

12-8-2005

## GlimmerGlass Volume 65 Number 07 (2005)

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### Recommended Citation

Miller, Tricia (Executive Editor) and Musselman, Sarah (Business Manager), "GlimmerGlass Volume 65 Number 07 (2005)" (2005).  
*GlimmerGlass*. 881.  
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## DESIGNING A DEBATE

Biology student weighs in on controversy

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## WHO KNOWS THE PLAN?

Spring chapel series theme a closely guarded secret

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# GLIMMERGLASS

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DECEMBER 8, 2005 • Vol. 65 No. 7

## HEADLINES FROM THE DAILY JOURNAL

### BBCHS names top alumnus

Mary Buser Gandy, an avid volunteer from Tallahassee, Fla., has been chosen as the Bradley-Bourbonnais Community High School alumnus of the year.

The BBCHS Academic Foundation recently selected Gandy after receiving nominations from her colleagues in Florida. Gandy graduated from the high school in 1954.

The award is given annually to honor alumni who have made distinguished contributions to the betterment of society. The retired secretary has a long history of volunteerism, including her current work at Tallahassee Memorial Regional Medical Center, which led to her nomination.

### Slippery roads claim 3 lives

The area's first snowfall exacted a heavy toll on motorists early today, killing three, injuring several others and leaving scores of autos decorating interstate medians and roadside drainage ditches.

Sergio Martinez, 21, of Cicero, died at 5:30 a.m. when his northbound pickup truck slashed across the icy I-57 median north of Bourbonnais and struck a semi-trailer truck head-on. David Wooden, 32, of Xenia, Ill., the truck's driver, was not hurt, said police.

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## Students reach out to Hopkins Park

Oprah Winfrey visits Kankakee County township, reports it as the most impoverished community in Illinois in her show "Inside the Lives of America's Poor"



On "Make a Difference Day" in October, freshman Tim Arrington and sophomore Scott McConnell did yard work in Hopkins Park. Students have reached out to the community through several efforts this fall. Submitted photo

By Nick Forneris

News writer

is a struggle for survival.

To raise spirits in Hopkins Park, which is in the township of Pembroke, the poorest community in Illinois, as reported on "The Oprah Winfrey Show," Olivet sophomore Tatiana Kaminski, along with many volunteers and donors, raised enough money to provide Christmas gifts for 500 children.

Oprah's show "Special Report: Inside the Lives of America's Poor," reported that 55 percent of Pembroke residents live under the poverty level and 40 percent do not have running water. The average income is \$9,700 a year. The community has no bank, drug store or medical facility, and paved roads are few. The mayor, Reverend Jon Dyson, admitted that each day

In response, the 12-member "Christmas Committee," who directed the project handed out gifts during two camps on Nov. 28 and 30. Around 167 children received gifts such as basketballs, makeup kits and jewelry.

"I got to see all the hard work and energy that was put into this effort come together," Kaminski said. "It was amazing."

Remaining gifts will be dispersed Dec. 14 to 323 children at Lorenzo Smith Grade School.

"The work ... put into the Hopkins Park Christmas Project has been magnificent," Associated Student Council President and member of the Christmas Committee Andrew Twibell said. "I was blown away by the amount of thought

and prayer that had been poured into the idea."

The initial goals of the committee have been met thanks to fundraisers like "Kiss a Pig," which raised \$300 in donations to see a prominent Olivet figure kiss a hog. Intramural Director and Residential Director Bob Kring kissed the pig on Dec. 17.

In addition, Farm and Fleet helped by ordering gifts at discount price.

However, Kaminski noted that the \$4,600 raised from students on campus and their home churches contributed most to the project's success.

According to Kaminski, students surpassed Olivet's fundraising record by \$2,000.

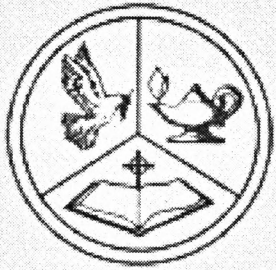
"The most humbling

thing ... is how the students of Olivet responded to God's call," Kaminski said.

Kaminski expressed her appreciation to the Olivet community.

"A giant thank-you goes out to all who have been involved ... in this project, especially the members of the committee and our fundraisers."

In addition to a toy, blanket and gloves, ASC, Women's Residential Life (WRL) and Men's Residential Life (MRL) went door-to-door Wednesday to raise \$1,500 to buy children socks for the winter. The freshman class council will host a class party in the Warming House on Friday, charging either a pair of boys' socks or \$2 for admission.



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# Train collision interrupts holiday

By Megan Artz

News writer

Thanksgiving was interrupted for some Momenca residents this year after a collision between a Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern train at 8 a.m.

About 25 nearby residents evacuated because of a leaking rail car filled with denatured grain alcohol, which can be highly flammable. At the opposite end, the collided engines still burned as they spilled fuel into a nearby drainage ditch, causing concern for the nearby Kankakee River.

The Kankakee Daily Journal quoted evacuated resident Mardi Koch hearing a

“very, very loud explosion,” at the time of the crash. “It shook the house,” Koch said.

Only three minor injuries were reported by the Kankakee County Emergency Services and Disaster Agency, all believed to be on the Union Pacific side.

This is the biggest train collision in Kankakee County since the 1999 Bourbonnais Amtrak collision with a semi that left 11 dead and 122 injured, according to the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB).

Olivet sophomore Greg St. Louis, a firefighter, EMT and a system administrator for computers for the Bourbonnais Fire Protection District spent

Thanksgiving Day working in the relief effort, filling out paperwork. He described the scene of the collision by saying “It really looked like someone had taken the trains and put them in a little pile; almost like you would with matchbox cars.”

In addition, just before Thanksgiving, a train wreck occurred in Elmwood Park, as drivers ignored a sign, drove onto tracks and got caught as a train passed through.

The accidents do not seem to have affected students transportation choices.

“I felt very safe and still feel very safe,” said junior Emily Minnis, who took the train to Chicago daily over the

summer. “Accidents happen with planes and cars too, and frankly, I trust taking the train more than my driving in Chicago.”

Sophomore Amy Stanford agreed.

“I have no problem taking the train. These accidents so rarely happen that when they do, I believe that the media attention makes [officials] pay more attention to safety.”

The 1999 Amtrak incident did in fact lead to a Feb. 15, 2002 NTSB safety recommendation to Washington D.C., calling for redirection of routes to try to minimize the number of at-grade rail crossings.

# Senate, ASC interact more closely

By Katie Nichols

News writer

Student Senate met again on Tuesday, Nov. 29 to discuss changes to Senate structure and to get new plans underway.

Student Senate is a new part of Olivet’s student government, making up the legislative branch of the student government. It is made of 88 students representing different parts of campus. They are split up into four committees and eight sub-committees.

After a couple months of Senate activity, senior class president Johnny Wakefield and the other class presidents decided that a change needed to be made.

“We added eight Associated Student Council (ASC) members, two from each class, who are now the co-chairs of each sub-committee,” Wakefield said. “The only Senate connection to ASC was the class presidents, but now there is much more interaction.”

Previously the Senate would propose ideas and pass them on to ASC to carry out.

“The Senate now comes up with the ideas and completes them,” Wakefield said.

The Senate is working on a photography club, providing transportation to



Senior Class President Johnny Wakefield addresses the Student Senate Tuesday, Nov. 29, including the eight new Associated Student Council members, as they discuss service projects, campus maintenance and more. Chris Gibson/Staff

churches, a gift wrapping service project, maintenance of the track, and fixing potholes, among other issues. Many proposals have come from students outside the Senate.

“For any representative body to work it needs the people to participate and give ideas,” Wakefield said. “Students need to know that they can go to their senator with any problem.”

Each sub-committee hopes to carry out one or two proposals by Christmas.



On Nov. Social Committee brought back “Lighting of the Quad,” an Olivet tradition. Students sip hot apple cider and hot chocolate and place colorful Christmas lights all over the quad. David Moore/Staff

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## New club enhances bio department

By Amanda Shelley

Variety Editor

Olivet biology majors are now more than just an unofficial group of late night studiers or some of the only people who would walk around with a shirt announcing "Mitosis ... It does a body good."

This year, Olivet welcomes one of the newest additions to its list of clubs and organizations: Biophilic Club. The club is composed mainly of biology, biochemistry and science education majors.

The word "biophilic" literally translates as "biology loving." The suffix -philic means "an attraction to or a tendency to interact with." Or to make it easier, it simply means "loving."

Senior Casey Lacher, a biology major, was instrumental in getting the club off the ground this year.

"We just felt it would be appropriate to name the biology club 'biophilic' or 'biology-loving' because you have to love biology to major in it. Otherwise, you won't survive...or you're crazy,"

Lacher said.

In many ways biology majors already feel a certain sense of community. Semester parties, unofficial study nights and a Biohazard concert have been a part of the department even before this year.

"Your fellow majors become a part of your family. It's amazing what you learn about people when you're studying bones at 3 a.m.," Lacher said.

Some biology majors felt it was time to bring the activities and sense of family under an official club umbrella.

"They simply wanted to develop structure and organization, hopefully allowing us to be more efficient and take further advantage of our potential resources," David Wilson, sophomore Biophilic Club president said. "Also, by making it an official club, we gain the support of ASC, who will keep us accountable to our goals and give us further insight into how successful clubs function."

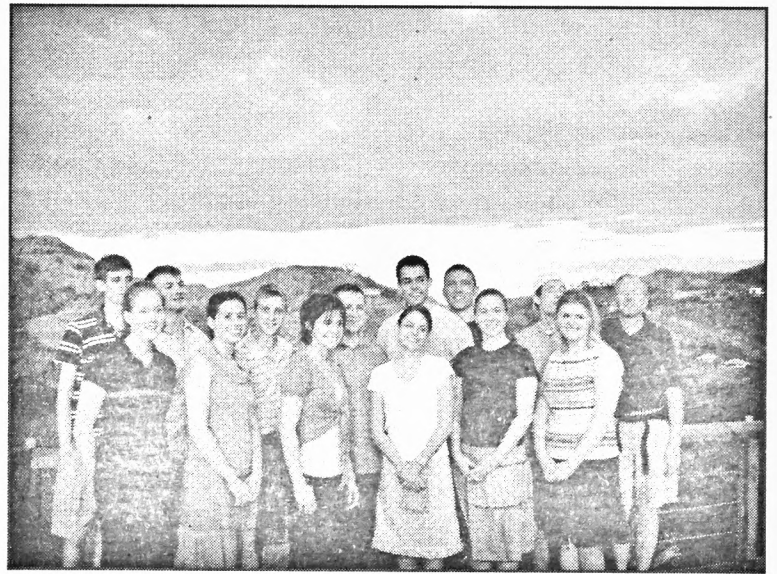
The club hopes to bring a sense of unity to the

biology department as well as help students prepare for careers after Olivet. One idea involves bringing in community members to do seminars and help prepare students for what they will face after they graduate.

The idea for the club has existed for several years, especially in the minds of upperclassmen. Lacher has been waiting for something like Biophilic Club since she came as a freshman in the fall of 2002.

This year she began working with clubs and organizations as ASC's administrative assistant, providing her the perfect opportunity to get a biology club going. A sense of unity and an abundance of capable, willing students further facilitated the process.

"The biology majors this year are especially unique because there is an incredible sense of unity from freshmen through seniors, and that's not something I've experienced as deeply as I have this year," Lacher said. "We have some incredible leaders in the



Biology students and faculty pose at sunset on a class trip to Costa Rica last summer. Activities on campus and trips like this one have contributed to a sense of community in the department. Submitted photo

department and a lot of willing hearts."

But the club exists as more than just a community builder or resource to biology majors. It also has goals to educate the campus and the outside community. Olivet biology students want to share their knowledge and passion in practical ways that help others see the importance of biology in their everyday lives.

"On a broad level, our goals are to educate the campus and community of the importance and excitement of studying biology," Wilson said.

The club plans to offer tutoring on and off campus, give seminars at local high schools and the creation of a biological/medical book club.

## January grad anticipates future in Italy

By Erin Menke

Variety writer

Some things have changed since I came to Olivet as a freshman. Dr. Bowling had a mustache, Praize led worship in chapel, Shine was in the back of Benner, and there were no I "Heart" Nazarene Naps T-shirts. As I have reflected upon the changes of Olivet, I have also looked at how I am very different from the freshman girl of 2002.

I am now a senior sociology and psychology major eagerly awaiting the challenges of the future. If you would have asked me what I expected my life to be like back then, the answer would be very different from what I would give you now. My plans were to be a professional vocalist, but God had other plans in mind for me. God has led me down an exciting, unexpected path.

In my freshmen year, my heart was calloused and closed off to what God had to show me. He slowly broke down the walls of my heart and entered in. I knew about God for most of my life, but I never lived for Him or knew

Him personally. My life had been compartmentalized into church on Sunday and then what I wanted for the rest of the week. I didn't want to leave my old life behind. God spoke to me through chapel and my friends. He spoke to me in a way I had never known before. I went from knowing about God to knowing God. His work has completely changed my life for the better. For the couple years that I have been a committed Christian, God has done amazing things in my life.

When I was a sophomore, I felt the urge to go to Italy with Missions in Action (MIA). I had a feeling that I would be missing something very important if I didn't go. God provided the means for the trip and it was an experience I will never forget. I had never expected to go on a mission trip, especially to Italy.

I was about to leave for Vancouver, Canada with Youth in Mission last summer when God came knocking on my door again. I didn't know what I wanted to do with my future and then God made it

clear that He wanted me to return to Italy. I was ecstatic. God knew how much I would love to live in Europe and He made my dream a reality.

This is my final semester at Olivet, and I will be flying to Palermo, Sicily in January for a three-month stay. Mission work in Sicily is very difficult because the people are very cynical and suspicious of you. It doesn't help that the Mafia originated there. Even so, the missionaries recently informed me that after years of work in the field they had their first person accept Christ. My outreach there will include free English lessons, Bible exploration, worship, movie nights and "barhopping" in coffee shops to meet people.

Doing volunteer mission abroad isn't easy, especially when you're a poor college student. I have spoken with the other missionaries there, and they are delighted I'm coming. They are receiving an overwhelming response with the English lessons. This is further proof that God has a plan for my life. He has been setting things up for me when I couldn't even see it happening.

In addition, he has provided the financial means that I have so desperately needed.

I don't know where God will lead me when I return from Italy. However, what I do know is that God will lead me

and be with me wherever I go. God certainly hasn't led me this far to suddenly leave me now. God has transformed me into a better person, and I can't wait to go into the world and let that light shine to others.

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# When Christmas at home is abroad

By **Katie Nichols**

Variety writer

The air was warm and still as senior Simone Mulieri gazed up into the clear sky. Boom! Another bright light flashed in the darkness, followed by 20 more minutes of a perfectly choreographed Christmas fireworks display on the sandy beach in San Paulo, Brazil.

As she sat on her blanket with the rest of her family, she thought back about the past hours. The traditional gift giving on Christmas Eve at midnight, the fancy meal of roast beef with plums and the enjoyable family time outside in the beautiful weather. It was the one time Mulieri and her twin sister Aline got to spend at home with their family in Brazil that year.

For many international students the holidays are the only time they are able to visit their overseas families during the school year. Some don't even have that privilege.

The next time freshman Jenna Pickering from North Queensland, Australia will see her family is in May.

"My mom said she could try and get me tickets to come home for Christmas, but for the amount of time we have

off and the cost, I'll just go home in May," Pickering said.

Most students who aren't able to go home for breaks spend their time at friends' houses.

"I always stay here for Thanksgiving, so I go to a family's home in Indiana that I know or stay here with whoever invites me first," Mulieri said. "People are very kind and ask if I have somewhere to go."

With many American Christmas and Thanksgiving holiday traditions, the month of December is a month of "firsts" for many new international students.

"It was my first time ever eating turkey, and I really enjoyed it," Pickering said. "My friend's mom was like, 'I have to make the turkey perfect!' but I wouldn't know any different. It was a really relaxing holiday, and I spent time with her family and ate a lot of food."

In addition, the past weeks included Pickering's first time seeing snow and eating pumpkin pie.

Both Mulieri and Pickering had no idea what Thanksgiving was about when they first arrived at Olivet.

"I really enjoy how everyone gets together and

shares something they're thankful for," Mulieri said.

Even though Pickering won't join her family for the traditional Christmas lunch of roast pork with all the trimmings and the Boxing Day seafood meal, they are making sure she still gets her Christmas presents and decorations.

"They've already started sending me gifts," Pickering said. "My mom made a Christmas tree with Australian animals on the fabric, and I've already sent presents to them. They sent me my stocking too."

While both girls have celebrated Christmas in different countries, they said Christmas is commercialized everywhere.

"You can compare culture to culture and see many differences, but one that doesn't change is the commercialization," Mulieri said. "Everywhere you go people get consumed with buying things. People miss the meaning behind Christmas and, unfortunately, that is the same between cultures."

With Christmas quickly approaching, these students are finalizing their break plans and making sure they have a place to go for the

holidays.

"Since I go home, every time Christmas approaches I

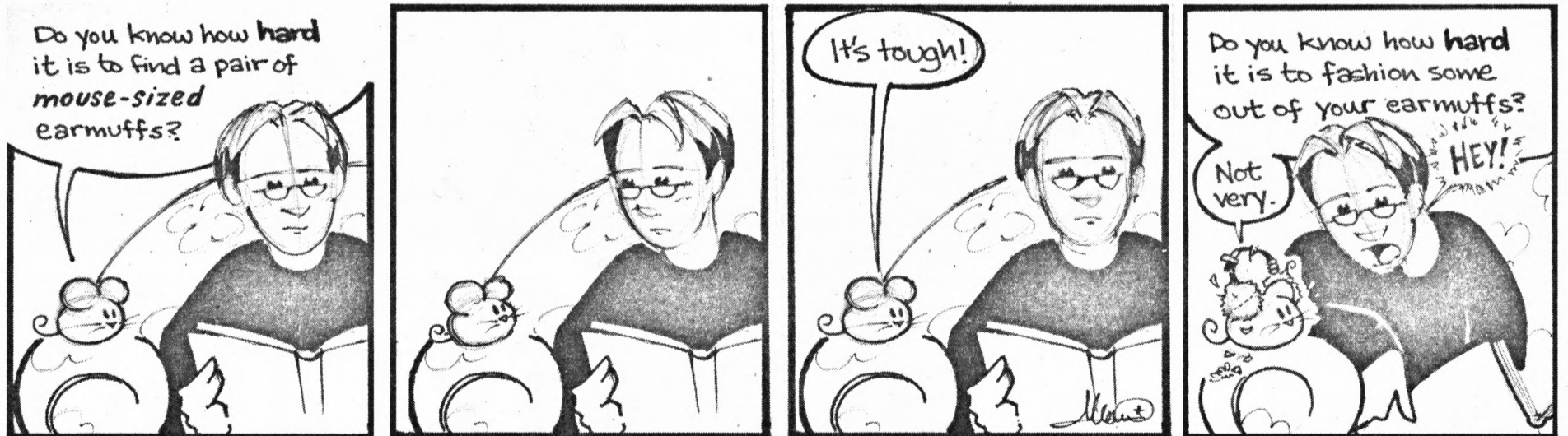
can hardly wait," Mulieri said.

"I've been waiting for it all semester."

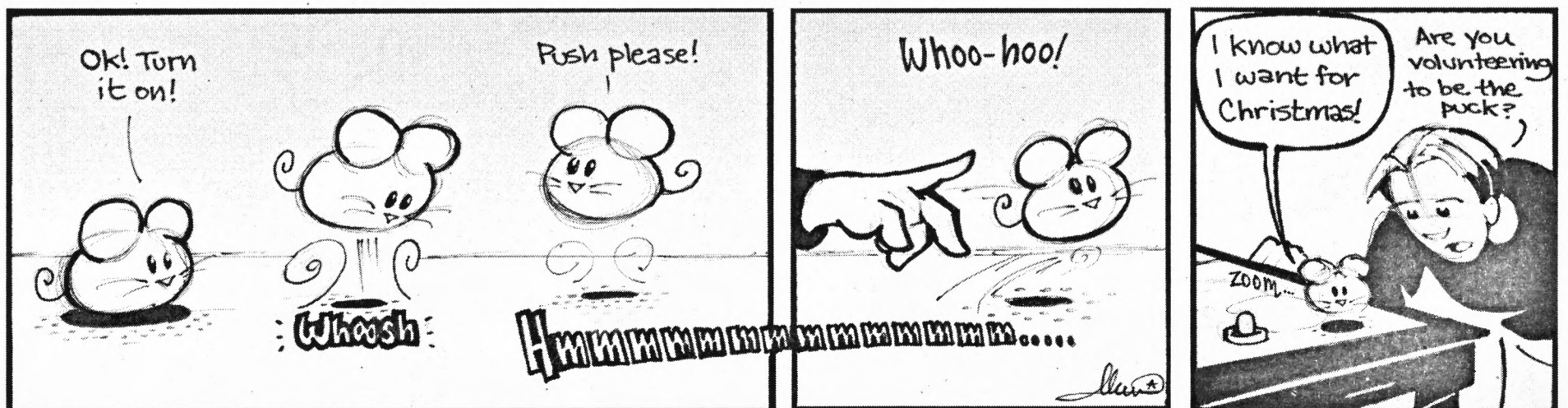


Senior Simone Mulieri's family spends time together in their hometown of San Paulo, Brazil. Mulieri and her twin sister Aline try to go home twice a year to see their parents. Submitted photo

## Katt/Mouse by David Moore



## Katt/Mouse by David Moore



## Latin band adds spice to banquet

By Jonathan Swigart

A&E writer

As the temperature grows colder and the days get shorter, the Olivet student body takes up the usual routine that comes with this time of the school year.

Much time is devoted to remembering which projects are due, getting less sleep to work on papers, looking forward to the semester break, and of course, the annual Christmas banquet.

The banquet, held the Saturday before Christmas break, allows students to dress in more formal attire and attend dinner and a show in the company of friends.

The highlight the last couple of years has been the entertainment portion of the evening. A year ago Olivet booked the group Denver and the Mile-High Orchestra, while Olivet's own Spoons 4 Forks performed in 2003.

However, until a few

years ago, the entertainment was limited to mainly speakers, many of whom were from Olivet.

the attendance of Christmas banquet," she added, "there were different shifts for dinner (5:00, 6:00, etc) so there was

with three members in 1995 but expanded to five members in later years, adding a drummer and another bassist in an



"The tradition of bringing in a group for Christmas banquet is really a new one," said Beth Johnson, vice president of Olivet's Social Committee.

"Because our student body was so large and they didn't want to make a cap on

no program, only a meal."

Olivet is continuing its new tradition this year with the musical group El Trio de Hoy, a bilingual musical group that performs Latin style music with a strong Christian message in its lyrics.

The band started out

effort to fine-tune their sound.

With each of the members being sons of pastors, the group's goal with their music is to spread the word of God to those who will listen, whether it is through their live performances or through one of their five albums.

While the sounds of El Trio de Hoy will be new to many Olivet students, junior Chelsea McKay will be seeing them for a second time, having seen them before at Praise Gathering with fellow members of Orpheus choir.

McKay explained that the band brings a melodic sound with a style characteristic of most Latin music that is easy to listen to.

"They do about half of their music in Spanish, which to me was probably the coolest part of their concert," she said. "They are really trying to appeal to a wide audience because that is their venue to spread the gospel."

McKay said that the addition of the band should result in a banquet full of energy by highlighting Christmas songs in Spanish as well as English, something much unlike students have experienced at the Christmas banquet.

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# Heavenly voices create Messiah

Almost 200 Olivet students, including singers, instrumentalists and technician, orchestrate massive 70th annual Christmas concert Dec. 2-3; Sounds of Season and One Silent Night performances to follow

By Rachel Buller

A&E writer

Nearly 200 students participated in the 70th annual Olivet Nazarene University presentation of George Frideric Handel's *Messiah* Dec. 2 and 3 in Kresge Auditorium at 7 p.m. The performance was a massive effort, featuring the university's Choral Union, orchestra, choirs and featured soloists. Orpheus choir director Dr. Jeff Bell conducted.

Five rows of more than 100 singers sporting formal apparel -- men in tuxedos and women in all black -- filled the stage adorned with white lights, wreaths, and Christmas trees. Friday night included performances from alumnae Stacie Knepfelkamp and Rachel Smith.

Saturday evening featured solos by sopranos

Kristy Burrows and Hannah Jackson, contraltos Chelsea McKay and Valerie Sass, tenor Samuel Griggs and bass Jacob Chastain.

Aside from vocal performances, the university orchestra contributed its instrumental talent. In addition, university students offered services in lighting, stage crew, and instrumental ability.

Originally six hours long,

minutes. Recognized most for the 44th chorus, or Hallelujah chorus, the vocal score intertwines recitation with song.

The *Messiah* choir consisted of Chrysalis women's choir, led by Prof. Martha Dalton; Testament men's choir,

any student with a music major or minor.

Beginning with an overture, the celebrated Christmas piece contains 53 different movements. Selections include well-known pieces such as "Unto Us A Child Is

Three to four weeks prior the performance, students may audition for one of the few coveted soloist positions. Music faculty, including Music Department Chairman Don Reddick, offer up vocal talent as well. The orchestra provided special music on the organ by Dr. Timothy Nelson and harpsichord player Erica Rumbley.

Sophomore Orpheus member Corinne Mills shared what ONU's performance of *Messiah* meant to her.

"In the past I have been able to perform parts of Handel's *Messiah*, but this year being able to sing the entire oratorio really touched me," she said.

On Dec. 8 and 9 the music department will continue to celebrate Christmas in their annual "Sounds of the Season" concert in Larsen Fine Arts Center. On Wednesday,

Dec. 14, the annual "One Silent Night" benefit concert featuring student soloists will be held in Kelly Prayer Chapel.



Dr. Jeff Bell leads orchestra and choir members in Olivet's annual production of Handel's *Messiah* on Dec. 9.

Handel's *Messiah* consists of three main sections. Olivet's performance featured just one, however, in performances that lasted just two hours and 15

minutes. Conducted by Dr. Neal Woodruff; Orpheus choir, led by Prof. Jeff Bell; and the Choral Union. Participation in Choral Union is a required class for

Born" and "Behold The Lamb Of God." The score covers the birth to resurrection of Jesus Christ, highlighting significant points during the Savior's life.

## Celebrating Christmas in the Second City

By Olivia Leigh Hodges

A&E editor

As the holiday season nears, Chicago becomes a veritable winter wonderland, chock full of Christmas activities and events.

From Dec. 9 - Jan. 7, Navy Pier's Festival Hall

transforms into "Winter WonderFest." Now in its fifth year, the hall will be decorated with hundreds of trees glistening under thousands of twinkling lights, setting the stage for the variety of attractions available.

Consistently popular

each year, the indoor ice rink offers the chance to partake in a traditional winter activity safe from the brash Chicago wind. A 50-foot-high indoor ferris wheel is also on hand, as is a model train featuring more than 1,000 feet of track.

Winter WonderFest is open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Thursday, and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday-Saturday. Admission to the Winter WonderFest celebration is free, with special activities costing a small fee.

The city also offers a wealth of theater, dance and music events suited to the season. A holiday tradition in Chicago for years, the Joffrey Ballet will present its rendition of *The Nutcracker* Dec.

14-28. With tickets starting at just \$20, Joffrey presents an opportunity to see a world-renowned troupe perform the classic story of Clara and her magical adventure.

Another Chicago Christmas staple, the Goodman Theatre's production of *A Christmas Carol* is currently showing until Dec. 26. Tickets for this timeless classic begin at \$30 and may be purchased through the Goodman Theatre's website ([www.goodman-theatre.org](http://www.goodman-theatre.org)).

If you'd like to take in some popular music benefiting a good cause, Chicago's radio station, The Mix (101.9 - WTMX), will host "Miracle on State Street" on Friday, Dec. 16, featuring popular acts

Ben Folds, Alanis Morissette, and The Fray. A portion of the tickets, which start at \$48 and are available through Ticketmaster, will benefit the LaRabida Children's Hospital.

If, however, you would like to take in the spirit of the season without breaking the bank, consider some of the most budget-friendly options. From strolling and shopping on State Street to ice skating in Millennium Park (\$4-5 for skate rental), sipping hot chocolate downtown at Ghiradelli's to befriending reindeer at Brookfield Zoo's "Holiday Magic" (\$8), the city offers a wealth of wondrous activities on the cheap.

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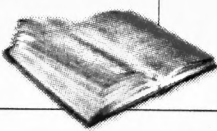
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## Spring chapel theme kept secret

*Students want to know; Chaplain Benson and coworkers will not tell, are excited for what will come*

By **Hannah Witt**

Spiritual Life writer

The biggest question on everyone's minds at the end of the semester is not "Will I pass my finals?" but instead "What is next semester's chapel theme?"

Every semester a new chapel theme is chosen by Chaplain Mike Benson and his team of faithful workers, and every semester they keep it a secret.

"Ever since we started doing themes in chapel, students come back to school and want to know what the theme is and yet we do not tell them. We did not know it when we started doing it that it would be like this but it has kind of become a fun thing," said Benson.

Nothing has changed for this upcoming semester. The theme is still a secret, but Benson and his staff are sure the theme's revelation is worth the wait.

"Students have a right to expect that we will go at [choosing the theme] prayerfully. We are consistently thinking about these topics.

We didn't just dream them up on a golf course. They have a right to expect that we are going to work hard and that we are going to do our best," said Chaplain Benson.

A lot of work has been put into the preparation for the next chapel series, and it has not been a short process.

"We have eight topics out there at time that are chosen beforehand. In a top secret room buried a thousand miles beneath the sea in Michigan the eight topics can be found. Once we have the eight topics we begin to write notebooks, start reading and start collecting the material necessary for the series," Chaplain Benson said.

The eight topics that are originally chosen will take place sometime over a four year period according to issues on the campus and what will be most beneficial for the student body at that particular time.

"I have four years to feed these students. I want to give them a well balanced diet. When they leave I don't want them to be out in the next

church or wherever they are and say "I never thought about that," said Benson. "Whatever then looks like a four year, eight semester, well balanced diet, our eight themes are based off that basic idea."

Chapel speakers have been booked in advance for next semester's chapel series.

Benson said that we look at who is out there that is tackling this particular issue and then we work to get them to come to speak.

"We want what is best, and we try our best to get the best speakers and ones that the students will like to hear. Students do not know but when a speaker comes and does not do their job as they have promised to do, we



Chaplain Mike Benson and his staff work hard at choosing a new chapel theme each semester. "We didn't just dream [themes] up on a golf course," he said. Themes are unveiled at the beginning of each semester. File photo

get angry too," said Chaplain Benson.

The chaplain's office hopes speakers will instill change in the student body.

"I am real excited about the speakers," said Chaplain Benson. "I am also real excited about the theme.

Generally the fall theme is more philosophical and the spring is more practical. We feel it will be a real practical and helpful for the students. I think we are going to be talking about some of the issues that are here within the student body on this campus."

## Spiritual gifts serve, encourage others

By **Simone Mulieri**

Spiritual Life writer

Christmastime, by nature of the season, causes us to remember. Some of us remember sitting by the fireplace, while others remember watching fireworks. Many of us remember savoring a delicious home-made meal. Most of us remember exchanging gifts. But does anyone remember the true gift of Christmas?

You may rove through the reverie of years past, pretending to act upon an unselfish precept by remembering the gifts you gave rather than the ones you received.

And yet, wouldn't you be entrapped in the greatest insidious lie? After all, Christmas is not about giving or receiving gifts, but about making use of the gift that has been given us through the birth of Christ: His Spirit.

Every time you gave someone a gift, you were given another in return.

This is the way of man: we give, but we expect to be given back. The way of God is rather different. He endows us with many gifts through His

**"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms."**

» **1 PETER 4:10**

Spirit so that we may use them to serve others.

He does not expect any gifts back. He only expects us to use what has been given us to help, encourage, strengthen and serve others.

A gift is usually remembered when it serves a purpose. Peter exhorts us to use whatever gift we have

received to serve others. God has graciously bestowed upon us many gifts. He did it so that we would purposefully put them into practice.

When Paul wrote to the Romans he affirmed that he was eager to see them so that, through the imparting of spiritual gifts, he and they could be mutually encouraged.

Whether your gift serves to edify the church, serve the community, or enhance the formation of Christian character, the Lord has given you gifts so that you could "give" them to others.

First Corinthians 14:1 says, "follow the way of love and eagerly desire Spiritual Gifts." He did not say, "eagerly desire an iPod or a digital camera or a pair of new jeans." He said "desire spiritual gifts." These gifts are eternal. They are gracious. Unforgettable

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# MIA numbers down, hopes high

Though fewer students are participating, sponsors still have high expectations for Gulf Coast trips

By Emily Davis

Spiritual Life editor

In hopes of focusing efforts on domestic relief, Olivet's mission team, Missions In Action, will send students out on fewer trips this year than in years before.

The students participating in Missions in Action (MIA) this year will go on only two trips, both to Louisiana, to aid relief efforts after the devastation sustained by the area following this fall's Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Beth Olney, Olivet's associate chaplain, is excited for the trips despite the lower student turnout than she and MIA sponsor Jennifer McClellan originally anticipated.

"The numbers are down, but that's all right. We have a good working number for each trip," Olney said. "If the groups are too big, they can't work as well – this way

we can focus and channel our efforts where they are needed most."

At least 50 students are currently signed up to go on one of two trips to the New Orleans area this school year. About half of these students will go over Christmas vacation, while the others, along with any other students that sign up within the next few months, will go in the spring.

"We typically have close to 80 students go on short-term missions trips each year," McClellan explained. "This year we just have a lot of students going on Youth in Missions trips. The MIA students this year will still be getting the mission experience. We just aren't going to be offering as many trips as we have in the past."

Those organizing this year's trips decided to cut the offered trips primarily because of the devastated state of the

Gulf Coast region, explaining that it is often hard to raise interest in trips abroad when the domestic situation is in such dire need of help.

"We've really received a different response this year

**"The more I thought about it, the more I realized that we shouldn't forget what's going on down there."**

» MARK GRANGER  
MIA PARTICIPANT

from both students and adults," Olney said. "In the past, many students were intrigued by the exotic destinations and have had to raise more money to go. Even though we aren't traveling as far, students truly

want to go and serve – knowing it'll be very hard work – and still more students are paying for themselves to go."

This year's students plan mostly to help with building needs such as putting up drywall, and cleaning churches and houses not covered by flood insurance. Olivet senior Mark Granger is one of the few that has volunteered his break to help rebuild.

"I guess when they talked about it in chapel it just hit me – I hadn't gone on one [MIA trip] yet, especially one so close to home. It just seemed really important to do," Granger said.

Still, like many others, Granger was a little more apprehensive about the trip after the attention of the media shifted from the area.

"At first I was really gung-ho about going, and then I got a little more apprehensive

after the story wore off in the media, but, the more I thought about it, the more I realized that we shouldn't forget what's going on down there. It isn't over yet – and we can't forget the people in our own country," Granger said.

McClellan and Olney expressed the same sentiment for those suffering in our own nation and excitement for the trips that come in a year of leadership change for the MIA program.

"This has been a year of transition, but the response has been inspiring," Olney said. "I look forward to the reports from the students after they return."

MIA is still accepting applications for the spring trip. Contact Jennifer McClellan at ext. 928-5658 or at [jmcclell@olivet.edu](mailto:jmcclell@olivet.edu) for more information.

## Makom festival planned for Jan. 12-14

By Rachel Buller

Spiritual Life writer

Just as students are returning from celebrating the

birth of Christ over break, they will gather the next weekend to celebrate his death and resurrection. At 7 p.m. on Jan.

12-14 in Chalfant Hall, Olivet Nazarene University will hold its annual student-led Makom revival service.

Derived from the Judaic word Hamakom meaning God, the root word conveys a place or the place where God is. The hope of Spiritual Life is to bring that presence to each and every student in a real, personal way during the festival.

Anticipated turnout is around 400 per night, including students, faculty and various members of the community.

Vice-President of Spiritual Life McCartha McKenzie predicted that God will work mightily through Makom.

"I'm personally expecting an impact beyond words," he said. "We are somewhat shifting the focus of this year's Makom festival. Like last year, it still has a lot to do with us as a community being in the place where the Holy Spirit of God dwells. It is a revival and calling that starts within the individual hearts of those on campus and spreads out into the community."

Speaker Matthew Paul Turner and singer Michael Cook will provide spiritual insight with members of

different ministries on campus. Each service is expected to last approximately an hour and a half.

Turner, a contributor to Relevant magazine, has experience speaking to groups of 20-somethings. Associated Student Council President Andrew Twibell said that he and McKenzie got Turner's name from former Vice-President of Spiritual Life Montague Williams this summer.

Twibell explained that they chose Turner because he is a "gifted speaker" who understands ministry to the student body's age group and brings a very practical message.

Cook, meanwhile, came via a recommendation from one of McKenzie's friends. An Indiana native, Cook's music is similar to that of last year's Makom worship leader, Vicki Beeching. Twibell said that lyrics he writes are "theologically sound" and "challenging in a way that's different from straight up praise and worship."

The revival, sponsored by Associated Student Council and Spiritual Life council, will focus on non-traditional aspects of worship such as

miming and sign language. Artistic expression such as painting and praise dance will be present alongside returning themes like drama and worship bands.

Each class council is organizing an afterglow, evening activity following the revival. Afterglows included bowling, games, and an ice cream social last year. Classes may also congregate Saturday in the Bourbonnais area for three different service projects that are still being planned.

While the university sponsors a fall revival in September and a winter revival in February, they are coordinated through the chaplain's office as a joint venture with College Church of the Nazarene. Makom, on the other hand, is completely student-led. Students are encouraged to contribute any musical or artistic talent.

Spiritual Life Secretary Karen Anderson still anticipates the festival every year.

"As a senior I'm definitely looking forward to Makom. In past years, every service has had a major impact on the university," she said. "I'm excited to see how God will move."

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# Former Olivet baseball standout making a bid for the big leagues

*Before he transferred, Ben Zobrist played a major role in Olivet's run to two consecutive NAIA World Series appearances. As a shortstop in the Houston Astros' system, Zobrist was recently named the best player in his league.*

By Caleb Benoit

Sports writer

Soon after Christmas, former Olivet standout Ben Zobrist will report to the Houston Astros' spring training facility in Kissimmee, Fla.

After establishing himself as one of the organization's top prospects while in the low minors, the 6-foot-3, shortstop will likely head to Corpus Christi, Texas, home of the Astros' Double-A affiliate, when the season begins.

From there, he'll try to keep up the level of success he's established in a little more than a season, working toward nearly every American boy's dream — a promotion to the major leagues.

But if it weren't for Olivet and head baseball coach Elliot Johnson, Ben probably wouldn't be autographing "Top Prospect" baseball cards for Upper Deck and Donruss or having his game-worn Team USA jersey sold on eBay. In fact, he may not have even picked up a baseball glove after high school.

"I wouldn't be playing baseball if it was not for Olivet," said Zobrist, a native of Eureka, Ill. "Coach Johnson saw something in me that not many other coaches saw."

Johnson saw Zobrist at a tryout after his high school graduation. Admittedly, he wasn't there to gain more exposure. Like a typical kid, he just wanted to play baseball for another day. In fact, he wasn't even recruited out of high school and planned on attending a Bible college in Kansas City and playing basketball.

"I saw someone with undeveloped, raw skills," Johnson said. "I was impressed with his Christian commitment, and the more I got to know him, the more impressed I was."

It's no secret that his faith is the focus of his life, both on and off the field. But it was also Johnson's faith in Zobrist's ability that helped to where he is today.

Zobrist went from hanging up the spikes and lacing up the sneakers to helping lead Olivet to back-to-back NAIA World Series appearances in 2002 and 2003 and

earning NAIA All-American First-Team honors.

Then, after transferring to NCAA Division I Dallas Baptist University for his obviously successful senior season, Zobrist was selected in the sixth round of the June Amateur Draft by Houston.

For the majority of baseball players who make it that far, though, that is their highest level of achievement. In fact, there are thousands of talented players who haven't made it as far as Zobrist has. But as he has found out, there is more to success in professional baseball than pure skill.

"There are a lot of guys with a lot of talent, but not many players reach their full potential," Zobrist said. "It takes discipline of the mind and body. You have to prepare so that when you are in a game, it's just instinct. That's

**"I believe he has the talent to play in the big leagues... I didn't predict it, but I wouldn't be surprised."**

» **ELLIOT JOHNSON**  
ONU HEAD BASEBALL COACH

not easy."

Neither is leading the New York-Penn league in batting average (.339) and on-base percentage (.438) and being named the best player in the league by Baseball America.

But Zobrist says he doesn't pay much attention to the publicity. If he did, though, he'd be proud of what the media had to say.

After hitting under .200 for his first three weeks at Lexington (low-A) last season — the worst he says he's ever hit — Zobrist kicked it in gear and earned a promotion to Salem (high-A), where he led the team with a .333 average after the move.

That success earned him a spot on several prospect lists, where most scouts note his excellent strike zone judg-

ment and plate discipline. One publication described him as a "typical, blue collar middle infielder," a description that couldn't be more fitting.

"He really did a lot at Olivet to improve his character, and real character makes a difference in someone's work ethic," Johnson said. "A lot of players have ability, but the work ethic is what separates people."

He finished the 2005 season playing 110 games between the two levels, recording a .437 on-base percentage and 18 steals, leading another publication to recognize the switch hitter: "All he does is get on base."

And he continued to hold true to that description this fall, batting .333 and leading Team USA in on-base percentage at the 36th International Baseball Federation (IBAF) World Cup in the Netherlands.

But even with the past achievement (and more to come, according to most scouts), Ben recognizes his time spent at Olivet put him in a position to succeed off the field as well.

"Olivet is huge in creating an environment for a young man to mature," Zobrist said. "I was free to work on my relationship with the Lord, baseball and my studies."

"One of the toughest things is being a Christian in an environment that is dishonoring to the Lord. But that's what lifestyle it is most of the time between the bars and the talk in the locker room. You have to separate yourself from that."

And as for his future on the field?

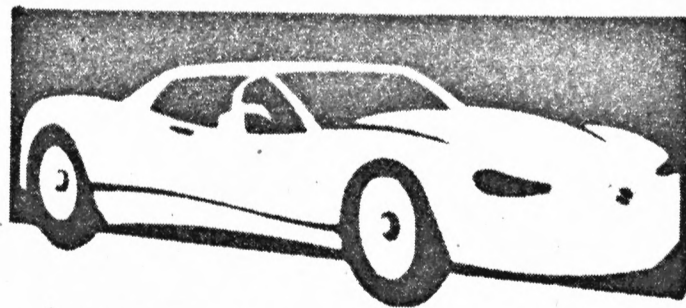
Well, the organization won't tell him where he's headed this spring, but Zobrist, who will turn 25 this season, was more impressive than the two shortstops ahead of him on the minor league depth chart.

"I believe he has the talent to play in the big leagues, but professional baseball is so uncertain. It's still a long road," Johnson said. "I didn't predict it, but I wouldn't be surprised."



Not only is former Olivet standout Ben Zobrist making noise in the minor leagues, he is also a part of Team USA.

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# Men's basketball snaps five-game skid with three straight wins

**Caleb Benoit**

Sports writer

Coming into the season, one of the strengths of the Olivet men's basketball team was experience — a battle-tested core of players who would lead the team in a tough conference and through a difficult non-conference schedule.

But if it weren't for a collection of non-starters and first-year varsity players, the Tigers (6-5) may not have made it through the Holiday Inn Express Tiger Classic weekend with two victories and a championship at McHie Arena.

After a sloppy, 89-53 victory over freshmen-led Ohio State-Mansfield Friday, Olivet found itself down by as many as 13 points in the second half against Cornerstone (Mich.) Saturday for the four-team tournament title.

But with a combination of Bobby Huck, Nick Livas, Micah Lavender, Phil Howell and Rob Rinard on the floor, the Tigers fought back and chipped away at the double-digit lead, making the

difference in what could have been the Tigers' sixth loss in eight games.

Instead, Olivet went on to win 70-67.

"Not one of those guys had a significant role with the varsity team last year," said head coach Ralph Hodge, who was especially pleased with the play of Rinard and Livas.

Phil French knocked down a couple shots, and Zach Birkey helped as well.

After a Howell 3-pointer pulled Olivet within one point for the second time during the run, Birkey beat the shot clock and knocked down a jumper in the lane to give the Tigers their first lead of the game with a minute remaining.

Cornerstone then tied the game on the next possession, converting one of two free throws.

But on the Tigers' last possession, sophomore transfer Micah Lavender buried the game-winning shot, a trey with 11 seconds remaining, giving the Tigers a three-point advantage and ultimately the game.

"I'd like to say those last two shots came out of some great continuity on offense, but they both came after offensive breakdowns," Hodge said. "They both made a play,

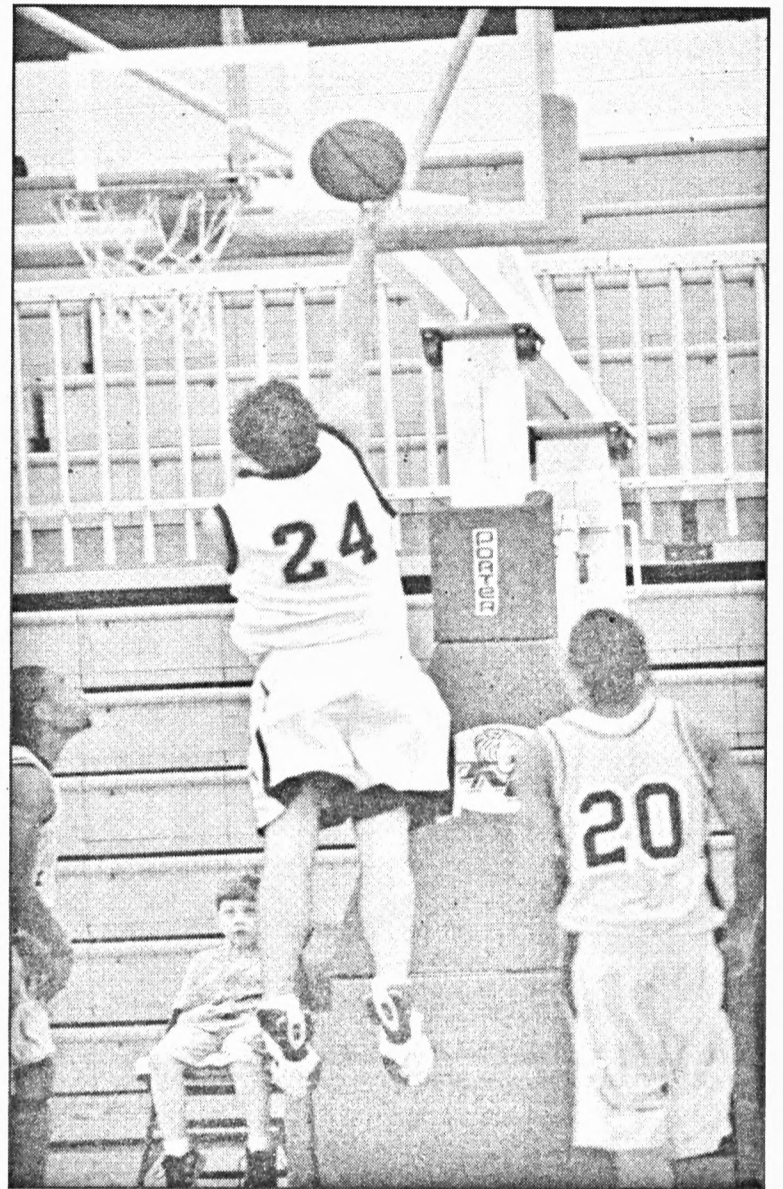
**"When there is a breakdown, someone needs to step up and shoulder some of the load, and they did."**

» **RALPH HODGE**  
MEN'S B-BALL HEAD COACH

and a good team has to do that sometimes.

"When there is a breakdown, someone needs to step and shoulder some of the load, and they did."

Freshman Nick Livas averaged 14 points and nine rebounds in the two games and was named to the all-tournament team, along with junior Stan Chismark.



Freshman Nick Livas lays one up in the Holiday Inn Express Tourney. Livas scored 18 points. Chris Gibson/Staff

## Tigers find chemistry, destroy Trinity



Junior Kellie Mullin, the Tigers' second leading scorer, attempts a shot in McHie Arena. Chris Gibson/Staff

**Caleb Benoit**

Sports writer

Last season, it took the Olivet women's basketball team until Christmas to grow accustomed to the team's new

**"Last year it took until the last two games of the fall semester. It happened about Thanksgiving time this year."**

» **DOUG PORTER**  
WOMEN'S B-BALL HEAD COACH

run-and-gun philosophy.

This season, the Tigers (4-5) are on the same page as well. It's just a holiday sooner.

"We're probably a little bit ahead of last year, even though it may not seem like it all the time," head coach Doug

Porter said. "Last year it took until the last two games of the fall semester. It happened about Thanksgiving time this year.

"We're starting to click and play together."

That was illustrated in the second half of Saturday's 30-point win over Trinity International (Ill.).

After a poor first half that left the Tigers trailing by four points, a more composed Olivet squad blew out Trinity in the second half, racking up 62 points after the break.

Hilary Disch and Kellie Mullin, the team's two top scorers to date, led Olivet with 15 points each.

Still, the Tigers' have traded wins for losses in the last eight games, but Porter attributes that to coincidence as much as any other reason.

"We just happen to play a really good team every other game," Porter said. "We're not too concerned with losses to teams as strong as the

one's we've played."

Two of the Tigers' losses have come against teams in the NAIA Preseason Top 25. Another came against Morningside (Iowa), the top-ranked team in NAIA Division II and defending D-II national champion.

But at the same time, Olivet's wins have been overwhelmingly convincing.

In each of Olivet's five victories, including its lone exhibition contest, it has surpassed the 100-point barrier, continuing where it picked left off after leading the nation in scoring a year ago.

The scoring margin in those five wins has been a whopping 35 points per game.

Also helping is accurate shooting from beyond the arc, where the Tigers are hitting a third of the attempts.

"That's right where you want to be or even a little better than you might hope," Porter said.

## What Christians pay for capitalism

By Timothy Sommer

Forum writer

We in western society, have become slaves to our economic system, slaves to capitalism. Our economic system no longer thrives on people's necessities. It is a system that thrives on excess consumerism. Corporate enterprises like Microsoft, AT&T, McDonald's, Wal Mart, Coca Cola, Nike, Starbucks, and dozens of others rely on consumers to buy products that are not necessary to them.

**"We in Western society ... have become slaves to our economic system, slaves to capitalism."**

These conglomerates are the poster-children of an age of unlimited economic consumption, representing Western society as a whole. They continually reap astronomical profits, but only give enough back to the community to appear to prioritize the interests of the people from whom they garner their wealth. Their capitalist business ventures are all too often motivated by self-interest and the all-powerful dollar.

The message of today's Western economic empires is clear: consume. Consume unnecessary products. Consequently, the public is brainwashed, lead to believe they are in constant need of something, anything, new.

To sustain these selfish economic empires, global corporations and national governments take advantage of

other countries. In the midst of unjust taxation and the exploitation of minimally paid foreign workers in deprived countries, these companies advertise capitalism, proclaiming, "Act like us, act in self-interest." This is where the fundamental problem of our free-market system emerges.

"The question is whether [global capitalism] can ever be reformed, or is it doomed to moral bankruptcy?" explains Peter Haslam, director of London Institute for Contemporary Christianity's 'Response to Contemporary Capitalism' project. "If all work, including business, is to be directed towards the flourishing of God's creation, then business is not for the sake of private interest but for the sake of the common good. This means that it is to work for rather than against the poor."

We live in a society whose economic infrastructure is centered on private interest. This should upset Christians. Instead, popular Christianity operates hypocritically with the rest of the West, claiming our current capitalistic endeavors are best for society.

It is aggravating to see Western "Christians" holding self-interest in such high regard that our suffering global brothers and sisters are denied resources that could be easily provided if we simply sacrificed our consumerist ways. Would not a selfless behavior, especially on a grand economic scale, be one of the single most awesome acts of Christ's people in all of history?

Let me clarify. I am not completely against capitalism. I encourage Christian economists to imagine and

practice an alternative form of it. I am completely against Christians endorsing a self-interested, exploitive economy, all the while calling themselves Followers of Christ. I am making an obvious distinction between a Christian way of practicing capitalism, and a secular way of practicing it. Many of us are well past the point of necessity. We need a distinct Christian approach, asking, "How much of my the profits can I give to those in greatest need?"

"For sure, there is nothing wrong with profit, and without it a business wouldn't be in business for long," Haslam writes. "But there's no reason why one person's gain has to be another person's loss."

One of the greatest risks of capitalism is its slippery slope. In a lecture at Cornerstone Festival, University of Toronto chaplain and Christian academic author Bryan Walsh said, "If [society] is all about economic growth - which it is - and if economic growth is driven by a lifestyle of consumption, then all of life becomes a matter of consumption - including our sexual lives. ... Multiple sexual partners is just good capitalism."

**"I tremble for my country when I say God is just."**

» THOMAS JEFFERSON

If popular Christianity insists on calling America a Christian country, but continues endorsing and partaking in the capitalism economy of our modern age,

then popular Christianity will continue to morph Christianity into something it's not. The capitalistic trend of popular Christianity will push the faith further from its true meaning: a lifestyle and belief grounded in the gracefully redemptive

love of Christ.

If our economic practices persist with their current trends, I side with Thomas Jefferson when he says, "I tremble for my country when I say God is just."

### STINNETT

◀ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

The more I learned, though, the more I realized evolution is fair game, especially at a Christian institution. It is here that we acknowledge Almighty God as Creator and Sustainer of the universe. So likewise, it is here where it's safe to discuss how He did it, even if evidence suggests evolution.

Many pieces of the evolution jigsaw remain missing. Nevertheless, evolution still provides the most cohesive model and mechanism to accurately explain the biological world around us. That statement is often perceived as loaded. It says a lot. However, there is a lot that it *doesn't* say. It does not say evolution is true or false. It does not say anything about the moral or spiritual world around and within us. It does not even say a thing about God! It simply says what it says: evolution effectively explains the *biological* world

in which we live. So where does that leave us as Bible-believing Christians? The same place it leaves everyone else: still learning, still discovering and above all, still believing.

What is the foundation of our Christian faith? Is it anything other than Jesus Christ? No! Our faith does not depend on the tug-o'-war of creation. So have peace. Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead, and that is not up for debate. Regardless of how creation happened, these three things stand: man has broken God's moral law, God has provided a way for man's redemption through Jesus Christ, and God will one day judge all men by these two things. For now, let's learn everything we can about the world around us in reverent fear of God, unshakeable in our Christian faith, and unafraid of what our puzzle might possibly look like.

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# What's the big 'ID'ea?

By **Daniel Stinnett**

Forum writer

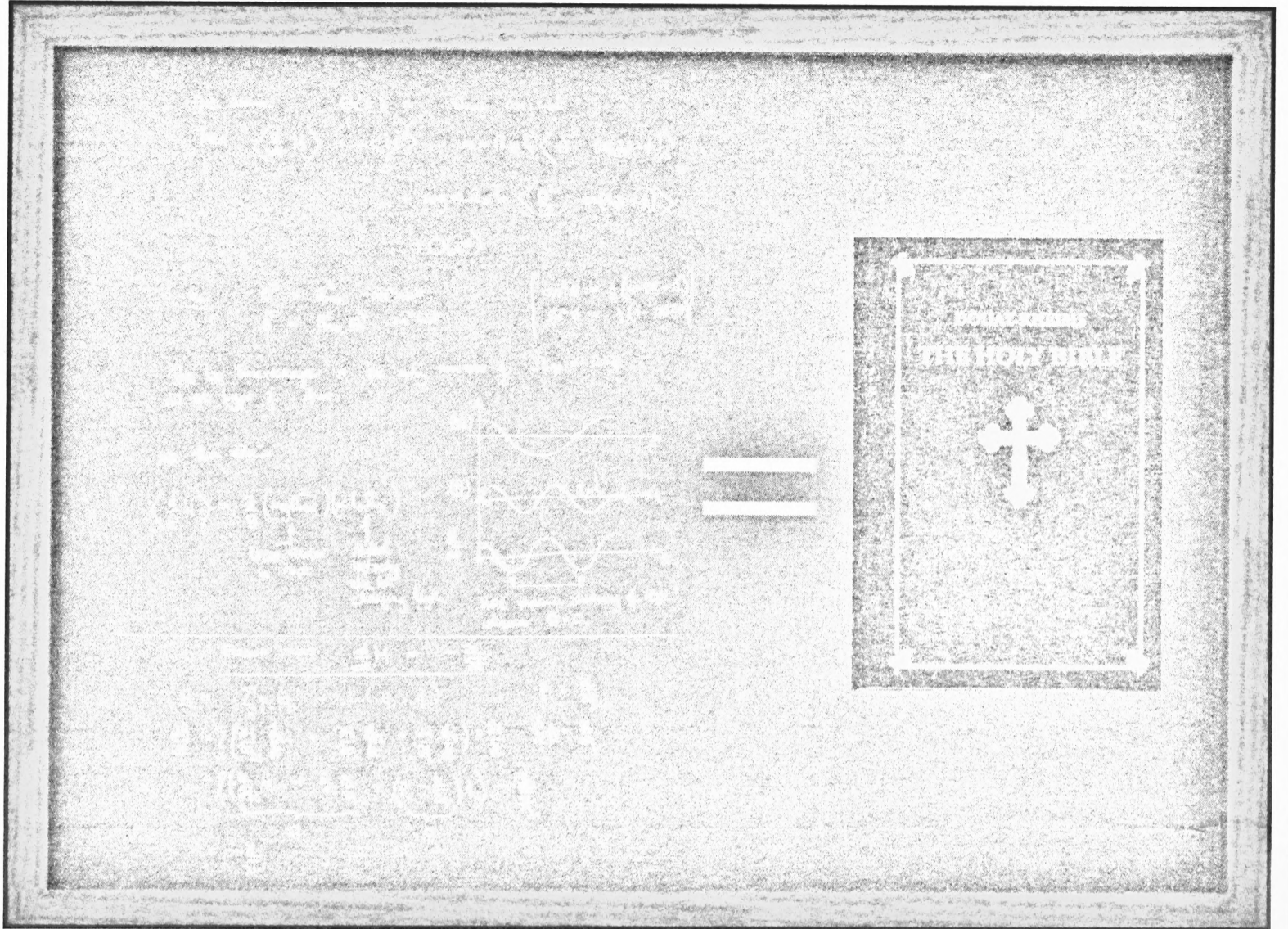
There's something students of science learn very quickly: it's okay not to know all the answers. We're not bothered when we have to leave possibilities open, when we can't get conclusive results. That was a hard lesson for me at first. Up until university level science courses, all my studies in science had been contrived—preplanned, that is—so I would get the “right” answer. That isn't the case anymore; there isn't always a “right” answer. Often we are left with half the pieces of the puzzle, requiring us to be insightful enough to decipher what the whole picture looks like from our present pieces. That doesn't mean the picture we draw is flawless, but it is the best we can do for the time being. There is always the possibility of discovering more pieces or finding out that some of our current pieces are ridiculously misplaced. One thing we cannot do is leave pieces out.

The greatest jigsaw puzzle of modern times is that of the origin of life. Many scientists have discovered pieces providing an increasingly convincing picture of evolution. Others have offered pieces that are unmistakably ill-patterned and do not fit the framework, at least not without a lot of scrambling. There has not been a shortage of discussion on either side of the issue. What the right answer is, God knows. I don't, and I'm not going to write as if I did. Nevertheless, we must deal with the question of how evolution should be addressed within an educational institution. Should it be presented as unquestionable fact? Is it to be avoided or even feared? Do we need to socially excommunicate its proponents? Or do we hope the issue will just go away?

I remember the tension in the lecture hall as my freshman biology professor began his unit on evolution. The students, myself included, looked like a squad of linebackers playing maximum defense. Who would have thought evolution was seriously taught and worse, believed, at a Christian university? Surely we'd be sheltered here!

See **STINNETT**, PAGE 11

*Since the 1925 “Scope’s Monkey Trial,” Americans have debated over the fate of science curriculums in the federal court system: to teach intelligent design (ID) or not to teach it? Is it different than creationism? Eighty years later, the debate rages on.*



Graphic / Chris Gibson

## In the news

*Olivet professor joins nation in intelligent design debate*

By **Niki Clark**

Forum editor

The debate over intelligent design (ID) and evolution hit home last week when an Olivet biology professor's editorial on the Christian response to this issue was published in the Chicago Tribune's Nov. 27 edition. Richard Colling's editorial comes during a storm of federal court cases disputing the implementation of ID theories in science classrooms.

In early September, 11 parents challenged a Dover, Pa. school board decision allowing the teaching of ID alongside Darwin's theory of evolution in science classes. Parents opposing the decision claimed ID theories promote religious beliefs under the guise of science education. The judge presiding over the case is expected to rule no later than January 2006.

Meanwhile in Kansas,

the state's Board of Education ruled Nov. 6 that students would be expected to study alternatives to the Darwinian theory of evolution, namely ID. Ironically, the Kansas decision occurred the same day eight members of the Dover, Pa. school board were ousted during re-elections as a result of advocating ID teachings.

**“Scientific discovery does not require one to discard God.”**

» **RICHARD COLLING**  
PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY

According to Colling's editorial, “Christians can't afford to oppose evolution.” An ID theory that rejects evolution altogether may only prove

damaging to a Christian's case for God and faith and their role in creation.

“The anti-evolution tack of intelligent design proponents continues to propagate the myth that God and evolution are mutually exclusive realities,” Colling said. “Scientific discovery does not require one to discard God.”

As scientific and academic communities await the Pennsylvania ruling, university students across the country have responded to their escalating debate by creating IDEA chapters (Intelligent Design and Evolution Awareness) to discuss the controversial issue. IDEA is a student-found organization, originating at UC San Diego. It seeks to promote awareness of intelligent design and foster discussion on evolution. Currently, 25 chapters exist.

## What's the difference?



**Intelligent Design (ID)**  
Chance cannot explain the

natural world's complexity. An intelligent designer must have created the complexity. The designer, in theory, could be anything or anyone.



**Creationism**  
Humans, life, the earth and the universe were

created by a supreme being or deity's supernatural intervention. The intervention may be seen either as an act of creation from nothing (ex nihilo) or the emergence of order from pre-existing chaos.



**Darwin's Theory of Evolution**

All life is related and has descended from a common ancestor. Complex creatures evolve from more simplistic ancestor's over time.