. Nationally, there are offices with less staffing than Ohio Wesleyan, as well as many offices with better staffing. She said it should be noted that OWU is not alone, as several schools across the country are facing similar challenges in effectively responding to students' mental health needs.

Psychology professor Richard Leavy, faculty advisor for Active Minds, said there is evidence of a nationwide increase in students with psychological disorders. There has also been a decrease in the stigma attached to needing counseling services.

"Expectations are also different about how much health should be accessible," Leavy said. Frankly, the good thing on this campus is the stigma of going to counseling services is lower than it's ever been. The reputation of counseling services on this campus is very positive. If you couple the two it stands to reason that people are going to regrettably be waiting in line to get help."

A rape survivor said she was put on a wait list when she went into counseling services after her attack.

"It was very clear that they wanted to help me, but they couldn't schedule me," she said. "I was wait-listed and they saw me a week later."

The survivor said the counselor asked if she was in any immediate danger; she said she was not. She was

referred to Delaware County HelpLine and told to contact them if she felt she needed immediate help. She has been to counseling services since then, but does not see the same counselor each time. She said it took a lot of courage to reach out each time, but counseling has helped her grow stronger.

Cook said counselors typically try and triage rape survivors immediately, knowing it would be crucial to get that person the support they need as soon as possible. She said students are waitlisted when there are no openings available with any counselors.

If a student is waitlisted, a counselor contacts the student to make sure they are not at risk for harm. If the student is not at imminent risk, they are offered the opportunity to be placed on the wait list and be referred to an outside counselor. Cook said students deemed at immediate risk or are not functioning are typically seen immediately.

"As the Director of Counseling Services, I would obviously like to immediately serve all students who are in need of support, which we currently are not able to do with the resources available to us," Cook said

Senior Tim O'Keefe, vice-president of the Wesleyan Council on Student Affairs (WCSA), said the petition was brought to his attention when a student presented it at a WCSA meeting. Most members signed the petition. Since then, he and junior Martin Clark, WCSA president, have been working with Rock Jones and the vice-presidents on campus to discuss possible solutions to the wait list problem.

"The school now has a helpline set up for students to call when the counseling services office is not open," O'Keefe said. "(There is)

Also the possibility of hiring another full time counselor."

Kimberlie Goldsberry, dean of students and WCSA advisor, said students have brought the wait list up in meetings. She discussed the possibility of a referral to local counselors and encouraged students to stay on the wait list and schedule an appointment even if it is further out.

"It is important to remember that medical and mental health operations on college campuses and the community are typically appointment driven with a triage for emergency cases," she said. "College operations are not typically set up like an urgent care setting, where the service is basically on a walk-in basis."

Cook said mindfulness and grief groups are offered for those who can't immediately get individual counseling.

According to Leavy, students will usually choose to be waitlisted despite these group therapy options.

"Now, with the percentage of students with serious mental illness who are ignoring that need, I think it is a significant worry," he said. Every year, about 1000 college students commit suicide. And we don't want to have suffering."

According to the Counseling Services website, students in crisis can contact the office, open weekdays 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00-5:00 p.m.; Public Safety at (740) 368-2222; Delaware County HelpLine at (740) 369-3316; or Residential Life staff for assistance.

Cook looks forward to a resolution to the issue.

"I continue to hope for a creative solution that will allow us to serve all students who come in to our office in a timely fashion," she said.

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By Spenser Hickey
Assistant Copy Editor
and Audrey Bell
Transcript Correspondent

The event

On Feb. 20, many students entering Hamilton-Williams Campus Center shortly before noon noticed that several of the couches and chairs that normally filled the atrium were missing. Some also noticed the table set up to the right of the door, where a growing group of students all dressed in black gathered to pick up signs. As the students in the atrium would quickly learn, this was the first stage of a collaborative demonstration by Sisters United, along with the Student Union on Black Awareness, OWU Freethinkers, VIVA LatinoAmerica, PRIDE, and Black Men of the Future. The demonstration was designed to educate the community on the realities of ongoing discrimination and racism, homophobia, white privilege and stereotyping, both in America and at Ohio Wesleyan. "The main goal was to put racial issues essentially in the forefront of everyone's mind," said junior Madeleine Leader, SU vice president, chief financial officer of Freethinkers, and a member of SUBA. "For the majority of people on this campus, race is not something that they discuss, have issues with or even come into a negative contact with, on any sort of basis. They walk around oblivious to the racial issues, so that's what we wanted to accomplish—

demystifying stereotypes, because it is Black History Month." Sophomore Mariah Powell, SU president, also stressed the importance of demystifying stereotypes. "Once they have the stereotype, they put everyone into this big group, this big bubble, so we just wanted to break that," said Powell. There were between 25 and 30 demonstrators in total; other organizers ran a table during the event. Many, like Leader, were members of multiple clubs collaborating in the event. BMF and PRIDE had four members involved, VIVA had five, Freethinkers two and SUBA nine. SU had 13 members present, including six officers. Sophomore Jenn Coleman, SU treasurer, and junior Nola Johnson, socio-cultural chair, did tabling while president Mariah Powell and historian Meredith Harrison, both sophomores, held signs, as did Leader and freshman Ellen Hughes, secretary. Hughes said the participation of white, Latino and Indian students in addition to African-Americans was "great" and showed "a lot of different stereotypes on race that weren't just for black history." Originally, the demonstrators were supposed to remain silent, but many spoke up when asked questions by fellow students. The event was deliberately planned to surprise the students who normally gather in the atrium, and details were kept tightly secret until it began. Word did get out that SU members were to wear all black and would have signs involving stereotypes, but other than that no

other information was given. A slide show providing basic details about who was involved in the event began playing on the atrium television set, but even a desk worker for the Student Involvement Office, normally in charge of the atrium television, was confused about what would happen. When asked about the event beforehand, Leader would only say to be in the HWCC at noon Wednesday, and that members of SU would not answer questions until after the 6 p.m. discussion. "At least in my experience at this campus, whenever people hear that there's going to be some sort of presentation having to do with race, somehow everyone leaves Ham-Wil (HWCC)," Leader said. "If you guys aren't going to come to our event, we're going to bring our event to you and you're going to deal with our presence. We're not going to be silent; this is going to be something that you're going to think about." Hughes said people leave events when they find out they're about race issues. "Race is really hard to look in the face and recognize and maybe you take part in it accidentally and don't mean to," she said. "I think a lot of people try to ignore that, because they don't want to be told they partake in something like that... We brought it to them, so they had to pay attention." Johnson offered another reason for the surprise, however. "Racial, sexual, and religious minorities) don't announce our invisibility...we just walk throughout life and we're invisible, so that's why we didn't give people pre-warning," she said.

Demonstration challenges community on racism



The audience reacts

After standing in place holding the signs for several minutes, the demonstrators gathered together in the Atrium again, formed a line and marched through HWCC. They entered the Faculty-Staff Dining Room and Bishop Café, and circled the entrance to the Food Court. Powell said while they were in the Faculty Dining Room, many faculty and staff members, including "a lot" of white faculty, told her they were glad to see the demonstration. She said they could have gotten more audience participation had the event been publicized, but they didn't want "a lot of people to know and then avoid the campus center that day." When asked about students asking demonstrators questions regarding their signs, Leader said, in an email, she thought students of all colors were asking questions. She said demonstrators were instructed to direct questions to the event table, staffed by Coleman, Johnson and senior Ashley Madera, a member of VIVA. "I thought that was really interesting and great that people felt comfortable enough to ask us about our demonstration," Johnson said. Students and university staff members also took the opportunity after the demonstration to write their own messages on a whiteboard and have a photo taken by SU members. Senior Karli Amstadt was one of the students who wrote their own message, which said, "I'm a future teacher. I'm sick of this oppressive education system!" Amstadt said, in an email, she took part because "many people see racism as something that isn't a problem in their own communities. "I think events like these can create a dialogue on racial issues and hopefully there will be an environment on campus where we can break down the taboos and just talk about race honestly and openly," she said. Johnson said some people reacted negatively to the demonstration. "I did hear people, when (demonstrators) were walking through—they were just like, 'Really?'" she said. "Someone said, 'Like we really want to see this right now,' and I'm like, 'Like we really want to live this life, all the time.'" Student reactions polled during and after the demonstration were mixed. Sophomore Margaux Erlane said the signs made her "uncomfortable"; sophomore Sarah Stachowiak said it was "creepy." Sophomore Mike Serbianou said he thought the demonstrators were voicing their concerns, that everyone was equal. Sophomore Ashkan Ekhtera said he thought the event was about "less legal issues, more about social issues." Senior Tori Veach said a couple of the signs, particularly one on transgender Americans, were "thought-provoking" and "intriguing." Sophomore Susannah Cleland said she didn't get to read all the signs, but thought the event was "interesting." Junior Nora Anderson expressed support for the demonstrators. "Race privilege still exists," she said. "Racism is still here. It is institutionalized. We need to see how racism affects everyone in order to change it. It is a part of our culture, and it is a problem for everyone." Sophomore Kyle Simon said the event achieved "greater impact" by being a surprise.

Changing tomorrow

After marching through Hamilton-Williams, the demonstrators formed a circle in the atrium, held hands and raised their arms as part of a traditional Harambee chant. Harambee means "coming together" in Swahili, the chant is used to close SUBA meetings. They then announced that SU would be hosting a discussion on the demonstration in Crider Lounge at 6 p.m. Black World Studies professor Chukwuemeka Aniagolu, moderated the discussion, which addressed what the event meant, both for demonstrators and bystanders; race relations and racism; general on-campus apathy; and steps they want the administration to take. There were between 20 and 30 students at the discussion; most of them had been involved in the demonstration. Leader said while the discussion attendees were many of the same people they'd seen at past events, having Professor Aniagolu added a different perspective to it. Hughes said while she thought the content of the discussion was good, the lack of new students was "a huge problem." "We had a good conversation, but nobody else got anything out of it," she said. "That's so frustrating." Hughes did say she thought the demonstration was a success. "Lots of students appreciated what we were trying to say," she said in an email. "The secrecy was awesome because it forced students to ask about the demonstration—it forced them to get involved and to interact with the participants." Harrison said while she thought the demonstration was a success, she wished they could have reached the whole campus. "I tried to reach out to my white peers... I was really disappointed by the lack of support I saw, but I do think we did reach people, so that's always successful, even if it's just one person, that's success in my mind," said. Harrison said the event showed her what words and doesn't work and gave her a lot of ideas. Braxton said she thought the event went "really well," as the demonstration attracted a lot of attention and the discussion had good attendance from all walks of life. Senior Gene Sludge, a member of SUBA, said he wished more people would have come to the discussion, regardless of their race. "If you're a human being, you should've been there," he said. Leader said in an email SU was "happy" with the event's attendance. "I think we got the point across perfectly with the number of people we had," she said. Leader credited leaders of SUBA, VIVA, Freethinkers, the WRC, BMF and PRIDE for being extremely helpful. Amstadt said, in an email, she thought the event helped to "create a dialogue" about race issues. "Hopefully there will be an environment on campus where we can break down the taboos and just talk about race honestly and openly," she said. Johnson said such discussions need to be "more honest." "People just want to throw it under the rug and not address the issue head-on and recognize their privilege," she said. "Most of the black community, specifically, have come to the realization that not everyone on campus is racist," she added in an email. "We understand that have everyone has ignorances, prejudices, etc. But we do get frustrated when we organize/host opportunities for the faculty, students, and staff—the OWU community—to educate and demystify their perceptions and they don't take them. It hurts us to not see new faces at our events, and we host many of them throughout the year. You don't have to come to every event, but make yourself go to at least one. Listen to your peers, your friends, they're waiting for you to listen to them and they want to hear you as well. Race relations is still an issue in society, and on this campus. We must face this issue openly (and) honestly."

The signs they carried

The signs the demonstrators held varied—there were debunked stereotypes, messages challenging the audience and statistics on LGBT members of racial minority groups, held by members of PRIDE. After getting their signs, the demonstrators took up places throughout HWCC. Many stood in the atrium or the long hallway leading toward the Food Court; others were in the Food Court and Bishop Café or outside the mail-room. Powell credited the event's success to the number of demonstrators and their ability to fill the center. "We were everywhere, so you had to see at least one stereotype," she said. She said some students told the demonstrators about stereotypes they'd heard but didn't consider true. Powell's sign read, "Why do I have to be a pretty black girl? Why can't I just be a pretty girl?" She said it came from the annoyance of routinely having her race used as a description of her appearance. The signs' slogans came from "personal preference, any stereotype that either hit home or had to do with you in any way, that was the one you were supposed to demystify," Powell said. "So it was basically whatever you felt — I know some people talked about where people think they live or where they actually live." Examples of this included sophomore Garison Davis' sign "We're not all from the hood" and freshman JaMilla Holland's sign, "No, you won't get shot in my home neighborhood." African-American stereotypes weren't the only ones challenged by the demonstration. Freshmen Bhuneshwar Arjune and Krishna Arjune's signs challenged Indian stereotypes, while Hughes' sign challenged the Southern racist stereotype. Bhuneshwar's sign read, "Yes I am Indian, but I was born in South America," Krishna's sign said, "Yes I'm Indian, but I do not have an accent," and Hughes' sign said, "Just cause I'm from Georgia does not mean I'm racist y'all." The signs held by Leader and seniors Glenn Skiles of SU and Katie Pappenhagen of the Women's Resource Center all challenged students to acknowledge the white savior complex and white privilege. Pappenhagen's sign read, "I'm aware of my privilege. Are you?" Skiles' sign said, "I'm white but I'm not here to save you." Leader's featured a quote from Teju Cole, a Nigerian-American writer: "The White Savior Industrial Complex is not about justice. It is about having a big emotional experience that validates privilege." Skiles said her sign was related to Leader's, but focused more on the effects of imperialism rather than the current "white savior" belief. "I was particularly thinking of missionaries, not even just into Africa but everywhere," she said. Sophomore Shakira Braxton, SUBA president and a member of SU, held a sign reading, "Color blindness is not the answer." "In this society, and on this campus... people say, 'I'm color blind' as if that is the ultimate way to see race, see everyone, when no, we should see everyone as different and accept that," Braxton said. Powell said a sign held by freshman Devonta Oden, created by Braxton, "put the cap on the whole event"—it read, "My culture is not for your exploitation." "It didn't say black culture, it didn't say Hispanic culture; it just said my culture," Powell said. "That was the pinpoint of the whole entire event."

Why they marched

"I think this demonstration was important not just for minority students, but also for those in the majority," Leader said. She described several stereotypes she's seen on campus, particularly ones surrounding the House of Black Culture, of which she will be a resident next year. She said many white students feel threatened by the prospect of going there, and don't think the House is open to white students. Leader said the issue "is a micro-example of a macro-problem" concerning minority neighborhoods. "In fact, the black community on this campus is one of the most welcoming and inviting," she said. "We were sick of defending ourselves and just wanted to come out strong as one and say, 'This is who we are,

"This issue is especially important to me because I do believe that I recognize my privilege as a white student," she said. "...I am just sick and tired of hearing and seeing things happen to black students on campus, and specifically my black friends on this campus... Just because I'm not a racial minority doesn't mean it doesn't offend me." Harrison said she feels white students should "use (their) privilege to end racism within (their) own community." "We can start by being integrated more, and I feel like a lot of white students on this campus don't recognize their privilege, and think that racism isn't a problem," she said. "But it is, because I see it in all these programs that we have on campus. I see it every day. People need to wake up."

Johnson said many students think "racism doesn't happen on this campus," and that many movements on campus leave out African-American students and say afterwards they didn't realize it. "I say to them, how can you not realize that?" she said. "How can you not see that around you—there's nobody else represented but the people who look like you? And it's because they don't have to deal with it." Hughes said in an email she took part to demystify stereotypes, and because it's not fair "for anyone to prematurely judge another person." "My sign said, 'Just 'cause I'm from Georgia does not mean I'm racist, y'all,' because I wanted to show that not all southerners are confederates," Hughes said. Skiles said she wasn't very active within SU, but decided to take part after seeing her friends rehearsing for the demonstration the night before. "A big part of race issues have to do with a lack of reflection." "There's a lot of value in this for shocking the majority students, but also I feel like my life is enriched by the fact that I'm not racist, and that I try to acknowledge my privilege. I think other people's lives would be enriched if they did the same."

Photo by Spenser Hickey
Left freshman JaMilla Holland, a member of Sisters United during the demonstration. Her sign reads "No, you won't get shot in my home neighborhood!"

For more photos check out our Facebook page or website!

Photo courtesy of Nola Johnson
OWU Chaplain Jon Powers (left) with his own sign, 'Don't fear the color.'

demonstration was a success, she wished they could have reached the whole campus. "I tried to reach out to my

Opinion

In defense of the Chartwells menu: A response to 'Students deserve food that supports individual and communal health'

This letter concerns the quality of food provided by Chartwells dining services and not the racial insensitivity or lack thereof surrounding the Black History Dinner. I'd like to first focus specifically on the effort that Chartwells makes to remain accessible and flexible to the needs and desires of students before turning to the actual quality of the food offered on campus.

Chartwells Regional Manager Gene Castelli embodies accessibility. Talk to any member of the Tree House, to anyone with complicated dietary restrictions, to anyone who is interested in making a real difference in Ohio Wesleyan dining, and I guarantee they have spent some quality time working with Mr. Castelli. This past fall I referred a raw vegan friend (one of the most restrictive diets in existence) to Mr. Castelli. The regional manager and his staff worked with this student to make sure he was able to continue to follow this lifestyle while here at Ohio Wesleyan and to do so in the healthiest way possible.

Mr. Castelli and his staff are constantly reviewing student feedback in an effort to improve food quality. Chartwells is a business, they still need to remain profitable and prepare foods that appeal to the average student, however, that doesn't prevent the organization from being receptive to student ideas. Mr. Castelli, from my experience, and the experience of many students on campus, is as receptive and dynamic as a regional manager can get.

Maybe you are only a casual eater. Maybe meeting with Mr. Castelli is a little too much for you. Maybe attending one of many lunches designed give students a chance to talk with the Chartwells management is outside of your comfort zone.

Even you, casual eater, can help shape the Chartwells dining experience. The organization is always pushing at least one survey to gauge student interest and satisfaction. There are drop boxes for customer satisfaction forms in Smith Dining Hall, Hamilton-Williams Campus Center Food Court and Bishop Café. If you don't like something, you, personally, can do something about it.

For those who struggle to find something they like on campus, you aren't looking hard enough. I understand that there are problems. However, I would urge students to explore and try new options.

The Healthy Bishop Station (to the left of the main line in the Food Court) has tons of healthy options and some really delicious and interesting stuff. In Smith there are interesting, always changing, options next to the deserts and down the line from the salad bar. Worst case scenario, you go to the "My Pantry" station and a member of the Chartwells staff makes you a delicious stir-fry and then you finish off your meal with a bowl of Frosted Mini-Wheats.

By spending some time trying new things and experimenting I guarantee students will find something they like. This is especially true for vegetarian and vegan students on campus. As a vegetarian myself I do feel like sometimes I have to look a little bit harder, but I genuinely believe there are always options. That said, often times vegetarians and vegans have it pretty easy. In the Food Court, out of 20 consecutive days, the Healthy Bishop Station served 29 vegetarian and 31 vegan dishes for lunch alone.

The Culinary Table (to the right of the main line) served 44 vegan and 36 vegetarian additional options in those same 20 days. I will admit that being gluten free here on campus is more complicated. However, I believe with some creativity and communication with the Chartwells staff, even those with the most restrictive dietary needs can find something great to eat.

Complaints are easy. There are clearly problems, and Ohio Wesleyan students are clearly cognizant of them. That said, I'd challenge the OWU community to do more than complain.

Addressing the problem is an important first step, but it's figuring out logistically sound and sustainable solutions that can bring real change to campus. We have been given an incredible opportunity to be involved with our campus dining service. I urge all of you to contribute to the ongoing conversation between Chartwells and the Ohio Wesleyan community.

Jake Bonnell
Healthy Bishop Initiative Student Chair

Quote of the week:

"In basketball, one man can only do so much for the team. Most of the credit goes to my teammates."

--Senior Andy Winters on winning the NCAC tournament MVP trophy

The resolution to the parking wars

By Elizabeth Childers
Managing Editor

Over the past two weeks, there has been a lot of talk about parking among the editorial staff and during that time, we published two editorials pointing out the very obvious problem about parking on this campus. I'm happy to say, Public Safety has come up with a plan to change parking.

The issue behind parking is overcrowding, caused by everyone being allowed to bring their car to campus, a larger freshmen population and minimal off-campus housing.

There are too many students for the size of our parking lots, and not all lots are uniform on how they designate B parking from C. Hence, a lot of tickets and boots for students who may or may not be aware of parking are only parking briefly, and some, like me, brazenly park without a pass.

Public Safety is aware of the situation, and is changing the parking to a new system, based on how students plan to use their car.

For a small fee significantly less than the \$50 currently needed for the cheapest pass, students would be able to purchase a remote parking permit, meaning they could park their cars in farther areas on campus, like Roy Rike Field, Williams Drive and Selby. These permits are for students who don't really use their cars for anything but going home or traveling on weekends. Residential lot parking permits, for those students who need more constant access to their cars, will be a significantly higher cost of over \$100. These per-

mits would be honored in all residential parking lots.

While this is a change, whether or not it is a good one is debatable. The permits, especially the residential lot permits, are still extremely expensive, an expense that shouldn't exist.

Students pay enough in tuition, room and board, and it's only costing more next year. Let the students park free. There should be an order system of registering cars and physically receiving permits, but to charge so much money for them, on top of the cost going to books and the university already, is ridiculous.

Yes, having a car on campus is a privilege for many. But for some it's a necessity. For students who work off campus, or students with medical needs or students who need their cars for on campus work, need their cars. To make them pay for something that is not optional isn't appropriate.

The change in parking is no doubt a movement in the right direction. It's an acknowledgement of the problem. However, to completely fix the problem with parking, there needs to be some bigger changes. Parking lots need to be renovated. Currently, lots like Smith, especially near UDF, are cramped, and honestly, half the time I'm worried I'm going to take out someone's rear end, not to mention the amount of people who don't get that it's a one-way lot. Most of the parking lots on campus could do with a new coat of paint to mark spaces. And the lot accompanying Stuy is extremely small for the amount of students who reside

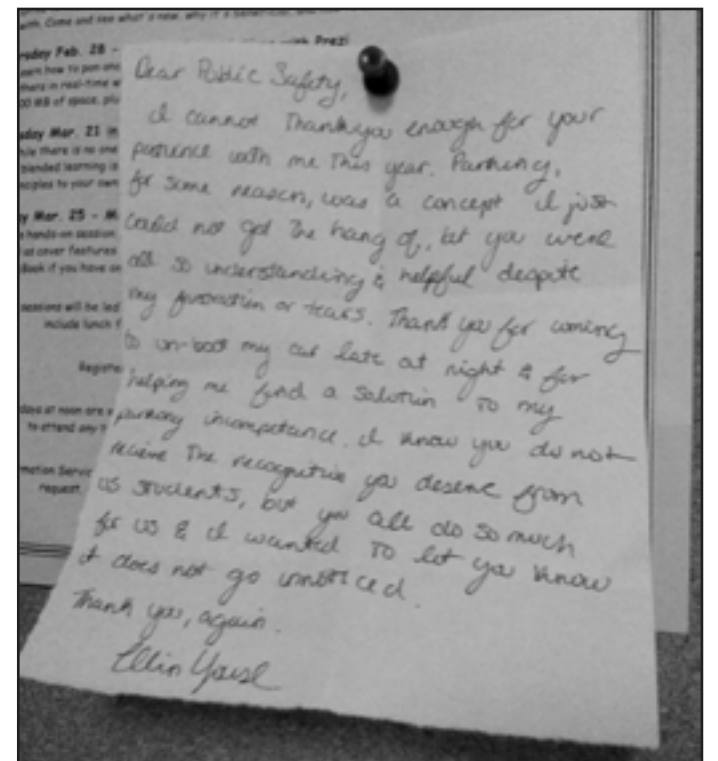


Photo by Elizabeth Childers

This letter was sent by our A&E Editor, Ellin Youse. It reads, "Dear Public Safety: I cannot thank you enough for your patience with me this year. Parking, for some reason, was a concept I just could not get the hang of, but you were all so understanding and helpful despite my frustration or tears. Thank you for coming to un-boot my car late at night and for helping me find a solution to my parking incompetence. I know you do not receive the recognition you deserve from us students, but you all do so much for us and I wanted to let you know it does not go unnoticed. Thank you, again."

not only in that building, but in the SLUs surrounding it.

Parking permits should be a cheap investment for students, not another hidden fee at a school which continually raises tuition.

If you read the caption and note above, sophomore Ellin Youse mentions the work Public Safety does for students, which is no small number. And I agree with the fact they don't get the recognition they deserve.

The past editorials on this issue weren't about rants about how unfair life is. These pieces called attention to an issue, by two separate people with separate grievances and different things to say. While Public Safety is working towards a better system of parking, a change is needed on a larger scale: parking needs to be seen maybe not as a necessity, but definitely not as a way for the university to make money in any way.

'Unfair advantage' clause in intramural sports bylaws unfair to varsity athletes

By Heather Kuch
Sports Editor

Out of eligibility—those three words seem like the end of the world for any college athlete with a passion for their sport. You've exhausted all four years of eligibility you have been given, and your time competing at the varsity level has come to an end.

This is the situation I was in as I rounded out my volleyball career at Ohio Wesleyan. I couldn't imagine being done with competitive volleyball after devoting 15 years of my life to the sport. So my fellow seniors and I had planned to form a team to compete in the spring intramural volleyball competitions. It seemed like the best way for us to continue to play the sport we loved at a competitive level, which is why you can imagine my shock when I was told that as varsity athletes we were "ineligible to play intramural volleyball."

Ineligible to play intramural volleyball—it's a funny thing to hear when you have been told that club sports are

open to anyone of any experience level. After hearing this I began to dig into the Ohio Wesleyan bylaws, which regulate intramural sports and, sure enough, there it was: "no varsity volleyball players are eligible to participate." When I asked if this included seniors who are now off of the roster, I was told that "if you were on the roster for the first match of the season, you are ineligible to play."

The logic behind these words? I can only assume that it is meant to stop any team from having an unfair advantage by stacking its roster with varsity athletes. I suppose that would make sense if there weren't so many exceptions to the rule.

I know of five former varsity volleyball players who quit the team after their freshman or sophomore seasons that have played on intramural teams. I can also name several female intramural participants who had offers to play at the collegiate level but decided not to pursue those offers. Finally, I know of many male members of intramural teams

who had significant volleyball experience before they came to college, and who would play at the varsity level if it were offered.

It's hard for me to see how three varsity athletes would create an unfair advantage with such talent distributed throughout all of the teams. It is exactly the same in the other intramural sports as well. I played softball all four years of high school, and when I attended Heidelberg University my freshman year, I was on the varsity softball team. However, I am still allowed to participate on the intramural softball team because I am no longer a varsity softball player, even though I may be at that level of competition. It just doesn't make sense.

I have even talked to some of my friends who played varsity volleyball at other universities and then moved on to intramural volleyball once their season ended. Some of these people even played at the Division I level and they were surprised to find out that Ohio Wesleyan does not allow its varsity athletes to participate

in their sport in intramurals. Similarly, when I attended Heidelberg, I was told that I could play for the intramural team every spring, even while I was still on the roster.

The intramural bylaws at Ohio Wesleyan are not the standard, and in my opinion, they do not make sense. I understand not allowing varsity athletes to participate in any intramural when they are in season because it would be an injury risk and would overexert them.

The only reason for banning the varsity athletes from their sports is to prevent this "unfair advantage," which is negated by the fact there are many non-varsity athletes who are at the same level of competition as those on the varsity rosters.

My suggestion is a compromise. If there is truly a problem of varsity athletes stacking a team, then put a limit on how many varsity players can play for each team, but don't stop us from participating in what could be our last chance to competitively play the sport we love.

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...To be fair, honest, courageous, respectful, independent and accountable.

...To provide our readers with accurate and comprehensive

news coverage that is relevant to the OWU community.

...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

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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.

The Transcript
104 Phillips Hall
Ohio Wesleyan University
Delaware, OH 43015
(740) 368-2911; owunews@owu.edu
www.owu.transcript.com

Arts & Entertainment

Paquet's album 'chills the spine and comforts the soul'

By **Matthew Shriver**
Transcript Contributor

Alex Paquet is a 19-year-old freshman music major at OWU. He co-hosts the OWU radio show Infrequent Frequencies on Saturday evenings.

He's currently pledging Chi Phi. He hosts a twice a month open-mic night at Choffey's Coffees and Confections in downtown Delaware.

Paquet leads a busy life, so it's a wonder that he was able to record his debut album "Stay Quiet, Stay Ahead" in the midst of it all.

Paquet records and performs under the moniker Field Sleeper. He began playing guitar in the seventh grade, but it wasn't until about two years ago he started writing the songs that appear on "Stay Quiet"—the first song he wrote would be "Winter Bus," the album's final track.

The songs weren't finished until about a month and a half before he started recording, beginning with the song "Olen-tangy."

"There's a long spread of time as far as the origin of each song goes," Paquet said.

Despite having no prior studio experience before recording his debut album as Field Sleeper, Paquet researched the topic heavily before embarking. He also said his experiences performing his songs helped greatly.

"I have experience with live sound for concerts, which has more similarities than one may initially realize," he said. "It's all about finding a 'space' for each voice/instrument; the listener should be able to clearly

identify each track."

Paquet began recording during the summer of 2012 and worked a bit during each break until winter, when the bulk of the recording took place.

Paquet's music is quiet and calming. The lyrics are personal and the vocals are deep and soothing. "It's easier to talk to yourself surrounded only by air," he croons on "Skeletons."

The album simultaneously chills the spine and comforts the soul. It's the kind of album you want to listen to once on a cold walk, and then again inside, bundled up and warm, with a cup of coffee. Overall, the album evokes powerful emotions through its quiet melodies while staying subtly ahead of its peers.

Paquet says he draws his influences from artists like The Antlers, The National and Bon Iver, and it definitely shows in his music; but he takes the styles of his favorite groups and contorts them into something entirely his own.

Paquet's live shows are just as, if not more, intimate than his recorded output.

He has performed at several open-mics at OWU and in Delaware. He opened for Columbus artist Dolfish in Peale Chapel in January and is planning a similar show with The Saturday Giant soon.

He plans on setting up shows at Beehive Books and Cafe Kerouac in Columbus, as well.

Paquet plans to re-record "Stay Quiet" in May at Old Son Studios in Columbus, but until then you can stream for free, or purchase the digital album at fieldsleeper.bandcamp.com.



Photos courtesy of Alex Paquet

Top: Paquet performs at Choffey's coffee house on January 25th. Below-left: The cover art for Paquet's new album, "Field Sleeper." Below-right: Paquet performs live in Columbus.



Performers and audience explore their vulnerability in 'Breathing Underwater'

By **Sara Jane Sheehan**
Transcript Correspondent

Emotions ran deep at the Feb. 23 performance of "Breathing Underwater," the result of a week-long workshop with performance artist Tim Miller.

According to a note from Miller in the program, "This week-long performance workshop I have led here at OWU has been a charged exploration into creating original performance work from our lives, dreams, obsessions, social visions, memories and desires."

"Breathing Underwater" was an interactive show that heavily included audience participation.

Members of the performance let few people into the Chappelle Drama Center's main stage at a time.

Audience members were asked to go up onto the stage as they entered the auditorium. Half the stage was lit up in blue and the other in red.

Once they were on stage, Miller read statements to the audience, such as, "If you have ever been heartbroken go to the red side, if you haven't go to the blue side."

People silently moved from side to side according to which statement applied to them.

"The beginning part was especially intense for me," said sophomore Katie Butt, who attended the performance.

"It was interesting to see those who identified with the statements," she said.

The last scenario split the room into men and women.



Photo by Jane Suttmeier
Miller poses during his solo performance, "Glory Box" on Feb. 21 at Chappelle Drama Center.

The audience was asked to sit around the performers as they lined up in the middle of the stage, starting together and then breaking out into their own stories.

A variety of subjects was portrayed on the stage—from religion to sexuality and self-identity, nothing was off-limits. The audience watched each performance in silence.

"It was deeply emotional and hard to watch in the best possible way," Butt said.

After the 18 performances, everyone on stage got up and joined hands.

The performers closed with a single line similar to the introduction. Everyone then applauded and embraced each other, supporting one another for sharing such personal stories.

Junior Anthony Lamoureux, one of Saturday's performers, said he learned a lot from the experience, and that it made him grow as an individual.

"I was able to validate myself as a performer," he said.

"I was always concerned with comparing my work and my abilities to others having just got into the game of performing myself, however, he (Miller) taught me that everything I do, though it may not be great, it doesn't mean the piece itself isn't valid, and a gift to myself."

Lamoureux said he hoped the audience understood each performance was a reflection of the performer's life and how their stories helped them become who they are today.

Sophomore Ryan Haddad said he felt the experience did empower him as an individual, but that the chance to strengthen his friendships with fellow performers was the most rewarding aspect of his participation in the "Breathing Underwater."

"In the theatre, we're all like a family, but even as close as we are, we all learned things about each other that we hadn't known before," Haddad said.

"We shared our greatest joys, heartbreaks, fears, and triumphs with one another, and it was a privilege to deepen so many friendships in a single week.

"As a performer, I learned what trust truly means, and I was able to let go and expose my vulnerabilities because I knew the rest of the ensemble would be there to support me."

American poet laureate tells of 'illegitimate' youth in Mississippi

Natasha Tretheway shares her journey through adversity as a biracial child in the deep south

By **Jane Suttmeier**
Photography Editor

United States poet laureate and Pulitzer Prize winner Natasha Tretheway's Feb. 20 reading served as a lesson for the Ohio Wesleyan community on the racial injustices that still exist in modern society.

Tretheway talked about how difficult it was for her to grow up as a child of interracial marriage during a time when she was not recognized and "rendered illegitimate."

Her home state of Mississippi was the last to ratify the 13th Amendment banning slavery on February 7, 2013, which she said she found disappointing.

Tretheway also mentioned how it was only 15 years ago that Alabama got rid of a rule against miscegenation, or interracial marriage.

Tretheway said she has a specific appreciation for Ohio. She said she "loves being back in the state that made her legal," in reference to Ohio lifting its anti-miscegenation law in 1887.

Born in Mississippi in 1966 and raised with an interracial background, Tretheway writes of events from the past and the present related to personal memories, war, in-

equality and race issues.

Tretheway said her life growing up in Mississippi influenced her writing in her books *Domestic Work* (1999), *Thrall* (2012) and *Native Guard*.

"Mississippi has a terrible beauty, its history of violence and injustice, combined with the resilience of the people who are trying to make the best of the history we've been given," she said.

Because her birth was technically illegal in late-1960s Mississippi, Tretheway grew up around a different type of language that inspired her latest book, "Thrall." Tretheway went on to read from Thrall during her lecture.

If she had been told in her early days that she would one day win a Pulitzer Prize in poetry, Tretheway never would have believed it.

"I didn't start doing it (poetry) seriously until graduate school," she said. "I went to graduate school thinking I was going to be a fiction writer."

Although she never expected to make poetry a career, Tretheway has been writing poems since as early as the third grade.

"In my elementary school the librarian bound some of



Natasha Tretheway

my poems and put them in the library, and I felt like a poet back then," she said.

Freshman Emma Merritt said she enjoyed Tretheway's poems and learned about racial inequality at the reading.

"I didn't know that Ohio was a proponent of interracial marriages, and it was interesting to get a real story on the matter," said Merritt. "The (poems) were very moving and you could tell (Tretheway) had a connection to them."

Senior Alex Crump also took some knowledge from the event.

"I learned what it was like to be the child of an interracial marriage and what challenges came with that for her," Crump said. "I really enjoyed the stories behind her poems; to me those were almost more captivating than the poems themselves."

Bishops Sports

Centre College claims victory over women's lacrosse in season's home opener Sunday

By Heather Kuch
Sports Editor

The Ohio Wesleyan women's lacrosse team suffered a tough loss to Centre College in their season opener on Sunday at Selby Stadium.

The Centre Colonels defeated the Bishops with a score of 17-14.

Senior midfielder Meredith Wholley said the team did not know what to expect going into the match, but planned to play the best game they could against the non-conference team.

Sophomore defender Eilee Foley said the team was excited to use what they had worked on in preseason going into Sunday's match.

"We were looking to see how we come out on the field, and to see how well we 'jell' together," Foley said. "We have only been playing against ourselves the past month, so it is great to see what we look like against another opponent."

Senior defender Molly Curry said the team felt prepared going into the match but knew it would be a challenge, and they would need to "be focused and have confidence."

The Battling Bishops and the Colonels rallied back and forth in the beginning of the first half resulting in a 4-4 tie between the two teams. Senior attacker Annie Swanson, freshman attacker Patricia Ryan and junior midfielders Cate Bailey and Theresa Wolfgang scored first four goals for the Bishops.

The tie was soon broken as the Colonels then went on a 7-3 run for the remainder of the half putting them ahead 11-7.

The Bishops tried to rebound from the deficit in the second half with another goal from Bailey to bring the score to 11-8. However, Centre continued to outscore the Bishops, adding two more goals and increasing their lead by five with a little over 20 minutes remaining in the half.

The Bishops put up one last fight as Ryan and freshman attacker Meg Doherty each scored once and Wholley scored twice to bring the score to 13-12 with 11 minutes remaining in the half.

The Colonels were able to secure the win just a minute later as they scored two back-to-back goals to extend their lead to 15-12. Centre went on to score two more times in the remaining 10 minutes in the match. The Bishops were able to add two more goals but

could not catch up to the Colonels.

Wholley, Swanson, Bailey and Ryan led the Bishop offense with three goals each, while sophomore Daylin Stevens led the defense with 10 saves in the goal.

Wholley said she expects the team to do well this season and hopes they will make it far into the post-season competition.

"I know the team is hungry for a great season, and we will work hard to get there," Wholley said. "We have a lot of great talent on the team this year, and we hope to find a team cohesion that will bring us a winning season and to the NCAC conference tournament."

Foley agreed with Wholley and said the team has worked hard in preparation for this season.

"This year for Ohio Wesleyan women's lacrosse we are looking to go very far this year into our conference," Foley said. "Last year was a big transition year for us, and we are looking to improve from it. The girls have been working very hard on and off the field. Coming out of our preseason, we look great. Our coach has worked us very hard to prepare us for the future."

Curry said she expects the team to be successful this year because every member of the team has something to contribute.

"With several new players this year, I think our team is going to be stronger than ever," Curry said. "I have a lot of confidence in my teammates this year and I am looking forward to a successful season. Our team goal is to not only make it to the NCAC playoffs but to finish first and move further in the tournament. There is so much talent on this team and I can't wait to see where it will take us this season."

Foley said the team has a new mindset this season that she thinks will help them to be successful.

"A goal we have going into this season is to play for ourselves, play for our seniors, and play for each other; we are a unit and we want to play like one," Foley said.

"Like I said, we have worked so hard to not make progress. This team is definitely going to be a dark horse in our conference."

The next home match for the Bishops is Wednesday, March 6 at 5 p.m. at Selby Stadium against the Otterbein College Cardinals.

Tournament Champs



Top: The men's basketball team took home the NCAC Tournament trophy on Saturday after defeating the College of Wooster 76-66. The Bishops earned a bid to the NCAA and will face Saint Vincent College this Saturday at home.

Photo from Communications

Top left: Senior Andy Winters dribbles around a Denison guard in the quarterfinal match in the NCAC Tournament.

Top right: Senior Vaughn Spaulding shoots over a Denison defender in Tuesday's quarterfinal match.

Photos by Ellin Youse

Bottom left: Members of the basketball team celebrate with the NCAC trophy after winning the tournament title.

Bottom right: Senior Vaughn Spaulding takes his turn at cutting down a piece of the net. All members of the team were able to take home a piece of the net after they won the NCAC tournament.

Photos by Tim Alford

Men's basketball claims first NCAC tournament title in five years

By Graham Lucas
Transcript Correspondent

Saturday night, men's basketball won their first North Coast Athletic Conference Tournament crown since 2008 when they defeated top-seeded Wooster 76-66 at Timken Gymnasium in front of nearly 3,000 spectators.

The Battling Bishops 19-5 regular season record earned them the second seed in the NCAC tournament. They first defeated Denison in the quarter-final match 77-56, and then went on to beat Kenyon in a hard fought 77-64 victory in the semi-final round.

Senior forward Marshall Morris led the team with 19 points against the Wooster Fighting Scots.

He buried 4 of 5 from beyond the arc, something he said his own teammates probably didn't expect.

"I don't think Wooster was ready for that," Morris said. "But I don't think many of our players expected it either. It's just one of those things that we practice every day and I felt confident and comfortable on Saturday. It just so happened

that I had a couple big opportunities in the game."

Senior guard Andy Winters took home the Al Van Wie trophy as the tourney's most valuable player after he recorded 17 points, six assists, seven rebounds and four steals in the championship game. Winters said he could never take credit by himself.

"I am very lucky to be playing with this group of guys," he said. "The eight seniors we have provide tremendous leadership and guidance for the rest of the team. In basketball, one man can only do so much for the team. Most of the credit goes to my teammates."

The Bishops also earned their first win against Wooster this season after losing to them in both regular season contests. Morris said their ability to conquer Wooster has been a lengthy process.

"As far as growth, it has been a four-year process, not just the two losses this year," Morris said. "Our seniors are now 1-11 against them, which isn't impressive, but that one win is worth it to our group of seniors. The two losses prior this year were mainly just indicators that we

could accomplish what we were trying to do, we just needed to go out and do it."

In the NCAC podcast interview, Head Coach Mike Dewitt said the team has kept the same motto all year: to "take it one game at a time."

Dewitt said they try not to look ahead or behind in the schedule, but to be completely focused on the next mission at hand.

Along with the NCAC tournament crown, the Battling Bishops earned the NCAC's automatic qualifier into the Division III NCAA tournament.

In their next game, they will square off against Saint Vincent College on Saturday, March 2 at 7 p.m. in the first round of the NCAA tournament in the Branch Rickey Arena. Morris said the team is peaking at the perfect time.

"We're playing really well together, and the chemistry is awesome," Morris said. "For us, it isn't a matter of changing anything up or doing anything different. It's simply a matter of coming prepared to play at our potential every game of the tournament and enjoying the opportunity that we have."

Weekly Scoreboard:

Feb. 19 - Women's Basketball v Allegheny (67-64)

Feb. 21 - Men's Tennis v Heidelberg (6-3)

Feb. 24 - Women's Lacrosse v Centre (14-17)

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