Asian Americans Discuss Justice

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Conference co-chair and College junior Cheska Tolentino explained her thought process in determining this year’s theme over the summer. Because it is an election year, students wanted the conference to have a political focus.

Tolentino asked, “In terms of these elections, where are Asian Americans mentioned at all?” She said she wanted to get students thinking about race beyond black and white.

College junior Daniel Tam-Claiborne, who worked on publicity for the event, said his goal was to “promote a broad theme that related to Asian Americans but that also could gain support here and make other students who weren’t Asian-American involved.”

The conference opened on Friday, March 7, with a screening of the film Second Class Veterans and an evening banquet.

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Student Airport

Chris Hartley

Obies Want Paradise, Not New Parking Lot

While the College plans to build two new parking lots, one just north of Stevenson and the other on West College Street, a new poll conducted by The Oberlin Review reveals that the project may be a source of contention among the student body.

Out of 65 students questioned for the poll, 48 responded in opposition to the plan. 15 students declined to choose a side out of ambivalence or lack of information, while only two supported the initiative.

Out of the 48 students who opposed the idea, four distinct themes emerged as their primary concerns.

The chosen plot of land is currently populated by a grove of native plants and animals. As the construction plan requires “removing all the trees and clearing the lot,” according to the subcontractor in charge, it seemed to some to run contrary to Oberlin’s environmental ethos.

Sixteen students surveyed expressed a preference for nature over pavement. “I do have a car,” first-year Maya Was Cavallaro said. “But I don’t think trees should be cut down for me to park in.”

The second main reason students opposed the plan was that they didn’t see the multitude of extra parking spaces as necessary. A College staff member who identified himself as Frank pointed out that “there’s already a big Union Street lot that’s always empty.” Some students expressed frustration with how far that lot was from campus.

College senior Rose Reid, one of 11 students to oppose the plan for this reason, said, “I’ve had a car on campus for the last few years but I’ve never really had to go out of my way to find parking. I can’t imagine that there’s such a shortage of parking spaces. This could really be solved if more students could live off campus for the real-life experience.”

The third biggest concern came from eight students who argued that the College should discourage individual car use on campus. Junior Ian Santino voiced his opinion, saying, “They should crack down on people like me, who have cars but probably don’t need them.” A passing student pointed out, “It’s Oberlin; you can just walk everywhere.”

Students who share this view may have an ally in Executive Director of College Relations Rick Sherlock. Sherlock was quoted in last week’s issue of the Review speaking on the College’s effort to “discourage students from bringing cars to a campus with bicycle-friendly policies.”

Six students polled rejected the plan because, though they want more parking spaces, they don’t want them in the proposed location. “There really are no lots down on South Campus,” said Conservatory first-year Greg Whittemore. “There’s that one lot from Duscomb but the student spots are usually filled up, then those lots sandwiching Duscomb which have no student parking. How are you supposed to park at the Conservatory for example, when there’s a decent amount of students who have large instruments requiring a vehicle and there’s a very limited number of student spaces?”

College junior Megan Lindsey added, “I think they could put a few parking spaces in that grassy area by the road to the parking lot behind Stevenson, but it’s really South campus that needs more parking spaces. I’m pretty sure students outnumber staff at this school, and I know most of the staff commutes but students should still have more access to parking lots that the staff don’t always fill.”

Dean Linda Gates explained the need for a parking lot at that location by pointing out that the College plans for it to accompany a future dorm there, and recently made a commitment to providing a parking space for every two new beds.

Junior Sarah Knowles objected, “One parking spot for two beds is a dealbreaker.”

Dealing with Dorms: Students discuss imminent renovations and more with Trustee John Elger.

Chris Hartley

College to Revamp Student Housing

David Edward Clark

“Dedensification” sounds more like a Bushism than a Residential Education scheme, yet it is the term they’re using for the three- and ten-year plans to renovate all residence halls on campus and build two to four new dorms. The Board of Trustees is expected to pass the three-year plan in some form this weekend, in which case, renovations to four dorms will start this summer with the ground-breaking for a new dorm occurring later this year.

The first new dorm to be built would house 80-100 first-years just north of Stevenson with a bridge connecting it to the dining hall. The dorm will be built to green building standards and its completion date is 2010.

The dedensification will come into effect as part of the ten-year plan, which includes more new dorms. The purpose of these new facilities is to allow for more singles on campus rather than to accommodate more students.

Harvey, Kade, Price and Noah will be the first dorms to see renovations as part of the three-year plan. “It’s going to be a lot of long-needed cosmetic changes,” said Marc Shinn-Krantz, a College senior and student senator who serves on the Housing and Dining Committee.

In Sports, Page 16

Men’s Tennis Raises a Racket

The tennis team starts the season strong with a 4-3 record.

Krislov Family Values on Air

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The largest of these changes will include removing carpeting and replacing it with hard floors and opening up divided doubles for more living space. ResEd will also add more electrical outlets, upgrade the furniture, improve handicap accessibility and bring wireless Internet to more rooms.

Probably the most welcome renovation, if the Board allocates enough money, will be separate heating and cooling controls for each room.

ResEd also wants to replace room keys with key card swipes like those used in hotels. Currently, if a student loses a room key, there would be three days to replace it with a new one.

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Students Oppose the Creation of Additional Parking Spaces

Continued from page 1

bit much; because I know out of my friends definitely fewer than half have cars.” Of the 65 students polled, only 12 have cars on campus.

The two students who support the project both did so because they felt that new parking spaces were needed on campus in a central location. Of the 15 neutral respondents, five of them said that they recognized the existence of parking difficulties on campus, but didn’t want parking spaces installed at that location or at the expense of wildlife. Five of the respondents had cars on the campuses, which may have caused their ambivalence. Several others simply did not care because the issue does not affect them.

College first-year Ben Spatafora pointed out the range of solutions the College should explore: “I think an alternative that could be considered is putting the lot or at the expense of wildlife. Several others simply did not care because the issue does not affect them.

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Welcome to Gmail: A CitSwitch

Jackie Sojco
Staff Writer

Last week, the Center for Information Technology announced its plan to upgrade the College's e-mail system from the clunky OBeeMail we currently use to Google Apps for Higher Education. Google offers the service, which includes e-mail, calendaring, and collaboration sharing, free to universities and colleges.

While the College will enter into a contract with Google, Director of CIT John Bucher explained that if the College were dissatisfied with Google, there would be no problem under the company’s Terms of Service changing to another system.

CIT plans to start what Bucher calls “the migration process” in a few weeks, and it will be complete by next October. CIT will offer an option for students, faculty and staff to begin using the new service next month. By next fall, the changeover will be mandatory.

Bucher was excited about the plan to move, noting that the current Mulberry system is not equipped to handle the demands of its users. Additionally, the College will save $10,000 a year in e-mail costs by switching from Mulberry.

Off the Cuff: Quammi Semper

First Lieutenant Quammi Semper OC ’04 recently returned to the U.S. after a tour of duty in Iraq lasting from November 2006 to February 2008. Semper, who graduated with a degree in sociology, spoke last week in West Lecture Hall about his experiences leading a platoon of 32 soldiers and escorting convoys in a war-torn Iraq.

Why did you want to talk about your experience at Oberlin?
I came to talk about my troops. I wanted to share my experience. I’m not here to talk about politics.

What did you do when you weren’t on mission?
I would give the soldiers time off. I would tell them to get away from me. I don’t want to see them, I don’t want them to see each other. Because you need that time to get your head back. Go watch a movie. Do something that they would normally do at home like sit in a bed and lay down.

How did you keep morale up among your troops?
That was a tough thing. You long for home sometimes. I think we had barbecue. We tried to make it as normal as possible in the combat zone. We would play baseball, table tennis. Just to relax.

What was it like being away from home and everyone you knew?
Just like everybody else: you don’t want to do it, but you do it sometimes. That’s how I looked at it.

How did you and your troops deal with the psychological stresses of being in a war?
Some of my soldiers came to talk to me. Some of them didn’t feel comfortable talking to me. There are programs for that. Usually I sent them to the chaplain.

Quammi Semper, who served in Iraq after graduating from Oberlin in 2004,

What wasn’t about being spiritual, that was about talking.
Have you changed since you left?
It’s harder being emotional. When I came home, my aunt and niece were there at the airport. So far I have been at home, it wasn’t like I was about to start crying. I think I’ve gotten better at reading people and knowing what they want from me.

What do you think is the most important thing you learned from Oberlin?
To be open-minded. Open to other people’s views, but still at the same time be a leader. I have to be able to say, “I understand your view, but we have to do it this way.”

What is your favorite memory of Oberlin?
All my classes. They challenge you to really think outside the box. That’s what you have to do. When I was deployed you have to think outside the box. That’s something that I took over there.

Do you feel like Oberlin was a big part of your life?
Yes. Absolutely. Not only with sports, but I try to keep up with everything else.

Interview by Jackie Sojco
Photo by Chi Hamby

Firelands. The alarm was activated at 4:55 p.m. An officer responded and advised all occupants to leave the building reported her vehicle damaged at 7:39 p.m.

Monday, March 3
7:39 p.m. Officers and Oberlin Fire Department responded to a fire alarm on the third floor of Barrows Hall. The alarm was activated by smoke from cooking. The alarm was reset with no further problems.

Monday, March 10
1:00 a.m. An officer responded to a report of a vehicle while snow plowing Hales parking lot advised the snow on East College Street.

Monday, March 17
7:39 p.m. Officers responded to a report of a vehicle while snow plowing in Union Street Lot. The drivers side rear wheel molding of a vehicle was struck when the plow backed up, causing minor damage.

Monday, March 17
3:47 p.m. Staff at the Service Building reported her vehicle damaged while parking in the east parking lot. Damage was to the driver’s side rear bumper. Party responsible for the damage is unknown at this time.

Tuesday, March 12
7:39 p.m. Officers and Oberlin Fire Department responded to a fire alarm on the third floor of Barrows Hall. The alarm was activated by an overheated light fixture.

The alarm was reset with no further problems.

Tuesday, March 12
11:15 a.m. A staff member reported a piece of artwork missing from the Congress Art Show Exhibit at the Science Center. The piece was last seen on Friday, March 7 and first noticed missing on Sunday, March 9. The piece was titled “The Hummingbird”. Theft is under investigation.

12:42 p.m. Staff from King reported a small hot water heater missing from the facility kitchen at Rice Hall. The theft occurred sometime over the weekend.

3:47 p.m. Staff at the Service Building reported the theft of a Dewalt drill case, with charger and 15-20 drill bits. The drill was last seen in a club car on Friday, March 7 and noticed missing upon arrival at work that morning.

4:55 p.m. Staff at the Service Building reported her vehicle damaged while parking in the east parking lot. Damage was to the driver’s side rear bumper. Party responsible for the damage is unknown at this time.

Village Crumbles

Continued from page 2
OSCA gives 97 percent of its microfinance funds to women. OSCA runs the only other microfinance program on Oberlin’s campus, and gives $5,000 a year in individual loans to struggling farmers to enable them to buy seeds and livestock. OSCA’s Nicaragua Sister Co-op has a return rate of just over 50 percent, which may be attributed to the unreliable nature of agriculture.

Textile production, on the other hand, should be a relatively stable investment. Rothgery fully expects to receive full repayment from the women, pointing out, “If they fail, they’ve lost their only way to work their way out of poverty.” Payback rates for microfinance projects around the world consistently reach near 90 percent. ACCION International, a private microfinance nonprofit, reports repayment rates of 95 percent, while the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh claims to have a 99.91 percent return.

Rothgery set up her eye-catching display—playful, while she is applying for grants from organizations such as Do Something, she knows she will also need the help of inspired Oberlin students. “If I just put up a sign, it would be easy to walk by or,” she said of her unconventional sign.

“Some people have children who are being wasted,” she said, “and their children are being wasted, too.”

Finance Initiative Assists Poor

Rochelle M. Trotter
Science Notebook

Road to Security

Rochelle M. Trotter
Science Notebook

Saturday, March 8
3:49 a.m. Officers and the Oberlin Fire Department responded to a fire alarm at Kade, first floor. The cause of the alarm was smoke from a burned pizza. The alarm was reset with no further problem.

3:50 a.m. An officer responded to a report of the rear floor bathroom was vandalized. The trashed was emptied and contents strewn about the floor, along with a broken bottle. A hand soap dispenser and towel dispenser were also broken.

11:15 a.m. Resident of Langston Hall reported that someone had broken into a second floor room. An officer responded and advised all products were intact, but it had run through a paper towel dispenser floor was laying on the floor. The vending company was notified.

10:05 a.m. Officers and the Oberlin Fire Department responded to a report of a fire alarm in the third floor of Firelands. The alarm was activated by smoke from cooking. The alarm was reset with no further problems.

1:45 p.m. A staff member plowing Hales parking lot advised he accidentally backed into a vehicle that pulled up behind him. There was damage to the left front bumper, fender and turn signal.

5:08 p.m. A resident of Keep reported a window shattered when a couch was accidentally pushed into the window. The students assisted in cleaning up the glass. A work order was called in for repairs.

9:28 p.m. An officer was requested to assist with an all student event in the DoCafe. Upon arrival the student advised her azimuth may have been the result of not eating. The student declined assistance at the time.

Monday, March 10
7:20 a.m. Staff reported hitting a vehicle while snow plowing in Union Street Lot. The drivers side rear wheel molding of a vehicle was struck when the plow backed up, causing minor damage.

Monday, March 10
3:49 a.m. Staff reported hitting a vehicle while snow plowing in Union Street Lot. The drivers side rear wheel molding of a vehicle was struck when the plow backed up, causing minor damage.

Monday, March 10
2:00 a.m. Officers and the Oberlin Fire Department responded to a fire alarm on the third floor of Barrows Hall. The alarm was activated by smoke from cooking. The alarm was reset with no further problems.
The Ultimate Recycling: Exploring the College’s Approach to Restoration Demolition and Reuse

Alise Olstein
News Editor

We live in a culture that celebrates the new. If your jars go out of style, buy a new pair; if an old building starts acting up, tear it down and build a new one. These values, however, are not sustainable. On a planet of finite resources, the waste generated in construction and demolition makes up a huge portion of U.S. pollution and the National Wildlife Federation has estimated that new construction creates 50 percent more greenhouse gases than need to be emitted. Yet the removal of run-down buildings on campus—Jones Field House and Johnson House to name two—may provide a convincing argument to start from the ground up. As the College looks over its aging structures and starts drafting new plans, its choice is restore, reconstruct or demolish?

“We cannot build our way to sustainability,” argues Cleveland Restoration Society Associate Director Sarah Hobbs. “We cannot continue this path of demolishing buildings and then building anew. We need to support sustainability goals in so many ways.”

In her Tuesday lecture, “The Greenest Building is Already Built,” she explained the environmental and aesthetic benefits of restoring old buildings. Hobbs gave tips to homeowners on how to improve and reuse their own institutions.

We don’t know [the prevalence of hate crimes on campus] because the administration keeps it hush-hush,” said Tolentino.

Though many of the three guests sat for Saturday’s panel on sustaining ethnic communities, it was still unclear whether they were able to make the meeting due to the heavy, Chupa Guada of The Cleveland Free Times delivered a presentation on the revitalization of Cleveland’s Chinatown.

Parvi Shah, executive director of Sakhi for South Asian Women, spoke about violence against women. Sakhi, which means “sister” in a variety of South Asian languages, has assisted well over 3,000 survivors of domestic violence across the world since the organization’s inception in 1989.

“You can’t separate the status of being a woman or gender minority from the status of being an ethnic or cultural minority,” said Shah. She added that the community focus of South Asian cultures means that an abuser could also be a family member.

Her presentation ended on a positive note: “We want to be clear that there’s a lot to celebrate in our community.”

The Blue Scholars’ Saturday night performance at the “Eco was the new black” event on campus included performances “It’s a legacy,” said Tolentino.

“Get ourselves inside the structure.”

The Board of Trustees voted down the three-year plan proposed by the College. “It’s a very thorough plan to attract new students as well,” responded Board Chair Robert Engstrom. “We want,” responded Board Chair Robert LeMle, “I think it would be really advantageous to go forward...and is very deliberate in consulting students.”

“The Board agreed with him. “You guys know better than anybody what you guys want,” responded Board Chair Robert LeMle.

Also included in the plans are new parking lots on North Professor and West College streets and the demolition of various dormitories so that we will have space then to start tearing down the residence halls that never should have been built as they are. So it’s a top priority,” said Board of Trustees Chair Robert LeMle.

When asked about the likelihood that the Board would be able to vote yes to the recent dormitory plans, Engstrom mentioned several times here [proceedings]

The Board of Trustees heavily supports the renovation plan. “It’s a very thorough plan that really has given us a time line to work with in terms of opening them up and having dormitories so that we will have space then to start tearing down the residence halls that never should have been built as they are. So it’s a top priority,” said Board of Trustees Chair Robert LeMle.

When asked about the like- lihood that the Board would be able to vote yes to the recent dormitory plans, Engstrom mentioned several times here [proceedings]
Promote buffering landscaping, the obvious wrong. (Promote bicy etc.) “getting the healthcare we want,” not as “having what we want;” not as “transportation;” as “jobs,” (Examples: define it as “parking,” that we need more of the symptom. That many OC students are deeply involved in, to indicate evidence, such as community ser..."

Growing Concerns For a Growing Campus

The College’s decision to build new parking lots comes as a preemptive measure for the construction of new on-camp..."

Getting to the Root of the Parking Lot Issue

To the Editors:

I am concerned about the disregard of the voting rights of Oberlin College students. In the March 7 letter “ID Law Disenfranchises Oberlin Resident Voters” (March 7), the writer says that OC students, who are U.S. citizens and over 18, have a fundamental right to vote in Oberlin, and I encourage everyone to do so.

It is true that most OC students are not “year-round resi..."

The Oberlin Review

The Oberlin Review

Stake in Oberlin Election

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Opinions expressed in letters, columns, essays, cartoons or other Commentary pieces do not necessarily reflect those of the staff of the Review.
The Oberlin Review
by Diego Cohen

THE OBERLIN ELECTION PREDICTS GOOD THINGS IN NOVEMBER

The 14th district of Illinois recently held a special election to fill former Congressman Dennis Hastert’s seat in the House of Representatives and the result has sent the Republican Party reeling. The reason for their panic? On Saturday, March 8, Democratic candidate Bill Foster soundly defeated his Republican rival, Jim Oberweis, in a district seemingly impossible for him to win. The 14th district was home to one of the most powerful Republicans in Congress for nearly 20 years; the National Republican Congressional Committee spent one-fifth of its available cash to retain the seat and the residents voted for President Bush in 2000 and 2004 by sizable margins. In this election, however, 53 percent of the voters selected Foster to be their representative, compared to just 47 percent for Oberweis.

What is most surprising, however, is not that Foster won, but that he won by representing (to borrow deceased Congressman Paul Wellstone’s famous phrase) “the Democratic wing of the Democratic party.” Foster has spoken out against granting retroactive immunity to telecom companies that illegally spied on Americans; his immigration-reform package includes a path to citizenship; he has called for the expansion of health care, and is openly critical of the war in Iraq. During the campaign, Foster was not running away from the Democratic Party platforms; despite being from a deeply red district in Illinois, he ran towards it. No wonder the Republican Party is nervous. The Democrats, on the other hand, are thrilled.

Over the course of the campaign, Oberweis’s team released numerous televised ads attacking Foster for harboring plans to raise taxes, up to 8,000 dollars per family, thrilled. After Foster’s speech, another candidate running a platform of permanent magnets. His lack of political experience was not held against him; Foster’s call for change was met with enthusiasm as well as with votes.

Foster’s victory speaks in keeping with his sci- ence background. Facing a wall of glowing support, he declared, “Back in the lab, we’d say that was a pretty successful experiment!” It was an experiment with practical implications for Democrats and Republicans alike. And Foster concluded the evening with the line that Democrats are eagerly anticipating using on November 5, 2008: “Yes, we did!”

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What Do Human Rights Mean?
Shannon Ibeke
Amnesty International

As this is the first installment of what we at Amnisty plan to be a biweekly segment on the current state of human rights in the world, I thought it would be appropriate to lay out a mission statement of sorts as to what will be covered in subsequent issues. The first step in this is to define exactly what we mean by human rights. Firstly, though, let’s define what human rights are not:

1. Human rights are not partisan. The belief that basic human freedoms are an undeniable, irreplaceable necessity for all people everywhere is neither a Democratic nor a Republican point of view.

2. Human rights are not radical. Yes, many supporters of Amnesty have strong ideological affiliations, but the organization as a whole is not focused on reaching the unreachable star. It is very unlikely that grassroots action will be bringing sovereign nations to their knees anytime soon. It’s mainly a pragmatic, case-by-case approach designed more than anything to show those who may be currently committing human rights abuses that they are being watched. It is not designed to provoke those committing abuses, as they are far more likely to respond to aggressive action negatively. Our view is that it is selfish to sacrifice others for the sake of one’s own ideology. Amnesty International is not in the business of making martyrs.

3. Human rights are not unsustainable. Despite the pragmatism that governs the way in which Amnesty operates, progressivism is not a pessimistic vocation. There are many success stories and a great deal of hope that the world is indeed moving in a positive direction.

Now that we have that out of the way, we can lay the groundwork for what human rights are:

1. Protecting human rights is the single most important respon- sibility of any government. Let’s face it. There are a lot of issues out there that seem more pressing at the moment than human rights: economy, security, etc. Would it really be so terrible to give up a few of them for a bit of stability? Yes, because what is stability worth when it is merely a perpetuation of the intolerable condition of inequality?

2. Protecting human rights is the responsibility of every mem- ber of the human race. Firstly, who are we to decide that an accident of birth should determine our quality of life? Doubtless, we would not be so optimistic if we were on the other side of the issue. Perhaps more pertinent is the realization that our own government and every other gov- ernment that has of yet existed has been imperfect, especially on issues of human rights. Our current positions of privilege is not unassailable and it is important to set a precedent of activism so that when our own rights are threatened, we will have someone to fight for us.

3. Human rights are a global concern. As a corollary to the previous assertion, we cannot limit our concern for human rights to our own country. Globalization has inextricably connected not only our economies and our media but has also gone a long way toward forging a unified social conscience.

From here on out, we will be examining the issues of human rights through specific cases, but keep in mind what they are and are not as you decide for yourself what needs to be done.

Student Vote Needs Protection
To the Editors:

We are shocked and offended by Johanna Ponke’s letter in last week’s Review. Ms. Ponke believes that Oberlin College has come down on the “wrong side” of the law by issuing students utility bills containing their street address.

We believe that Ms. Ponke and those who would side with her have come down on the wrong side of the law by actively seeking to disenfran- chise an entire bloc of voters.

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The Ethical Obie
Is an Ethical Obie a Vegetarian?

The debate over whether or not we should be eating animal products is slowly heating up. The debate can be found in science journals, religious circles and popular mass media. It is an argument that can shoot off of global warming, evolution, religion, politics, economics, civil rights, animal rights and (because Americans spend so much time and money eating) anything else.

With every meal we make choices, and our final decisions are based on our own personal code of ethics. This code of ethics, shifting from individual to individual, helps make the human race as socially diverse as it is. Many people believe in a kind of “universal” code, that we should all adhere to, if we do not already. Although the idea might strike one as oppressive, the concept of a monochromatic human race, many moralities are already shared by cultures across the globe.

Diet, however, is not one of them.

Around the world, one’s diet is based off of what is immediately available. In many places, the debates over whether to be a vegetarian or not does not even exist because it is not a choice one can make.

In Oberlin, we do have a choice. Choices are readily available to us through CDS and OSCA. We even have our choice of restaurants and menus downstairs. And so we make a choice: to choose to eat meat, or only eat vegetables, or only consume fruits that have fallen from the tree naturally or any number of variations. The choices that we make come from a greater personal code of ethics.

But what if we did not have choice? Should we only stick to a specific diet? And what moral laws should guide that? This is a topic that people can get emotional over. It is also a topic with a huge range of opinions. Over the next few weeks, The Ethical Obie will examine the ethics of diet in Oberlin. In the next issue, a comprehensive primer (an “Ethical Diet 101”) will be presented here. Between now and the end of Spring Break, next issue, a specific diet? And what moral laws should guide that? My first thought is to try to make sure you’re ready for this and the intense responsibilities involved in hamster rearing. Just because everyone can do it doesn’t mean they should.

Primarily, hamsters are just a drain on time. Any moment you might have set aside for only you or you and your partner: gone. Just kiss any alone time goodbye. That hamster is going to pervade every aspect of your life. And you have to feed it, shelter it, give it attention. Do you think you’re ready for that kind of time suck?

And they are annoying. Always asking you for things, like…water and food. Just deal with it,hamster. Why can’t they take care of themselves? Clean your own cage for once, you bastard! And the wheel just never stops. It’s always with the frigg’n’ wheel!

All right, all right, I’ll assume that you think you are ready to go through the arduous adoption process — hamster-country papers in hand. But I won’t give you a straight answer. That’s just not in my nature. It is ultimately up to you and your girlfriend to decide what’s best for your relationship’s (and your potential hamster’s) future.

Is an Ethical Obie a Vegetarian?

Voting Rights Still Valid in Ohio

Continued from page 6

and national issues on our ballots. Last presidential election, students stood in lines for up to eight hours to vote. We united as a community, with Conservative students giving impromptu concerts and OSCA’s co-op cooking food for the waiting voters. The more Americans [that] vote at this age, the more likely they are to continue engaging in our great democratic government.

The kind of chastising and fear mongering Ms. Pionke puts forth is dangerous. If people are ready to go through the arduous adoption process — hamster-country papers in hand. But I won’t give you a straight answer. That’s just not in my nature. It is ultimately up to you and your girlfriend to decide what’s best for your relationship’s (and your potential hamster’s) future.

More Letters to the Editors

Jonathan Sieberlich
Conservatory sophomore, tuba major

A year ago, Jonathan Sieberlich began growing enough facial hair to grow a mustache, interfering with his tuba playing. Now he has a full beard, so a convenient clearing around his mouth where the horns belong.

Then you know when you wear socks for an extended amount of time and you take them off and your hair is really sore? It’s kind of like that. It just bothers me.

What’s the mouth-area haircutting upkeep like? How often do you do it up?

“Well, it’s really awkward. When it gets to a certain length — putting a lot of pressure on it (with the tuba) — it starts to…you know when you wear socks for an extended amount of time and you take them off and your hair is really sore? It’s kind of like that. It just bothers me.”

“Uh, not that often — once every two weeks or something. I have a razor that I use to just buzz the hair off.”

Do other people comment on it?

Some people ask me. But it’s just a preference thing. There’s another tuba player here that has facial hair [in the problem area], but it doesn’t bother him. And our instructor, he has kind of the same thing going on. He just has some hair…he shave’s (around the mouth).

Still Valid in Ohio

Continued from page 6

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Cleveland Orchestra Memorial Concert for Kenneth Woodside

Friday, March 14

Kenneth Woodside was in the College, but was a proficient flute player and had a passion for chamber music. The program will feature his orchestra and a guest soloist. The concert will be a tribute to his love and dedication to music.

SU FRIEDRICH Screening and Talk

Monday, March 17

Explore a new angle on filmmaking in both 16mm film and video at the screening and talk by Su Friedrich. She will introduce and screen three short films: Rules of the Road, Nude of a Po and Seeing Red. Friedrich is an award-winning filmmaker whose work has created buzz in publications like the New York Times, Variety and The Guardian. She teaches film and video production at Princeton University. 1:30 p.m. Environmental Studies Center. BAU-410, Auditorium. FREE.

Coffee with Krislov Study Break... Just For Fun

Shane a caffeine high with President Krislov, who will be hanging out in what the Oberlin website refers to as the "intimate atmosphere of ArtSci’s "Café." If you’re in Malden because you actually have something to do, you work to attend to a chance to see how casual Krislov gets a great excuse to abandon your feet for a bit. Or just scurry out for some — um — refreshments — before they disappear. 10 p.m. Azariah's Cafe. FREE.

Master Class with Violinist Midori

Have your mind blown by some insane violin shredding, whether you think you like violin music or not, at a performance by Midori, one of the best violinists in the world. The globe-trotting violinist will be teaching a master class with Conservatory faculty and there’s sure to be some surprises. The public should take notes. 4:45-8 p.m. Kulas Recital Hall. FREE.
Accused Bio-terrorist Steve Kurtz Brings Critical Art to the Cat

Kaitlin Barrer

“IT really does not take much at all to get arrested,” Steve Kurtz told Oberlin students at the Cat on Monday. “A policeman could come into this room right now and arrest anyone.”

Kurtz, a professor of art at the University of Buffalo and founding member of the Critical Art Ensemble. Since 2004, he has crisscrossed the country to foster awareness about civil liberties from a victim’s perspective.

When his wife died of a heart attack on May 11, 2004, the emergency workers who responded to his 911 call discovered Petri dishes that hosted harmless bacteria cultures in his house. The bacteria were part of a CAE art project. The next day, Kurtz was detained by the FBI on suspicion of being a bio-terrorist.

When bio-terrorism proved to be a dead end for the FBI, the Federal Department of Justice indicted Kurtz for mail and wire fraud on the basis that he violated a material transfer agreement when he purchased the bacteria. He faces a sentence of up to 20 years in prison, the same as he would have faced if he had been charged for bio-terrorism.

Kurtz came to Oberlin this past week with fellow CAE member Lucia Sommer as part of Oberlin’s New Media Lecture series. In the CAE’s publication “Critical Art is Under Attack: Defend Civil Liberties,” the group writes that if the Department of Justice wins the case, it would set an “extremely dangerous precedent. . . . It would mean that any dis- crepancy in a civil contract that involves the Internet or mail...could be prosecuted in a criminal court.”

As a part of the series, Oberlin screened the award-winning documentary, Strange Culture, directed by Lynn Hershman Leeson, which focuses on Kurtz’s legal travails.

Kurtz said the documentary has been very helpful with accruing sympathy for his case.

“I captured the tone and emotional economy extremely well,” he said. “[Hershman-Leeson] made it so that people could see what happened. People that we otherwise would never have known to be sympathetic to the case.”

Kurtz added that his late wife, Hope, was played by Academy Award-winning actress Tilda Swinton. “To me that was one of the great monuments of her life.”

Kurtz also explained his involvement with the CAE, both before and after his prosecution. The group, which he founded as a “disgruntled college student” in 1987 in Tallahassee, FL, exhibits art displays that challenge information and biotechnologies that are prominent in the public sphere. Kurtz says that many of the group’s members are involved in academia.

One of the CAE’s projects was called “Marching Plague.” On February 24, 2007, in Leipzig, Germany, the group simulated the U.S. military’s 1950 anthrax text done on the city of San Francisco. Bacillus Subtilis, a bacterium commonly found in soil, was sprayed from the top of the local American consulate building. Afterward, “human guinea pigs” were swabbed and the results tested for contamination.

See Kurtz, page 12

Nero to Oberlin
Than We’d Like

Jennifer Ellis

“The Coronation of Poppea comes as close as we’ll ever get to an audial opera,” said Alan Montgomery, Assistant Music Director in the opera department. “Everything is done for ‘love,’ but that includes love of power, manipulation, immoral behavior and politics at the most ruthless — perfect for an election year.”

L’Eccorazoni e Poppea by Claudio Monteverdi premiered this Wednesday and will be performed in its original Italian with supertitles in English at Hall Auditorium at 8 p.m. tonight and Saturday, as well as 2 p.m. on Sunday. Written in 1642, it is one of the earliest operas and was perhaps the last work ever written by the prolific Monteverdi.

Set in 65 CE, the plot focuses on an increasingly complicated web of love interests that puts any modern-day soap opera to shame.

See Opera, page 13

Amoral Monteverdi: Passions flare in ancient Rome and a tangled love polygon involving the Emperor Nero helps make The Coronation of Poppea one of the raciest operas of its time.

Adam Khatib

This past Monday night, a fearsome musical battle took place in the on-air studios of WOBC. Team Krislov, composed of Oberlin College President Marvin Krislov and his 14-year-old son, Zac, matched musical wits with College senior and station DJ Nick Mayor on his weekly program, Fantastic Pugilist Tunes.

The premise of Fantastic Pugilist Tunes is simple. Two teams set their MP3 players to shuffle and take turns playing a random selection of tracks from their musical libraries. The show is broken into three rounds, and after each round, listeners call in to vote for their favorite set. The side that wins two out of three rounds takes home the title of Ultimate Pugilist.

A few moments before the start of the show, President Krislov predicted that Team Krislov’s fate would depend on Zach’s technological skills. “Zach is my secret weapon, I think we will rise or fall based on his abilities, because he programmed the ipod. I told him what I wanted and he did the work,” said Krislov. Asked if that meant that his son was the brains behind the operation, Krislov agreed, though Zach said, “I’m the manual labor.”

From round one, it appeared that fate had smiled upon Team Krislov as Mayor’s first set was hampered by the combination of a 20-second Discordance Axis track and a non-musical track from The Ricky Gervais Show. Team Krislov’s first set started off strong with “Ohia” by Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, and before their set was even finished the phone lines started lighting up with votes. Asked about his poor start, Mayor could only respond, “Oh, God. This is humiliating.”

With a staggering combination of tracks ranging from “Puff, the Magic Dragon” to “Born to Run,” Team Krislov presented an overwhelming front that left Mayor staggering and dazed. The only close round was round two, as the radio audience was divided in their love/hate relationship with “Seasons of Love” from the Rent soundtrack, which came up for Team Krislov. One listener called in to vote for Mayor, declaring, “No amount of Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young can make up for the Rent soundtrack.”

There were a few voting irregularities in the form of question-able tactics used to pressure vot- ers: Zach’s mother, Amy Krislov, threatened her son’s friend, Aden, with “No ride to school tomorrow,” for voting against Team Krislov. Friend and family loyalty was hard to come by, as even Mayor’s own father voted against him in the first round.

In the end, Team Krislov took all three rounds of the night’s match-up, leaving Mayor to lick his wounds in anticipation of a new opponent next week in his continual battle to find the Ultimate Pugilist.

Battle Royale: Listeners called in to vote for their favorite DJ sets in three grueling rounds between Team Krislov and Nick Mayor. Chris Hamby
Artwork Stolen

Virginia Smith
Arts Editor

Oberlin students were surprised and perhaps a little embarrassed last Sunday to see flyers in the Science Center announcing the theft of “The Hummingbird,” a piece in the popular Congressional Art Show Exhibit. Luckily for the school’s reputation, the painting was found on the same day it was reported missing, discovered elsewhere in the Science Center. In the words of Kimberly Ludwig, director of development operations for the College and coordinator of the exhibit, it was “a pretty cut-and-dry case.”

“The exhibit, which features the artwork of Ohio high school students, is part of the Congressional Art program backed by Ohio Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur. For the fifth year in a row, the program has brought the student artwork to Oberlin following its initial display in Toledo. “It’s a fantastic opportunity for Oberlin to be involved,” said Ludwig, adding, “It’s a tradition now.”

Barring further disappearances, the exhibit will be in the Science Center through March 21.

Crunch & Munch

Maya Silver and Alex Sugura

Legend has it that on August 24, 1853 at the Moon’s Lake House in Saratoga Springs, NY, a plate of fried potatoes, marinating in hot gravy and their own liquids, was set before Cornelius Vanderbilt.

The railroad tycoon overturned the dish with a flick of his old-man hand. “They’re fat,” he said, “and soggy.”

Chef George Crum sliced the potatoes paper thin, fried them and presented them again to a delighted Vanderbilt. The potato chip was born.

Years later, these human-sized, fried, baked or pulled gems come in many incarnations, from potato to tortilla to corn to vegetable to fruit. Unless you’ve skimmed them straight from the deep-fryer basket, you probably buy them nestled in colorful plastic bags pumped full of magical, preservative nitrogen gas.

They bubble together upon grocery shelves, embracing their diverse range of colors, types and flavors like the Village People. They are smooth, puffy and attractive, and some people would invariably be lying if they said they didn’t want to give their bags of chips a hug from time to time.

Sure, they have sassy, ultra-masculine fronts with their bright bags, reminiscent of extreme sports gash as they blast their names in hyper-energetic, italicized fonts as if to proclaim to the browsing shopper, “Pick me, I’m hot!” But these are just fronts for the culinary genius within: the subtle flavors, the attention to crisp, sharp texture; the charmingly uneven texture of an unbroken tortilla chip.

Thirty-odd years ago, a group of chip enthusiasts founded a Chip Club here at Oberlin College, dedicated to indulging in and reviewing the item. Unfortunately, the club died along with disco and left college students to eat chips weekly or daily without thought, without appreciation or even proper regard for the act.

The newly reinitiated Chip Club is offering an official “Chip Challenge” to the student body of Oberlin College: will you continue the dismissal of chips as mere snacks or complements, or embrace that burning sensation that can only be felt when an entire bag of salt & vinegar Kettle Chips is consumed in a single sitting?

The new Chip Club will offer reviews and advice in the pages of the Review in the hopes of beginning a long and fruitful dialogue on the merits of this wonderfood.

Blue Scholars Coax Call and Response from the ’Sco

Lauren Day

People from Seattle can often be shamelessly proud of their Emerald City, and the Blue Scholars show at the ’Sco on Saturday was an excuse for Oberlin’s Seattle contingent to bask in their Northwestiness without causing annoyance.

The duo, who came together as a pop group at the University of Washington, have received awards and acclaim from all walks of liberal Seattle life.

The Scholars’ distinctive take on social and political issues, particularly those rooted in the Northwest, is informed by their unique cultural and musical backgrounds. Sahbi, who works the Scholars’ beats and turntables, is an Iranian American and a trained jazz pianist. Vocalist Geologic, the son of Filipino immigrants, brings his experience with spoken-word poetry to the table.

There was no room for the standard-issue Oberlin cynicism at Saturday’s show, which was part of the Asian-American Student Conference. Though Oberlin students do not tend to turn up their noses at issues of race, class or war — which the Scholars’ lyrics so aptly tackle — it was a bit difficult for some audience members to connect with these issues in the absence of humor or irony.

One spot that was difficult for some to take seriously was the call-and-response of “My people!” as one of the songs. Since most lyrics surrounding the chorus were indecipherable, it wasn’t clear who “my people” were and why everyone seemed to be so excited about them.

Whatever humor or light touch the Scholars lacked they made up for with sheer verve. Hours afterwards, an excited student who had been at the show posted on the Oberlin Confessional: “Blue Scholars were amazing. So, so much energy.”

Hometown shouts aside, the Scholars also made sure to tap into whatever Ohio pride managed to elbow its way into the ’Sco that night. Early in the show, Geologic singled out someone in the front.

“He, don’t you work at that burrito place in town?”

Running from the Numbers: Chris Jordan Tackles Consumerism

Alice Ollstein
News Editor

Most environmentalists try to shock an apathetic public into action with the grotesque: a coal plant belching out black smoke over a playground, a city dump shimmering in its own wasted heat, anything that will demonstrate the repulsive behavior.

Activist and artist Chris Jordan approaches this same challenge with a different weapon: beauty. Standing in the gallery’s entrance reads, “Beauty is a powerfully effective tool for drawing viewers into uncomfortable territory.”

Jordan’s work both literally and figuratively pulls the viewer into this “uncomfortable territory” by laying them closer to examine a particular piece, wondering, “What will this one be made out of?” and also by using familiar objects in excess to remind the individual of his or her role in this quagmire of consumerism.

In Plastics Bottles, which depicts the two million beverage bottles used in the U.S. every five minutes, he skillfully creates the illusion of distance. While bottles in the foreground are large, colorful and painfully recognizable, the background fades into a blur — a gnarly landscape as far as the eye can see. This is much more effective than some works, namely Pepper Casso and Plastic Bags, which are presented as flat.

Not content to be defined as an “environmental artist,” Jordan tackles other subjects as well, all relating to the theme of excess. In Food Chains, the 125,000 one-hundred dollar bills the U.S. spends every hour on the war in Iraq joins up to make up the founding father’s face. What comes off as a wise facial expression on hard cash changes when blown up to eight-by-ten feet. The thinnily pursed lips and sad, heavy eyes on this particular opponent of war and imperialism speak distinctly of disapproval.

In these and his other prints, Jordan confronts the viewer with a stark, visual incantation of the statistics the public routinely brushes aside. While speaking to various environmental studies classes on campus this week, he mentioned the hate mail he has received accusing him of exaggeration. “No one accuses a statistic of exaggerating,” he said. “Statistics can feel abstract and anesthetizing. Visuals are more difficult to swallow.”

Running from the Numbers will run at the AMAM until June 8.
Thursday’s performance of Harold Pinter’s Old Times was met with a classically Pinteresque reaction: a brief pause followed by thunderous applause.

The play, directed by Theater Department Chair Paul Moser, takes place in the claustrophobic farmhouse of a middle-aged English couple, Darling (College senior Tom Curtin) and Kate (College senior Lisa Maley). When Kate’s old friend, Anna (College senior Sarah Degen), comes to visit, the three of them begin rehearsing the past, struggling to gain control over one another and over their own memories.

The actors’ performances were all high-caliber and they were able to deliver their lines with subtle nuances of tone and body language. The trio was particularly good at building a slow, uneasy tension, which proved to be both frustrating and entertaining for the audience. “It’s hard when words aren’t thinking with you,” said Degen. “And it did slow me down. But it was a strong key into the characters. It took on a life of its own.” The production space in Little Theater was suitably antiques, thanks to the chilly blue lighting design, done by College senior Mike McGee, and the bare, IKEA-esque set. The costumes also enhanced the play, with Darling and Kate dressed in identical color schemes in the first act, while Anna donned threatening black lace. Those small touches, as well as the lovingly faithful treatment of the script, added up to a thoughtful and intimate production.

Memory and Reality Battle through Discourse in Old Times

Avital Isaac

The performance criticized the German government’s recent bio-warfare initiatives, which the group claims are an exploitation of “the potential threat of germ warfare.”

“The performance criticized the German government’s recent bio-warfare initiatives, which the group claims are an exploitation of “the potential threat of germ warfare.”

“The film session yielded a highlight scene of the film, a mad-scrabble getaway via jet plane. Another shooting session, this one of a bike chase, didn’t unfold so smoothly.

“We had to get it just right, so on the last take somehow my wheel got caught in another actor’s wheel. I instantly collapsed to the side and my neck got caught on another actor’s gear…I was rushed to the emergency room,” said Zaleski. “...The big thing about this was, I rescind the shoot and being the good people that they are, they came back to do it again, safely. I think it was experiences like these that really built our friendship over time.”

Among the actors are Mike Rosen, Andrew Koerste of Westlake, Thomas Tamesis of Amoy, Sean Prior of Amherst, and teachers Tom Curtin and Lisa Maley of a middle-aged couple in crisis, make the audience uncomfortable.

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The Teens – GTEP was created with you in mind.

The program builds upon the strengths of Oberlin College (creative thinking, problem-solving, and social and environmental justice and action) and is designed for individuals who want to help solve the critical challenges facing education today by becoming the best beginning teachers they can be.

There are a few spots left in this year’s class. Contact us to learn more.

Graduate Teacher Education Program at Oberlin College

Phone: 440-775-8008 Email: GTEP@oberlin.edu Website: oberlin.edu/teachereducation

THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’: Tom Curtin and Lisa Maley, a middle-aged couple in crisis, make the audience uncomfortable.

“It’s hard when words aren’t thinking with you,” said Degen. “And it did slow me down. But it was a strong key into the characters. It took on a life of its own.”

The production space in Little Theater was suitably antiques, thanks to the chilly blue lighting design, done by College senior Mike McGee, and the bare, IKEA-esque set. The costumes also enhanced the play, with Darling and Kate dressed in identical color schemes in the first act, while Anna donned threatening black lace. Those small touches, as well as the lovingly faithful treatment of the script, added up to a thoughtful and intimate production.

The Teens – GTEP was created with you in mind.

The program builds upon the strengths of Oberlin College (creative thinking, problem-solving, and social and environmental justice and action) and is designed for individuals who want to help solve the critical challenges facing education today by becoming the best beginning teachers they can be.

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Lecturing Artist Manglano-Ovalle Tunes into Distant Stations

Opera Balances Appeal and Historical Accuracy

Continued from page 10

including Nero, the Roman emperor (senior Elias Travers and junior Joseph Turro); Poppea, Nero’s mistress (sophomore Lillian Chiles); Ottilia, Poppea’s lover (sophomore Kristen (“Sheela”) Irvin and sophomore Elizabeth Zhau); a court lady in love with Ottila.

Sound messy enough yet? Add a wide-ranging cast of secondary characters from Roman gods to aged philosophers; mix in politics, power, rage, jealousy and no shortage of murder plots and this opera is ready to keep the audience on the edge of their seats.

Oberlin is using a Baroque chamber ensemble to accompany the opera, which raises questions of adhering to accurate historical performance practices versus reaching out to a modern-day audience. “Today in the historical performance world, there always seems to be a struggle between authenticity and accessibility,” said Baroque violinist and Conservatory student, Isabelle Rozendaal, who is playing in the pit orchestra.

She continued, “This production attempts to strike a balance between the two; it uses a period instrument band at high pitch and modern singers, with a modernist and classically inspired set.” With specialty historical instruments ranging from baroque violins to recorders, the sounds from the pit will be a beautiful realization of period music.

As for visual effects, Montgomery enthusiastically told the audience to expect “a stunning opera production, with visual treats like we have almost never tried before.” This opera will engage in the world after the [fact].” Audience members should be aware, said Rozendaal, that L’incoronazione di Poppea “is one of the most sexually explicit operas of its day,” and the production may not be for everyone.

“I am a human story of love and betrayal that will affect everyone in different ways. This opera will teach you about yourself,” Rozendaal said.

What’s the Big Idea: Manglano-Ovalle’s brand of “conceptual” art is socially conscious and technology-based projects such as Search, an immunization-themed piece, was particularly interesting. The work, which transforms Mexico’s northernmost battlefield ring into what Manglano-The artist describes as — “a very low-tech but functioning radio dish,” is meant to serve as an extraterrestrial communication device. “It searches for the real aliens,” commented Manglano-Ovalle.

Other projects he described included The Phantom Truck, a full-scale model of a mobile biological weapon lab, The El Niño Effect, which looked at “climate as a way to investigate politics” and Always After the Glass House, a short looping video that explored “what the idea that we engage in the world after the [fact].” Manglano-Ovalle is a professor at the University of Chicago. His work has been shown everywhere from the Art Institute of Chicago to the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao to the Whitney in New York.

Ashley Simpson
Staff Writer

Hour-long, static-filled tape recordings echoing in the confines of dark galleries; non-narrative video installations; interactive, electronic sculpture displays — multimedia, “conceptual” art is not exactly known for its accessibility. Indeed, the genre is widely considered the reason why many people dismiss contemporary art. Sculpture, video installationist and activist Illigo Manglano-Ovalle, who lectured in the Allen Art Building this past Thursday, is out to change this.

Known for his socially conscious, technology-based projects such as Search (1999), The Phantom Track (2007) and White Noise (2007), Manglano-Ovalle works actively to incorporate the political into his non-representative pieces. During the lecture, he described the inspiration, production and reception of his art, manifesting the same convoluted idealism in his talk that is evident in his work.

“I want to have a certain utility in the world. What I consider a failure is when my art is just art,” said Manglano-Ovalle at the start of his lecture. This evocative statement shaped his lengthy address, which was structured around careful explanations of the messages behind several of his more prominent pieces.

Manglano-Ovalle’s description of Search, an immunization-themed piece, was particularly interesting. The work, which transforms Mexico’s northernmost battlefield ring into what Manglano-The artist describes as — “a very low-tech but functioning radio dish,” is meant to serve as an extraterrestrial communication device. “It searches for the real aliens,” commented Manglano-Ovalle.

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What’s the Big Idea: Manglano-Ovalle’s brand of “conceptual” art is socially conscious and technologically-driven. Think about it as the Greeks would have: as a party shot for a foreign artifact. What’s the Big Idea: Manglano-Ovalle’s brand of “conceptual” art is socially conscious and technologically-driven. Think about it as the Greeks would have: as a party shot for a foreign artifact. What’s the Big Idea: Manglano-Ovalle’s brand of “conceptual” art is socially conscious and technologically-driven. Think about it as the Greeks would have: as a party shot for a foreign artifact. What’s the Big Idea: Manglano-Ovalle’s brand of “conceptual” art is socially conscious and technologically-driven. Think about it as the Greeks would have: as a party shot for a foreign artifact. What’s the Big Idea: Manglano-Ovalle’s brand of “conceptual” art is socially conscious and technologically-driven. Think about it as the Greeks would have: as a party shot for a foreign artifact.
Tennis ‘Loves’ Winning Conference Matches

Continued from page 16

The Oberlin Review

The field, and the Horseshoes have approximately 15 players on each of their two teams, there is a “lot of bubbling,” according to Schneider.

As for choosing Pitts as a coach, Schneider said, “It’s been a really long and thoughtful process for the team.” Certain concerns were raised, such as the fact that Pitts had never been to Oberlin and didn’t share the Oberlin experience, along with the possibility that Pitts’ presence would change the social dynamic because he is an outsider the same age as the players.

Because the Horseshoes are a club team, they hold high regard for their self-sufficient legacy. “Self-dependency is a really important part of our team, so we were really concerned with preserving our identity as a club sport and as the Horseshoes,” said Schneider. “But at the same time, [hiring a coach] was a deliberate conscious decision.”

Although the Horseshoes are not allowed on North Field due to their affiliation with the College Recreation Center Betty Bruce gives the okay, they are already gearing up outside for the college championships; the sectional champions (which, if the Horseshoes shine, may lead the team to regions and nationals) will be played April 5-6, and the team can compete in regular season tournaments before that time. Schneider noted that “we are planning a good defense” entering into these matches. Darden-Pitts could not be reached for comment.

Ultimate Debate: Frisbee Team Hires Coach

Continued from page 16

Alicia Smith

When most people think of college athletes, they assume that these people were the best players of their sport in high school. Even at Oberlin, where none of the players on the varsity rosters have received athletic scholarships (Division III schools are not allowed to offer athletic scholarships), the vast majority played a major role on their varsity teams in high school. Many even received all-conference or all-state honors prior to arriving at Oberlin’s campus.

This is not so on the women’s lacrosse team. Deb Ranieri, the head coach, was faced with a challenge this year as she realized that Pitts wouldn’t have enough players. In a tough situation, Ranieri searched campus for players to fill the roster. Five players on the team this year never played lacrosse before joining the team. Many of them played other sports in the past, or are currently on another Oberlin team, but were unfamiliar with this fast-breaking sport, but Ranieri is using that to her advantage. “I have the ability to pick a totally new sport and play at the varsity college level in a pretty unique and exciting experience,” said Oberlin basketball player and sophomore Emily Finkel.

Sophomore Kayla Brandt said that Pitts was hard but rewarding, explaining, “It’s been really difficult trying to learn a new sport, but I am learning to appreciate how athletes feel when they are first starting out.”

The fearless five are Brandt, Finkel, juniors Maggie Casey and Kira Rivera and sophomore Roxanne Alexandre-Leach. Brandt, Finkel, Casey and Rivera have all been on the women’s basketball team at Oberlin, so they are familiar with collegiate athleticism, but were still strangers when they first set foot on the lacrosse field. “The lacrosse field is like the size of six basketball courts or something,” said Brandt.

The team competed in its first game of the season on Wednesday, March 12 at Adrian College in Adrian, MI.

Prior to the game, those new to the sport were excited and nervous. “Even though I am excited to play, I’m scared of getting checked a lot and hit in the hand, and I’m not too excited to wear a funny little skirt outside in the cold,” said Casey.

Oberlin trailed for the whole game, at times by as much as six. However, the determined Yeowomen managed to keep crawling back and they only lost by one point. The final score was 17-16.

Strong individual performances were a highlight of the Yeowomen game. Junior Taylor Foye of Raymond, ME led the Yeowomen with eight goals and three assists. The fearless five also made great strides in their defensive efforts as well. The Yeowomen will face their next test tomorrow at Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vermont.

Standings

Men’s Tennis

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<th>Overall</th>
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The Oberlin Review, March 14, 2008
Garden State Teams Outshine, Overpower Opponents

Colin Burling with Taylor Swope

Colin Burling

The displays of fanatization across the tri-state area (NY, NJ, PA) prove to be more prevalent than many others because of the rich tennis history, beginning with Babe Ruth, followed by the race to 61 home runs between Roger Maris and Mickey Mantle and arguably the best pitcher (on paper) of the decade, Roger Clemens. The team has won the pennant nine times. Even actor Billy Crist has recently supported the Yankees by entering the minor leagues under the New York team’s name.

Interview by Moose Terry

Photo courtesy of Colin Burling

On Deck

Sat, Mar 15
Track & field at NCAA Championships (Ohio Northern)
Baseball at Foothills Classic (Maryville, TN)
Baseball vs. Thiel, 3 p.m.
Men’s Tennis vs. Washington, 10 a.m.
Women’s lacrosse at Marymount University (Washington & Lee HS Field) Wed, March 19
Softball vs. Thiel, 4 p.m.
Sat, Mar 22
Golf at Spring Break (South Carolina)
Baseball at Greater Phoenix Invitational (Phoenix, AZ):
Baseball vs. Colby, 1:30 p.m.
Softball at Gene Cusic Invitational (Clifton, NJ), 11 a.m.
Men’s lacrosse vs. Ohio Wesleyan, 12 noon
Tues., Mar 18
Baseball at Lake Erie, 3:30 p.m.
Wed, Mar 19
Softball vs. Thiel, 4 p.m.
Sat, Mar 22
Golf at Spring Break (South Carolina)
Baseball at Greater Phoenix Invitational (Phoenix, AZ):
Baseball vs. Colby, 1:30 p.m.
Softball at Gene Cusic Invitational (Clifton, NJ), 11 a.m.
Men’s lacrosse vs. Carleton, noon
Women’s tennis vs. Carleton, noon
Baseball at Greater Phoenix Invitational (Phoenix, AZ):
Baseball vs. Colby, 1:30 p.m.
Softball at Gene Cusic Invitational (Clifton, NJ), 11 a.m.
The 2008 spring season has gotten off to an exciting start for the Oberlin men’s tennis team, which is currently 4-3 after seven contests. The Yeomen were polled by the North Coast Athletic Conference to finish in sixth place in the conference, having claimed two victories in two conference games. This puts them in position to finish better than sixth as they look to assert themselves as a team.

Head Coach Adam Shoemaker believes in the ability of the team and his positive energy seems rubbing off on the players. Shoemaker said, “We hope to finish amongst the top four teams in the conference this season. We were recently polled to finish sixth but I strongly believe that we can do better than that.”

The Yeomen opened their season at home against Malone College. Senior Chris Pray got the February 16 contest underway with a victory in the number one singles match, but Oberlin’s progress was slowed by the Malone team, which seemed to be coming back with two victories in a row. The Oberlin side took control from there, proceeding to claim victories in the next six matches as they won the contest 7-2. Oberlin won all three of its doubles contests that day, dropping points only in the singles matches.

A week later, Oberlin was in action again at the Heimann Field House against rival Case Western Reserve University. Once again, Oberlin took the score at the end of the meet was 7-2. This time, however, the Yeomen found themselves on the receiving end of the spanking, as they were only able to claim victory in the singles contests and one in the doubles.

The Yeomen had little rest as the next day, February 24, when they played against Wittenberg University in the first conference game of the season. Eager to impress after the disappointing showing against Case, the Yeomen won the first eight matches to claim victory 8-1. The victory brought the trio of singles games to an encouraging end as the Yeomen stood at 2-1 overall.

The next match up was the first time on the road for the Yeomen as they traveled to Mount Union College on February 28.

Aiming for Aces: Senior tennis player Chris Pray gets ready to make a scorching serve. The tennis team has a 4-3 record.

See Tennis, page 14

Women’s Tennis Shatters Losing Streak

Alyssa Clark
Sports Editor

Winter’s cold proved no match for the Oberlin College women’s tennis team this past week. The postponement of the match against Case Western Reserve gave the team more time to prepare for the important match that could break a four-match losing streak.

The extra time served the Yeowomen well as they were able to overpower their opponents, winning 9-0.

The Yeowomen entered a new season and a new level of play. Senior tennis player Chris Pray said, “I played with him in high school for a couple of years and convinced him to move to Oberlin,” said Pray. He also noted that Pitts has participated in competitive Frisbee since seventh grade.

Although Pitts agreed to spend a two-month stint in Ohio, he is not receiving his salary through the Student Finance Committee. “We are paying him. We are fundraising,” said Lesser.

Schneider added, “Our fund-raising comes from merchandise,” with Lesser noting that Horsecows apparel is available at the Oberlin College Bookstore.

The team also throws par to individual players and improve

Come and Get It: “Kyle Demars-Johnson does two players, making them cry for mercy, from Western Michigan State in Oberlin’s home tournament.”

Photo Courtesy of Jacky Block

Because Frisbee teams compete with only seven players on the floor, who comes to practice with an attendance sheet or drills for the day helps for logistical planning,” he said.

See Ultimate, page 14

Newly Hired Frisbee Coach Helps Horsecows Fly

Amanda Travers
Sports Editor

Students may have spotted them, distinguishing their skill and prowess on a snowy field. These students weren’t watching some prowess on a snowy field. These students weren’t watching some high school for a couple of years and convinced him to move to Oberlin,“ said Lesser.

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