Activists Seek to Save Public Housing

With thousands of public housing units threatened in post-Katrina New Orleans, Oberlin students organized a teach-in on the issue and plan for direct-action in Louisiana.

In News, Page 5

Walking the Red Carpet

Listen in as Arts Editor Sophia Yan talks with John C. Reilly and director Jake Kasdan about their new movie, Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story, opening nationwide December 21.

In Arts, Page 12

Obie Athletic Glory

Joanna Johnson and R.V. Carroll headline Oberlin’s Fall All-NCAC Honorees.

In Sports, Page 16


c

Education Key for World AIDS Day at Oberlin

Amanda Travers

Names echo across Wilder Bowl Friday, Nov. 30, each in remembrance of an AIDS victim. This was only one event that ushered in World AIDS Day on December 1, the commemoration of which has been recognized at Oberlin for approximately ten years.

Double-degree junior Chistine James, the HIV/AIDS education and prevention coordinator for The Center for Leadership in Health Promotion, said of World AIDS Day, “It’s a day established to bring awareness.” She also said that the “names reading is one of the most traditional things that we do.”

Among the events marking World AIDS Day on campus were a screening of part of one of Kevin’s Room and the posting of red fliers that listed HIV facts. James said, “The Center for Leadership in Health (CHIP) publicizes all these events. We sponsored the names reading and the planting of the safer sex continuum... [The chalking] happened in front of Steele and the Con. We also sponsored the making of the AIDS ribbons.”

Sponsored by CHIP HIV Peer Testers, The Multicultural Resource Center and The Edmonia Lewis Center for Women and Transgender People, all events occurred between November 29 and December 4. Overall, it was a successful event on campus. We tried to make it so that anywhere on campus, you’d see something about World AIDS Day,” James said.

HIV testing, which happened on December 2 at the Third World and African Heritage program houses, was another World AIDS Day activity. College senior and co-coordinator of HIV testing Olivia Winter said that this particular event is important because “in a lot of places, [the test results] are not anonymous. If you go to the doctor’s office, they have your name.”

At Oberlin, however, Winter said testing is private. “In being confidential, someone can hold information to themselves. And if you test positive, no one has to know. Insurance companies don’t have to know; employers don’t have to know.”

Winter also said, “Starting healthy habits young is crucial. Testing reinforces healthy behaviors that students are learning elsewhere, whether it is at the SIC...or even if it’s through students talking with each other about condoms and dental dams.”

See Oberlin, page 6

Frosty the Sno-Cone

Frosty iced by Wife: The Oberlin Public Library showcases the latest from local artist Keith McGuckin, who created the infamous “Nazi gingerbread men” holiday display last year.

Chris Hanby

RA’s Resign Over Pay, Stress and Philosophy

Alice Olstein

News Editor

Two of Oberlin’s 57 Resident Assistants have quit mid-semester and 13 more will terminate their contracts at the end of December. While Molly Tyson, director of Residential Education, has said, “The majority of RA’s who leave do so for academic leaves of absence,” several current and former RA’s feel that discontent with the position is “high.”

Support

College sophomore Katie McVay worked as a RA in a first-year dorm, but decided to quit a few months into the semester. She spoke of “general dissatisfaction” with the job, noting in particular a lack of support from Safety and Security. “I’d be trying to bust a room that I knew had alcohol in it, but by the time Safety and Security got there they just wrote up that there were too many people in the room,” she said.

“We can’t be expected to have a position of authority and enforce policy if other entries on campus are unwilling to work with us. It’s not our place to fight with Safety and Security...” Binder agreed. “It’s really unfortunate that [RA’s] are asked to do something so difficult, to have to do this to your peers, while Safety and Security takes 40 minutes to arrive, and then it is. It makes us look like the bad guy.”

“When an RA calls, we respond. They give us the nature of the problem, and we make a report,” explained Director of Safety and Security Robert Jones. “We try to be on the same page as Resident I have not heard complaints before.”

Jones says that it generally takes between two and five minutes for an officer to arrive at a dorm after an RA’s call. “If officers were not responding in a timely manner, I would know.”

See First Years, page 6

Colleges Deal with Rising Contraceptive Costs

Katlin Bushinski

Oberlin College Student Health Services has become one of many facilities nationwide affected by skyrocketing birth control prices, due to a law in recent federal legislation.

The dramatic price increases are the result of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, which came into effect at the start of this year. The bill, which altered drug company rebates to states for covering prescription drugs under Medicaid, also eliminated incentives for drug companies to offer discounts to college health centers and safety-net providers like Planned Parenthood. Lawmakers call this consequence an oversight.

The law has created an immense financial burden for undergraduate and low-income people, and has elicited an outcry from public health officials and led to massive grassroots mobilization from students nationwide.

At Oberlin College Student Health, the Navráíng, a small, flexible ring inserted into the vagina once a month that releases hormones to prevent pregnancy, doubled in price from $15 to $30 per ring this past January. Marilyn Hamel, coordinator for Student Health Services, said that due to the price increase “there are certain number of women who are no longer using the Navráíng.”

While at some student clinics across the nation the price for birth control pills has jumped from $3 or $10 per pack to $30 or $50, so far Student Health has been able to consistently charge $15 per pack by switching pharmaceutical vendors. After being informed in December 2006 of the looming price increases, Hamel recouped, “We had to intensely search the Internet for vendors who we thought charged a fair price for birth control.”

Family Planning Services of Lorain County, a local non-profit that provides low-cost reproductive health care for women, operates a clinic Wednesday evenings in the Student Health building. Fortunately for Oberlin College students and community members, prices have risen only minimally at Family Planning, because they are recipients of Title X funding provided by the federal government for family planning clinics.

Pat Berger, the executive director of Lorain County Family Planning stated, “Clinics that receive Title X get preferential pricing [on birth control], compared to other facilities. Most colleges don’t get Title X,” another reason why prices have disproportionately risen at many student health centers.

As with Student Health, Family Planning offers only three different types of generic birth control pills in order to keep costs manageable. They do not carry Navráíng.

The Prevention Through Affordable Access Act was recently introduced by Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.) in the Senate and Rep. Joseph Crowley (D-NY) in the House. If passed, the bill will bring down the recently exorbitant cost of birth control at student clinics and safety-net providers like Planned Parenthood by allowing them discounts from drug makers again.

Shop SIC and Save: The Sexual Information Center continues to offer wholesale prices on contraceptives, but cannot sell birth control.

Alana Itoye

Established 1874

www.oberlinreview.org

December 7, 2007

Volume 136, Number 11

The Oberlin Review

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The Oberlin Review
Yeagley Offers Unique View on Guns

Comanche Indian gun activist and Oberlin Conservatory graduate Dr. Yeagley spoke to the Oberlin community on Monday, Nov. 3, addressing the role weapons should play in American life as part of an event sponsored by the Oberlin College Republicans.

"I never thought I’d come back to this campus to talk to you about your right to bear arms," Yeagley said. "I came to you at the opening moments making us "aware of the part weapons played in forming America." shredding from various legal sources, he reminished that it was once prohibited to attend church without your weapon and about how pioneer families placed their shotguns up above the fireplace next to their Bible.

Yeagley lamented the loss of the days when "weapons were held in a place of sacred honor...[Guns] meant family, freedom and everything you valued...This is not a legal matter or a technical thing. It’s part of being American." He added, "You’re not a man without your weapon."

"Humanity has weapons," Yeagley continued. "Right and wrong are irrelevant to that issue." His approach to weaponry in the lecture focused not on ethics and law but instead on "trust in fact and logic." Yeagley argued that if past Americans, a gun was the most valuable object they could possess. When someone comes with a gun of their own and asks you for your weapon, you are "surrendering to authority and their ideas." Therefore, he concluded, whoever wants to take your gun is your enemy.

The audience did not seem convinced. College first-year Alex La Ferla questioned whether "the benefits of uncontrolled guns outweigh the accidental deaths and acts of aggression that occur when people have guns; if [Yeagley’s] talking about pragmatism he’s got to take that into consideration."

"When asked, “Is the freedom to own a gun today worth the massacre of thousands of your Comanche ancestors during the founding of America?” Yeagley answered, “Good question” which he then went on to lament the past... Liberals do Indians a great disservice when they support a profound level of discretion.”

Yeagley went on to say that American patriots should learn some lessons from the people they displaced, oppressed and murdered. "Your land is valuable. You can take that from an Indian," he said. "Indians knew how to honor their nation. They would rather die than change.” He noted that Americans could better defend their liberty if they utilized the “Indian…sense of nationhood, culture and borders.”

"Labeling the question of whether it is right or wrong to kill another person as an “illusion of morality,” Yeagley quoted Thomas Jefferson: “The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants.”

On the heels of these sentiments, Yeagley passionately discussed terrorist threats in America and the need for — as Oberlin Philosophy Professor Tim Hall put it earlier in the evening — ‘inter-personal protection’ to maintain national security.

Yeagley stated, “I don’t consider some first-generation Muslims, or even second-generation ones, Americans.” He continued, “Rather than being forced to strip naked [at an airport] we would have certain people throw out of America.”

Dr. Yeagley laughed off these controversial statements, saying, “I’ll keep my more radical views to myself so I don’t embarrass my hosts.”

Yeagley ended his speech with some final thoughts on America. "It’s ours!” he exclaimed. "I look forward to the day when Indians will expose this country as its step-son.

Yeagley is the founder of the Bad Eagle Foundation, which takes its name from Yeagley’s ancestor, Bad Eagle, and claims to be the first and only national organization for conservative American Indians. He also has a regularly published column in Front Page Magazine. This May, he published a book titled Bad Eagle: The Runnings of a Conservative Comanche.

On his website, www.badeagle.com, Yeagley wrote that he was on intent on showing Oberlin liberals that “the possession and use of fire arms by citizens is something that needs more of an emotional base, and not simply an abstract ‘right’ based on a historical theory of some kind.”

Bad Eagle: Comanche activist, Oberlin alumnum and founder of the Bad Eagle Foundation, made the case for the final amendment at a College Republicans sponsored lecture. Its/links

Elf Smuggler Caught

Local Artist Strike Again: Keith McCaugan’s “Drug smuggling elf” holiday display at Ben Franklin’s Five and Dime. ( ski falsely

Arms Expert Scott Ritter Denounces the War, Calls for Change

Sam Newhouse

Former UN Weapons Inspector and Marine Scott Ritter spoke in the House on Tuesday, Nov. 28, in a packed house of students and faculty members. Touring his new book, Target Iraq: The Truth About the White House’s Plan for Regime Change, Ritter discussed the situation in Iraq, the global war on terror and the imminent possibility of war in Iran.

A staple in the media in 2002, Ritter is famous for publicly stating that Iraq did not possess weapons of mass destruction while Occupation Iraq Freedom was being sold to the American people. He spoke to students about the timeline of the war in Iraq — how it was planned, justified to the public, and eventually enacted — all on the grounds of fake intelligence and aggressive foreign policy.

"Preemptive war is a policy and a reality," Ritter said. "The war in Iraq wasn’t an accident — it’s part of a plan for one-man-made-change in the Middle East. Our leaders aren’t looking to withdraw. Iraq is the springboard to the next target zone.

Ritter engaged the audience with his direct manner and caustic tone. He criticized the Bush administration for knowing misleading the American public. "The national security strategy of the US is to establish regional dominance, defend Israel and oil supplies," he said. "There’s a word that describes this sort of foreign policy: empire.

"In reality, the Iraqis didn’t lose the war,” said Ritter, "and we ignore that possibility, because now we’re in the process of nation-building. The war here is still fighting, planning to wear out Americans.”

Ritter dismissed positive changes in Iraq achieved by General David Petraeus and Ambassador Ryan Crocker. "All the surge did was create conditions that can be sold to the American public as the political constituency as a success, solving the domestic side of this problem,” said Ritter. When asked if one student if current foreign policy was the invention of Bush’s or part of the right-wing tradition, Ritter jokingly replied, “In 2009, Shrub is going back to Crawford, Texas — that proves he’s not Hitler. It’s not the individual president, be it Bush, Blash or Hillary. It’s the system.

"Who do I blame? You. Me. Everyone in this room," said Ritter, to applause. “We’re addicted to a flood of consumption. Our elected representatives are holding us hostage, that we can’t maintain with our domestic resources. It’s a wider problem of how America interacts with the world.”

For an interview with Ritter, see page 3

It’s not an illusion — the Review is narrower than usual!
Scott Ritter was chief weapons inspector for the United Nations Special Commission on Iraq’s compliance with its obligations of weapons of mass destruction programs in the 1990s. Since then, Ritter has become a high-profile supporter of the US invasion of Iraq. Prior to working for the UN, Ritter was an intelligence officer in the Marine Corps and a combat engineer and tank commander in Vietnam, including his latest work, Target Iran: The Truth About the White House’s Plans for Regime Change.

Was there anything that opponents of the war had done in 2002-2003 to prevent the invasion of Iraq?

I don’t think they were organized to do it. They would have had to have had a better way to impact Congress. I just use the example of Malawi: there was a considerable constituency to get John Kerry to open up the hearings they had in July and August to have people like me, dissenters, included, and it had no impact. Kerry had already made up his mind and set his sights on 2004. The anti-war movement was not a nationwide force so there is not anything it realistically could have done.

Has the anti-war movement evolved and developed since that time?

I think sentiment has grown outside of the movement, and it manifests itself in the 2006 election. The key element, though, is the I’m against the war sentiment polices out if you take a look at the Democratic controlled Congress, a Congress many say is ANGRY at the anti-war sentiment and you look at how the anti-war... movement cannot get action out of a Democrat-controlled Congress. We now have genuine anti-war sentiment and we have anti-war policing. The feelings that we have experienced are not illegitimacy of the conflict, but because we have not prevailed.

You say this problem goes beyond any particular political leader. What sort of structures are at the international and national level necessary to prevent another Iraq?

I think in America we need to resolve our own problems before we speak of a global solution. We have to re-assert the supremacy of the constitution, a system of checks and balances, a legislative branch that controls the executive in a meaningful fashion. We have to renounce the concept of a unitary executive and if that means abolishing the Supreme Court, so be it. We should not have this unapproved changing of the Constitution in order to expand this executive power. [There is] cause and effect linkage between our lifestyle and the policies of our government. It’s like global warming. We believe it continues, we have to buy SUVs and produce carbon dioxide, there is no meaningful change. We have to address the roots of this and implement America’s addiction to resources that don’t come from America.

If you sit down with them, then you can turn to the world and say, “We’re back and now we’re ready to interface.” I think the American foreign policy is that if there are some modifications that need to be taken at the Security Council level and empower the General Assembly so the UN represents the will of the world and not of five nations.

I think the anti-war movement has to wake up to the fact that this is a real struggle, a literal life or death struggle for the future of our society. They have to act as if the stakes are indeed that high. There are other organizations out there like AIPAC, the NRA or the AARP. What gives them their political clout? That they have the resources to remove whoever they want from Congress. They cannot replace everyone, but if they target someone they are done.

I think the anti-war movement should focus on a Nancy Pelosi. They should say, “We are going to war with you, you are done,” and not with a Cindy Sheehan. That’s not smart, that’s dumb. They need to go into the district and find a represen-
tative of the people. They need to go to war against their political opponents, and not just against the Republicans; I mean the Democrats.

But the anti-war movement doesn’t know how to do that. They’ll light some candles, hold hands and have Cindy Sheehan go up there and make radical speeches, drive people away and get Pelosi re-elected. There comes a time when the anti-war movement recognizes that Code Pink doesn’t speak for the movement.

You are a self-described Republican. Is there any presidential campaign right now on either side that is making the right points on Iraq?

Bill Richardson. Democrat from New Mexico. I’m a big Richardson fan, but I’m also opposed to him divorcing himself from any loyalty based on friendship. He’s a Democrat and there are certain aspects of his domestic policy that I would not enthusiastically embrace. I think his “get out now” policy is the best starting point. There may be some modifications, but I would rather start there rather than with Hillary, who says we need a residual force, that cannot be cut. There are minor candidates who also say similar things, but Richardson, given his experi-
ence, is the best candidate.

Interview by Brian Pugh

Off the cuff: Scott Ritter

Scott Ritter

Green Drinks Hosted, Local Greens Toasted

Malik Woods

In an event billed as a chance for professors, students and commu-
nity members to mingle in an informal networking session about their ideas and interest in the develop-
ment of sustainable environmental models, the Office of Environmental Sustainability hosted its first Green Drinks event at the ‘Sco this past Tuesday.

The overall atmosphere of the ‘Sco was lively enough to attract only a handful of people actually sampled the alcohol. Despite the fact that there was a clear divi-
sion between the older professors and the eager undergraduates at the event, people moved freely through the event and engaged in discussions as the opportunity arose. The conversations were not limited to the specifics of environmental sustainability, but streamlined effortlessly from topic to topic. The environment was relatively informal and expectantly free of the dogmatic discourse that would be expected from college students of like-minded individuals. More so, it was a chance for people with similar interests to mingle, network and coalesce with the hope that these conversations would continue afterward.

Coming on the heels of a semester final with environmental programs, notably food grains and increased national celebrity for the Adam Joseph Lewis Center for Environmental Studies, the event spotlighted a period of tran-
ition in Oberlin’s goals.

The organizers of the event proclaimed it a success, given both the turnout and the free-wheeling discussion. According to College senior Lara DiFranco, who works in the Office of Environmental Sustainability, the event’s goal is to connect people doing environmental sus-
tainability projects on campus to one another and just to get people communi-
cating more and make sure that there is sustainability agendas in the different projects. Although some students came with the specific desire to network with other students, professors or community members, there were others who attended the event with the interest of learning about Oberlin activities in environmental sustainability.

“I’m here just to learn just like everyone else,” said Chris Baymiller, a second-year student of the Student Union. Baymiller went on further to express his interest in the diversity of the crowd. “It’s nice to see that it’s not just college students but that it’s a nice cross-section of people from the entire college community.”

Nathan Engstrom, sustain-
bility coordinator and one of the organizers, the event. Engstrom was inspired to establish a month-
ly event of the Green Drinks project by attending similar programs before coming to Oberlin.

Green Drinks International is an informally structured orga-
nization that hosts similar events around the world connecting likeminded people to interact. On the group’s website, greendrinks. org, it describes the events as places where people “have found employment, made friends, de
developed new ideas, done deals and had moments of serendipity.”

OPIRG, Alum: “Eat This, Oberland”

Malik Woods

Eat This Oberlin’, hosted by OPIRG, brought together Brad Masi, OC ’93, of the New Agrarian Center and a visiting instructor of environmental studies at Oberlin, with Matt Kleinhuth, a horticul-
turalist at Ohio State University, in events focused on the neces-
sity of local foods investment and development.

Though seven billion dol-
ars is spent in the US — a region notorious for harsh and long winters — for the pro-
vision of food, a vast majority of it goes to importing produce into the region as opposed to the development of agricultural centers already in place. Both presenters cited innovative meth-
ods for expanding the viability of such centers in the off season.

One such method discussed by Kleinhuth is the installation of high

tunnel greenhouses, which would serve to combat the natural effects of winter weather on crop production.

Kleinhuth advocated Oberlin’s need to “stay as a farmfront of sustainable technologies,” for sea-
son extension would serve to add both to the farmers and their cus-
tomers.

He reminded the audience that many of the residents of the Inner-City, one of the community members, are losing their local markets due to the season’s end, noting that food should be consid-

ered in terms of its socio-political and economic value as well as a source of nutrition.

Both presenters urged the audience to reduce the distance between where food is produced and where it is con-
sumers. The idea is that the collapse in distance would increasingly ensure the economic and nutritional value of our food. Groups such as OHIO PRO/UD, Nature’s Flavors and Our Ohio all promote locally-grown organic produce and were estab-
lished with the intent of providing their customers with a resource for purchasing a healthier alternative.

The push to transition from con-

ventional production to organic is emblematic of a transition toward a more environmentally sustain-
able world.

Masi focused his lecture on the accomplishments of his organi-

gization, City Fresh, which provides the residents of Cleveland with a source of local organic produce.

Citing the phenomenon of a food desert, similar to the concept of a war zone, Masi told his audience that presence demands a shift backwards in time in our relationship with food.

Historically, economics has been a limiting factor for the production of local foods, but he has research that have to make price an issue that doesn’t discourage from interaction. “In the ’90s,” said Kleinhuth, “Masi echoed this point, saying, “We will not be able to go forward if we don’t recognize that food is money.”

To increase access to organic foods, the City Fresh program introduces open-air markets in

Green Eggs and Ham: OPIRG’s Eat This Oberlin’ event focused on local foods investment and development.

Discussion

The Oberlin Review, December 7, 2007
Latin Honors on Hold

Sam Newhouse

The controversial proposal to introduce a general committee faculty to vote on the plan to make “Latin honors” on hold for future work,” said College senior and Student Senator Nicholas Ferrara.

“Not only were students left out of the process, but there were other objections to the implications of the proposal,” said Ferrara. “300- and 100-level classes are weighted the same. This gives an incentive for students not to take harder classes and possibly thwarts the cooperation learning environment, replacing it with a more competitive culture.”

Students opposed to adopting a Latin honors system at Oberlin put out letters to faculty members in front of Craig Lecture Hall on Wednesday, urging them to table the proposal during the College Council meeting that day.

After an open forum last week where students discussed the proposal, Senate put out a one-question referendum to gather student input, and then students to participate in the meeting. “I know students who don’t have economic support and are very concerned about how their degrees will help them find work, and they support Latin honors,” he said.

“People on the Honors at Graduation Committee worked very hard coming up with this,” he added. “I think their proposal is a great place to start discussion. There are unanswered questions — how it affects course selection, whether it should be implemented for the class of 2009, what are things about the honors program that could be changed, and hopefully dialogue will continue.”

Boy Blamed for Eastwood Elementary School Fire

A fire in a bathroom at the Eastwood Elementary School on November 8 at 2:45 p.m. caused both students and staff to use their newly acquired Fire Safety Week knowledge and the newly implemented Ed-Connect Telephone System technology.

No one was harmed, but “the smoke got everywhere and took several days to clean,” said Principal Brian Carter. “We also did replanting. Folks were here cleaning up a week and a half after the fire. Several days after, so [the damages] have been pretty expensive.”

According to The Chronicle-Telegram, the fire in a bathroom at Eastwood Elementary School that caused $25,000 to $30,000 in damage earlier this month was started by a seven-year-old boy playing with a lighter.

Ed-Connect played a part in keeping panic at a minimum. The system, which enables educators to call the local emergency services from the school, was “such a great tool to have at that time,” said Carter.

Carter said, “It was Fire Safety Week. They learned about safety topics — what to do when they see smoke. There’s also a program that the local fire department does for parents who catch their kids playing with matches that we asked them to do.”

When asked if students implemented what they had learned, Carter said, “Yes, a few classes saw smoke, so they knew it was a real evacuation. They got low because they knew that smoke rises. They followed instructions and stayed quiet and calm. Nobody went back in the building for coats.”

Another positive outcome of the event, according to Carter, was that “all the support staff, including college volunteers, stayed later than they had to at the evacuation site, College Manor Apartments. Many America Reads tutors stayed with kids and did a great job keeping everyone calm. We ran dismissal from that spot.”

15-Year-Old Boy Riddled for Recent Robberies

Brian Pugh

A 15-year-old Oberlin resident has taken responsibility for two recent muggings. The boy’s partners in one of the robberies remain at large.

The juvenile admitted to police that he joined some other youths in the robbery of two Oberlin College students on West Vine Street on October 27. He also acknowledged participating in a hold-up of the RGA supermarket on October 29 on his own.

“We don’t know who the other people are, but he would have been present during those robberies,” said Larry Slayton, the school’s community relations officer.

Barnes said the 15-year-old was driven by a desire to prove himself to his peers. “He was being teased as not being very tough,” said Barnes.

In the first robbery, one victim turned over several credit cards and $45 and in the second case, the 15-year-old perpetrator left the scene when the woman dropped her cell phone and said she did not want to be robbed. The suspect, the youth reportedly used a BB gun that resembled a real handgun.

“We got cooperation from his mother to interview him and he admitted to what happened, said Barnes.

The 15-year-old’s case has been referred to the juvenile court for determination of prior charges. “If he were an adult, he’d be facing at least a ten year prison sentence, but he’s 15, the Department of Youth Services can only hold him until he is 21, and he has no prior,” said Barnes.

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Dining Facts of the Week——December 10, 2007

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<th>Where is Dining Available During Reading Period &amp; Finals?</th>
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**Want to Buy Food A La Carte at Dascamb?**

Check out these options, go to http://www.oberlin.edu/food/menus/

- Tessa's Hang and Grille, 8-11 p.m.
- Mull’s Paradise, 5-7 p.m.
- The Red Fish, 11 a.m.-9 p.m.
- Eastwood Kitchen, 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

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**Special Holiday Meal**

- 12/11
- 5:00-7:30 p.m.
- Special Holiday Meal: Tuesday, 12/11, 5:00-7:30 p.m.

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**Holiday Specialties**

- Turkey with Lemon Caper Gravy
- Hammed Turkey Potatoes in Chestnut
- Corn on the Cob
- Mashed Potatoes
- Mixed Vegetables, Green Beans
- Green Beans with Shallots
- Cranberry Sauce
- Hope’s Sweet Rolls
- Hammed Ham Pots in Chestnut
- Turkey Cranberry
- Turkey and Cranberry Relish
- Green Beans with Shallots
Students Address Housing Crisis in New Orleans and the Nation

Beatrice Rothbaum and Nick Weiss

Concerned students staged a teach-in on Wednesday, Dec. 5, in Oberlin. Several more have pledged to drive to New Orleans this coming Sunday, Dec. 9, to lend a hand in the manifesting protest against the demolition of homes, which will result in an 82 percent reduction in available low-income housing in New Orleans, affecting an estimated 500 families. The demolition will cost $767 million in taxpayer funds. After two days of civil disobedience, the action will physically blockade the bulldozers at the moment of demolition.

This call to action, which coincides with the end of fall semester, has come at an inconvenient time for students. Despite these difficulties, these students attended the teach-in, and approximately seven Oberlin students have made the decision to drive down to New Orleans on Sunday night, led by Pelot-Hobbs, OC ’07, and Rowan Shaffer-Riddles, OC ’06, have been living in New Orleans as part of the Anti-Racism Working Group and asked these current students to join in direct action.

Pelot-Hobbs and Shaffer-Riddles are working with the organization of civil disobedience, training legal needs and logistics for all of those who will arrive in New Orleans on Monday, Dec. 10, and stay throughout the laws suit.

College sophomore Katrina Forman, one of the students who has chosen to go, said of her commitment to the Pledge of Resistance, “The struggle for public housing in New Orleans is important in terms of building support for public housing around the country. What happens in New Orleans may be indicative of what happens on a larger scale.”

Before Wednesday’s teach-in began, students were sure to mention that they were not experts, encouraging information, experiences, critiques and corrections from all those involved. Two handouts were presented: one with definitions of public housing terms and one with call-in information for New Orleans officials.

The majority of the meeting was spent discussing the demolition of public housing, which would affect the residents who were living in public housing units prior to Hurricane Katrina as well as all renters in New Orleans.

Two and a half years after Katrina, more than 15,000 people in New Orleans are homeless. One significant contributor to this problem is the artificially high rent due to a lack of affordable housing. Over 200,000 people were displaced from the area, yet the rents have risen to 70 percent since the storm.

Some public housing apartments were damaged by Katrina, but many were untouched or needed only minor repairs. The group emphasized that the government should direct its attention to the preservation and expansion of affordable housing, not its demolition.

Mixed-income housing became another point of discussion, since a mixed-income solu tion has not combated poverty or rac ists. Gentrification in urban renewal programs additionally displaces low-income housing.

College first-year Revijn Johnson, who provided a PowerPoint presentation, noted the shift from public housing to Section 8 hous ing, in which federal government sponsors subsidize housing for low-income families and individuals, and a shift of responsibility from the federal government to non-profit organizations and corporations.

The teach-in included a new topic as College first-year Lynne Miller provided information and statistics regarding housing in Cleveland. In Cleveland there are 9,500 available public housing units, with 7,122 people on the waiting list. Twenty percent of public housing units have over 50 percent and 24 percent have no income. Four percent receive public assistance, down from the 30 percent that it did only ten years ago.

An estimated 2,000 families in Cleveland will lose their homes in the next two years due to foreclosures as well.

After the discussion, students asked questions about how they could help and what efforts are being made in New Orleans.

College first-year Cordelia Looin-Gollin suggested students should call senators to sup port the proposed replacement of housing in New Orleans. She also proposed a Wilder table at which students could use cell phones to call senators on their way to campus. Fundraising to support direct action efforts and training in organizations was also suggested.

Fraud Advisory from the Office of Safety and Security

Don't ever wire money to a stranger! The offer may sound like a nice deal, but it too good to be true. The check you receive will be counterfeit, and you will be out the money.

Scams with various disguises:

• You are offered an item sold on the Internet or classified ad and asked to wire transfer back the extra dollars.

• You receive a check and notification that you've won ($10,000!) in a lottery or sweep stake. You're told to deposit the check ($5,000) representing a portion of your winnings, and wire-transfer ($2,500) to "cover the taxes" so you can collect the rest of your winnings!

• A work-at-home promise that, in return for depositing a money order or check to your bank account, you can keep a percentage of the money after wire-transferring the rest.

• Someone in a chat room asks you for a favor, please deposit their check ($1,000), wire-transfer $500 to their account, keeping $200 as a favor back to you!

It is not the responsibility of the bank or its employees to catch a scam or counterfeit check deposited. Remember, when you endorse the back of a check that is your promise to pay the item (check) in the event the signer does not make the item (check) good.

If it sounds too good to be true, you may become a victim. Use care in dealing with strangers!

Nov. 30, 9:40 a.m. A Safety and Security officer responded to a report of a stolen wallet from an unlocked booth in Phillips Gym. The officer located several unau thorized juveniles a witness said were in the area at the time of the theft who denied involvement. The wallet was later found in a changing room missing one dol lar.

Dec. 1, 1:48 a.m. A Safety and Security officer responded to a report of a stolen wallet of an intoxicated student in Stock. The student had urinated in a bathroom sink as well as the recycle bin. The student was located and left in the care of a responsible person. The intoxicated student will be referred to a judicial coordinator.

Dec. 1, 2:40 a.m. A Safety and Security officer responded to a report of an intoxicated student on North Campus. The student was transported to Allen Community Hospital for assessment of illness and released.

Dec. 1, 3:32 a.m. While on patrol in Langston Hall, a Safety and Security officer encountered a marina from a resident room. Contact was made with two students who were referred to the judicial coordinator.

Dec. 1, 3:37 a.m. Safety and Security officers responded to a fire alarm in Lummis Hall. The cause of the alarm was found to be incense burning in a resi dential room. Additional Life Safety violations were found in another room, including the pres ence of a bagged smoke detector, and several items of contraband. Students involved in violations were referred to judicial review.

Dec. 1, 5:01 a.m. A Safety and Security officer responded to a complaint from a student from South Hall that an unidentified male subject was asleep in his room. The subject, a student vis iting from another college and who was under the influence of alcohol, had entered the wrong room, unraveled on the floor and then slept. The subject’s hosts were located and will now be referred for judicial review.

Dec. 1, 10:56 a.m. A Safety and Security officer responded to a report of a senator who reported a scam in reply to an advertisement on Oberlin Classifieds. The perpe trator was located and contacted. The student from California, offered more for the item than requested, and mailed a check for a large amount of money, asking the student to ship the item to a third party and mail back the balance of money sent. The matter is under investigation.

Dec. 1, 1:47 a.m. A Safety and Security officer responded to a report of cigarette smoke com ing from a room in Barrows. The officer made contact and observed alcohol present in violation of the alcohol-free zone but did not find possession of the alcohol. The matter was referred to judicial review.

Dec. 1, 11:40 a.m. A Safety and Security officer observed a bicy cle abandoned at Mickey Mart that had been reported stolen in November. The bike was returned to the student owner.

Dec. 1, 10:59 a.m. A Safety and Security officer responded to a report of the theft of two comput ers from TIMARA Studios at the Conservatory. Witnesses to the theft were present, and the mat ter is under investigation by the Oberlin Police Department.

Dec. 3, 11:15 a.m. A Safety and Security officer responded to a student reporting the loss of his bicycle, which was locked in front of the Conservatory the evening before. The bicycle is a black 21-speed Rockhopper valued at $200. The matter is under investigation.

Dec. 3, 3:00 p.m. A Safety and Security officer responded to a student reporting the loss of her bicycle locked to a bike rack in front of Barrows Monday, Dec. 26. The bike was green and blue Trek 800 with a small Route 66 sticker on the frame, valued at $300. The matter is under investiga tion.

Dec. 3, 4:01 p.m. A Safety and Security officer responded to a student reporting the theft of his cell phone from the pocket of clothing left in the hallway of Phillips outside of the racquetball courts. The phone is a Motorola ARRZ, valued at $100. The matter is under investigation.

Dec. 3, 7:46 p.m. A Safety and Security officer reported two students reporting the thefts of a cell phone and a gym bag left unattended in Phillips weight room. The cell phone was an LG Blue Mint Chocolate phone valued at $150, and the gym bag was a green Nike bag. Names gathered from witnesses of young juveniles not authorized to be in the present were turned over to Oberlin Police to investigate.

Dec. 4, 2:27 p.m. A Safety and Security officer responded to a student reporting the loss of her bike outside of Barrows. The bike was green and blue Trek 800, valued at $750. The bike was left unlocked between 4 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. on Monday. The loss is under investigation.

Dec. 5, 6:34 p.m. A Safety and Security officer responded to a report of the theft of a student’s cell phone in Phillips Athletic Facility. Four juveniles were stopped in the facility and questioned about the theft of the phone, as well as that of two cell phones in Philips December 3rd. All three cell phones were recovered. The juveniles were turned over to ODP and placed on trespass.

Dec. 5, 11:48 p.m. A Safety and Security officer and Oberlin Fire Department responded to a fire alarm in Keck. In checking for the location of the detector, a bagged smoke detector was located in a residential room and a hookah in another. Responsible persons were referred for judicial action.

Dec. 6, 12:15 a.m. A Safety and Security officer responded to a report of the theft of his cell phone in BUE 166 and a damaged Vista Nova 14-speed bike, valued at $75.00. The bike was left unlocked between 4 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. on Monday. The loss is under investigation.
he said.
Binder and McVay believe that the College doesn’t fully enforce its own policies. For example, McVay cited the num-
ber of times Safety and Security officers walk by students smoking marijuana, while at the same time requiring RA’s to report any drug-
derelated instances. “You can have a policy, such as ‘no smoking weaned on campus, but you can’t have a policy that’s sometimes enforced and sometimes not.” said McVay. Other RAs commented that the worst that can happen to a student caught in a marijuana
daily online quiz.
College senior Jeffrey Vautrin-McLean served as an RA for two years in a first-year dorm, was hired as Village Housing Assistant, went through training, then quit. “RAs don’t have the support they need to function,” he said. “I’ve had Safety and Security be extremely reluctant to deal with a situation, even refunding my list of T numbers when they arrived half an hour late. It undermined any authority you have with resi-
dents.”
“Every officer makes his own assessment, and different situa-
tions require different reactions,” said Jones. “If that’s labeled incon-
sistency, then so be it.”
Compensation
Two years ago, current seniors Brenda Morris, Leah Gage and Binder formulated a suc-
cessful proposal to the Board of Trustees to increase RA wages to reflect the amount of the cost of housing within five years. In their research, they discovered that Oberlin’s wages for RAs were far below those of peer institutions. For example, while starting pay for RAs at Oberlin is about $3,000 a year, RAs at Swarthmore, Carleton and Wesleyan earn $5,000 or more.

Those at Johns Hopkins, Reed, Hamilton and Connecticut are free and board. Duke offers room and board, plus an addi-
tional 51,000 stipend. Many of these schools boast 100 percent RA retention rates.
Even with a significant wage increase, which has made the job one of the highest paid on campus, many Oberlin RAs feel initially compensated for the amount of work they do on campus, leaving Reddin with a dwindling staff.
“The RA job) wasn’t worth the money for the emotional impact on my personal life,” said Vautrin-McLean. “I’d rather maintain friendships and enjoy my sophomore year.”
“If you’re expecting RAs to ‘be an RA everywhere,’ you’ve got to pay more,” said Trimble. “It was reiterated multiple times during training that we have to bust people anywhere, in other dorms, or off-campus parties, etc. I’m sorry, but for $183 a week after taxes, I’m not going to bust my friends.”

“You don’t know anyone who thinks they get paid enough for the work they do,” said Tyson, who conceded that the job amounts to “living in a foreign land and fulfilling a job that involves stressful situa-
tions.”
“The problem isn’t really money,” said Tyson. “It’s the responsibility. It’s the best paying job on campus. The real question is the position that Reddin puts RAs in.”

Turnover
According to Tyson, the Office of Reddin has received 18 open positions from applications to fill the 13 positions, five of which are from first-years — a change from the organization’s usual flow. For the first time, they are also allowing RAs to switch dorms in order to keep them on staff. Though many students interviewed described Reddin’s hiring situation as “desperate,” Tyson believes that the organization is experiencing the usual amount of turnover.
“They have to take almost every single person who applied, and that’s not good,” said Binder. “There has always been despera-
tion in hiring. Last year and the year before they extended the deadline. It’s had a positive effect, especially on this campus.”
“Reddin selects students with absolutely no discrimination, because it appears that they can’t fill a position to ‘fill the hole,’ ” said Trimble.
“There were more firings of RAs in 2005, and now people are just severely reprimanded,” said Vautrin-McLean. “[Reddin is] in a bind, so they can’t really hold us to our standards. We’re quit-
ting like flies.”
Several students noted the organization’s new willingness to hire first-year as RAs.
“They’re willing to put fresh-
men in freshmen dorms,” said Tyson. “It rings of desperation to us.”
Vautrin-McLean agreed. “It’s kind of ridiculous that they have to go through anti-bias training, anti-terror, anti-authority, anti-Reddin culture here that makes it very stressful to be an RA,” she said.
“I think that Reddin is afraid to change the system when you have people who don’t do things the way they’re told,” said Tyson.

Many current and former RAs made suggestions on how to improve the position. College sopho-
more Gloria Rice, who spent one week into the semester, believes in the OSCA model, especially in the College Housing and Facilities Coordinator — the approximate equivalent of an RA. “While RAs aren’t given much power, simultaneously, HHLECs are facili-
tators and community members who can do whatever they want,” said everyone else, “we need better people at our helm.”

Rice doesn’t want people to be friends with Reddin. “If I could never have my RA. During my brief and grim experience as a resident advisor, I didn’t want a mom and a cop and a best friend all at once.”

Woodbury works in a first-
year dorm, which has given her a new perspective on the job. “It would be nice to have RA’s who consid-
er having RAs only in first-year dorms,” she suggested. “They’re the only ones that go to programs anyways and they’re the ones who need to go to someone to get it. Most of the RAs never have a date.”

Whitley believes that this is a problem unique to Oberlin that must be solved. “We need a RA’s who can be an RA of upperclassmen. Why would a junior go to a sophomore for help?”

The richer resource we have to tap is our ability to think of alter-
 natives, she said, “We have to think of the people who might want to be an RA of upperclassmen. When they see one, what do they think?”

Christina James CLHP Coordinator

First-Years Considered for the First Time as RAs

Continued from page 1

The Oberlin Review, December 7, 2007

News

Christina James CLHP Coordinator

Jennifer James CLHP Coordinator

Oberlin Fight against HIV/AIDS with Education

Continued from page 1

The reading of names was in-
fluential to many on campus as 
well. “The names reading is very powerful and serves to dem-
strate the magnitude of the virus and how many people are affected by it,” said James. She stated that the goal was to have students walking into Wilder Center while some of the 12-14 CLHP volunteers were reading. Then, when students exited the build-
ing, they would hear the list still being read.

The volunteers utilized “intense statistics” to bring AIDS to the forefront of people’s minds. “I think it’s good to spread aware-
ness and constantly remind people how it affects them. For example, we made the red, eye-catching, fact sheets,” James said.

Both Winter and James believe that World AIDS Day is beneficial in a number of ways. James said that along with awareness and community involvement, World AIDS Day sheds extra light on a crit-
ical issue. “A lot of people just take the issue of HIV/AIDS for granted and think that it can’t happen to them,” said Winter. “While on a liberal campus like Oberlin, they already think that they’re exempt.”

Winter said, “I think the premise is two things. First, it allows us to redefine the number of people who have died, and the vast number of people infected. It’s a very real situation. It’s a very real topic. People are reminded that this is an issue. It’s important to have a day dedicated to remembering.”

The World Health Organization first declared World AIDS Day in 1988. “World AIDS Day provides governments, national AIDS programs, faith organizations, community orga-

nizations and individuals with an opportunity to raise awareness and focus attention on the global AIDS epidemic,” according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ website.

James said that World AIDS Day’s recognition in Oberlin was, in part, to remind people of the impact that “across cultures, sexual orientations and how it can affect anybody.”

Next year, “it will be a big celebration,” she said of the day’s observance. “Every year it depends on what else is happening, but I think it was relatively small. Next year, writ-
ten into the grant, is the showing of the AIDS memorial plaque.”

James said, “The AIDS memorial plaque is something that friends and family are going to com-
memorate to those who were lost to HIV/AIDS. They are hoping to acquire more names and have a 200-year life and fill Phillips gym with them.”

The World AIDS Day will take place next World AIDS Day include bringing in a folk singer, presenting a visual arts exhibit and an interactive, hands-on activity to give the campus an opportunity to reflect on the issue,” according to James.
**A Monetary Incentive for Heart and Soul**

It seems absurd to retrace and retrace the money that stu
dent senators have been collecting since fall 2005, when they had no idea their paychecks were unconstitutional. However, in response to this recent revelation, the Senate referendum is right to examine Senate wages anew. Judging whether or not senators specifically should be fiscally rewarded from the student activity fee is difficult. Senate’s situation must be considered in comparison to the effectiveness of other student organizations, relative to their systems of compensation.

The Student Finance Committee is a perfect example of a disorganized, cumbersome organization with a history of unpaid workers. Although Senate recently passed a provisional stipend for SFC, before now the committee has been relying on inconsistent volunteers with no incentive to tackle the confu
tion left behind by last year’s disgruntled, unpaid workers. At the start of the semester, with every organization’s budget on hold for scrutiny, the SFC was effectively unresponsive to e-mails, uncoordinated in its varying explanations of what was going on and disorganized in its budget reviews, upsetting many people. Positions on the SFC were subject to nearly 100 percent turnover in the last year. As a result, the political dynamics of the group are unstable.

But the senators’ situation is different. Presumably the student body elects passionate senators who are devoted to act
ing for the change students want to see but don’t have the time or motivation to pursue themselves. This vote of confidence in each senator’s ability — something that doesn’t apply to the SFC — should instill a sense of responsibility in the senator to act on the wishes of a critical student body. Nonetheless, the argument still holds that senators need monetary incentive to work hard and effectively. In order to accomplish this, the best senator be elected and not just the senators who can afford not to get paid, payment is necessary.

Any organization that is accountable to the student body must run efficiently, and paychecks foster healthy competi
tion and provide incentive for hard work. However, in light of the excessive amount of work each of these organizations at Oberlin has proven to require, no payment system should be uncapped. Organizations that fail to complete their assigned tasks in a reasonable amount of time should not be rewarded for the seemingly endless hours spent producing no visible results. This creates a disincentive to efficiency, defeating the purpose of monetary compensation in the first place. Alternatively, it sti
pends encourage students to complete more work in less time.

The stipend system currently outlined by the constitution for Senate does not take into consideration the often varying amount of work put in by each senator, and it therefore is not as effective as hourly wages in compensating senators fairly. Currently, Senate is hoping to get quorum on hourly wages, but there is no cap on the amount of hours they bill.

The capped wage should not exceed 12 hours’ worth of work per week — the highest SFC pay compensation, though it routinely takes far more hours to produce a weekly paper. It is only right that the members of our student govern
m ent are held to the same standard of efficacy as other student organizations of this institution.

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**More Letters to the Editors**

**Another Take on Abortion Ethics**

To the Editors:

“The Ethical Obie” dramatically
twists off the so-called “delicate
decision” of the ethics of abortion in the last three paragraphs of his November 30 column by confusing the very issues he raises. There is no difference between supporting “the
equality of women: the right to privacy,
the right to control their own bodies and
the right of equal treatment,” as Nolan so generously permits us
in the last lines of his abortion rant,
and abortion rights. Perhaps he imagines that abortion is simply a theoretical issue for philosophers to grapple with, as suggested by his comparison between abortion ethics and ponde
ring the existence of God.

But promoting “the awareness of choice” isn’t enough — we have to take care to defend real women.

Helping fund abortions for women who would otherwise be unable to afford them is not a cress endorsement of death, nor is it “direct
decrease is a way of furthering our sup
port of the right to choose by sup
porting the difficult choice certain
women ultimately make.”

— Amanda Shubert
College sophomore

**Congrats to OSCA on Refund Checks**

To the Editors:

This letter is to congratul
ate everyone who was a mem
ber of OSCA last year (‘06-
‘07). The refund checks that
went out earlier this week
ended up totaling more than
$177,000 — an OSCA record.
Some people even got more
than $400 back.

Great job to everyone who
committed to joining the at-cost
to RedEd and mak
ing it work to be
thousands of dollars cheaper than
CDS. That
people had to
be there for some

— Matt O’Connell
OSCA Education
Coordinator
College junior

**Letters to the Editor Policy**

The Review appreciates and welcomes letters to the editor and columns submitted. All submissions must be
received by Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. at commentary@oberlinreview.org or Wilder Box 90 for inclusion in the
designation of the following Friday’s Review. Letters must include signatures and phone numbers of their authors for verification and should not exceed 600 words, except for op-ed columns. E-mails from non-"oberlin.edu" addresses must be
be copied to all signers to confirm authorship.

The Review reserves the right to edit letters for content, space, spelling, grammar and libel. The Review will
not print advertisements on its Commentary pages. The Review defines the following as advertisements: 1) any announce
ment of products or services for sale; 2) any announcement of a meeting or gathering. All letters are
print at the discretion of the editorial board.

Opinions expressed in letters, columns, essays, cartoons or other Commentary pieces do not necessarily reflect the
positions of the staff of the Review.

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**SURF Member Stands by “Work It for Women”**

To the Editors:

We would like to respond to “A Delicate Balance: Weighing in on the Ethics of Abortion,” printed in the Nov. 30 edition of the Daily.

The article critiqued the event “Work It for Women: An Abortion Action,” organized by the University of SURF and sponsored by other pro-
choice organizations on campus.

Access to abortion, a topic of
national debate long before Roe v.
Wade (1973), was greatly limited in 1976 by the Hyde Amendment, which prohibits the use of gov

enment-funded health insurance programs or federal civilian health insurance programs to pay for abortions except for certain circum
stances. The Hyde Amendment includes not only the procedure itself (ranging from $350 – $1,000), but can also include transporta
tion to a clinic, an overnight stay, food, childcare and several days off work.

In organizing this event we did not deny nor overlook the importance of abortion access to a range of contraceptive options. Both this semester and in the past, we were aware of the need to educate women and men about a full spectrum of reproduc
tive health care options. This event focused on abortion because it is one of the most threatened of all reproductive health care options. The advertisements for “Work It for Women” were careful to explicitly indicate what our event was about, and where students’ money would go. We knew that this fundraising would be provocative, but there was no deception on our part about the goals or objectives of this event. Furthermore, we believe that our advertising inspired students to think about what it means to be pro-choice and to consider their own opinions, prior to attending and donating to the fundraiser.

The event was not just about dancing and beer, but incorporated educational components. Posters about the history of abortion, access to contraception and statistics on contraception lined the walls of the Sco. Also, videos about abortion access played near the entrance where a number of representatives from other reproductive health and political organizations set up booths with literature and information.

“Work It for Women” was not about making decisions for women, but about helping them realize a choice they had already made. Women who go to clinic funds have usually decided that abortion is the right option for them, and abortion fund staff are aware of funders who are undecided to family planning counselors. The money raised by our fundraiser does not go to pro-choice political organizations, but will go directly to an individual woman who has decided to seek course of action with
her rights.

For many women seeking an abortion, their first moral obliga
tion may be to care for their exist

ing family to the best of their abil
ity, with the understanding that an additional child could prevent them from doing so. Many women wish to become mothers only once they feel prepared for that responsibility and realize that having a child at a certain juncture would be irre
sponsible for themselves and to the potential child. Many consider irre
sponsibility to yourself and others to be immoral. Only an individual woman can know what is in her best interest.

Abortion is a safe, commonly practiced (one in three American women will have an abortion by the time she reaches age 45) medi

cal procedure. Limiting its acces

sibility to low-income women limits their access to equal health care. It’s important to remember the tragic and painful experiences of women determined to get illegal abortions prior to Roe v. Wade. Women will continue to seek abo
tions regardless of limitations, and regardless of risks.

— Maria Landi
Students United for Reproductive Freedom
College senior

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**The Oberlin Review**

Publication of Record for Oberlin College

— Established 1874 —

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**December 7, 2007**

**The Oberlin Review**

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Commentary

The Oberlin Review, December 7, 2007

TRUE Blue

Bringing Nuclear Disarmament Back to the Forefront

by Brian Pugh

The question of nuclear arms control has been lost in the debate this primary season because of other pressing issues such as Iraq and healthcare, and less pressing ones including the exact number of illegal immigrants who worked in the homes of anti-immigrant crusaders like Mitt Romney and Tom Tancredo. While this lack of focus might be understandable, it is also unfortunate since there are few topics of greater consequence for the United States and the world.

During the 2004 presidential debates John Kerry and George W. Bush agreed that nuclear proliferation was the top issue facing the nation. The simplest way to prevent nuclear weapons from spreading is to make them less desirable. The countries that seek nuclear arms today, including rogue states such as Iran, are not driven by “insanity” but by the belief that nuclear weapons are a deterrent. A belief that is shared by the incumbent nuclear powers, including the United States, Great Britain and Israel. While concrete diplomatic initiatives are clearly necessary for specific cases such as Iran, we should also reduce the climate of international tension that makes nuclear weapons appealing.

As long as weapons are seen as virtually unassailable security guarantees and as long as some countries have nuclear weapons, other countries will seek nuclear arms. Since the development of the atom bomb, ten nations have joined the “nuclear club.” It is bad enough that North Korea and perennial foes India and Pakistan already have nuclear weapons — we can ill-afford additional nuclear powers. The more countries that possess nuclear weapons, the greater the risk that an international conflict will turn into a global catastrophe when one country or another decides to play its ultimate trump card. A growing global nuclear arsenal also increases the probability that one day a terrorist organization will be able to get its hands on nuclear materials.

President Bush’s approach to the nuclear proliferation problem, preventive war, has proven to be costly and counterproductive.

All but the most dedicated partisans have now come to recognize that the situation in Iraq is a disaster and the decision to invade was a mistake. In addition, it is a near certainty that our invasion of Iraq has inspired other countries to redouble their efforts to develop nuclear weapons to avoid a similar fate. Unfortunately, it seems as though many political leaders have not learned from this debacle. All of the Republican presidential candidates, with the exception of Ron Paul, said that they would consider launching a nuclear first strike against Iran.

Outside the fever swamps of the Republican primary there is a re-emerging consensus in favor of nuclear abolition. Even Ronald Reagan, ostensibly a hardliner, advocated disarmament and, along with Mikhail Gorbachev, successfully eliminated thousands of nuclear weapons.

Earlier this year former Secretaries of State George Shultz and Henry Kissinger, former Secretary of Defense William Perry, and former Senator Sam Nunn (D-GA) penned an essay for the Wall Street Journal titled “A World Free of Nuclear Weapons.” Barack Obama and John Edwards have both explicitly endorsed nuclear abolition. Somewhat more ambiguously, Hillary Clinton has written that she supports “reducing reliance on nuclear weapons” and pledged to make major reductions in our nuclear arsenal.

Nuclear proliferation will remain a key issue and nuclear abolition must be an integral component of a practical counter-proliferation program. To achieve this goal, it is essential that the next president take the first steps by negotiating for arms reductions with the existing nuclear powers and using diplomacy, not force, to prevent the emergence of new nuclear powers, and lead by example, getting Congress to ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and halting the ongoing multimillion dollar expansion of our nuclear stockpile. Nuclear abolition is not a utopian project but a vital national security issue. Once the world is safe from nuclear war, the United States will be, too.

Fowls by Diego Cohen

Send your ethical dilemmas, questions or comments to theethicalobie@gmail.com

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The Ethics of Equality: A Columnist’s Response to “The Ethical Obie”

by Julia Chauvin
Glad We Had This Talk columnist

So, you know, I’ve decided to sort of deviate slightly from my usual column because, well, I have something to say. Thank goodness my column is basically just my own opinion anyway. I’m going to talk and I’m going to be glad it happened. Cool. That’s all that really needs to occur.

Just to put this out there, get this out of the way — I do really like you, Jay Nolan, as a person and we’re friends. So, I am not attempting to crush his soul or dreams or hopes or kill his puppy or anything. I’m just sort of going to argumentatively respond to the things he said in “The Ethical Obie” last week. And he knows. I told him I was going to kill him. Figuratively, of course. Clearly.

Jay Nolan, Jay Nolan, Jay Nolan, why, oh why did you use the words “muder,” “slaughter,” “death,” “sick,” “twisted” and “cruel”?! Why? You know who your audience is, and you know that no one is going to feel as though your argument is legitimate at all if you use buzzwords intended to influence their opinion — especially if you don’t make a clear point.

And for God’s sake, why did you put quotation marks around the word “unwanted” in reference to potentially aborted fetuses? Just as a thing, for future reference, abortion was invented to rid women of pregnancies that they could not deal with for various reasons. To have a baby is a huge lifestyle change and may or may not be feasible for reasons it would take the rest of my allotted ranting space to describe. I can’t even begin to talk about how wrong it is to insinuate that fetuses that are aborted aren’t unwanted. I can’t really discuss it ‘cause I’ll get angry and yell, and that’s bad.

Word choice is very, very important and, once again, I have another problem with it. I know you accredited the fabulous quote of “the woman always knows” to Himnan, but, well, you put it in your column, so I have to take issue with it. Sure the woman might know when conception happened; that’s true. But there’s also this fancy thing called rape. You see, often times the woman does not know who exactly raped her; it could be a stranger, or drugs could have been used. And, my God, if anyone does not offer a woman a safe way to abort a fetus that was conceived during a rape, drastic and terrible things could happen to everyone involved.

Work It For Women was designed to raise money for charities that allow a woman without financial means to get a safe abortion — to not have a baby that would be harmed or unhealthy or completely invisible. I don’t really find anything wrong with the decisions women make about what is inside of their bodies. It’s their choice.

So, I went to Work It For Women; I gave them money. I mean, I was planning to go earlier this week; I supported the cause, but I was just sort of lukewarm to the event. Originally, I only would have gone if there were people I knew there, but, after reading “The Ethical Obie” last week, I went on principle. A horde of charging rhinos couldn’t keep me away (not that they could. The rugby team is very pro-choice). I really, really, really had to go.

So, though I do love you dearly, Jay, my goodness gracious Christ, was I mad at you and your opinion last week. I didn’t understand. That’s why I wrote this. Now, I think, maybe, folks could stop personally attacking Jay Nolan, now that I’ve said my piece. Please keep attacking his ideas. The dialogue should continue. But, maybe, Jay Nolan should not be the meat on the spit in this rotisserie of hatred and anger. Next week will be really fun; I swear. Oh. Thanks. Glad we had this talk.

More Letters to the Editors
SFC Needs Fair Compensation

To the Editors:
The Student Finance Committee is an integral part of student life. SFC works with the student organization in allocating budgets, voting on appeals, and managing activity fee revenue. SFC on SFC requires a significant time commitment. Until now, voting members of the SFC have not been compensated for the hours of work they put in each week. Realizing that this was an imbalance, members of SFC and Senate created an interim solution to keep members in place until a referendum could be put together.
The 2007 Referendum includes a question requesting payment for the voting members of the SFC. We urge you to vote affirmatively on question #2 in order to help the Student Finance Committee improve and meet the high demands of the student body.

This change would mean SFC could attract more skilled and committed members and provide incentive and time necessary to get things done. This would also reduce the turnover which has been an institutional problem in the past.

Just in the past few months SFC has been filled for the first time in years. We have addressed the concerns of club sports by moving resources and moving to reverse caps and scaling that unfairly burdened the teams. Off-campus policy that crippled groups like the outing club has been reversed. All of this has been facilitated by the introduction of compensation. We ask for your help to make this continue.

We all want the SFC to be stronger so it can respond to the many demands placed upon us. It is often hard to make the decisions that we do, but it is something that must be done. If this fails, the continued improvement of SFC will be severely threatened. What is healthy for SFC is to the benefit of the student body. Therefore we implore you to vote ‘yes’ on question #2 of the student referendum.

-Alexandra Binkis College sophomore
-Collin Jones College senior
-Sandhya Raman College sophomore
-Maya Wax Carvalho College  sophomore
-Cole Hershkowitz College sophomore
-Allison Simonsson College senior
-Erika Danzig College senior

Continue Support for Student Senate

In the past two years, the Student Senate has improved on many fronts. Senate has been a part of improvement in green building standards, expansion of gender-neutral housing, and increased student representation on critical committees. Senators represent the student body in dealing with ResLife, Admissions, LGBT center, purchasing policies and countless others.

Underlying the successes of the past two years was the Senate’s role as a paying job. The fact that Senators received wages in this period meant that Senatorial life was more accessible to interested students who would be able to put in the time required to make a difference. Senate wages also allowed low-income students to serve. As was mentioned in last week’s Review, the Senate recently learned that the 2007 referendum failed to meet quorum and thus never affirmed our wages. For the period we served, we faithfully continued their work unpaid, but we are depending on your support on question #3, which would ratify wages from 2005-2007.

For continued progress on Senate, I ask that students affirm Senate wages for the next two years and vote yes on question #1.

-Collin Jones College senior Student Senator

Oblies sound off on issues that matter to them.

Rebekah Steadwell, College junior and Editor-in-Chief of inSolidarity
On In Solidarity and campus publications

“I think in Solidarity is really important because there are a lot of issues that I think that the Review doesn’t cover on important issues on people of color and marginalized people, and a lot of times The Grape may cover these issues, but not always. It’s so in Solidarity is really important because it allows sort of a voice from people of color for people of color, and all the people who want to learn to speak about important issues and hopefully create some change and at least educate people on what’s going on.

“There’s always something you can do to help. If it means just picking up the paper and reading it, then you are helping. If it means writing for it, then you are helping. It’s – it’s really a community paper, so everyone can get involved in some way.”

Alexandra Korshin, College sophomore and transfer student from the University of Alaska at Anchorage
On transferring to Oberlin College

“Since I was living in my hometown [of Anchorage], I was living in an apartment for myself, and I got to cook and do all that jazz, and I was looking at lots of schools [to transfer to], and this was the only place that showed you you are still independent and don’t have to be thinking of how the rest of the college population is. People are a lot more serious about the arts in general… OSCA totally, totally drew me in, and the program hous...”

PERSPECTIVES

Rachel Rothgery, College senior and founder of Oberlin’s chapter of Free the Children
On Free the Children’s goal to build a school in Sierra Leone

“In addition to the $8,500 [needed to build a school in Sierra Leone], we want more money to get desks and books and school kits, teacher’s salaries, latrines and better supplies. … Without those things, surely we don’t have any chance at education if you don’t have a school. But beyond that, we want to be spreading awareness about what happens after a war…”

School is a great way to get kids integrated into the peace process, to make them feel like they’re a part of what’s going on in their country, and it’s also very psychologically healing.

“In everything that we face and what we do, we need to be thinking about the next generation, and we also need to be thinking about how we increase the quality of life for all the people that we care about. What’s better than having a better education, which is better than being in a war-torn area. …”

Interviews by Christopher Gillman | Photos by Chris Hamby
This Week
Oberlin History

December 15, 1964

College rents IBM computer, stops working after one week

An IBM-1620 computer, in the cellar of the physics building, promises to give dozens of College research projects a shot in the arm. The five-unit brain is, or will be, helping professors and students grapple with problems involving such subjects as music theory, sigma-minus particles, atom and cellular records and vibrational frequencies of 2, difluorotetraylene molecules.

Students actively worked with the computer’s initial operations. Joseph Palmeri, professor of physics, noted that several hundred students are fresh from a five-day session, IBM-taught course in computer programming. He also cited independent efforts of a student taking Physics 5 to solve a routine assignment with its assistance. In addition, Palmeri assigned students in his Physics 47 to use the computer to find “textarea-square fits,” a mathematical treatment of experimental data.

Intriguing applications in faculty projects are afoot, Palmeri indicated. He noted the plans of Robert Whinston, professor of physics, to use the instrument in completing his project of last summer, “Half-Life of the Sigma-Minus Particle.” John Clough, assistant professor of music theory, “is going to use the computer for some work in music theory.” Norman Craig, associate professor of chemistry, yesterday obtained computed results from his study of vibrational frequencies of 2-difluorotetraylene molecules.

Palmeri plans to apply the 1620 to a project, “Newtonian Cross-Sections,” done with the Harvard University cyclotron last summer. He estimated that it will chomp off three-hours of the 40 to 50 hours it would take him to do the arithmetic work on a desk calculator.

The computer was first used December 1; after less than one week of use, it abruptly creaked out Monday night. “No matter what operator code you had the cards wouldn’t go in,” College freshman Carl Winfrey, a student operator, reported. For the next two days, it bedeviled a determined oscilliscope and two IBM servicemen. According to Palmeri, they “tested circuits, one by one,” failed to locate the bug, then changed tactics and located a balky transistor in the control unit. Palmeri noted that breakdowns and difficulties are commonplace when a computer begins operating.

The electronic brain is supervised by an eight-member ad hoc Committee on Computer Facilities with Palmeri as chairman. The eight members include professors in the social sciences as well as those in the math and science department. According to Palmeri, next summer or fall a Director will supplant the temporary committee.

A course in programming the 1620, for students, and a similar one taken by 20 faculty members are part of the effort to make the computer facilities accessible to all. Students wishing to have problems run must get a faculty sponsor first.

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Editor’s Picks

Musical Events

The Takacs Quartet
Friday, Dec. 7, 8 p.m. – Finney Chapel

This Friday, Finney Chapel hosts the Takacs Quartet, one of the world’s premier string quartets, and clarinetist Franklin Cohen. The Takacs Quartet is renowned for the ability to fuse four distinct, expressive musical personalities into gripping, unified interpretations. Now in its 31st season, the Takacs Quartet explores its repertoire with a true sense of passion, creating performances that are probing, revealing and constantly engaging. The quartet performs 80 concerts a year worldwide. It has amassed an impressive list of critical reviews, with accolades such as “quartet of the year” at the Decca and Hyperion labels. The Takacs Quartet is in residence at the University of Colorado in Boulder and Associate Artists at the South Bank Centre in London. Franklin Cohen is the principal clarinet of the Cleveland Orchestra since 1976, as well as one of the associate principal clarinetists of the orchestra.

Let them delight you with some Haydn, Bartok and Mozart. Plus, one review said that Cohen could probe a cencerito’s contours. Tee tee. Can’t be missed.

Oberlin Elgar Festival
Saturday, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m. – Kulas Recital Hall

Let the pompous and ceremonial festivities begin! This week marks composer Elgar’s 100th centennial. You know Elgar. The guy who composed the song that is played alongside every high school graduate’s long-anticipated trek to higher education’s Holy Grail: the diploma. All have clumped to those epic beats, though many have tripped along the way. The Pomp and Circumstance guy. You got the reference at the beginning, right? Right. So this Saturday, we Elgar the afternoon away. At 1:30 in Kulas Recital Hall, there will be performance of Elgar’s chamber music. Featured musicians are Kjisti Foutz, Thomas Bandy, Renee Solomon, Meghan Brooks, Elizabeth Zahroff, Joseph Stepec, Allison Lint, Caroline Curatolo and Eric Tammensbach.

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Theater Events

Energy Choices: Our Energy Future & A Way Forward
Friday, Dec. 7, 12:10 p.m. – Seiberling Hall

If you haven’t noticed, we’re pretty concerned about all that environment stuff here at Oberlin. We recycle. We turn off the lights. By endorsing skinny jeans, we don’t waste unnecessary fabric. It’s not much of a surprise, then, that the Geology Department is sponsoring a lecture at Severyan Hall this Friday titled “Energy Choices: Our Energy Future & A Way Forward.” Rick Black, OC ’73 will speak about tough choices and unlimited opportunities regarding the conservation of energy.

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Not to take the title of Dennis Anderson’s autobiography or anything, but this coming week, bravo to you wanna-be.

Aries
Today, you may find yourself with the sword of Damocles hanging over your head. Though not literally, that means you could feel a little vulnerable. Just let’s say, you sign up for Oberlin’s annual food representation of Greek Myths paper/tape, maybe go for Aeolus.

Taurus
Face you fearing encapsulation.

Gemini
You may soon find yourself amused by a friend’s impending marriage.

Cancer
Fans may give you a ring in the coming days. Actually, in this day and age, fans will more likely give you a bust that causes your phone to shatter across the table.

Leo
This coming Christmas break – er, winter break, enjoy Christmas – er, Hanukkah or what have you with your family – er – that is to say, whoever it is that you self-identify as your guardian. Let them know you appreciate them as you sit eating your roaring fire – er, enjoying the cold.

Virgo
No one’s calling your street creed into question, but maybe mentioning your debut acoustic folk album “Smooth as a Thug Wanna Be” is not the right call.

Libra
Today you may feel weighed down by all the things in your pocket. Let the Stars take some of that off your hands for you. Not so much the list or the buttons, but if there’s cash, a cell phone, on the keys to a Lexus, we’ve got your back.

Scorpio
Today you will eat a peanut butter cookie that will vaguely resemble a cumulus cloud. Eat the cookies you are as a child, or eat theSharedPreferences of your youth. The experience will be a lot like Prune’s Midnights, except shorter and less gay.

Sagittarius
is on vacation this week. It left early for Christmas break. (They have a different schedule than we do.)

Capricorn
The coming days will bring good news. Not so much for you, but for all the people who are waiting for something bad to happen to you.

Aquarius
Over the past few months, your mental ease in power has remi-

nied that of Scorcher. But as you enjoy the spook of your success, banking in the conclusion that the world is yours, remember that the firm is essentially a moral tale. Recall the key moment of Scorcher – sometimes dudes will also shout you from behind.

Pluto
Today’s not a day to avoid making bold decisions. Use premium gas. Play the lotto. Don’t stop at stop signs. And must of all, don’t hold the stars liable for anything that happens as a result of this advice. Because that wouldn’t be held.

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Feature events are determined by the editor, in make an interesting pitch!

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Philo of the week

Winter: 1, Fall: 0. Winter arrives in Oberlin, leaving traces of autumn behind.

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Quote of the week:

Rather than being forced to strip every outline of the companies, certain people themselves out of America.

—David Yezegley, Conservative Counsel, discussing assumed terrorist threats.

(See page 2)
WALK HARD
THE DEWEY COX STORY

Arts Editor Interviews John C. Reilly and Director Jake Kasdan at Rock and Roll Hall of Fame

Sophia Yan
Arts Editor

Who would have guessed that chopping your older brother in half with a machete at a young age could only be remedied by becoming...America’s heartthrob rock star? Meet rock star Dewey Cox (John C. Reilly), whose lifelong journey is presented in the comedic mock-documentary, Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story, opening nationwide on December 21. The film is the latest brainchild of producer and co-writer Judd Apatow, director and co-writer Jake Kasdan and producer Clayton Townsend, whose previous collaborative track records include Superbad, Knocked Up and The 40-Year Old Virgin.

Cox’s rise to fame is poignantly marked with plenty of musician clichés: cycles of drug abuse, prison and rehab, with breaks for 411 women and, further, 22 kids and 14 step-kids and oh—can’t forget all those skeletons in the closet.

This past Wednesday night, Reilly, in character as Cox, kicked off his promotional tour, Cox Across America 2007, at Cleveland’s Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, singing tracks from the movie with his strummy voice. “I heard Cleveland rocks. Is that true?” Cox’s voice oozed through the mic. “Tonight, Cleveland rocks with Cox,” he continued in response to huge cheers from the crowd.

The set’s highlights included “Guilty as Charged,” “Darling” and “Beautiful Ride,” all original songs written for Walk Hard under the direction of composer Michael Andrews and music supervisors Manish Raval and Tom Wolfe.

The film takes its audience from the late ’40s to the present time, rolling through rock ’n roll, hippie-doom, disco, the ’80s and more.

At age 14, despite his initial success at a local talent show, Cox’s father, Pa Cox (Raymond J. Barry) has little faith in him. In defiance, he leaves his tiny Springberry, All home with his girlfriend, Edith (Kristen Wiig), to pursue his larger-than-life dreams of becoming a rock star. Soon after the couple marries, a slew of babies and bills begin to pile up, but Dewey forgets all about them in his rosy strop of musical glory. Edith fails to be supportive, saying, “I do believe in you. I just believe you’ll fail.”

His big break comes when he is working as the only white man in an African-American jazz establishment. The headlining act’s usual lead singer is sick and unable to belt out tunes, so Cox steps his chubby self up to the plate and sings, “Man, You Got to Love Your Negro Man.” Record executives help him land a chance of a lifetime. Cox records his first hit single, “Walk Hard” with his band, drummer Sam (Tim Meadows), guitarist Dave (Matt Besser) and bassist Theo (Chris Parnell).

When he meets fiery redhead Darlene Madison (Jenna Fischer), whose power of attraction is second only to her piety, the two choose to remain “friends” despite several obvious sexual-escape encounters. The pair’s hit, “Let’s Duet” (let’s do it! it’s includes lyrics such as: “In my dreams, you’re blowing me / A kiss…” The couple finally marries — Cox has forgotten all about his current and first wife — and as they are about to consummate their marriage on a round bed in a Austin Powers, Edith walks in on the two.

— Alone again, Cox falls deeper and deeper into the hole.

See Dewey, page 15

Gotta Love Cox: After landing several supporting actor roles, actor John C. Reilly is finally in the lead as rock star Dewey Cox in Walk Hard. Already a fine guitarist, Reilly really steps it up in this spastic, goofball comedy where every stereotype is pushed to the extreme. Arts Editor Sophia Yan interviews director Jake Kasdan on the red carpet (below, left). Reilly, as Cox, signs autographs for fans before taking the stage for a concert (below middle, right).

Iris J. Zamora
Students Set Clocks Ahead, Fall Dances Forward
Ashley Simpson
Staff writer

Ranging from the subtly ethereal to the comically exaggerated to the starkly enunciated and passionately fluid, the movements of last Friday’s dance performances differed greatly in style and method but were ultimately comparable through their overall success. This year’s Fall Forward event, an annual production put on by the Oberlin College theater and dance program in Warner Concert Hall, showcased student and faculty achievements in six diverse pieces, all of which rose to capture and move the other ten attending conditions of the audience.

The first of these works, titled Salutador and choreographed by junior Ariel Kelt and choreographer and College junior Dana Kelley juxtaposed stark, periodic movements with the ethereal vocals of Michael Andrews and a video projection of a fluttering plastic bag, an image of the unexpected beauty in spontaneity taken from the film American Beauty. The piece opened with a single dancer falling to the silence of the drumming bag and program notes include a second dancer, entering in alternation with the first and embodying the aimless nature of the bag.

Although the tense introduction to this piece initially suggested the kind of detached pretentiousness often inspired by a few too many visits to the visual media exhibits of MoMA, Salutador quickly evolved into an engaging work, accessible to a variety of viewers.

What are you doing in my Space?, the second piece of the evening, combined contact improv with live music performed by College juniors Claire Chernet, Teddy Rankin-Parker and David Vohden. College senior Ben Shapiro, double-degree junior Sam Goodman and College junior and choreographer Alex Kramer danced in the piece, bumping one another in increasingly and humorously aggressive flights as the audience laughed in unison and the dancers repeatedly posed the question, “What are you doing in my space?”

Rakoworks Rouge and Canción de Cama “Lullaby” followed Kramer’s piece, Rouge, choreographed and danced by College sophomore Holly Heidt and featuring the accompaniment of pianist and College first-year Nicki Adams, playfully dramatized our perception of “50s style, kitsch femininity. Adams’ light-fingered performance of “Somewhere Over the Rainbow” worked perfectly alongside Heidt’s flirtatious and exaggerated twirls, charming the viewer while simultaneously forcing a questioning of the kind of heavily gendered role performed by Heidt.

Canción de Cama “Lullaby” involved vocal, spoken and physical performance by Conservatory junior and dancer/choreographer Marya Burris. Tense, frustration-fraught gestures accompanied the emotion-filled, full voice of Barriers. Communicated almost entirely in Spanish with continuous care, Canción de Cama held an atmosphere unique from that of the other pieces, standing out in its dual rigidity and beauty.

The last three pieces of Fall Forward, College junior Michelle Heiland’s four-part Kaleidoscopes, African American Studies Department Artist-in-Residence Ademike Sharpyke’s passionate Angelique Negroes and College senior Lucinda Segar’s many-told To Buy, were arguably the favorites of the night. Kaleidoscopes, performed by College sophomores Lindsay Jaynes and Nicole Laus and juniors Grace McCann and Alexands Serran, exuded energy and life as the women danced in parallel to music by Godspeed You! Black Emperor. Angelique Negroes, translated roughly as “little black angels,” incorporated traditional flamenco, live performance by bassist Marion Parker III, OC ’04, and a towering angel constructed by Associate Professor of Studio Art Nanette Yamasuzi Macias. College sophomore Kristal Boyd danced the piece, reaching across Warner Center in longing and engaging with both Parker and the angel. Boyd wore a costume designed by Maggie Terry. The work was performed to the Roberta Flack song of the same name. The final piece of the evening, To Buy, featured a group of 14 students. Exhibiting a level of flexibility enviable to any viewer, the many dancers weave their way past each other in a quick-paced pattern of interaction. This ensemble performance provided a fitting conclusion to the event: showcasing a large number of students’ talents, To Buy worked alongside the earlier pieces to demonstrate a mix of art and form of expressiveness rarely shared on campus. Through their overarching engaging natures, the works of Fall Forward stand as tangible proof of that, at least in the physical domain. Oberlin students have the potential to interact with an eschew that extends beyond our near-universally self-acknowledged awkwardness.

Beautifully Blended Trombone Choir Delights Sunday Crowd

Elena Lacheva
Staff writer

The sight of 13 trombone players and two tuba players walking on stage promised a huge sound, but the Oberlin Trombone Choir’s concert last Sunday afternoon in Warner Concert Hall also proved that there’s nothing like the noble color of a brass ensemble. Never obnoxious, the group’s powerful sound insured a certain nostalgia for past times of dignity and taste.

Giovanni Palatini’s eche veniet dies illa opened the concert in Baroque style. The trombones sounded vibrant with a polite forte, which they sustained until the end of the program. Director James DeRosa was an exact conductor, leading the ensemble with a firm hand.

Charles De Paolo’s arrangement of the famous Adagio by Samuel Barber filled Warner with soft long melodies that were fuzzy around the edges. It wasn’t hard to imagine a violinist’s funeral march with the trombones walking behind the coffin.

Before intermission, Raymond Premru’s a Memoriam officially set the atmosphere of noble mourning. The Choir’s perfect union was startling and its never-pushy forte crowned the climax of the piece. The offset accents beautifully supported the expressive dynamic arches.

The remaining pieces included another Baroque piece, Sonata Flauto Forte by Giovanni Gabrieli. The notion that Baroque music is lawfully well to the trombone was firmly restated.

The homogeneity of the Trombone Choir helped the performers to achieve the dark sound of Sir Edward Elgar’s "Nimred from Enigma Variations. After a brief false start, the ensemble finally started again and painted an Oberlin

Kate Money

A sightting of albino squirrels scurrying around Tappan Square has always been an undeniable delight for Oberlin students and residents. Each one of us marveled at the rare sightings of our usually friendlier, lighter siblings, who don’t quite have the same spark and personality as the albino’s. This past Saturday, the albino squirrels were out in full force and it was the perfect time to watch them jump, run, and play around the square.

The Albino Squirrel Preservation Society, which was founded in 2004, is “in the constant pursuit of albino squirrel rights,” in a worldwide organization with chapters at the University of Texas, University of North Texas, University of Pennsylvania, University of Western Ontario, Cambridge University, Texas A&M University, Illinois State University, Juilliard School of Music and ASPHS High School Chapters. Why isn’t Oberlin on the list?

The society’s creed is, “I pledge to uphold the objects of the Albino Squirrel Preservation Society, to foster compassion and goodwill towards albino squirrels, and to dedicate my self to the protection of all squirrels, especially those that are albino.”

The website, albinoalbino.com, provides a membership application and suggests selling flies and stickers as a way to promote your local chapter of the ASPS. Suggested activities include squirrel feeding days and information sessions to provide awareness about the dangers albino poses for these squirrels, who are more susceptible to predators because of their inability to camouflage themselves.

So how does Oberlin College’s?
Collegium and Choir Perform their Strengths

Elena Lacheva
Staff Writer

Last Friday, Nov. 30, the day of the season’s first snowfall, Collegium Musicum of Oberlin College gave its only concert of November. The program was packed and splitting along the edges; students and community members were leaning against the walls and wiggling up the floor.

Under the title Ars Britannica: Music from the Welsh Chapels, Stevens Hall’s capella choir delivered a poised performance — although somewhat disturbed by certain tempos and dynamics.” The concert presented various sacred pieces by Orlando Gibbons, William Byrd, Thomas Tomkins, and their contemporaries of the Chapel Royal in the royal court first during the time of Elizabeth I and later, during the reign of Charles II.

The energetic set, beginning with Lift up Your Heads by Gibbons, demonstrat- ed Collegium’s strengths in the repertoire, producing a delightfully homogeneous sound. The group’s soft pulsat continued to show through William Byrd’s motet De ira vaillantis Domine with a particularly sweet entrance at the next to the last phrase, Sion is become a wilderness; elevation of the music is made possible through its clean, homophonic texture.

Byrd’s Romanism was apparent in his piece for Four Voices, movements of which were scattered throughout the concert. Overlapping voices characterized the Kyrie, while the dotted rhythm in the Gloria and Credo achieved a certain sad- ness of tone. Sacrum was performed by 14 specific members of Collegium and brought to life some of its more chamber-like qualities, which a plea could be heard, especially on the word “Dominus.” The Agnus Dei was the expressive climax of the mass in the flow of the performance was admirable.

Two solo organ voluntaries were included at key moments: before and after the complex pieces sung by the choir. Henry Purcell, the child of a more cosmopolitan and modern England, was represented by O God, the King of Glory — a piece with majestic char- acter and intricate harmonizations that gave Collegium room to show off more of its sense of musical unity. Hear my Prayer, O Lord was surprisingly dissonant and the gathering of ten- sion towards the relieving climax filled Fairchild Chapel with the choir’s warm, yet powerful sound.

During Remember not, Lord, our offences, written in his large dose passion style, the dynamic chromatic and the alteration in the merging voices nicely prepared the listener for the passionate funeral sentence Thou Knowest, Lord, the Secrets of our Heart. Its relatively simple, clean structure is described here: “Written in a clear, limpi- ed and adapted to devotional purposes by Thomas Tudway, organist at King’s College, Cambridge, at the time of his performance at the funeral of Queen Mary.”

Byrd reappeared at the end of the concert with Ave verum corpus: a lucid sound and closed the program with O lux beata Trinitas. The latter, an exa- blerant praise of the Trinity, referred to the very first piece heard that night and wrapped up Collegium Musicum’s concert.

Band Offers All Musical Adventure

Patrick Hsuhe-min Hung
Staff Writer

Last Tuesday, Dec. 4 at Peabody’s concert venue in Cleveland, the Dillingham Escape Plan dispelled any doubts that it is one of the most intense and adventurous metal bands right now. As a live band, the New Jersey-based five-piece still retains the brutal prowess and mathematical precision of a band at its peak, despite recording and touring since the mid ’90s and incorporating various line-up changes.

After original drummer Chris Petri’s departure in June of this year (for the inferior Coheed and Cambria) the only remaining original member is guitarist Ben Weinman. These problems could be debilitating to a band that demands such immaculate musi- cianship and exhaustive performances.

Continued from page 13

More Than Just Jazz Hands: New Jersey band the Dillingham Escape Plan invigorated the audience at Peabody’s in Cleveland last Tuesday.

CD Review: Anais Mitchell’s Recent Release The Brightness

Ralph Lewis
Staff Writer

Vermont native Anais Mitchell’s new album, The Brightness, is chock full of music and excitement. Even when working with sparse instrumentations and simple chords, Mitchell’s voice adds so much to the songs and deliveries. As opposed to her previous studio work, here she is more interested in lighter orchestrations, focusing more on her voice, words and the story, utilizing the addition of some well-placed backup singers and a cello or two to create a much more pleasing presentation.

Still, I have to wonder, when listening to tracks such as “Your Fonder Heart” and “Out of Lark,” how constructed and artisti- cally molded is Mitchell’s voice, and how much of it is her physi- cality and vocal ability? Is this something similar to a whale or old lady? How important is the sound to her? Or, to us? I think one major reason I enjoy many singers is because of the individuality of their deliveries. Mitchell’s voice is fragile and twisting, roughed up by nasal “au” and gruff “er” pronunciations. She occasionally speak- sings and takes advantage of the full range of her voice.

Her song “Hades & Persephone” features an interesting window into Mitchell’s current project — a “folk-opera” called “Hades towns,” based on the story of two less-than-thrilled lovers. The show opened November 29 and will last through Sunday, Dec. 9 in various locations in Vermont, including Middlebury College.

I wonder, though, what a “folk-opera” means, and how much of the work is just Mitchell singing while other people perform stage duties. Her work is so individualized and built on personal strength that I am uncertain as to how she would handle a staged situation, or even writing for other people who are the center of attention. I am not suggesting she is an egotist, but that writing for others is different than doing for another. How does such a person communicate such internalized detail only by seeing the opera will be we able to find the answers to these questions.

Trombone Choir Trumpets in End of Semester

Continued from page 13

an enchanting picture. The sonata for the junior Christian Behrens’s bass trombone entrance into Bach’s Passacaglia in E minor is worthy of mention. The dynamic building towards a well-rounded forte was indeed notable, while the union of scales in the smooth music that the members of the Trombone Choir were successful in blending their sound into a cohesive whole.

That’s a Pirazzi, arranged by Jack Gallo, closed the program. Although also neatly prepared and carefully put together, it could have used more freedom of expression and less academia. After all, a sonata is meant to be enjoyed. The next piece was a marvelous time passer.

Conservative senior and bass trombonist Jack Madden commented on his experience in the Trombone Choir: “I first played in the trombone choir as a prospective student when I was a senior in high school. The beautiful, intense sound of trombones helped draw me into Oberlin. Mr. DeSano teaches us to blend with each other in a way that is overlooked by many other teachers. The result is mist pleasing. Many historical treatises tell us that the trombone is the most divine of instruments.”
continues.

The show, which focuses on a discussion of the various issues that deals primarily with the unique issues facing the African-American gay population. In particular, the show discusses AIDS in the community, the reluctancy to make public one’s same-sex AIDS stigma attached to race and sexual identity.

Raimondo’s 20-minute introduction touches on the closing week’s expression of the effects of race and sexual identity. She began by listing a series of statistics, which included the gay African American’s percentage in gay communities compared to other races. Nearly 46 percent of gay African Americans has been married to 22 percent of whites and 17 percent of Latinos (there was too small a sample size for a statistical conclusion). Raimondo also mentioned that the face of such statistics we have to conclude that societal factors are in play and should be given more attention.

"Perhaps it’s time to look directly at the ways that racism does cause AIDS," said Professor Raimondo. "AIDS-related stigma is drawing on and furthering the racist discourse about race and sex and disease." Although the issues raised in this show of great importance, the show’s tone intentionally did not reflect the nature of the subject. Instead, it was simultaneously light-hearted and informative in its presentation of AIDS in racially marginal communities. However, due to its non-reflective writing and an after-school-special sensibility, the program came off as both interesting and non-threatening.

The show is replete with partially developed characters that are archetypes of the sort we would imagine in a very one-dimensional portrayal of AIDS in a minority community. There is a poet who proclaims his love during an open mic night. There is the highly effeminate character who serves as the comic foil. And the assailant AIDS victim whose determination to live a meaningful life despite his disease is emblematic of the chiled character that one can will away the troubles. The list of characters continues in that vein, all of them possessing the realization of cardinal cutouts of the stereotypes and concerns the community under consideration. The show, produced by Black Cat Productions in association with the Chicago Department of Health, attempts to be informative and persuasive. The subject material seeks not only to empower an audience in need of influence, but also to provide that audience with needed counsel. It was the aim of the series’ writers to encourage the appropriate audience to take a newfound interest in AIDS and in the dissemination of information to others in their community, and the thought behind the production is appropriately, if not persistently, expressed. The exceeding emphasis on the social impor- tance of the production, however, the comparative disinterest in creating palatable artwork, left the viewer feeling pristine and unfilled.

This is a program that enjoys the program is a personal matter, but the content is less flexible in its importance and necessity. As such, one finds the fine line as a critic in dismissing the seriousness of a poor artistic endeavor or embracing it as an important exhibition of a pertinent and often neglected character. Here, what we have here is further proof that good intentions do not always make for good results.

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Arts

Mallik Woods

Kevin’s Room (2001) is a fictional television series in the vein of Queer as Folk or The L Word. But where the latter programs seem to treat the issue with a casual attitude, Kevin’s Room plays the role of a safe space for the audience to safely broach complex issues facing the gay community at the turn of the century.

Here are two TV show review articles, one from The Ouberlin Review and the other from The St. Paul Pioneer Press, both of which I’m interested in comparing.

Albino Squirrels Inspire More than Stares in Oberlin Students

Continued from page 13

sens of squirrel pride manifest itself? Biology chair Roger Lausmann answered some of my questions with the help of an albino squirrel, as shown below:

albino squirrel by color: Many believe that an albino has red eyes and a white squirrel has brown eyes, but this is not the case. An albino is characterized by a gene for a lack of pigmentation, and this gene can express itself in different forms.

For instance, one squirrel’s albinism might express itself in a lack of pigmentation in its fur but not in its eye color.

As far as albino squirrels being great basketball players goes, the ASPS would say that the predator population in Tappan Square seem to favor this characteristic. This fac- tor, coupled with Oberlin’s small-town, isolated setting, which leads to small inbreeding populations, may account for the proliferation of albino squirrels. It seems our albino squirrels are here to stay.

So what of their existence here, beyond adding cute perks to our day? While surfing the web, I stumbled upon the Oberlin College Center for Albino Squirrel Research: Evidence-Based Squirrel Ethnography Paradigms for a Connected World, at www.oberlin.edu. What I received was the best example of the greater symbol- ized altruism the albino squirrel holds for Oberlin students.

On the website, the center explains its purpose: “While tongue-in-cheek — and hopefully both entertaining and informative — Oberlin has a serious passion to inspire younger alumni involvement in Oberlin College.”

The Center has practically nothing to do with albino squirrels. Unlike the chapters of the Albino Squirrel Preservation Society, it hosts no squirrel feeding sessions, sells no stickers or flyers and certainly doesn’t perform any “squirrel research.” It is basically a promotion for the Oberlin Fund, seeking donations from Oberlin alumni. Funds can be donated to support the Young Alumni Internship Fund’s many causes: to help stu- dents pursue undergraduate intern- ships; the Helping Hands Fund, overseen by the Multicultural Resource Center, which encourages student leadership in various pre-professional and academic endeavors; the wind power initiative that will help make the campus even more environmentally friendly; the conservation fund that helps Cox students travel to competi- tions; South basement rehearsal space for extracurricular activities; and the Lorain County Scholarship that supports a student from Lorain County.

The Center assures its donors: “Remember, no matter where you donate to, we, and the squirrels, benefit from your generosity.” The website features photos and news of a diverse group of Oberlin students (“Student Interns”) who serves as examples of how one’s money might affect Oberlin. Oberlin students who are supposed to be like the albino squirrels, unique and possibly a bit appreciated, are symbols of Oberlin, a school that prides itself on its diversity and inclusiveness.

Still, I was confused about the organization and the function of the student interns directly benefited from alumni donations? I approached College junior Misha Davidoff, one of the “student interns” and asked him for his perspective on the organization.

“What do you do as an intern?” I asked.

“Nothing. They just asked me one day if they could take my picture and use me for their website. In fact, ‘I’ve been on the square (squirrel@oberlin.edu) repeatedly requesting that they take me off their website, and nobody will e- mail me back.”

Davidoff is not receiving any financial aid.

Whatever this Center is, Oberlin’s albino squirrels are unique to Tappan Square. There is certainly a strong following here.

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Art

Dewey Cox Plays Live in Cleveland

Continued from page 12

drug pit, leading to his first pris- on term for a nearly-suicide-commit- stent. Behind bars, he decides to change for the better, writing songs that will pioneer the future, standing up for minority groups. Cox sings, “Let me hold you, little man...I stand for the- dyke...I stand for the retarded.”

But on a visit to India, he falls back into drugs, trying LSD for the first time with the Beatles. Paul McCartney (Jack Black), George Harrison (Jason Schwartzman) and John Lennon (Kevin Spacey) then show up in his life, with “absolutely terrible impres- sions of their respective Beatles” — except for Justin Long who actually does a pretty good George Harrison,” said Kasdan. According to Kasdan, “that’s where the humor lies — the Beatles, Elvis and Buddy Holly make appearances throughout the movie, all impersonated by ridiculous comedians who mock the characters for all they’re worth.”

It also helps that the cast brings its A-game to the camera- ras. Wigg, a regular on Saturday Night Live, employs some rather impressive facial expressions when angry at her husband, and Fischer, from The Office, is full of slapstick sexual humor. But the film’s real strength comes from Dewey Collins himself, as the supporting actor in hits such as Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby and Chicago. Dewey has finally arrived in the John is a dazzling and extraordinary talent and I can’t imagine a more perfect Cox.”

Jake Kasdan
Director and Co-writer

spotlight in a hilarious piece that offers crowd-pleasers: cleaver humor, sexual content, graphic nudity and drug use. Watching him as Cox ontology solidified the idea that the entire cast and crew were completely in sync. According to Reilly, “Dewey Collins is the character. The actor’s musical back- ground and talent shine through clearly in his role as a real-life rebel. He played in ‘several bands over the years, both traditional and rock. I grew up acting in musicals as a kid. When this movie came to me, it was at a perfect moment in my life — I was just getting back into music as a full-time career," said Reilly, as Cox told the Review, “I’m the Fountainshead. I don’t like ear plugs.” And in response to his drug use? "LSD...Now, I don’t do that stuff as much," he laughed.

“Chris, you’re just the same in this movie as you were every day,” said Kasdan of Dewey’s involvement in songwriting. Reilly himself worked on many of the songs, including “Mama, You Got to Love Your Negro Man,” which turns out to be Cox’s ticket into a massive recording contract.

“John is a dazzling and extraordinary talent and I can’t imagine a better actor. Chris, he was incredible. I have no complaints,” Kasdan said. “The combination of gifts that he’s got, this incredibly funny, sweet quality and this incredibly real emotion you get out from this part, even though the part is complete- ly absurd...there’s only a small handful of gyms in that state...and when you add being able to sing like that, there’s practically no one, believe me.”

Just remember: “Don’t talk back to the Cox,” son, said Reilly, as Cox.

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Important Dates:
November 12, 2007: Applications available
February 6, 2008 — 7:30pm: Information Session, Location TBA
February 11, 2008: Applications due
February 18- to 21, 2008: New Student Group Process Sessions
February 22, 2008: Individual Interviews for New Applicants
March 10, 2008: New Student Staff Placement Letters go out via OCRM and email

Applications available at www.oberlin.edu/resed/employment/stusaff

The Ouberlin Review, December 7, 2007

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Arts

Mallik Woods

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Fall All-NCAC Athletes

Conference Champion
Joanna Johnson

Offensive Player of the Year
R.V. Carroll

First Team

Abigail Brox
Field Hockey
First Team: 2005
2005 Newcomer of the Year
Junior

Chase Palmer
Football
Senior
Second Team: 2006

Chris Pisani
Football
Second Team: 2006
Second Team: 2005

Kyle Taljan
Men’s Soccer
Defender
Junior

Chris Schubert
Football
Wide Receiver (WR), Return Specialist (RS)
Senior
First Team: 2005 (RS)
Second Team: 2004 (RS), 2005 (WR), 2006 (RS, WR)
Second Team

Marie Barnett
Alison Doniger
Skyler Dum
Mark Miller

Nicky Ouellet
Christine Politis
Deysi Villarreal
Gillian Winbourn

Honorable Mention

Caleb Buck
Conor Doss
Julie Goodwin
Jess Greenberg
Cody Harley

Wyatt Hayman
Greg Mangan
Mike Mullaley
Joelle Sesar
Lauren Malinowski
Cavaco Confident Yeomen Can Bounce Back at Earlham

many of its shots and could not get into a comfortable rhythm. Oberlin was again out rebounded, a problem that has plagued them all season. The Yeomen shot 30 percent from the field.

The Scions were led by Devon Faulk and Dustin Greigow, who shot a blistering 8-8 from beyond the arc. Junior Mike Loff was Oberlin’s highest scorer with 16 points. Oberlin will not face Wooster again this year unless the teams meet up in NCAC playoffs.

The Yeomen’s next game is Saturday, Dec. 8 against conference rival Earlham College. Cavaco is confident the Yeomen can bounce back from their rough run and exploit Earlham’s weaknesses to have a breakout game.

“Earlham is really big and slow,” said Cavaco. “We will be able to play at a slower tempo, a tempo we are more comfortable with.”

With conference play just starting, the Yeomen know they must start turning their game around to improve upon a 0-7 record, 0-1 in conference play.

Sustainable Development Saves Money, Energy

desire to have Oberlin become a model college for colleges and universities in terms of having sustainable athletic buildings reveals a more glaring issue: a lack of environmentally-friendly practices on the professional sports stage.

Hire sports (minus NCAA), and I am not suggesting we completely after how athletic events are presented, but just think about going to a baseball, football or basketball game. Thousands of people drive to the stadium, buy tons and tons of concessions that are left in the stands next to spilled beer and vast amounts of litter, which is all in a building constantly powered by electricity. The energy bills must be enormous.

This is just the tip of the quick-ly melting iceberg. It is a shame people do not normally associate sustainability with athletics. Why should people be opposed? Going green, especially in athletics, would truly affect the way people work out in fitness centers or watch the trio of Paul Pierce, Ray Allen and Kevin Garnett dominate the NBA. For those in charge of these buildings, there are numerous incentives, particularly saving money. This should excite Oberlin.

While tuition and fees come to over $43,000 at Oberlin, this college is keen on saving money. But who said spending the money now to develop sustainable structures that will pay off in the future is the way to go. There are so many changes that could be made to Oberlin’s Athletic complex (such as a new weight room), and the College could save money while Oberlin Athletics could attract recruits and please its students by offering state of the art facilities.

If there is going to be change, you might as well make it green. It is just a shame these ideas will be implemented way past my time. Oh, well, it is better late than never.

Standings

Men’s Basketball

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Overall</th>
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<td>Denison</td>
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<td>Washington &amp; Lee</td>
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Women’s Basketball

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On Deck

Saturday, Dec. 8

Women’s basketball at 1 p.m.

Men’s basketball at 3 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 11

Men’s basketball at 3 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 14

Men’s basketball at 3 p.m.

The Ball is Mine: First-year guard Pat Benhard scrambles for a loose ball in Oberlin’s loss to Wooster. The Yeomen drop to 0-7, 0-1 in conference play.
This week Moose Terry sat down with sophomore basketball extracurricular Alicia Smith, who is known for playing smaller roles on the team last year. Smith is looking to become one of the important players. Smith talks about her hopes for this season, as both an Oberlin athlete and a team, how her experiences Ghandi and her attempts to become a vegetarian.

Moose Terry: You are a sophomore going into your second season as a women’s basketball ball star. How was your first season with the team, and what were some of the lessons you learned?
Alicia Smith: Last year was a really transitional year for me. I was at a new school with a new team and coaches. One of the hardest things was adjusting from a high school leader to a first-year who was learning a new program.

MT: What changes do you want to see happen from last season?
AS: I personally want a bigger role on the team. I really want to find my way in and get more general game work. Working out more is one of the most important things. I think it would be a better record and a better standing in the NCAC.

MT: What goals are you focusing on this coming season?
AS: We definitely want to get a few more wins than we did last year. There’s a sense of positive attitudes, which we hope will keep us focused and give us a chance to get better.

MT: Why are you so impressed by your opponents, and what do you plan to take from them?
AS: I think we can really learn a lot from the other teams. I’m really impressed by the depth and the toughness of the other teams. I think we can really take teams like this. Also, I want to shock teams like Hiram.

MT: What motivates you as an Oberlin athlete?
AS: I am tired of being looked over by the other teams in the conference because they have the upper hand on us. I really want to gain more respect for the athletic department from opponents. The dirty tactics of the athletic department is getting old, and I would like to see it change.

MT: It can be tough getting second place up for grabs at the college level. Are there any special things you do to keep hyped?
AS: I like to listen to music on my iPod. Anything from rap to fantasy jazz. It helps me get going.

MT: How do you do as a team to get for games?
AS: Someone on the team always does some sort of psychic, like a quote. These are supposed to get us relaxed and focused on what we are doing. Going up against the teams, the captains did this rap about everyone on the team. We also have a pre-game and a do a check-in on how everyone is feeling.

NFL: Undefeated vs. Wireless
Zach Donnelly-Krall
Staff Writer

It’s not uncommon to find two teams in the NFL that have a combined record of 500. The NFL, after all, is a league built on parity and parity.

But who would ever thought that the two teams you could find at the top of an average general game work. Outstanding work out more is one of the most important thing. A team would be a better record and a better standing in the NCAC.

MT: What are your favorite parts about being a Yowoman?
AW: I really like the fact that I have someone to look up to you as a role model.

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Oberlin Loses to #25 Wooster

By Dharam Khalsa
Staff Writer

Looks are deceiving. Despite a winless start to the campaign, the men’s basketball team has shown some improvement in the last two games.

“We move the ball a lot better; we don’t turn it over as much as we did in the past,” said Head Coach Isaiah Cavaco.

First-year James Tomsquet leads the team in shooting at almost 52 percent, while first-year forward Ryan Maguire is averaging close to seven points a game. Cavaco has been pleased with the continual improvement of the first-year players.

“We killed ourselves with turnovers,” said Cavaco.

Unfortunately, the team’s shooting woes continue; the team is shooting an uninspired 35 percent from the field.

“Our guys who don’t have a lot of game experience are getting a lot more comfortable,” explained Cavaco.

The Yeomen were down by 20 at halftime, but they were able to improve their game in the second half.

Isaiah Cavaco
Head Coach

Men Fourth, Women Fifth in Invitational

By Emma Clohessy
News Editor

Each Tuesday and Thursday morning at six o’clock, the members of the Yeomen swim team roll out of bed and trudge — some all the way from south campus — through the cold and the slurs of practice to Phillips Gym.

Last weekend the men and women’s swimming teams reaped the rewards of their sacrifice at the Wooster Invitational. Thursday, Nov. 29 to Saturday, Dec. 1. The Yeomen finished fourth out of nine teams, while the Yeowomen battled their way to fifth.

Head Coach Mark Fino expressed pleasure at the team’s performance: “It was a great meet with great swims out of everyone. The team demonstrated that determination and a positive attitude can have a tremendous impact on results. It was a great middle point to the year, and a great point on which to continue strengthening the team.”

The first-years made their presence known on the record board; five of the six records that fell over the course of the three-day meet now belong to newcomers on the team. First-year Sara Kadi kicked things off in that department, racing to an NCAA “B” cut standard and a first-place finish in the 200-yard individual medley, breaking the previous record for Oberlin along the way.

Kadi was not the only Yeowoman to claim a victory on Thursday. First-year Jenny Melz won the 500-yard freestyle event, closely followed by teammate and fellow first-year Keiley Sherman in second. Sherman also posted a personal best time in the event.

Junior Bryne Umlauchner and sophomore Laura Fries rounded out the field in that event, finishing fourth and eighth, respectively.

The 200-yard freestyle relay team of Kadi, first-year Jordan Janoscek, sophomore Shannon Gallacher and Umlauchner took fourth overall.

The men also had a thrilling first day, with first-years Corey Spiro and Jon Vimi racing to season-best times in the 200-yard individual medley. Junior Scott McInerney continued to excel in the 50-yard freestyle, finishing fifth, while sophomore Jake Wishart had a personal best time in the event.

The second day of competition saw several more “best” times and additional records broken. The meet started off with a bang for the Yeowomen the first event. The women’s 200-yard medley relay team of Kadi, Gallacher, Fries and Umlauchner finished third, snatching the Oberlin record at the same time. Kadi quickly followed up with a win in the 100-yard butterfly, also breaking the record in that event, and the 100-yard free-style relay team of Kadi, Melz, Gallacher and Umlauchner claimed another first for the Yeowomen.

First-year Christine Martin dove well enough to finish third on the one-meter board.

“Spiro won the 200-yard butterfly, and teammates Vimi and senior John Hughes had personal best times in the 200-yard backstroke,” added McInerney.

The men had outstanding performances of their own. McInerney had a fourth-place finish in the 100-yard butterfly, while Spiro swam close behind him to touch the wall in fifth. Senior Cory Myers dove for a third-place finish on the one-meter board.

Meys led the Yeomen, finishing third on the three-meter board. Spiro added another third place for the Yeomen in the 200-yard butterfly, and teammates Vimi and senior John Hughes had personal best times in the 200-yard backstroke.

“Although the team will not compete again until January, the swimmers still must practice. The team is entering the most training-intensive part of the season: Winter Term. However, if the Wooster meet is any indication, Fino’s Yeowomen and Yeomen have a lot to look forward to as they turn the corner to the conference meet,” added McInerney.