# CHOVESLEYAN E OHIOVESLEYAN

BRANCH RICKEY: The Legacy Alumni Ballot Enclosed

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### **FEATURES**



## 8 Branch Rickey's Way

Ohio Wesleyan graduate Branch Rickey, Class of 1904, has made lasting contributions to baseball and civil rights. His name now graces several signposts on campus, in an area we call Branch Rickey Way — our way of saying "Thank you Branch, for all the good you have done for humankind."

### 11 OWU'S JACKIE ROBINSON FOUNDATION SCHOLARS

Meet our three Ohio Wesleyan students who are recipients of these special scholarships.

## 12 Scales of Justice

"Branch Rickey saw a duty and carried the burden — he didn't do it for gratitude or money." These words of California judge George Nicholson only begin to describe his great admiration for one of Ohio Wesleyan's favorite sons.

### 15 Branch Rickey and the Evolution OF BASEBALL

Besides his civil rights contributions to society, Branch Rickey was, unquestionably, one of baseball's innovators. He was integral to the evolution of "America's favorite pastime."

## IN THE RUNNING

Scholar-athlete Marie Rymut '07 is one of those students who is hard to keep up with. She shares her lifestyle and life's ambitions — color-coded day planner and all!



## 18 Women in Athletics

OWU's rich tradition of women in athletics features such coaches as Mary Parker and Harriet Stewart, who paved the way for today's outstanding athletic program.

## 20 Alumni Spotlight

Say hello to Richard and Ruth Firestone '35, who recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. They offer valuable advice for healthy and hearty relationships.

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# MYTURN

### The Legacy of Branch Rickey

Where to start?

Lawyer, preacher, teacher, crusader, financier, farmer and family man. Ohio Wesleyan's distinguished and revered alumnus, Branch Rickey-Class of 1904-wore all of those hats so very well. What mattered most to him, however, was character, and treating people honestly and fairly. And of course, the sport of baseball.

In 2004, Ohio Wesleyan honored Branch and his family, by reenacting the presentation of the honorary degree he received from OWU in 1947. How appropriate it was for grandson Branch and Sharon Robinson, daughter of the great Jackie Robinson, to be our Commencement speakers that year. And how appropriate it is for members of both the Ohio Wesleyan and Delaware communities to honor Branch further, by designating an area on campus—close to OWU's athletic facilities—as "Branch Rickey Way." Our story, beginning on page 8, includes interviews with several individuals who collaborated behind the scenes to make it all happen.

You'll meet three Ohio Wesleyan students (page 11), Alex Aguilar '08, Jaime Fuentes '10 and Julia Smith '08-all Jackie Robinson Foundation Scholars—who are honored and appreciative of being selected for that honor. Says Jaime, "I am eternally grateful to the Jackie Robinson Foundation for seeing some potential in me."

In our feature stories about the "tradition and pride" in OWU's women's athletic program, we look at such pioneers as Mary Parker and Harriet Stewart, both coaches and administrators at Ohio Wesleyan (page 18), as well as a student-athlete of today's generation, Marie Rymut '07 (page 17), who represents that tradition so very well.

And as you browse through this edition the Magazine, be sure to look at our story about "Memorial Gateway," (known by many as "Nicotine Gate") which, thanks to the concern of members of the Class of 1959, will be carefully restored and improved (page 26). Preserving the beauty of the stone and architectural elements—even the trees which still stand on Slocum's walkway, a gift from the Class of 1973 many years ago—is important. As Trustee Binney Fouts '73 notes, "It is quite nice that this wonderful archway of trees will be preserved."

Please read and enjoy the *Magazine*, and our tribute to the legacy of Branch Rickey.

Pam Besel Editor

# FRONTLINES

### OWU ACHIEVES HONOR ROLL STATUS

Barely a week had passed following Hurricane Katrina's devastating winds and storm surges last year, before OWU Chaplain Jon Powers called on the community to mobilize and find ways to help storm victims. From benefit lunches and dances, to "dorm storming," to organizing the numerous clean-up and rebuilding mission trips to the New Orleans area, Ohio Wesleyan students and staff were there and ready to help. That is, after all, just what we do, here at OWU.

Recently recognized and selected (not a first for Ohio Weslevan, but welcome nonetheless), as one of 10 Ohio Campus Compact (OCC) honor roll finalists for the President's Excellence in General Community Service program, Ohio Wesleyan is duly honored. That program, which placed special emphasis this year on recognizing service activities related to the Gulf Coast hurricanes of 2005, is trying to increase public awareness of service contributions that college students make in local as well as national communities.

"Ohio Wesleyan has long been at the forefront as a



Ohio Wesleyan's first faculty-staff mission trip to New Orleans was developed to assist Linus Parfait and his family with rebuilding and clean-up efforts in the aftermath of

leader of community service and more widespread volunteer efforts," says Sue Pasters, director of community service learning at OWU.

For more information

about the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, visit www.learnandserve.gov/ about/programs/higher\_ed\_ honorroll.asp

# **OWU Receives NCATE Accreditation**

eacher Preparation

The OWU education department was recently granted accreditation by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) – a benchmark for high standards not easily achieved by smaller universities.

"This accreditation gives us something tangible to show the world that Ohio Wesleyan has strong programs," says Amy McClure '72, chairperson and professor of education. "We

didn't change the education program at Ohio Wesleyan – we showcased it – and NCATE agreed we are very good."

According to McClure, OWU already is accredited by the state of Ohio, but "the NCATE recognition is a giant leap

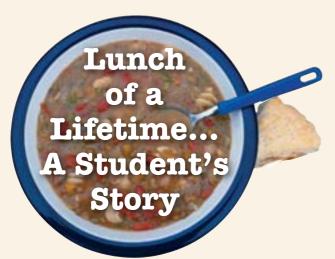
for Ohio Wesleyan because it is extremely difficult for small schools to achieve that accreditation," she notes. "NCATE has very high standards that apply to large universities with many people working toward accreditation."

McClure says the accreditation process took five years to complete. To receive national accreditation, the OWU education department had to meet the following six standards: candidate knowledge, skills, and dispositions; assessment systems and unit evaluation; field experiences and clinical practice; diversity; faculty qualifications, performance, and development; and unit governance and resources.

NCATE is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as the accrediting body for colleges and universities that prepare teachers for work in elementary and secondary schools.

Through its peer review process, NCATE ensures that accredited institutions produce competent, committed, and professional teachers who possess the necessary knowledge, skills, and dispositions to help all students learn.

The NCATE accreditation allows Ohio Wesleyan to compete more easily with other colleges and universities in Ohio that already are accredited by NCATE. Though teachers who have earned degrees in Ohio normally don't have much trouble obtaining teaching licenses in other states, the NCATE accreditation makes it even easier. "Degrees from NCATE-accredited institutions are almost unquestioned," McClure says.



Early in October, several other students and I had the pleasure of having lunch with Dr. Sherwood Rowland '48, the 1995 recipient of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry, who was on campus to give a presentation for our Sagan National Colloquium.

There I was, shaking hands with someone who is one of the great minds of this generation-someone who has accomplished more than I have ever dreamed of doing. This intimidation factor was quickly reduced after we started to walk to lunch with Dr. Rowland. Along the way, we talked about how Delaware used to look, and what has changed at the university. The more we talked, I increasingly felt the gap between us shrinking, as he had once been a student, just like the other five of us, not knowing exactly what lies ahead.

As we sat down to lunch, Dr. Rowland talked about how he ended up in chemistry, and reminisced about the culture at the time he was attending college, with World War II raging. He shared with us his decision to attend graduate school, and his sub-

sequent stops after that. During those, he had faced multiple challenges, including being told he was too young to work on a Federal program that he had been offered at a university for which he worked.

We discussed how atmospheric chemistry had started to grow [in popularity], and the beginning of his research. He described that as instruments allow us to measure processes with greater precision, the chemistry becomes more interesting. Dr. Rowland talked about how many of the gases we now associate with the ozone hole and global warming were present at an undetectable level until recently. The design of better instrumentation opened up a world that we really did not know existed because of the detection limitations. Hearing about research projects truly inspired me to think of what interesting and meaningful work I could be doing in the years that lie ahead.

The lunch with Dr. Rowland was definitely the experience of a lifetime. The chance to have a personal conversation with a pioneer in chemistry is one that I always will cherish. One of the messages I took away was that it is of the utmost

# **Trustees Pass Halfway Mark** to \$900,000 Goal

It's all about commitment, laced heavily with spirit, and a strong dose of devotion.

Of the overall Annual Fund goal of \$3.8 million, the Trustees already have committed gifts and pledges of \$812,000 toward their board goal of \$900,000.

"That places us more than halfway to our ultimate Trustee goal," says Mark Shipps '70, vice president of university relations. "These significant gifts send a strong message of support from the Board and generate remarkable momentum, and are making the Annual Fund the numberone priority."

Board members were given letters inviting them to contribute specific gift amounts to the Annual Fund, as Donna Burtch `79 explains.

"No one has given less than the previous year, and in fact, several people contributed more." She attributes that generosity in part to a stirring presentation during the fall Board meeting by Life Trustee Frazier Shipps '37.

"He emphasized in a compelling way, how important it has been that all who love OWU have continually committed of themselves and their resources to Ohio Wesleyan," says Burtch.

To reach this year's Annual Fund goal of \$3.8 million, much work lies ahead. Already, tuned-in and thoughtful OWU alumni hearing about the recent Trustee gifts are responding.

"This example should inspire all alumni to increase their participation this year," says Tom Grissom '62. "Recognition of the need to support Ohio Wesleyan financially is the single-most important opportunity alumni have for moving our school forward."

Forward and toward what today places OWU's Annual Fund ahead of last year's dollars by more than 100 percent!

importance to be continually vigilant in life, because we never know when the opportunity to make a discovery will be in front of us. Our conversation also pushed me further to strive for my goals

and not be easily deterred by others. Great tasks can be accomplished!

— Dan Albert '07 Dan is a senior at OWU majoring in chemistry.

# FRONTLINES

### OWU'S AMY DOWNING, COLLEAGUES PUBLISHED IN Nature

It's not every day that scientists have their research published in prestigious publications such as Nature. But Amy Downing, associate professor of zoology, and six other members of her research group recently celebrated the October 26 appearance of their work entitled "Effects of Biodiversity on the Functioning of Trophic Groups and Ecosystems."

Downing and her colleagues-representing such academic institutions as Duke University, the University of California at Santa Barbara, and Colorado State University—recently

spent a week in Borneo, doing their research and brainstorming about where that research was leading them.

"Our paper came out of work being done on biodiversity loss by a network of

### THEY HAVE BEEN LOOKING effects of biodiversity AT HOW ECOSYSTEM FUNCTIONING IS AFFECTED looking at more than BY BIODIVERSITY LOSS-SPECIFICALLY EXTINCTION.

scientists worldwide," says Downing, the only scientist from a smaller university and hand-picked to join the other six. They have been looking

at how ecosystem functioning is affected by biodiversity loss—specifically extinction. And extinction is happening at a fairly incredible rate each

> "Our group has been trying to look at trends of the loss on ecosystems over the last 10 years by 100 published studies worldwide," says Downing, whose main research expertise falls

in the area of aquatic diversity. Their research is funded by the National Science Foundation, and is focused on the fact that some 10,000

to 30,000 species-mostly insects— are becoming extinct each year. Fossil records over the course of millions of years have shown an average of only one species per year doomed for extinction.

"That is what really motivated our decade-long research," she says. "We are looking at the best ways to conserve the functionality of those ecosystems, while also trying to understand how to best manage surviving species to maintain ecosystem health."

(Read more about Downing's research at http://connect2.owu. edu/newsandviews/191.php)

# Flamm's Fulbright Fosters Goodwill, **Good Information**

In what was his first time teaching outside the United States, Michael Flamm, chairperson and associate professor of history at OWU, traveled to Argentina this past August, on behalf of the Fulbright Senior Scholars Program.

Partnered with Universidad de San Andreas (St. Andrews University) in Buenos Aires, the Fulbright Program invited Flamm to co-teach a seminar

in post-1960 U.S. history, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Fulbright Program in Argentina.

After Flamm was invited in May, he applied for the Fulbright Senior Scholars Program and was accepted. Normally, application to the program takes place first, followed by an invitation.

For Flamm, the seminar was a chance to educate Argentina's elite about U.S. history.

"It was [designed] for professors, some graduate students, government officials, and journalists, both print journalists from leading newspapers and television journalists as well," Flamm says. "So it was an opportunity to influence and interact with some very smart, interesting, important people, certainly the opinion-makers and shapers of Argentina."



For more details about Michael Flamm's Fulbright experiences in Argentina, visit our Web site at www.connect2. owu.edu/ourtown/221.php

## **OWU Students Present Poster at** Ornithology Conference in Mexico

Okay-so they took a short field trip one afternoon, to the Mangrove Swamp and the Vera Cruz Aquarium.

But the five Ohio Wesleyan students spent most of their week in Mexico early this fall - really presenting their research poster and meeting scientists from all over the world at the American Ornithological Conference, hosted by the Mexican Ornithological Society in Vera Cruz.

Joining Lauren Smith '09, Ashley Peele '07, Jenna Sroka '08, Max Schroeder '08, and Sarah Manor '07 was OWU Professor of Zoology, Jed Burtt. (Burtt also was named President-Elect of the American Ornithologist's Union during this conference. (See our story in www. Connect2.OWU.edu/newsand views/177.php).

While several of the students actually are microbiology majors, the consensus is, as Schroeder observes, that

"it was good to be exposed to research that I never would have thought about before." He quickly notes similarities between presentations at the conference on DNA sequencing and genetic expression and microbiology courses he has had at OWU on cell biology.

"So many people at this conference were interested in Ohio Weslevan and Dr. Burtt's research on Birds and Bacteria."

For Smith, a zoology and English double major, the conference opened her eyes to ornithology as a possible specialization.

"I've always liked animals, but didn't have a particular species of interest. So many people [at the conference] are really excited about ornithology, and I want to experience that too." Smith was impressed by the 15minute PowerPoint presentations by professors, graduate students and others-about



1,800 people from North, South and Central America.

Microbiology major Sroka worried as she arrived at the conference that she might not find many sessions geared toward her interest. But she says, "I was very wrong. The presentations were very interesting, and while I wasn't swayed to change my research interest, I'm glad I was there."

Gathered together to present their research poster on "Colorful Parrot Feathers Inhibit Bacterial Degradation," the students answered questions and elaborated on the

ways in which varying pigments in parrot feathers can affect that degradation.

"Conferences such as this one offer students an opportunity to get a sense of the international science community and who these scientists are," says Burtt. "It is also important to see the scientific research process, from ideas to communicating findings and results. Students also gain a sense of excitement at these meetings that they don't always get in lab environments."

### DR. JEFFREY SACHS RECEIVES HONORARY DEGREE



Dr. Jeffrey Sachs, director of the UN Millennium Project and special advisor to United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan, received a Doctor of Laws honorary degree from Ohio Wesleyan. Sachs, director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University, spoke at OWU on October 5 as the 18th John Kennard Eddy Memorial Lecturer. The event was sponsored by the Department of Politics and Government, International Studies Program, and the Sagan National Colloquium. For more details, see our Web story at http://news.owu.edu/2006/2006-07-sachs.html.

# FRONTLINES



More than 90 OWU students had the opportunity to meet Ohio Wesleyan alumni at the annual "Munch and Mingle" event on campus.

# Munch & Mingle

ALUMNI CAREER CENTER
NETWORKING EVENT





ricking up helpful tips about the job market and how to find that first job after college were highlights of the noon gathering in the Hamilton-Williams Campus Center.

### FALL SPEAKERS

The following is a sampling of fall guest speakers at OWU including Sagan National Colloquium (SNC), The Eddy Memorial Lecture on World Politics, and the inaugural Barger Family Lecture Series, named for former OWU Trustee Richards Barger and his children, James '78, John '79, and Kathryn Barger Leibrich '83. For a more comprehensive listing, please visit OWU's Web site at http://news.owu.edu

Toshi Amino, retired executive vice president for Honda of America and executive-inresidence for the Woltemade Center for Economics, Business, and Entrepreneurship, "China's Automobile Industry," Robert L. Milligan Leaders in Business Lecture Series.

Steve Ansolabehere, the Elting R. Morison Professor of Political Science at MIT; David Brady, senior fellow and deputy director of the Hoover Foundation and political science and ethics professor at The Stanford Graduate School of Business; Tom Edsall, professor at the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism and columnist for

"The New Republic;" and Carl Pinkele, the Honorable Charles W. Fairbanks Professor of Politics and Government and director of The Arneson Institute for Practical Politics at OWU, the inaugural Barger Family Lecture Series,

"The 2006 U.S. Elections: What Happened? Why? What's Next?"

Andrew Cottey, senior lecturer and Jean Monnet Chair in European Political Integration in the Department of Government, University College Cork, "The End of Humanitarian Intervention: Norms and International Politics After 9/11," sponsored by OWU's International Studies Program.

**Chris Impey**, University of Arizona Distinguished Professor and Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar, "The Art of Science," SNC

Sarah Kennedy, outreach director of Sustainable Harvest International (SHI) and coordinator of its Smaller World Program, "Sustainable Solutions to Poverty and Deforestation in Central America," SNC.

**Robert Pennock,** author of *The Tower of Babel: the Evidence* 

against the New Creationism,
"The Ground Rules of Science:
Why the Judge Ruled Intelligent
Design Creationism out of Court,"
SNC.

**Richard Preston**, best-selling author of *The Hot Zone*, "The Demon in the Freezer: the True Story of the War against Bioterrorism," SNC.

Nita Rollins `81, director of Thought Leadership for Resource Interactive, "Trend in Interactive Marketing," Woltemade Center Lecture Series.

#### F. Sherwood Rowland `48,

Donald Bren Research Professor of Chemistry and Earth System Science at The University of California at Irvine and recipient of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1995, "Global Warming and Abrupt Climate Change," SNC.

Jeffrey D. Sachs, director of the UN Millennium Project and special advisor to United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan on the Millennium Development Goals, "The End of Poverty," the 18th John Kennard Eddy Memorial Lecture on World Politics, co-sponsored by the Department of Politics and Government, the International Studies Program, and SNC. Richard Sayre, director of the BioCassava Plus Program funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, "Meeting the Challenge of Malnutrition in Sub-Saharan Africa, the BioCassava Plus Program," SNC.

**Peter Singer,** senior fellow and director of the Brookings Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World at the Brookings Institution, "Robotics and Warfare," co-sponsored by SNC and the International Studies Program.

Mary Brett Whitfield, director of the Retail Forward Intelligence System<sup>™</sup> and manager of the Softgoods Program, "Why Retail Differentiation is Important Now," Woltemade Center Lecture Series.

Woodrow Whitlow, director of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) John H. Glenn Research Center at Lewis Field, "The Value Proposition for the Human Exploration of Space," sponsored by the Black World Studies Program.

Carrie Wolinetz, director for communications for the Office of Public Affairs, Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB), "Stem Cells and Public Policy," SNC.

# PROFESSOR MARTY KALB

By Andrea Misko Strle '99

Retiring Fine Arts Professor Marty Kalb's walk down memory lane spans four decades of faces, experiences, and emotions.

With so many great moments on the campus of Ohio Wesleyan, he admits it was quite a task to pluck just a few from his crowded memory. Collectively, he says, "OWU has been the right fit for me."

Kalb arrived at Ohio Weslevan in the fall of 1967. Jarvis Stewart, who was chairman of the fine arts department at the time, became his mentor and made a lasting impression.

"He was a wonderful mentor," says Kalb, who, interestingly, bore an uncanny resemblance

to Jarvis' son, Peter. "Jarvis' first concerns as a teacher were to create an atmosphere between students and faculty and faculty to faculty of camaraderie and genuine concern."

Kalb's

position at the University and various committee involvements have allowed him to host many remarkable guests, most notably Holocaust survivor Simon Wiesenthal, who dedicated his life to documenting the crimes of the Holocaust and to hunting down the perpetrators still at large. Kalb was instrumental in bringing Wiesenthal to the University to receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Civil Laws.

"At a special lecture presented by Wiesenthal before a standing-room-only Gray Chapel auditorium, he was presented with a pledge signed by hundreds of OWU students to follow in his footsteps in seeking justice for victims of the Holocaust and of all genocides," Kalb recalls. "A year later when my wife and I visited him at his office in Vienna, Wiesenthal mentioned how impressed he was by Ohio Wesleyan students."

Kalb, too, has been impressed by the students of Ohio Wesleyan.

"Beyond anything else

that I will take with me

from my career at OWU

is the great personal

satisfaction I have

received from being

part of the develop-

ment of creative talent

and personal vision of

so many students."

There was one student of

his, however, that Kalb says made a lasting impression on him. That student. David Green, was a painting major in 1973. It

was time for his last critique and Green wanted to have his in Humphreys Art Hall (now the Ross Art Museum), which had only recently been converted from a U.S. Post Office. Green asked for 15 minutes to set up his work in the gallery, Kalb says.

"We waited the 15 minutes and en mass crossed the street to the art gallery," Kalb recalls. "When we entered the building, we could see on the floor several of his sculptures; on the walls several paintings; but also on the walls were all of David's clothes. Then there, standing in the corner of the gallery furthest from the door,

stood David stark naked!

"He explained that he had given everything he had to his work," Kalb continues. "His paint-spattered clothes he said were all part of his total effort. He then asked us to go ahead and critique everything; which we did, with David walking about totally nude and totally unconcerned. The entire time we were having this esoteric conversation, 20 or so people in clothes and one naked man. All I could think about was the reaction that was sure to come if some unwitting stranger or OWU administrator walked into the building wanting to mail a letter!"

David lost his battle with cancer in 1998.

Kalb says he received much personal satisfaction from being part of the development of creative talent and personal vision of so many



students.

"The impression I hope I have left with students starts with a crudely lettered sign I have had on the wall in my office from the very first days I came to OWU. I have always strategically placed it so that when students sit in front of my desk they will see it behind my head. It reads "I like you! Now let's talk about your work," Kalb says. "The overriding philosophy that has guided me as a teacher throughout my career can be summed up very simply. If I believe in them, they will believe in themselves."

Upon retirement, Kalb intends to keep doing what he has always done - make artwork.

- Ms. Strle is a professional journalist living in Columbus, Ohio.

# BRANCH RICKEY'S WAY



OWU's Gateway to Campus and the Athletic Arenas— Branch Rickey Way—Was Dedicated During Homecoming 2006.

By Pam Besel

Ver 100 years ago, catcher's mitt and Latin grammar textbook in hand, a young Branch Rickey walked away from his small farming community in southern Ohio, stepped onto a northbound train, and headed for college at Ohio Wesleyan University. The year was 1901, just a few years prior to bloody race riots in Atlanta, the founding of the Niagara Movement (forerunner of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP) by W.E.B. DuBois, and, ironically, shortly before the first flight of the Wright brothers at Kitty Hawk, the first real demonstration of humanity's ability to soar toward the heavens. The time was right—the stage was set—for someone to step forward and grab hold of the heart, mind, and conscience of the American people—someone who would choose compassion for others over personal and professional glory, and show commitment to advancing equality and human rights for all people—and never look back. That person was Wesley Branch Rickey, a 1904 graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University.

The shiny red and black street sign reading "Branch Rickey Way" gleamed in the sunlight as members of the OWU family and Delaware community held it up for all to see during the 2006 Homecoming halftime festivities in Selby Stadium. That sign represented the newly-erected sign-posts along Henry Street between William Street and Olentangy Avenue, officially designating the area as "Branch Rickey Way."

"This project had its roots in many places simultaneously," says OWU President Mark Huddleston, noting conversations with State Representative Jon Peterson '76, who last year proposed naming the stretch of SR 23 running through Delaware as "Branch Rickey Highway."

"When John Kercher '63, president of OWU's 'W' Association, suggested the 'Branch Rickey Way' idea, we really moved ahead," says Huddleston, who put the gears in motion by talking with Delaware City Manager Tom Homan and members of the Council, who were very supportive.

"For Ohio Weslevan, this project underscores a strong partnership between OWU and the city," says Huddleston. "Ultimately, for both Ohio Weslevan and Delaware, this is a long-overdue recognition of one of our favorite sons, a man of whom we are immensely proud. Branch Rickey had a genuinely transformative impact on both American sports and on American society."

Appropriately symbolic, Branch Rickey Way is viewed as a gateway to OWU and its athletic activities. While

### Story after story, says Ingles, point to Branch Rickey's ability to think outside the box.

Henry Street retains its name for postal deliveries, the distinctive red and black signs are there as a testimony to a man who had a huge impact on the world—and to the university that helped shape who he was.

"When you think about it, it's pretty remarkable that OWU has been the connector between Branch Rickey. who was voted ESPN's most influential person in sports during the 20th century, and Jackie Robinson, recognized as number one of the NCAA's top 100 athletes," says Roger Ingles, athletics director at OWU. "OWU is viewed as a place where people strive for equity, fairness, and equality across the board."

Ingles' role in moving forward the Branch Rickey Way project was to "support the efforts and vision of John Kercher and the city's efforts, and to help make it all happen," he says, also crediting the good work of President Huddleston's wife Emma Bricker and the Bishop Backers. "Everyone has played a part in this great cause for a great man." Story after story, says Ingles, point to Branch Rickey's ability to think outside the box.

We have so often read about the Rickey-inspired signing of baseball great Jackie Robinson to the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1945, and the long overdue integration of baseball. But there was also the less apparent Rickey strategy in selecting someone of Robinson's obvious talent, but who also possessed the grace and inner strength needed to be the "breaker" of the [racial] color line, someone who would not bend or break easily. Both Branch Rickey and Jackie Robinson—true partners were risk-takers, putting their very lives and reputations on the line, for the sake of advancing full human rights for all people.

"Branch essentially set the tone for what our athletics department is today," Ingles says. "So many accomplishments were OWU 'firsts': first in the country to induct men and women into the Athletic Hall of Fame; to have men and women participate in championship play; to help establish standards of behavior on and between athletic teams; and finally, to be one of the 36 founding members of the NCAA."

"Many students today don't know who Branch was. His story needs to be told again and again," says Ingles.

Another important facilitator in the Branch Rickey Way project was Tom Homan, Delaware's City Manager. Now into his eighth vear with the city. Homan is

(continued on page 10)

Holding up the street sign during Homecoming halftime festivities are (left to right:) Alex Aguilar, Ohio Wesleyan University student (class of 2008) and Jackie Robinson Scholar from Toledo, Ohio; Mark Shipps, vice president of university relations; Harvey Minton, mayor of Worthington and husband of Jane (Rickey) Minton; Dr. Mark Huddleston, university president; Jane (Rickey) Minton, grand-niece of Branch Rickey; Carolyn Riggle, vice mayor of Delaware; David Berwanger, Delaware city councilman; Tom Homan, Delaware city manager; and Roger Ingles, university director of athletics. BRANCH RICKEY WAY SECOND ST. LEGISLAND ST. LEGIS

(continued from page 9) proud of the resurgence of the downtown area, and of the many new restaurants, shops, and businesses that have opened.

"I've enjoyed any impact I've been able to have on our growing community and its development," says Homan. "As a city, we will help facilitate worthy projects such as Branch Rickey Way because in reality, anything that is so beneficial for OWU also will be good for Delaware. We grow with OWU." Homan envisions the area at which Delaware's three new bike paths converge with Wilmer Street/Branch Rickey Way as perfect for erecting a historical marker or statue. That would further define the area, honor Mr. Rickey, and provide a true gateway to the campus from the south. As Delaware approaches its 200th birthday in 2008, Homan emphasizes, it is important to remember the city's history and the special relationship between Delaware and Ohio Wesleyan.

When all is said and done, however, it makes perfect sense for Ohio Wesleyan, the city of Delaware and the Rickey family to want to carry forward the work Branch Rickey began.

"In a measured and strategic way, he was one of this country's pioneers in markedly improving race relations, although many people don't connect Branch with civil rights activism," says Mark Shipps '70, OWU's vice president for university relations. The true significance of Branch Rickey Way is seen at two levels, he believes.



Celebrating the dedication are Harvey Minton, mayor of Worthington, and Jane (Rickey) Minton, grand-niece of Branch Rickey.

"First, there is the recognition of Branch as being, perhaps, our most famous alumnus," he says. "But more importantly, Branch represents all that is good about Ohio Wesleyan, by who he was, the impact of his lifetime work, and what he accomplished while he was here as a student-athlete and later as a coach, and finally as a Trustee and active volunteer for his alma mater." Shipps also sees this

project as very important to the ongoing \$22 million *Remembering Mr. Rickey* athletic capital campaign.

"We need to continue to remember Branch Rickey and honor him by providing our scholar-athletes with programs and facilities enabling them to go out in the world and do good things."

A fellow alum of Branch's grandson, Branch III '67, Shipps describes the very close relationship between his family and the Rickeys.

"I admire what they have accomplished, and how the younger Branch remains one of our country's few true 'baseball men,' and ever a student of the game," says Shipps.

"He reminds me so much of his grandfather, who was not flattered by recognition, but who was more concerned about doing the right thing."

Stepping off that train long ago to join the student ranks at OWU, Branch Rickey found a welcoming community of scholars and friends who were there to help—with odd jobs and loans—the almost penniless student from Portsmouth, Ohio. As Shipps observes, "That legacy of caring and giving exists today through our long overdue recognition of Wesley Branch Rickey."

Ms. Besel is Director of Internal Communications at Ohio Wesleyan and Editor of the Magazine.



"Serving as an advocate for youth with the greatest need, the [Jackie Robinson] Foundation assists increasing numbers of promising minority youth in realizing their full potential as well-educated and active participants in the process of social change. These goals are accomplished through its education and leadership development program as a perpetuation of Jackie Robinson's legacy."

 The Jackie Robinson Foundation

Ohio Wesleyan is proud to have three Jackie Robinson Foundation Scholars among our student body: Alexander John Aguilar '08, Jaime Javier Fuentes '10, and Julia A. Smith '08.

"Ohio Wesleyan University and the Jackie Robinson Foundation engage in this partnership as a celebration of the history and values shared by our organizations," says Dr. Margaret Drugovich, vice president for strategic communications and university enrollment. "Branch Rickey, OWU Class of 1904, signed Jackie Robinson to play for the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1945, effectively breaking the color barrier in U.S. major league baseball. It is in the spirit of these two social pioneers that Ohio Wesleyan University and the Jackie Robinson Foundation come together to support the academic dreams of academically talented students of color."

In 1973, the year after Robinson died, his extraordinary commitment to youth was recognized when his wife, Rachel Robinson, founded the Jackie Robinson Foundation. The foundation honors Robinson's memory by sup-

# OHIO-WESLEYAN'S Tackie Rovinson's

### Foundation Scholars

By Lynne McBee

porting college-bound minority youth seeking to develop their potential. Through this

program, the Jackie Robinson Foundation carries on the struggle for the dignity, unity and courageous leadership that were the hallmarks of Robinson's life.

"A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives."

JACKIE ROBINSON

"Through the Jackie Robinson Foundation's Education and Leadership Development Program, the Foundation provides scholarships to attend a four-year university to U.S. minorities who have leadership potential and demonstrate financial need," says Carol DelPropost, assistant vice president of admission and financial aid.

The impact of the scholarship has affected each OWU recipient in different ways.

Alex Aguilar says, "This scholarship allowed me the opportunity to attend Ohio Wesleyan." The junior psychology major from Toledo comes from a family of four.

"If I had to say who I most admire in my life, it would be my parents," he says. "They have been very supportive of me and have constantly believed in me."

Jaime Fuentes was born

in Guayama, Puerto Rico, and moved to Ohio when he was 6 years old. As a freshman at

Ohio Wesleyan, he is taking introduction to psychology, French, statistics, and a humanities course.

"Being on a swimming team, we were always taught to be good sports-

men. While it was hard at times, we always kept silent. We spoke through our races in the water. That was something Jackie Robinson was great at. He faced so much more discrimination during one day of his life (not only in the major leagues, but in the rest of his life) than so many people ever do, and yet he remained calm and took it in as fuel for his game. I think that is very honorable and deserves credit," says Fuentes.

Fuentes is gratified to be a Jackie Robinson Foundation Scholar. "When I was awarded this scholarship, I was ecstatic. To be chosen [from] among so many to be part of such an elite group was unreal to me. It has already opened up so many doors for me, and this is just the beginning. I am now a Jackie Robinson Scholar for life. It is thanks to this scholarship that I am able to attend a university at all, not to mention my top choice.

I am eternally grateful to the Jackie Robinson Foundation for seeing some potential in me, taking a chance with me, and helping me."

Fuentes is uncertain what direction his life will take, but he is determined to make a meaningful contribution. "I want to touch lives and make a difference," he says. "I want to be proud of myself and have others be proud of me. I want to do something different."

"A Jackie Robinson scholar means opportunity to me," says junior Julia Smith. "Jackie Robinson Foundation Scholars have the opportunity to meet hundreds of students from around the country and a chance to make lifelong friends. The Jackie Robinson Foundation also offers many opportunities for students to explore their career paths and network with people who care about them and their success."

Smith, who is from Columbus, is majoring in journalism and is also an INROADS scholar. INROADS develops and places talented minority youth in business and industry and prepares them for corporate and community leadership. Smith has been working with Limited Brands for three years in an internship position and hopes to receive an offer to join the Limited Brands family when she graduates.

All three Ohio Wesleyan Jackie Robinson Foundation Scholars have bright futures, and they are excellent representatives of what the foundation hopes to achieve.

Ms. McBee is a freelance writer living in Columbus, Ohio.

# Scales of Justice By watching Jackie Robinson and the players who followed him we learned when we were very young and in a way deeply meaningful to us that skin color had nothing to do with talent, ability, hard work, strength of character or any trait that mattered. — Ira Glasser in "Branch Rickey and Jackie Robinson: Precursors of the Civil Rights Movement."

#### By Ericka Kurtz

rowing up in Oakland during the 1950s, George Nicholson didn't think much about baseball—he just loved playing the game. Never did he imagine that some day, as an appellate court justice, he would feel such a strong connection to another person who combined law and baseball in life, Branch Rickey, OWU Class of 1904.

"Branch Rickey did more than any lawyer or judge for civil liberties, but for Chief Justice Earl Warren and Thurgood Marshall" says California Judge George Nicholson. As a product of perhaps the most exciting era in baseball, he knows first-hand how monumental Rickey's signing of Jackie Robinson was.

#### **America's Pastime**

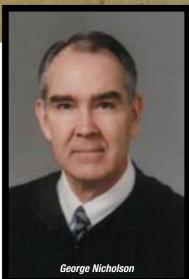
"When I was growing up in Oakland, baseball was a very big deal," Nicholson recalls. "At that time, even junior high baseball was huge with as many as 1,000 people attending games."

By the time Nicholson graduated from high school, his baseball team had won the city championship and most of the team's players, including Nicholson, were all-city players. Baseball was simply a way of life. "All the kids I played with loved the Dodgers and, in particular, Jackie Robinson," says Nicholson. "We all knew Rickey and knew he brought black players to the Dodgers, but it didn't really sink in at the time how important he was."

It wasn't until years later that Nicholson recognized just how much respect he had for

Branch Rickey. "The passing of my mother made me realize I may have liked Rickey so much because she had liked him as well. This was something she had never discussed with me until just months before she died, early in 2006. Until then, I never understood why I had such an abiding appreciation of Rickey, Robinson, and the Dodgers. My dad also favored the Dodgers and respected the team's black players in particular."

As a major icon of the day, baseball had the power to touch people in ways that court decisions and debates in Congress could not.



Nicholson wasn't the only person of the day affected by baseball's integration. Ira Glasser, who was the national executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union for nearly 25 years, also recognizes Rickey's impact on civil rights in his article "Branch Rickey and Jackie Robinson: Precursors of the Civil Rights Movement."

Glasser writes, "How many nine-year-olds, particularly white ones, followed the drama of the Montgomery bus boycott in 1955? How many nine-year-olds outside the Deep South, where even small children could not escape the conflict, were

moved by the Supreme Court's decision in 1954? And how many closely followed the debates in Congress during the sixties or identified with the struggles that led to those debates? How many nineyear-olds, especially white children, were reached by those events in

a personal way, or came to understand viscerally what they meant? How many were transformed? Not many."

"There was a change in attitude - Rickey and Robinson created the predicate for white people to look at black men playing baseball as heroes," says Nicholson. "Ira Glasser had the same epiphany, 3,000 miles away, as a Jewish kid growing up in New York; it happened to kids all over the country."

### Branch Rickey as a Civil Rights Leader

"For the first half of the century, Rickey was the seminal civil rights leader," opines Nicholson. He notes that Rickey integrated baseball before Truman integrated the military, before Gandhi's thoughts were prevalent in America, and before the era of Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King. "Rickey catalyzed the transformation of all sports in this country and set the stage for the Civil Rights Movement," says Nicholson.

"Many of us, perhaps most, were not even aware that we were learning these lessons," Glasser writes.

"There was a

change in

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and Robinson

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predicate for

white people to

look at black men

playing baseball

as heroes."

"They were learned nonetheless, and they prepared us for the struggles that would come in the larger society a decade and more later."

Though Glasser, Nicholson, and others regard Rickey

as a civil rights leader, there are critics who accuse Rickey of having mixed motives in signing Robinson. Nicholson says he gives those critics no credence.

"Rickey taught black children before he came to Ohio Wesleyan," Nicholson says. He also cites the infamous 1903 incident in which Rickey insisted that Charles Thomas, an African-American baseball player for



Branch Rickey during his early years at Ohio Wesleyan.

OWU, stay in Rickey's room at a hotel in South Bend, Indiana. Thomas was given a cot to sleep on, and when Rickey returned to the room he found Thomas wringing his hands and lamenting the color of his skin. It was an important moment, one which remained with Rickey for the rest of his life.

There are other instances that demonstrate Rickev's sincerity in breaking the color barrier. In the 1940s, when Rickey served on the OWU Board of Trustees, the Ohio Wesleyan football team was scheduled to play a southern school that didn't want OWU to bring its black players. Rickey sent a wire to the school saying the request should not be met and that OWU must bring all members of its team or none. The other school promptly cancelled the game.

"Branch Rickey was a great man - and his gift was building teams. No one else has been better at it, now or then," Nicholson says. "Rickey thought organically and he brought to baseball the mind of a lawyer. He planned and then executed his plan without government intervention or incentive. Rickey saw a duty and carried the burden - he didn't do it for gratitude or money."

(continued on page 14)



As a player-coach of the Bishops baseball team, Rickey encountered racism during road trips, firsthand.

(continued from page 13)

### George Nicholson and the Branch Rickey Legacy

Serving as associate justice in the Court of Appeal, Third District of California, George Nicholson is successful in his own right. An impressive legal and judicial background combined with professional activities, honors, and community activities comprise his vitae. He is not an Ohio Wesleyan alumnus and has no ties to the University, which further adds credibility to the fact that it isn't just those in the OWU community who hold Rickey in high regard.

"George Nicholson has such credentials in the judicial system," says Branch B. Rickey, OWU Class of 1967. "It has been riveting to see what he has uncovered about my grandfather that my fam-



ily didn't know. The contact I've had with Nicholson far outshines any contact I've had with sports writers. His interest is not in writing about my grandfather, but in exploring and understanding the composite of Branch Rickey - his sense of humanity, the beliefs he held, and how they motivated him."

Nicholson is clearly dedicated to preserving Branch Rickey's legacy. He mentions Rickey during professional speeches, and he's currently working with OWU to see what might be done to commemorate the 60th anniversary of Robinson's start in major league baseball.

"The projects he envisions and has gotten me stirred up about are exciting, but to have this person now as a personal friend is magical," says Branch B. Rickey.

Nicholson sees Branch Rickey as an alumnus who should make other OWU graduates very proud. He notes his own inspiration. "The first presiding justice of my appellate court, Norton Parker Chipman, sat on the platform with Abraham Lincoln as he delivered the Gettysburg Address in 1863. As a result, I feel a tie to Lincoln and inspired by Chipman, a Cincinnati Law School graduate. Current Ohio Wesleyan stu-

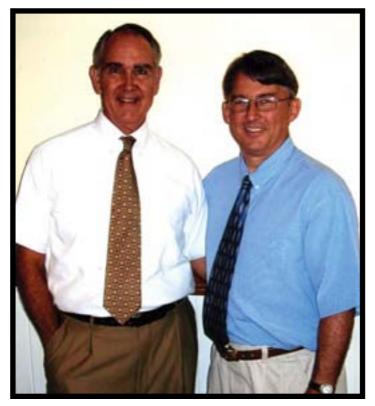


legro Star Is Pleased by New

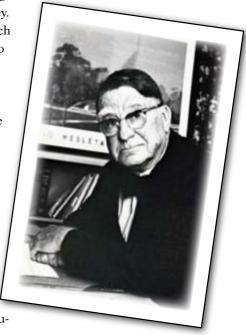
Salary, Said to Be \$15,000 Casey Also Gets Boost

God-given and that his skills were honed at Ohio Weslevan University." Ms. Kurtz is Assistant Director

of University Communications and Assistant Editor of the Magazine.



Justice George Nicholson and Branch B. Rickey '67.



# **Living in the Future:** Branch Rickey and the Evolution of Baseball

by Jerome Stenger '07



"It seems that finding the right words come hard so I will attempt at this time to put them down. It has been the finest experience I have had being associated with you and I want to thank you very much for all you have meant not only to me and my family but to the entire country and particularly the members of our race. I am glad for your sake that I had a small part to do with the success of your efforts and I must admit it was your constant guidance that enabled me to do it...We sincerely hope that we can always be regarded as your friends."1

These are the words of Jackie Robinson in 1950, directed in letter form to Branch Rickey, Class of 1904, soon after Rickey resigned as president and general manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers to accept the general manager position with the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Rickey's impact on the game is unrivaled, and while other baseball managers made their mark in the dugout, it was Branch Rickey who tapped into the American vein, advancing our culture in ways that few would have thought a baseball man could.

It was on August 28, 1945, that Rickey signed Jackie Robinson to a minor-league contract. Robinson played for the Montreal Royals, the Dodgers, minor-league affiliate, for the 1946 season. Before the start of the 1947 season, Rickey purchased Robinson's

1 Fox, Stephen. "The Education of Branch Rickey." Civilization 2.5 (1995): 52-58

minor-league contract and Robinson's major league debut was set—April 15, 1947. Integration of the Armed Forces was more than a year in the making. Brown v. Board of Education and Rosa Parks were light years away. America was two different places—fortunately white and unfortunately black. Branch Rickey and Jackie Robinson were leading off for Civil Rights.

In 1963, two years before his death, Rickey reflected on what was dubbed his "Great Experiment."

"They call you an extrem-

chains. He was a slave. How much more important to be assertive now when he is a citizen!"<sup>2</sup>

As an Ohio Wesleyan student from 1901 to 1904, paying a \$10 tuition, Rickey encountered racism firsthand as player/coach of the Bishops baseball team. Other teams often refused to play the Bishops and some hotels refused to accommodate them. The reason? Charles Thomas, the team's only black player. Rickey was often the reason many of those games ended up being

look at Ohio Wesleyan's athletics department. We strive for equity and fairness across the board—and that's something Branch Rickey was preaching 100 years ago."

While Rickey is most often associated with Jackie Robinson, and rightly so, Rickey also was one of baseball's innovators before and after integration. Surely, Rickey would have been thrilled with the 2006 St. Louis Cardinals' World Series victory.

After all, when Rickey inherited the managerial



Ohio Wesleyan's 1904 baseball team (Branch Rickey is standing on the far right.)

ist if you want integration now—which is the only morally defensible position," he said. "Weren't our American forefathers extremists? Wasn't John Brown an extremist? All moral people were for the abolition of slavery a century ago. The Negro then was in rags and

played and why hotel accommodations were often extended. At OWU, Rickey learned how to fight injustice at a young age. Director of OWU Athletics Roger Ingles says he equates Branch Rickey with social change. "I

position of the floundering Cardinal franchise in 1919, it was one of the poorest teams in baseball at the time—an organization that couldn't provide new uniforms for its players or railroad fares for traveling,

(continued on page 16)

<sup>2</sup> Graham Jr., Frank. "Branch Rickey Rides Again: The Return of the Mahatma." <u>The</u> <u>Saturday Evening Post</u> March 1963: 66-68.

(continued from page 15)

whose club offices consisted of "a couple of barren rooms in a converted dwelling house." And it was Rickey who was responsible for discovering and developing the Cardinal players who would go on to win World Series rings in 1926, 1931, 1934, and 1942, bringing millions in wealth to the franchise and a rich baseball tradition to St. Louis.

Rickey's success in St. Louis wasn't just blind luck. In fact, it was Rickey who once said, "Luck is the residue of design." <sup>4</sup> There were clear reasons for his success.

First off, Rickey was simply smarter than everyone else. A 1943 article by sportswriter J. Roy Stockton joked that the only accident in the Rickey success story was that he "chose baseball."

"It might have been almost anything else, for the Rickey brain is the most versatile instrument," Stockton wrote. "He can preach a sermon to make the regular pastor blush himself. He can embroider a contract or find loopholes in the law to confound the most agile corporate lawyer. His after dinner speeches can warm the hearts of his hearers with love of all mankind or set them ablaze with righteous indignation, as he pleases." Also aiding Rickey in the Cardinal revival was his keen baseball eye. Sportswriter Jim Murray of the Los Angeles Times marveled at Rickey's talent: "He could recognize a great player from the window

<u>From Baseball's Last Wise Man</u>. Wilmington: Sport Media Publishing, Inc., 1995.

of a moving train."

Rickey had his personal system for judging talent, a simple but fail-safe method. "There are only three fundamental things that scouts should look at when they're judging players—the arm, the legs, and power," he said. "If I were to write four units on the board as the qualities of a player, I should have to give about two points to the legs and one to the arm and one to power. Because the arm is used only defensively. The power is used only offensively. The legs are so much in evidence-both offensively and defensively."5 Some products of Rickey scouting included George Sisler, Stan Musial, Dizzy Dean, Enos Slaughter, and Joe Medwick. Rickey's whip-smart intellect coupled with his practical baseball knowledge helped foster his club's diamond success, no doubt. But the central reason behind Cardinal domination lay in the combina-

5 Stockton, J. Roy. "From Rags to Riches; A Baseball Success Story." <u>The Saturday</u> <u>Evening Post</u> March 1935: 16-17, 89-93.

tion of those two traits.

Rickey developed the first major league "farm system" program in 1921. He purchased stock in 'semi-pro' teams (now 'minor-league' teams, thanks to Rickey) and sent young players there to develop without the worry of other major league teams stealing the talent away.

"Rickey had created a kind of model in St. Louis for finding able young men in overlooked hollers and street corners, signing them as boys, assigning them to farm clubs, and making them major leaguers before the Yankees, Red Sox, or Tigers knew what they had missed," 6 wrote Stockton.

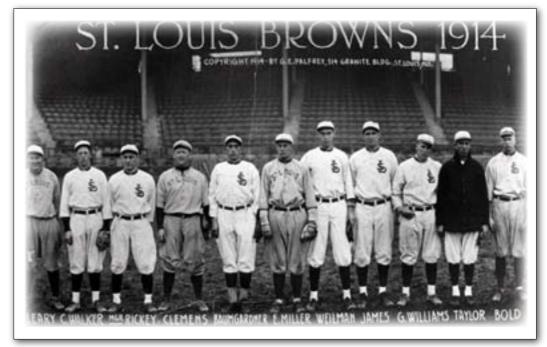
In 1921, the Cardinals invested \$45,000 in minor-league clubs, and by 1926, the year of the Cardinals' first World Series, that price had increased to \$160,000. By 1928, it was \$946,000. Rickey's financial contributions would keep many of these minor-league clubs afloat during the Great Depression. While some critics abhorred the

6 Stockton, J. Roy. "From Rags to Riches; A Baseball Success Story." <u>The Saturday</u> <u>Evening Post</u> March 1935: 16-17, 89-93. farm system method, Rickey cited self-preservation, pointing out that the Cardinals of the past "were unable to compete with the checkbooks of the wealthy Giants, Yankees, Tigers, and White Sox." Within a decade, every team invested in minor-league clubs.

When asked by reporters in the early 1960s what his greatest thrill in baseball had been, Rickey replied, "It hasn't happened yet"2—an odd response from a man who desegregated baseball; won World Series championships; invented the farm system method and introduced batting helmets, sliding pits, the pitching machine, the baseball tee, and the Knot Hole concept (special ballpark days when children could attend free of charge) to the sport.

This Ohio Wesleyan alumnus changed the world by living in the future.

Mr. Stenger is a journalism major at Ohio Wesleyan and a student writer in the Office of University Communications.



The 1914 St. Louis Browns, managed by Branch Rickey.

<sup>3</sup> Stockton, J. Roy. "A Brain
Comes to Brooklyn." The Saturday Evening
Post Feb. 1943: 24-25, 54-60.
4 Monteleone, John J., ed. Branch
Rickey's Little Blue Book: Wit and Strategy.



SENIOR MARIE RYMUT PROVES THAT ATHLETES CAN BE SCHOLARS—AND VICE VERSA

By Pam Besel

on't let OWU senior Marie Rymut's perfect 4.0 grade-point average fool you. Or the fact that this genetics/politics and government/pre-med triple major with minors in history and chemistry makes time to head up WCSA (Wesleyan Council on Student Affairs), working with the university's 60-plus student organizations.

Marie Rymut also happens to be a heck of an athlete—excelling in middle-distance running—who has placed well and frequently at several indoor and outdoor North Coast Athletic Conference track and field tournaments. She is a scholar-athlete in the flesh.

"I love to run," she says, acknowledging almost sorrowfully the detours she has encountered from her sport—some pleasant, some not—like inflamed tonsils (headed for removal soon), or her semester-long internship with Congressman Tim Ryan, as part of Rymut's Wesleyan in Washington experience last year. ("It was during that time that I fully realized my interest in health care policy development.")

But running, as inspiring and invigorating as it is for Rymut, complements rather than characterizes her college experience. What really drives this OWU Presidential Scholar and recipient of the prestigious Schimmel Scholarship, as she sees it, is "betterment of the whole. At the end of the day, how am I helping other people and giving back [to the world] any strengths and attributes that I have?"

It's late in the day on a Thursday, early last month. Looking as bright and energetic as though she might have been visiting at the start of that day, Rymut exudes a sense of purpose and passion for just about anything she may set as a priority in her life.

"I have to admit that I put pressure on myself, and I think about everything I do, and won't take something on unless I know I can do it well," she says.

Rymut continues that thought by describing her work as WCSA's President.

"I've loved it, partly because I enjoy exploring the bureaucracy of universities, and helping to push for what the students want," she explains. On her success list are such projects as the renovation of Smith Hall, helping to get Café 1842 started (see our story at connect2.owu.edu/ourtown/224.php), pushing for a smoke-free OWU, "cleaning up" WCSA's 35-year-old Constitution, and working with the alumni office to pull current students into that realm before they graduate.

"Unity is my primary focus," says Rymut. Her energy has been focused on working with the array of Ohio Wesleyan's student organizations to increase participation at programs and events and to "rethink how we can better function as a whole." She smiles as she describes the bonfire during Homecoming, and more than 600 students who were there.

"That had everything to do with timing, good planning, and cooperation." And everything about Marie Rymut is about careful planning and organization.

"My [day] planner is color-coded, and I don't go back to my dorm room until I am ready to sleep!" And somehow, she seems to thrive on only four or five hours of sleep each night. That extreme work ethic had its roots in Rymut's childhood, although her parents never pressured her in any way.

"I am really bugged when people sit around and talk about a problem without trying to come up with a workable solution," she says.

These days, Rymut is thinking more and more about next year as she applies to medical schools. Still on her career radar screen are other interests in law and health care policy—or perhaps a possibility of combining the two.

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"Marie is one of the most well-rounded students I have ever taught," says Craig Ramsay, politics and government professor at OWU, emphasizing the exceptional way in which she combines her interests in politics and government and natural sciences.

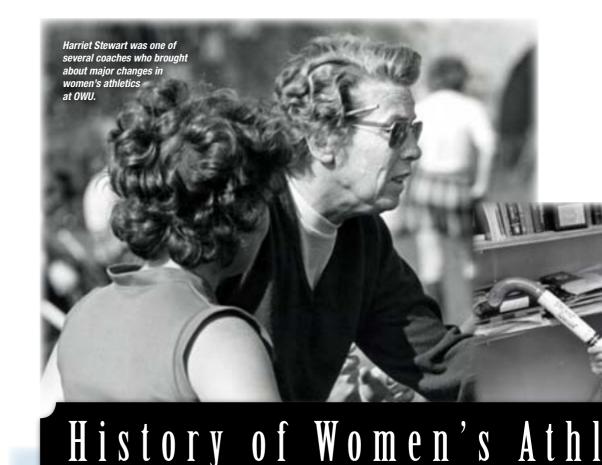
"This allows her to analyze issues such as Federal stem cell research policy based on a good understanding of cell biology and the U.S. political and governmental system."

As we talk that afternoon, there's a hint of sadness in the OWU senior's eyes as she anticipates her departure from the college she loves come this May.

"I realize that I won't be coming back to OWU, and that the big dreams of my friends and I could take us all over the world," Rymut says, softly. "It's the little things, the details of the day that I'll miss so much—like grabbing some food early in the morning at that magical place, Slocum Hall. And of course, there's the competitive running."

But truth be told, whether on the race track or the fast track of medical school, Marie Rymut will always be a leader, focused and ready for an exciting future.

Ms. Besel is Director of Internal Communications at Ohio Wesleyan and editor of the Magazine.



By Roger Ingles

When senior Marie Rymut stands at the starting line this spring awaiting the start of her race, thousands of former Ohio Wesleyan female athletes will be standing alongside her in spirit. The tradition and pride of Ohio Wesleyan women's athletics is alive and well in Delaware.

Ohio Wesleyan has been a leader in the development of physical educators and coaches, and several of our coaches and administrators, including Harriet Stewart, Mary Parker, Sue (Collins) Pressler, and Dick Gordin, participated in bringing about major changes in women's athletics at Ohio Wesleyan.

Women were involved in athletics at Ohio Wesleyan as far back as the late 1800s. For many years, women's athletics existed in the form of "Play Days," in which several colleges competed in a number of sports at the same site, with most of this competition taking place without crowds or fan support.

In 1906, Ohio Wesleyan helped form the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), which was the governing body of men's collegiate sports. The advent of Title IX in 1972 created many changes in college athletics. At Ohio Wesleyan, Stewart, Parker, and Gordin played a key role in helping "Play Days" and club teams evolve into the more competitive athletics program of today.

For many years, Ohio Wesleyan's women's programs were members of the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW). Ohio Wesleyan also competed in the Ohio Association of Intercollegiate Sports for Women (OAISW) and enjoyed success in many sports, most notably field hockey, basketball and tennis. The field hockey team won numerous state titles, the tennis team enjoyed three state runner-up finishes and the basketball team reached the state semifinals during an era where state tournament play included all college teams from every conference.



# etics at Ohio Wesleyan University

When the NCAA moved to include women's sports in 1981, Ohio Wesleyan President Tom Wenzlau, in a meeting with Athletics Director Dick Gordin and Coach Harriet Stewart, insisted OWU should have one organization to represent both men's and women's programs. In the years that followed, his vision led Ohio Wesleyan to become a part of the NCAA in men and women's athletics. The 2005-06 academic year marked the 25th anniversary of women's championships in the NCAA.

In 1982, Parker founded the Centennial Athletic Conference (CAC), the first conference in the nation formed specifically for women's teams. Denison. Muskingum, Oberlin, Ohio Northern, Wittenberg, and

Wooster joined Ohio Weslevan as charter members, and Parker served as the conference's first president. While the CAC was a huge step for Ohio Wesleyan women's athletics, it wasn't an ideal longterm solution.

That solution came out the next year, when Ohio Weslevan announced plans to leave the Ohio Athletic Conference and the CAC to join Allegheny, Case Western Reserve, Denison, Kenyon, Oberlin, and Wooster in founding the North Coast Athletic Conference. The NCAC was the first conference to treat men's and women's sports equally from its inception, and conference competition began in the 1984-85 academic year. Since joining the NCAC, Ohio Wesleyan has won 36 league championships in women's sports and two

national championships in women's soccer.

Also in 1983, Gordin hired Pressler to coach the men's and women's swimming teams, making her the first woman to coach an Ohio Weslevan men's team. Pressler was one of the first Ohio Weslevan women's coaches to aggressively recruit student-athletes and use modern coaching techniques, and the swimming programs showed rapid improvement, earning Pressler NCAC Coach of the Year honors in one of the toughest swimming conferences in the nation. Ohio Wesleyan was a pioneer in recognizing the accomplishments of its women student-athletes as well. In 1976, Ohio Wesleyan was among the first colleges in the nation to induct women into its

Athletics Hall of Fame.

"The rich tradition of women in athletics is demonstrated through the vast number of our alumnae who had participating opportunities," says Nan Carney-DeBord, Ohio Wesleyan women's basketball coach. "The development came through the avenue of physical education in the early years to the fierce competitiveness displayed throughout all North Coast Athletic Conference competitions today. Ohio Wesleyan women athletes were pioneers who paved the way for our advanced athletes of today."

> -Mr. Ingles is Director of Athletics at Ohio Wesleyan.

# ALUMNISPOTLIGHT

# owu's **Marriage Experts**

By Gretchen Hirsch

At a time when 50 percent of marriages end in divorce, a 70-year union is something to celebrate, and recently, Richard and Ruth (Barr) Firestone '35 did just that with a reception for family and friends at Mowry Alumni Center.

Richard and Ruth attended Withrow High School in Cincinnati and were "casual acquaintances" before they arrived at Ohio Wesleyan. An automobile accident during summer vacation in 1932 changed all

that. "Richard was driving and another girl was in the front seat. I was in the back seat with another boy," Ruth says. "We went down an embankment and rolled over three times. I

was the only one who was hurt, and Richard felt so responsible, he sent flowers and visited me—and that was the beginning."

During their
years at Ohio
Wesleyan, Richard, a
politics and government
major, ran track and was a
member of Alpha Tau Omega
fraternity. Ruth, a Delta
Gamma, majored in fine arts.
Seventy-one years later, they
state that they're still "very
fond" of OWU.

After graduation, the couple married in 1936 and moved to Cincinnati, where Richard was enrolled in the YMCA Night Law School,

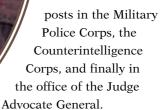
"Richard was driving and another girl was in the front seat. I was in the back seat with another boy," Ruth says. "We went down an embankment and rolled over three times. I was the only one who was hurt, and Richard felt so responsible, he sent flowers and visited me—and that was the beginning."

which has since become the Salmon P. Chase College of Law, a part of the University of Northern Kentucky. He attended classes on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings, while Ruth went to her graduate classes on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. "We saw each other on the weekends," Ruth says.

With law school completed, the couple took a

long-awaited trip to the western United States and then returned to Lisbon, Ohio, in Columbiana County, where Richard began to practice law. After only three years, however,

he was called up for service in World War II. The couple relocated to Washington, D.C., where Richard held



Upon completion of his service, Richard reconnected with his college roommate, Oatfield Whitney, Jr. '36, and the two went into practice together in Delaware. Richard also was elected Delaware City Solicitor in 1949. Once again, however, the Firestones' somewhat settled life was upended when Richard was recalled to active duty during the Korean War. "We rented our house and our dog," Richard says, "and returned to Arlington County, Virginia. I served in the office of the Judge Advocate General at the Pentagon."

Returning to Delaware, Richard picked up his law practice again. "I was also one of the founders of the Delaware County Bank and was Chair of the Board for more than 30 years," he says.

Ruth and Richard had two children, Nicholas and Nancy,



who have presented them with two grandchildren, Stayce and Mark. The couple also has a great-granddaughter, Lauren, and a new greatgrandson, Nathan.

"I did some interior design work when our children were younger, and when they were nearly grown, I started my gallery," Ruth says. "In the back of Richard's office, there was space for a studio. For 20 years, I taught art there." Her gallery, Up the Down Staircase, "sold not only my paintings and those of others, but also jewelry and pottery."

Ruth was active in four arts associations, and 29 years ago she organized a group of artists to go to the Great Smoky Mountains for a week each year. "We all go in different directions every day and paint. We've stayed at the same bed and breakfast each year," she says, "and they've

gotten used to us by now. The owners just tell us to lock up at night. One year we sold out the entire inn, but we usually have about 15 artists."

The couple is looking forward to spending the winter months at their home in Fort Myers Beach. Ruth has also organized a group of artists there. "We have about 200 artists," she says, "some of whom live there all year and some who are part-timers like us."

When asked the secret of a successful and enduring marriage, Ruth replies, "Patience always helps." Richard's advice? "If hard times come, bend, but don't break. Ride them out. Don't fight them too much."

Both Richard and Ruth agree on one thing, however. The best part of their lives today is "being here together."

Ms. Hirsch is a writer in the Office of University Communications.



### OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

# egacy Grants

Your child is an original and wants to make his or her own decision when choosing a college.

There are more than **40,000** reasons to choose Ohio Wesleyan.

In addition to the obvious OWU benefits — a nationally-recognized liberal arts program; engaging professors; supportive community; 1,850 students representing 43 states and 40 countries — children, grandchildren, and stepchildren of OWU alumni are now eligible for \$40,000 (\$10,000 per year) in Legacy Grant support at Ohio Wesleyan University.

Contact Ed Lenane in the Office of Alumni Relations at (740) 368-3046 or ewlenane@owu.edu for details and deadlines.

# ALUMNI NEWS

## ON CAMPUS Events and News



New members of the OWU Hall of Fame: Brian Burby '75, Cindy Geiss Pohl '97, Kristin Griffin Steffey '96, Obi Moneme '96, Wally Cross '52, Coach Dick Meyer, and Steve Mitchell '92



Gary Schaal '63 was honored with the Robert Strimer Honor Award at the 46th Alumni "W" Association Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

Homecoming Queen and King, seniors Marie Rymut and Eric Magnus are congratulated by the Bishop.

## HOMECOMING

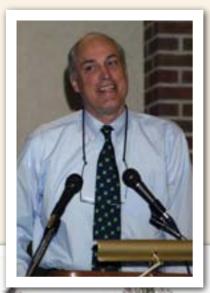
beautiful and brisk autumn weekend set the stage for Homecoming 2006. Alumni, families, and friends were able to partake in a variety of traditional activities and affinity reunions on a spectacular weekend in Delaware. The weekend began on Friday with Munch & Mingle, an event sponsored by the Alumni Board, Alumni Relations Office, and the Career Services Office. Munch & Mingle offers students the chance to network with alumni in a casual atmosphere. Later Friday evening, two affinity reunions took

center stage as Glee Club alumni and Men's Lacrosse alumni arrived in town. The Glee Club alumni descended on Sanborn Hall with practices that went late into the evening. Alumni arriving in town for the 50th Anniversary of Men's Lacrosse met at the Brown Jug for lively conversation and libations. Friday night also saw the revival of the student-sponsored bonfire on The Hill. Over 600 students gathered to hear the sounds of The Alarms, a campus band, enjoy grill-cooked hot dogs and hamburgers, drink hot chocolate, and hear

the announcement of the Homecoming court.

Saturday morning events began at the crack of dawn with the Homecoming 5K. This year, there was a twist to the traditional Homecoming 5K, as it was held in conjunction with the City of Delaware's Pumpkin Run. Over 250 alumni, families, friends, and community members took to the streets of Delaware for a fast and fun 5K. Perkins Observatory graciously opened its doors to parents and alumni for its Friday and Saturday night programs. Two faculty members, Sean Kay and Michael Flamm, were featured by the OWU bookstore as they signed copies of their books and the Ross Art Museum featured an exhibit by distinguished alumna artist, Jane Terzis '72.

A series of traditional Homecoming activities occured at Selby Field. The Homecoming King and Queen were announced during the break between the first and second quarters. Seniors Marie Rymut of Broadview Heights, Ohio, and Eric Magnus of Akron, Ohio, were crowned Queen and King,



After 36 years, Barry Clemens '65 was recognized for his induction into the OWU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1970.

A tried and true tradition - the Карра Карра Gamma Balloon Pop.





The student body got into the Homecoming spirit with a bonfire on Friday night!





Over 250 people ran (or walked) in the Homecoming/Delaware Pumpkin Run on Saturday morning.

respectively. During halftime of the football game, new members of the OWU Athletic Hall of Fame were introduced, and the city of Delaware formally designated a portion of Henry Street as Branch Rickey Way. On hand for the dedication from the City of Delaware were City Manager, Tom Homan; Delaware Vice Mayor, Carolyn Riggle; and Council member David Berwanger. Representing the Rickey family were Harvey and Jane (Rickey) Minton.

Saturday night was packed with activity as the Alumni "W" Association

inducted eight new members into the OWU Athletic Hall of Fame. Gary Schaal '63 was awarded the Robert Strimer Honor Award for his contributions to intercollegiate and professional golf. Barry Clemens '65 was recognized for his induction into the OWU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1970. Over 50 members of the Alumni Glee Club gave an outstanding performance and then gathered for dinner afterward. The Men's Lacrosse Alumni celebrated 50 years of OWU men's lacrosse with an alumni game on the new turf at Selby Stadium and

closed out the evening with an impressive gala in the Conrades • Wetherell Science Center Atrium.

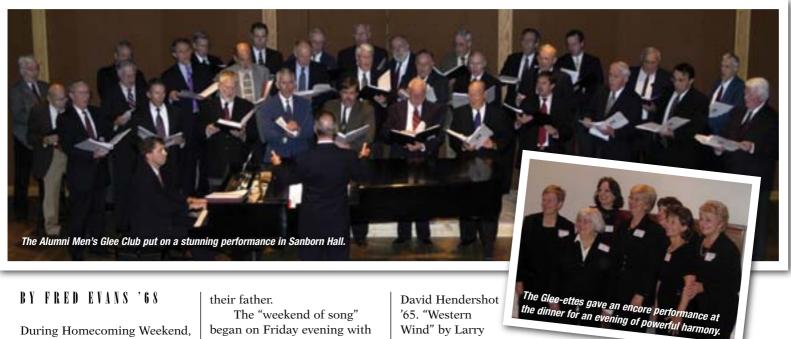
Homecoming and the variety of events that occur during the weekend encourage alumni from around the country to return and reconnect with the University and long-time friends. From Battling Bishop athletic events to the Red and Black Revue, Homecoming gives alumni a great opportunity to come back to campus, enjoy autumn at Ohio Weslevan University and celebrate the ties that bind us all together.

Mark your calendars now for Homecoming 2007 - October 26-28!



# Alumni News

## OWU Alumni Men's Glee Club and Glee-ettes Remember Their Leader —Gordon Almstead



During Homecoming Weekend, the Ohio Weslevan Alumni Men's Glee Club and Gleeettes gathered for their fourth reunion concert since 1996. As in past events, the major focus of the weekend was to pay tribute, in song, to their greatly admired director, Professor Gordon Almstead. Mr. "A" joined the Ohio Wesleyan faculty in September 1951 and established an eight-man Glee Club in 1952. The Glee-ettes were added in 1953. For 30 vears, those concerts became a tradition of Glee Club performances throughout the United States and Latin America. Professor Almstead retired in 1984 and lived in Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard, with his wife, Harriet, until his death on December 6, 1997. Laurie Campos, Gordon's eldest daughter, was able to be a part of the weekend activities with her daughter, Jennifer, a senior at OWU. Laurie's siblings. David, Rob, and Wendy, sent their greetings in memory of

began on Friday evening with the first rehearsal in Sanborn Hall. The 47 men and women, who returned from all parts of the country, were led by their talented director, Don Saliers '59, and accompanied by the extraordinary pianist and English Professor, Joe Musser. Director Saliers and accompanist Musser were able to recreate the spirit and sound that Professor Almstead had developed and nurtured.

The performance at Sanborn Hall was inspiring. The Glee Club and Glee-ettes were honored to have President Mark W. Huddleston and his wife Emma Bricker in attendance, as well as friends, relatives, students, and alumni. The concert began with the traditional Glee Club opening number, Grieg's "Brothers Sing On," and continued with many favorites. "The Navy Hymn" was sung in tribute to Professor Almstead's service in the military, and the recent passing of Glee Club member,

Wind" by Larry Christian, a 1963 graduate and

former Glee Club member, was also performed. The Glee-ettes sang two moving selections, Mendelssohn's "Lift Thine Eyes" and Nelson's "He's Gone Away." Several medleys were performed by both groups and included the traditional finale, a medley from "The Sound of Music." The concert concluded with the Ohio Weslevan University Alma Mater.

The Glee Club Reunion Dinner was held after the concert. There, the members received greetings, thanks, and a university update from Provost David Robbins. Members received an update on The Gordon Almstead Memorial Scholarship Fund, which now has a market value of \$17,979, and The Gordon Almstead Memorial Student Assistance Fund, which stands at \$20,724. Later, the barbershop quartet of John Berryman '83, Paul Berryman '84, Rob Emblidge '82 and Dean Kline '82 gave

a rousing "command performance." After dinner, individuals shared Mr. "A" memories and stories and thoughts of those members who have moved on to a more peaceful place.

Plans are in the works to continue the reunion concerts. The Reunion Planning Committee members are Fred Evans '68, Joe Foltz '65, Ron Glosser '55, Karen Kale '66, Herb Kinney '69, Pete Lee '65, Larry Plum '68, Kathe Law Rhinesmith '64, Don Saliers '59 and Steve Smith '69. If you are interested in contributing to one or both of these funds, please contact Lindsey Gale in the Development Office at 740-368-3308 or send a check to: Ohio Wesleyan University, Mowry Alumni Center, 61 S. Sandusky Street, Delaware, OH 43015 and specify the designated fund.

### "OWU Celebrates 50 Years of Men's Lacrosse

### ~ By Peter Lee '65

Over 145 Ohio Weslevan lacrosse alumni, families, and friends returned during Homecoming Weekend to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the OWU Men's Lacrosse program. The event commemorated the rich history, success, tradition, and legacy of the Ohio Wesleyan University men's lacrosse program as it enters its 50th year of competition.

The official kick-off of the weekend began with a social gathering at The Brown Jug on Friday night. Saturday activities included the annual Red & Black inter-squad game in the morning and then cheering on the Battling Bishops football team to a Homecoming victory over Wittenberg. Immediately following the football game, the lacrosse alumni challenged the varsity team to a game played in Selby Stadium on the new artificial turf.

The day's celebration concluded with a banquet, the acknowledgement of returning alumni from each of the five decades of OWU lacrosse, and the traditional presentation of alumni awards. To celebrate this anniversary, OWU lacrosse alumni compiled a book entitled, "OWU History of Men's Varsity Lacrosse - 'Pride & Tradition' -Celebrating the First 50 Years: From Humble Beginnings to National Power," reflecting the 50 year history of this successful program. In addition to acknowledging returning alumni, a standing ovation was accorded to OWU's



current head coach Sean Ryan for an alumni team photo.

Alumni from the 1980's enioved catching up with one another at the 50th anniversary celebration.

founding lacrosse head coach Fred Myers' widow Sylvia Myers Willoughby - the "First Lady" of OWU lacrosse.

The evening's banquet festivities officially ended as members returned to The Jug and The Backstretch to reminisce with each other and to socialize with lacrosse alumni representing 50 years of OWU men's lacrosse.

For a complete summary of the 50th Anniversary of OWU Men's Lacrosse, additional information about OWU Men's Lacrosse Alumni activities, future

> events, participating on the "OWU Legends Lacrosse Teams," and photographs of the 50th Anniversary Celebration, go to: http://alumni.owu.edu/lax. html



Lacrosse Alumni from the 1970's join forces.

A small, but mighty group of lacrosse alumni from the 1960's attended the 50th anniversary celebration.



Marion Cannon Myers '77, Paul Myers '74, Jan Baron '70, and Rich Seiler '72 join the "First Lady of OWU Lacrosse," Sylvia Myers Willoughby.

# Alumni News

# Memorial Gateway: Bridging the Past with the Future

"...Another class memorial is now completed and takes its place with the other class gifts on the campus. The 1909 gateway, erected at the Library entrance to campus at the cost of \$900, is an imposing piece of architecture and a



# Memorial Gateway: Bridging the Past with the Future

By Pam Besel

What are the places on OWU's campus you always will remember? Most certainly, a kaleidoscope of images, each one melding into another, comes to mind. One of those images shared by every student ever enrolled at Ohio Wesleyan, is the same structure and locale referenced further in the Transcript story cited above: ... "two massive pillars, capped with stone rise on either side of the stone steps leading up from the sidewalk..." Not unlike a lighthouse in the ocean, this gateway, known over the years as "Nicotine Gate", beckons and welcomes students. staff members, and friends of Ohio Wesleyan to east campus, and the many

academic and administrative locales situated beyond.

The passing years take a toll on even the strongest, most stately stone pillars. Thanks to the vision and concern of members of the Class of 1959. the restoration of this gateway-appropriately renamed "Memorial Gateway"-will result in a greatly improved front entrance for all who work for, study at, and visit OWU. Class members have, in fact, taken this project on as their class gift, signifying a lasting tribute to the Class of 1909. A restored and beautiful Memorial Gateway will be re-dedicated during Alumni Weekend 2009. Offering both her leadership and inspiration to these efforts is OWU alumna Joanne Hlavin Ritter '59.

"My immediate concern was that during the restoration process, the pillars would be removed [permanently],"

says Ritter. "But we have been told that they will be removed, cleaned, restored, and put back in place." In addition, as Chris Setzer, OWU's director of the physical plant explains, the original brick will be cleaned (original limestone and keystones removed) and put back into place while extending the brick walkway up to the front of Slocum Hall. Also in the plan is a handicapped ramp from Sandusky Street to the campus walkway, and an expansion of the original steps, creating a seating area (see artist's sketch). New outdoor lighting, trash cans, and benches also will be included in these efforts.

"Restoration and renewal are so important for Ohio Wesleyan," says Evan Corns '59, OWU Trustee. "I love the symmetry of the original dedication date by the Class of 1909 to be restored and renovated by the great Class

of 1959, celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> reunion in 2009!"

There really is, as Ritter believes, something wonderful about time-worn materials that cannot be replicated today.

"The careful restoration of old brick is of paramount importance," says Ritter. "We aim to be conservators, and that will be our greatest gift of all."

(Editor's Note: Memorial
Gateway is the third in a series
of projects designed to improve
OWU's front entrance to the
campus. The other two are the
Clock Tower addition from the
Class of '55 and the Slocum/
University Hall Plaza from
the Class of '56. Elsewhere
on campus, there is magic
to behold at Sulphur Spring,
much enhanced by the Class
of 1954.)



# Alumni News

## Golden Bishop Luncheon – October 10

It was a beautiful day for 30 Golden Bishops to attend a luncheon on campus. Golden Bishop functions are sponsored for alumni who

have graduated 50 years or more from the university and emeriti faculty and staff. This year, the luncheon was held in the Richard M. Ross Art Museum where the group heard from Justin Kronewetter,

> art professor and director of the Ross Art Museum. Justin and the group discussed the emergence of the Ross Art Museum as a first-class museum, its place on Ohio Wesleyan's campus and the

Ruth Stokes Cadwallader '41 and Dottie Stokes Peppe '38 enjoy a portrait by distinguished alumni artist Jane Terzis '72.



Bill Eells '46 and Professor Justin Kronewetter discuss the wonderful exhibits at the Richard M. Ross Art Museum.

two exhibits in the museum. After lunch, several Golden Bishops took advantage of the beautiful autumn weather and toured the campus to see the changes that are taking place.



### **OWU CONNECTIONS**

If you are interested in planning an event in your city or have an idea for an alumni event, contact the coordinator in your area. The Young Alumni Connections in each city focus on events for alumni that graduated within the last 10 years. If your city isn't listed and you would like to have an event in your area, contact the Alumni Relations Office at

740-368-3325 or

alumni@owu.edu.

Atlanta, GA: Howard M. Austin '69, howard.austin.1969@owu. edu, 404-434-0599; Andy Dunn '00, AndyDunn@Westminster.net; Drew Jackson '81, drew.59@charter.net, 770-967-8725; John Gordon '76, john@gdp.com, 404-261-4746; Craig Luke '85, craigluke@atl.frb.org; 404-294-9944; Kate Duello Roca '01, katherine.duello.2001@owu.edu

**Baltimore, MD:** Bridget Sommers '95, 410-212-3533, bridget@shindigonline.com; Elizabeth Phillips King '91, 410-224-7661, Elizabeth.phillips.1991@owu.edu

**Boston MA:** Andrew Morrison '85, 617-566-6949, Andrew.morrison.1964@owu.edu; Kristen Shockley '00, Kristen.Shockley@bc.edu

Cape Cod and the Islands, MA: Neil Bantly '52, 508-896-9753, nbantly@capecod.net; Kathe Law Rhinesmith '64, 508-945-5092, Kathleen.law.1964@owu.edu

Chicago, IL: Emily Lewis Caragher '98, chicagoemily@hotmail.com; Sean F. Monahan '92, seanfmonahan@hotmail.com; Katy Corns Walker '91, waddskaty@comcast.net

Cincinnati, OH: Andrew Bolyard '96 andrewbolyard@hotmail. com; Pat Frasher '66 and David '65 Papoi, 513-232-2435, david. papoi.1965@owu.edu; Nancy Lowe '57 and Bob '56 Hancher, 513-793-5081, nancy.lowe.1957@owu.edu; robert.hancher.1956@owu.edu; Stacy Chubak Hinners '00, stacyhinners@yahoo.com; Laura Nienaber '04, laura.nienaber.2004@owu.edu

Cleveland, OH: Eileen Callahan '83, ecallahan@penton.com

Columbus, OH: Erica Green '04, legacy\_couture@hotmail.com, 740-607-1766; Aaron Granger '93, grangerhome@compuserve.com

**Dayton, OH:** Jim Kirkland '66, 937-298-1381, kirkland@siscom.com

**Detroit, MI:** Jeff Egdell '96, jegdell@weirmanuel.com; Kat Dudzik '03, 740-803-2467, katowu2003@yahoo.com

**St. Louis, MO:** Clark Hotaling '83, 314-918-8561, chotaling@interiorinvestments.com

Hartford, CT: Jim Aspell '83, 860-233-3508, jaspell@aol.com

Los Angeles/Orange County, CA: Mary Beth Skoch '02, Marybeth@newcityamerica.com

Metropolitan New York: Walter "Skip" Auch '68, 203-869-9234, walter.auch.1968@owu.edu

**Milwaukee, WI:** Ali Albrecht '98, 248-875-7346, Alison.albrecht.1998@owu.edu

**New Hampshire:** Bob Gerseny '78, 603-746-3751, robert.gerseny@citizensbank.com

**Pittsburg, PA:** Matt Phillips '92, 724-778-0284, mphillips@cohenlaw.com

San Francisco, CA: John Thomas '61, 415-925-2191, john.thomas.1961@owu.edu; or Amy Archer '00, amy.archer@schwab.com

**Washington, D.C.:** Shana Heilbron '02, 202-547-1123, shana\_heilbron@yahoo.com; Abby K. Moore '06, akmoore7@yahoo.com

# cALendar of Events

For more information and to register for events, visit the Web site at http://alumni.owu.edu/events.html or contact the Alumni Relations Office at 740-368-3325 or events@owu.edu unless otherwise noted.

#### **JANUARY**

Saturday, January 27 • Cleveland, OH

- Join local alumni, families and friends for the Cleveland Snowball gala.

### FEBRUARY

#### Saturday, February 4 • Naples, FL

- Join local alumni, families, and friends with OWU President Mark Huddleston at the Pelican Marsh Golf Club for a Red and Black Luncheon.

Sunday, February 5 • Palm Beach **Gardens, FL** – Join local alumni, families, and friends with OWU President Mark Huddleston at the home of Phil '59 and Nancy LaPorte '59 Meek.

#### Saturday, February 10 • On Campus

- Join former basketball and tennis players as they honor Frank Shannon at a special reception after the Men's Basketball game.

### MARCH

### Thursday, March 15 • Boston, MA

- Join alumni, families, and friends for a Red and Black Reception with OWU President Mark Huddleston.

#### March 23-24 • On-Campus

FIJI Pig Dinner - Join brothers of Phi Gamma Delta for the 104th Pig Dinner. For more information, contact Jack McKinnie '54 at 440-871-2436. Phi Union - Join brothers of Phi Delta Theta for the third annual Phi-Union. New events will be added this year. For more information, contact Andy Warnock '06 at 740-815-5632 or at andy\_warnock@hotmail.com.

Saturday, March 24 • Columbus Monnett Club – Join the Columbus Monnett Club to celebrate the 200th birthday of the National Road. Learn about the road that helped build America and see the road through song and narration. Ms. Sylvia Miller from the Ohio Humanities Council will be the guest speaker for the event which begins at 10:30 a.m. at the Forum at Knightsbridge, 4590 Knightsbridge, Columbus, Ohio 43214. If you have any questions or to register please contact Patricia Martin Wilson '62 via e-mail at: wilsonps@columbus.rr.com or directly at (614)457-0703.

**Date and Location Coming Soon!** Baltimore, MD, and Philadelphia, PA\*\*

#### APRIL

### Tuesday, April 17 • Columbus Monnett

Club - Join the Columbus Monnett Club for an Evening at Oak Hill with dinner at President Huddleston's home in Delaware. Ginny (O'Grady) '70 and Mark '70 Shipps will be special guests. The event starts at 6:30 p.m. and RSVP's are required. The President's home is located at 135 Oak Hill Ave., Delaware, Ohio 43015. If you have any questions or to register please contact Patricia Martin Wilson '62 via e-mail at: wilsonps@columbus.rr.com or directly at (614)457-0703. (You must RSVP for this

#### Wednesday, April 18 • Denver, CO

- Join fellow OWU alumni, families, and friends with OWU President Mark Huddleston for a Red and Black Reception in the Denver area.

Sunday, April 22 • On Campus — Golden Bishops Brunch and theatre event for the student performance Henry IV, Part I.

### **Date and Location Coming Soon!**

Orange County, CA\*\*, Minneapolis, MN, Cincinnati, OH, St. Louis, MO, and Washington, DC

#### MAY

Friday, May 18 • Delaware, OH – Join alumni and friends for a golf outing in conjunction with this year's Alumni Weekend. For more information please contact Brenda DeWitt at bedewitt@owu.edu or at (740) 368-3329.

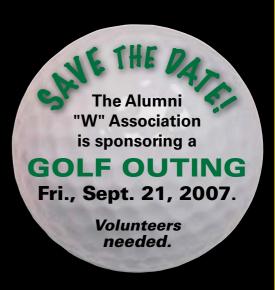
May 18-20 • On Campus - ALUMNI **WEEKEND!** Everyone is invited to return to campus to renew friendships and participate in all the festivities. Classes ending in "2" and "7" will be featured as they celebrate their reunions. Visit our Web site at http://weekend.owu.edu.

#### JUNE

### Saturday, June 2 • Cleveland, OH

- Join alumni, families, and friends for a Pre-game picnic and Lower Box Seat tickets for the Cleveland Indians vs Detroit Tigers. It is Turn back the Clock Night at the ballpark. Everyone will receive a CC Sabathia 1970's clothes Bobblehead and retro uniforms worn on both teams.

\*\*If you would like to help organize an event in these cities, contact Matt Salts '01 in the Alumni Relations Office at (740) 368-3330



# Alumni News

## OFF CAMPUS Events and News

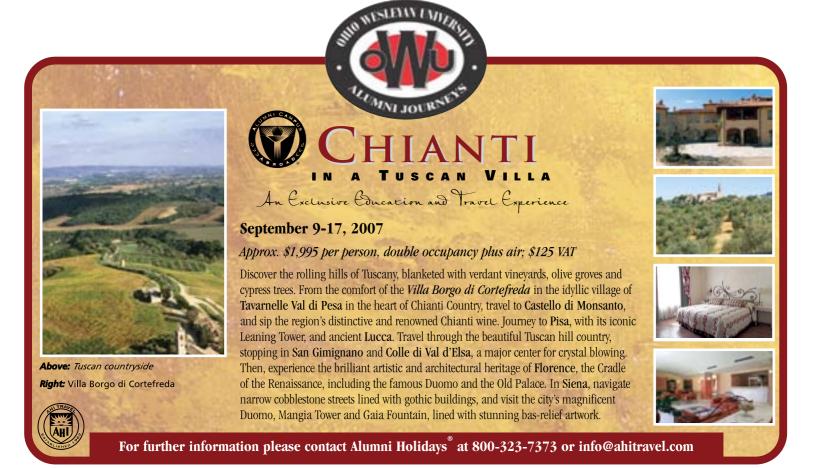


Washington, DC – September 8-9:
OWU alumni, family, and,

friends traveled to Washington, D.C. to cheer on the OWU football team as they battled

Catholic University of America. Over 100 alumni joined the festivities that included

a pre-game tailgate, game, and post-game young alumni event.





Everyone feasted on lobsters and clam chowder during a picture perfect evening on the Cape!

### Cape Cod, MA -September 16:

There was a wonderful gathering of alumni and friends to watch the sunset and share a lobster dinner at the Cape Cod Clambake hosted by Kathe Law Rhinesmith '64.

### Cincinnati. OH -October 6

OWU alumni and friends joined together at the Tall Stacks River Festival for a Social Hour boat cruise on the Ohio River aboard the Steamboat Natchez.

### **October 16-17:**

OWU President Mark Huddleston visited OWU alumni, families, and friends in the Bay Area to discuss all the exciting changes happening at Ohio Wesleyan.

Christopher Wolf '78, Paul Smith '57, and John Thomas '61 enjoy a Red and Black Luncheon at Palio d'Asti in San Francisco's Financial District.



Nancy Morgan Giles '60 and Bea Ricker Elder 34 catch up on life and showcase their OWU

colors with pride!

Susan Wheaton, Randall Wheaton '70, and Ann Slutz Flanagan '70 gather for a discussion aboard the Steamboat Natchez.

# Alumni News

### **Columbus Monnett - October 23:**

Over 30 alumnae from Central Ohio gathered at the home of Laurie McGregor Connor '77 to see a sneak preview of the OWU Student performance of Out of this World with Professor Elane Denny.



Sue Bottiggi '75, Wendy McCall Johnson '74, Laura Wayland (Alumni Director), Suzanne Sutter Sumner '74, Sue Bauer Williams '74, and Ginny O'Grady Shipps '70 represent the decade of the 70's.

Wendy Johnson '74, Joni Manos Brown '78, and Peter Brown

enjoy the wine tasting at Luce.

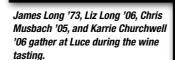
Diane Hall Bassett '73, Martha Hodge Noreault '66, Pat Martin Wilson '62 and current student Eric Magnus '07 converse after the students perform.

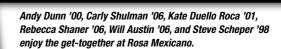
### Columbus, OH -October 26:

Over 60 Columbus area OWU alumni, families, and friends joined for a late fall wine tasting at Luce in Powell. The evening featured a presentation by Sommelier David B. McMahon.

### Atlanta, GA -November 1:

A festive group of Atlanta area alumni gathered for a Red and Black Fiesta at Rosa Mexicano in Atlantic Station. The event was hosted by Howard Greenstone '83 who serves as the COO for Rosa Mexicano with other locations in New York City, Washington D.C., and Palm Beach.





Jim McInerny '77, John Gordon '76, and Helen Gordon gather for the fiesta.



### Chicago, IL -**November 9:**

Over 60 alumni, family, and friends gathered at the home of Scott '88 and Katy Corns

'91 Walker in Evanston for a reception with special guest, OWU Athletic Director, Roger Ingles.

Frank Quinn Jr., Frank Quinn '78, Martha Ferguson, Laura Lindstrom '89, and Lloyd Ferguson '62 gather at the Walkers' home during the social hour.

Frank Weschler, Evan Corns '59, and 2003 Honorary Alumna Mary Milligan.



The Northeast Ohio Alumni Chapter presents the

Saturday, January 27, 2007 Mayfield Country Club •Cleveland, Ohio Cocktails with Dinner and Dancing •Silent and Live Auction

For more information, to donate an auction item, or to receive an invitation, contact David '73 and Belinda "Binney" Brown Fouts '73 (216) 932-2020/fouts17@aol.com or the Alumni Relations Office at (740) 368-3325 or alumni@owu.edu. alumni.owu.edu/snowball/



### **VOTE FOR ALUMNI TRUSTEES**

**Vote for YOUR representatives to the Board** of Trustees! Make sure to send in your ballot to the Alumni Office by March 1, 2007.

### **ABOUT THE NOMINEES**

### Richard B. Alexander '82 (incumbent)

Richard Alexander is a member of the Ohio Wesleyan class of 1982 and received his MS from the London School of Economics in 1983. He is currently the vice president and global manager of AIU Small Business Solutions. He and his wife Kim reside in Norwalk, Connecticut, and have two daughters. He is a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. He is currently serving on the Board of Trustees for Ohio Wesleyan University.

#### Nicholas E. Calio '75 (incumbent)

Nicholas Calio received his BA from Ohio Wesleyan in 1970 and his JD from Case Western Reserve in 1978. Nick is currently the senior vice president of Global Government Affairs for Citigroup. Prior assuming his current position in 2003, he served President George W. Bush as assistant to the president for legislative affairs. He and his wife Lydia Keller Calio '77 reside in Chevy Chase, Maryland, and have three children. He is a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. He is currently serving on the Board of Trustees for Ohio Wesleyan University.

### Evan R. Corns '59 (incumbent)

Evan Corns graduated with a BA from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1959. He obtained his MA in History from the University of North Carolina in 1961. Evan retired in 1998 as owner and president of America's Body Company. He currently volunteers his time and support in a number of organizations, including Ohio Wesleyan. Evan and his wife Barbara reside in Pepper Pike, Ohio, and have three daughters. He is a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. He is currently serving on the Board of Trustees for Ohio Wesleyan University.

### Rachel L. Diehl '91 (incumbent)

Rachel Diehl graduated with a BA from Ohio Wesleyan in 1991 and received her JD from Seton Hall University in 1997. She is currently an adjunct professor at Seton Hall University School of Law. She is a member of Delta Gamma sorority. She and her husband Christopher Baker reside in New Cannon, Connecticut, with their two daughters. She is currently serving on the Board of Trustees for Ohio Wesleyan University in the restricted category (alumni who have graduated more than three but less than 20 years.)

Separate ballot included in this issue of the Magazine.

# SPORTS

# COACHES EART "WITH LEADER" TITLES

By Mark Beckenbach `81

This fall, Ohio Wesleyan volleyball coach Cynthia Holliday and football coach Mike Hollway joined a select group of mentors who are the all-time winningest coaches in their sport at Ohio Wesleyan.

Holliday surpassed Mary Parker as Ohio Wesleyan's alltime wins leader in volleyball when the Bishops swept John Carroll in three games on September 5. The victory also was her 200<sup>th</sup> in 13 seasons at the Battling Bishop helm.

"I think that Mary Parker was definitely a pioneer in women's sports with her involvement at Ohio Wesleyan and the Centennial Athletic Conference, and I look at it as an honor to pass her," Holliday says. "This is an individual being recognized, but it's part of being a team - the alumnae who played for me, and my assistant coach (Sheila Gisbrecht '92) who not only played for me but has coached with me for 11 years."

Holliday became Ohio Wesleyan's volleyball coach in 1994, taking over a team that had won a school-record 26 matches and gone 8-0 in the North Coast Athletic Conference the year before but was upset in the semifinals of the conference tournament.

Under Holliday, the Bishops took that final step and won the NCAC title in 1994, and then won another crown in 1996.

Not surprisingly, some of the wins that stand out



for Holliday were those two title matches, along with a few wins from this season that highlighted the progress

Holliday and Gisbrecht have made in returning the Bishops to NCAC championship caliber.

The first was the 1994 NCAC championship match against Allegheny, which the Bishops won in five games. "I can still

remember telling someone to get ready to serve when we were stuck on 14 points, and all we had to do was side out and we would win the match," Holliday recalls.

The 1996 NCAC title

"I REMEMBER THE

ROLLERCOASTER

RIDE OF EMOTIONS

FROM THAT MATCH

- FIRST WE'RE UP

TWO GAMES, THER

THEY'RE SERVING

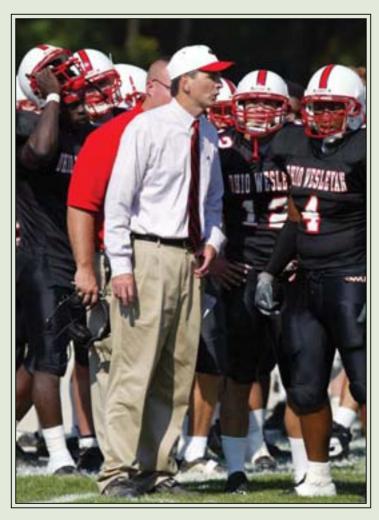
FOR THE MATCH,

THER ELATION."

match stands out for a different reason. Ohio Wesleyan won the first two games by scores of 16-14, but lost the second two games by scores of 15-8. In the fifth game,

Wittenberg held a 14-13 lead and was serving for the match when the Bishops recorded a side out and reeled off two straight points to win by a 16-14 score. "I remember the rollercoaster ride of emotions from that match – first we're up two games, then they're serving for the match, then elation."

Standout moments from this season include a five-game win over Denison that was the Bishops' first over the Big Red since 1999, a come-from-behind win over Hanover on Hanover's home court, and a five-game win over Wooster in which Ohio Wesleyan lost the first two games, then came back to win the match, pulling off that feat for the first time since 1999.



Mike Hollway became the winningest football coach in Ohio Wesleyan history when the Bishops defeated Denison, 35-10, on October 14.

The win was the 122<sup>nd</sup> for Hollway at Ohio Wesleyan, passing the mark of 121 set by George Gauthier, the Hall of Fame coach who oversaw the Bishop football team from 1921-46.

Now in his 20<sup>th</sup> season at Ohio Wesleyan – a gridiron tenure surpassed by only Gauthier – Hollway sees the moment as one of passage.

"The circle of coaches in the last 90 years at Ohio Wesleyan is really quite small – Gauthier, Glenn Fraser, Jack Fouts. History and alumni communications suggest that each of those were outstanding men and outstanding coaches who had a lasting impact on this institution and the men they had the privilege to coach. Now, I'd like to

believe that I belong to that small fraternity."

When Hollway took over at Ohio Wesleyan in 1987, the Battling Bishops had not enjoyed a winning season since the 1971 team went to the Amos Alonzo Stagg Bowl, then the NCAA College Division Western Regional championship game, and had gone 0-10 in 1986. In his first season, Hollway guided the Bishops to a 5-5 record, and by his third season, Ohio Wesleyan had shared the North Coast Athletic Conference championship. Hollway's teams have won six games or more in 13 seasons and have enjoyed six seasons of eight or more wins.

"Our collective success is a reflection of the acknowledgement and reputation of Ohio Wesleyan as an institution of higher learning. In my mind, the academic and extracurricular athletics experience function in harmony with the motto of the institution: 'Education for Leadership and Service.''

When asked for his five most memorable wins at Ohio Wesleyan, Hollway has no trouble coming up with the one at the top of the list.

"The win over Wittenberg my first year here," he says.

That 21-12 decision in the 1987 season finale not only was Ohio Wesleyan's first win over Wittenberg since 1971, but it also clinched the Bishops' first non-losing season in that same span.

Chronologically, the next game on Hollway's list was an 18-7 verdict over Allegheny in 1989, which clinched a share of the NCAC championship for Ohio Weslevan.

Next was a 14-11 nail biter over Wooster in 1999 in the Bishops' season opener. "Wooster was a very, very good football team, and we played extremely well; it was a complete football game."

Following on the short list is a 51-47 shootout over Allegheny in the 2001 season finale, finishing a 9-1 season for the Bishops.

Finally, there was the Bishops' 28-24 win over Wittenberg in 2004, a game that saw Ohio Wesleyan convert a pair of fourth-down situations on the way to scoring the game-winning touchdown with 1:54 to play.

Other current Ohio Wesleyan coaches who are the all-time win leaders in their sport are:

Men's soccer coach Jay Martin, whose 134<sup>th</sup> win moved him past Fred Myers. Martin became the Bishops' all-time wins leader in 1986 and now has more than 500 victories to his credit, making him the seventh college coach to reach that mark;

Bob Barnes, who has compiled 165 wins as Ohio Wesleyan's women's soccer coach. He became the Bishops' all-time wins leader in 2002, during Ohio Wesleyan's 24-0 run to their second consecutive national championship, surpassing the total of 107 by Margie Shade;

Nan Carney-DeBord, who became the Bishops' all-time wins leader in women's basketball during the 1987-88 season. She now has 349 wins in 20 seasons at Ohio Wesleyan.

Additionally, athletics director Roger Ingles was the Bishops' all-time wins leader in baseball, winning 645 games during his 22 seasons in the dugout.

Mr. Beckenbach is Associate Director of Media Relations and Director of Sports Information.

## AN ADDITION TO THE ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME ARTICLE FOR 2006 INDUCTEE, WALLY CROSS '52 (page 16 of the Fall OWU Magazine):



Cross was named to the 1951 Associated Press All-Ohio Team (all colleges with the exception of Ohio State University, including the Mid-American Conference universities and the University of Cincinnati), as well as to all of the All-Ohio Conference teams, as selected by the Associated Press, *Columbus Dispatch*. Cross was elected honorary captain of the 1951 Ohio Conference championship team, which had the best win-loss record from 1928-1953, and set 21 team and 11 individual records. Cross played both offensive tackle and defensive

halfback in an era of two-platoon college football, and is generally considered to have been one of the most versatile football players in Ohio Wesleyan University football history, having excelled at five different positions during his outstanding career. Personifying the notable OWU scholar/athlete tradition, he was a member of both Phi Beta Kappa and ODK, and an officer of the student body. The *Magazine* regrets the omission.

# BOOKMARKS



Ceremonial de viento /
Ceremonial of Wind by
Juan Armando Rojas Joo,
published in 2006 by Editorial
La Cuadrilla de la langosta in
Mexico City, Mexico.

By Andrea Misko Strle '99

Juan Armando Rojas Joo, assistant professor of modern foreign languages at Ohio Wesleyan, considers his latest book of poetry, *Ceremonial de viento / Ceremonial of Wind*, a book of art in which the words recreate the last four years of his life, including two years in Amherst, Massachusetts, while at

Amherst College, and two years in Delaware, Ohio.

In order to embrace the New England culture, language, diversity, and natural setting, Rojas says he opened a dialogue with 19<sup>th</sup> Century New England poet Emily Dickinson's universe, considering every minuscule element when creating his poems.

He considered
Dickinson's house, her
poetry, her grave, her letters,
and stories. He considered
the natural environment
of Amherst, its people and
its history. He recreates a
dialogue with the life and
work of Dickinson.

"Ceremonial of Wind is the book where I chant the miraculous experiences and blessings that I have received from languages and words," Rojas says. "Poetry is not a career, nor a profession, and Ceremonial of Wind was created, then, as a way of expressing how poetry is never in a hurry ... poetry doesn't have to prove anything to exist and yet, to be fair with truth, everything that poetry names, exists." In the book's prologue, Leticia Luna describes Rojas' book as a "re-encounter with the white dame of Amherst – by means of poetic language, that reveals itself in two of its dimensions: the world of senses and the world of signifiers."

His previous book of poetry, *Santuarios Desierto Mar*, published in 2004, was a collection of poems chronicling the discovery of a new land, new places – an analogy for the journey of life. Translated *Sanctuary Desert Sea*, that book of poems chronicles the experiences of 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> century Europeans as they discovered a new land in what is now the southwest North America and Mexico.

His latest book of poems is illustrated by Amherst College's art professor and artist, Betsey Garand, was translated to English by Dr. Jennifer Rathbun of The Ohio State University, making it a bilingual edition. The book can be obtained at the Ohio Wesleyan University bookstore.

Ms. Strle is a professional journalist living in Columbus, Ohio.

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### **OHIO WESLEYAN LEGACY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

Kim Martin, Class of 2008 from Kent, OH joins her father Christopher Martin '75, grandparents and numerous uncles and aunts as proud members of the Ohio Wesleyan University community. Kim is one of eight legacy students participating in the Legacy Internship program which has benefited 30 legacy students since it's inception during the 2004-2005 academy year.

Thanks to the generous contributions of alumni, legacy students have the opportunity to intern with University departments, offices and programs for one semester or the full academic year. Interns receive a stipend and learn valuable work-place skills in a professional environment.

As an intern in the botany-microbiology department,

Kim has a broad range of responsibilities including assisting with the development of newsletters and educational materials regarding health and safety issues for the campus and community, to assisting lab technicians for various departments, to overseeing the proper disposal of bio-hazardous waste from the various labs on campus.

Kim is a double major in pre-professional zoology and environmental studies and when she is not

working in the botany-microbiology department is involved in Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority, the Outdoor Ministry Team and Astronomy Club.





All alumni are invited to Return to campus for the annual Alumni Weekend to Renew friendships and Reunite as you celebrate and explore the changes at your alma mater. Classes ending in "2" and "7" will be featured as they celebrate reunions. There will be receptions, parades, an all-alumni dance, art exhibits, delicious food, Alumni College sessions, and great conversation. So mark your calendar and make plans to travel back to campus for your reunion.

### EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION DISCOUNT -

Registration brochures will be mailed in February. If you register before March 31, you will receive a discount off of the Alumni Weekend Registration Fee!

### SUBMIT YOUR REUNION CLASS NOTES ONLINE! Go to

the Alumni Weekend Web site at http://weekend.owu.edu and you can submit your reunion class notes online! Deadline for submission is March 1, 2007.

## PAST DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT CITATION RECIPIENTS AND ALUMNI AWARD WINNERS:

Evan Bukey '62

Dale Bruce '52

Jan Kaye Fritz '57

Wendie Malick '72

Alex Shumate '72

Mary Poe Timmons '22

Transfer Timmons 22

Laurie McGregor Connor '77

Alan Francis Geyer '52

Jeanne Ellen Snodgrass '52

Frank Timmons '52

James Hamilton Charlesworth '62

Terry Deibel '67

Frazier Shipps '37

Mary Elizabeth King '62

Ira Lipman '62

Clifford Dochterman '47

Kisoon Hyun '52

John Renner '47

Ida Grigg McKenney '47

Robert Simonds '47

Elden T. Smith '32

Florence Altman Thomas '42

Ruth Wertenberger Melvin '32

Questions can be directed to: The Alumni Relations Office Mowry Alumni Center, Ohio Wesleyan University Delaware, OH 43015 740-368-3325, alumni@owu.edu

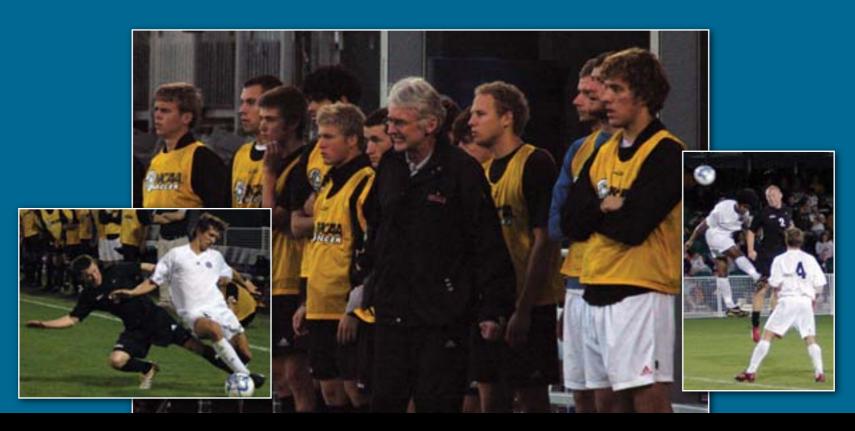




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CONGRATULATIONS to the men's soccer team for reaching the National semifinals. **GO BISHOPS!**