

The Review interviews the mysterious, legendary Beer Fairy.



In News, Page 3

All of Oberlin will collaborate to offer new interdisciplinary classes starting Spring semester.



In Arts, Page 7

Women's basketball has been playing well within the last week, but have found it difficult to finish off teams in the second half.



In Sports, Page 12

THE OBERLIN REVIEW

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Facebook Draws ResEd Attention

Alice Ollstein
News Editor

Since its launch in 2004, Facebook has been a virtual refuge for college students across the country, a place where they can share words and images with their friends. But the fact that over 58 million users craft online profiles has not escaped employers, who find that Facebook offers them a candid glimpse into the lives of their workers.

In the words of Oberlin's Assistant Director of Residential Education Brayton Fields, "What you put on the Internet isn't secure."

Organizations both at Oberlin College and in the outside world currently use Facebook to distribute and collect information, even reprimanding employees for content found online.

Director of Residential Education Molly Tyson estimates that the majority of staff members in the Office of Residential Education have Facebook profiles, and while she emphasizes that no one goes out of their way to look for condemning material, she noted that if someone "happens upon" something, they are required to "respond."

Several students this year and in previous years have been approached by ResEd regarding photos posted online, and many

See Residential, page 4

Obies Defend Public Housing

Demonstration in Solidarity with NOLA

Amanda Travers

Oberlin students supporting the New Orleans Solidarity protest gathered in Cleveland's Public Square on Tuesday, Dec. 11 to rally against public housing demolition.

"It's important in solidarity actions to give support, so people don't feel isolated in their struggles," said College junior Juli Martin, who attended the rally. "Also, [it's important] to draw connections to housing demolitions in Cleveland."

College junior Hillary Smith agreed, saying that the goal of the protest was to "connect struggles and show solidarity."

Many believe the destruction of public housing is not a local problem, but a nationwide one. Smith said that "the idea of public housing is important. Going to Cleveland and protesting demolition in New Orleans shows it's a national issue."

College senior Kara Carmosino feels that "the case in New Orleans is sort of a test case for an issue for the entire nation. Proposed demolition is one specific example that is important for communities all over the nation."

"Because I'm unable to go to the protest in New Orleans, [the Cleveland protest] is a way to show solidarity and draw attention and support to the issues of public housing in Cleveland," continued Carmosino.



'The case in New Orleans is sort of a test case for...the entire nation.'

Kara Carmosino
College senior

The protest has an important broader significance, according to Martin. Those attending want to "bring media attention because it is a solidarity action. America is watching us help them in their cause."



Taking it to the Sheets: Students prepare a banner for Cleveland protest against the demolition of public housing. Juli Martin

Referendum Still 200 Votes Short of Quorum

David Clark

The 2007 Student Referendum came 200 votes short of the quorum needed to validate the results. The referendum opened on Monday, Dec. 3 after a massive poster campaign around campus informing students of the vote and will continue until the necessary votes come in.

"Overall, the Senate is very proud and positive about the progress of the referendum so far because we are relatively close to reaching quorum and it's only been around a week. So that's actually super fast compared to [the referendum] two years ago," said Student Senate Publicity Coordinator and College sophomore Daniel Abramson.

The 2005 referendum did not close until February of 2006 and never reached quorum, something the Senate is currently trying to avoid.

"Our plan of attack now is to hit the streets," said Student Senate Affairs Liaison, Senator and College senior Ian Hilburger. "All senators as well as everyone else invested in the referendum will be talking to our friends, neighbors, fellow co-ops and classmates until we reach the finish line."



The Roar of the Masses Could Be Yawns: Senate scrounges for votes. Chris Hamby

"If the referendum does not close before the semester ends, validating voting may become very complicated. Only enrolled students are allowed to vote," said Hilburger. "Many students that have already voted may be graduating or leaving Oberlin at the end of the semester. Whether

these votes should still be counted is something we must consider."

"Everyone is very anxious to get it done with because then we can actually use the results to influence certain things. These are all very implementable questions," said Abramson.

The important issue of Student Senate compensation has yet to be resolved. Student senators are not currently receiving wages, and this will continue in the absence of a positive vote on the referendum.

"If this does not happen before the election process next semester, I am concerned that qualified candidates with high financial needs may be dissuaded from running for election," said Hilburger.

Senators who need the income Student Senate has provided in the past might be forced to resign and take up other paying jobs on campus.

Some people are worried that one result of an incomplete or negative referendum would be to reduce the diversity of Student Senate. "The current lack of diversity on the Student Senate is something that troubles me a great deal," said Hilburger. "I fear this problem will be exacerbated without a timely response from those who have not yet voted."

Student Senate's responsibilities include appointing the student representatives to faculty committees, participating in decision-making with the General Faculty, passing resolutions and serving as the board of appeals for Student Finance Committee allocations.

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Corrections

The RA "Binder" mentioned in last week's article, "RAs Resign over Pay, Stress and Philosophy" is senior and former SRA Christine Binder.

The Review strives to print all information as accurately as possible. If you feel the Review has made an error, please e-mail managingeditor@oberlinreview.org.

Alumna Addresses Agency & Aid

Brian Pugh
News Editor

Oberlin students are known for their interest in social justice and humanitarian issues, and Nzinga Broussard, OC '02, is no exception to this tradition. Accordingly, Broussard delivered a presentation on food aid in Ethiopia to Oberlin faculty and students on Wednesday, Dec. 12.

Broussard's lecture focused on her dissertation topic, "Aid and Agency in Africa: Explaining Food Disbursements Across Ethiopian Households," which explores the local power dynamics that affect how food aid is shared. Broussard argued that Ethiopia is an excellent case for studying food aid because "they need it and they receive it.... The Ethiopian government is committed to distributing food aid."

According to Broussard, most food aid in Ethiopia includes a work requirement. She said that the research focused on free food aid, which is better for understanding local politics since influential individuals were unlikely to be attracted to the work programs, making it so that work-related aid appealed mainly to people who were genuinely poor.

However, Broussard also emphasized the importance of the free aid programs. "The poorest of the poor are not eligible for the work programs; they are weak, they are old, they really need free aid," she said.

The Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission assists Ethiopian citizens affected by shocks to the food supply. The commission



Nzinga Broussard, OC '02

www-personal.umich.edu/~nbroussa

sets the guidelines for aid distribution and targets it at regions in need, but local peasant associations administer the actual distribution, creating the possibility for the misallocation of food aid. Differing notions of fairness and the potential susceptibility of the local associations lead to corruption, according to Broussard.

In her paper, Broussard reports, "We find that households with characteristics commonly associated with poverty and food insecurity are more likely to receive aid than other households, but that within this group of recipients, political connections and involvement in village-level organizations are important determinants of aid allocations." Broussard and her fellow researchers reached this conclusion by expanding on existing research.

Previous studies of aid disbursement found that there was no sys-

tematic relationship between food aid and pre-aid income. Broussard and her team, in contrast, found that "level of need" was used to select who received aid, but the actual amount allocated to households was not determined by income. Rather, recipients who described themselves to researchers as powerful members of the community receive more aid than their less influential peers.

Though aid might not be distributed according to the intentions of initial donors, households in need are not necessarily completely neglected. "They are being denied [food aid] by the representatives that are supposed to provide, but that doesn't mean they're not receiving anything," said Broussard. "There is a lot of community sharing going on."

Finding out precisely why aid was not disbursed according to the established guidelines requires "more of [a] qualitative anthropological study," she said.

Broussard is currently a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Michigan. While at Oberlin she majored in economics and mathematics and led the women's basketball team in scoring, racking up 1,693 points over her career. Broussard's presentation was part of the Oberlin economics department's Danforth-Lewis Speakers Series, which has brought seven economists to campus this semester, including Ed McKelvey, OC '68, a vice president and senior economist at Goldman Sachs. Previous speakers have discussed a variety of topics including the economics of creativity, the U.S. healthcare system and corporate governance.

the news in brief

Oberlin Considers School Uniforms for Students

Caitlin Duke
Staff Writer

The Oberlin school district is exploring a uniforms requirement for its students, an idea that has sparked nationwide debate. Glenn Hodge, a concerned 1965 Oberlin High School graduate, suggested at the school board meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 27 that school uniforms would put a halt to growing youth crime.

The board has agreed to look into the uniform policy, although several of the five members have varying opinions on its effectiveness.

Ian Yarber, a 1987 OHS graduate and board member since January 2006, questioned whether the institution of uniforms alone would truly affect crime rates: "It takes the parents at home" to help improve students' behavior, he offered. He summed up his opinion by saying, "I'm not against uniforms, but I question uniforms in Oberlin."

Vice President of the Board Stephanie Jones told *The Chronicle-Telegram* of Elyria that she did not support the proposed change: "I don't see what it would bring to the district."

Jones has personally felt the impact of youth violence. Her 16-year-old son Matthew was shot twice on Saturday, Nov. 10, though he is now back in school. The alleged shooter is a 15-year-old Elyria native, who will be tried for attempted murder as an adult.

Carol Correthers, whose election to the board on Tuesday, Nov. 6 is still in contention, supported the policy, saying that students in uniforms are "not caught up in their clothes or what people are wearing." Paula Jones, who also supports the idea, may replace Correthers after a recount is completed.

President of the Board and Associate Dean of the Conservatory Marci Alegant and final member Beth Weiss have not yet decided their respective stances on school uniforms. Alegant said, "I have a mixed opinion....There's research out there that says...[having uniforms] reduces discipline problems, but there is also research that contradicts that." She added that the current state of the policy is "very preliminary."

Superintendent Geoffrey Andrews said only, "I don't have an opinion at this point — it is a policy question for the board to wrestle with." Andrews told the *Review* that he would be researching "how uniforms impact student achievement, building climate, bullying and other variables, and reporting back to the board."

By Ohio law, the board may not enact any uniform law without public feedback and at least six-months notice to parents. There must also be a plan for providing uniforms to students of low-income families who could not otherwise afford them.

Green Thumbs Arrested in Anti-Marijuana Bust

Brian Pugh
News Editor

A Florida couple accused of growing large quantities of marijuana in Oberlin was placed under arrest after turning themselves in to the police last Friday. Their in-door growing operation was estimated to be worth \$200,000.

Twenty-four-year-old Andrea Jessup and husband Thomas Jessup, age thirty, were charged with producing marijuana, destroying evidence, possessing criminal tools and littering from an automobile. They were released on \$10,000 bond after being taken to Lorain County Jail. The husband and wife team allegedly grew the marijuana in an Oberlin home owned by Andrea Jessup.

The arrest of the Jessups was in the making for some time. Oberlin police became aware of the marijuana cultivation on June 17. A friend of the couple had a falling out with them and informed the police of their drug business. The informant told authorities that Mr. Jessup threatened him and his family after the two fought over a vehicle.

The friend said that he had known Mr. Jessup since grade school and described him as narcissist, calling him "Mr. Playboy," telling the police that Jessup liked to go to Las Vegas and gamble tens of thousands of dollars on football games.

The informer said he knew about the details of the marijuana operation because Jessup was paying him to drive from Indiana to Oberlin to tend to the grow house's lawn. Jessup had never told his former friend about the growing operation, rather the friend claims to have uncovered it when he entered their home while on one of his lawn care assignments.

The Jessups were a step ahead of law enforcement for a time, reportedly closing down their do-it-yourself marijuana hothouse before the police could get a warrant and search the property. However, the two were unable to

evade the authorities for long. Days after the unsuccessful search, park rangers in Wellington found nearly 200 marijuana plants that had been unloaded at three separate sites.

Police say that Mrs. Jessup, using her maiden name, Vasilevski, had bought a house on Morgan Street. Shortly after the Jessups took possession of the home, electricity use at the property increased fivefold. According to a report from the Oberlin police, the informant told them the Jessups were employing six 1000-watt high intensity lamps. Allegedly, Mr. Jessup would fly up from his home in Palm Harbor, Florida on a weekly basis to water the marijuana plants.

Fred Lassen (1940-07), OC Chaplain, Remembered

Sam Newhouse

Manfred J. "Fred" Lassen, Protestant Chaplain at Oberlin College since 1987, died early this week of heart failure. He was 67 years old.

Fred worked in the Oberlin Office of Religious and Spiritual Life, helping students, staff and professors with religious questions and everyday life.

Born in Amityville, NY, Fred studied at Concordia College (B.A., 1962) and at the Concordia Theological Seminary (Masters of Divinity, 1966). He was a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America since 1978.

Linda Gates, dean of students, was a close friend of Fred's. She wrote to the *Review*, describing Fred's warm personality:

"Fred almost never appeared at a meeting, in Wilder Bowl, at the Rat, or anywhere else on- or off-campus without an interesting new book, a book that he was eager to talk about with students, faculty and staff. Those who knew and worked with him will miss his warmth, his thoughtful presence, his liting laugh, his understanding of the complexity of life and the particular verve he brought to discussions of important issues."

In a campus-wide letter, Oberlin President Marvin Krislov wrote that Fred was known as "a Christian humanist, open to people regardless of their religious affiliation."

Fred's sons, Frederick, OC '91, and Jonathan, OC '94, have arranged for funeral services on Saturday at 2:00 p.m. at Our Saviour Lutheran Church, in Lorain. Reverend Matsen will officiate with music provided by Andy Barnett, a senior graduating this month.

A memorial service is being planned for late February 2007 in Fairchild Chapel.

Off the Cuff: Beer Fairy

During the mind-crushing stress of finals week, a mythical creature haunts Oberlin. Preferring to keep his or her identity a mystery, this spirit wanders through Mudd Library when students are at their wits' end, distributing cold cans of alcoholic relief to those most in need. This week, the Review had a special interview with the enigmatic Beer Fairy to find out the secrets associated with this Oberlin tradition.

What's the Beer Fairy all about? What do you do?

During reading period, late at night, after midnight usually, when the staff in the library has left and there's only one person left, I have a backpack full of beer — of PBR. I walk around the library. I usually try to find people that are secluded, like in the dark crevices in back of a study carrel. I walk up to them, pull out a beer, give it to them and say, "Would you like a beer?"

PBR is your beer of choice?

Oh, yeah. Can't have anything other than cold PBR. I take great pride in the fact that it's very cold when I hand it out.

When did you become the Beer Fairy?

My sibling started it when she went to this school seven or eight years ago. She started



Taking the Edge Off of Finals: The Beer Fairy selflessly supplies sudsy study break to stressed students.

doing it her freshman year and did it every semester she was here. She told me that I had to carry on the tradition and continue the family Beer Fairy experience.

How old are you in fairy years?

What is that, like times 12? 700 years old.

Do you plan to leave an heir?

Yeah. I usually take along an assistant on the Beer Fairy trip at

the end of the semester. The assistant will carry on the tradition.

Can you explain why you choose to remain anonymous and how you feel about the legend surrounding your exploits?

It's crucial that people don't know who I am. They would start telling me that I need to find them in the library and hand beer out to them. Also, I am carrying a copious amount of alcohol in my backpack while I'm underage in the library. It's

just not the kind of thing I want to publicize.

Have you had any problems with security or library staff?

None at all. One time, I walked up to someone and he looked down the aisle and saw me coming towards him. I didn't know the kid at all. He looked right me, and I kind of saw this moment of realization that came across his face. A big smile. He says, "No way! I've heard so much... You're the Beer Fairy?"

He started flipping out. He got up and gave me a huge hug. He was so happy! And one time I came up to a girl and pulled a beer out of my jacket and asked her, "Do you want a beer? You're looking stressed out." She says, "Thanks for the offer, but I have my own." She moves some books away and on the study carrel she has three beers! In a line! She was good.

When you're handing out beers, do you wear any kind of disguise or go incognito? Do you wear a fairy costume?

No, I do not wear a fairy costume. That's a little too conspicuous. I try to blend in. Sometimes in the winter I'll wear a Santa Claus hat. And, you know, at Oberlin something like that seems pretty normal. I don't wear a disguise or a mask or anything like that.

Have you started the Beer Fairy's rounds yet, or are you waiting until reading period?

I usually wait until reading period. I think that the library would be a much more enjoyable place if everyone were drinking beer all the time.

Do you ID students when you're handing out beers?

No, (laughs) students are bound by the Honor Code.

**Interview by Simon Nyi
Photo by Madeline Marvar**



Review Security Notebook

Dec. 6, 12:15 a.m. A student reported the theft of his unlocked bicycle from outside of Mudd. The bike is a royal blue Vista, men's, 14 speed, with black cracked foam on the handlebars and is valued at \$75.00. The bike was left unattended for a short period of time.

Dec. 6, 9:18 a.m. Staff from Stevenson Hall reported the theft of a clock radio from the men's locker room. The radio is black plastic with a wood grain design.

Dec. 6, 12:58 p.m. A student reported the theft of his bicycle from Langston Hall. The bike is a Dyno Lorider, black in color. It was located by officers in the bushes near Bailey parking lot. The bicycle was returned to the owner.

Dec. 6, 2:18 p.m. A student reported the theft of his backpack from beneath a tree near East Hall. The backpack is a blue L.L.

Bean with leather bottom and contained his wallet, keys, credit card and cell phone.

Dec. 6, 4:10 p.m. Officers and Oberlin Fire Department responded to a fire alarm at Baldwin. The alarm was activated by steam exiting the HVAC vent. The alarm was reset after repairs were made.

Dec. 6, 7:07 p.m. Staff at Philips Gym requested assistance with a visitor in the pool area having trouble breathing. Officers responded and the female was transported by ambulance to Allen Medical Center for treatment.

Dec. 7, 9:43 p.m. Officers were requested at Wilder to assist with a student who passed out. Officers responded and found the student conscious and sitting on the floor. She was transported by officers to Allen Medical Center for treatment.

Dec. 7, 10:52 p.m. Student staff reported an unauthorized party in Burton Hall. Officers responded

and located several students in a room on the first floor. The students were advised of policies on unauthorized parties and then left the room. One bottle of alcohol was located and disposed of.

Dec. 8, 11:30 a.m. Staff at Allen Art Building reported vandalism in the men's restroom of the Venturi addition. Officers responded and found a large hole in the west interior wall. It is unknown when the damage occurred.

Dec. 8, 3:15 p.m. Officers and Oberlin Fire Department responded to a fire alarm at the Service Building, Carpenter Shop. The alarm was activated by water leaking from the ceiling into a heat detector. Repairs were made and the alarm reset.

Dec. 9, 2:47 a.m. Oberlin Police Department responded to the Field House parking lot regarding a vehicle break-in. The driver's side, front window was broken out and the glove compartment was gone through. It was undetermined if anything was missing

at the time of report. A check of all parking lots was conducted by officers and three additional vehicles were found damaged in the Field House lot. Messages were left for the owners to contact Security.

Dec. 9, 3:39 p.m. An officer conducting a building check of Burton Hall discovered the interior main door of *The Oberlin Review* unlocked and unattended. The interior was checked out and the door secured.

Dec. 9, 3:52 p.m. Staff at Philips Gym reported two unauthorized juveniles in the west gym. The juveniles were warned about trespassing on College property and escorted from the building.

Dec. 10, 10:10 a.m. A Security staff member observed broken glass bowls under the front tires of the Security Club car, which was parked at the rear of the Security Building. It is unknown when the items were placed under the tires.

Dec. 10, 1 p.m. A student report-

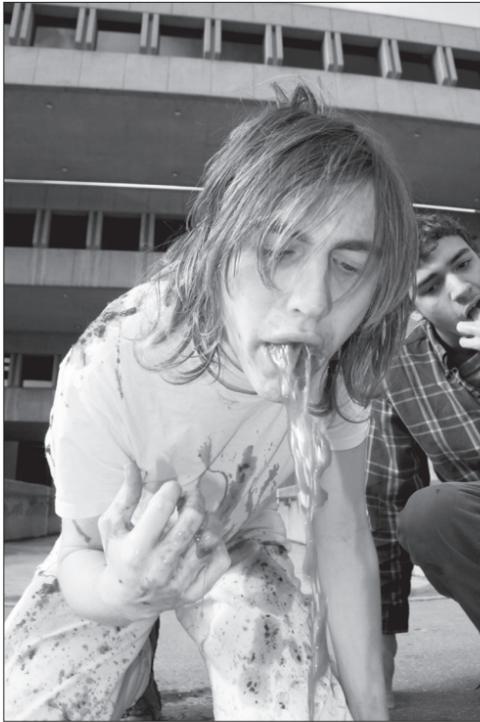
ed the theft of his bicycle which was secured on the west side of the Conservatory. The bike is a blue Schwinn, ten-speed, and valued at \$120.00.

Dec. 10, 4:18 p.m. A student reported the theft of his wallet from an unlocked, unattended practice room on the third floor of Robertson Hall. The wallet contained \$10.00 cash and identification.

Dec. 11, 1:35 p.m. A student reported the theft of his secured bicycle from the east side of Mudd Library. The bike is a Trek, dark gray and blue in color, five-speed with stickers partially removed from the bike, valued at \$75.00.

Dec. 11, 12:29 p.m. Oberlin Police Department advised they were en route to the Woodland Street lot to investigate a vehicle that was broken into. The passenger side window was broken out, and the vehicle owner's purse and shoulder bag are missing. The incident is under investigation.

Puke for Puke's Sake



Do You Have a Permit for This?: Junior Kalan Sherrard spews beets outside Mudd Library, as part of his performance art piece, attracting the attention of Safety and Security. Gary Cohen

A Private Profile Isn't So Private, Say Employers

Continued from page 1

received verbal or written warnings for the behavior depicted.

When asked what Facebook-related things an RA could be approached for, Tyson responded, "It could be anything." Tyson later clarified that not all Facebook incidents are documented, and often all that follows is what she calls an "educational conversation."

"We do not have a policy for our staff to look over Facebook pages," said Assistant Director of ResEd Becky Mosely. "But since most RDs have Facebook, and pictures -- or whatever has just been added -- show up on the front page, things come to people's attention. They see things that cause concern."

Because photos seem to constitute the bulk of the problem, ResEd took proactive steps during RA training to explain the openness of the web.

"We had a conversation during training this year to make RAs make sure they tell their friends not to put up photos of them," said Mosely. "Because once a photo is tagged, it's out there whether you want it or not. We've found that photos are being posted of RAs that they don't know about and don't want up."

Students have mixed feelings about ResEd's use of Facebook, and many have taken steps to make their profiles more private.

"As soon as my RD friended me, I set my privacy settings so she couldn't see my photos or my wall," said RA and College sophomore Emily Brunsten. "I don't think any employer should be able to see my personal stuff -- it's unprofessional."

"It's a little disturbing that my RD would check my Facebook for pictures of me, but it's lawful," said College junior and former RA Rob Watts. "I understand that it's the Internet and anyone can see it."

Though Tyson granted them the permission they needed to

speak with the *Review*, the majority of RAs approached declined to comment, expressing concern that their criticism would result in a backlash from ResEd.

Though a perception exists that RDs actively check up on their RAs through Facebook, Tyson refuted this idea. "We have more important things to do than look at Facebook," she said. "We have other stuff to deal with."

Fields feels that these incidents constitute a learning experience. "A lot of employers outside of Oberlin use Facebook when interviewing prospective clients," he said. "And if they see stuff on there, there could be problems. This isn't something specific to Oberlin, and we want to educate people for when they leave Oberlin."

Such preparation is warranted. In 2006, *US News and World Report* reported that 40 percent of employers surveyed would take into consideration

Facebook content when evaluating potential hires.

They also noted that 42 percent of students and 21 percent of employees thought that such a use of Facebook was an invasion of privacy.

Tyson cited other ways the organization uses Facebook, such as publicizing programs and recruiting new RAs to replace the ones who have resigned. "It's a vehicle of communication to get information out there," she said.

College sophomore Dory Trimble, who quit her RA position one week into the semester, referred to the practice as "creepy" and "patronizing."

"I was told repeatedly during training that our Facebook profiles were being monitored," she said, "and that my profile should be a reflection of ResEd's policies."

Tyson summarized her message to students: "You need to recognize that Facebook isn't a private space. Anyone with an .edu account can see these things."

'I was told repeatedly that our Facebook profiles were being monitored.'

Dory Trimble
Former RA

Residential Education and Dining Services

Dining Facts of the Week...December 17, 2007

Jobs, Jobs, Jobs!!!

Apply now for Winter Term & Spring Semester

New Employees

Now accepting applications for Winter Term or Spring Semester positions
Apply at CDS Office, Stevenson, Griswold or contact cdsjobs@oberlin.edu
Good jobs at excellent rates of pay!!!

Where is Dining Available During Reading Period & Finals?

Late Night Breakfast Stevenson **Monday, 12/17** 10-11:30pm

Pancakes w/Butter & Syrup
Bacon, Sausage & Vegan Sausage
Cut Fruit

Study Break Specials Dascomb

Free coffee, tea and snacks

Thursday, 12/13 - Wednesday, 12/19 2 p.m. - 12 midnight
Thursday, 12/20 2 p.m. - 8 p.m.

End of Semester Dining Hours

The end of the year dining hours are posted in the dining halls, or visit <http://www.oberlin.edu/cds/hours/fallclosing.html>

Friday, 12/14	Sat, 12/15	Sun, 12/16	Mon, 12/17	Tues, 12/18	Wed, 12/19	Thurs, 12/20	Fri, 12/21
Azariah's Café closed at 9:00pm Lord/Saunders closed after dinner							
8:00-10:00am 5:30-7:00pm							
2:00-9:00pm							
Stevenson							
B	CB 9:30-11:15 a	CB 9:30-11:15 a	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	CB 8-10 a
L	11:30 a - 2 p	11:30 a - 2 p	11:30 a - 1:30 p	11:30 a - 1:30 p	11:30 a - 1:30 p	11:30 a - 1:30 p	11:30 a - 1 p
D	5 - 7:30 p	5 - 7:30 p	5 - 7:30 p	5 - 7:30 p	5 - 7:30 p	5 - 7:30 p	5 - 6:30 p
Dascomb							
B	Closed	Closed	7:30 - 9:30 a	7:30 - 9:30 a	7:30 - 9:30 a	7:30 - 9:30 a	Closed
CB	Closed	Closed	9:30 - 11 a	9:30 - 11 a	9:30 - 11 a	9:30 - 11 a	Closed
L	Closed	Closed	11 a - 2 p	11 a - 2 p	11 a - 2 p	11 a - 2 p	Closed
Free Coffee/Tea	2 p-12 mid	2 p-12 mid	2 p-12 mid	2 p-12 mid	2 p-12 mid	2 p-12 mid	2 - 8 p
Limited Fare	5 - 11:30 p	5 - 11:30 p	5 - 11:30 p	5 - 11:30 p	5 - 11:30 p	5 - 11:30 p	5 - 11:30 p
D	---	5 - 8 p	5 - 8 p	5 - 8 p	5 - 8 p	Closed	Closed
Lighter Fare	---	8:30 - 10:00 p	---	---	---	---	---
4 th Meal	---	10 - 11:30 p	See Pancake Breakfast	10 - 11:30 p	10 - 11:30 p	Closed	Closed
Wildier							
Wildier Main Lounge	Noon - 4 p	Noon - 4 p	9 a - 8 p	9 a - 8 p	9 a - 8 p	9 a - 5 p	Closed
Science Center							
Coffee Cart	Closed	Closed	7:30 a - 1:30 p	7:30 a - 1:30 p	7:30 a - 1:30 p	7:30 a - 1:30 p	Closed

Note: Special Hours are shaded

Winter Term

Special Winter Term Meal Package may be purchased in RE&DS Office, Stevenson - Griswold.
Buy 6 Meals, Get 1 Free
Lunches or Dinners (\$5.00 x 6) = \$30.00
For more information about Winter Term visit our web site
<http://www.oberlin.edu/resed/dates/winterterm.html>

Tree Wraps Up Holiday Spirit

Caitlin Duke
Staff Writer

Kathy Drennan's favorite part of the year is setting up the Christmas tree and watching the presents pile up. Drennan, the Student Union scheduling manager, and Tina Zwegat, associate director of the Student Union, put a little twist on the holiday tradition -- their tree goes up in the Wildier lobby, and all of the presents will go to strangers.

Zwegat and Drennan organize the yearly Angel Tree, which is the result of a collaboration between the Student Union and Oberlin Community Services. OCS connects the wish lists of local low-

income families with those who can afford to donate items such as toys, clothes, CDs and computer games.

Drennan smiled brightly as she said, "I just think the whole project is so touching." Though she worries every year that not enough Oberlin community members will donate, leaving some families without gifts, Drennan was happy to note that "everyone's always taken care of."

Drennan and Zwegat took on the task after the student who instituted it in 1997, then an employee of the Student Union, graduated in 2000. Drennan estimated that between 70 and 80 Oberlin students and staff members donate gifts each year.

Though Angel Tree gifts have already been collected, students and community members are welcome to assist the Newman Catholic Community in sponsoring a family's Christmas. Monetary donations or toys appropriate for children between the ages of 1 and 5 should be dropped off in Wildier 217.

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State Budget Perpetuates Ohio Dem's Achievements

To the Editors:

During our first year of the 127th General Assembly, the Ohio Senate Democratic Caucus has worked to advance several pieces of legislation. From these successes, we can see how well things work when all of us — legislative leaders, the Governor, local elected officials and a host of other public and private partners — focus on making our government more responsive and responsible to the needs of all Ohioans. When we work in a smarter way to achieve real results for everyone in our state, we rise above the political divide and invest in those areas which matter most: energy and economic development; education and economic prosperity; accessible and affordable health care; family safety and security; and responsive and responsible government.

For the first time in nearly half a century, Ohio's budget is the slowest-growing ever with an annual increase of just 2.2 percent. The less money the government spends, the more you get to keep

investing in what matters most — family, health and job security....

The budget adopts the Governor's new local government funding formula and increases funding to local governments by 1.5 percent starting in the 2008 calendar year. This move finally ends the recent "freeze" imposed on counties and other local governments. It also boosts the county subsidy funding for child support enforcement administration, increasing it by \$17.2 million per year to minimize the impact of the federal Deficit Reduction Act. The money provided in the bill saves counties approximately \$60 million per year.

Health care for children is more affordable and accessible under this budget. Earlier this year we ensured health care access for all children in Ohio by expanding eligibility for the State Children's Health Insurance Program to 300 percent of poverty during the budget process. The federal program, founded in 1997, is designed to cover children whose families earn too much income to qualify for

Medicaid, yet too little income to purchase private health insurance....

SCHIP is currently flat-funded and operates under a federal continuing resolution. Thanks to the innovative ideas of Governor Strickland, Ohio is likely to move forward with SCHIP expansion unless Medicaid rolls significantly increase in the near future....

With this executive action, Governor Strickland has reaffirmed his commitment to provide access to health insurance for all children.

This budget also provided the largest increase in higher education funding in more than a decade. For the next two years, tuition in Ohio will be frozen, while accessibility and affordability will be expanded. Additionally, the budget established a new scholarship program and research program. These resources will provide more opportunities for Ohioans to achieve a college degree while expanding our state's research and development capabilities.

See Budget, page 6

THE OBERLIN REVIEW

Publication of Record for Oberlin College

— Established 1874 —

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

Maya Curry Rani Molla

MANAGING EDITOR

Sophia Yan

COMMENTARY EDITOR

Simon Nyi

Paid Preservation of Communication

The need for paid positions at student organizations has recently been called into question. The Student Referendum is bringing attention to compensation for student senators and the Student Finance Committee. Now that the SFC has finally begun responding to organizations that submitted budgets to the fall appeals process, paid positions at a variety of student organizations are being threatened.

The Oberlin Review, WOBC and *The Grape* have been specifically targeted by the SFC, as we are the three largest student organizations on campus. The *Review* alone employs nearly 40 students part time. However, these organizations are the three most significant outlets for community voice. To keep these organizations viable they must be structured and stable, which requires continual financial investment. To cut significantly into these groups' current budgets would cripple us and thereby deprive the community at large.

A good newspaper is essential to Oberlin. The *Review* delivers news to students and townspeople, as well as alumni who want to keep tabs on their alma mater. It is a venue for students and townspeople to learn about shows, lectures and events in which they can partake. The *Review* is also a venue through which other student organizations can speak. The *Review* presents an opportunity for students to enter the field of journalism, an opportunity that is otherwise neglected as there are only a handful of journalism classes offered in the Rhetoric and Composition department. Additionally, as Oberlin's paper of record we have been crucial in documenting and safeguarding the College's history since 1874 and we continue to do so each week.

Publishing a newspaper is a labor-intensive business. We work long hours, without the option of leaving until our job is done and a respectable paper is produced. We juggle the processes of article writing — phone calls, interviews, fact-checking, research — while remaining mindful of ethics, libel threats and our ever-increasing standards. Reporters and editors work under uncompromising deadlines, and salaries provide critical incentive for staff to prioritize their work for the *Review* above their other commitments.

The *Review* is unique in that the community expects something tangible in return for our wages. Unlike some organizations, the *Review* staff is constantly kept honest by the quality of our product, and we must show each week that our allotted funds are being used efficiently.

Five years ago, the *Review* was at a low point, operated only by a handful of students, who were understandably crushed under the immense task of completing a paper each week. The budget of five years ago is a poor choice of benchmark for the stipend required to produce a high quality newspaper. If our budget were to be slashed now, all the improvements laboriously accumulated since then would be lost, and we would no longer be able to maintain our rigorous standards.

The *Review* has been making strides over the past few years to increase in breadth of coverage, quality and credibility. Our scope has expanded to include coverage of Oberlin City news, and we hope to enter more journalism competitions in the near future. We have plans to regularly invite professional journalists to speak at Oberlin, who respect what we are doing, and who can give us insight into the field and broaden the appeal of journalism to the greater Oberlin community. Although in recent years, Oberlin has not been at the top tier of college journalism, we are rapidly climbing. Just earlier this week NYTimes.com picked up a *Review* article for their College section.

But in its trajectory from the hinterlands of college journalism to a sustained respectability, the *Review* needs stability, which requires consistent maturation of writers to copy editors to section editors to managing editors. This can only be achieved if those positions remain, and have time to rise in prestige and expectations. We need consistency to turn out a better paper, and cutting into the structure we have labored to create would be a big step backward. The institutions of communications on campus are the face and voice of Obies. So SFC, when you are considering lowering our budget and the budgets of organizations like us, please consider the service that we do for the College and community at large.

Editorials are the responsibility of the Review editorial board—the Editors-in-Chief, Managing Editor and Commentary Editor—and do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff of the Review.

THE ETHICAL OBIE

The other night I was on a date with a guy (yes, an actual date), and things were going great. We were getting touchy, he was cute, and we were starting to head back to my dorm when he got a call from his girlfriend and had to leave me there.

To get him back for playing with my mind and cheating on his girlfriend I arranged another date and seduced him. His guilt at what we did makes my anger at him using me first feel justified. This is OK, right?

—Vengeful Vixen

Although your thirst for revenge is worthy of Beatrix Kiddo (put down that katana!), and it is probably satisfying to see the guilt on his face as you pass in the hall, ethically speaking, you could have done other things.

The problem is that you had clear, malicious intent when you arranged the second date. While you can justify your actions with the "eye for an eye" cliché, it can be undone with another: "two wrongs don't make a right."

If he is guilty of cheating, as you suppose, then what can you ethically do? They may not seem as satisfying as your actions, but there are answers that will still be effective. If you know his girlfriend, or can do some Facebook snooping to find her, she should be the first to know in order to stop his unholy hounding. If you are sure that he is cheating, you should not sit quietly and let him inflict more pain on others. It will probably come back to him at some point, but by acting you are

saving more girls from the same situation.

This is assuming that he WAS cheating. He and his girlfriend might be in an open relationship. If this is the case then he probably did not mean to "play with your mind," and was feeling perfectly fine with his actions. Your vengeance might have been completely ineffectual. You might not have truly inflicted guilt on him at all. In this case, because you acted with malicious intent, you would be the unethical individual!

It can be so awkward to bring up the question of someone's relationship status, and the answers can be so confusing. Maybe wearing a shirt that has one's status printed on it or having it tattooed on one's forehead would help. A female friend of mine recommends collars and leashes, and with the holiday season at hand, perhaps this is the perfect gift for someone you know. You can probably find a set at "Time Fur Treats" Pet Store here in Oberlin. Remember: shop locally!

The woman in this case sent a follow-up letter: He said he couldn't see me any more and started crying so I took it as a victory and crossed off 'Get a boyfriend' from my to-do list.

—Jay Nolan
The Ethical Obie

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

Letters to the Editor Policy

The *Review* appreciates and welcomes letters to the editor and column submissions. All submissions must be received by Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. at commentary@oberlinreview.org or Wilder Box 90 for inclusion in the following Friday's *Review*. Letters must include signatures and phone numbers of their authors for verification and may not exceed 600 words, except with the consent of the editorial board. Electronic submissions from non "oberlin.edu" addresses must include the author's correct name and phone number. All electronically submitted letters from multiple writers should be carbon-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 announcement of products or services for sale, 2) any announcement of a meeting or gathering. All letters are printed at the discretion of the editorial board.

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

TRUE *Blue*

by Sam Lewis

“Bush Dog” Dems Undermine Progressive Majority

Anyone who has spent any time with progressive activists knows that there is widespread disenchantment with the Democratic Party. One notices it in its mildest form when liberals mumble under their breaths that “the Democrats are no better than the Republicans,” but at its worst moments it can have devastating effects, such as Al Gore’s narrow loss to George Bush in Florida in the 2000 election. In the past I would have discarded these criticisms as unfair, but with the 2008 elections approaching, they require reexamination.

From 1994 until 2006, Democrats were significantly outnumbered by Republicans in the House, which most likely played a major role in Bill Clinton’s failure to sign any really progressive legislation into law. Instead, Democrats simply fended off the worst of Newt Gingrich’s Contract with America. Despite a resounding victory in 2006, and Democratic majorities in both the House and Senate, we see little progress now. The large Republican minorities and President Bush’s newfound affinity for his veto pen are certainly stymieing some good legislation, but Democrats should not be let off the hook.

Voting patterns in the House of Representatives show that again and again, dozens of Democrats vote with the Republicans on important bills. This has recently led some online activists to label about 40 representatives as “Bush Dog” Democrats, a play on the conservative “Blue Dog” caucus. Initially, these Democrats were chosen because they voted to continue to fund the Iraq war without a withdrawal timeline and because they voted to allow Bush to spy on American citizens without a warrant. Yet the betrayal of Democratic values goes far deeper than that, and it is unfortunately much more widespread that just those 40 Bush Dogs.

On economic issues, Democratic congresspeople stab their working-class constituents in the back whenever they can get away with it. “Liberal” Senator

Chuck Schumer recently voted to preserve a tax loophole that allows hedge fund managers to pay taxes at a lower rate than the people who clean their offices or our dorms. In the last Congress, 73 Democrats voted for a Republican bill that made it much harder for people to declare bankruptcy. It was great for the credit card industry, but it is also contributing to many people being devastated by the collapsing real estate market. And in this Congress, eight Democrats in the House voted against a bill to provide health care to children.

No doubt the influx of corporate cash to the Democrats in Congress is motivating many of these betrayals. Strong campaign finance laws that will limit corporate influence should be an urgent priority for progressives. But in the meantime there is a lot of activism going on that may make all the difference in the world. Democrat Al Wynn, who represents a completely safe Democratic district in Maryland, has a primary challenge from a progressive activist named Donna Edwards. She only narrowly lost her challenge to him in 2006 despite a huge fundraising disadvantage, low name recognition and her position as a first-time campaigner. In 2006, a progressive Democrat named Darcy Burner lost to Republican Dave Reichert with 49 percent of the vote in a Washington State district that has never elected a Democrat — and she is currently out-raising her opponent ahead of the 2008 elections.

Our majority is going to grow next year, and activists all over the country are working hard to make sure it is made up of congresspeople such as Burner and Edwards who will stand up to the big corporate donors and end the war. That’s why, when I hear people grumbling about the Democrats, I can only assume they are unaware of the grassroots revolution happening at the base of the party. We’re not just working to elect more Democrats anymore, we’re working to elect better Democrats too.

More Letters to the Editors

Budget Good for Schools, Families

Continued from page 5

Through unprecedented collaboration, Senate Democrats protected the Governor’s vision of sound management practices. As a result, households with seniors and those with disabilities will receive an average tax cut of \$400, benefiting one in four Ohioans.

The budget was only the

beginning of more achievements to come in this new era of Ohio’s history. In October, the Senate unanimously passed Substitute Senate Bill 221, Governor Strickland’s Energy, Jobs and Progress Plan for Ohio. The goal of this comprehensive measure was simple: Assure an adequate supply of affordable energy service to all Ohioans. It is the starting point for a boom in industry, a launch pad for jobs of the future, and a path toward a safer, cleaner and healthier environment....

We in the Senate Democratic Caucus remain committed to building upon the many successes of this year to achieve more progress for the future of Ohio. I look forward to working with all of you as we continue to achieve prosperity for every Ohioan in a new era of responsive and responsible government.

—Sue Morano

Ohio State Senator, 13th District

Fowls by Diego Cohen

Glad We Had This Talk

A Column by Julia Chauvin

I have a question for your section that I would love for you to answer. I know that it is controversial so please be as respectful as possible. Is twincest ever okay? (Especially between Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen, since they are so good looking!)

—Olsen Obsessed

Thank goodness you wrote in. I have been hoping and hoping someone would write in about twincest because I just really, really think it is such good idea. I mean, basically, incest in general is the best idea I can even imagine. What brings a family closer than incestuous activities?

If you haven’t participated in incest, you are seriously missing out. It’s a level of connection you’ve never felt. I don’t have a twin, but if I did, you had better believe that we would constantly be banging’. Fo’ reals. I mean, what is hotter than someone you’ve grown up with for your entire life and looks almost exactly like you? It’s so hot. Narcissism is so, so hot.

It would be like having sex with yourself. Again... soooo hot. I mean, I know I want to have sex with myself (but then, who doesn’t?). Every time I look in the mirror, I have to contain myself from just attacking it. I am so hot. If I had a twin...oh man, oh man. And, if I looked like the Olsen twins, I would be on that faster than a starving man on a Christmas ham. The cracked-out, anorexic look with giant eyes and too much makeup is the new “in” thing, and it’s so hot.

Okay, so I have decided to stop being unreasonably sarcastic. I mean, I could probably keep this going with false enthusiasm, horrendously obvious sarcasm and thinly veiled disgust, but I think that might even be too much for me. Though I really love sarcasm, it might be time to stop.

So, that “respect” I guess I was supposed to treat this question with...well, I can’t. If you asked me this in real life, I would not be able to respond reasonably, rationally or even quietly. If it were appropriate I would probably continue writing in all caps. But that’s just not okay, so I won’t.

Alright, basically, the Olsen twins (neither Ashley nor Mary-Kate, even though Mary-Kate is a bit more screwed up) are not at all attractive. Please. They are really skinny, and I watched them grow up, which is creepy, weird and stalker-ish. I mean, Full House was awesome. The Olsen twins will forever, forever be 8 years old or younger to me. They were super cute then (in a completely non-sexual way, you creepy, perverted bastards), just not anymore.

I guess if you’re into money and really skinny, coked-out women, that’d be cool, and by cool I mean relatively unacceptable. It’s really not okay. Cracked-out, anorexic women have problems and are too skinny. People need to eat. Please understand that. It’s a key part of my life, and I don’t know how or why people don’t get that or why it’s good. Food is wonderful.

However, that is completely beside the point. Well, not completely, but mostly. Still, though, twincest is weird and creepy, and I disagree with it. It would be like having sex with yourself. If you are legitimately enough into yourself to perform sexual acts with yourself, please just masturbate. It’s significantly less frightening, and you don’t have to explain yourself to the disapproving public (me).

So, as a thing, I don’t understand twincest in any way whatsoever. Watching it or doing it or anything surrounding it except for finding it gross. ‘Cause it is. It’s gross. Just narcissistic in lots and lots of ways and could you really be okay with it in the depths of your soul, really? Having sex with someone who you grew up with and have lived with and shares your genes and has the same parents and EW? Now, after saying that, I believe that the law should not judge anyone’s sexual choices, and everyone should be able to perform whatever adult consensual acts they want to and blah, blah, blah. But I am going to judge, and it’s going to be full of yelling and disbelief. Super. Glad we had this talk.

Send your relationship questions for Glad We Had This Talk to Julia.Chauvin@oberlin.edu



Connections: Con, College Collaborate

Laurel Fuson
Arts Editor

Just short of exchanging friendship bracelets, the Allen, College and Con recently made a huge step forward in their relationship. Next spring, Associate Dean of the Arts and Sciences Nicholas Jones and Associate Professor of Musicology Charles McGuire will team-teach a class called "Connections: Art, Music and Culture, Past and Present."

"I think this is one of the most ambitious

projects undertaken in many, many years," said Conservatory Dean David H. Stull.

Placed under an entirely new section of the Oberlin course catalog, "Interdivisional Programs/Courses," the class will attempt to create a collage of different media from various eras.

The course will use campus events liberally, starting with the spring opera, Claudio Monteverdi's *The Coronation of Poppea*, in March, and the theater department's production of August Wilson's *Ma Rainey's Black*

Bottom in April. As more dates become known, Jones and McGuire plan to add events from as many media as possible, including live music, visual art, performance art, theater and literature.

In addition to attending campus events, the class will take "field trips" organized by the Allen's new Curator of Academic Programs Colette Crossman. Divided into smaller groups, students will visit the museum-

See College, page 10

College Download Service Confuses Students

Michelle Broder Van Dyke
Staff Writer

Oberlin students griping about the changing nature of the student body will be pleased to hear that Pink Floyd's "Dark Side of the Moon" is on spots one through nine as Oberlin's top most downloaded song at Ruckus.com. In tenth is "Missing Pieces" by O.A.R. (a.k.a. Of a Revolution), a jam band formed in 1996.

Ruckus is a free ad-supported music and media download service available to all American college students. The service can be accessed by anyone with a university e-mail address. Ruckus was launched in 2004 and was the first online music service focused specifically on the college market.

Like Facebook, the music service allows you to add friends. Searchable data-

bases for college students (not just musicians) and friend-to-friend music recommendations are attempts to capitalize on the same appeal of Facebook, which has quickly made a huge profit.

But Oberlin's Pink Floyd downloads may be misleading. This past week, Ruckus e-mailed the *Review* a recommendation that a story be written about the top ten most downloaded songs. The psychedelic jam band songs being downloaded by Oberlin students at Ruckus are most likely being downloaded by only a handful of Obies. Ruckus has not had quite the same success as Facebook has; Ruckus only has sixty registered users on campus, many of whom have not logged on in the past few months.

Although Ruckus is trying to create a community to con-

nect students with shared musical taste, it has other drawbacks, which may be limiting its popularity. Their service is only compatible with Windows, excluding people with Macintosh or Linux operating systems from using its program. The Ruckus music files are copyright protected, which prevents them from being used with some of the most popular portable music devices, such as the iPod, and only music paid for on Ruckus can be burned onto compact discs. The Ruckus library of three million songs is smaller than Apple's industry-leading iTunes music store (which has more than six million songs). By now, you've probably noticed a trend — Ruckus is not very appealing to someone who owns a Mac, which is somewhat of a drawback, since Macs tend to be popular among college students.

But there is another reason why Ruckus may be unpopular on a liberal college campus such as Oberlin: It is well-known for its questionable marketing practices; even the e-mail that it sent the *Review* seems to be unprofessional self-promotion.

In 2006, Ruckus attempted to create the single largest group on Facebook as a promotional tool. Many of you will remember being invited to the group: "If this group reaches 100,000, my girlfriend will have a threesome." The group was created under the pseudonym "Brody Ruckus" who supposedly attended Georgia Tech. The group drew membership on the claim that if 100,000 people joined, the fictional character's girlfriend "Holly" would have a threesome with "Ruckus" and another woman. Within three

See Downloading, page 10

Chamber Plays Beethoven's 5th, Schubert Lieder

Anthony Contrada

The Oberlin Chamber Orchestra closed the semester with its concert on Wednesday, Dec. 12, in Finney Chapel. Oberlin Conservatory's Bridget-Michaele Reischl conducted the orchestra in *Erkönig* and other famous lieder by Franz Schubert, as well as Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony No. 5. Conservatory fifth-year, baritone and winner of the Oberlin Concerto Competition Jeffrey Hill was the featured soloist of the concert.

The program of Beethoven and Schubert provides listeners a window into the transition period from the Classical to the Romantic era in terms of musical style. Beethoven's famous fifth symphony is the quintessential example of his "middle period." Driven through the first moment by the ominous four-note figure (short-short-short-long), the work finally breaks through in the lead-up to the final movement, transforming "darkness to light," as Beethoven scholars often put it. The presence of such a titanic and raw struggle within the piece (and possibly within the composer), together with other highly emotive elements of this piece clearly push the boundaries of the Classical style and look toward the future.

Beethoven's contemporary and admirer Franz Schubert also helped to usher in the Romantic period. While the symphony was Beethoven's most famous genre, many would say the lieder was Schubert's. He is credited with making this song form a serious genre. Schubert's melody-driven, highly dramatic songs, with their chromatic harmonies and exotic modulations and text painting, were unlike anything in the Classical era and would become a model for later composers who attempted to write in this form. Originally written for solo voice with piano accompaniment, these songs were arranged for orchestra by Johannes Brahms (later completed by Joachim Draheim), Anton Webern and Hector Berlioz, showing the interest that other composers had in Schubert's *lieder*.



In Finney's Chambers: Double-degree fifth-year and baritone Jeffrey Hill performed Schubert with the Oberlin Chamber Orchestra on Wednesday night under the baton of Bridget Michaele-Reischl.

Yuling Chow

Hill gave an excellent performance. He performed *Nachstück*, *Romanze*, *Ihr Bild* and *Erkönig*. The highlight was certainly *Erkönig*. An 18-year-old Schubert composed this setting of Goethe's poem. It has always been one of his most popular compositions. Hill was incredibly effective in changing the character of his voice, facial expression and body language to portray the four different voices in the poem — the narrator, father, child and elf king. Hector Berlioz was very successful in his orchestral transcription of this piece as well. Perhaps this is not surprising given that the original piano accompaniment is actually quite awkward to play.

The Chamber Orchestra's performance of Beethoven's fifth symphony was solid. The first movement was played a bit on the slow side, but quite cleanly, as was the second movement. The third movement was somewhat uneven. The orchestra seemed to lose momentum toward the end while the strings were playing *pizzicato* and the woodwinds and strings were briefly out of sync. This moment quickly passed and the orchestra played well leading into the final *Allegro*. This truly heroic last movement was the orchestra's high point for the night: Reischl led a crisp, energetic rendition of it to close the concert.

Famed Takács Quartet Plays Finney Chapel

Jacob Gordon
Staff Writer

The Takács Quartet, which performed to a nearly sold-out Finney Chapel last Friday night, is considered one of the greatest chamber ensembles performing right now. Their recordings of Beethoven, Schubert and Bartók on the Decca Records Ltd. label have been highly acclaimed. There is no doubt that they possess a mysterious, seemingly telepathic ability to function as a single unit, as all great ensembles do.

The performance was, on the whole, satisfying. Still, while there was much to admire in their playing, I couldn't help wondering if the amazingly extravagant praise this group has received in the music press isn't a bit overblown. *The Cleveland Plain Dealer's* claim, for example, that the Takács play Beethoven's late quartets "better than any quartet of the past or present" is surely an exaggeration. Perhaps they were simply a notch or two below their best on Friday night.

The opening work, Haydn's String Quartet in C Major, Op. 74, No. 1 received a thoroughly musical, reasonably engaging performance that fell a little short on surprise. The tone of the first violinist, Edward Dunsinberre, was occasionally edgy and febrile. The fast tempi in all four movements tended to skate over the surface of the music, though the virtuosity displayed in the finale was impressive. Compounding the blandness of the whole performance was the fact that, good though it is, this is not one of Haydn's most memorable quartets.

The Takács seemed to be on firmer ground in the next work, Bartók's String Quartet No. 5. The outer movements received aggressive, driving readings that pulled no punches; the ferocity of the music was fully conveyed and the precision of the ensemble was close to flawless. And the folksy *Scherzo* had plenty of spice and personality. Still, the highlight of the performance was the mysterious *Adagio molto*. The soft playing at the opening was stupendous — the music seemed to emerge out of thin air. Throughout the movement, the players maintained a mesmerizingly hypnotic level of concentration.

The concert ended on a warmer note with Mozart's Clarinet Quintet in A major, K.581. Franklin Cohen, principal clarinetist of the Cleveland Orchestra, took the clarinet part. There were a few quibbles here and there: The first movement development whisked by a little too fast; Cohen, though his tone was lovely and his phrasing musical, didn't seize the spotlight as much as he could have; and Dunsinberre still displayed an occasional edge to his tone. Despite this, everyone sounded engaged with the music and with each other, and the awesome beauty of the first two movements in particular came over fully.

We'd like to thank you all for dutifully reading Arts this semester. **GOOD LUCK** with finals, enjoy your break, and **happy** end of semester!

Love, Laurel & Sophia

Conservatory Looks Ahead

Sophia Yan
Managing Editor and Arts Editor

As the fall semester draws to a close, students are scrambling to prepare for finals and looking forward to a well-deserved break from classes. During Winter Term and the coming spring semester, Con students will have multiple reasons to be eagerly anticipating the future, as a number of new projects will be started.

In January, students will be working on a Telarc recording with members of the New York Philharmonic. This CD, a project headed by Assistant Professor of Harp Yolanda Kondonassis, will feature works by well-known Japanese composer Toru Takemitsu.

"This will be a professionally released CD, and we're very excited about that opportunity," said Conservatory Dean David H. Stull.

According to Stull, the Conservatory has also been working closely with the city of Oberlin to plan the construction of the Phyllis Litoff Building for jazz studies.

"We'll be breaking ground on the Litoff building in March," Stull said. "We are hoping to have occupancy by fall 2009."

The departments of music theory, music history and jazz studies will all be housed in the new facility, which will also include a state-of-the-art, world class recording studio.

Also in March, a new program that has developed from the Con's ever-strengthening relationship with China will offer opportunities for both Con and College students post-graduation. According to Stull, Oberlin hopes to send Con students abroad to teach music, also giving them the chance to perform in professional orchestras and to send College students abroad to teach English as a second language.

The Conservatory is working to finalize plans with the Forren School of Music in Beijing to assist in developing a curriculum that will educate students in music history, music theory and English as a second language, thoroughly preparing them for further study.

As if that weren't enough to keep students both excited and busy, Stull said, "We anticipate sending the orchestra on a tour of the West Coast next year to Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles," said Stull. "The orchestra will be presented at Disney Hall by the Los Angeles Philharmonic."

Shakespeare Measures Up at Oberlin

Ralph Lewis
Staff Writer

Oberlin's department of theater and dance put on a production of Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure* last weekend in Hall Auditorium. In some respects, it was hard and sleek — using fascistic military garb for the rank and file employees of the state and an American accent that had no time to twang or affect foppish British diction. However, the play instead, it splayed itself out over a three-hour run time with numerous lengthy scenes.

The first half is best described as a constellation of people's stories. While set in Vienna, little history or local information is used, as is usual for Shakespeare. This Vienna is a far-off place, populated with stock characters who often have obvious roles. There is Claudio (College junior Derrick Bean), who is imprisoned and wants to escape; his sister Isabella (double-degree senior Courtney Merrell), who wants to free him; Lucio (College junior Alex Huntsberger), the comedic, lying self-aggrandizer and Pompey (College junior Emelio DiSabato), the clown who is dragged by the ear repeatedly in the production. There are more ambiguous characters as well, such as Escalus (College senior Matthew Castleman), Angelo (College junior Enrico Nassi) and, most importantly, the Duke (College senior Tom Curtin).

Within these molds, our student actors tried to make each character more alive. For Huntsberger and DiSabato, this meant being as humorous as possible with the lines they had. DiSabato had a harder job, as some of his character's jokes were dead before he even uttered them. Despite this weakness,



Carefully Measured: Shakespeare's play experienced a revival in Hall Auditorium with a handful of talented student actors.

John Syfried

the characters elicited laughter on multiple occasions.

Meanwhile, Curtin, Nassi, Castleman and Merrell had challenges of their own. Their characters frequently fit their types and perhaps nothing more. To combat this, Nassi employed a more dynamic temperament than others in the production, allowing his character to rant, scream and experience strong visceral moments on stage. Merrell did the same, and it seemed to work. As for Curtin and Castleman, they both dwelled on the more ambiguous elements of their characters. For Escalus, that meant being introverted enough to seem thoughtful, despite the limited presence of the character. Curtin's Duke, though, took advantage of the situations that emerge because of his

absence, concocting a plot and unleashing it in the second half.

The Duke's plan involves a series of public embarrassments followed by marriages. While pretending to be a friar, he allows Isabella and himself to be treated coarsely by Angelo and Lucio, then reveals himself as the Duke and after scolding various members of society, slowly marries many of the characters to each other. Curtin provided an aloof, intelligent, almost infallible person for this independent-thinking character.

In every production of *Measure for Measure*, there is a crucial moment for the Duke and the entire play — after Claudio's release and the several engagements, when the Duke asks Isabella to marry him. Strangely, there is no written response from Isabella, and this indeterminacy has been exploited in many ways since the play was written. Here, the moment was rendered as an afterthought of a duke who sees his plan working so well that he decides to throw in some reward for himself. Curtin delivered the line so smoothly that I think it may have created the greatest awkward joke ever. Perhaps this exposes the less-than-perfect nature of the Duke, which had so far seemed divine compared to Angelo's sex-for-stay-of-execution logic.

Finally, while frequently providing a silent background, the whores/nuns and soliders/guards provided strong support for the work. One must wonder if the actors playing the soliders/guards suffered for their art — they stood still for long periods of time, then snapped to attention and turned in tight martial style. Their sometimes unnoticed devotion to their work was admirable and seemed to embody the work ethic of all who were involved in the production.

Standing Nudes Rock Out on Debut Album *Ghost Story*

Patrick Hung
Staff Writer

With such a saturated market for '70s-influenced rock bands, the Brooklyn quartet Standing Nudes risks being easily dismissed. But the band survives on catchy songs and a live act that New York City's music press has called one of its most exciting. The band's debut full-length album, *Ghost Story*, will be re-released January 15, after a successful limited run this past summer.

Three of the band's four members are Oberlin graduates, and Dean Bein, OC '05, owns the band's record label, True Panther Sounds. The band counts Led Zeppelin, the Zombies and Thin Lizzy as influences, which the group shows when it unabashedly rocks out with wah-wah guitar solos and sings about roads ("Interstate Five"), cities ("Atlanta") and girls ("Rita"). The distinctive raspy, breathy voice of Molly Shea is supported by Jason Klauber on lead guitar, Matt Asti on bass and Will Berman on drums.

The twelve songs on *Ghost Story* range from muscular garage rock to pretty, melodic balladry to jangly power pop. *Ghost Story* is definitely the work of a band that has studied its rock'n'roll history, but it never comes off as calculated or engineered. If the band's press release serves as any indication, the Standing Nudes don't take themselves very seriously (apparently, they used to eat Chinese food before every practice, but lately it's been burritos). The record sounds like a band assuredly and effortlessly churning out minor indie rock classics, and having fun at it.

Like Richard Linklater's classic 1993 film *Dazed and Confused*, *Ghost Story* nostalgically evokes '70s Americana in all its slacker glory, but streamlines that most beloved decade to seem sexier and more fashionable than it probably was. Nevertheless, the promise of an amazing live band articulating these songs in performance makes *Ghost Story* much more attractive than it would be on its own. Hopefully, when Standing Nudes go on tour to support *Ghost Story*, the band will prove to Oberlin why it is one of New York City's most exciting live acts.

Choir, Orchestra Play with Pomp & Circumstance

Elena Lacheva
Staff Writer

The Oberlin Musical Union and Oberlin Orchestra concert last Sunday, Dec. 9, featured exclusively the works of British composer Elgar. As a part of the Elgar Sesquicentennial Celebration, three of his most prominent compositions, *Pomp and Circumstance March* Op.39, No. 1, the "Enigma" Variations and *The Music Makers*, came through for fans and ordinary concert lovers alike. It's rare to see such a mass of people occupying Finney's stage — the two ensembles covered every inch of space.

Elgar's infamous *Pomp and Circumstance March*, Op.39, No. 1 opened the program. Since its successful premiere in 1901, it has been adopted for graduation ceremonies in the United States and is known and loved among British subjects. The orchestra did a fine job blasting out the high-spirited and emotionally-packed tune of the trio and excited the audience early in the program.



We Are the Music Makers: The Oberlin Orchestra and the Musical Union choir performed a complete program of Elgar last Sunday as a part of the Elgar Sesquicentennial Celebration.

Gary Cohen

Contemplative and quintessentially mysterious, *The Music Makers*, Op.69, set to Arthur O'Shaughnessy's poem "Ode," featured double-degree fifth-year soloist Meghan Brooks alongside the Musical Union, a campus choir ensemble. The soprano's lovely, soft timbre added a neat color to Elgar's brilliant orchestration and

the voices of the huge choir. In this piece, the Musical Union had a chance to show its preparation during the semester, and most of the time it did so.

There were several moments when orchestra conductor Bridget Michaele-Reischl was on the verge of losing control of the more than 100 people on stage. The choir

missed some cues, but held together nonetheless.

In *The Music Makers*, Elgar features musical quotations, many of which were drawn from his own pieces. "Nimrod" from the *Enigma Variations* appeared in the second movement, "We are the music makers," and references to his *The Dream of Gerontius*, *Sea Pictures*, the violin concerto and fragments from his first and second symphonies were scattered throughout the composition.

Brooks' warm voice was notable in "They had no vision," but unfortunately, her sound was often overwhelmed by the orchestra and the choir. The Musical Union voices delivered triumphant *fortes* in "We are the music makers" and "But we, with our dreaming and singing," where a brighter, happier notion was audible. Principal violinist and Conservatory sophomore Kallie Ciechowski presented the first of many prominent solos to come in the second part of the concert.

If there is something for

which Elgar is known — other than his pompous *March* — it is the *Variations on an Original Theme*, Op.36, nicknamed the "Enigma" Variations. The 14 variations are musical sketches of Elgar's closest friends and the individuals who were the most influential in his life.

This theme appeared in its sad dignity and set the meditative character of the work. The running sixteenths in the strings in the "H.D.S.P." — depicting Hew David Steuart-Powell, an amateur pianist — sounded somewhat scattered and could have been more in tune.

The woodwinds shone in the well-known "R.B.T." — representing Richard Baxter Townsend, an author — and in "W.N." — showcasing Winifred Norbury and his characteristic laugh.

The brass section was wild and perfect in "Troyte" — Troyte Griffiths, a friend and also very difficult piano student of Elgar's — and "G.R.S." — which depicted

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Documentary Explores Evangelical Summer Camp

Angel Lin
Staff Writer

Meet Levi, a 12-year-old aspiring preacher who talks into the camera about an ineffable something that doesn't quite feel right when he runs into non-Christians.

"Something that makes my spirit-man feel yucky," he says finally.

His friend Rachel, 9 years old, pushes graphic crucifixion comics to strangers in between her turns at the bowling alley. Victoria, called Tory, is on their church's praise team. She adores hard Christian metal and eschews Lindsay Lohan.

"When I dance, I really have to be sure that it's God, because people will notice when I'm dancing for the flesh," says Tory, age 10.

These and others talk straight into the camera, knocking out America with their devout, often brassbound opinions in *Jesus Camp*, a feature-length documentary on the evangelical summer camp Kids on Fire. The film screened last Saturday as part of the Oberlin Film Series.

"One of the great strengths of the film is that it doesn't come with any prepackaged point of view," issued Distributor Eamonn Bowles in a statement last summer.

But for a film that has no opinion, there are a lot of clues. First, we see a resoundingly bleak America. Sober long shots of highway,

the flap of a flag against an iron sky, a dusky tree line — something is clearly the matter here in Lee's Summit, Missouri.

Enter Christian citizens. Mike Papanonio, a moderate Christian host for AirAmerica who is the token "Good German" who stands alone in a sea of fascism; he offers outraged commentary on the craziness going on in the Christian world. We see what he means in due time. At a praise dance performance, boys in camouflage paint and girls with sticks march smartly with faces upturned to heaven. Children stretch hands toward a life-sized cut-out of George Bush and pray together for his faithfulness. They sit rapt, as they hear about Harry Potter, who — had he lived in the time of the Old Testament — would have been executed. Finally, in a clincher scene, these children hold model fetuses, crying "no more, no more [abortion]."

Then Rev. Becky Fischer, founder of Kids on Fire, makes an appearance. Although at this point it is hardly necessary, she offers to spell out her program's mission.

"They're so open, they're so usable to Christianity," she says.

Interestingly, at this point the scene cuts into a grainy, monotone shot of a child in tears. Fischer's face returns promptly, sporting a look that, without context, smacks of conspiracy.

"Where should we be putting our efforts?

Where should we be putting our focus? I'll tell you where our enemies are putting it. They're putting it on the kids....They're putting hand grenades in their hands, and they're teaching them how to put on bomb belts. They're teaching them how to use rifles. They're teaching them how to use machine guns."

The muted shots of children, now praying in tongues, murmuring and swaying, return.

"It's no wonder with that kind of intense training and discipline that those young people are ready to kill themselves for the cause of Islam," said Fischer.

According to her credits, Fischer is a Pentecostal minister who runs a ministry for evangelical kids. The distinction between the Pentecostal and the evangelical, however, is meaningless for most viewers. What is Pentecostalism anyway? With no effort at all, it becomes the face of America's conservative right, even while somewhere on the back burner something nags us that it should not.

Fischer's monologue is not the same when viewed as a response to a question — which, in all fairness, it probably was. Imagine a question such as, "What do you feel is a solution to weak faith in Christians?" Ignoring the pictures, what emerges is a lady pushing the precept that Christians should teach the godly lifestyle early. The difference is not trivial: she is no longer equating raising

children to raising suicide bombers.

Context adjusts volumes. On that note, so does the soundtrack; this documentary has a particularly good one, an electronica score by Force Theory that jags between frenetic and downright eerie.

But what do most of these images of children say? When sinister, dissonant chords thrum in the background and the camera draws within inches of a small blond girl's mouth, it takes steel not to squirm. Is this reaction due to surprise or suspicion? The traditions of a charismatic church tell no more about evil, indoctrination or Bush than does taking communion at mass or fasting during Ramadan.

That is not to say that there isn't a grain of truth in the evangelical horror story — these are children who hold views unorthodox in and potentially dangerous to contemporary society; most liberals and many conservatives would agree.

But the question of whether the religious right is emotionally abusive in rearing their children — one that *Jesus Camp* objectively prompts and then answers all by itself — is hard to concede. After all, these kids are fed, hugged, taken bowling and told that God and their parents love them. True, such parents may come with a Republican ticket and an opinion on global warming that could use an update, but for many, that's a bargain at any price.

Seniors Display Various Inspirations

Elisabeth Albeck

Fisher Gallery was flooded with Oberlin students, teachers and families last Thursday, Dec. 6. Conversation flowed between students toting wine and crackers, there to witness the progress this past semester of this year's senior studio majors. Showcased were the works of Laura Einsel, Gabe Cohen, Fiona Ritter-Davis, Virginia Wagner, Chrissy Spallone, Marie Barnett, Kantara Souffrant, Kyla Krug-Meadows, Samantha Mitchell, Kelly Lloyd, Georgia Wall, Jackie Bousek, Jolie Signorile, Lizzie Harper, Roni Ginach and Willie Thurlow.

The show's most striking works were focused and creatively conceptual. Some were literally kinetic, involving moving media such as film, performance and interaction; others were kinetic in the energy infused in the form. Some pieces were extremely elaborate; others seemed somewhat incomplete or in need of more focus. The pieces were informed by themes including natural cycles, identity negotiation and the re-contextualization of values and experience. Overall, the pieces seemed to embody process and re-evaluation.

Kelly Lloyd's piece is an oil painting in warm and cool tones that captures the release of a visceral reaction to the analytical drone of academic pursuits of a disturbing issue. An intellectual is seen lurching over in an abstracted bathroom, holding her stomach as she regurgitates scraps of printed text and glimpses of bodies and maps. The text reveals what has sickened her: It is an index of titles about female circumcision. There is the hint of a non-descript masculine figure standing in the background. The same shape is repeated in pieces of regurgitation. A group of same-shape figures also serves as a pictorial title.

Laura Einsel's piece, titled *The Work We Do*, is a striking video of the artist's mother describing and dramatizing the work she does in a washing machine part factory as her hands and body are responding to an invisible machine. This piece had



Between Turns: Virginia Wagner's compelling piece is startlingly real in its presentation. One of many on display in Fisher Gallery, the painting is a part of an exhibit of senior studio majors' works. Chris Hamby

a strong effect on viewers.

As College junior Rebecca Grodofsky put it, "While a lot of art here can be hyper-intellectual and socially removed, Laura's [is] socially poignant. This factory she works in is just a few towns over from Oberlin and a few towns over from Fisher Gallery. Laura put her mother's story on the white gallery walls because it deserves to be there."

Another piece that stood out was Virginia Wagner's *Between Turns*. In the large oil painting, Virginia skillfully uses hyperrealism that treads on surrealist territory. The subject is a stunning nude — a naked older woman who towers over the viewer like an Amazonian from a stark backdrop of textured darkness. In her arms is a small infant. The infant's arms visibly blend into the woman's skin. She stares out of the painting with her wrinkle-lined blue eyes as she clutches the infant and appears a kind of mythical figure: a luminous embodiment of the afterthought of motherhood. The child is the predecessor. They are bookends, condensing the life that passes between them, merg-

ing into one another.

Gabe Cohen's piece is a creative take on the communicative utility of art. His work consists of thousands of postcards with six different phrases attractively printed in blithe colors. The cards are neatly arranged in six stacks on a tall, clean white block. A large white cylindrical lamp hangs down from the ceiling and washes the cards in an intense white glow. The viewers are invited with this pleasing display to take some of them. The phrases have tones ranging from political ("If your home gets taken away where should I send this?") to sentimental ("If you could write me in five years I would feel calmer"). With his piece, Cohen successfully inspires and practices artful, succinct communication.

One very striking installation by Kyla Krug-Meadows is an untitled series of large bulbous hangings. Strung on different lengths of twine from the gallery's high ceilings is a succession of brown beehive-like pods. In a typewriter scrawl materials are listed: wire,

CME Plays Successful Concert

Elena Lacheva
Staff Writer

The Oberlin Wind Ensemble and Oberlin Contemporary Music Ensemble, led by Timothy Weiss, were more than intriguing last Saturday, Dec. 8, performing a concert with works by Stephen Oliver, Alfred Schnittke, Gyorgy Ligeti and Hilda Pares.

Character-Pieces for Wind Octet was written in 1991, just a year before Oliver died of AIDS at a young age. Its movements are based on characters from Metastasio's *La Clemenza di Tito*. Commissioned by the prestigious Glyndebourne Opera Festival, it represents different characters, which Mozart also used in his opera of the same name. *Rome* was characterized by shrill trills in the oboes and general chaotic motion. *Servilia and Annio*, the gentle lovers, conveyed melancholy, presented by the two French horn players, Conservatory junior Katie Swaydis and double-degree sophomore Matthew Berliner, and the double-degree junior bassoonist Joycelyn Eby and Conservatory sophomore bassoonist Josh Wang. When *Rome* returns before the end, Conservatory sophomore oboist Rachel Messing and double-degree sophomore oboist Megan Kyle appeared calmer, more contemplative. *Tito* featured the shrill sound of the oboes again, along with the prominent timbre of the French horns.

Alfred Schnittke's *Dialog* (1965) for solo cello and seven instruments was, without a doubt, the star of the night. Cellist and Conservatory junior Stuart Pincombe's insightful and deeply convincing interpretation was absolutely mesmerizing. His technical command over the instrument, coupled with his imagination and complete control over every note and phrase remained true revelations. Dripping with dynamic swells and an expressive climax, the music was fascinating to listen to, even with its frantic trills in the opening of the cello cadenza. Schnittke's disturbed, anxious work also featured other demanding parts performed by Conservatory sophomore pianist Ran Duan, Conservatory sophomore clarinetist James Sandberg and Conservatory junior percussionist David Vohden.

After a short intermission, Ligeti's *Melodien* (1971) proved to the audience that an innovative kind of melody

can organically exist in new music. By juxtaposing relatively short legato or staccato lines in different orchestral instruments, which intertwine to create a new kind of melody, Ligeti was able to create an appealing, beautiful work. Double-degree fifth-year and violinist Jennifer Lang had a notable, short solo. Certain schmaltziness in the strings adding an interesting touch and the soft flageolets, which concluded the work, brought desired peace.

The CME concert concluded with Hilda Paredes' *Ah Paaxo'ob* meaning "those who play music" in Mayan. Commissioned by the city of Frankfurt as part of the millennium program, "Frankfurt am Main," the piece has been described by the composer as a "concerto for ensemble" with different instruments coming to the foreground and exhibiting characteristic solos. *Ah Paaxo'ob* gave the Oberlin Conservatory players a chance to show off their mastery in a group setting. Although Conservatory sophomore and timpanist John Langford didn't have a chance to walk in to the front of the stage, his timpani rolls were prominent.

French horn player and Conservatory senior Scott Chowning and Conservatory junior percussionists Jennifer Torrence and Sindre Saetre, along with pianist junior Christina Giuca presented the first set of virtuosic solos. They were followed by an interesting clarinet duet featuring Conservatory sophomores Mark Cramer and Curt Miller in dialogue with the spiccato strings parts. Low woodwinds, represented by double-degree fifth-year Allison Pickett's English horn, Miller's bass clarinet (which strikingly resembled a saxophone in sound) and Artist Diploma student James Donahue's alto flute added a mellow sound picture to the entertaining exhibition of non-mainstream, funny-shaped instruments.

Solos by Conservatory senior and bassoonist Thomas Schneider, double-degree fifth-year and trombonist Benjamin Zilber and double bassist and Conservatory senior Laura Dykes were professionally delivered. After a massive dynamic buildup, the confusion in the music thinned out and the ensemble gently finished the piece.

Conductor Timothy Weiss steadily guided the students through the forest of technically and musically challenging, but surprisingly enchanting music of the later 20th century.

College and Con Create Interdisciplinary Classes

Continued from page 7

most Fridays to do field studies with Crossman, Allen John G. W. Cowles, Director Stephanie Wiles and Curator of Western Art Andria Derstine. The museum trips will not necessarily be related to the case studies done in class on Monday and Wednesday.

"I'd like to try to integrate the museum into the College and Con curricula," said Crossman.

Jones noted that *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* is a fundamental part of the class experience. As a script presented in Oberlin, written for repertory theater in the '80s and written about commodification of

'Oberlin is uniquely equipped to offer these courses at the highest level...'

David H. Stull
Conservatory Dean

art in the '20s, the show represents the course's diverse goals. The two professors hope to explore questions such as, "Why do we perform works from the past?" Or more specifically, in the case of the Monteverdi opera, "What do we do today to perform an opera written 400 years ago?"

When asked why it was necessary to create a different category in the course catalog, Jones said, "We don't see it as really pertaining to the curricula of either of our departments."

According to Jones, McGuire had to attain special permission from his department in order to include the class as one of his courses. However, the class does not claim the MHST abbreviation assigned to music his-

tory courses under the Con's offering of musicology classes. Instead, it pioneers yet another designation, XART. The 'X' is meant to symbolize the cross-disciplinary nature of the class.

"And if you spell it backwards, it reads, 'TRAX,'" said Jones, noting the implication that the course will venture forth into new territory.

XART 100 will enroll both College and Con students and will count as three humanities credits for College students and three liberal arts credits for Con students. As of now, only 17 of the 45 spaces allotted for the class are taken on PRESTO. Jones believes this is due to poor advertising and commented that he and McGuire plan to flyer the campus heavily during add/drop in February. The class will meet Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 2:30 p.m.

As for the syllabus, Jones said that they are still "roughing it out," making a general overview of what they might cover with leeway for on-campus events that have not yet been announced. "We expect students to be engaged in campus life," said Jones.

In the future, other faculty may offer more interdisciplinary classes with more specific foci. According to Jones, courses could revolve around a number of different time periods and general movements, such as Modernism or the Renaissance.

"Oberlin is uniquely equipped to offer these courses at the highest level and it is a wonderful way to introduce students...to the opportunities that exist here relative to music and to the study of art," said Stull.

Having talked to a small number of students regarding the class, McGuire said, "Most have been thrilled with the idea of using events around campus as a springboard for discussion, and everyone thus far has liked the idea of an interdisciplinary course."

Downloading Service Creates Ruckus

Continued from page 7

days, the group had reached 100,000 members. Group membership continued to escalate as "Brody Ruckus" offered other promises, such as pictures and even a video of the threesome.

Then suddenly, "Brody Ruckus" disappeared from Facebook. Along with the dissipation of "Brody" went the largest Facebook group, as did the hopes of more than 400,000 members. Facebook administrators deleted the "Brody Ruckus" profile and his group, since it represented a breach in the site's Terms of Service agreement, specifically with reference to "impersonating any person or entity, or falsely stating or otherwise misrepresenting yourself, your age or your affiliation with any person or entity."

By creating the Facebook group, Ruckus obtained the e-mail addresses of almost every student who had joined. The company purportedly used the e-mail addresses to contact students, asking them to sign up for its online music download service and misleading them into thinking the service was affiliated with their respective universities.

At University of Wisconsin-Madison, students also received e-mails from Ruckus saying, "If you are interested in supporting our cause, please do your part by e-mailing the housing departments [and] letting them know that you would like to have Ruckus partnered with UW," according to zdnet.com.

"They denied sending both of the letters," said Robert Hayden, the university's IT operations manager for housing. "They said they don't spam anybody....In my opinion, they engaged in sleazy and unethical tactics in an effort to drum up business,

and while it may have been very successful in that they got a lot of people subscribed, we're looking at our traffic patterns and no one is using it now."

This incident has been covered by numerous college newspapers whose students were targeted, and it has been analyzed and published by the online magazine *Marketwire* and various other Internet bloggers.

Ruckus' goal is certainly noble, providing fans with free downloads. But will this company succeed? Napster only lasted for about two years before it was shut down. (Its brand and logo continue to be used as a pay service, having been bought by Roxio.) But it started a revolution that in the last decade has taken off, especially with the creation of MP3 players like iPods which allow you to carry around audio files. But now, it is confusing and challenging to know where exactly to download your music, what is legal and what is not, and what is the best deal.

The iTunes Store sells more than half of all Internet music downloads. It is an easy-to-use service and offers great advantages, such as cheap pricing and availability on both Windows and Macintosh platforms. The iTunes Store has essentially popularized online music stores.

Online music stores have many advantages; they mostly follow copyright laws so one does not have to worry about legal issues arising while downloading music off the Internet. But there are still file sharing services, such as LimeWire and Kazaa, which allow people to download music for free.

The audiofile will continue to evolve as businesses try to make money off the music industry, as technology changes and as people try to find different ways to get music for free.

Seniors Inspired by Varied Themes

Continued from page 9

paper, flour, water, twine. With just these, Krug-Meadows has created a suspenseful rendering of amorphous natural forms. They mimic beehives and enormous egg sacks. Though the piece is man-made, it still maintains natural qualities. They are formed from geometric structures (chicken wire) and precariously rely on only a bare thread to exist within their space. The dramatic presence

of these objects in Fisher reminds the viewer of the power of the natural and simplistic in our own worlds.

These are only a few pieces from the show, and they do not fully represent the successes of many particular students in a variety of media. The senior studio class is a small, elite group of studio art majors who have stood out in the department with their work ethic, choice of content and skill. Judging by the high qual-

ity of work produced so far this year, students are both interested and engaged in unique processes. Each student's body of work is going through its own development. The quality of the outcome reveals the extent to which each student has devoted his or her time and intellectual energy to the process so far. At this point, some students have come further than others. It remains to be seen what growth will be revealed in their work next semester.



RESIDENCE HALL CLOSING & WINTER TERM INFORMATION

- All residence halls, *excluding village housing*, close at **9:00am on Saturday, 12/22**. Failure to vacate the halls by 9:00am will result in a **\$50.00 per hour fine**.
- Graduating seniors, students studying abroad or taking a leave of absence, **MUST sign-up for a check out time with a student staff member to check out of their room.**
- All student rooms will be inspected for verification of closing procedures and life safety compliance.
 - All students with vacancies need to be prepared for a new roommate. Make sure half the room is emptied, cleaned and ready.
- All residence halls open for Winter Term at 12 noon on Wednesday, 1/2

Make sure your travel plans accommodate this schedule.

Plan Ahead! Start Preparing Now!

COMPLETE INFORMATION
IS AVAILABLE IN THE HALLS OR ONLINE @
<http://www.oberlin.edu/resed/dates/fclosing.html>



DINING HALL CLOSING & WINTER TERM INFORMATION

- Last meal on board = Dinner on Friday, 12/21
- Winter Term Optional Dining Program begins with lunch on Monday, 1/7

Special Winter Term Meal Package may be purchased in RE&DS Office, Stevenson - Griswold.

- For more information about Winter Term Dining (including hours and menus) or Winter Term Housing visit our web site

<http://www.oberlin.edu/resed/dates/winterterm.html>

Oberlin Celebrates Edgar Elgar



Mm, mm, Musical Union: Campus choir Musical Union and the Oberlin Orchestra presented delicious musical offerings in a concert commemorating Elgar's lifelong achievements.

Gary Cohen

Continued from page 8

George Robertson Sinclair's bulldog while splashing in a river.

"Nimrod," so often related to public mourning, sounded right with its E-flat major setting noble and triumphant.

The cello section and their leader, junior Catherine Smith, deserve special praise for the intensity of their sound in "B.G.N." — knowledgeable amateur cellist Basil G. Nevinson. The violin flutters also charm in "Intermezzo: Dorabella" — after Dora Penn, an amusing good friend of Elgar — replaced the remembrance of their rocky beginning.

The concert ended after a furious buildup to the "Finale: E.D.U" — representing the composer himself — in which the whole orchestra was splashing and bathing in its triumph, supported by prevailing timpani hits and majestic brass.

IN THE LOCKER ROOM

The Ninja

This week I was pondering who I should interview for the final article. During my search I was speaking with an acquaintance who informed me of a mysterious character on campus. The character calls himself "the Ninja" and is known to move silently through the night, causing mischief around town.

I was able to contact the Ninja and the exclusive first-time public interview follows. The Ninja is a real character — the alter ego of an everyday person in Oberlin. He would not allow more to be said for fear of revealing his true identity.

Moose Terry: What should I call you and what is your occupation?

Ninja: The Ninja. My occupation is debauchery.

MT: What exactly is involved in the art of debauchery?

N: Skulking through the night. Slipping into restricted areas and machines. No violence. It's not breaking and entering; it's slipping and entering.

MT: What hobbies do you have outside of your occupation?

N: Hi Li, reading, drinking, smoking and all other types of ill shit. Oh yeah, peeing in the shower. Yes, the Ninja showers occasionally. I do not want my prey to smell me creeping in the night.

MT: What draws you to play Hi Li?

N: Gambling in Miami and their escort services. Lots and lots of escorts in dark alleyways.

MT: What motivates you to do what you do?

N: Nothing motivates me really, except a genuine love for the night, the thrill and candy. Also a couple of special paper candies really get my engine going.

MT: Some people's activities are inhibited by the weather. How does the change of seasons affect your activities?

N: I prefer warmer weather, but the rain covers my tracks. I can wear my light gear during the warm weather and I have to wear my heavy gear during the cold season. My heavy gear is itchy because it makes me all sweaty.

MT: If you had a movie made about you, what would the soundtrack be?

N: First, I need Sean Penn to play my character. The

soundtrack would be the music they play at Casa Fiesta. I really like that CD they play all the time when I'm in there.

MT: Besides his amazing talent, why Sean Penn, and who would co-star with him in the film?

N: Neal Patrick Harris and Tom Cruise would be the co-stars. Sean Penn, Tom Cruise and Neal Patrick Harris are all the man. Sean Penn would play my everyday character. Tom Cruise would play my ninja, my night character. And Neal Patrick Harris would play my subconscious because he loves escorts too. And White Castle.

MT: What dreams did you have as a child, growing up a little ninja?

N: When I was hella mini I wanted to steal the crown

jewels. I wanted to be a master thief. However, as I started to grow up, I realized vending machines were easier and the reward was oh-so-sweet. To quote Homer Simpson, "It was sacri-licious."

MT: Is there any guilt in what you do, or are you proud of your accomplishments?

N: I take pride because I distribute what I steal to the masses. No regrets except for [not] getting a full night's sleep for getting up and living my normal life. Shit, I even clean up after my activities. I've never been caught. And I will never surrender. Because although I move through the night, my path is the light of fun, thrill and debauchery. And one confectionary deliciousness. So fight on, fellow creatures.



The Ninja

MT: Well, the Ninja, it's time for this week's Casa Fiesta question of the week. Would you rather be eaten by a raptor or T-Rex?

N: I would choose T-Rex if he eats me in one bite. I could not fight back because my ninja powers are for moving through the night.

Interview by Moose Terry
Photo courtesy of 'The Ninja'

Oberlin Equestrian Continues to Grow

Cecelia Galarraga

You may not see members of the Oberlin College Equestrian Team practicing on North Fields, wearing chaps around campus or lugging helmets under their arms. Do not be fooled, though. OCET is one of the largest club sports, formidable in competition and perpetuating the project of helping Oberlin students to explore their varied passions.

With upwards of 40 members on the team ranging from first-years to seniors, OCET has grown to be at its largest size ever. The smooth management of such a massive team is due largely to the team's five officers: senior President Lisa Greenberg, junior Co-Chair Robin Holmes, junior Secretary Lauren Cunningham, senior Treasurer Erin Romberg and junior Publicity Manager Sarah Fisher.

"I love being so involved in it, though, since I'm at the barn working or riding almost every day," says Greenberg. "It's like a second home."

Along with several other riding instruc-

tors, Coach Ric Weitzel and his wife Julie are working hard to ensure that all team members are situated in lessons at the correct skill level and are improving their riding abilities.

The Weitzels are the owners of Equine Differences, the farm and training facility where OCET members ride, which is located just a few miles north of campus on Route 58. The facility has over 20 horses, several paddocks where horses can graze and fields out back for trail riding.

"Ric and Julie have been so wonderful as to build us our own section of the barn, get horses for us to use and allow us huge amounts of ring-time and equipment," says Greenberg.

The lowest level of commitment for team members is one lesson once a week, though many ride in multiple lessons, ride their own horses or "lease" a horse for practice during a designated time during the week. Team members ride in one or more of three separate equestrian disciplines: hunt seat, western and dressage. Each specializa-

tion calls for the use of different types of horses, different equipment or "tack" and different techniques on the part of the rider.

Many members take lessons in more than one discipline, which speaks to their commitment to the sport and their willingness to improve their riding ability. Given the nature of the sport, team members are also responsible for horse care, keeping the riding facility neat and cleaning tack.

Aside from riding at home, many team members participate in the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association competitions in both hunt seat and western disciplines. In these competitions, OCET members are randomly assigned to ride unfamiliar horses in front of a judge and are evaluated on their abilities to perform designated tasks, such as jumping fences or showing the horse at a certain gait. This is no easy endeavor, but Oberlin is a force to be reckoned with.

During the last hunt seat competition weekend, 12 team members, including first-year newcomers Justine Black, Anna Brown,

Cassie Burley, Nora Hammack and Hannah Kahn, brought the heat and managed to beat one of OCET's biggest rivals, Lake Erie College.

"It is hard for a small liberal arts college like Oberlin to compete in our division against massive universities who have more access to funding and greater numbers," said Holmes. "The fact that both Oberlin teams continually put competitive pressure on these schools is a testament to the quality of our program and the dedication of our coaches, advisor, officers and team members."

Additionally, Romberg is leading the newly-chartered dressage team, which will allow team members who are dedicated to this discipline to put their skills to the test against teams from other area schools.

With all this expansion, dedication and spirit, there's no doubt that OCET is going to remain an ever-larger presence on Oberlin's campus. If you are interested in joining in the spring semester, regardless of your experience level, please see <http://www.oberlin.edu/stuorg/ocet/contact.html>.

Editor Hopes to Have Made a Difference

Continued from page 12

not perked when a student earns an academic scholarship or some violin award. Is it the fact that we are all on our individual paths here at school and that we do not have enough time to invest in other aspects on campus?

I may not be the most artistic or cultured person, but I try to make it to plays and concerts, and I hope to visit the Allen Memorial Art Museum for the first time before I go abroad. I am willing to try new things. This feeling diverges from the sports section and just toward sports in general; would it really hurt you to check out a game or two every once in a while? The athletic department is working head over heels to try and grab the campus' attention with catchy programs and student-athlete integration projects to get students involved with sports. But is this really working? Maybe there is an inherent disregard for sports that will take time to break.

Well, what better way to try new things than at college? If you are willing to try sex, drugs and alcohol, why not get high off the euphoria of a competitive sport-

ing event? That is probably the corniest line I have ever written, but it is true.

When I look back over my four semesters as the sports editor, I would like to know if I made a difference in the general rise of athletic interest here. Odds are, I probably didn't. But if my column grabbed your attention just once, if *In the Locker Room* made you laugh just once or if you admired the picture of how high senior Deysi Villarreal could jump, just for one moment, then maybe I did have some indirect effect. Maybe the late hours until three in the morning making up corny photo captions and headlines were not all in vain.

Maybe the fact that you read all the way to here on the last column of the year — potentially my last column in college — is reason to believe that I made you think about Oberlin athletics just once. If that's the case, then I can't argue with that. If you gave sports here at least a chance and didn't like it, I can't ask any more from you.

A willingness to try reading, watching or listening to sports is all I could ask. Your time is appreciated. Happy Holidays.

Residential Education and Dining Services

H&D Facts of the Week ...December 17, 2007

Semester Closing

For complete information visit our web site
<http://www.oberlin.edu/resed/dates/fallclosing.html>

Planning for Winter Term?

For more information about Winter Term Dining or Housing visit our web site
<http://www.oberlin.edu/resed/dates/winterterm.html>

Planning for Spring Semester?

"Early Arrivals" deadline: Request permission via web site, no later than
<http://www.oberlin.edu/resed/dates/sprearly.html> **Wednesday, 1/23**

Residence Halls or Village Housing Open for Students Returning from Leave 9:00 am **Saturday, 2/2**

First meal on board = Breakfast **Saturday, 2/2**

Interested in being a Resident Assistant?

2008-09 Application deadline
<http://www.oberlin.edu/resed/employment/stustaff/> **Monday, 2/11**

CDS Recyclers Corner

Dascomb Re-usable Container Members
All Re-usable Container Members, please return your containers to Dascomb by Thursday, 12/20
If you are **not enrolled** for the Spring Semester **make sure** you have returned all your containers, all your carabiners and closed your account.
If you **are enrolled** for Spring semester return all you containers and get your carabiners ready for exchange when you get back.

For comments or suggestions contact cdsrecycle@oberlin.edu

Spring Semester Dining Change Requests

Spring Semester **Dining** Change Applications are available online
<http://www.oberlin.edu/cds/mealplans/mealplanchange.html>.
Request deadline for students on campus is **Friday, 12/14**

Yeowomen Struggle to Close Teams Out

Asishana Osho
Staff Writer

The conference season almost started out on a high for the women's basketball team in its away game at the College of Wooster, where it dropped a heartbreaker 69-72. Coming off the 50-point loss to Baldwin-Wallace College on November 27, the team looked to regain its confidence with a strong performance.

The Yeowomen started off at an intense pace as they were out to make sure that Wooster's home court advantage would not be too strong. With six minutes gone in the game, Oberlin was up by seven points at 25-18. Senior center Roneisha Kinney and sophomore guard Alicia Smith were on top of their games from the onset as the team executed plays effectively. Kinney totaled 24 points on the night and 11 rebounds while Smith scored 14 to go along with her five steals. Despite the strong start, Wooster ended the half on a high, cutting the Oberlin lead to two at 32-30.

The second half was an entirely different story. Things started out even, but Wooster got the edge after five minutes, leading 43-41. Wooster's first-year guard Taylor Keegan helped spark a 16-2 run to increase the two-point lead to 16. At that point, Oberlin junior guard Alyssa Clark stepped up, leading the Yeowomen to an 18-4 run as they cut the lead down to two

points with four and half minutes left in the game.

The Yeowomen fought hard from there as they tried to gain an edge, but their work was to no avail. The teams matched one another shot for shot as Wooster went on to win the game 72-69. Four Wooster players scored in double figures on the night as the team improved its record to 2-3 on the season. For Oberlin, sophomore Liz Thompson marked her return to the team with 11 points and seven rebounds, promising larger contributions in future games.

The team was disappointed with the result, as it had expected to claim the victory after a good performance in the first period. Junior Amanda Van Allen expressed her frustration, saying: "We were really disappointed to have lost against Wooster. We have learned a lot from that game though, and I'm sure we'll do better against Earlham."

At Earlham on Thursday, Dec. 8, Oberlin again went into the intermission on top at 26-22. Led by Kinney, who had eight points in the first period, the team put itself on track to claim its first conference victory of the season on the road. Earlham came into the second half with great energy, executing effectively on offense and maintaining composure on defense. The Yeowomen were unable to match this level of play and ended up conceding 54 points in the half on the way to a 54-76 loss.



Take It to the Hole: Junior guard Alyssa Clark drives to the basket in Oberlin's home loss to La Roche College. *Brian Hodgkin*

In her second game for the team, Thompson recorded 13 points and nine rebounds. Kinney led the team once again in scoring with 15 points, while Smith and Clark were only able to contribute six points apiece.

In its last home contest of the 2007 calendar year, Oberlin hosted La Roche College in Philips gym on Tuesday, Dec. 11. As in its previous two games, Oberlin started out as the better team as it jumped out to an early lead and went into the locker room in front at 17-16. After Clark opened the scoring in the second period, a lapse in concentration in the Oberlin camp resulted in

a 12-0 run from the visitors as they went out to a 28-19 lead.

Oberlin fought back but could not catch up as La Roche claimed a 52-41 victory. For the third game in a row, Oberlin had lost despite being ahead at the intermission. First-year Katie Thompson led the Yeowomen with 11 points, followed by Clark, who had nine points and nine assists on the night. With that loss, the Yeowomen stand at 1-6 for the season and 0-2 in conference play.

The team plays next on December 14 at Bluffton University in its final game before winter break.

SPORTS TALK

WITH

Hot Tip

Meaning of It All

By Mike Mullaley
Sports Opinion

It's been fun.

This newspaper issue marks my last as a sports editor for *The Oberlin Review*. This is not a retirement nor a resignation, but rather my decision to take an "extended leave of absence" from campus. Next semester, I am going abroad to London. While I am not excited about the high prices and supposedly bland food, I am looking forward to becoming the token Asian tourist, with my fanny pack and camera, seeing all the sights Europe has to offer.

But travel plans aside, I want to dwell on the sports section for a bit.

This column is not a "spotlight on Mike Mullaley." 99.9 percent of this campus probably has no idea that I am sports editor here. I'm okay with that. I am not in this position for the fame, or lack thereof. But my focus is on the section's readership.

When I walked into the dirty *Review* office as a naïve second-semester first-year, living right above in Burton 114 with my roommate from Vermont, I was full of excitement to take a position on a college newspaper. At last, I thought, all of my hard work in life has finally paid off! Just joking. No, but seriously...

At first I did not care how many people read the section. I was writing in a paper that got distributed throughout the entire campus. At least half the campus would read my beats and feature stories, I thought. Boy, was I wrong. Slowly, as I finally got settled in on campus, I realized that I would be lucky to get a handful of people to read the section. Even athletes themselves turned their heads and the only readers I got would be from the team I wrote about or friends giving me sympathy compliments. Even then, my buddies would forget to read, or they'd skip over my articles (except Bean).

Were all the hours I put in for nothing besides my personal enjoyment?

After two semesters in charge, I knew things had to change. Last semester in the spring I tried hard to change things around. An editorial was added, more feature stories were written and even layout was adjusted. Still, I sensed nothing had changed. I began to assume that the section's lack of readership was due to the normal disregard for Oberlin athletics, combined with a generally mundane section.

Then it dawned on me. Would a Con student really care if Luke Hoffman scored his eighth goal in nine games this season? Is it significant that a first-year runner claimed the conference championship and qualified for nationals? Is it the same reason why my interest is

See Editor, page 11

Elusive Win Finally Comes for Men's Bball

Dharam Khalsa
Staff Writer

It's better late than never. The Oberlin men's basketball team started the season on the wrong foot, going 0-7, but finally put together a solid performance on Saturday to cap its first win of the season against Earlham College 68-59.

The win boosted the team's conference record to an even 1-1. Head Coach Isaiah Cavaco was ecstatic about the team recording its first win.

"I am so proud of the way we brought our own intensity and energy to a road game," said Cavaco.

As Cavaco predicted earlier in the season, Oberlin has begun to see improvement with each game as the players start to feel more comfortable on the court.

Oberlin was led by junior Mike Loll, who had a team high of 21 points and 11 rebounds. Senior Jordan Beard scored 11 points, despite dislocating his shoulder in the first half.

Junior Omari Hall contributed 11 points but more important was his defensive contribution. "Omari did a great job guarding one of the best guards in the conference," said Cavaco. Sophomore Jerome Goings added eight points for the night.

Nick Welsh, who had a game high 22 points, led Earlham.

Oberlin played outstanding defense, forcing Earlham to shoot from the outside by taking away the team's normally dominant inside game. The Yeomen also used their advantage in quickness effectively to dictate the flow of the game.

"We ran a little different defensive strategy where we protected the paint a little bit more," explained Cavaco. "They're usually a zone team but we made enough shots early to take them out of their zone."

The Yeomen shot a season best with 45.5 percent from the field, a large portion of them coming from fast-break points. The Yeomen out-rebounded Earlham because of their compact defensive strategy — an impressive feat

considering Earlham's size advantage.

Oberlin led for most of the first half. The Yeomen had a 10-point lead early but Earlham was able to cut the lead to four at 32-28 going in to halftime.

At the beginning of the second half, Earlham went on a 6-0 run capped by a Nick Welsh layup. It gave the team its only lead of the second half. Oberlin responded with a 20-6 run which effectively sealed Oberlin's victory. The Yeomen's largest lead of the game was 13 coming off Beard's lay-up and a free throw by senior Matthew Godwin.

Oberlin plays Alma College on Friday, Dec. 14. Although Oberlin is coming off of a big win, Cavaco is not resting on his laurels and knows it will be a tough game.

"They're smaller and quicker. We need to continue working on handling pressure," Cavaco said.

Oberlin does not play again after Saturday's game until January 2, when the team will face Anderson University.

Oberlin Confident After Kent State Meet

Emma Clohessy
Staff Writer

"After two school records were broken in the first meet, I think I can safely say this is going to be a successful season," opined women's indoor track captain senior Alex Petek after the meet at Kent State on Saturday, Dec. 8.

Petek is not the only one on the team with a positive vibe after the meet Saturday. Total team scores were not tallied, but the focus was on the strong team spirit that the roughly 80-member squad displayed at Kent State.

According to Head Coach Ray Appenheimer: "It's difficult

to bring 80 people together and have them feel like one team, but I am already seeing a tremendous amount of support across event areas. In just a couple of weeks this team has already gelled."

Another one of the captains, senior Kate Cook, was equally pleased with the team's performance.

"[W]e had some outstanding performances for the first meet of the season," said Cook.

First-year Josh Gallagher kicked off his Oberlin indoor track career in an impressive style, capturing the record in the men's weight throw with a toss of 38'4". Senior Deysi Villarreal began her

season in a similarly successful fashion, clearing a height of 9' 5.75" in the women's pole vault to take over the record for Oberlin in that event.

Sophomore Seth Wimberly announced his presence with authority in the men's 400- and 200-meter events, running 52.05 and 23.20 respectively.

Senior Anna Chernin contributed another strong performance to the Yeowomen, running a time of 61.61 in the open 400-meter event and, according to Coach Appenheimer, serving as an excellent anchor leg for the women's 4x400 meter relay.

Junior Nicky Ouellett also

ran well, finishing third in the mile event for the women with a time of 5:13.06, and sophomore Clara Shaw ran a personal best time of 2:21.32 in the women's 800-meter race.

Asked about his outlook on the season, Appenheimer expressed great excitement: "There is so much energy, optimism and enthusiasm around the team this year. We are blessed with great leadership from our captains, seniors Kate Cook, Andrea Canini, Alexandra Petek and Cody Hartley, and juniors Ryan King and Kyle Taljan. These six people have really set the tone for what is going to be a banner year for us."