
Cedars

2-8-2007

Cedars, February 8, 2007

Cedarville University

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CEDARS

02.08.07

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY

VOL. 55 ISS. 8

New Program Helps Freshmen Adjust to College Life

· ANNA CUMMINGS ·
NEWS EDITOR



DAN TELLO :: CEDARS
Kim Ahlgrim, Director of "The Cove."

The Academic Assistance Center, also known as "The Cove," a relatively new department at Cedarville, is growing rapidly due to increased student demand. Kim Ahlgrim, the director of the Academic Assistance Center, said that at last year's "Lemon Breeze Break" the Center expected about 300 students; 700 showed up. Despite spending thousands of dollars on tutoring, Cedarville can barely keep up with tutoring demands. The Academic Assistance Center will be expanding over the next couple of years in response to the growing

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Playing the "Smart" Way Pays Off for Brittany

· RYAN SHORT ·
STAFF WRITER

Lady Jacket basketball star Brittany Smart made history in the Stranahan Gymnasium on Saturday, Feb. 3 against Shawnee State. With a driving lay-up in the middle of the second half, Smart recorded 33 points in the game. In doing so, she broke the NAIA Division II women's basketball record for career points. The record was set at 2,965 in 2000. Smart finished the game with 41 points, her third performance of over 40 of the season. The Lady Jackets, ranked fifth in the nation, won the game 88-74. Thanks to some help from Rio Grande and Malone, they now sit alone in first place, distancing themselves from Ohio Dominican who dropped two consecutive games. The Lady Jackets are two games ahead of Rio and ODU, tied for second place, with four league games remaining.

Smart, in typical fashion, was humble when asked about the scoring record, stating "It is a great milestone to reach, and the Lord has definitely

blessed me with great teammates and coaches to help me achieve this goal."

Coming off a high school career in which she scored over 2,000 points, it may come as no surprise that Smart had such success putting the ball in the hoop in her college career. Smart didn't aim to break the record; in fact, she was more concerned with other aspects of life than with basketball. "Individual goals didn't really cross my mind when I graduated from high school because I was just focused on college life as a whole and what it all entailed."

Smart has been rewarded for her hard work, humility and God-given talent. In reference to Smart, fellow senior Karah Walton adds, "I consider it a blessing to play with someone so talented and passionate about the game."

With another trip to the National Tournament appar-



JOSH OHMS :: CEDARS
Brittany Smart became the NAIA Division II all-time leading scorer last Saturday.

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Senator Brings Real Life Experience to Classroom

· ANGELA BACON ·
STAFF WRITER

This semester former senator Mike DeWine (R-OH) and Dr. Mark Smith, assistant professor of political science, are teaching a class together called Leadership and Decision-Making in Modern American Politics.

"It's a great opportunity to

measure what I've learned against someone who has practical experience," said Dr. Smith.

The class covers topics such as impeachment, filibustering, what goes on inside Congress, how elections and campaigns really work, and how elected officials make decisions. It is a "pretty

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DAN TELLO :: CEDARS
Former Senator DeWine speaks in a CU class.

Dr. Priest Brings Valuable Insight on Short-Term Missions

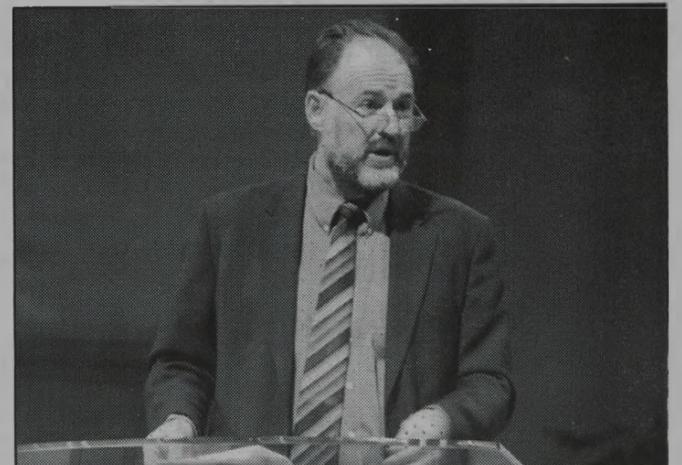
· LAUREN ROBERTS ·
STAFF WRITER

This year's Staley Lecturer, Dr. Robert Priest, brings Cedarville University his valuable insight on short-term missions.

Priest's passion for missions began early. He grew up in Bolivia as the son of career missionaries. His parents began serving on the field at the age of 25 and remained in Bolivia and then Nigeria until they were 70.

Last summer Priest led a team from Trinity College to Peru, where the group assisted local Christians to provide workshops on parenting, marriage, and The DaVinci Code. He is currently working with doctoral candidates at Trinity to research short-term missions.

Priest explained that he chose to study and speak on this topic because, though many Christians are involved in short-term missions, very little research has been done to explore the ef-



Dr. Robert Priest delivers his Staley lectureship.

fects of this area of ministry on the recipient communities.

According to Priest, higher education courses that address short-term missions pay almost no attention to how people can think strategically about possible outcomes. He also recognized that many students from Cedarville may have been involved in, or will have the op-

portunity to become involved in short-term missions.

When asked what advice he would give Cedarville students planning to participate in short-term missions Priest said, "It is important that the leaders of short-term mission teams

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A Tribute to Our Local Black History

Cedarville Professor Shares Rich History Behind Home

· CAITLIN ALLEN ·
STAFF WRITER

As the sound of a firm knock is heard on the front door, the trap door in the next room is lifted, quickly and silently, for the small family of runaways to descend hurriedly, one by one, into the damp darkness below.

The air in the crawlspace just beneath the living room floorboards is filled with the hushed and anxious whispers of the escaped slaves who huddle close together.

When the Jenista family moved to Cedarville in 2000, they heard rumors that their newly bought home may have been a "station" on the Underground Railroad. Later in their dining room they would find, under the orange shag carpet and the pre-World War II linoleum beneath, a trap door which led to a crawlspace below that had allowed runaway slaves to hide on their journey to freedom.

After finding the trap door, Dr. and Mrs. Jenista eventually found opportunities to investigate the former residents of their home and to delve into the rich history that existed there. Soon, their research led them to the Orr family.

John Orr, a well-off landowner and businessman, moved his family from South Carolina to Cedarville in the early 1830s. In Ohio, Orr was able to secure a relatively comfortable lifestyle for himself and his family. In 1833 he built a large brick home, the first frame house in Cedarville, and in the years to follow, he bought large tracts of land, a brick factory, and a dry goods and clothing store.

Originally an immigrant from Scotland and an active member in the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland, Orr, along with his family, was strongly anti-slavery in his convictions. Not only did those convictions cause him to move his family from the slave state of South Carolina, they also caused him to contribute to the Underground Railroad and to accept the threat this activity posed to his family.

"Orr was an elder of the church, prominent in the community, and a businessman," stated Jenista. "[He] was standing up and being counted. He had a lot to lose."

The risk for the Orr family was significantly higher than that of many of the families who contributed to the Underground Railroad. Most stations were outside of town; this, as Jenista noted, was the safest and most logical location.

"This is contraband. This is illegal," he said. "Did they want to travel on main roads? No, no. It was highways and byways, [in] farm wagons, under hay. What makes the Orr family special is that their house is within village limits." Jenista added that "what the trap door means is that they hid the slaves not out in the barn but actually inside the house."

"On one hand," Mrs. Jenista said, "it was an easy decision because it was the right decision — from their Christian and moral perspective. It was the right decision, but they still had to grapple with the reality of possible consequences. This was something very real."

From about 1810 to 1850, many other white homeowners provided stations for runaway slaves making their way to freedom. Like the Orr family, many who took part in the Underground Railroad despite its risks chose to do so because of moral or religious conviction.

Thousands of African-Americans were also compelled by conviction to seek liberation from slavery. After years of enslaved living, their bodies considered no more than the property of white farmers and plantation owners, they put their lives at risk and ran toward freedom — no matter how great their struggle to obtain it.

While division between white and black people characterized the times prior to and during the Civil War, the Underground Railroad reveals a common unifying factor: conviction.

Underground Railroad: A Local History

· MELANIE FRAGEORGIA ·
STAFF WRITER

Underneath its quiet façade of cornfields and farmhouses, Greene County once took part in the turmoil of the Underground Railroad, a network of people who illegally aided escaped slaves on their journey north to freedom.

A main route of the Underground Railroad ran through Xenia, as both the Xenia and Wilberforce communities supported anti-slavery activities.

As a result, many homes in Greene County were once owned by individuals who took in runaway slaves in the years leading up to the Civil War. These houses were referred to as "stations" and their owners as "conductors."

Some of the stations in Greene County were the house of Valentine and June Nicholson and the house of David and Elizabeth Laughead, both in Xenia, and the house of John Orr in Cedarville, now owned by Frank Jenista, professor of international studies at Cedarville. Other sites in Xenia include the David Monroe home on East Market Street, the Nosker Residence on Route 68, and the Leach House on East Main Street.

These houses often had secret rooms and tunnels built onto them where slaves could hide. After dark the escaped slaves would be transported to the next station.

Often an escapee's transport would follow a coded message such as "Uncle Tom says if the roads are not too bad you can look for those fleeces of wool by tomorrow. Send them on to test the market and price. No back charges."

Many of the residents of Greene County took in slaves because of their religious beliefs. Both Quakers and Presbyterians were abolitionists, and a group from the Massies Creek Church in Kentucky relocated to Ohio to accommodate their anti-slavery views.

Many abolitionists based their stance on Deuteronomy 23:15-16, which says, "Thou shalt not deliver unto his master the servant which is escaped from his master unto thee. He shall dwell with thee, even among you, in that place which he shall choose in one of thy gates, where it liketh him best: thou shalt not oppress him."

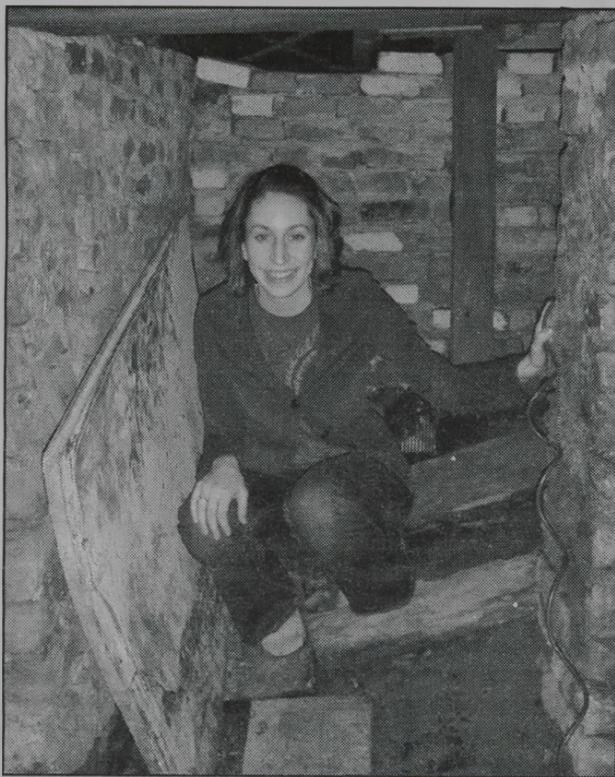
Abolitionists were drawn to Ohio because the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 prohibited slavery in the North, splitting the United States in half at the Ohio River, which became known as the "Jordan" by those who sought freedom across it.

Despite the Northwest Ordinance, slaves did not find their journey safe. The Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 not only allowed but obligated the federal marshals to recapture runaways and return them to their owners. Bounty hunters also came to Ohio seeking the rewards plantation owners offered for the return of their slaves.

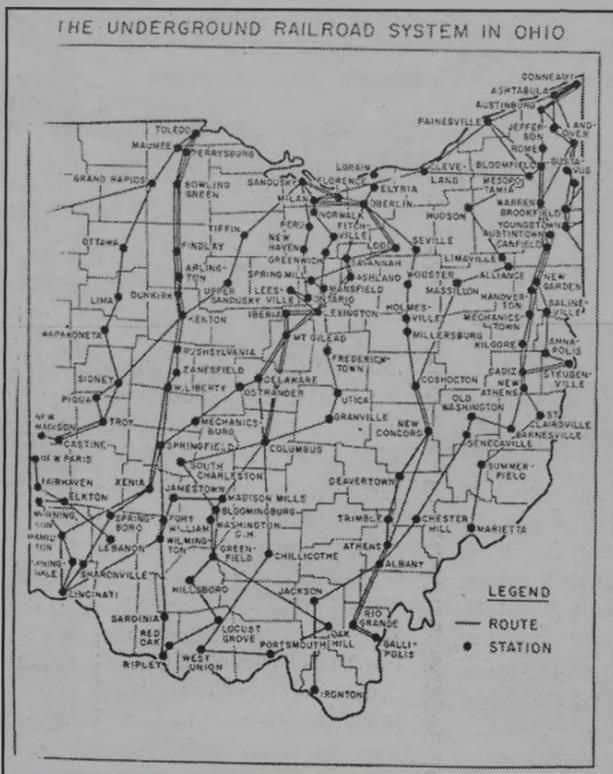
The Xenia Torchlight printed stories of local residents opposing slave catchers, such as one group who "beat them [the slave catchers] out of the neighborhood with clubs."

Most slaves who fled over any of the the 3,000 miles of routes through Ohio were seeking refuge in Canada.

The National African-American Museum at Central State University estimates that more than 40,000 slaves escaped through Ohio before the Civil War.



Caitlin Allen in the crawlspace of Dr. Jenista's home.



CONTINUED FROM PROGRAM ON FRONT PAGE

need.

This semester Academic Assistance is testing the KMA (Kappa Mu Alpha) program or "learning community" with several freshman students to get a feel for what students want. Most universities have similar programs to help freshmen get their bearings and make the transition from high school.

When asked if she encour-

ters many overwhelmed freshmen, Ahlgrim answered: "Yes — it's the change to independence." However, Ahlgrim enthusiastically says she loves this generation for its willingness to ask for help: "They just need someone to say 'you can do it'." Next year the university will see a full-blown pilot for KMA which will present freshmen with events, opportunities,

and experiences to help them adjust to life on campus.

According to Ahlgrim, this is not supposed to be another class, but something based on relationships. She affirms that grades are connected to life: "Show me a student with a low GPA and I'll show you a student with other life issues."

One of the main focuses of KMA will be to put freshmen

in contact with upperclassmen who will act as "peer coaches" instructing freshmen on the ins and outs of college life — buying books, the location of buildings on campus, the best ways to remember rules. Ahlgrim hopes the upperclassmen will also be able to help new students develop good study habits. For instance, upperclassman volunteers might lead study groups

for new students. KMA will also offer undeclared freshmen experience and information to help them choose a major.

Ahlgrim desires all Cedarville students to know that "Cedarville has the resources to help them succeed academically and in life. They must seek it out for themselves. Cedarville is like a family — people here care."

Highly Anticipated Journalism Major Underway

· GARRETT LOWE ·
STAFF WRITER

On January 11, the Journalism Advisory Council met to brainstorm ideas for implementing a new journalism program at Cedarville for the fall of 2008. The administration recognizes the high profile and powerful influence exerted by the media in contemporary society, and hopes that a journalism program will enhance Cedarville's ability to equip students to impact culture through a variety of different professions.

Dr. Brown said, "A journalism program at Cedarville would allow us to train students not only in excellence in journalistic skills but also provide substance and depth to what they write. The opportunities are many to engage the world with careful and thoughtful writing from a biblical perspective."

Administrators expect the program to expand enrollment by presenting Cedarville as an option to those students who wish to pursue a career in the media and might otherwise go elsewhere. Participants will be able to focus their study in one of three media concentrations: print, broadcasting, or public relations. The focus of the major will be to provide training in a specific area of the media and basic competency in all three forms.

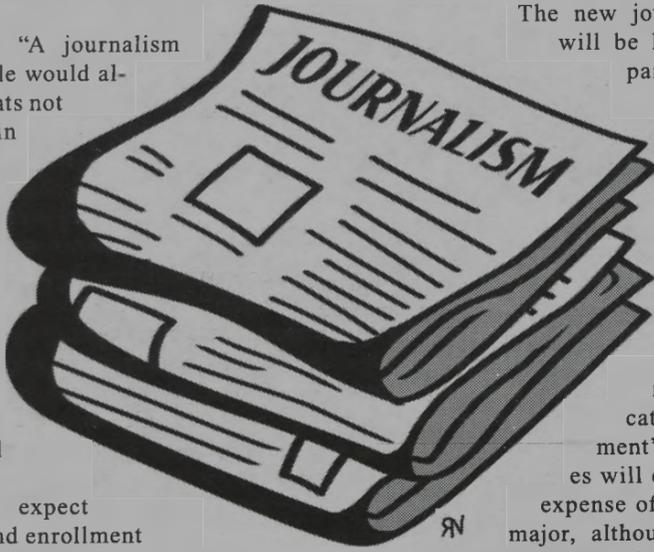
In addition to technical skills, the major would include a necessary ethical component. According to Dr. Scott Calhoun, associate professor of English, "the best journalists out there have a commitment to always seek the truth about what they are covering and then tell that truth with integrity."

Dr. Charles Elliot, professor of communications, formally introduced the idea of a journalism program to the communications department during the 2004-2005 academic year. Elliot optimistically said of the process, "The fact that we are building this program from scratch allows us to create a program of study that is not mired in conventions of the past but is looking at the changes in the profession and anticipating how our students can have an impact on the development of the field."

The new journalism program will be housed in the department of Communication Arts, where a number of existing faculty combine valuable field experience with graduate degrees in journalism and mass communication. The department's existing resources will defray much of the expense of implementing the major, although the university will need to hire new faculty and purchase new broadcasting equipment.

Current and prospective students have already shown great interest in the possibility of a journalism major. At the start of the academic year, the Division of Enrollment Management received inquiries about the new program from 227 students in the class of 2007 alone.

According to Elliot, "Hardly a week goes by where I don't receive inquiries by parents or prospective students asking me about the possibility of a journalism program here at Cedarville." Administrators anticipate an initial enrollment of around 40 students in the new major as the program gets off the ground.



From the Desk of Mayor Phipps

I appreciated the article by Justin Keller in the last edition of Cedars. He stated well some of the feelings involved in being a "townie" in a college town. Awareness of those feelings might help all of us in the institution to respond, especially to the younger students in the Village. As the university has increased in size, and the mobility of the student body has increased steadily, some of the gaps have become even wider. It is probable that very few students on campus have any contact at all with the community. This can be a loss for both parties. Historically, there have been organizations which have sought to assist through doing yard work, calling on some of the residents in town to offer help in times of need, and even in becoming friends with the kids in town to act as big brothers and sisters. These efforts have always been appreciated. It requires some intentional efforts on the part of members of the student body, though, to accomplish these things. You are certainly welcome to become part of this community.

In other matters, I presently sit on a development committee for the County. One of the questions recently asked was "what would it take to get Cedarville students to consider staying and working in Southwest Ohio after graduation?" I would welcome any response that you might have — other than "change the weather." The Miami Valley has a large number of jobs available that need college graduates and the future is looking quite good for more opportunities.

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are not undercutting [career missionaries], but really affirming their leadership."

Dr. Grigorenko, a professor in Cedarville's Bible department and a personal friend of Priest, explained why Priest was an excellent choice for the Staley Lectureship. "He brings both theological and biblical competencies, as well as being a social scientist with great research competencies, to a discussion of practices in the church today. He is able to comment to very practical issues with solid research insight."

His Staley Lecture presentation will be the first time Priest has lectured on this topic at a university; however, he has been invited to discuss his research on short-term missions in other capacities.

Dr. Priest is married and has four children between the ages of 14 and 23. His wife, Kersten, is a professor of sociology at Wheaton College, and is currently completing her Ph.D. with a research study on the involvement of women in short-term missions. The Priest family lives in Wheaton, Illinois.

Army ROTC Program Earns Honor

· HOWARD VAN MATRE ·
ASSISTANT PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The Central State University Army ROTC program was recognized for its success in commissioning future Army officers during the 2005-06 school year. The program received a Louisville Slugger Bat, Baseball, and Holder, and a Ball and Glove pedestal at an awards banquet November 29 at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel.

The ceremony was part of the weeklong annual U.S. Army Cadet Command Eastern Region Commander's Senior PMS Workshop. Lieutenant Colonel Odell Graves, professor of military science at Central State University, attended the event. "The ROTC program at CSU was one of only five schools in Eastern Region to win all three awards," stated Captain Matthew Reiter, an instructor at Central State University; "This just reconfirms that we have one of the best ROTC programs in the nation here at Central State."

In all, 104 of Eastern Region's 132 Army ROTC programs at colleges and universities across the eastern half of the country were honored for their success in commissioning cadets.

Because Eastern Region headquarters, based at Fort Knox, Kentucky, are close to Louisville, the awards ceremony incorporates a baseball theme. Programs meeting or exceeding their commissioning mission receive a Louisville Slugger bat. Those achieving their mission for commissioning nursing cadets receive a baseball and holder. Those meeting an increased general mission receive a glove.

Eastern Region is part of U.S. Army Cadet Command, based at Fort Monroe, Virginia. The command produces more Army officers than any other commissioning source.

If you are interested in joining the outstanding ROTC program at Central State, please contact Sergeant First Class Williams at 937-376-6281 or twilliams@centralstate.edu.

CONTINUED FROM SENATOR ON FRONT PAGE

broad course," said Dr. Smith.

"I think it's amazing that Senator DeWine is willing to do this. I think it's important as students of our government to know how things run in practice, not just in theory. I am very encouraged to see that the senator, along with the administration, feels the same way," said sophomore Angela Sanders.

"I've really enjoyed it," said Senator DeWine. "I have a great deal of respect for the university and the students."

Junior Tom Borcka commented: "I think it is a rare privilege to learn about politics from a former U.S. Senator. Politics can be very divisive, and having a former Republican senator teaching at Cedarville may evoke some skeptical responses. However, overall I am grateful for the opportunity to learn from Senator DeWine. Although ideologies will differ from person to person, the experience the senator brings to class is real and honest. His insight helps me better understand modern American politics. This insight then challenges me to consider how I, as a follower of Christ, can impact the public sector for the ultimate glory of God."

In the lectures, Senator DeWine shared some advice for college students who would like to run for a political office one day. Besides earning one's degree, "it's [also] helpful to know how to write well," said DeWine. He recommended that students practice speaking in front of groups of people, and noted

that public speaking is one of the topics he will focus on in the course.

Another opportunity for politically-minded students is to volunteer on political campaigns. "Campaigns are always looking for someone to help," said DeWine.

Senator DeWine served in various political roles for many years, most recently as Ohio's senator, but also as a lieutenant governor of Ohio, a U.S. congressman, and a Greene County prosecuting attorney.

He said the highlights of his years as a senator included his work with health insurance, foster care, and adoption.

One of DeWine's least favorite aspects of being a senator was the extensive travel. He traveled at least once a week, mostly within the state of Ohio, but also made frequent trips to Washington, D.C.

In the future, Senator DeWine hopes to continue to teach at Cedarville and at Miami University. He has not ruled out the possibility of running for an elective office again someday.

When it comes to fun, Senator DeWine enjoys such activities as fishing, traveling for leisure, and watching baseball games with his family. He and his wife, Fran, have eight children and ten grandchildren.

DeWine grew up in Yellow Springs, Ohio, and purchased a house in Cedarville Township in 1974. He currently lives just a few minutes away from Cedarville University.

GETTING TO THE BOTTOM OF CEDAR LAKE

· SARAH PETERSEN ·
STAFF WRITER

Any rumors of a Cedar Lake monster will be either confirmed or dispelled this summer when workers drain the man-made lake at the center of campus.

Cedar Lake, as university students and faculty call the body of water, is actually defined as a dam by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Because it is a dam and not a lake, it must meet certain criteria. As a result of this classification, a concrete spillway will replace the existing channel that carries the overflow water near the ENS building.

"The draining will begin either the day of commencement or somewhere near that time," said Cedarville University Budget Director Rodney Johnson. A pump will be used to drain the water. Most of this water will eventually end up in the nearby Massey's Creek as run-off.

"Maybe only 50 percent of the water will need to be drained out," said Johnson. Workers will need to drain enough water to leave at least 8 to 12 feet of dry shoreline around this seven-acre pond in order to install the spillway.

While the lake's water levels are down, the university plans to work on the portion of the new Biblical studies building that will have a terrace overhanging a section of the lake. This construction may take anywhere between three and eight weeks.

"What will happen to the fish?" ques-



DAN TELLO :: CEDARS

tioned junior student Dani-Rae Morgan, referring to the large algae-eating fish who reside in the lake and whose dorsal fins can often be seen breaking the surface of the water.

Plans to preserve the wildlife in the lake are still uncertain and will be made according to the amount of water drained. Johnson said that some fish may die, be fished out, or moved to different locations. However, when the lake is refilled, the university is planning to restock the fish for this "sportsman's lake."

Having the lake emptied may give students an idea of how much debris has accumulated at its bottom over the years. "I heard there was a car down there," said sophomore student Kraig Cole. There may be less down there than most students think.

"So far, we are not aware of anything at the bottom of the lake," noted Johnson discussing how notorious the students are for throwing things into the lake, especially when it is frozen. "If something goes in, we have to go get it. We've pulled out everything from refrigerators to golf carts to cars."

The heating and cooling system for the Library and ENS buildings is at the bottom of the lake and is regulated by the water temperatures. University professor and village mayor James Phipps said that because of the draining, these buildings may be without air conditioning for the duration of the project.

When the project is completed, the lake will again fill up, mostly with rainwater and runoff from nearby farms.

Students React to Petition Controversy

· KRISTA KOWATCH ·
STAFF WRITER

In the weeks following the petition controversy over Cedarville University's commitment to truth and certainty, a variety of responses reveal students' mixed emotions.

Some students do not understand why the issue is so heavily debated and believe the situation should be "let go." Many agree that it has been blown out of proportion. Still others feel they do not know enough about what is happening and would like their questions answered.

On January 15, a group of students met with Dr. Carl Ruby, vice president of Student Life, faculty members, and trustees regarding the students' petition to the trustees concerning the administration's response to the truth and certainty issue. Dr. Ruby called the meeting to address the petition, its effects, and the University's plans for how to proceed in response to the letter. Dr. Ruby concluded Monday night's meeting with a time for questions from the students. The students' questions revealed confusion, concern, anger, and sadness.

"I am proud to attend such a strong biblically based university. However, I was a bit disappointed at the way my fellow students attacked and

accused the shepherds that God placed over them," said Amy Dennis, a sophomore nursing major. "Though I know [these responses arose] out of passion and personal conviction, I was not impressed by the attitudes I saw and the way that the issue went about being resolved."

Other students expressed

In their opinion, this lack of sufficiently open communication has created division and negative feelings.

"I'm disheartened by how the administration has dealt with this publicly," said Justin Dodson, a junior pre-seminary major. "It's hard for students not to jump to conclusions but to instead give

Recent faculty position changes within the Bible department have raised even more questions.

"I'm a little bit frustrated that there hasn't been more of an effort to explain why some of our favorite profs have been shifted around or completely 'let go' based on what is called 'personnel issues,'" said Lagan.

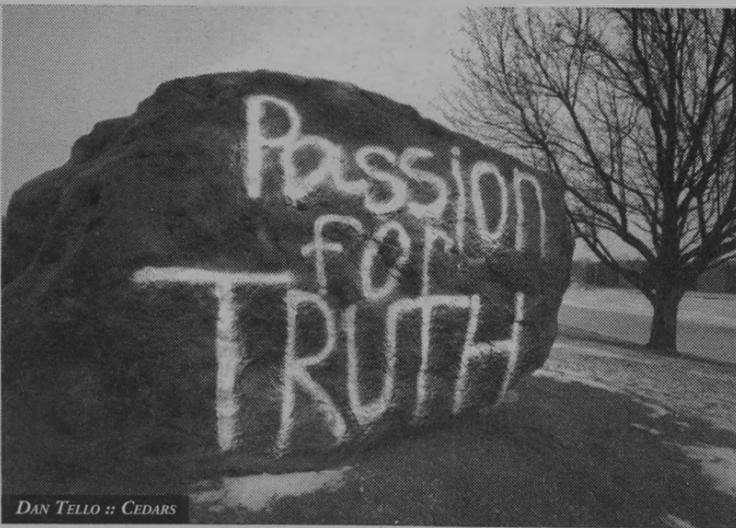
Jenna Hakala, a sophomore nursing major, recognizes that she does not know the whole situation and that students have a lot of questions. However, she has chosen to be optimistic.

"I hope that, if nothing else, this whole issue is just a reminder to all to hold fast to our doctrine of truth and to be very clear in teaching," said Hakala.

Students still seek to be a part of the solution, despite the questions and rumors that persist. While some desire action on both an administrative and a student level, others seek a less confrontational approach.

"As a student, I'm not sure how I should best respond other than prayer," Lagan said. "I want to have the right perspective, but I need to be informed."

In the end, regardless of their feelings toward the controversy, students consistently expressed one common concern: a passion for the truth.



DAN TELLO :: CEDARS

similar frustration. Many disagree with the way things have been handled in general and continue to look for answers.

"I'm disappointed with how it's been handled on all sides," said Karissa Bollenbacher, a sophomore missions major. "The [petition] letter has been brought up too much. There were too many meetings about that and not about the issues."

A number of students think the issues have not been dealt with sufficient directness or transparency.

the benefit of the doubt."

As a result, Dodson believes that "the student body as a whole should seek from the administration what's going on about the issues. I say this not about the theological issue but about the faculty issues. We are confused, and we need answers publicly."

In the weeks surrounding the petition controversy, students heard conflicting stories and rumors on campus and became more frustrated, according to Joel Lagan, junior international studies major.

Dayton Area Job Market Slow, but Showing Signs of Growth

· JOE DUGAN ·
A&E EDITOR

The gales of January — such as they were — will soon give way to the gentle breezes of spring, and seniors at Cedarville will begin to search for jobs in earnest.

While Cedarville graduates are allegedly in high demand, they also face a unique geographic challenge, as the Miami Valley has suffered severe economic setbacks in recent years.

In a discussion sponsored by the Dayton Business Forum at Sinclair Community College this January, Sandy Pianalto, president and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, attributed Dayton's struggling economic situation to an aging population, a housing slump, manufacturing loss, and significant inflation.

Dayton's unemployment rate hovered around 6 percent last year.

"The slow job market in this area is frustrating," said senior English major Heidi Charlton. "I love the culture and the communities, but I'm concerned that I won't be able to find a job."

Senior Biology major Joe Holecko agreed. "It seems like every time I turn around, one of my favorite restaurants or stores is closing," Holecko said. "I know that happens on the macro scale with larger businesses as well."

However, students should not assume that the Miami Valley's economic resources are irreversibly depleted; some sectors show signs of growth.

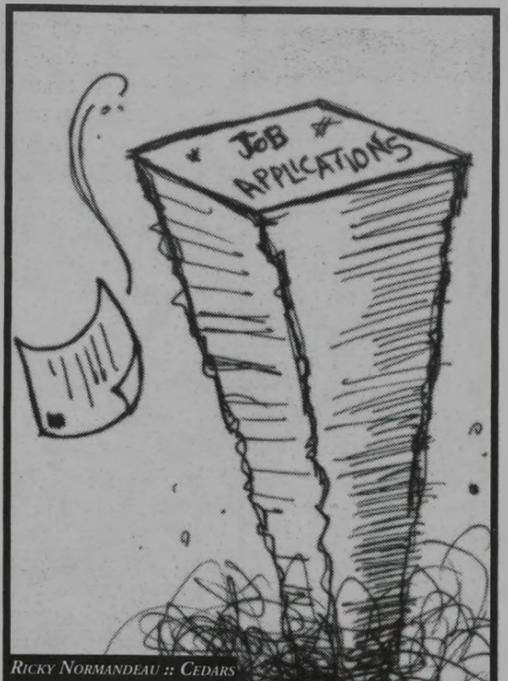
The latest development by Steiner + Associates, The Greene, is one of the most sophisticated "town centre" concepts in the Midwest. Featuring office space, luxury apartments, shops, restaurants and other entertainment venues, the \$186 million Greene will eventually be home to 85 cutting-edge businesses.

One of the more promising developments in the Dayton area within the last year was the opening of the Joshi Research Center at Wright State University. The Joshi Center, through a cooperative effort between daytaOhio and Barco Simulation, features state-of-the-art visualization solutions to enhance business productivity with revolutionary data analysis and collaboration. Barco Simulation is part of Barco NV, a giant display hardware manufacturer headquartered in Kortrijk, Belgium.

daytaOhio, a firm created in a conjunction with former Governor Taft's Third Frontier Initiative, aims to leverage Ohio's key assets in data-rich technologies. Barco Simulation, located in Xenia, is a leader in its own right, creating projection systems for a variety of industries in the simulation and presentation markets.

In spite of these encouraging signs, the Miami Valley continues to face the challenges of adapting from a predominantly blue collar economy to one which is current and competitive.

"Maybe that's why we should try to find jobs around here, even if it's not easy," said Holecko. "We, as graduating seniors, have the potential to restore growth and success to this region. If we don't try, who will?"



RICKY NORMANDEAU :: CEDARS

CEDARS | Viewpoints

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Cedars, the student newspaper of Cedarville University, has as its goal providing news, information, and viewpoints about our local, national, and global world. Cedars strives to offer accurate information and thoughtful opinions which promote biblical thinking and participation in the communities in which we live.

The opinions expressed in Cedars are held by the individual writers and are not necessarily held by the Cedars staff or by Cedarville University.

Some Thoughts on Women in Leadership

· DR. SUSAN WARNER ·
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SOCIOLOGY

One of the most important issues that I see as at Cedarville is the need for our female students to experience roles of leadership. In the past, leadership roles for women have been a hotly debated topic. Can women lead? Should women lead? Is it godly for women to aspire to roles of leadership? All of these are questions that many of our female students grapple with as they attempt to use the gifts given to them by God. There does seem to be growing acceptance of women in leadership roles. We are even seeing the gender balance between faculty members slowly improving over time on our campus. Full-time female faculty members today account for a little over thirty-one percent of the total faculty. In 1999, it was less than twenty-five percent. So we are offering more role models of leadership in the classroom for females than ever before.

However, I am still concerned about the opportunities for fe-

male students to experience leadership on this campus. I think it is important that female students be given the chance to sometimes take the lead. That does not mean I want all leadership roles to go to females. It does mean that I

one that few would ever espouse. Instead, I would like to see equality of roles, shared opportunities for both men and women. I believe it would be as detrimental for men to not have leadership roles as it is for women. What I

It is the tradition of our culture that relegates women to roles that place her under the leadership of males. The good news is that Christ clearly freed women from the chains of culture and elevated them to positions of equality in His sight. As Dorothy Sayers write: from the cradle to the grave, Christ provided opportunities for women to experience equality with men. It is only fair that we also provide a community here at Cedarville that mirrors the example that Christ left for us.

Change takes intentionality. I believe we need to actively seek out women leaders and provide them with a chance to take the leadership role. God created us equal yet unique. Our abilities, including the ability to lead, are God-given qualities in both males and females. While traditional gender-role ideology strictly divides us along biological lines, Christ calls us to reject that imposed structure and experience the equality given us by living to the full expression of His life in us.

“Change takes intentionality. I believe we need to actively seek out women leaders and provide them with a chance to take the leadership role.”

would like to see more females in leadership roles than I see now.

Often, when I find myself discussing this and similar issues, I am faced with the attitude that to desire more for women than they currently have is to ask to overthrow the system, replacing male leadership with female leadership. That is an extreme view and

don't support is that men are automatically slated for the leadership role based solely on gender role ideologies that preference men.

The legacy of patriarchy assigned women to second-class citizenship for centuries all over the world. In many cultures, that type of patriarchy still exists.

AMERICAN IDOL: MINDLESS CHRISTIANITY AT ITS FINEST?

· DENNIS NANGLE ·
STAFF WRITER

Making fun of someone's unusually protruding eyes. Calling a tall person a "giraffe." Drawing public attention to someone's large pant size. No, these are not flashbacks from third-grade recess. It's the country's number one primetime hit, American Idol!

Something has been exceptionally amiss in the show's sixth season. Perhaps Simon feels that viewers have been desensitized by his normal criticism; perhaps that's why he has begun to call attention to physical abnormalities. Maybe Paula really is drunk. Maybe Randy is just going along with the other two. Regardless of the reason, more disturbing still is the passivity with which Christians view this reality show.

Contestants are put through two to four rounds of auditions before making it to the Big Three, which not only falsely boosts their confidence but also deliberately displays their inferiority solely for the sake of the audience. While the show's producers are definitely to blame for the format of the show, I don't expect them to stop doing this. Witnessing over-the-top and frightening renditions of "I Will Always Love You" is essentially the crux of the beginning of the season, and if ratings are their moral compass, then they're sticking to true north.

What I do expect, however, is a proper reaction

from the Christian community. Sure, the tensions toward the end of the season are gripping examples of good, clean TV; but we as Christians aren't just clinging to the finale. Christian radio stations talk about every aspect of the show as "safe" water cooler conversation, and the show is always a welcome ice-breaker on campus.

According to the Christian powers-that-be, MTV's The Real World is offensive, gratuitous, and to be ignored. But American Idol, for some reason, is okay, when we are doing nothing but supporting the display of physical, and sometimes even mental, departures from the norm.

I am not fully condemning American Idol, nor am I fully promoting a show like The Real World; my only qualm is how ignorant we are of a show's amoral decisions when a majority of Christians say it's okay. The Real World is an honest, no-holds-barred reflection of our generation's ideals and values. American Idol is nothing more than a sophisticated, modern, and wildly popular show that features bullies getting kicks out of watching people run into locked doors.

Is The Real World perfect? Absolutely not. But neither is American Idol, and while I am not judging those who enjoy watching the competition, I do suggest having an awareness of the fact that we may be mindlessly and cruelly laughing at others, simply because we've jumped on the Christian "acceptance" wagon.

Regarding Soulforce's Co-founder, Mel White

· DR. CARL RUBY ·
VICE PRESIDENT OF STUDENT LIFE

Mel White's story is fascinating. As a ghost writer for Billy Graham, Francis Schaeffer, Pat Robertson, W.A. Criswell, and Jerry Falwell, he has had an inside look at the epicenter of evangelicalism. Those of us who are old enough to remember the old Francis Schaeffer "How Then Shall We Live" film series might be surprised to learn that the person now behind Soulforce once spent months with Francis Schaeffer in Switzerland editing and producing that series. White claims that during Pat Robertson's run for the presidency, he was hired to write the 300-page book, America's Dates with Destiny with no help from Robertson other than his suggestion for the title.

White's story is interesting on two levels. First, it is a fascinating, though biased, look at American Evangelical Christianity. Some of his insights are troubling but worth exploring.

Describing fundamentalism, White quotes a rabbi who said, "What really lies behind fundamentalism is fear, a profound insecurity that makes you feel... when you meet someone who doesn't agree with you that [it] challenges and threatens your very being. Aggression is always a sign of insecurity, and insecurity is always at bottom a lack of faith, not the presence of it." White goes on to accurately identify the commitment to the inerrancy of Scripture as the key bond that unites evangelicals.

But what makes White's story particularly interesting at this time, however, is his struggle with homosexuality. He described this struggle in his autobiogra-



RICKY NORMANDEAU :: CEDARS

The Privacy Debate: Has Technology Gone Too Far?

· MICHAEL SHIRZADIAN ·
STAFF WRITER

· DEVIN BABCOCK ·
STAFF WRITER

Editor's note: This is the second article in a two-part series on privacy v. technology.

It seems that societal and technological advances have a parallel relationship. It is important, however, to prudently assess these technological advances and their impact on our lives. An individual's privacy seems to be on the front line of this contentious issue in two ways: tracking devices and surveillance devices.

The unfavorable consequences resulting from the use of tracking devices outweighs any possible advantages.

As expressed in the first article of this two-part series, parents are now purchasing cell phones and shoes with tracking devices implanted within them to monitor their child's safety. While I applaud these parents' dedication to the security and welfare of their children, there is a colossal danger I feel compelled to unearth.

As a University of Washington study has revealed, a hacker can easily set up a system of constant surveillance over an unsuspecting child using signals transmitted from these tracking devices. Additionally, and in accordance to the aforementioned study, it would cost no more than \$250 to establish such a surveillance system – comparable to a mere semester's worth of tattered, collegiate-level textbooks.

While mom and dad can watch their son or daughter walk to school, drive to work, or sneak out past curfew, the local sex-offender can establish the same capabilities at a relatively inexpensive price. The problem is axiomatic – the invasion of one's privacy always puts the invaded at risk.

Simply put: the ends never justify the means when the integrity of the goal is compromised.

Hidden surveillance devices demonstrate a lack of trust in even those closest to us.

"We've all seen those scenes from movies, when burglars get caught thanks to some high-tech security cameras," reads the introduction of Internet surveillance retailer, vedosoft.com. "Such episodes are thrilling and exciting and you wonder, gee, wouldn't it be great to have such tool[s] in my house."

The website goes on to provide a far from exhaustive list of the many uses of their cameras, such as to "keep an eye on your nanny" and to "watch your family members in the living room." In an almost facetious manner,

Vedosoft's website added, "A spy cam could be your ultimate weapon."

The questions are numerous.

How can we compare our nannies and family members to burglars? Why would one hire a deplorable nanny in the first place? Why would we watch our family members in the living room when we could be sitting with

As Michael Shirzadian noted in the last issue of Cedars, technology has become so advanced that it may be violating our basic rights to privacy. However, before rushing to conclusions, it is important to examine the ways in which this technology affects our lives.

her shoe, the nine months she spent in captivity could have been eliminated.

Although a study by the University of Washington has found that hackers can gain access these tracking devices, there is no substantial, real-world example of this actually happening. In 2001, long before tracking devices were available to the public, 725,000 missing person reports were filed by parents on behalf of their children. The danger lies in the kidnapper, not in the devices.

At any rate, I question how the integrity of child protection is compromised, as Michael suggests.

Hidden surveillance devices protect us from those we shouldn't trust.

Although Michael may have revealed some of the minor benefits associated with a home surveillance system, he disregarded the main benefits flaunted by vedosoft.com. He emphasizes quotes taken out of context and ignores the true "crux" of the argument.

It's important to look at everything vedosoft.com has to say. Along with the ability to "watch your family members in the living room," vedosoft.com boasts that you can "detect intruders in your house" and "spot an employee mistreating the property." When looking at this issue, it's important to look at the positives as well as the negatives. These devices are not manufactured

to reduce our rights to privacy, but are intended to protect families and their personal property.

Michael had a point when he said that hidden cameras suggest a certain amount of distrust in those closest to us. However, whether or not someone trusts their nanny is entirely up to them. The cleaning lady or your child's babysitter may come with a good resume, but no one puts "thief" under past occupations. It is important for some to feel secure, and if that takes a surveillance system, so be it.



them? Why would we purchase an 'ultimate weapon' to use against family members? But most importantly, what kind of messages are we sending?

This is the crux of my argument: we live in a culture with so little trust in those closest to us that we resort to invading their privacy in such a barbaric fashion.

This issue is a contentious one, and my mind remains uneasy. I can merely assert that Benjamin Franklin worded it perfectly: "Any society that would give up a little liberty to gain a little security will deserve neither and lose both."

The benefits of tracking devices far outweigh the supposed disadvantages.

Although there may be some potential dangers associated with tracking devices, the actual benefits offset any possible threat. These devices are not solely designed to alert a parent when their child sneaks out after curfew. In a situation where someone is lost or kidnapped, these tracking devices could greatly speed up the process.

Consider Elizabeth Smart, one of America's poster children for abducted minors. If she had a tracking device in

CONTINUED FROM THOUGHTS ON PAGE 5

phy, Stranger at the Gate: To Be Gay and Christian in America. White's story is a gripping and profoundly sad look at what it is like to be a young man struggling with homosexuality within the evangelical culture. There is much that we can learn about helping such individuals from White's account.

However, learning from his account does not mean that we will agree with his conclusions. First, we must recognize White's bias (and also admit that we have our own). A few quotations will reveal a lot about White's perspective.

After writing about his first homosexual kiss, White reflected, "I know now that God was laughing with delight at my new found pleasure." Later he incorrectly states, "Sexual orientation is involuntary, something that happens to two gametes at conception, or to a fetus in the womb, or to an infant in the first few years of childhood." The truth is that the path to homosexual orientation is much more complicated and there are moral choices along the way that can significantly affect the outcome.

Finally, in Religion Gone Bad White claimed, "The Bible is totally silent on homosexual orienta-

tion as we know it today." This is a claim not supported by a careful study of the Scriptures.

White's story is a sad one, and perhaps the saddest part of all is that during his adolescent and college years he was not able to ask for help. Homosexuality was seen as such a heinous sin that he felt he could not confess his struggle within the church and find meaningful help. The Bible clearly labels homosexuality as sin, putting it right up there with things like greed, drunkenness, and slander (1 Cor. 6:9, 10).

I hope that what unites us as a Christ-centered learning community is a shared belief that Jesus is the answer to our sin, whether it be homosexuality or slander or a divisive spirit. And most of all, I hope that those who secretly share White's struggle with homosexuality will find Cedarville to be a place of healing, hope, holiness, and grace. From the faculty and student life staff to the Christian ministries staff and Dr. Brown, we long to help you find victory. If you secretly share White's struggle with homosexuality, seek help and counsel from a trusted, godly person.

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APPLAUDING NEW JOURNALISM MAJOR

· JOSHUA SAUNDERS ·
STAFF WRITER

"The least trusted professions are: one, used car salesmen, two, politicians, and three, journalists, but we're going to change that with our new journalism major," said Dr. Brown on January 22, 2007. Those words suddenly took me from chapel drowsiness into a state of excitement, as I have been waiting and praying for the introduction of Cedarville's journalism program.

I strongly believe that the journalism major at a Christian liberal arts university is a cat-

egorical imperative—we must have one. What type of person do we go to when we want information outside of the bubble? Who writes the information that we read in newspapers and writes the captions of Sports Illustrated photos, such as the one featuring Cedarville students dressed like Bravehearts? The answer to all of these is quite painfully simple: a journalist. Journalists process an amazing amount of information for our culture's consumption, and for a school that is engrossed in engaging culture and an enemy of embracing it, a journalism program is essential.

Who brought us the information that Soul Force was coming to campus? A journalist. In fact, it was Sarah Petersen, a junior comprehensive communication major, who said, "A journalism program probably should have been at Cedarville a while ago, but I'm glad that they are doing it now. Especially as Christians, journalism provides us with the opportunity to save real world issues from the spin that is often put on the news by major news organizations. Journalists are gatekeepers. Who better to keep the gate than well-educated Christians?"

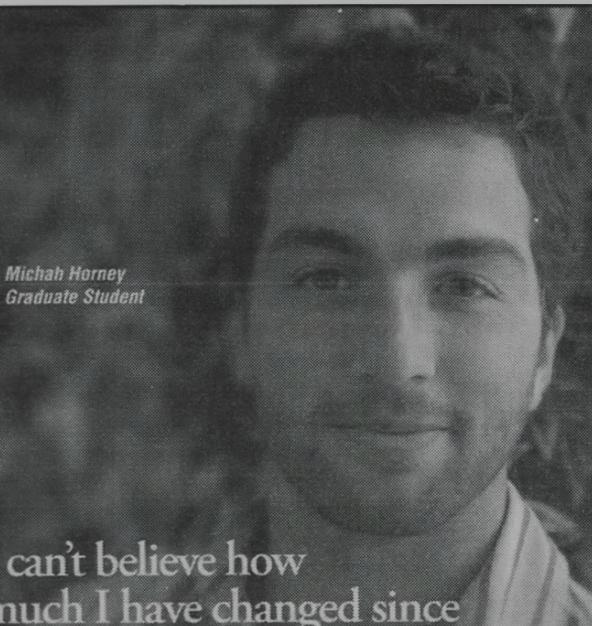
Sterling Meyers, a sopho-

more comprehensive communication major, who recently wrote about cheaper books online, stressed that, "It's time Cedarville had a journalism program. In my opinion, both the school and students will benefit from the program. The world needs Christian journalists, and Cedarville, as a 'premier' Christian school, needs to train journalists to write truthfully and with excellence."

Joseph Pulitzer clearly indicated the importance of journalism when he said, "Our Republic and its press will rise and fall together." I thank God that Cedarville is not only realizing

the unmistakable significance of journalism, but is also acting upon it!

Currently, there are numerous comprehensive, technical, and professional communication majors who would much rather be labeled as a journalism major. I am one of those people, and I believe that Cedarville is implementing an invaluable program. I want to thank Dr. Brown, the administration, the tireless work of Dr. Elliot, and all others who were involved, for bringing to an end the days of using the communication major as a substitute for journalism.



▼ Michah Horney
Graduate Student

“I can't believe how much I have changed since I began the Counseling Skills course. We are dared to ask the questions we don't want to ask about ourselves. I have been pushed to learn so much more about who I am and to develop this deep-seated desire to care about and help others in need.”

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A Closer Look at Valentine's Day

· DIANNA BURGESS ·
STAFF WRITER

It's that beautiful time of year again: the time when all of the good boyfriends pre-order the biggest bouquet of pink and red flowers in the floral shop and the good girlfriends spend two hours picking out the I-love-you-but-don't-think-that-I-expect-anything-from-you-because-I-just-want-to-be-with-you-on-this-special-day card. It's the time when all of the couples have a good excuse to be affectionate in public, as if they aren't already affectionate enough as it is. That's right: it's Valentine's Day.

Love always wins, so why not celebrate that victory? Valentine's Day gives two people who love each other yet another reason to show their love, and it gives singles (specifically females) a great excuse to eat a lot of chocolate without feeling guilty. That is, until she

wakes up on February 15th and realizes that she's still single, just four pounds heavier than she was the day before. Nonetheless, love is something that should be celebrated.

But maybe we should approach it in a slightly different manner.

St. Valentine is remembered as the man who fought for love to a degree that he was jailed and sentenced to death. It was in prison that he sent the first valentine in history to a young girl with whom he had fallen in love. His signature: "From your Valentine."

In its own way, this is a reminder of the kind of love that was shown to us when Christ died on the cross. He fought so hard for true love that He

became our Savior and died for our sins, without question.

In light of Christ's sacrifice for love, we should think about all of the things that we sacrifice, or refuse to sacrifice, for love. If we put ourselves in someone else's shoes and think of how hard others have fought for love itself, then perhaps we would not be so quick to make fun of a silly little holiday. If couples would see that God has blessed them with a mate, rather than that they simply "have a valentine," then

“If we put ourselves in someone else's shoes and think of how hard others have fought for love itself, then perhaps we would not be so quick to make fun of a silly little holiday.

perhaps they would treat this holiday as more valuable than an excuse to receive flowers. If singles would see that on Valentine's Day, God has given them an awesome opportunity to remember their first true love and the keeper of their hearts, then perhaps they would treat this holiday as a time for re-dedication.

If nothing else, this Valentine's Day can be a turning point. Single girls, grab a bunch of girlfriends and some great chick-flicks and do something wild. After all, this is probably going to be your last Valentine's Day as a single woman. Single guys, get a group of male friends together and the most heroic, "manly" films possible and celebrate the fact that you didn't have to buy expensive jewelry for a girl. Couples, enjoy the company of one another and the opportunity to spend time with someone who means so much to you. And everyone, in light of Christ, remember, that hearts, flowers, and candy or not, love is always something to be celebrated.

Notes from Abroad: Russia

· MEGAN WATERS ·
GUEST WRITER

Editor's Note: This is second in a six-part series featuring Cedarville University students studying abroad.

As more than a dozen American and Russian students crowded around my friend's dorm room table last night, savoring Russian crepes, or "blini," sipping black tea, and laughing at humorous communication blunders, I thought about how improbable our

gathering would have been only two decades ago. Before the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, this city of Nizhny Novgorod – or Gorky, as it was called then – was closed to foreign visitors due to its importance as a military-industrial center. Times have changed, however, and this semester I have the privilege of studying the Russian language, history, and culture at Nizhny Novgorod State University.

Life in this snow globe is a perpetual adventure. I've had

to learn how to maneuver the local transportation system (in Russia, there's no such thing as a full bus), eat mashed beets for dinner, wash my clothes by hand, and walk to class in -10° Fahrenheit weather. But I've also had the opportunity to build relationships with the Russian students who live in my dormitory, improve my Russian language skills, and experience the beauties and complexities of Slavic culture firsthand.

Through daily encounters with my Russian friends and

teachers, I've come to the conclusion that studying abroad is all about learning another language – not just a spoken language like Russian or Spanish, but also a new cultural vernacular. It is as I make the effort to understand and respect Russia's traditions and long cultural heritage that I am able to develop meaningful relationships.

The Iron Curtain no longer divides the East from the West, but ignorance and arrogance still form barriers to cross-cul-

tural dialogue. It is my hope that my experience abroad will allow me to build bridges, to develop friendships that transcend cultural barriers. Through language and history classes, everyday conversations with Russian students, involvement in a community church, excursions around Nizhny Novgorod, and of course, tea and "blini" parties, I hope to learn the local cultural vernacular and build bridges of friendship.

CEDARS | Arts & Entertainment

Charlie Brown Evokes Laughter and Reflection

· ALYSSA WEAVER ·
STAFF WRITER

You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown: The Broadway Musical is filled with all the sharp humor and energy that have made Charles Schulz's Peanuts so endearing. The play takes the audience on a whirlwind ride through scenes and vignettes which characterize one day in the life of Charlie Brown.

In Act I, Cedarville junior Nick Arch embodies the bashfully awkward but lovable Charlie as he pines for the little red-headed girl, Lucy, his seeming antithesis, played by sophomore Jenna Albarano, brazenly takes charge in each scene, much to the irritation of her crush, Schroeder (senior Andrew Tripp). Albarano's Lucy is particularly memorable in "Queen Lucy," where she reveals her egocentric self in all its regal glory.

Idiosyncrasies abound with adorable Linus (freshman Justin Duff) who draws laughs in "My Blanket and Me," as he deftly dances the tango with his prized possession. The quirks continue in Act II with classic Snoopy (freshman Zachary Hill) as the flying ace battling the Red Baron.

In spite of these quirks, the play is not all zany fun and laughter. In fact, the theatrical production mirrors Charles Schulz's classic humor. Unrequited love, suffering, depression, loneliness, cruelty and



friendship are a few of the themes present in the musical version of the beloved comic strip.

The acting is not the only element of the play worthy of commendation. Freshman Nate Keller designed the famous Beethoven bust that sits atop Schroeder's piano. Keller spent hours painstakingly carving the bust from foam. Others like Keller in the artistic and production crews worked for hours behind the scenes to produce a seamless, flowing production.

The hard work paid off. The audience seemed to thoroughly enjoy *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*. Kelly Hellwig, the secretary for the Biblical Educa-

tion department, and her young daughter laughed throughout the performance.

Hellwig said she appreciated the musical because, in contrast to some of Cedarville's more adult-oriented theatrical productions, this was a play she could enjoy with her daughter.

Upcoming performances include Feb. 8 and 10 at 8:00 p.m. and a matinee at 3:00 p.m. on Feb. 9. Tickets may be purchased at the information center; they are priced at \$7 for students and \$12 for adults. Be sure to pick up a complimentary pamphlet on the life of Schulz and the origin of the Broadway musical at the concessions stand.

Local Bands Innovate, Energize Miami Valley Music Scene

· JOHN DURKEE ·
STAFF WRITER

On Feb. 2, three local bands – The Garden, Pomegranates and The Legend of Dorian Grey (TLoDG) – played at Joe's Java in Wilmington, in what was by many accounts the finest event sponsored by the Cedarville University Underground to date.

The Garden, featuring Cedarville students Alberto Carrion, Nick Lordi, Nate Schirmer and Daniel Zimmerman, showcased their eclectic blend of ambient folk-pop to kick off the night. The Garden used various guitar effects to make their simplistic acoustic riffs reach ethereal heights that encircled the whole venue as Daniel Zimmerman delivered his transparent, almost whispered vocals.

By collecting various oddities such as chains, pots, pans and iron tools at junk yards and thrift stores, The Garden added climactic beats to their already distinctive sound.

Commenting on that sound, Carrion said, "We were looking to do something fresh and distinctive, while not really setting out to sound any one way, and when we came to our current sound, we liked it and stuck with it."

Pomegranates, donning Cedarville High School marching band uniforms, followed The Garden with one of the best live performances by any local act in recent years. Drummer and Cedarville alum Jake Merritt's new band continues the tradition of his former band, The Retail Age, but offers a

bigger and better sound.

Influences on Pomegranates include Modest Mouse, Arcade Fire – with its strong creativity, dynamic builds and occasional yelps – and possibly Snow Patrol, underscored by an obvious melodic appeal.

The band's energetic set was expressive and creative while maintaining accessibility to virtually any rock music fan.

Finishing off the night was TLoDG, featuring Cedarville University freshman Scott Dinse. The set incorporated brutal melodic metalcore with crunching guitars, gyrating bravado, precise drumbeats and snarling growls. TLoDG obviously loves every moment of its performances; the band maintained an engaging level of joy which is unusual in its genre.

On Feb. 10 The Garden will play at Beans 'n' Cream; they will play at the Hive on Feb. 27. TLoDG will perform at the Attic on Feb. 16, and Pomegranates will kick off a mini-tour in the weeks to come, featuring stops in Cincinnati and Indianapolis.

Joe's Java hosts concerts every Friday and Saturday night, usually featuring local bands with occasional national acts.

The Underground is currently planning a campus 'battle of the bands' in which the top two winners will have the honor of representing Cedarville at this year's Intercollegiate Council Battle of the Bands at Antioch on March 23.

Ha Ha Pizza Ain't No Joke

· WHITNEY MILLER ·
STAFF WRITER

The Ha Ha Pizza joint was a hot spot in the 1970s for after-hours psychedelic drug-fests, thus the diner's name – or so the story goes.

I asked our waiter about the facts behind Ha Ha's origins, but he demurred, saying he is not supposed to talk to reporters due to the delicate nature of local pizza wars (long story). I understood. But I needed to know the truth, so I prowled the restaurant until I found the answer.

It turns out that Ha Ha Pizza opened back in the 1970s, and the founders claimed they dubbed the new restaurant "Ha Ha" to remind the employees to keep a sense of humor about the job. No hallucinogenic mushrooms involved.

Truly, the current waiters at Ha uphold the jovial principles on which the pizzeria was founded. Our waiter was relaxed and affable, and seemed to be genuinely enjoying himself with a co-worker back in the kitchen.

The easygoing atmosphere really makes the place. The pizza is delicious too, of course. Ha Ha is "Home of the Whole Wheat Crust," a soft, chewy layer of crust. The pizzas are served piping hot, smothered with their secret-recipe marinara and heavily blanketed with bubbling cheese and a choice of toppings. Ha Ha has a wide range of toppings, from falafel

SEE HA HA
PAGE 9

Blue Moon South Glows with Casual Elegance and Intimacy

· JOE DUGAN ·
A&E EDITOR

The Miami Valley is speckled with outstanding restaurants to satisfy those who pine for the upscale culinary experience. And it is home to such cute eclectic joints as the Winds and Sunrise cafes, both of Yellow Springs fame.

But when it comes to something of more moderate appeal – something nice enough for Valentine's Day, but casual enough for after-church luncheons – I had until last week struggled to find a really excellent option. In fact, I had all but given up hope.

And then, almost by chance, I happened upon Kettering's swanky Blue Moon South, a new restaurant with all the edge and promise of the area's finest.

Inhabiting the facility which was once home to Café Eclipse, a branch concept by the Blue Moon Bistro proprietors, Blue Moon South captures the heart and soul of the old vanguard of the Oregon District which recently closed its doors.

But Blue Moon South does not merely mimic the superb quality and snappy finesse of the Dayton bistro. While this exceptional restaurant shares the general design theme of its parent establishment – call it art nouveau with a lullaby motif – it is uniquely intimate, passionate, and accessible.

Whereas Blue Moon Bistro was late-night dining at its best, Blue Moon South is quiet and personal, romantic and vulnerable, daring and debonair. This is a restaurant characterized by joy – the joy of the successful proprietors, the joy of the servers and chefs, and the joy of those clientele fortunate enough to stumble upon it.



RICKY NORMANDEAU :: CEDARS

Every detail is exquisite, from the lounge to the restrooms to the artistic table service. The wait staff is eager to please, to accommodate and to impress – for such is the way of restaurants like Blue Moon South, marketing through positive experiences and word-of-mouth.

And the food! My fiancée, Heidi, and I enjoyed brunch last weekend after visiting St. George's Episcopal, a few blocks away. Rarely have I tasted something so perfectly balanced and scrumptious as Blue Moon South's Monte Cristo sandwich, with smoky ham, bubbly gruyere, and fresh preserves.

Heidi was similarly impressed with her western omelet, which reinvents the classic dish with hearty vegetables and a side of nicely fried potatoes.

The orange juice, while obviously premium, seemed neither fresh-squeezed nor especially pulpy; a small misstep, particularly when compared with the excellent coffee roast.

While I have not yet had the good fortune to enjoy lunch or dinner at Blue Moon South, the menu looks promising, with offerings such as 'Grilled Cheese & Tomato Soup' (melted fontina and a creamy bisque), caramelized salmon, chicken puttanesca, and – in a true departure from the local standard – Filet Napoleon.

I will admit that I was less than pleased with the soundtrack which played during brunch – elevator music at its most stereotypical. But, faux jazz aside, Blue Moon South won my heart in a moment, something few local restaurants could hope to do.

And that, dear readers, is the rub.

Blue Moon South is located at 79 S. Main St. in Centerville. Call 937-436-3925, or visit www.eclipsedining.com.

The Commercial Side of Heritage

NICK ERBER
STAFF WRITER

One out of seven – that's how many Wonders of the Ancient World are left standing today.

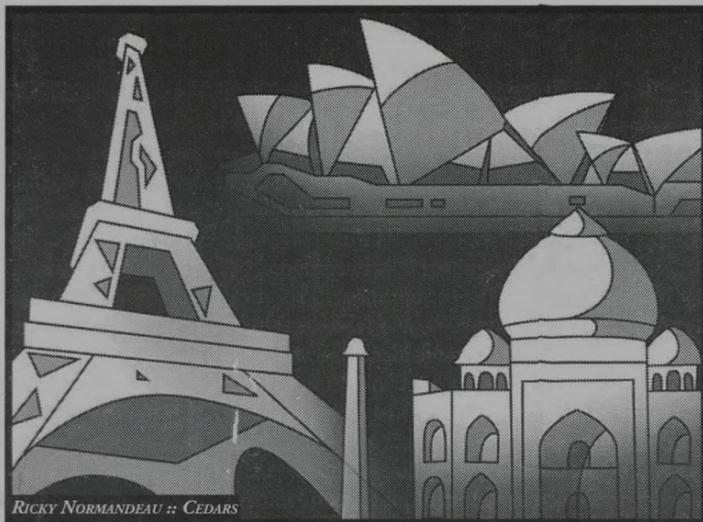
The Colossus of Rhodes, the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, the towering spectacle of the Lighthouse of Alexandria – they're all gone. The Statue of Zeus at Olympia, the Temple of Artemis and the Mausoleum of Maussollos are just blips on the timeline of history, too.

The simplest and largest of the Wonders, the Great Pyramid of Giza, is the only monument left intact.

The New Open World Corporation (NOWC) counts the absence of these monuments as one of its chief concerns. But the NOWC is not in the reconstruction business. The Swiss organization has decided to abandon the old and usher in the new by holding a vote to determine which seven man-

made structures are worthy of inclusion in the New Seven Wonders of the World.

The worldwide polling is conducted on the company's website, www.new7wonders.com.



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com. Included in the running are the Taj Mahal, the Acropolis, and the Kremlin, as well as 18 other historic structures from all over the world.

These 21 finalists were chosen from an original pool of 77 monuments, selected by a panel of experts which included the head of

MIT's graduate program in architecture and two Pritzker Prize recipients.

Despite this seemingly credible gathering of academics and architects, the

New Seven Wonders website has an undeniably kitschy feel to it. With bright animations and annoying synth music, one is urged to "Vote for the Hagia Sophia because it stands for Faith and Respect!"

The foundation itself is for-profit, and the voting process reflects that somewhat

unsavory fact. After the initial free vote, one can buy an unlimited number of voting certificates for \$2 USD.

The company is also selling toy licensing, interactive media licensing and broadcast rights from its website. According to the site, only 50 percent of all net revenue raised by the New Seven Wonders Project is to be used to fund restoration efforts worldwide.

In addition to the blatant commercialism associated with this "mission to protect humankind's heritage," the company "reserves the right at its absolute discretion to exclude votes." This clause, working in conjunction with the unlimited \$2 vote, places the final outcome of the vote in the hands of the highest bidder.

The winning seven monuments will be announced on July 7 in Lisbon, Portugal. Until then, one can vote to her heart's content – not that it will necessarily count for anything.

Springfield's Bookhaven Has It All and a Small Gray Cat

JENNA MARCUM
VIEWPOINTS EDITOR

My serendipitous discovery of this bookstore ranks as one of the best things to happen to me since *Gilmore Girls* came out on DVD.

I cannot fathom how Bookhaven of Springfield has managed to stay under the radar amongst Cedarville students. With no fewer than 22 copies of *Hamlet*, five copies of Dante's *Divine Comedy*, hundreds of Bibles, and over 30 copies of various plays by Sophocles, this store very literally has everything one could ever want from a used bookstore. But if for some reason they do not have a certain title, they'll bring it over from their sister store, Karen Wickliff - Books, in Columbus.

"I like to read, and I like to shop," said Karen Wickliff, owner of both Bookhaven and Karen Wickliff - Books. "I like too many things, and too many books. I just see good in so many of them."

Wickliff first entertained the idea of owning a bookstore shortly after attending a book sale that she saw advertised in the newspaper. She began by selling books out of her home, and now, 30 years later, Wickliff not only owns two of her own bookstores but also sells unusual books online at www.abebooks.com under the names "Alcove Book Shop" and "Karen Wickliff - Books."

The quality of both stores can be attributed to Wickliff's selection process. She looks to buy books which are unusual, well-written, or produced by her favorite publishers, resulting in a collection that would bring goose bumps to any English major's arms.

And the prices? Big shock here: they're great, too. For example, Bookhaven had two paperback copies of Rutherford's *London* for \$3 each, Huxley's *Brave New World* for \$4, a gorgeous vintage copy of Kipling's *The Jungle Book* for \$8, and Kidd's *Secret Life of Bees* for \$5. When I was in the Columbus store a few months back, I purchased Elie Wiesel's *Night* for \$4.50, Nietzsche's *Genealogy of Morals* for \$6, and a copy of *Prague* by Arthur Phillips for \$5.

Aside from the books, Bookhaven is deceptively large, with enough nooks and turns to fully disorient a person. (Personally, I got lost at least twice.) Bookhaven also sells vinyl records and comic books, and – tapping into a classic tradition – houses a sleepy gray cat.

For everything from Kierkegaard to the *Shopaholic* series, from Jane Austen to Immanuel Kant, and from Alice Walker to Virginia Woolf, Bookhaven is, without a doubt, the place to begin searching.

Bookhaven is located at 1549 Commerce Rd. in Springfield. To get to Bookhaven from Cedarville, take 68 North to 40 West, make a left on Bechtle, make a left on Commerce, and then make a left into the parking lot behind AAA. The store is open Monday-Friday from 12 - 6 p.m. and on Saturday from 10:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. For questions, call (937) 322-9021.

Karen Wickliff - Books is located on 3527 N. High St. in Columbus. For questions, call (614) 263-2903.

CONTINUED FROM HA HA ON PAGE 8

to artichoke hearts to pretty much anything else.

The menu also includes calzones, subs, a salad bar and a wide variety of beverages.

Ha Ha is an excellent pizzeria, warmly painted with bright yellows and deep reds, walls studded with local artists' photography. The waiters are gregarious and refreshingly spontaneous, the service is neither rushed nor aggravatingly slow – unless you are in a hurry – and the pizza itself is eclectic and tasty. Just beware of the uni-sex bathroom closest to the dining room. It is haunted. My waiter told me so.

To eat at this off-beat pizzeria you must visit between the hours of 11:30 a.m. – 10 p.m. on Monday-Thursday, 11:30 a.m. – 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 1 p.m. – 9 p.m. on Sunday. The address is 108 Xenia Ave., Yellow Springs, OH. Phone number: (937) 767-2131.

Art Inquiry // Professor Jun Kim

MICHAEL SHIRZADIAN
STAFF WRITER

Professor Jun Kim placed his crimson violin and rosin-coated bow in its tattered case and sat down.

"My mother made me start piano at age 3," said Kim, assistant professor of violin and conductor of the Cedarville University Orchestra, adding, "Somehow, maybe because my mom pushed me, I started to hate the piano."

But Kim is not recognized for his expertise behind a piano. No, it is with a bow in his hand and a violin under his chin that Kim has exhibited musical mastery.

"I remember that I saw a violin at my friend's house when I was 12," said Kim, going on to say, "The moment I started playing the violin, I fell in love with it."

Mr. Kim has journeyed a long way since his childhood days in South Korea.

"I always wanted to become a professor – to serve others, teach students; I know God has given me this talent," Kim said. "I want to be an instrument to serve other people – an instrument to serve God

through my performance."

"I like music with melody, music with harmony," Kim explained. "But," he added, "I like rap." He paused, then clarified: "some rap."

Given the many countries Kim has lived in – South Korea, Canada, and now the United States – it comes as no surprise that he is attracted to the ubiquity of music. "I love it that you can go to Asia, Europe or Russia and understand the language – the universal language."

Kim has found comparable pleasure in music at Cedarville University.

"I like the atmosphere,"

he said, adding, "Everyone is so supportive, so collegial." Even so, Kim would like to see the music program continue to grow and thrive.

Mr. Kim remarked, "I want to see more passion in the students," adding, "We need more music majors." With 31 music majors, his dream has definite space to germinate.



JOSH OHMS :: CEDARS

Professor Jun Kim and his violin.

"There should be more concerts," Kim said. "I went to a lot of concerts when I was young, to see what I could become."

Fortunately for the musical connoisseur, there are two more concerts this semester. On March 30 and April 24 Cedarville University will hold its annual pops and spring concerts, respectively.

WEEKEND EVENTS

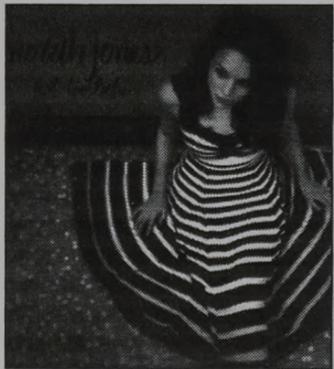
Starlight Skate
@ RiverScape
Skate under the stars, with
a laser and music show
Fri, Sat 7-10PM
\$5 (includes skate rental)
www.metroparks.org

Andrew Wyeth Watercolors
@ Cincinnati Art Museum
Selections from the Marunuma
Art Park Collection
11AM-5PM Tues-Sun,
11AM-9PM Wed
Admission is free!
www.cincinnatiartmuseum.org

Charlie Pagnard Faculty
Recital @ Cedarville
"Trumpet Extravaganza,"
featuring special
guest trumpeters
Friday 8PM
Admission is free!
www.cedarville.edu

CEDARS | Entertainment Reviews

MUSIC



BY TIMON REINER

NORAH JONES :: NOT TOO LATE ★★★★★

Those who admire Norah Jones had something to rejoice about last week when the world-renowned jazzist and Grammy winner added another title to her discography.

Not Too Late, Jones' third compilation, reflects her standard sound which stays predominantly within the parameters of the jazz genre while sometimes venturing into pop and other styles.

Talented artists Jones has befriended over the years comprise her band and bring in flute, bass guitar, and percussion sounds to blend with mellow piano notes.

"Thinking of You" easily stands out as the most likable track with its captivating and continually flowing melody and lyrics. This composition creates a moderately cheerful tone among slightly more sub-

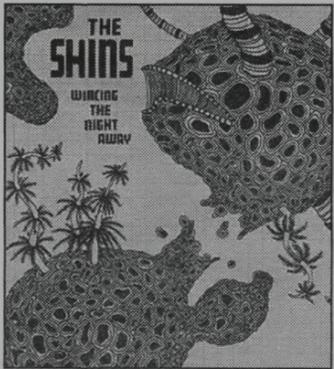
dued and serious tracks.

"Wish I Could" depicts some of the pain of war as a woman mourns the loss of her husband. Jones quotes the woman, "Love in the time of war is not fair / He was my man but they didn't care / Sent him far away from here / No goodbye / No goodbye."

Jones' amazing talent and musical genius continue to emerge in her works, and her magnificent singing seems almost effortless. Unlike similar artists, she expresses her political feelings in a refreshingly classy manner, leaving the listener with a message that is resolute but certainly not bitter.

Despite an occasionally tedious pace, *Not Too Late* is an excellent album, well worth a listen or a purchase.

MUSIC



BY NICK ERBER

THE SHINS :: WINNING THE NIGHT AWAY ★★★★★☆

In spite of receiving Natalie Portman's exquisite praise in *Garden State*, The Shins probably won't change your life. Quite frankly, James Mercer's ten-year indie-pop outfit is neither revolutionary nor consciousness-altering.

That is not to say, however, that The Shins make boring music. On their latest release, *Winning the Night Away*, Albuquerque's finest use clever understatement and unusually complex arrangement to create a more developed, almost self-contradictory sound.

The accompaniment on *Winning* is simultaneously dreary and exciting. The instrumentals reflect exuberance and the chord progressions have a unique feel, but there's a certain gray fuzz that overlays the songs.

In stark contrast to the hazy instruments, Mercer's voice cuts straight through the distortion and adds an essential melodic joy to what would otherwise be a collection of standard indie tunes.

Mercer's lyrics, along with his voice, really define the album. The songwriter sings with a productive ambiguity, leaving most of the songs wide open but offering the listener concrete images and a sincere attitude.

No sentiment is over-emoted; these lyrics are calm and controlled, with the really important lines subtly weaved throughout.

Independent music needs more bands like The Shins – bands which aren't so caught up in thinking that they can change lives and which focus instead on making good music.

FILM :: R



BY CHRISTINA GENTER

PAN'S LABYRINTH :: PICTUREHOUSE ★★★★★

Nominated for several Academy Awards, *Pan's Labyrinth* is one of the best foreign films to debut in recent years.

A mix of fantasy and horror, the story it tells is chilling and captivating. Ofelia, a little girl in 1944 Fascist Spain, moves to a military base to live with her mother and new stepfather. She discovers a labyrinth that is the doorway to an alternate world where she is a princess.

The movie chronicles Ofelia's quest to return to her own world, a quest that mirrors the horrors that exist all around her, especially in the brutal behavior of her stepfather. Her only friends are the faun in the labyrinth and the housekeeper Mercedes.

Pan's Labyrinth has been nominated for six Academy Awards, including foreign film, makeup, original screenplay, music score, cinematography and art

direction. It was also nominated for the Golden Globe's Best Foreign Language Film.

The film is presented in Spanish, with English subtitles, but that shouldn't intimidate students. The film doesn't rely on dialogue so much as imagery, anyway.

Pan's Labyrinth is at once dark and beautiful, with an underlying hope which viewers can latch on to. Although the film includes many instances of intense violence, this violence is character- and story-oriented rather than gratuitous.

I highly recommend *Pan's Labyrinth* to viewers who want a different kind of movie experience.

Pan's Labyrinth was rated 'R' by the MPAA for graphic violence and some language. Cedars encourages viewers to uphold the Community Covenant in their entertainment choices. Guidelines for evaluating media are provided in the Student Handbook.

FILM :: PG-13



BY BETHANY SIBBITT

CATCH AND RELEASE :: SONY PICTURES ★★★★★☆

For those seeking a light-hearted, feel-good romantic comedy, *Catch and Release* may not be the film of choice.

This latest screenplay by writer Susannah Grant, of *Erin Brockovich* and *Charlotte's Web* fame, is a mix of comedy, drama and romance. *Catch and Release* stars Jennifer Garner as Gray Wheeler. The story opens with Wheeler's musings on her recently deceased fiancé, Grady. These musings seem to permeate the film and develop throughout it.

At first, Gray mourns a lost love, finding solace in a motley group of friends. As she slowly readjusts to life without Grady, she begins to realize that her picture-perfect life was more complicated than she ever knew. Each surprise uncovered shows her just how little she really knew about the one she would have married.

All these changes would be overwhelming, were it not for Gray's network of support: comical Sam, responsible Dennis, and slightly off-center Fritz. Wheeler soon learns that assumptions are often wrong, and this lesson will change her perspective permanently.

Catch and Release comments on many themes: mourning, adjusting to change, eliminating stereotypes, embracing friendships and falling in love. However, the film presents love in the same context that the world around us views it, punctuated with loose sex and fleeting emotions.

Unfortunately, *Catch and Release* seems to advocate the idea that the nice guy finishes last. While the film is enjoyable and humorous at times, those looking for a truly heartwarming love story may wish to search elsewhere.

MUSIC



BY JOHN DURKEE

THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE QUEEN ★★★★★☆

Vocalist Damon Albarn, the brainchild behind Britpop pioneer Blur and the radio-friendly Gorillaz, is making waves with his latest project, *The Good, The Bad, & The Queen (TGtBatQ)*.

Comprised of Clash bassist Paul Simonon, Verve guitarist Simon Tong, and Nigerian drummer Tony Allen, the bizarre TGtBatQ features the production talents of Danger Mouse. With a lineup like this, one would expect an upbeat affair with impressive rhythmic beats.

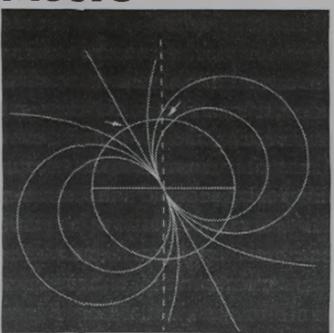
It is ironic, then, that *TGtBatQ* is a nefariously toned, listlessly contemplative album, more given to languor than to rhythm.

TGtBatQ is a depressive collection driven by distaste for war and disappointment with the current state of London. Lines such as, "Where do I see the light / It's all gone dead in a way," from "Eighties Life," exemplify the dark tone of the album.

While *TGtBatQ* offers an interesting listen, it is somewhat disadvantaged by its lack of distinctiveness and its failure to realize the true possibilities in each song. A pity, because the super-group had much potential.

Nevertheless, the mix of odd instrumentation and meandering melodies make *TGtBatQ* relatively enjoyable.

MUSIC



BY ALYSSA WEAVER

THE BROTHERS MARTIN ★★★★★☆

A fusion of indie pop and electronica provides a refreshing and edgy sound in The Brothers Martin's self-titled debut.

Known for their separate musical accomplishments, Ronnie Martin of Joy Electric and Jason Martin of Starflyer 59 unite as bands and brothers to produce a distinct mesh of polar sound.

Although not their first collaboration, *The Brothers Martin* is markedly different from their 1990 album *Dance House Children*, which featured a rave sound and disjointed vocals. The brothers have 20 releases between them, but their recent reunion has created a genuinely innovative style.

Driving guitar riffs by Jason and synthesized electronic sounds by Ronnie introduce "Communication," one of the better tracks. This layering, along with the brothers' unison vocals, tinges the song with a mod, British

flair.

All the songs have an eighties retro dance feel, particularly "Fears to Remember." The melodic chill of "The Plot that Weaves" leaves lingering sensations with its steady beat and static sound, while the "The Deaf, They Will Hear" impresses on the listener's mind the repetitive words of the chorus, "Blood to the ears from which the death will hear." The lyrics communicate the human dissatisfaction with time and lack of control.

Though pain and frustration permeate many of these songs, the album's general theme is characterized by trust in one who knows better. A fitting message for a CD that is at once eclectic, exciting and sophisticated.

Students can purchase *The Brothers Martin* at the Cedarville bookstore, or download the entire CD on iTunes.

CEDARS | Sports

Women's Track: Four Records Fall at Indiana Relays

· KERI HILTY ·
STAFF WRITER

The Cedarville University Women's Track & Field program is officially rewriting the record books. This season the team has broken six school records, four of which happened in the Indiana Relays this past weekend. Only three meets have been contested thus far in the 2007 season, and four meets still remain. Two of the remaining four meets are championship meets for the NCAA and the NAIA.

Jeff Bolender, in his fourth year as the head coach of the track program, has seen records broken in 19 out of 26 possible events that are currently being contested. Many of those records were broken on multiple occasions over the past four years as the times continue to decrease. For example, the women's 4 x 400-meter relay record was broken once in 2005 by the quartet of Christina Reyes, Courtney Reid, Megan Gier, and Sarah Ensslen in 4:10.89. Last season, the record was broken on three different occasions. The current record is 3:59.14, held by Reid,

Keri Hilty, Marla Rice and Elise O'Neal. At the Indiana Relays, Reid, Hilty, Rice, and Bethany Davies ran a 4:01.23, the second fastest time in Lady Jacket history.

Before the season even began, Bolender encouraged both the men's and women's teams saying, "This is the most talented team I have ever worked with and quite possibly the best to ever go through Cedarville University."

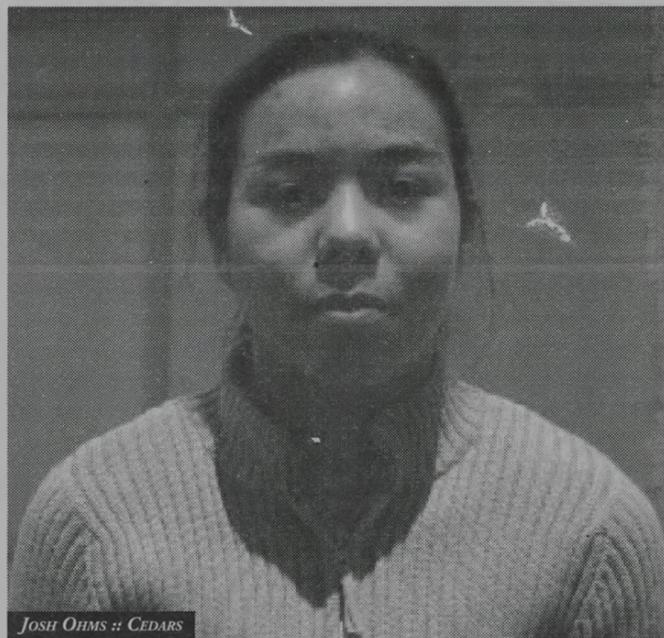
Audree Goodew, a junior distance runner, went on to say, "Even though this team is so amazingly talented it is even more amazing to see such humble spirits and great attitudes as team relationships are being formed."

Bethany Davies broke the first school record for the Lady Jackets at the Indiana Invite with an outstanding 400-meter race in a time of 59.52 seconds. The sophomore was recognized as the NCCAA Athlete of the Week for her accolades. Samantha (Maat) Modderman was third in her section of the 3-kilometer race in a record time of 10:09.15, while Nicole Santos finished close behind in ninth place at 10:21.9, both qualifying for NAIA Na-

tionals. The distance medley relay quartet of Goodew, Reid, Lydia Wong, and Modderman placed fourth in a NAIA qualifying time of 12:22.84. The 4 x 800-meter relay team of Wong, Davies, Goodew, and Stacey Keller broke the school record in 9:31.56 and were the lone event winners for the Yellow Jackets at the extremely competitive meet, which was dominated by NCAA Division I competition.

Two weeks ago, the Lady Jackets won the Cedarville Invite, which hosted 16 area schools. Five women met NAIA qualifying marks, and the team also garnered six event victories. Veteran distance runners Modderman, Elisabeth Pyles, and Santos qualified by finishing in second, third, and fourth place in the 5K. Ensslen won the triple jump with a qualifying jump of 38 feet, 2.50 inches, and newcomer Sarah Peak qualified in the 3K racewalk with a sixth place finish at 18:10.50. Other winners included Davies in the 400, Wong in the 800, Reid in the 55 hurdles, Emily Peacock in the weight throw, and the 4 x 400 relay team of Davies, Reid, Rice, and Wong.

Player Profile Lydia Wong



JOSH OHMS :: CEDARS

· ANDREA WALKER ·
STAFF WRITER

Freshman Lydia Wong traces her love for running back to her tenth birthday when she began running regularly with her dad. Her love for running and competition continue to motivate her, allowing her to make an immediate contribution to Cedarville's cross country and track and field programs.

Although Wong was home schooled throughout high school, she was able to join the cross country team at a local public school her sophomore year. She joined the track team the following year, mainly because her sister joined. "I was going to have to go to all the meets anyway, so I figured I might as well run," Wong stated.

Wong was captain of her cross country team her senior year, as well as a two-time state qualifier. In track, she raced in the 400 meter, 800 meter, and the mile run. She qualified for state in both the 800 and the 4 x 800 meter relay.

Wong decided to come to Cedarville because it was the college that best met her criteria. "I knew I wanted to run," she explained, "but I had a hard time finding a Christian school with good academics and a running program."

Wong enjoyed her first collegiate cross country season, running consistently in Cedarville's top seven. As track season begins, she continues to run the 400 and 800, additionally competing in the 4 x 400, 4 x 800, and distance medley relays. She has already set the meet and field house record in the 800, winning with a time of 2:20.82 at Cedarville's Collegiate Indoor Invite. Wong also helped Cedarville capture first place in the 4 x 400 at the Invite, as well as running in the distance medley to win at Ohio Northern University.

Although her running experiences in high school and in college appear similar in many respects, Wong has found the biggest change to be adjusting to running with and against different people. She has some goals in mind that she would like to accomplish this season, but running indoor track for the first time makes defining these goals difficult.

"I have to go through a season to see where I am, to decide ("...") where I want to go," Wong said.

While Wong's first season may help her to set her sights on what she would like to accomplish over the next three years, she is and will continue to be an asset to Cedarville's track and field program.



JOSH OHMS :: CEDARS

Sam Modderman (middle), Elisabeth Pyles (right) and Nicole Santos (left) work together to all qualify for NAIA Nationals in the 5k.

CONTINUED FROM "SMART" ON FRONT PAGE

ently imminent, the Lady Jackets are still focused on getting better. The team does not feel that they have reached their potential yet. Walton's stated goal is "to play with purpose and build off of each day we play." That purpose is especially necessary on the defensive end. Walton, Smart and the entire Lady Jacket squad realize that their success in the postseason is directly related to their defensive prowess. Smart said, "You can't count on offense because some days your shots just don't fall. However, defense can be done at a high level consistently with the right intensity, focus, and communication."

Experienced senior leadership plays a vital role in the achievement of the team during the postseason, and the Lady Jackets have that solid leadership. With a renewed commitment to defense and the most prolific scorer in the history of the division, the Lady Jackets' tournament destiny looks bright. One goal remains to be accomplished in the careers of four seniors who have been foundational for Coach Martin since their arrival on campus: bringing the NAIA National Championship home to Cedarville.

College Basketball Career Scoring Leaders:

Name	Points	Years	Division	School	Avg.
John Pierce	4,230	1990-94	NAIA I Men	David Lipscomb	28.6
Travis Grant	4,045	1969-72	NCAA II Men	Kentucky State	33.4
Miriam Walker	3,855	1987-90	NAIA I Women	Claffin	34.7
Pete Maravich	3,667	1968-70	NCAA I Men	LSU	44.2
Brian Hills	3,403	1993-97	NAIA II Men	Western Baptist	24.5
Jackie Stiles	3,393	1997-01	NCAA I Women	SW Missouri St.	26.3
Jeannie Demers	3,171	1984-87	NCAA III Women	Buena Vista	30.2
Brittany Smart	2,974	2003-07	NAIA II Women	Cedarville	22.4
Andre Foreman	2,940	1988-92	NCAA III Men	Salisbury	26.9
Dina Kangas	2,810	1988-91	NCAA II Women	Minnesota Duluth	22.7

Colts, Manning Are Super Bowl Champs

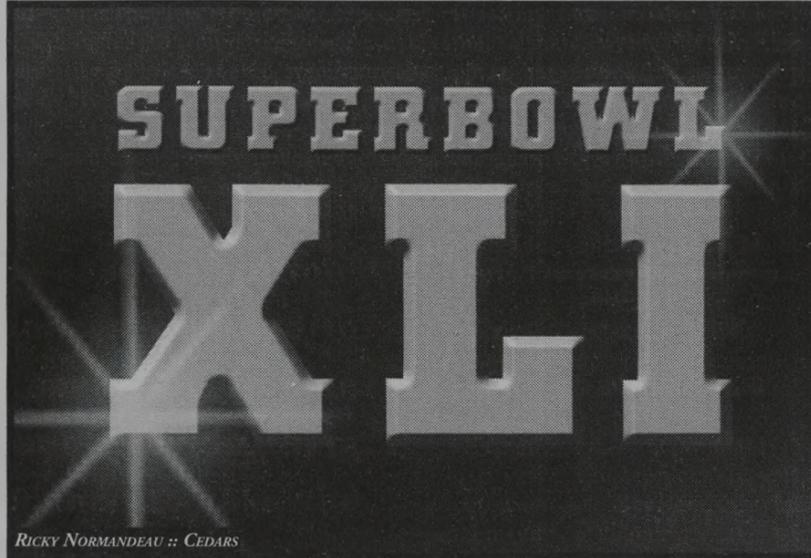
· RICHIE REEDER ·
STAFF WRITER

In a game which featured many firsts, including an uncharacteristic eight turnovers, the Indianapolis Colts defeated the Chicago Bears 29-17 in Super Bowl XLI. This year's game marked the first Super Bowl that was played in a steady downpour of rain, but that didn't keep the contest from being exciting right from the opening kickoff.

Colts kicker and playoff legend Adam Vinatieri made the mistake of kicking off to the Bears' highly-touted and speedy kick-return specialist, Devin Hester, to begin the game. Hester promptly returned the kick 92 yards untouched for a touchdown on the opening play of the game. This was the first time in Super Bowl history where the opening kickoff was returned for a touchdown. Needless to say, the Colts and Vinatieri learned their lesson and kept the ball away from Hester's hands by squib kicking on their remaining five kickoffs. After that opening play,

it was all Colts.

The Colts controlled the game by holding a 17 minute advantage in time of possession. As a wise man once said,



RICKY NORMANDEAU :: CEDARS

"It's always hard to score when you don't have the ball!" Indianapolis was also 8 of 18 on third down conversions

on the night, but the Bears were a miserable 3 of 10.

The story of the game was the quarterbacks' reactions to the opposing

20 of 28 passes for 165 yards and a touchdown, but threw two costly interceptions and committed a fumble. The Chicago offense was carried by running back Thomas Jones who ran for 112 yards on 15 carries, including a 52-yard jaunt late in the third quarter that pulled the Bears within field goal range.

The Colts' quarterback Peyton Manning was too much for the tenacious Bears' defense. He had a knack for finding a tight end or running back for a short yardage gain all game, instead of forcing the ball downfield. Starting running back, Joseph Addai, had a phenomenal 10 catches for 66 yards. Just like any proven veteran quarterback would do, Manning took what the defense gave him. Manning was rewarded by being named the Super Bowl XLI MVP. He completed 25 of 38 passes, throwing for 247 yards with one touchdown and an interception. After nine exceptional years in the NFL, Manning finally won the big game and earned his first Super Bowl Championship.

Men's Track Wins Home Invite, Competes Well at Indiana Relays

· JOSHUA SAUNDERS ·
STAFF WRITER

Cedarville men's track and field dominated their home invitational held on Jan. 26 in the Doden Field House. The defending NCCAA National Champions showcased their talent and depth, scoring 161 points and defeating second place Morehead State University by 68 points.

Cedarville recorded wins by Jason Scott in the 55-meter hurdles and pole vault. Scott is also ranked No. 1 in the NAIA in the pole vault with a comfortable lead over second place. Scott broke his week-old 55 hurdles school record with a time of 7.69 seconds at the home meet, which currently ranks him fifth in the NAIA. Teammate Ryan Bundenthal is ranked sixth with the time of 7.74.

Jim Sawin easily defeated the high jump field for the second straight week with his clearance of 6 feet, 7 inches, setting a new meet and field house record. Sawin is currently ranked fourth in the NAIA at 6-9 in the event. When asked about his high NAIA ranking Sawin stated, "after battling injuries throughout my college career, God has blessed me

this season and given me the opportunity to use the gifts he has given me to glorify Him."

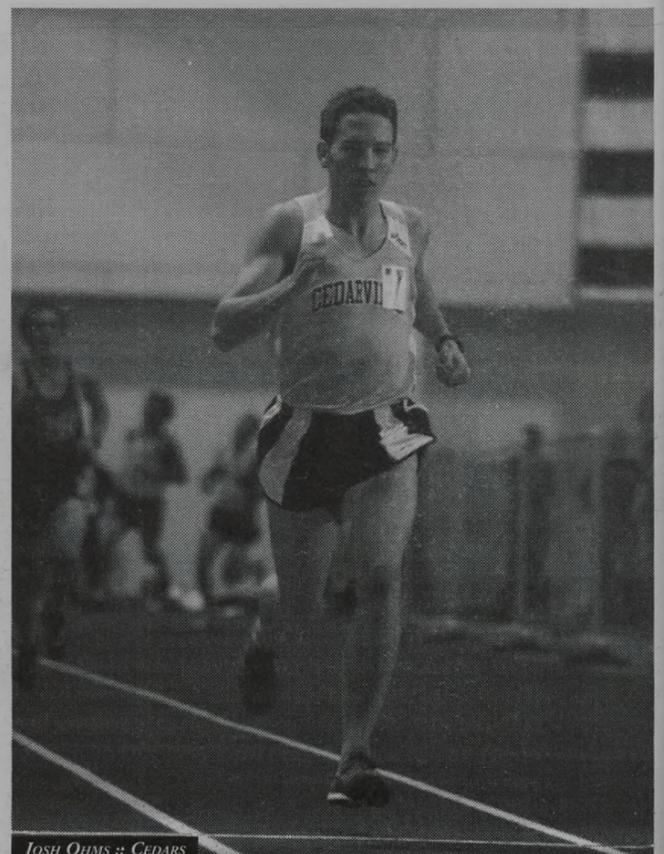
Daniel Roberts made his indoor track debut in the mile run. Roberts cruised to victory in a time of 4:21.76, setting a new meet record and provisionally qualifying for the NAIA National Championship. Many of the distance runners continued to train after their races were over, including Roberts: "I ran six miles afterwards at about 6:15 pace just to get some more mileage in." Kelly Nowels, Christian Maat, and Sammy Starr had personal bests in the 400, weight throw, and 200, respectively.

A week after the successful Cedarville Invite, the men's team traveled with a limited squad to Bloomsburg, Ind. for the Indiana Relays, home to one of the fastest 200-meter tracks in the world. Cedarville had the opportunity to compete against professional, NCAA Division I, and Division II athletes. At the beginning of the meet head coach Jeff Bolender stated, "We came here to simulate a championship meet atmosphere where you will be competing more than once in a few days."

Cedarville competed on Feb. 2-3 at the Indiana Relays. On Friday, Bryan Pittman provisionally qualified for the NAIA 3-kilometer race with a time of 8:57.06. Saturday, Ben Michaud, Cedarville's top shot putter, broke his own school record with a toss of 54 feet, 4.75 inches.

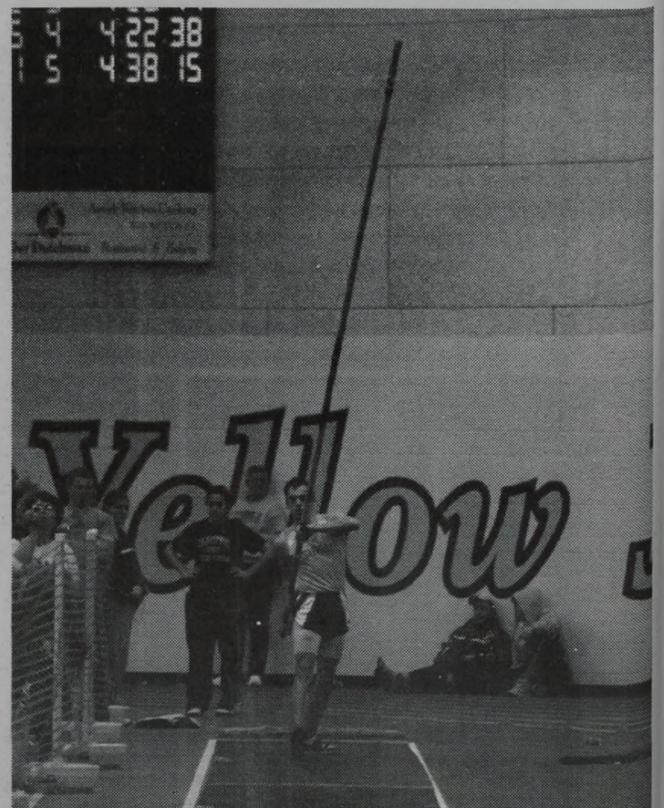
The men's 4 x 800 relay team of Kevin Kuhn, Joshua Saunders, Kurt Groman, and Judson Brooker finished with a time of 7:54.29, which currently ranks them fifth in the nation and second all-time in Cedarville history. Afterwards Kuhn described the new level of competition: "It is pretty hard to make the hand-off when you are surrounded by every other team trying to make their handoffs. I had to jump across three lanes just to get my teammate the baton." The men's 4 x 400 relay team, comprised of Sammy Starr, Brandon Tess, Eric Anderson, and Ryan Bundenthal, rounded out the successful day by running their fastest time of the season at 3:28.25.

The men have two more regular season meets before they will attempt to defend their title at the NCCAA Indoor Championships on Feb. 24.



JOSH OHMS :: CEDARS

Freshman Daniel Roberts blows away the competition in the mile, finishing the race in 4:21.76 to provisionally qualify for NAIA Nationals.



JOSH OHMS :: CEDARS

Jason Scott prepares to sprint down the runway in the pole vault competition. The senior cleared 17 feet for a new meet and field house record.



JOSH OHMS :: CEDARS

Justin Herbert (7) and Bryan Pittman (2) try to avoid elbows at the start of the 5k at the Cedarville Invite.

Jackets Win Eight of Nine, AMC Championship Looming

RYAN MOSHER
STAFF WRITER

The NAIA Division II No. 15 CU men's basketball team is attempting to accomplish something they failed to do in each of the last two seasons—win the American Midwest Conference Championship. The Yellow Jackets have won eight of their last nine games, including perhaps the biggest game of the season to date, a home win against then NAIA No. 12 Mt. Vernon Nazarene.

Senior Eric Leininger said this about the game: "...Mt. Vernon ended our season last year so we were definitely ready to finally play them at our place. Our fans knew what was at stake for our team and our season, and they made it the loudest, rowdiest place they could. They gave us that extra spark we needed to put 40 minutes together against a very good team."

Cedarville is 17-6 overall and 11-3 in the AMC. The Yellow Jackets currently sit alone in second place in the AMC South, trailing Mt. Vernon and Walsh by one game. Four regular season games are all that remain for the Jackets, and only one opponent has a record above .500. Three of the four remaining games are in the Callan Athletic Center, so the Jackets will have the help of their fans as they strive to win their last few games.

A trio of senior starters, an

all-conference junior, and a surprising freshman lead the Jackets into the last stretch of the 2006-2007 season. Maicol Venter, Eric Leininger, and Guy Rathmell have stepped up their senior leadership over the

30.1 and total rebounds at 45.2 per game, which has contributed greatly to their recent win streak.

The first step in getting an invitation to the national tournament in Branson, Miss. is being ranked in the NAIA Top 25. However, the Jackets can also receive a bid to the tournament if they either win the conference or the conference tournament. Cedarville will need to win all of their remaining games and have both Walsh and Mt. Vernon lose a game to have a chance at winning the conference. If the Jackets fail to win the conference outright, they will most likely still have home court advantage for a couple of games in the tourney.

Missing the national tournament last year left a bad taste in the mouths of the Yellow Jacket players, especially after making the Elite Eight in 2004 and the Final Four in 2005. "We're glad to be in this position," said Short. "We control our own postseason destiny. If we can win our last four games, we will get an automatic

bid to Branson." This young team hopes to get back to the national tournament, and they'll take it any way they can. However, the Yellow Jackets always keep things in perspective. Short adds, "We're competing for a cause bigger than ourselves, the glory of God and the spreading of the gospel of Jesus Christ."

past few games as starters. All-AMC guard Ryan Short leads the team with 16.5 point average and 50 percent shooting from the floor, and has started all 23 games this season. Two underclassmen, Ricardo Alliman and Daniel Rose, have averaged 6.4 and 8.2 rebounds per game, respectively. Cedarville is ranked second in the nation in both defensive rebounds at



JOSH OHMS :: CEDARS
Maicol Venter shoots two in the game against Shawnee State.



JOSH OHMS :: CEDARS
Ryan Short jukes the Shawnee State defender.

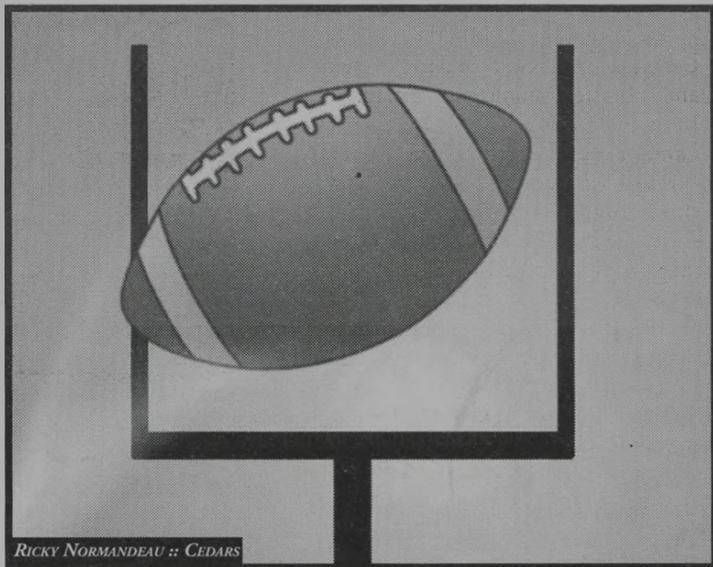
X-TRA POINTS

JIM SAWIN
SPORTS EDITOR

Video Board Adds to Basketball Environment in Stranahan Gymnasium

This past weekend, Cedarville installed a video board on the back wall near the entrance to the gym in the Callan Athletic Center. The board gives fans the opportunity to see nu-

men as the top seed in the pole vault with a record of 17 feet, 6.50 inches and ranks fifth in the 60-meter hurdles (8.22 seconds). Senior captain Jim Sawin is seeded fourth in the high jump after clearing 6-9 at the opening meet. Ben Michaud, currently ranked fifth, once again broke his own school



RICKY NORMANDEAU :: CEDARS

merous replays and player stats while highlighting a different corporate sponsor each game to help pay for the new innovation. Check it out tonight as the Yellow Jackets host Urbana and Brittany Smart attempts to reach 3,000 career points.

Ten CU Track Athletes in Top 5 in Latest NAIA Performance List

Cedarville's track and field programs are arguably the best in the history of the school. With one month remaining before the NAIA Indoor Championships, the Jackets currently have 10 athletes ranked in the Top 5 in the nation in their specific event areas. Jason Scott leads the way for the

record in the shot put this past weekend with a heave of 54-4.75.

The women's team has six athletes ranked in the NAIA Top 5 in their respective events. Their 4 x 800-meter relay squad consisting of Lydia Wong, Bethany Davies, Audree Goodew, and Stacey Keller are seeded second with a time of 9:31.56. The Lady Jackets' distance medley relay (12:22.84) and triple jumper Sarah Ensslen (38-11.75) are both ranked third in the nation. The other Top 5 Cedarville women athletes are Sam (Maat) Modderman in the 3k with a time of 10:09.15 and Emily Peacock in the weight throw with a heave of 50-6.

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Angie Horn-Andreu, M.Div., '07

Director, High School and College Ministries, Forest Home, Forest Falls, California

LESSON LEARNED: No question threatens God.

MY STORY: Imagine this — a 16-year-old comes up to you and asks how God, who is supposed to be loving, allowed his friend to die in a car accident. How do you begin to answer this? I'll tell you how I do it.

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CEDARS | The Current

Style and Substance for College Living

Conflict Resolution

· HEIDI CHARLTON ·
STAFF WRITER

Dishes pile up for days. Someone leaves a glob of toothpaste in the sink. The last piece of your fiancée's favorite chicken lasagna mysteriously disappears from the refrigerator, while six people you don't even know sit in the middle of your living room, playing your Monopoly game.

These situations are all potential sources of conflict for students who live off campus. Sharing space with other people and adjusting to the added responsibilities that off-campus living presents can be challenging in

ways that many students may not anticipate. Effective communication, a reasonable division of labor, and a forgiving and gracious attitude can help to ease the transition from one roommate to three, from Chuck's to the kitchen, and from Custodial Services to — well, you.

Kirsten Gibbs, Dean of Students, suggests that housemates meet together when they first move in to establish some practical house rules. Conflict is less likely when everyone knows what is expected of him or her. Gibbs also suggests that housemates meet, or have a meal together once a week to discuss upcoming events, frustrations or other areas of concern.

After living off campus for two years, Sarah Fak-

an, senior Business major, suggested a system that has worked well for her. Each person has a specific job to complete by the end of the week.

"Whoever didn't do their chores would have to collect all the trash from around the house and take it out. If everyone did their chores, everyone did the trash," said Fakan. This division of labor ensures that everyone takes part in household tasks, while establishing a specific, and constructive, penalty for negligence.

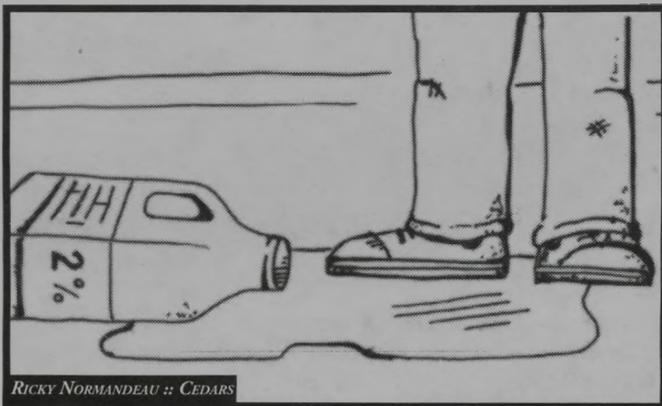
The most important thing to remember about conflict resolution is the necessity of grace and forgiveness. Keep in mind that housemates are human, and that people aren't perfect. Be willing to take responsibility for

your mistakes, and extend mercy to those who fall short.

Scott Kordic, sophomore English major, suggests cooking dinner for your roommates, and using that opportunity to broach a delicate or uncomfortable subject.

"Nothing screams I'm sorry like dinner," said Kordic, "unless you can't cook. In which case you can just disguise take-out in your own plates and bowls, and make some Kool-Aid to go with it."

Off-campus living presents its own set of unique challenges and responsibilities, but by creating an environment of open communication, shared responsibility, and willing forgiveness, students can enjoy the freedom and benefits of independence.



A Day in the Valley

· MALLORY FISHER ·
STAFF WRITER

Admit it. You've occasionally told an inquiring mind that you attend a college in the middle of a cornfield — as if, somehow, aliens one day decided to drop the entire campus in the middle of nowhere so the people of Dayton wouldn't notice.

But I see no crop circles, nor signs of extra-terrestrial remains. Rather, I see opportunities for students to step outside the confines of the dorms and have some fun.

You think I'm kidding? I kid you not! In fact, I will wipe that unbelief right off your face with the results of my 'Day in the Valley.'

I started in Yellow Springs, where I enjoyed a cup of coffee and a homemade muffin at the Emporium. Each table has a personal lamp for quiet reading, and the mood was set to the tranquil sounds of Sufjan Stevens. After my morning wake-up, I stopped in at Dark Star Books to see if any "new" used titles had arrived. I perused the shelves for a while, then bid farewell to the quaint Ohio town.

My next stop — the Oregon District in downtown Dayton. I visited the Oregon Emporium to access the free wireless Internet and catch up on some reading. The homemade sandwiches were too tempting not to try, so I ended up staying for lunch. Next-door is the restaurant/jazz club Pacchia, which junior Lindsay Didonato calls "very romantic," and a great date spot.

This historic strip is home to several other fantastic restaurants (check out Thai Nine) as well as the Neon Theatre, which specializes in foreign and independent films and \$5.00 movie Tuesdays. Also on this street is Gem City Records, with a large collection of quality used CD's and DVD's, some as low as \$4.99.

After lunch, I drove to the outdoor ice rink at RiverScape MetroPark. Admission is free if you bring your own skates, and only \$3.00 if you rent them. Open skate hours are Monday-Friday during the day and in the evenings on Monday-Thursday.

It was getting rather cold out, so I made my way to the Dayton Art Institute where I donned my glasses and appreciated the current Regional Artists exhibit. Art makes me hungry, so after a couple of hours I decided to take senior Natalie Gamache's recommendation of El Toro in Springfield, which she claims has "the best Mexican food around." I must agree; I almost felt like I was in Mexico.

When I got back to my dorm I realized that I had covered only a fraction of my favorite places in the Miami Valley. What about Beavercreek? Kettering? The Greene? There is much to discover right under our noses — so go explore, and maybe next time you'll be less inclined to mention those cornfields when your great-aunt asks where you go to college.

2007 COMPUTER SECURITY AWARENESS STUDENT VIDEO CONTEST

Help build awareness of computer security problems and what to do about them--get your students involved in the second annual Educause contest in search of short computer security awareness videos developed by college students for college students. The deadline for submission is March 15, 2007.

Who: college or university students, working as an individual or in a group

What: videos two minutes or less for use in training or instruction and 30-second Public Service Announcements

Possible Topics: computer maintenance, encrypting files/emails, cyber-crime, effective passwords, phishing, etc

Goal: Help build awareness of computer security problems and how to address them

*Videos will be judged on: creativity, content, technical quality, and overall effectiveness of delivery.

PRIZES:

1ST PLACE WINNERS: \$1000

2ND PLACE WINNERS: \$800

3RD PLACE WINNERS: \$400

Deadline: March 15, 2007

For More Information:
<http://www.educause.edu/SecurityVideoContest2007>

Questions may be directed to:
Kathy Carnegis
User Services Coordinator
Computer Services Dept., Cedarville University

ANNOUNCEMENT

Senior Melanie Beauty has been selected as the BSW Student of the Year for the Dayton chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW).

Congratulations, Melanie!



Dining In

Swell Breakfast For The Dorm

Hot Grape-nuts Cereal:

Combine 1/2 cup Grape Nuts cereal and 1/3 cup milk in a microwavable bowl. Drizzle with 1 tablespoon honey. Microwave on High to taste: 30 seconds for a BIG crunch; 60 seconds for a little crunch. You can have warm cereal on a cold day without any muss or fuss. Add fresh fruit after heating the cereal; brown sugar could be subbed for the honey, or eliminate the extra sweetener and use vanilla soy milk instead of regular milk. The possibilities are endless.

Breakfast in a Mug:

Place 1 tablespoon butter or margarine in 12 oz. microwave safe mug or small bowl. Microwave on High 30-45 seconds, or until melted. Add egg(s), 1 tablespoon milk or water, a dash of salt and a dash of pepper. Stir or whip with a fork. Microwave one egg on High 35 to 45 seconds; two eggs 1 1/4 to 1 3/4 minutes, or until eggs begin to set, stirring with fork to break apart after half of the time. Remove eggs when they are still soft and moist. Let stand about 2 minutes. Eggs will firm up while standing. If desired sprinkle with shredded cheese during standing time.

en Vogue

· JOE DUGAN ·
THE CURRENT EDITOR

 Thumbs down to Tim Gunn for joining designers Kate Spade and Pamela Skaist-Levy (Juicy Couture) as part of the rising Liz Claiborne conglomerate. I see fashion heading straight to retail, and I don't like it.

 Thumbs down to Oprah Winfrey for another cheesy Book Club title, Sidney Poitier's *Measure of a Man*. Thumbs up to J.K. Rowling for announcing the release date of *The Deathly Hollows* - July 21.

 Thumbs up to Rodarte for bringing sophisticated phantasm to fall 2007 fashion. Even more thumbs up to Philosophy's Alberta Ferretti for her playful fifties flair.

 Thumbs up to Harvard University for an impending curriculum change which places new emphasis on overcoming U.S. "parochialism." Three cheers for cultural variety.

 Thumbs up to Maxis for revolutionizing the popular *Sims* computer game series with *The Sims Stories*. Finally, some narrative to juice up this disjointed game. Now, we have something to keep us busy on those lonely Friday nights.

 Thumbs up to *Vanity Fair* for a great D.C. power photo spread. "Blue is the new red."

BEYOND PACL // THE SLEEP YOU NEED

· KATIE CARROLL & ABBY CRAYCRAFT ·
GUEST WRITERS

It is common knowledge that college students have poor sleeping habits. Whether from excessive work, loud dorm environments, or addictions to AOL and Facebook, college students are among the most sleep-deprived people in the country. Research confirms this unfortunate situation: a 2001 study found that only 11% of college students sleep well, while 73% reported sleep problems.

Lack of sleep can cause confusion, poor judgment, and reduced reaction time. For example, when sleep deprived people are tested using a driving simulator, they perform just as poorly as those who are under the influence of alcohol. Many people have reported increased irritability and unhappiness after lack of sleep.

Furthermore, certain clinical issues can arise from poor sleep, including depression, increased susceptibility to infections, obesity, diabetes, heart failure, and increased stress hormones.

College students are more produc-

tive in their work after a good night's sleep. They can study and retain information more effectively; their moods improve, making the time spent with friends and family more enjoyable. Students who sleep better also enjoy the benefits of a better appetite, leading to a healthier body weight and a dramatic improvement in physical appearance.

Clinical benefits to a good night's rest include a sharpened immune system, and enhancement of muscle mass and cell repair which lead to speedier recoveries from injury. Furthermore, sleep prompts a slower heart rate and lower blood pressure, both of which are crucial for good cardiovascular health.

Some tips to maximize on opportunities for sleep:

- Exercising in late afternoon is best. Exercising within three hours of bedtime is a bad idea.

- Drinking a glass of milk before bed lulls the body into a state of drowsiness, good preparation for sleep.

- Students who save their beds ex-

clusively for sleep will find that their bodies are more naturally inclined to sleep as soon as they lie down.

- Students should stop studying at least 30 minutes before sleep to give their minds a chance to rest.

- Eating too close to bedtime can disrupt sleep.

- Mattresses and pillows should provide good support.

- Spending time outside in the sunlight increases hormone levels that can aid in relaxation and drowsiness when it is time to sleep.

- Studies recommend limiting caffeine intake after 7:00 p.m.

- Accountability partners can encourage healthy sleeping habits.

- Worst-case scenario: If the hall is too noisy, RA's can establish and enforce quiet hours.

Students who are interested in additional information on the importance of sleep can visit www.sleepfoundation.org.

The Great White Throne

· JACK LEGG ·
STAFF WRITER

The powers that be announced earlier this year that our beloved SSC theater would finally get a name of its own. The DeVries Theater, as it is now known, is named after Dr. James DeVries, trustee and generous contributor to Cedarville University. And rightfully so!

When a person invests himself so greatly in an institution, he deserves to be recognized. For this reason, we have statues and paintings in honor of former presidents, plaques in honor of financial donors, and buildings named for honorable men and women of the past.

With these facts in mind, I humbly ask the question: where in the name of Herman Melville is my recognition? I have been at Cedarville for several consecutive semesters, and I haven't even gotten a round of applause.

Come now, Administration. Name something after me! I deserve it. I am worthy of this honor for several reasons.

For starters, I am a Bible major. That ought to count for something.

Not only do I attend classes regularly, I also participate in daily chapel services. I frequently sing special music in chapel, although the other students drown me out.

I am a valued patron of the arts. I once drew a lovely picture of Dr. Brown, which was prominently displayed in the ENS until the cleaning staff took it down. Also, my writing has appeared in numerous campus publications (*Cedars* and my blog).

As for my financial contributions, an invoice I received

shows that I contribute a great deal of money to Cedarville University. A great deal of money indeed.

I was the first student to make contact with the mermaid of Cedar Lake, and that relationship has become a gateway to minister to the un-reached lake people of Cedarville. In fact, the MIS office plans to send a group of students into Cedar Lake next summer to reach out to mermaids who will be displaced during the construction of the new Biblical Studies Center.

I am responsible for all these things, yet no one has honored me for my work.

Just forget it! I'll take care of it myself. Apparently, if you are going to be honored in this life, you have to make it happen on your own. And so, I issue a decree:

Here ye, hear ye. From this day forward, the men's restroom in the lower level of the SSC, near the game room, shall be named in my honor.

Seriously, I'm buying a plaque. The plaque will read, "The Distinguished Jack E. Legg Student Lavatory." And each stall will be adorned with a brass nameplate, reading "Royal Throne Room." I'll even lay down carpet.

For years to come, the brightest students of the world will pass through that porcelain sanctuary in search of relief and solitude. As they take their place upon their throne and reflect upon their lives thus far, they will think of me. My influence shall forever be written on 2-ply scrolls of excellence.

And that is a fitting tribute indeed.

HOW TO WRITE FANTASY LIT

· MELANIE FRAGEORGIA ·
STAFF WRITER

I have a confession to make. I am a recovering Tolkien addict. Tolkien was among my many teen obsessions, right up there with the likes of Hanson and *Harriet the Spy*. I'm sure the old Oxford scholar would be flipping in his grave if he knew the company he kept in my little teenage heart.

I got hooked (of course) through the influence of a friend. She told me I had to read this book called *The Silmarillion*. Yes, I read *The Silmarillion*. My obsession was that bad. No, I did not learn Elvish. By the grace of God, it was never that bad.

My friend and I quickly discovered that Tolkien is a wonderful source for unique insults. We also discovered that if you read too much

Tolkien, you begin to talk like him. We found ourselves using phrases like "speak ill" and "spewed forth" (when a paint tube burst in art class). We quizzed one another on genealogies, names of dragons, and locations of obscure events in the history of Middle Earth.

I'm afraid that, after my stint with Tolkien, I haven't had much energy for fantasy lit. But don't think that my lack of experience with current epics disqualifies me from commenting on the genre at large. Through my ventures in Barnes & Noble, I have encountered numerous texts and sagas, and these sojourns have helped me to develop a collection of guidelines. By adhering to these guidelines, the young lover of mythos will undoubtedly produce a runaway hit.

Here they are:

1. All that 'good artists know when to stop' business? Nothing but an old wives' tale. No fantasy series worth its salt includes fewer than 40 books. Never stop writing them. Death is not an excuse.
2. Leave brevity to Hemingway. Your books should be approximately the thickness of a football player's neck.
3. Make sure the experience of your literature is as close to playing a video game as possible. You may never make the New York Times best-seller list, but you will attract bored teenagers like rotting meat attracts flies. Best case scenario: Your series gets turned into a card game.
4. All demonic villains must have a name that either begins or ends with 'mor.'

Caution: Though it may seem clever, "Mormor" is probably not your best choice.

5. Dwarves are funny.
 6. The words "epic battle between good and evil" should summarize your series. This achievement depends almost entirely upon your skill with utilizing hooded cloaks.
 7. The illustrator who does the cover art for your series should have a style reminiscent of anime. Make sure he or she is not actually an anime artist. Ending up in the manga section at Barnes & Noble would be a travesty of epic proportions.
- If you should happen to follow these guidelines and produce a successful fantasy series, I do expect royalties. But don't ask me to read your books.



IF CEDARVILLE HAD NO DRESS CODE,
WHAT WOULD YOU WEAR TO CLASS?



LAUREN MATHIS

"I'D STILL DRESS KIND OF PROFESSIONALLY.
I FEEL LIKE I HAVE A BETTER DAY WHEN I DO."

SENIOR MIDDLE CHILDHOOD EDUCATION MAJOR



BRENT JACKSON

"I'D PROBABLY WEAR WHAT I ALWAYS WEAR-
EXCEPT I'D WEAR JEANS MORE OFTEN."

JUNIOR BUSINESS MANAGEMENT MAJOR



ALYSSA WEAVER

" I'D WEAR JEANS OR KHAKIS OR A SKIRT...
MAYBE I'D WEAR A NOSE RING, OR PUT TEMPORARY HIGHLIGHTS IN MY HAIR.
I'D JUST LIKE MORE FREEDOM TO EXPRESS MYSELF (IN A TASTEFUL MANNER)"

FRESHMAN UNDECLARED



FELICIA LUSTIG

"JEANS - THE SAME THING I WEAR EVERYDAY.
AND I'D PIERCE MY EYEBROW."

SOPHOMORE SOCIAL WORK MAJOR



A HAIKU

BY ADAM GROFF

POISON IN THE LAKE,
FAT AND HAPPY CARP,
THEY DON'T EVEN KNOW

BRIAN AMERINE

"JUST JEANS.
NO SHOES, NO SHIRT, NO PROBLEM."

SENIOR MARKETING MAJOR



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