

OWU

Ohio Wesleyan Magazine

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THE BIRTH OF AN IDEA



Creating and Nurturing Great Ideas at OWU

A New President for OWU

Exercising the Mind

A Race for Hope

Find
YOUR
Passion

OWU

Ohio Wesleyan Magazine

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Idea

Author Ray Bradbury once described life as “trying things to see if they work.” One of my favorite writers over the past four decades, Bradbury, author of *Dandelion Wine* and so many other wonderful books, mesmerizes me by the beauty and descriptiveness of his writing. A clear-cut message of this book points to the importance of enjoying and appreciating with child-like wonder and curiosity, the world around us—whether we are 15 or 50 years young.

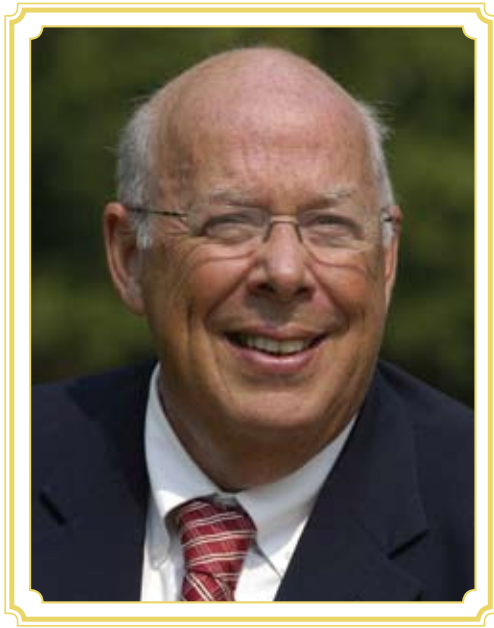
It is just that sense of wonder and observation from which truly wondrous ideas spring. And it is the formation and nurturing of ideas and discoveries that we want to present in this edition of the *OWU Magazine*, as we introduce you to several Ohio Wesleyan professors and alumni, and their special stories. With open arms and minds, they welcome the challenges of the unknown as well as that which they can learn from others who are on similar journeys.

By thoughtful design, we offer glimpses of research, creative thought, and accomplishments of these talented people representing the fine and performing arts, economics, science, humanities-classics, and athletics, beginning on page 4. You'll become acquainted with an OWU alumna whose ingenuous idea and optimism—and the eagerness of a beloved canine race partner—may raise much needed funds for a child in need of help (page 28). A doggie duathlon. Imagine that!

“Trying things to see if they work.” Whether trekking down canyons of the great southwest, making small loans available to new businesses in developing third-world countries, or discovering, right here in Delaware County, a more scientifically accurate account of the seas' movements across our continent—Ohio Wesleyan professors are making a difference in the lives of many. Enjoy their stories and the rest of this magazine.

Pamela Besel
Editor

Thinking . . . critically and creatively



David O. Robbins

Although today's world is filled with challenges—interpersonal conflict, ethnic rivalry, economic distress, isolation, mistrust, and misunderstanding — that may threaten our very existence, great ideas continue to emerge. Even in the midst of chaos, medicine leaps ahead. Original artists break new ground. And technological advances cause us to marvel.

Just how are these great ideas born? My graduate training in neuroscience might lead me into a discussion of the almost unlimited capacity of the human brain to dissect key elements of our sensory world and to recreate images and concepts that, through the specialization of neurons and neuronal networks, lead to action.

However, convergent analyses at the molecular level are more indicative of where and possibly by what neurological mechanisms the human brain processes various forms of information rather than how ideas arise within the brain. Approaches of the type I've described, which focus on a single discipline, are highly interesting and enlightening but may not by themselves provide a broad enough perspective to understand and resolve the more global concerns facing our complex society. To untangle these issues, we must have knowledgeable citizens who are adept at critical thinking and able to tease out new and creative ideas from the mass of information available today.

The best place for students to accumulate that information and learn how to think creatively and critically is in a liberal arts institution. It is the unique role and mission of the liberal arts colleges to train our students to think in these ways. In fact, it may be that teaching students to learn is the most important aspect of a liberal arts education. It is this type of learning across a diverse course of study, blending theory and practice, that leads our students to become successful in their careers and responsible, informed citizens.

Through a three-year grant from the Teagle Foundation and along with a group of other colleges within the Ohio 5 (Denison, Kenyon, Oberlin, Ohio Wesleyan, and Wooster), we are studying just what assessment instruments and pedagogical methods are most successful in fostering our students' abilities to think critically and creatively across the curriculum. Clearly our breadth of our class offerings, our small and interactive classes, and our students' close relationships with faculty assist them in developing important skills in divergent thinking.

While they are with us, students learn to study deeply and broadly; their thinking becomes more agile and flexible. They learn to synthesize information from various disciplines.

They are willing to challenge and be challenged as their intellectual competence is enhanced; they become confident, fearless learners and leaders.

Through both their teaching and scholarship, our exceptional and dedicated faculty works tirelessly to enhance students' abilities to think in new and creative ways. They not only help build those critical neural networks in the brain but also fire the students'

curiosity and passion to learn. Ohio Wesleyan is a place of great thinking, great learning, and surely of great ideas.

Sincerely,



David Robbins
Interim President and Provost

R E T U R N . . . R E N E W . . . R E U N I T E !

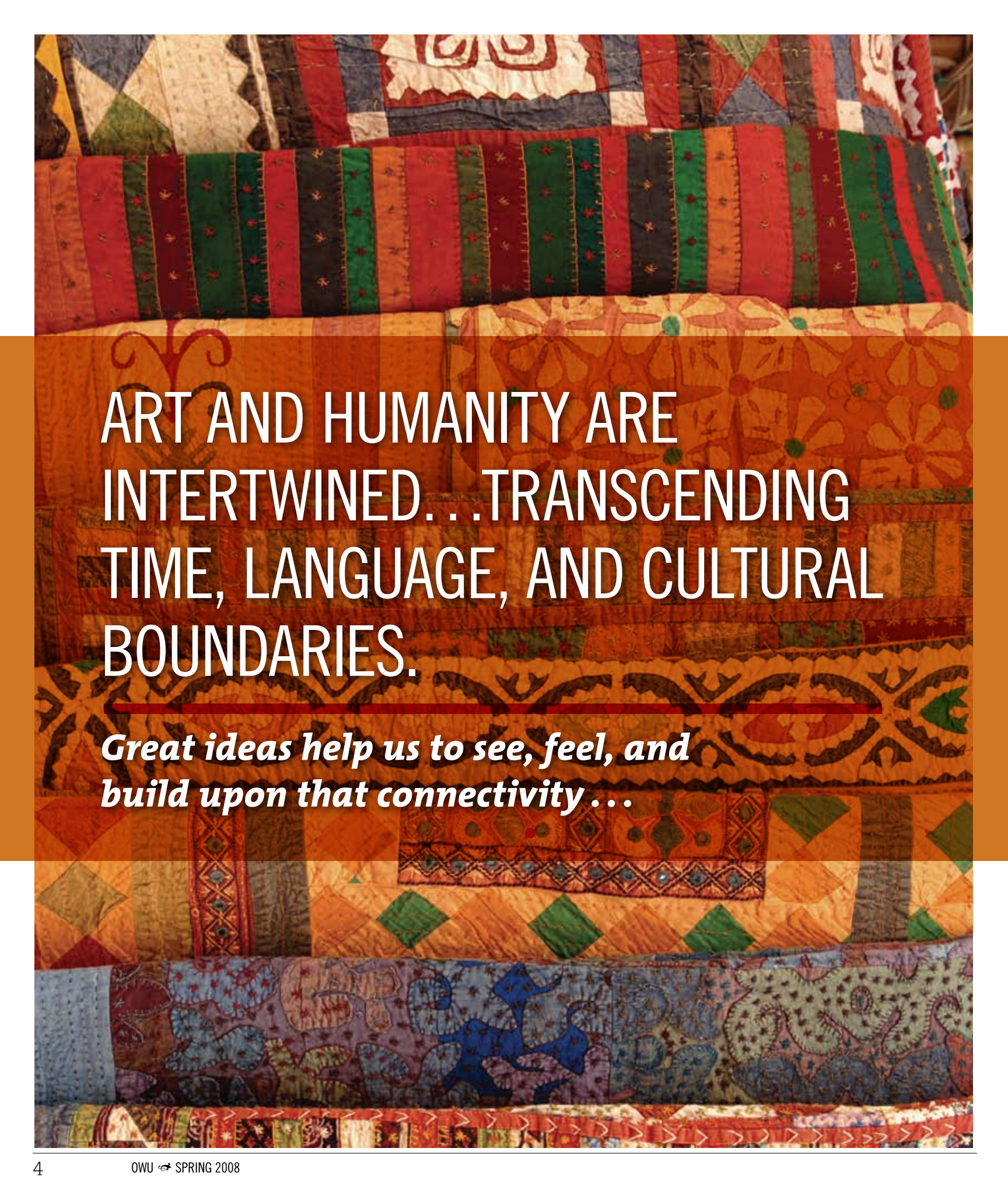
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ART AND HUMANITY ARE
INTERTWINED...TRANSCENDING
TIME, LANGUAGE, AND CULTURAL
BOUNDARIES.

*Great ideas help us to see, feel, and
build upon that connectivity...*



Some of our best ideas come to us during the stillness of night, in the quiet time just before dawn, or as we lather up and enjoy a morning shower.

Five Ohio Wesleyan professors share their innovative journeys and discoveries.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: Respect or Repetition?

By Pam Besel

OWU fine arts professor Jim Krehbiel's ideas continue to evolve during a decade-long series of grueling and physically challenging treks and trials that take him down canyons and across miles of challenging terrain in the great southwest—and back in time by some 2,000 years.

As Krehbiel's visual observations, photographs, and keen mapping and field notes progress, so do patterns of predictability. They point to exciting cultural and archaeological discoveries, but also red-flagged warnings for 21st century citizens of the world.

The locale? A 5,000-square-mile area found in the Four Corners region of Utah, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico. The 700-2000-year-old roads, cliff dwellings, pueblos, kivas, and pithouse dwelling sites, granaries, and remains of rock art indigenous to the ancestral Pueblo Indians—and several other tribal groups once inhabiting these areas—all convey the resourcefulness, practicality, and spirituality of these people. And one more not-so-admirable remnant: a landscape that is often so environmentally depleted and worn out, that even hearty cacti struggle to grow.

“During most of my life, I've traveled in the American West, and I live there as well,” says Krehbiel. During his numerous hikes over the past 10 years in particular, he has become interested in the landscape of such locations as eastern Utah's Salt Creek Canyon, where farm plots of 800 years ago are still clearly visible.

“Where there once were healthy varieties of flora and fauna, one sees the ancient granaries and the collapse of an environment,” says Krehbiel. His art, even in earlier years, was focused on ecology and the appropriate use of technology and resources to sustain our lives.

“My research also is about discovering levels of understanding about a variety of ancient cultures and trying to find answers to questions—and then re-think what those questions should be. You can imagine the varieties of issues these people faced, as well as the reasons for the collapse of their culture in the Four Corners region. By asking these questions, we can find out more about ourselves,” he says. “Resolving those questions and answers as expressed in my art work is a continuing process.”

Krehbiel travels on foot at speeds of up to four miles per hour, for up to 14 hours per day. It is Krehbiel's sheer passion for understanding and learning about the cultures and lifestyles of the ancestral Pueblos that drive him during his yearly visits.

Withstanding a June day's 100-degree heat, or 13-degree frigidity of a windy December day, Krehbiel often climbs

along canyon ledges to examine strategic locations of kivas and cliff dwellings or routes through the canyons to examine rock drawings. His GPS measurements, map work, on-site observations, and assistance from astronomers reveal that even in remote locations, the ancestral Pueblos used their solar observations and the cosmos to carefully place their buildings.

“You have to be really hardened to do this,” he points out.

Utilizing the skills of a scientist, with each visit, Krehbiel explores, observes, and documents what he sees and looks for predictable locations for sites. Predictability often can lead to new findings, insights, and unexpected discoveries, and understanding. As he explains, Krehbiel's explorations in canyons typically require route findings and white-knuckle drops from ledges, and as he says, “occasionally the use of ropes.”

In creating his art, he relies on field experience and sometimes utilizes photographs directly, or a combination of visual cues referencing his maps and field notes. In a recent faculty show in OWU's Ross Art Museum, Krehbiel's images were all digitally created and



Krehbiel: "As a civilization, we have ignored the environment for too long."



manipulated, and then printed directly from the computer. His concern about preserving and understanding ancient cultures and our collective impact on a fragile environment as he has witnessed directly during several field trips each year—is communicated through symbols, composition, color, shape, texture, and arrangement of information on a page. Krehbiel's art, and his research, present a carefully crafted message designed to give his audience the sense of a journey, as well as his personal synthesis of understanding about the people and their effect on the land they occupied.

"But unlike the ancestral Pueblo Indians—who migrated every 100 to 300 years or so as they ran environments down in each region—we are doing the same things they did to the ecosystem, but at a much faster rate," says Krehbiel. "Plus, we have no places to migrate to."

"I want my students to develop their ideas through their own processes as their work evolves. It's almost like you are having a dialogue with your work, a sort of visual give-and-take that occurs until the work is finished," he says. "Students need to know how to have that dialogue; to gather source material, to observe and test it, and to realize what it is that drives

them to make their own work." For senior Anusha Lalwani, it was her discovery of computer imaging (image manipulation) that inspires her.

"Jim teaches us various techniques, and he encourages us to pick up our own topics of interest," she says, describing her work, a series of self portraits made up to convey the different masks people wear in their public and private lives.

"He saw "something" in my earlier work, and has pushed me to do more and more," says Lalwani. Junior Vicki Barger describes her photography of a bracelet, shooting it from varying distances and angles, noting unpredictable shapes and textures.

"You have to be willing to look at things from different perspectives and not just straight on... and sometimes you find those great ideas. I call them "happy accidents," " she says, smiling.

Definitely not accidental, is Jim Krehbiel's intrigue with the magnificent environment of our western states; how ancient cultures used and struggled in

that environment—and why we should care.

"I am interested in the creative process, and how we gather information, synthesize it, and use the art process to resolve various issues," he says. Of special interest to him among a wide range of concerns: the world's population explosion, depletion of the earth's resources, and a declining quality of life.

"We are losing our curiosity about the world around us as well as a willingness to take time to do things for ourselves," he says. "As a civilization, we have ignored the environment for too long. We are on a fast track toward destroying the middle class, intellectually, economically, and socially in much the same way that the ancestral Pueblos lost theirs, as they waged raids on each other and migrated from place to place," says Krehbiel.

Why should we care? How can we not.

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



MAKING A DIFFERENCE, ONE LOAN AT A TIME

In developing countries, a small seed-money investment can help a start-up business take root, flower, grow—and transform the life of an entire village.

By Ann Marcum

It really is possible to change the world with as little as \$20. Just ask Saif Rahman, an economics professor who is opening Ohio Wesleyan students' eyes to the growing trend of microcredit.

The concept, which involves making small loans to start-up businesses in developing countries, was pioneered in the 1970s by Bangladeshi economist, founder of Grameen Bank, and Nobel Peace Prize-winner Muhammad Yunus. The idea targets the world's 2.8 billion people living in "deep poverty," who survive on less than \$2 per day.

Rahman began discussing microcredit as part of his economic development class several years ago, and many of his students were immediately drawn to the idea. One of those students, Taapsi Ramchandani '07, formed the Student Initiative for International Development (SIID) on campus during her senior year.

The group embarked on a fund-raising plan that included delivering pizzas on campus, holding a kickball tournament, and staging a 24-hour hunger strike to come up with seed money for the project. Additionally, a private donor in Columbus, Ohio, pledged \$1,000 after reading about SIID in a *Columbus Dispatch* article in April 2007; and Lisa Ho, assistant chaplain, and her husband, Luong, contributed another \$1,000 toward the project.

"The reason we gave the donation is because we believe so much in what [SIID] is doing," says Ho. "It really is about justice."

SIID cut its first check—totaling \$1,750—to its microcredit partner, Kiva, in late 2007. One hundred dollars was given to each of 16 business owners the group had selected, with the balance going straight to Kiva to cut down on its opera-

tional costs. The borrowers range from a farmer in Azerbaijan to a clothing maker in Peru.

"I just love the way this project works," says Phuong Nguyen '10, an economics major who became interested in SIID after hearing about the concept from her former resident assistant, Ramchandani. Nguyen has volunteered for Kiva since last summer, translating borrower requests from her native Vietnamese to English. She is also the vice president of SIID.

Microcredit, in the Grameen style, uses a "team" approach to keep the default percentage low, linking an average of five borrowers together and giving them a personal stake in the others' success. In some instances, loans are granted to consecutive business owners only if the first has repaid his or her debt, encouraging the others in the "team" to step up



Rahman: "Each generation is impacted by the last."

and assist with repayment. Consistent repayment records qualify the borrowers for additional loans, in larger amounts, in the future.

"If you open a window, they'll squeeze out in ways that will surprise us," says Rahman, mentioning that organizations such as Kiva and Grameen Bank typically boast a 98 percent repayment rate from their borrowers. Since its inception in 2005, Kiva has facilitated more than 30,000 loans totaling more than \$20 million. Grameen Bank has given out loans totaling more than \$6.5 billion, mostly to women in need.

"The nice thing is we're investing in people," says Julia Blyth '10, an English major, who serves as the secretary of SIID. "The money comes back, and we can invest in someone else. We can help them out without making them feel helpless."

The ultimate goal, Rahman explains, is to expand SIID's mission and funding and take on a more centralized, village-by-village approach to poverty eradication. This would be done by hand-picking areas with poor infrastructure—such as a lack of schooling, roads, and channels of communication—and helping to solve those tangible issues before introducing microcredit.

"I like the idea of [microdevelopment] because it creates roots," says Nguyen, who hopes to spread the word beyond SIID's dedicated 10-15-member base.

"I love the feeling of being able to make a difference in these peoples' lives. It's not a very difficult solution for a very difficult problem," says Kimberly Darren '10, a psychology major and president of SIID.

And the results, says Rahman, are clear: each generation is impacted by the last.

"I see [recipients] use opportunities, like reading and writing—and the next generation changes," says Rahman, who has witnessed such results in his own village in Bangladesh. "That's why default rates are low. That's their ticket. They are not looking for charity, not looking for a handout. They are looking for the same opportunities that we take for granted."

Ann Marcum is Assistant Director of Media and Community Relations at Ohio Wesleyan.

ONE IDEA LEADS TO ANO

By *Ericka Kurtz*

Anne Sokolsky's research on a Japanese writer sparked an interest in Taiwanese literature, and a forthcoming TEW grant to boot.

In the early 20th century, Japanese author Tamura Toshiko wrote provocative works that we now know were well ahead of her time. Later, an American journalist living in China sympathized with the Chinese Nationalists, even meeting Chiang Kai-shek. What do the Japanese writer and the American journalist have in common?

They both have had a profound impact on Anne Sokolsky, assistant professor of humanities-classics at Ohio Wesleyan.

Sokolsky is an expert in modern Japanese literature, with a specialization in gender studies. At OWU, she teaches courses that cover all of Asia. She traces her interest in Asia back to the grandfather she never met—the American journalist who had known Chiang Kai-shek. “I grew up in an apartment filled with the art of China that my grandfather brought back,” she recalls. “My sister, who grew up in the same

environment, was never interested in my grandfather's things, but I was captivated by them.”

Sokolsky went on to study psychology during her undergraduate years, but an insatiable appetite to learn more about the world took her abroad. “I was fascinated by living in the culture of completely different countries,” she says. “I became a Peace Corps volunteer and lived in Morocco. I learned Arabic and realized that I liked learning languages.” She also lived in Japan and learned to speak Japanese. Today, Sokolsky is studying Chinese.

Although she has an interest in all things Asian, Sokolsky's passion is researching Japanese writer Tamura Toshiko, as well as examining the literary production of first- and second-generation Japanese American immigrants—Issei and Nisei—that appeared in the literary columns of Japanese American immigrant newspapers.

“Right now, I'm very much focused

on translating the works of Tamura Toshiko,” Sokolsky says. “It's a project I began in graduate school, and I would like to see it finalized.”

Sokolsky says Tamura's writings have largely been ignored, and that's exactly why Tamura's work is so important today. “Tamura was highly celebrated in the early 1900s,” she says. “But she moved to Vancouver in 1918 and lived in North America for the next two decades. During that time, Japanese tended to not care about other Japanese who left Japan and so there has been, until recently, a lack of study of the literary production of Japanese nationals and Japanese American writers who traveled between Japan and North America in the early 1900s.”

Guided by her advisor at Waseda University when Sokolsky was a Fulbright scholar in Japan, she decided to focus on Tamura's works from the 1930s and '40s. “Though her works were political and sexual in nature—Tamura's own life was scandalous—

HER ... AND ANOTHER



and this, more than her writing, has been the focus of most research. Her later writing, which was less sexual in nature, has been ignored by Japanese scholars until more recently. My goal is to discuss Tamura's entire life and the impact it has had on her writing. I am translating specific works from different periods to show Tamura's diverse writing voice."

While in Japan on a Fulbright Scholarship, Sokolsky found access to archives for her Tamura research useful, but she discovered the

opportunity she had to collaborate with other scholars was invaluable. "I'd meet once a month with other scholars, and we'd share our experiences," she says. "I met a Taiwanese woman who was also researching Tamura. It was important for the two of us to meet to ensure our work wasn't overlapping. My work is a trajectory through people I've met."

That's not to say that Anne Sokolsky can't come up with her own ideas; rather, she has so many interests that it would be impossible to pursue them all. "My projects feed off of themselves," she says. Her research on Tamura has also led her down the path of studying Taiwanese literature. "It's a logical segue because after Tamura lived in the U.S., she ended up in China, where she died."

Sokolsky says Asian scholars today are rethinking the literary history of Taiwan. She is among those scholars and received a TEW grant to study Taiwanese literature that was created during the Japanese occupation of Taiwan, which ended in 1945. "Taiwanese literature during this period has also been ignored," she says. "More recently scholars in Taiwan are recognizing that the study of Taiwanese culture and literature whether written in Chinese or Japanese, is important to get the full story of Taiwan as a nation."

Her expertise makes Sokolsky a perfect fit for teaching Asian literature and culture in the OWU Humanities-Classics department. "Even to be a Japan scholar, I must have an understanding of the surrounding areas," she says.

Though Sokolsky's research and the exchange of ideas among colleagues are important to her, she is just as inspired by the ideas that are shared in her classroom.

"Just the other day we were discussing the Negative Golden Mean, which states, 'Don't do unto others as you would not want them to do unto you.' We had a major discussion comparing that statement to the Golden Rule, and it became a debate of the active vs. the inactive. One of my Asian students pointed out that being inactive is not necessarily bad; it's all relative to how one is raised."

This free-flowing stream of ideas in Sokolsky's courses will lead her students—and Sokolsky herself—to pursue other thoughts and research, which is, no doubt, the very essence of an Ohio Wesleyan education.

Ericka Kurtz is Assistant Director of University Communications and Assistant Editor of the Ohio Wesleyan Magazine.

A Playwright's Penchant



By *Christopher Federer*

A BRIEF ENCOUNTER ON THE STREET. A PERSONAL CIRCUMSTANCE.
A WORKSHOP EXERCISE. AN EXPERIENCE FROM A DECADE BEFORE.
A CRAVING TO CREATE THAT MUST BE SATISFIED.

FOR BONNIE MILNE GARDNER '77, playwright and chair of OWU's Department of Theatre & Dance, each instance sparked an idea, lighting that first glimmer of inspiration that resulted in a finished work of art.

"There is no single answer to how I get an idea to write a play; it always depends on the circumstance," Gardner says. "But I find the question fascinating because I love to hear other artists speak about what inspired them to create a particular work."

She says ideas can come from the general circumstances of her life at a given time; for example, what is happening with her family or with work. Other times it can be a specific, but somewhat mundane event or encounter that leads to a work.

"I once wrote a play about a woman who is approached by a stranger who wants a handout," Gardner explains. "That was specifically inspired by a time I was approached by a stranger. It caught me off guard, but it got me thinking about this man and his circumstances and what would have happened if our encounter had lasted longer. As a playwright, I seek to answer questions and to figure things out. My meeting with this man hit a nerve. I had to write about it."

Gardner adds that the original inspiration for a play can often take a turn during the creative process.

"Once you start writing and creating characters, a whole new set of questions evolves," she says.

"Sometime you get bored with it and don't finish it. Other times, you become more and more pulled in by the characters. The one thing I can say is true about the creative process: A play is almost never what it started out to be."

She cites the play about the man asking for the handout. Originally, the play was to focus on him and his circumstances; however, as the work evolved, the role of the woman grew larger. The play became about two people from different situations who suddenly switch places and begin to understand each other and build compassion and empathy for one another to an extent that neither would have dreamed possible.

"When I'm creating a play, I let my imagination take over," Gardner says. "I hear the dialogue between my characters. I take great pleasure in daydreaming their conversations, not just what they are saying, but how they are saying it."

Last summer, Gardner's play, *One Last Mass* won a spot in San Diego's Resilience of the Spirit Human Rights Festival. She says this play was created through an approach known as the "spontaneous theatre collective."

The play is set in a small village in Peru. The play's sole character, Father William, struggles with the decision to leave his village quickly and survive a massacre; or to stay, give his last mass, and risk death.

"I wrote this play using a unique approach to playwriting and concept of idea generation," Gardner says.

"Actors have their photos taken in various costumes with props. Directors then select a photo, which is given to a playwright, who then must take inspiration from the photo and create a short play in a day."

Ultimately, directors and actors who lend their own creative juices to the final production of a play also shape a playwright's initial vision.

"My involvement in the final production of my plays varies widely," Gardner says. "Some productions I've never seen, some I've directed, and other times I've had directors call me to ask questions. The creative process goes on and on as ideas continue to evolve."

Gardner has written more than 30 plays, some being short works and others full length. She's had productions and readings in New York, Ohio, California, and Alaska. She has received an Ohio Arts Council Playwriting grant and honorable mention in the *Writer's Digest* Play Contest. She was a semifinalist in the Actors Theatre of Louisville Ten-Minute Play Contest, a finalist in Playlab at Cleveland Play House, and a finalist in several Shorts Festivals at Contemporary American Theatre Company. Gardner has been an OWU faculty member since 1985.

Christopher Federer is Associate Director of Print and Electronic Communications at Ohio Wesleyan.



No Stone Unturned

Telling the Story of the Earth

By *Gretchen Hirsch*

"I majored in many sciences in my undergraduate days," says paleontologist and geology professor Keith Mann, "but geology brought everything together for me. It had elements of other natural sciences—chemistry, physics, biology—and I got to do it outdoors."

Not surprisingly, then, it was outdoors where Mann and his students made one of their most exciting discoveries. To understand their work, it helps to know a little about fossils.

Fossils help to anchor an area in geologic time, Mann says. "Rock layers, from bottom to top, contain a non-repeating sequence of fossils that geologists used to build the geologic time scale."

The unique fossil sequence allows geologists to assemble the history of the earth from geographically separated areas. Rock layers that

contain the same fossil were deposited at the same time, even if the layers are widely separated by geography. These layers are said to be correlated in time.

Mann and his students recently found an unexpected correlation in Ohio. "I wanted to do a research project with my students that examined the geology near the campus," he says. "Two colleagues suggested studying the Bellefontaine Outlier. Outliers are islands of rock that are separated, usually by erosion, from larger areas of similar rock deposited at similar times."

While the Bellefontaine Outlier is made up of rock that is comparable in composition to that found in the Appalachian, Michigan, and Illinois basins, the chemical transformation of the rock from limestone to dolomite destroyed most of the important fossils. The lack of fossils made correlation of the outlier to the nearby basins very difficult.

However, in conducting his initial research at the outlier in 2005, Mann discovered a narrow lens of alternating bands of green and brownish-black shale. "I got excited, he says, "because I'd seen shale that looked exactly like that around Camp Lazarus, which is miles away from the outlier."

The shales themselves were significant, "but we had to look at the fossil record to nail down the time correlation," Mann explains. "The specific kinds of conodont fossils we needed to prove the correlation are so small that three of them could dance on the head of a pin. It took a lot of painstaking work to find them, but when they showed up, it was really something."

The presence of the fossils in the shale and underlying dolomite upended much of the common wisdom about the Bellefontaine Outlier. "Geologists had previously believed that no deposition had occurred during a 15-million-year



Keith Mann at work where he loves to be — outdoors.

interval on the outlier,” Mann says. “We demonstrated that, in fact, the outlier experienced four periods of sedimentation, three of which represented separate incursions of the sea that occurred during that supposed 15-million-year hiatus. When I told conodont specialists around the country what we’d found, they were amazed. But the fossils don’t lie.”

Mann presented his results at the national meeting of the Geological Society of America, and conodont and Devonian [Period] specialists “basically set up camp around the poster,” he says. “There was a lot of conversation.”

What Mann found out “tells us about

the seas,” he says. “It helps trace their movements across the continent, fits into the big picture, and complements the work of others.”

Mann says that great ideas are generated and discoveries made by standing on the shoulders of former giants in any field of endeavor. But that’s not enough. “You have to have the self-confidence to look at various facts and sequence them in different ways or twist ideas in novel combinations to see what jumps out at you,” he says. “And you can’t be afraid to work in areas where others have failed. You can’t let yourself be stopped when people say, ‘Why are you doing that? No one else has been successful at it. What makes you different?’ ”

If luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity, then Mann was lucky. He was fully prepared when the opportunity for discovery presented itself. Years of meticulous study in the lab and in the field, combined with overwhelming curiosity and enthusiasm, made it possible for him to seize the day and make a unique and meaningful contribution to the science he loves.

Gretchen Hirsch is a writer in the Office of University Communications at Ohio Wesleyan.

From the JayWalk »

It's a Presidential voting year, ergo an OWU Mock Convention year. And so, it is the party currently out of office for which conventionneers rally and lobby, with much spirit.

OWU's first Mock Convention was held in 1884. Designed as an educational tool and a social event, students, faculty, and staff members of varying party affiliations, discuss and debate wide-ranging issues. And this year was no exception.



It is an Obama-Edwards ticket for Ohio Wesleyan! Kudos to all convention planners and participants, for what was a successful Mock Convention. To view the convention photo gallery, please visit <http://gallery.owu.edu/Mock2008.html>.





Mock CONVENTION

2008



OWU Alumnus Recognized by Nobel Committee

Woodrow “Woody” Clark II ’67 recently reached one of his lifetime goals.



Clark is one of 2,000 scientists on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) who are co-recipients of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize, along with former U.S. Vice President Al Gore.

The Norwegian Nobel Committee decided that the Nobel Peace Prize of 2007 would be shared in two equal parts, between the IPCC and Al Gore “for their efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change, and to lay the foundations for measures that are needed to counteract such change.”

Clark was a member of the scientific team for the IPCC Third Report, “Methodological and Technological Issues in Technology Transfer,” issued in 2000. He co-wrote one chapter of the report and co-edited another.

In a letter to “Authors, Review Editors, and Support Staff of the IPCC Working Group III assessment reports,” Ogunlade Davidson and Bert Metz, co-chairs of IPCC Working Group III, commend the group and reference their work, noting “This makes all of you a Nobel Laureate.” The letter continues, “This award is not just for those that contributed to earlier IPCC WG III reports...

which provided the foundation for the current recognition of IPCC as an authoritative voice on the climate system, the impacts of climate change and ways to avoid it.”

“After that, I was asked to be the director of a report for the newly formed UN Framework Convention for Climate Change (FCCC), which now is putting together the Kyoto Accords and their revisions,” says Clark.

Clark received his B.A. degree from Ohio Wesleyan, majoring in politics and government and economics. He has masters degrees from Roosevelt University (political science), Loyola University in Chicago (administration/education), and his doctorate from the University of California (anthropology/education). Clark has been involved in international legal and financial issues surrounding global warming and climate change since the early 1990s. He currently is the founder/managing director (CEO) of Clark Strategic Partners, a full service strategic planning company devoted to environmental and energy infrastructures. Clark also is a fellow at the Milken Institute, a publicly supported, independent think-tank in Santa Monica, California. He has held positions in the California Governor’s

Office of Planning and Research and at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, U.S. Department of Energy in Livermore, California.

“Tom Courtice, OWU’s 14th president, once said in response to Dr. Sherwood Rowland ’48, winner of the 1995 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, that ‘it is just our type of undergraduate liberal arts education that produces Nobel Laureates through our role in strengthening students’ creativity and sensitivity to broader societal issues,’” recalls David Robbins, interim president and provost. “Indeed, over 37 Nobel Laureates have come from graduates of liberal arts colleges, 10 from colleges within our 12-college Great Lakes Colleges Association (GLCA) consortium, with seven prizes since 1980. Dr. Rowland became a Nobel Laureate for his work in atmospheric chemistry, particularly concerning the formation and decomposition of the ozone layer.”

Celebrating Black History Month

Exploring our past.
Understanding our present.
Defining our future.



Craig Luke '85, senior examiner at the Federal Reserve Bank, spoke during Multicultural Weekend.

From speakers to a poetry slam to food and great music, there was something to satisfy everyone's interest during OWU's Black History Month.

"Events were open to all, and we wanted people to look at the celebration as an opportunity to have fun and to learn," says Terree Stevenson '95, interim director of minority student affairs.

An offshoot of this year's Black History Month celebration was the unveiling of a new alumni mentoring program offered through the Office of Minority Student Affairs.

"This is a chance for our students to connect with alumni mentors who have been through similar experiences at Ohio Wesleyan and can provide support," says Stevenson. Her student assistant, Shade Fakunle '10, agrees.

"Alumni have created a path for us and can teach and provide us with many new opportunities that we may not otherwise have. Some of the best lessons in life that we learn are from the words of those who came before us."

Highlights of the month-long celebration included a kick-off lunch discussion with speaker-educator Gloria Long-Groves; Multicultural Prospective Student Weekend, co-sponsored by the Offices of Admission and Financial Aid and Minority Student Affairs; first annual poetry slam for established poets and poets-in-the-making; Rafiki Wa Afrika's Cultural Fest; a community dialogue about disparities in the law and media; and a lecture by Na'im Akbar, internationally known author, historian, and scholar.

PLANS IN THE WORKS FOR *Black Family Weekend 2008*

We are looking for volunteers and mentors to be part of OWU's 2008 Black Family Weekend and a special celebration of SUBA's (Student Union on Black Awareness) 40th anniversary

October 10-12, 2008

Please contact us if you would like to:

- help with programming for this weekend
- mentor students and recent graduates
- speak (alumni/parents) on our discussion panel
- recommend inductees (alumni/faculty/staff members) into the SUBA Hall of Fame

Call the Office of Minority Student Affairs at (740) 368-3151 or contact Terree Stevenson at tlsteven@owu.edu for more information.

Ohio Wesleyan's Sixteenth President: Rockwell "Rock" Jones



INTRIGUED BY THE IDEA OF MOVING THE UNIVERSITY FORWARD IN A POWERFUL WAY, ROCKWELL “ROCK” JONES IS ENERGIZED AND EAGER TO TAKE THE HELM AS OHIO WESLEYAN’S SIXTEENTH PRESIDENT LATER THIS SUMMER.

PLEASE MEET ROCK AND HIS WIFE, MELISSA LOLLAR JONES.

Long before OWU’s recent presidential search occurred, the University had secured a place on Rock Jones’ radar screen. As one of 40 liberal arts colleges first showcased more than a decade ago in education reporter Loren Pope’s *Colleges That Change Lives* (CTCL), Ohio Wesleyan was one of those colleges with which Jones became acquainted as former vice president of enrollment and dean of admission and financial aid at Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas.

Fast forward a few years. As Hendrix College’s executive vice president and dean of advancement since 2001, Jones spearheaded a comprehensive campaign with capital components to reposition Hendrix as a leader in engaged liberal arts education. It is, as Pope writes, this kind of engaged, values-centered learning environment in which students thrive.

“I was so impressed by those who represented Ohio Wesleyan at CTCL events, as well as the University’s focus on students and commitment to the residential undergraduate experience,” says Jones. “What makes a university such as Ohio Wesleyan so good is seen in the context of the undergraduate liberal arts experience.” He quickly

points to OWU’s institutional strength, teaching excellence, and rich history as contributing to the University’s potential for a bright future.



Rock and Melissa Lollar Jones

“I’ve been interested in the institution’s planning processes under way, and see this as an opportunity for building on

that good work while capturing the energy of loyal alumni and devoted faculty and staff members,” says Jones. All of this, while keeping the needs and welfare of our students at the forefront.

“We need to connect with students in all aspects of their lives,” he says. “They benefit from professors who are devoted to teaching, who are rigorous in classroom expectations, but who also want to know their students as human beings, and understand their lives beyond the classroom.” Strong institutional leadership is, he believes, at the core of a university’s success in advancing the interests of the community members, implementing strategic activities, and securing resources to fulfill the university’s vision.

“Being a college president was far from my mind until one day, our president suggested that I should think about it,” recalls Jones. The seed was planted and began to grow over the next few years. Enter Ohio Wesleyan.

“As I heard about OWU’s presidency and eventually became a candidate for the position, I started to learn

SAVE THE DATE

*Inauguration of
Ohio Wesleyan's
Sixteenth President:*

Rock Jones

Friday, October 10, 2008

Details to follow

*“I want to learn about the culture
and values that people hold dear,
as well as their aspirations.”*

Dr. Rockwell Jones, sixteenth President of Ohio Wesleyan University

even more about the University. And the more I learned, the more strongly I felt that this might be the right fit, both for me and my family as well as for Ohio Wesleyan.” His wife Melissa Lollar Jones agrees.

“We talked about Rock’s desire to be a college president, and that if this is what he really wanted, he must apply for it,” she says, describing their positive feelings during an incognito walk through OWU’s campus one day. She speaks thoughtfully about her husband’s talents and strengths.

“Rock is a good listener, a consensus builder, a visionary, decisive while making decisions in the context of counsel, and a good communicator,” says Lollar Jones. Diplomacy is another of his strong suits, she adds.

As the presidential search process continued, members of the OWU community had an opportunity to meet the three finalists in campus open sessions.

“The search process was wonderful,” says Jones, applauding the work of

both OWU’s search team and Susan Resneck Pierce, who represented the search firm, and helped the team develop a pool of presidential candidates.

“The candidate pool was unusually strong, but Rock was the unhesitating and unanimous choice of the committee and the board,” says Resneck Pierce. “He will be a splendid president.” OWU’s Board of Trustees chair agrees.

“Rock’s success in so many areas critical to Ohio Wesleyan—alumni relations and fundraising, admission and retention, and student affairs—impressed the search committee immediately,” says Kathe Law Rhinesmith ’64.

For the Joneses, both alumni of Hendrix, this is a bittersweet time as they prepare to depart from long-time friends and family, and their Arkansas home. Their youngest daughter Anna, 14, will start 10th grade in the Delaware school system next year; Alissan 21, is a senior at Hendrix, majoring in elementary education; and Christopher 18, will be a freshman next year at Hendrix. Both Rock and Melissa began preparing a very supportive

and enthusiastic Anna for their possible move to Ohio as the search progressed.

“Change requires putting yourself in a new situation when the time is right. But that is how you grow,” says Lollar Jones, who earned a bachelor of arts degree in English and also has taught high school English. In addition, she has worked at both the Arkansas State Library and the county library in Durham, North Carolina where the family resided while Rock pursued his master of divinity degree at Duke University. (He also holds a Ph.D. in educational administration from the University of Texas-Austin). Thoroughly enjoying her library work, Lollar Jones chose to be at home with their children as they are growing up.

“I love being with them, but when it is time for them to go [out on their own] it will be OK.”

With periodic campus visits being planned during the next few months, OWU’s new President envisions the first 30 days of his presidency as time to get acquainted and listen.

PEGGY BEAMER JUERGENS '38 WILL BE MISSED

by Annie Griffith Seiler '75

Recently, I attended the annual Ohio Wesleyan luncheon in Naples, Florida as I have for many years. As always, it was a warm and spirited gathering of folks with at least one thing in common—the love of our alma mater. While I had a delightful time connecting with old friends and making some new ones, I felt the absence of one very special alumna, Peggy Beamer Juergens, Class of 1938, who passed away in September 2007.

Last February, I had the honor of presenting Peggy with a crystal Ohio Wesleyan bell and thanking her for continually “ringing the service bell for Ohio Wesleyan in the Florida area.” Peggy has been instrumental in the long-standing success of the annual west coast Florida alumni gathering. We’ll be forever grateful to her for all she did to establish the strong tradi-

tion of gathering Ohio Wesleyan friends together each year. Her presence was missed this afternoon, and her absence will continue to be felt on the first Saturday of February each year in Naples, Florida.

“I often thought of the OWU alumni family as a unified web of loyal interests, spread across a map of the United States and the world. In that regard, Peggy Juergens signaled a destination on that map for all OWU supporters who passed through, visited, or resided on the West Coast of Florida. She was unrelenting and unabashed in her expressions of enthusiasm for her alma mater. Her death creates a break in the web that will be difficult to repair,” says former OWU president Tom Courtice.

“I want to learn about the culture and values that people hold dear, as well as their aspirations,” he says. And getting to know Ohio Wesleyan alumni — “those who represent accomplishments of the past and hopes for the future”—is very high on his list of priorities.

“I believe the most important thing a leader does at a place like Ohio Wesleyan is capture the best thinking and highest aspirations of all who are associated with OWU and work with them to articulate a vision that advances the best interest of the University and students we serve,” says Jones. “It is ultimately important for us to offer an education providing the greatest possible value for our students, and to give them and their parents the best possible return on the investment of their tuition dollars.”

For more about Ohio Wesleyan's sixteenth President, Rock Jones, please visit our Web site at: www.owu.edu/RockJones.

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Celebrate Their Success.



New Endowment Being Created to Fund **Dale J. Bruce Scholar-Athlete Banquet**

By Pam Besel

Compassion. Simplicity. Humility. Those are the resonating descriptions of Dale Bruce '52, among those who have the good fortune of knowing him.

Also well worth noting is Bruce's 55 years of continuous devotion to Ohio Wesleyan, particularly in support of OWU's scholar-athletes. It is that sustained level of support and commitment that prefaces the establishment of an endowment that recognizes and honors Bruce's contributions.

"This endowment is being created by his colleagues, friends, peers, and supporters to recognize annually those students who follow in Dale's footprints as genuine scholar-athletes," says Roger Ingles, OWU's athletics director. Income from the endowment will provide funding for the annual spring Dale J. Bruce Scholar-Athlete Banquet set for April 24 this year—which, as Ingles explains, honors "the best of the best among Ohio Wesleyan scholar-athletes."

One of the awards given to the most outstanding scholar-athlete to recognize academic excellence, strong character, dedication to others, and leadership abilities is the Dale J. Bruce Presidential Award. But there are many other awards that recognize the top 50 men and women scholar-athletes (GPA-based); the top GPA team; the top five recognized for their leadership, character, and service; and the

top male and female senior athletes. As always, this year's top scholar-athletes will each bring a selected professor to the banquet.

"I'm involved with this event as an alumnus and former member of OWU's football team, and as one who was coached on a Chagrin Falls high school basketball team by Dale Bruce," says John Thomas '61, also a University Trustee. "As assistant football coach and head basketball coach, Dale Bruce took the team to the Final Four," recalls Thomas, who, along with several other Ohio Wesleyan alumni, felt strongly that OWU needed to do something special to honor this special person.

"Each time we call on people to tell them about this wonderful endowment, we universally tap into the greatest feelings of respect for Dale. It is refreshing and very emotionally uplifting."

For Alumni "W" Association president John Kercher '63 "It is Dale's unselfish giving that one notices." That and the fact that OWU's niche as a place where scholar-athletes thrive has become noted and appreciated. Kercher is proud of the fact that the University's top 50 student-athletes have an average GPA of 3.78. And Steve Bruce '81, Dale's son, is proud of his dad's ongoing emphasis, since he can remember, on the importance of excelling both on the playing field and in the classroom.

"Dad also taught me about bouncing back after defeat," recalls Steve, who played football for OWU's Coach Jack Fouts '45 and now is head women's basketball coach at Indiana University in South Bend.

"My father taught me to be humble, and not draw attention to myself, and how important it is to serve others and put the cause above yourself," says Steve, who also tells the story of his father's opportunity to play pro football long ago, just before he was drafted to serve in the Korean War. Besides his ongoing connection to OWU, Dale also was traveling secretary for Phi Gamma Delta, and Steve remembers their move to Washington, D.C., during his younger years so his father could work at the fraternity's national headquarters.

"My dad is so organized, positive, and always one step ahead in his thinking and planning," says Steve. "I try to be just like that."

For more information about the Dale J. Bruce Scholar-Athlete Endowment, contact: Mark Shippis '70, vice president for university relations at (740) 368-3310 or mhshippis@owu.edu

Pam Besel is Director of Internal Communications and Editor of the Ohio Wesleyan Magazine in the Office of University Communications..

BEST-SELLING AUTHOR AND AWARD-WINNING JOURNALIST *Contributes \$1-Million Estate Gift to OWU*

“Jean Carper ’53 is a great friend and enthusiastic supporter of her alma mater—and one of the great gems of Key West,” says Evan Corns ’59, another OWU great friend and supporter. Her recent \$1,000,000 bequest to benefit the arts at Ohio Wesleyan through her estate is one example of just how much OWU means to her. Carper was, in fact, a speech major at Ohio Wesleyan, with additional interests in the fine arts, music, and theatre.

Best-selling author of 23 books focused mostly on nutrition, Carper’s groundbreaking best-selling book, *The Food Pharmacy*, published in 1988, brought to light evidence about the pharmacologi-

cal activity of common foods. Additional best-sellers include *Stop Aging Now!* and *Food—Your Miracle Medicine*. Carper has been a *USA Weekend* columnist on nutrition and a medical on-air correspondent for CNN in Washington, D.C., and received the ACE award from the cable TV industry for excellence in investigative reporting for a series on brain cancer.

Receiving the prestigious Distinguished Achievement Citation award from Ohio Wesleyan in 1999, Carper was cited as... “A crusading and pioneering journalist, mostly in the field of health and nutrition, and a major force in enlightening the public about the latest scientific discoveries involving diet, food, and vita-

mins as causes and cures of our modern epidemic of chronic diseases....” “Jean is another example of a committed alumna who recognizes the value of her OWU education,” says Mark Shipps ’70, vice-president of university relations at Ohio Wesleyan.

Jean Carper resides in Washington, D.C. and Key West, Florida.

“Whether involved with the Key West Film Society or Sculpture Key West, Jean’s enthusiastic leadership provides extremely positive results for these and other Key West initiatives,” says Corns.



“I love Ohio Wesleyan, and am grateful for all the opportunities it gave me. I am so happy to see the development of the Ross Art Museum, and am excited that I can contribute to its success through our planned gift.”

—MARILYN MEEK WEBSTER ’63

YOU’RE IN GOOD COMPANY

Fred and Marilyn Meek Webster ’63 recently created a Charitable Remainder Unitrust for which Ohio Wesleyan serves as trustee. When they no longer require the income, the funds will be added to the Endowed Fund for the Directorship of the Ross Art Museum, and will benefit the University in perpetuity.

If you are interested in finding out how you can benefit both Ohio Wesleyan and yourself through a planned gift, please contact the Office of Gift Planning at (740) 368-3078 or e-mail us at giftplanning@owu.edu.

The Marty Kalb Purchase Fund

For Professor Emeritus of Fine Arts Marty Kalb, the relationships he formed with his students made his teaching experience at Ohio Wesleyan extraordinary.

That's why upon his retirement in 2007, it was fitting to create the Marty Kalb Purchase Fund. "The fund provides money to purchase student art—based on faculty recommendations—for a permanent collection on campus," explains vice president for university relations Mark Shipps, '70. "It's a wonderful way to get careers started in the art department."

"It would be significant for any undergraduate student to have his or her work purchased," says Professor of Fine Arts Jim Krehbiel. "To know that your work is of a caliber to be purchased and to have that art displayed in a permanent collection at your alma mater is an honor. Artists can recall their first purchase as if it were yesterday—it's very important to their art careers."

Glenn Entis '76 is one such artist who remembers his first sale with fondness. Now a senior vice president at Electronic Arts, Entis's first sale was through Ohio Wesleyan. "Every year, Jarvis Stewart and his wife, Madge, would choose one piece of student art to purchase for their home," he recalls.

"At the end of my freshman or sophomore year, they bought one of my drawings. I charged them \$25, and it was the best \$25 I ever made. The fact that they would pay me for my drawing gave me a tremendous amount of confidence. I still wasn't sure of myself at that time, and that initial purchase influenced me to keep pursuing art."

Entis is also grateful for the impact Kalb made on his career. "Marty has had a tremendous influence on me," says Entis. "He's taught me things he's probably not even aware of. Marty is tough, but he is fiercely critical and fiercely respectful at the same time. He comes at you not with hacksaws, but with sharp surgical tools to dissect your work."

Kalb's influence on Entis prompted Entis to make a lead gift for the Marty Kalb Purchase Fund. "The first reason is obviously to honor Marty. Every year there will be an event that is fresh and people will think about him," says Entis. "But the second reason is the collection itself. There will be a cross-section of student art, which will be part of Marty's legacy at Ohio Wesleyan."

"We are grateful for Glenn's gift, and we couldn't have established this fund without him," Shipps says. "Ideally, we'd like to grow the fund to \$5,000 a year."

When Kalb first learned of the fund named in his honor, he says he was completely surprised. "I was humbled and enormously honored," he recalls. "Though I saw each personal connection with each student as its own reward, the idea of my name being associated with an ongoing award that recognizes future students for their artistic achievements is an enormous tribute for which I am most grateful."

Kalb is also excited about the benefits of the fund. "This endowment and the collection that it will develop will provide wonderful benefits to students, the department, and the University community," he says. "Individual students whose work is selected will receive a tangible statement of confidence their professors have in the quality of their work, as well as a cash award to help defray educational and studio expenses. The Fine Arts Department will benefit by having a permanent collection of excellent student artwork that can be used for display in the Fine Arts facility, and for teaching, and recruiting purposes. The University community will benefit as the collection grows, by having examples of student artwork located in public spaces throughout the campus."

Ericka Kurtz is Assistant Director of University Communications and Assistant Editor of the Ohio Wesleyan Magazine.

Published works of OWU students, alumni, and faculty

Coal Black Horse

Coal Black Horse, by Robert Olmstead, published by Algonquin Press, April 10, 2007.

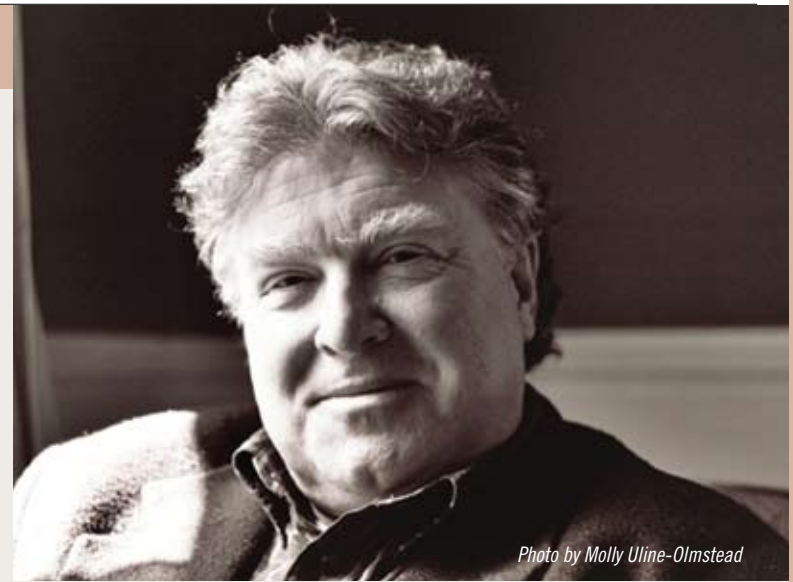


Photo by Molly Uline-Olmstead

Debuting last year to rhapsodic reviews from *The New York Times*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and *The New Yorker*, Robert Olmstead's *Coal Black Horse* has been described as "brilliant," "compelling," and fashioned of a "fresh and vital language." In the last few months, the book has won the Heartland Prize for fiction; was the number one pick by *Book Sense*, the national trade journal for independent booksellers; and was chosen by the Hamilton County Public Library as the 2008 selection for its On the Same Page Cincinnati program. Olmstead also has completed a major book tour.

Headly stuff. But before the reviews, the tour, and the acclaim came the work. And it was work that began more than a decade ago. "This book was hard won," Olmstead says. "It wouldn't let go of me and I wouldn't let go of it."

"I've always written about boys going in search of their fathers," he continues. "Robey Childs [the book's protagonist], at 14, was leaving what he knew to go out and experience the world as he brought his father home from the field of battle in the Civil War. In that way, he was sort of like me. I was leaving my world to experience the 19th century."

At one point in the writing, Olmstead says, "Robey began to see his experiences not as

horrible, but as lessons. I realized that for him, these experiences were an apprenticeship. And that's the day he separated from me."

The language in *Coal Black Horse* is both concrete and elusive. "I don't really hear language," Olmstead says. "I see it; I see how it will appear on the page, punctuation and all. There's a tactile quality to it—a shapely appearance. I love words, particularly antique words; I have my own sense of words I think are beautiful or felicitous."

Through many drafts, Olmstead refined the language and made other decisions that resulted in a book that is both spare and rich. In the early drafts, events were located geographically, but as he continued to work, Olmstead removed the particulars. "I realized that as a 14-year-old, Robey wouldn't know precisely where he was going. That was authorial knowledge. And as those details came out, I had to find a new way to write the world."

His writing process includes "jotting things down in little notebooks, and then pushing the words around, working the language. I think in narrative, not ideas, so if I don't have the sentence, the idea isn't any good to me."

Olmstead is "grateful" for the book's recep-

tion. "When Algonquin called to tell me about the Heartland Prize, they asked if they could put me on speakerphone," he says. "My first thought was that something had gone horribly wrong. I was very relieved when they told me what the call was about."

Those who loved *Coal Black Horse* will be excited to learn that it's the first book in a trilogy. The second must be delivered to the publisher this year.

Perhaps the most gratifying aspect of the book's success is what happens at the readings, Olmstead says. "People say this book isn't just about the Civil War, and the talk often turns to Iraq. It makes me happy to see strangers coming together over a work of art to discuss ideas like this."

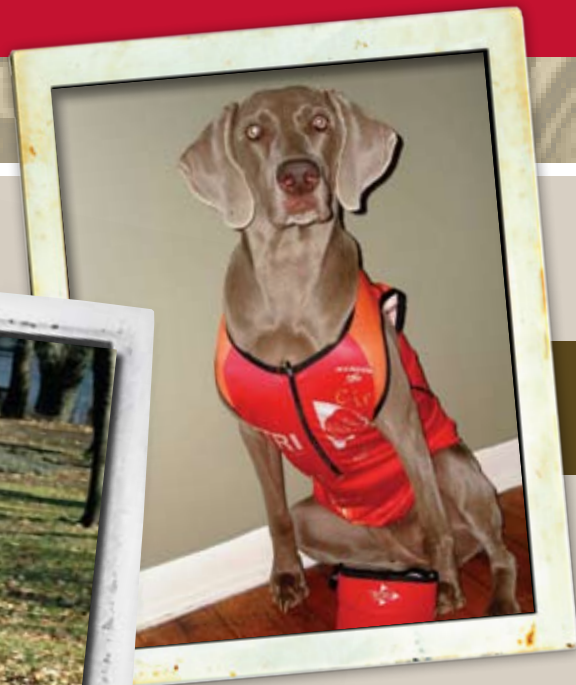
"The country asks a great deal of its warriors like Robey's father and grandfather—all the grandfathers, fathers, sons, and grandsons—our fellow citizens, who are decent people," Olmstead continues. "We have to be wise when we call upon the people who are so willing and ready to go."

Gretchen Hirsch is a writer in the Office of University Communications at Ohio Wesleyan.

DOGGED DETERMINATION

OWU alumni work to help classmates acquire autism assistance dog.

By Cole Hatcher



Lisa Dellamora '92 and Besame Mucho train for their Doggie Duathlon.

Shannon Leary Knall '93 gets quiet as she searches for words to express her feelings.

"I just find it so amazing," the Connecticut resident says. "I haven't seen these people in so long, but they are still helping me."

"These people" include Knall's Delta Gamma sorority sister Lisa "Stella" Dellamora '92 and Alpha Tau Omega big brother Scott Jackson '92. They are helping Knall and husband, Mark '94, increase autism awareness and raise funds to obtain a trained autism assistance dog for the Knalls' seven-year-old son, Jack.

Jack was diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder at age 2½. Specifically, he has Asperger's Syndrome.

As a result, Jack tends to avoid interaction with other children and often interacts with adults using only rote conversation. He also has sensory integration disorder and high levels of anxiety, leaving him unable to navigate seemingly simple social situations.

As a result, he has serious sleep issues. "My son doesn't sleep," Knall says. "He can't turn his brain off. I can't remember the last time he slept through the night."

The Knalls believe an assistance dog will help calm Jack, allowing him to relax and rest.

The family previously explored getting an assistance dog, but the cost stopped them. With Jack plus two other sons to care for – Patrick, 3½, and Jameson, 1 – the family's budget is tight. The cost of raising a child with autism, which often includes therapies not covered by insurance, is estimated at \$50,000 a year.

So the family had decided to pass on a pooch, when Shannon Knall got an unex-

pected call from her former OWU sorority sister.

Dellamora, an education consultant and author living in New York, called after she was invited to participate with her dog, a Weimaraner named Besame Mucho, in the inaugural Doggie Duathlon World Championships in July 2008.

Dellamora wanted to turn her "doggy du" participation into a fundraiser with a canine connection. And after she saw a tearful testament to the life-altering benefits of autism assistance dogs, she knew she had her cause.

"Lightning just started going off in my mind," Dellamora recalls. And when she excitedly explained her plan, Knall verified that Jack would benefit from a furry friend.

"She literally started bawling," Dellamora says. "Of course, once she started crying, I started crying. No one could say anything for a couple of minutes."

Since getting the go-ahead, Dellamora has been working to share news about Jack and autism assistance dogs. She and Besame also have been training tirelessly for the July 20 duathlon that will involve swimming 1,500 meters of the Hudson River and running a 10-kilometer course in Central Park. The event is being held in conjunction with the 2008 New York City Triathlon.

"I'll be a faster swimmer," says Dellamora, a member of the swim team while at Ohio Wesleyan, "but (Besame) will get me on the run."

The fundraising efforts also have spread to involve OWU alumnus Scott Jackson, a fraternity brother of Mark Knall and fraternity big brother of Shannon Knall. Dellamora says Jackson plans to host a June 14 OWU reunion and fundraiser at The Goat Soup

and Whiskey, a tavern he owns in Put-in-Bay, Ohio.

Both Dellamora and Knall credit their Ohio Wesleyan experience with teaching them the joys of helping others.

"The sororities and fraternities were always doing something to better the lives of others," Dellamora says. "That's not something I experienced in high school, but it helped make me who I am today. ... It left a mark deep within my soul."

Knall recalls feeling much the same, and today draws upon both her sorority experience and OWU journalism training to share information about autism. In 2006, she founded the first "Autism Speaks Walk Now for Autism" in Greater Hartford. Last year, she created a free Autism Awareness Bootcamp to teach people how autism changes a family's life.

Dellamora hopes to raise \$10,000 for the "Help Me Help Jack" campaign – the full cost of breeding, training, and placing an autism assistance dog through the Connecticut-based North Star Foundation.

Though the foundation requires families to pay only half of an animal's cost, Dellamora wants to help the Knalls fence in their backyard and pay for any follow-up training. Additional funds will be given to the foundation. Donations may be sent to Dellamora at 53 E. 97th St. #5C, New York, N.Y. 10029. Checks should be made out to North Star Foundation.

To learn more, visit www.helpmehelpjack.com, or e-mail Dellamora at ldellamora@nyc.rr.com or Knall at sknall@mac.com.

Cole Hatcher is Associate Director of Media and Community Relations in the Ohio Wesleyan Office of University Communications.

Making the Most of Every Minute

WHO AMONG US
DOESN'T FEEL THAT
THEY HAVE MORE
AND MORE THINGS TO
DO AND LESS TIME
IN WHICH TO
DO THEM?

By *Mark Beckenbach '81*



TIME MANAGEMENT IS BECOMING MORE IMPORTANT, and Ohio Wesleyan men's soccer coach Jay Martin has built a program that teaches his players time management skills from their first days on campus.

The program's first step is a mentoring program that matches an upperclassman with each freshman player.

"We try to find a common thread (between the mentor and the incoming player)," Martin says. "The mentor's job is to meet with the freshman four times during the first semester. What this does is provide the freshman with reliable information from someone who cares. Mentors will take this to the next level and talk to professors and find out how the freshman is doing. Most of the mentors take it very seriously."

The second portion of the program is a day planner custom-made by Martin. "Inside, we put in all of our games, travel details, and academic deadlines. We ask every mentor to sit down with their freshman and put in all the information from every syllabus, and they have to keep the planner up to date."

Players are responsible for entering every grade from each one of their classes, and Martin reviews the planners to make certain they are kept current.

"If (the planner) isn't kept up to date, they don't practice that day and they have to stay in the locker room to update the book."

What may seem like micromanagement to an incoming freshman is actually teaching time management skills.

"This isn't done to look over their shoulder, but to help them through their first year," Martin says. "I think the most difficult semester for a student is the first semester. They come from an environment where they go to school and everything is planned from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; then they get here and they think they have all this free time. They have to understand early in their academic lives that they need to manage and budget time or they're going to get swallowed. If you're failing midterms or get under a 2.0 your first semester, you're in big trouble."

The program's third stage is a study table that runs from Sunday through Thursday.

"... Years later, some players mention the goal setting we do. They've learned to incorporate this into their lives."

—JAY MARTIN

"They have to go three times during the week," Martin says. "If they don't go three times, they can't train on Friday, and if they don't train on Friday, they can't play on Saturday."

If the student-athlete achieves at least a 2.5 grade point average during the first semester, he is not required to continue the study table during the second semester.

"After the first semester, they seem to get the system," Martin says. "We made these for freshmen at first, but now most of the players want them. Not everyone buys into it but we haven't had academic problems. We've received an academic team award from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America the last seven years."

Martin's program doesn't end there, though. Each of the team's seniors is responsible for making a presentation on an academic topic to the team during preseason.

"It helps both the seniors with their community skills and the freshmen with a source of campus knowledge."

The program isn't a recent innovation by Martin, but one which has evolved over time.

"There's been a study table since before I've been here," he says. "It's run by the players. I've never been to it in 31 years. The mentor program came next, probably 20 years ago, and the daytimer maybe eight years ago as a natural evolution from the other two things."

"The fall season is very hard, with teaching, coaching, and for a long time, serving as athletics director. It was hard for me to meet with every freshman as often as he needed or wanted, so it evolved into this program."

Perhaps the most gratifying portion of Martin's program is the way that some players continue with it even after they graduate.

"Years later, some players mention this and the goal setting we do. They've learned how to incorporate this into their lives."

"It's typical—many of the things we do in college the guys don't get until years later. They always knew we did this but never knew why."

Mark Beckenbach is Sports Information Director and Associate Director of Media Relations in the Ohio Wesleyan Office of University Communications.

EXERCISING THE MIND

By Ann Marcum



Dick Gordon '52



Jon Whithaus '91



In sports performance, as in life, sometimes it's the thought that counts. Carefully-planned "mental gymnastics" can turn the IDEA of success into a reality and the idea takes on a life of its own.

THE HUMAN BRAIN

No. 3047

Today's competitive sports call for more than just physical ability, a notion that Dick Gordin '52, started pushing at Ohio Wesleyan University more than a half-century ago.

"In sports when I started, we taught fundamentals, not mental preparation," says Gordin, who developed an interest in the psychological side of athletics while pursuing his doctorate. Gordin taught on Ohio Wesleyan's faculty, served as athletic director, and coached multiple sports at the University from 1954 until 1993.

What Gordin has dubbed "mental gymnastics" involves preparing an athlete's mind for the challenge of competitive sports. Rather than focusing purely on physical ability, the concept encourages athletes to visualize success and remain relaxed despite outside factors. The goal is to make the mental and physical state as routine as possible, allowing the athlete to replicate that feeling as necessary.

Jon Whithaus '91, head coach of Ohio Wesleyan's golf team, likens the concept to driving an automobile in inclement weather. Although it is a routine behavior that doesn't require much thought for an experienced driver, throw a couple inches of snow into the mix, and the driver may begin to doubt his or her ability. It's similar to the discouragement a golfer feels after a bad shot.

The best athletes, says Whithaus, have a distinct break between what he calls the "game" and the "office." In the "game," athletes are playing for a love of the sport and not pressured to perform at a certain level. The "office," on the other hand, includes the challenges, such as staying under par, that come along with competitive play.

"Our coaching and instructional time is only about 10 percent focused on fundamentals; 90 percent is mental preparation," says Whithaus, who has headed the golf program at Ohio Wesleyan for 11 years. A five-time NCAC Coach of the Year, Whithaus played for Gordin as an undergraduate.

Another key issue is being able to juggle emotions in a slow-paced game, such as golf, when athletes have several minutes to mentally process a lousy drive or a miscalculated

putt. Free throw shooters in basketball and kickers in football experience the same type of pressure, especially due to the strategic use of timeouts by the opposing team.

"We call that a pre-shot routine," says Gordin, referring to the mental state golfers—and other athletes—must put themselves into on game day. "Once you start, the mind is off. Great players slow down on the entire day of competition."

"To do it right, it's not just about what you see," says Whithaus, who encourages his players to visualize success through repetitive movement and state of mind. "You have to feel it. You have to put yourself in a situation where you work up an emotion so that when it really happens, you know how to deal with it."

Over the years, Gordin and Whithaus have seen this tactic have a positive result not only on their athletes' physical performance, but also in the classroom.

"It's not just an accident that [the athletes] can get an A," says Whithaus, of the academic side of competition. "It's a series of activities or processes that work for them. A few mistakes don't throw them off."

Kyle Martin '09, who has earned All-American status and was the 2007 NCAC Player of the Year in golf, has seen the benefits of "mental gymnastics" firsthand.

"The mind is definitely the most important part of the game," says Martin, a psychology major with a concentration in sports science. "You can use visualization to see yourself being successful on the course or in the classroom."

"We're trying to get them to do the right things the right way," says Gordin. "We really want [our athletes] to enjoy what they're doing."

Call it visualization, mental preparation, or even "mental gymnastics," the result remains the same. Ohio Wesleyan's athletes leave the University better prepared for success, both physically and academically, than they ever expected.

Ann Marcum is Assistant Director of Media and Community Relations at Ohio Wesleyan.

**THE PETER HAUCK '52
BASEBALL PRESS BOX
AND THE MARGARET
PICKETT SAGAN '48
SOFTBALL COMPLEX
WILL BE DEDICATED
SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2008.**



The Press Box dedication ceremony will take place at 11:45 am prior to the men's baseball game versus Kenyon. (It is a double-header, beginning at noon).



The Softball Complex dedication ceremony will take place at 12:45 prior to the women's softball game versus Hiram. (The game begins at 1 pm).

Men's Soccer Reunion and Alumni Game

**Saturday, April 26
ON CAMPUS**

*Please check the Alumni Events
page for more information:
<http://alumni.owu.edu/events.html>*

Alumni Happenings »



December 5

New York City Holiday Party

OWU alumni, family, and friends gathered for the annual New York City Holiday Party with special guest Interim President David Robbins. There was excitement in the air as we all toasted our alma mater and the holiday season.

January 3

Cleveland, Ohio, Food Bank

Nearly 30 alumni and their families volunteered at the Cleveland Food Bank during the holiday season.

February 2

Naples Luncheon with Rock Jones

Ninety alumni gathered at the Quail Creek Country Club for their annual alumni luncheon, where they had the opportunity to hear from our Interim President David Robbins. The invocation was given by our special guest President-Elect Rock Jones.



February 7

Cleveland Alumni with Craig Ramsay

Alumni gathered at the Union Club following “Super Tuesday” to hear Craig Ramsay, OWU Politics & Government professor, discuss the topic of “The 2008 Presidential Election: Where Do We Go From Here?”

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

Tuesday, April 8, 2008—On Campus

Join the Columbus Monnett Club in the Monnett Room in OWU’s Mowry Alumni Center. Be a guest of OWU for dinner and a special evening on campus with the OWU a cappella group, “The Owtsiders.” The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. Please RSVP with Janice Thome Kisting ’93 at (614) 841-1480.

Friday, April 11—On Campus

A reception and celebration of the many contributions of Denny Radabaugh and Sally Waterhouse. We hope to prepare a photographic tribute to their many adventures, whether in the Galapagos and the lowlands of South America, the midnight swamps of Delaware County, or the classrooms of Ohio Wesleyan. For this purpose we need your help. If you have photographs you would be willing to lend for inclusion in the show or anecdotes you would be willing to share, please send them to:

Jed Burt or David Markwardt

Department of Zoology
Ohio Wesleyan University
Delaware, OH 43015-2390
Or e-mail them to:
Jed: ehburtt@owu.edu
David: dmarkwa@owu.edu

MAY

May 16-18 On Campus – ALUMNI WEEKEND!

Everyone is invited to return to campus to renew friendships and participate in all the festivities. Classes ending in “3” and “8” will be featured as they celebrate their reunions. Visit our Web site at <http://weekend.owu.edu/>.

JUNE

Saturday, June 28—Cleveland, Ohio

Join alumni, families, and friends for a pre-game picnic and tickets in the all-new Party Deck located down the first baseline for the Cleveland Indians vs. Cincinnati Reds game.

AUGUST

Tuesday, August 5—Cincinnati, Ohio

Annual Summer picnic to welcome the incoming class of students to Ohio Wesleyan.

Sunday, August 31—Cincinnati, Ohio

Join alumni, families, and friends for a train ride and view the WEBN End of the Summer Fireworks in a very special way. Seating is limited, so reserve your seats today.

** If you are interested in coordinating an event in your city, contact the Alumni Relations Office at (740) 368-3325 or e-mail alumni@owu.edu

- 1 **New York:** (l to r) Robert Gillespie '66 and Zibby Farran Tozer '64.
- 2 **New York 3:** (l to r) Jonathan Noble '06 and Alexandria Wise '05.
- 3 **Naples 1:** Brothers of Sigma Phi Epsilon enjoy lunch at Naples.
- 4 **Naples 3:** President-Elect Rock Jones, his wife Melissa Lollar Jones, and Evan Corns '59.
- 5 **New York:** Alumni celebrated in true OWU style.
- 6 **Naples 4:** Sisters of Kappa Alpha Theta catch up during the annual alumni lunch in Naples.
- 7 **Naples 2:** David Griffiths '51 and Interim President David Robbins.
- 8 **Cleveland:** Suzy Walbridge Blake '85 and her family unpack boxes of food.
- 9 **Cleveland 2:** Mark '02 and Jenny Holfich pack the food for families in need.

1988 MEN'S BASKETBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM

Comes Home

ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2008, OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY HONORED THE 1988 MEN'S BASKETBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM AT THE MEN'S BASKETBALL ANNUAL ALUMNI DAY. The day began with a large group of returning alumni donning their sneakers to take on the junior varsity team. In fact, it was such a large group that several alumni played with the current JV squad to "even out" the teams. In the end, the alumni won the game 105-93.

The varsity game, versus Hiram College, was played before a large crowd of more than 1,000 people. The student-led Ohio Wesleyan Athletic Council accepted canned goods and cash donations in lieu of admission for the game.

As the Bishops took a 49-32 half-time lead into the locker room, the University recognized the players, coaches, and student administrators from the 1988 National Championship team. Football coach Mike Hollway read the following statement on behalf of the OWU Athletic Department: "In the fall of 1984, a new collegiate athletic conference based on balance between academics, athletics, and a commitment to gender equity, emerged from the shadows of the Ohio Athletic Conference to begin play. That fall, at Ohio Wesleyan, six young freshmen entered our doors to begin a legendary march toward greatness. Dave Grim, Casey Lee, Mike Piatt, Lee Rowlinson, Scott Tedder, Chris Truskowski, and Mike Smith formed the nucleus of what would become Ohio Wesleyan's first-ever national championship team. Soon, members from three additional classes joined them to form one of the greatest Division III basketball teams in NCAA history.

There is no greater testament to their impact on Ohio Wesleyan University basketball history than to look upward at the east end of the gym to see the four consecutive conference championship banners they won from the 1984-85 season to 1987-88;



Members of the 1988 National Championship Team in attendance at the event were: Front Row – Student Manager, John Bolek '88, Student Assistant Coach, Mike Piatt '88, Head Coach Gene Mehaffey, Dave Grim '88, Casey Lee '88, Scott Tedder '88, Assistant Coach Larry Eberst. Back Row – Marc Sherwood '90, Dirk Miller '91, Jeff Sargeant '90, Mark Slayman '90, Dale Eilrich '91, Steve Geiger '91, Lee Rowlinson '88, and Chris Truskowski '88.

the only four in OWU history. And of course, the ultimate success: the National Championship in 1988.

They became the first Division III Basketball team ever invited to the White House and met with then-president Ronald Reagan. They, more than any other program to that point in North Coast Athletic Conference history, brought legitimacy to the athletic programs of the NCAC and at Ohio Wesleyan University. They captured the hearts of the campus, the local community, and the nation in 1988.

Led by one of the finest gentlemen who ever coached at Ohio Wesleyan, Dr. Gene Mehaffey, the Ohio Wesleyan Athletic Department welcomes you back home and says, "Thanks!" Following the successful game against Hiram, close to 80 alumni, family and friends gathered in the Benes Rooms of the Hamilton-Williams Campus Center to reminisce and relive the great times from 1987-88. Team

captain and 1988 Division III Player of the Year, Scott Tedder reminisced about the great memories of being a team and how those feelings of being a team, continue to this day. Tedder provided an anecdote from when he played professional baseball. A reporter once asked him what it was like to play in the outfield with Michael Jordan, probably the most famous athlete of our time. Scott replied, "It's nice, but it doesn't compare to winning a National Championship at Ohio Wesleyan."

Coach Mehaffey spoke of the defining moments of the season and how the team came together in the face of insurmountable odds to beat a University of Scranton team perceived as the overwhelming favorites. Coach Mehaffey also mentioned how no one wanted the season to end; how they felt they needed to get ready for the next game.

The evening ended with a slide show created 20 years ago by then-assistant coach Larry Eberst and his brother.



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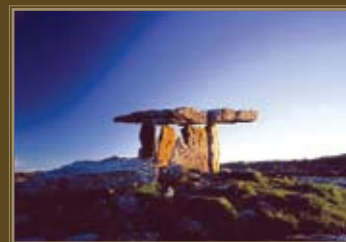
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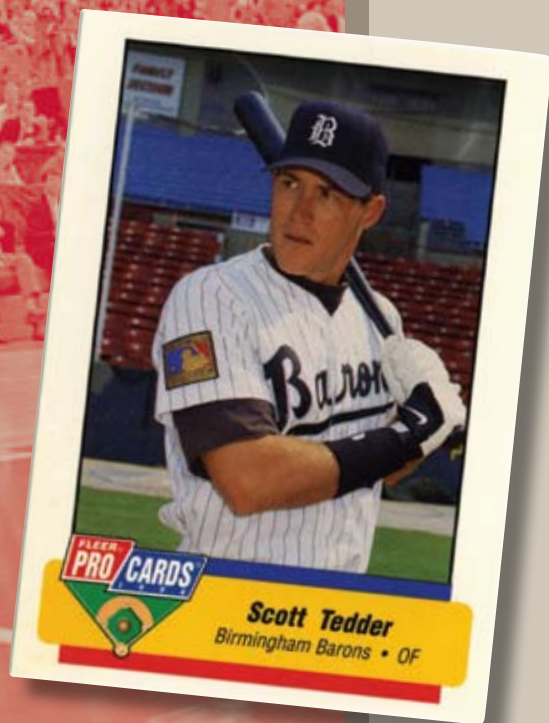
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“Attending Ohio Wesleyan was the best four years of my life. I played on a National Championship Basketball team and visited President Reagan in the Oval Office. I went on to play professional baseball for seven years for the White Sox, Indians, and Cubs organizations. I arrived at OWU as an 18-year old boy and left as a 22-year old man.”

— Scott Tedder, 1988

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