



SEAMUS EDSON/CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

An exhibit of Professor of Art Tula Telfair’s landscape paintings premiered at the Zilkha Gallery on Tuesday, Sept. 16. This exhibit has been two years in the making.

## Diving Into Telfair’s “World Of Dreams” At Zilkha Gallery

By Sharifa Lookman  
Staff Writer

I was immediately struck by just how many windows there seemed to be in the Zilkha Gallery. Landscape, greenery, and sky met me from all angles, and it took me a moment to recognize that, while the facing wall was actually lined with windows, the other supposed “windows” were in fact paintings. Paintings as windows, windows as landscape, and landscape as a looking glass: welcome to Tula Telfair’s world of dreams.

On Tuesday, Sept. 16 the Center for the Arts (CFA) unveiled an exhibition two years in the making: Professor of Art Tula Telfair’s premiere of “A World of Dreams: New Landscape Paintings” in the Zilkha Gallery. This was likely one of

the most heavily and diversely attended exhibitions that I have seen on campus. Perhaps most interesting was just how many professors were in the room, particularly those not associated with the Art and Art History Departments, representing instead the Biology, Astronomy, and Classical Studies Departments, to name a few. It became very clear to me that this exhibition went beyond one medium and subject to become a truly multidisciplinary installation.

Though the idea for the exhibition was conceived over a year ago, Telfair has physically worked on these pieces since January, when they quickly became her babies.

“I haven’t done a lot in this time apart from paint, perhaps write a few letters, and teach,” Telfair said.

As an artist, Telfair has experimented with a variety of styles and subject matters, but of late she has been renowned for her modern landscape paintings, as highlighted in this exhibition. Her landscapes are monumental in scale and vibrant in color. Some aspects of her landscapes call to mind the grandeur of historic landscapes while others can be likened to photographs.

Telfair describes these places as being fictive and an expression of her imagination. She emphasizes the role of creativity in her artistic process.

“I enjoy the possibility of creating something from nothing, which

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## University Warns of Health Risks Related to MDMA Use

By Courtney Laermer  
Assistant News Editor

Several students have been hospitalized in the recent weeks after taking MDMA, a drug known as “Molly,” according to an email sent by Health Services to all University students on Tuesday, Sept. 16.

Medical Director of the Health Services Department Dr. Thomas McLarney described the negative implications of taking this drug.

“It is a stimulant and psychedelic substance,” McLarney wrote in an email to The Argus. “It works by increasing the release of certain neurotransmitters from the brain specifically dopamine, norepinephrine and serotonin.”

He explained that serotonin is a chemical that causes a person to devel-

op positive feelings. The immediate effects of serotonin are elevated moods, heightened sensations, and increased sexual arousal, and these effects occur usually within 15-30 minutes of ingestion. He also explained that the drug is sometimes accompanied by negative side-effects.

“Sometimes a person may experience unwanted effects such as anxiety, agitation and dizziness as well as elevated heart rate and blood pressure (due to the dopamine and norepinephrine),” McLarney wrote. “This could be as a result of the MDMA alone, taking another similar but more potent designer drug (there are a number of them out there) or the capsule taken was altered with a number of other substances such as PCP.”

Furthermore, McLarney explained that it can take days to weeks

for the brain to recover from the effects of MDMA, particularly because the brain must replace the neurotransmitters that were previously released. He also added that, in some cases, it can take the brain months, or even years, to recover, as the drug can result in cravings for more.

Other side effects of this drug include feeling hot, dizziness, chest pain, severe anxiety, and shortness of breath (especially in a warm environment). McLarney emphasized that if an individual is feeling those symptoms, ze should be evaluated as soon as possible. In addition, if someone has a preexisting heart condition, MDMA can lead to heart failure, heart attack, and even

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## 184 High Street Officially Closed

By Sofi Goode  
News Editor

The Beta Theta Pi house is now officially off-limits to students.

Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs Rick Culliton announced via email on Monday, Sept. 15 that any University student found in 184 High Street (Beta Theta Pi’s former house) without permission from the University and the organization that owns the house will be found in violation of the Code of Non-Academic Conduct.

This violation is in accordance with the preexisting Residency Policy of the Code of Non-Academic Conduct, which was updated by University President Michael Roth in August 2011.

“Wesleyan students are prohibited from using houses or property owned, leased, or operated by Greek organizations that are not recognized by the University,” the policy states. “This prohibition includes using such houses or property as residences, taking meals at such houses or property, and participating in social activities at such houses or property.”

This policy was put in place to prevent students from living in and entering the Beta house while the fraternity was not recognized by the University. In May 2011, Beta gained University recognition and became a program house. The house was closed and again declared off-

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## Coffee with a Side of Community

By Jenny Davis and Haenah Kwon  
Opinion Editor and Staff Writer

There’s a yellow and pink flag flying outside 143 William Street, a white cube of a building with a crisp red awning. Racks of clothes are arranged on the sidewalk, calling out to people on their way to the barber shop next door or heading down to Main Street.

The shop, 3 Unique Ladie’s (sic), opened this past April. Owned by Linda Tencza and run by Tencza, Laura Dunkley, and Diane Ceder, the store is part coffee shop, part gift shop, and part living room.

When we walked into the shop on a quiet Saturday morning, Tencza and Dunkley were seated at a table, sipping coffee in front of a shiny black computer. Ceder, they explained, works on different days.

“Have a look around,” they urged us.

The store is crowded; no space is wasted. There are clothes, jewelry, bags, cards, knitted baby booties, candles,

plaques, trinkets, and tchotchkes galore. Flamingo lights are draped among the shelves. We searched in vain for a price tag on these lights; alas, they were just there for decoration.

Tencza and Dunkley have known each other for 36 years; Ceder and Tencza have known each other 25.

“[Tencza’s] son was in my Sunday school class,” Dunkley said. “We all went to church together.”

Tencza, who runs a day care when she’s not working at 3 Unique Ladie’s, used to care for Ceder’s two children on the days Ceder worked. Tencza grew up in Durham, Conn., and moved to Middletown when she got married at 18; Dunkley was born in Boston and has lived in Middletown for 36 years.

Dunkley and Tencza, who met through the First Baptist Church in Middletown, worked together at that church many years ago.

“What we used to do at the church

UNIQUE, page 4



HAENAH KWON/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Linda Tencza, Laura Kunkley, and Diane Ceder run a new gift shop on William Street that draws upon the love of many community members.



# NEWS

## Molly: Multiple Students Hospitalized

Continued from front page

death. “If someone is stable (and I’ll repeat, if there is any concern, call for help ASAP) and experiencing some anxiety, being a good friend is the best treatment,” McLarney said. “Be there for him or her. Talk to them. Don’t leave them alone.”

Vice President for Student Affairs Michael Whaley stressed the importance of seeking medical attention, stating that students hospitalized for drug usage will not face judicial consequences.

“As is the case with alcohol, stu-

dents requiring medical assistance as a result of alcohol or drug use will typically not face a formal judicial hearing if they agree to meet with Health Services staff following their hospitalization and participate in any recommended follow up,” Whaley said. “Cases involving use of Molly (short of hospitalization) would be adjudicated by the SJB as with other infractions. Students who sell or distribute illegal drugs are typically suspended or dismissed.”

The Davison Health Center posted additional information regarding MDMA on its website for all students to view.

## Panel Discusses Vote on Scottish Secession

By Millie Dent  
*News Editor*

Scottish voters were faced with the pivotal decision yesterday of whether to break up the United Kingdom after 307 years. On Tuesday, Sept. 16, the University History Department hosted a multiple-department panel on Scottish independence and what this historical vote could mean for the U.K.

“Today is the day where we choose whether to break off or stay together, and that’s the next chapter in the U.K. or [in] the history in England and Scotland,” said Visiting Assistant Professor of History and panelist Alice Kelly. “However we want to say it.”

Chair of the History Department and organizer of the event Magda Teter explained how the vote shows the importance of history in today’s world. She stressed that current events cannot be fully understood without a historical context.

“Scotland’s vote may be about oil and current economy, but it is also about history and identity,” Teter wrote in an email to The Argus.

Associate Professor of History Jennifer Tucker, another one of the panelists, said she believes that University students are generally interested in international current affairs and that the talk gave students the opportunity to learn more about the vote beyond what the media offers.

“The referendum raises broader questions about resource allocation and political representation in democracies that are of interest to many here at Wesleyan,” Tucker wrote in an email to The Argus.

In addition to educating students, the panel aimed to help professors question and analyze their own beliefs. One of the panelists, Professor of Government Peter Rutland, said that one question asked during the panel challenged him to further question the true benefits of secession.

“The problem is really the procedure, not the actual content of the decision,” Rutland said. “What a haphazard way [to decide] without any clear program to vote on. Just an up in the air, yes or no, independence or not, without having a document that really spells out what is agreed and what’s not agreed.”

Tucker spoke further about the questions that will be raised if Scotland does vote for independence. As there is no established constitution for Scotland should it vote for independence, these questions will not be able to be answered unless the referendum passes, further augmenting the significance of the results.

“The debate of Scottish indepen-

dence raises a series of questions that will only be answered after the referendum: Will Scotland...continue to have access to the pound sterling? Will Scotland become a member of the [European Union] in its own right? Will Scotland control oil in the North Sea within Scottish waters? If Scotland becomes independent, can Scottish voters enact a more social agenda than it can currently?” Tucker wrote.

Kelly also spoke about the significance of an independent Scotland to the rest of the world. She said it is unclear what kind of global impact a secession would have.

“We’re not yet sure whether they’re going to be huge ripples or...just small ripples in the pond,” Kelly said.

The panelists spoke about the different tactics used by advocates on each side to sway undecided voters. They described pro-secessionist methods as taking advantage of the role of history, as well as potential benefits such as free health care, to persuade voters. Pro-Unionists have been using a scare tactic, telling voters that the future of an independent Scotland would be uncertain, especially since it is unclear whether the European Union (EU) would allow Scotland to join.

Rutland spoke further about the EU and its importance, but noted that as the EU loses its significance in current events, it becomes less important in the debate.

“The carrot is looking less juicy, but can still be used as a stick,” Rutland said.

Kelly felt that the tactics the pro-Union supporters were using, such as videos with celebrities holding up signs reading, “We love you, Scotland,” were only giving the pro-separatists more momentum.

“That incensed Scottish nationalists more, because it’s further compounded the idea of them not being taken seriously in their wish for independence,” Kelly said. “It’s only now they’re being taken more seriously.”

Chloe Jeng ’15 said she felt that the discussion of the propaganda brought up points that she had not previously considered.

“I was most interested in Professor Rutland’s explanation of the clever branding of the ‘Yes’ campaign for secession, which repaints the independence movement as not just an issue of romantic or ethnic nationalism but as a civic rights and social welfare cause,” Jeng wrote in an email to The Argus.

Whatever the outcome, the three panelists stated that they believe that history is in the making and that students should understand the significance of such an event.

“It might not feel so here, but it’s enormous,” Kelly said. “It’s a history-making day.”

## Beta: Those Who Enter Property Will Face Charges

Continued from front page

limits on Wednesday, Sept. 10.

Vice President for Student Affairs Michael Whaley outlined the charges that students found in Beta without permission will face. Students entering without permission may face criminal charges through the Middletown Police Department.

“University charges for violating this policy may vary depending on the incident, at a minimum students would be charged with violating the resi-

dency policy (regulation 15) as well as failure to comply (regulation 14),” Whaley wrote in an email to The Argus. “Other charges may apply as well given the circumstances. Sanctions will vary, up to and including suspension. Since the property is privately-owned, the owners may charge students there without permission with trespassing as well.”

The Beta house is owned by the Raimond Duy Baird Memorial Association. Representatives of the association were unable to be reached for comment.

Culliton stated that although

the space has been active in campus life since becoming a program house, he does not anticipate any problems with enforcing its closure.

“In my conversations with students, most understand why the university has taken this action and, given the consequences for doing so, I don’t anticipate that students will choose to go there,” Culliton wrote in an email to The Argus. “In addition, the national office of Beta Theta Pi has also suspended the chapter and all activities so I think that both Wesleyan and Beta Theta Pi have taken a similar stance.”

## Constitution Day Lecturer Addresses First Amendment Rights at Universities

By Sophie Zinser  
*Assistant News Editor*

In honor of Constitution Day on Wednesday, Sept. 17, University of Texas at Austin School of Law Distinguished Teaching Professor David Rabban ’71 gave a lecture at Olin Library titled “Free Speech, Academic Freedom, and the American University.” The Friends of the Wesleyan Library sponsored the lecture, with Library Assistant Jennifer Hadley spearheading the event’s organization.

The talk centered on the First Amendment rights of students, professors, and universities as institutions. Rabban led the audience through the history of legal cases on free speech and academic freedom from the 1950s.

Rabban addressed the hotbed issues surrounding the First Amendment today. He allotted a significant amount of time to the recent case of Professor Steven Salaita’s lack of consideration for a job at the University of Illinois following several anti-Israel posts on his Twitter account.

Furthermore, Rabban covered the constitutional validity of university-implemented “speech codes,” student and professorial expressions of political affiliations, and the extent to which the university as an institution may control when First Amendment rights apply to its students.

In an interview with The Argus, Rabban explained why he chose this particular subject for a Constitution Day lecture.

“I thought that Wesleyan students would have interest in free speech topics,” Rabban said. “I wanted to recognize how many important cases dealing with First Amendment issues have arisen in American universities. The university has been an important place for Constitutional debate and litigation. I also thought that the notion of First Amendment freedom as differentiated from the First Amendment in general might be an interesting topic for the audience to think about.”

Rabban began his talk with a staggering list of cases in which the First Amendment rights of a student, professor, or university were the subjects of major legal contention. In this historical dialogue, he alluded to specific legal cases, including state legislatures compelling universities to include discussions of creation science in classroom settings, whether or not universities can refuse to reappoint a professor fired on the grounds that he was a communist, and a university’s right to fire a professor on the grounds of specific works that ze published.

Rabban emphasized that the First Amendment to the Constitution applies only to state action.

“I think that many Americans believe that the First Amendment protects citizens against private action as well as state action,” Rabban said. “But this common belief is incorrect. Private violations on speech do not violate constitutional rights. Translated into the university context, private universities, including their faculty and students, as well as public universities, are protected against the government. Wesleyan, as well as the University of Connecticut, can obtain relief from legislation that violates the First Amendment.”

Rabban explained that when university trustees or administrators take action against faculty or students, the First Amendment applies only at state universities. Therefore, Rabban pointed out that faculty and students at the University cannot make First Amendment claims against the University and the Board of Trustees. Rabban further acknowledged that this formal constitutional distinction does not always apply in practice because private universities can voluntarily accept the limitations that the First Amendment imposes on public universities.

“Judges themselves have frequently acknowledged that decisions surrounding First Amendment rights at universities have not effectively addressed the meaning of First Amendment academic freedom, or differentiated it well from general First Amendment rights and free speech,” Rabban said.

Following this comment, Rabban proposed that a distinctive First Amendment right of academic freedom

should apply only to professional and educational speech. He cited as grounds for this argument the 1950 Declaration of Principles by the American Association of University Professors, which, in his opinion, remains the most influential discussion of academic freedom in the United States.

Hadley noted that she was pleased with the turnout to the lecture and following Q&A session.

“Our hope is to open up a dialogue on constitutional issues, and in this case, academic freedom is very pertinent to things that have been going on not just at Wesleyan but in the larger world,” Hadley said. “So we like to have that mix of people in the audience, and help raise Wesleyan’s profile in the community as well.”

Aobo Dong ’15 added that the lecture inspired him to expand Rabban’s discussion of the First Amendment to the recent controversy regarding former University Librarian Pat Tully’s dismissal from the University.

“The legal protection of administrators and professors is very interesting because it made me think about how the professor can become an administrator and take on other protections with his or her speech or rights,” Dong said. “It’s very interesting to discover this from a legal perspective. I wonder if the point of contention was about legal issues at all, or whether they have the right to fire someone who expressed an educational comment or had held some different working style or different personality.”

Christian Hosam ’15 expressed further interest in the topic, stating that he would have enjoyed a discussion of on-campus issues in the Q&A session.

“I wish someone would have asked about chalking, because there’s an interesting aspect of student academic freedom not being protected,” Hosam said. “Students do not have a specific distinction in academic freedom. I was also interested in his comments on the Steven Salaita case. I think it’s a fascinating and complex case, looking at what academic freedom is going to look like versus what it looks like now. As someone who is following it closely, I hoped he would have been given insight into how it would have been handled.”

The Adelphic Education Fund is accepting applications from Wesleyan students for a limited number of scholarships for the 2014/2015 academic year. Application forms are available online at <http://middletown.adps.org/aef/index.html>

Application deadline is October 17 at 4:00 p.m. Please submit completed applications in duplicate to Erhard Konerding, Reference Department, Room 107F, Olin Library.

FEATURES



By Sofi Goode  
News Editor

A rising Hollywood starlet is shamed by tabloids and forced to live out the rest of her life as an impoverished wannabe. This sounds like a story we’ve all heard before. Yet “Lucky Us,” a new novel by Shapiro Creative Writing Center Director and Kim-Frank Family University Writer in Residence Amy Bloom ’75, takes this frequently told tale and breathes life into every aspect of it. Published in July by Random House Press, the novel is a fascinating journey through the lives of various overlapping, oppressed groups in the World War II-era United States.

Bloom was trained in psychotherapy at Smith College and has published three novels, as well as multiple short stories. On Wednesday, Sept. 17, Bloom read from “Lucky Us” at the Russell House and answered questions about her book and her writing process.

“Lucky Us” has a constantly shifting cast, with hopeful star Iris and her dedicated sidekick sister Eva

at the center of the story. The pair starts off in small-town Ohio, moving from Hollywood to New York City and beyond. The novel also picks up the stories of their friends, rich and poor, successful and anonymous, as the girls navigate a world of discrimination, heartbreak, danger, and war.

Bloom’s characters are compelling from the first page, where Eva is introduced as a plain, awkward, and unfailingly brilliant daughter of a professor’s mistress. Iris, the legitimate daughter of the same man, is charismatic and beautiful, but short-sighted and naïve. They run away to Hollywood so Iris can try her hand at acting, but they find themselves out of luck when The Los Angeles Times runs pictures of Iris that reveal that she is a lesbian. In desperation, they leave for New York City with their father, who reappeared in the hopes of taking a share of Iris’ acting money, and Francisco, Iris’s makeup artist.

Bloom’s characters defy easy description, beginning with depth and evolving further over the course of the story. Like all good literary

characters, they are neither entirely lovable nor easy to hate. It is their tendencies for both right and wrong, good and bad, that allow them to carry their complex, emotionally demanding stories.

The narrative perspective changes throughout the novel, featuring Iris’s descriptive letters, Eva’s sharp-tongued inner monologue, and the unfortunate life of Gus, a German mechanic that the girls meet upon their arrival in New York. Bloom juggles the constant changes in narration with complete ease, giving her characters incredibly distinct voices and storytelling methods. Sharp changes in tone also guide the reader through these transitions, which span years and thousands of miles in the turn of a page.

Switching among perspectives also gives Bloom a chance to fully explore all of her characters, rather than singling out a main character for development. As a result, each character takes on a remarkably complex personality. Francisco in particular shines as a sassy, protective father figure with a wealth of knowledge about various upper-class

professionals.

While her characters compel through biting humor, relatable awkwardness, and horrific heartbreak, it is the realism of Bloom’s novel that keeps the pages turning. Even the minute details of the era feel grounded in truth.

In fact, Bloom’s world is so well-researched that readers may find themselves facing history that America rarely acknowledges, such as the internment of over 11,000 German Americans. Gus is among this number, giving emotion and face to the struggle of internment and, for some, repatriation of American citizens, many of whom had never been to Germany in their lives.

Though most of the characters are not forced to directly confront the war as Gus is, the war’s influence subtly pervades all of their story lines. While Gus’ depiction of the allies bombing a German town is heart-wrenchingly blunt, perhaps more startling is Bloom’s understanding of how the war permeated all aspects of life, from the fear of any kind of difference—whether in race,

sexuality, religion, or social status—to the desire for psychic knowledge of the future and the ease of faking important documents.

Bloom expertly portrays the intersectionality of the oppression Iris and Eva face, with Iris’ relationships leading to explosive events while their ongoing poverty is normalized in the background. Her diverse characters provide a refreshingly realistic portrayal of race relations and the barriers that remained up in a time when the normal structures of society were breaking down.

At her talk on Wednesday, Bloom stated that she cannot write until she can “hear the characters” in her head for more than just a moment. Her connection with her characters is obvious, as “Lucky Us” takes a cast that is excluded, impoverished, and uncertain—undoubtedly down on their luck—and portrays these characters as much more than downtrodden. Though they are less than heroes, they manage to handle it all. Bloom shows that if we focus on the human connections that we have, we can all see ourselves as the lucky ones.

# Unique: Ladies Open Door for Trinkets, Companionship

Continued from front page

was outreach,” Dunkley said. “We used to have the gift shop and a café. We served dinner for \$3.50—mashed potatoes, meatloaf, vegetables, rolls, corn muffin, dessert and drink. But if you couldn’t afford it, you got it for free. That was our outreach. People would come and sit and just need to talk—fellowship, you know?”

When the space for 3 Unique Ladie’s opened up this past April, Tencza and Dunkley jumped at the chance to continue their collaboration, this time as business partners.

“We put everything on hold,” Tencza said of their choice to open the shop.

The connections that the two women maintain with Middletown community members have been to crucial to the success of 3 Unique Ladie’s.

“We made a lot of friends, and they follow us!” Tencza said. “They follow us wherever we’ve gone.”

Dunkley adopted a high-pitched falsetto: “Oh, you’re here?” she cried out, mimicking friends who have stopped by and seen the store. “Oh, good, we’ll come back!” They had a good chuckle over that one.

The inspiration to open a coffee and gift shop was largely due to the women’s mutual love for Middletown and for each other.

“This is our thing,” Tencza said. “We love to shop...Some of our old friends that we grew up with at First Baptist, they found out we were here, and they brought in their crafts to sell. We have everything.”

Dunkley and Tencza make an effort to meet the demands of

Middletown residents by recycling and reusing.

“People need stuff, and I don’t like people wasting,” Tencza said. “People will throw things out instead of taking them to Goodwill, Salvation Army, or Red Cross. They just put all this stuff on the street.”

Dunkley agreed.

“We don’t turn anything down,” she said. “You know, you never know what somebody’s looking for.”

Moreover, Dunkley’s own creativity is showcased in the shop.

“I design clothing,” she said. “My outfits are out there on the mannequin. I do it for my grandchildren, and now I’m doing it for adults, full-figured women. I let the material talk to me. I don’t use a pad, and I sew by hand. It’s just soothing...I go with the flow.”

At that moment, Dunkley became animated, jumping up and down and pointing at something outside the window.

“There’s Bev!” she screamed. “She’s got a tree! A pink one! She’s got a tree!”

Tencza laughed at the image of their friend lugging a pink tree up William Street. “What’s she going to do with that?” she asked.

“It’s fake, so...” Dunkley leaned back in her seat, still shaking her head.

“We all support each other,” Dunkley said, growing serious again. “That’s one thing about the Middlesex Country Chamber of Commerce. It’s one of the biggest ones and best in the state, actually. You meet people. You make connections, and it’s because we all work together.”

Working together comes naturally to Tencza, Dunkley, and Ceder.

“We have fun doing stuff,” Tencza said. “We’ve worked well together for 36 years, as business partners and friends.”

Dunkley agreed that their friendship is what makes them, as their shop proclaims, “unique.”

“You ain’t never going to meet anybody like us,” Dunkley said. “It’s our friendship [that makes us special]. We support each other.”

That support comes in many forms, from Tencza spoiling Dunkley’s granddaughter with stuffed animals from Goodwill to Dunkley supporting Tencza’s son when he needed it as a teenager.

“We’ve been through a lot together,” Tencza said. “We help each other out. Somebody needs something, we do it. You’re short on food, we do it. I think it’s just the way we were brought up.”

Eventually, Tencza, Dunkley, and Ceder hope to open a bona fide café, but as of now there isn’t room for a big enough kitchen in the back. Still, though, they feel that they are filling a niche left empty in Middletown in recent years.

“There’s no coffee shop in this section of town, and no gift shops at all anymore,” Tencza said.

The ladies agree that more important than the coffee or the gifts, or even the trinkets is the community that 3 Unique Ladie’s provides.

“People just come in to have coffee and talk,” Dunkley said. “That’s the whole thing.”

Tencza agreed.

“It’s for everybody, even if you don’t have a lot of money because a lot of people don’t,” she said. “We do this out of fun, we do this for the community, and we do it out of love.”

# Frame of Reference: A Bespectacled View

By Sadie Renjilian  
Contributing Writer

If eyes are the windows to the soul, then glasses are the window fixings. There is a major difference between Venetian blinds and paisley curtains. So too, glasses can drastically change how you are perceived. Are you a classic Tudor? A 1970s-style ranch? A McMansion in the suburbs? Let’s examine the options.

A recent look around Usdan revealed many a bespectacled face. I approached a nearby participant in the glasses craze to learn more. My first question, “Are those prescription?” received an appropriately indignant response. Wearing fake glasses is a poser move, the equivalent of wearing a concert shirt from Hot Topic. In high school, this question used to offend me to the extent that I would insist people put on my stylish frames to prove that they had a prescription. Our participant did not have this response, but he definitely wasn’t thrilled by the implications.

The student in question was wearing a delightful pair of round glasses in a dark brown. Studious yet stylish, quirky yet dignified, his frames were absolutely enchanting. I was even more impressed when he revealed that they were almost three years old, purchased before his freshman year at Wesleyan.

However, it soon became clear that not even the effusive compliments of a total stranger could convince him that they were great and that he should not switch to contacts. His reasoning behind wanting to switch was perfectly reasonable—he is sick of them sliding around, especially when playing ultimate Frisbee—but nevertheless heartbreaking. He envisions a 60:40 contacts-to-glasses ratio.

Another hesitant participant in my research—this time, a fellow student in a history seminar—mentioned the sports concern as well. He rejected my suggestion of sport goggles, favoring instead a limited use of contacts. Interestingly, he also had his glasses for several years. Call me fickle, but I can’t imagine having the same look for so

long. Yet what struck me most was that their glasses were totally hip and current. I suspect good glasses may be timeless, especially since they are often inspired by vintage styles. The Usdan participant substantiated this theory when he revealed that his pair was from Warby Parker, the online glasses company inspired by vintage styles that donates a pair of glasses to someone in need for every pair they sell.

In the interest of journalistic integrity, I should mention my bias toward Warby Parker, which is the company that makes my own frames. A friend recently inquired as to why I don’t wear them outside of my bedroom and then answered the question for me: the shape looked bad on my face. The frames were cool, but apparently they didn’t quite work with my bone structure.

This unfortunate realization made me think about the purpose of glasses. They are, at their core, about function, though this obviously does not always mean that function should outweigh form. Given the necessity and pervasiveness of glasses, there is great diversity in styles. Sometimes glasses can be a means of self-expression and a way to make a statement, even if that statement is “No, I don’t see that well.” Maybe, even, the small wire pairs without apparent attention to style are some sort of normcore statement that I’m missing (but frankly, they appear purely pragmatic and not more).

A close friend of the crunchy-granola variety rocks a pair of green glasses. While not overly trendy or hip, they are fun and unusual, showing her character to the world. I love these as a compromise: she’s not choosing to be trendy, but she’s also not wearing a pair that is exclusively functional.

Please, everyone, let’s work on making glasses our own. Don’t buy a chic pair that makes you look terrible, as I did, but don’t feel like any sort of attention drawn to your glasses is negative. If you’re into trends, clear-rimmed glasses are super dope right now. I think we’ll see a movement back toward early-aughts styles, with smaller, more angled frames instead of the bulkier ones we’ve been seeing for the past couple of years. But beyond all this, just choose a pair that matches your personality.



# ROVING REPORTER

What separates humans from animals and nature, if anything?



“Opposable thumbs.”  
*Masha Sardari '18*



“Animals do not fuck up the environment because they don’t smoke.”  
*Hazem Fahmy '17*



“Not much other than logical processes.”  
*Maimouna Siby '16*



“The ability to communicate reason.”  
*JT Falcone '15*



“Humans are animals.”  
*Molly Cohn '18*



“Humans are animals, so there’s not necessarily a separation. We just operate differently.”  
*Derrick Holman '16*



*Hello!!!!*  
**WESLEYAN**  
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Think of.....



**Typhoon**

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## ARTS

# Tennis Covers Up Intricacies With Muddled Production

By Matthew Weinstein  
Staff Writer

Imagine enjoying a nice, sunny day and listening to equally cheery music: that's the feeling Tennis has exuded since 2012. The light and airy pop music in their second studio album, *Young and Old*, enhanced with just a hint of jazz, proved to be hard to hate. From the fuzzy riffs of "Origins" and the jazz-infused "Petition" to the sheer happiness that leaps out of "High Road," that album tweaked the generic indie-pop sound.

Working closely with producers like Black Keys drummer Patrick Carney, the husband-wife duo of Alaina Moore and Patrick Riley attempted to mature on their third and latest studio album, *Ritual in Repeat*. While the instrumentals on their past albums offered a clean sound that complemented Moore's high and vibrant vocals, Tennis's new sound adds layers and layers of noise, at times creating a muddled effect.

Moore and Riley have gone too far to beat critics who have claimed that their sound is too simple. If they took a couple of layers of sound off each song, they might find themselves with a much crisper and better product.

*Ritual in Repeat* still contains some highlights and songs that deserve to be heard. The album opener, "Night Vision," is a stunner; I admit that it left me with chills the first time I heard it.

It sets a surprisingly dark and brooding tone for a band that is known to be light and cheerful. The track, defined by its sultry and seductive chorus, instantly grabs the attention of the listener. The heavy bass contrasts beautifully with Moore's soaring vocals, and the breakdown in the last third of the song introduces a dynamic guitar that is unfortunately missing from

much of the rest of the album.

Out of any track on their third album, "Never Work For Free," the record's first single (originally released in June), is the most reminiscent of Young and Old. The fuzziness of the synth that opens the track harkens back to "Origins," while the light electric guitar brings back memories of "It All Feels the Same." The song makes you bop up and down, bringing a smile to your face as Moore's disjointed "ah" and "way" sounds serve as an interesting complement to the vocals in the chorus.

Unfortunately, after the first two tracks, *Ritual in Repeat* becomes monotonous. A couple of songs are capable of grabbing the listener's attention for a few moments. Certainly, the little hook in "I'm Callin'" is interesting, but since that sound disappears quickly, the rest of the song disappoints.

"This Isn't My Song" does the best job at retaining the listener's focus: An interesting keyboard melody kicks in during the chorus, and the last minute of twangy guitar is pure gold. "Wounded Heart" is as close to pure folk as Tennis has ever gotten, but at less than two minutes long, it is simply dull.

This is the problem with the majority of *Ritual in Repeat*: While part of the lyrics or instrumentals might catch your attention for a minute, most songs lack the ability to keep the listener's attention. Whereas Moore and Riley's past endeavors exhibited some quirkiness, the duo has lost much of their flair on *Ritual in Repeat*. In the past, the slight peculiarities of their otherwise simple instrumentals could be heard and appreciated, but now their new production just covers that up.

# Tweedy's New Album *Sukierae* is Real, Bold Rock n' Roll

By Dan Bachman  
Contributing Writer

Jeff Tweedy is a Rock n' Roll artist. He makes Rock n' Roll music. He sings Rock n' Roll songs about Rock n' Roll subjects, plays Rock n' Roll guitar, and sings with a husky, smoky, scratchy, Rock n' Roll voice. He is known primarily for the great Rock n' Roll music made with his Rock n' Roll band, Wilco. His son, Spencer Tweedy, is an 18-year old Rock n' Roll drummer. Together, this father and son duo are here to bring you a Rock n' Roll record called *Sukierae* under their collective Rock n' Roll last name, Tweedy.

I like Jeff Tweedy. I like the way his voice sounds the way bourbon tastes. I like his skill with a melody, and I like his ability to fearlessly traverse the forbidden hipster territory of country music. That being said, when I heard that he was making *Sukierae*, a 70+ minute, 20-track collaborative album with his son, I was skeptical. It felt like a father/son gimmick; giving a musician a fair chance simply because he's the progeny of someone fairly successful in the music business. My skepticism was quickly dispatched.

*Sukierae* is grittier, bolder, more fun, and more interesting than it has any right to be. The opening track, "Please Don't Let Me Be So Misunderstood," is explosive and brief, a blast of discord over rolling drums that breezes by. It is a lean and muscular song, left in a perpetual state of unease with Jeff's repeated refrain of "I don't want to be so fucking boring." From the get-go, this album proves itself to be more than just "Jamming with my dad!"

The production on this record, too, is truly excellent. It is thoughtfully put together, with warm, full-bodied instrumentation mixed for maximum impact. There's a lot of ambient noise and sound experimentation, like the blasts of guitar on the track "I'll Sing It," the weirdly hissing yet compelling piano tone on "Pigeons." However, the production shines not for of its

strangeness or density but because of the way it decompresses the sound, each piece fleshed out and comprehensible in a way that guitar-focused music sometimes lacks.

Spencer Tweedy is a good, interesting drummer. At 18 years old, he already seems to have cultivated a Modest Mouse-type feel: slightly out of rhythm, deeply rooted in jazz, and always in control. This album is full of raw, hissing snares, slick, serpentine drum patterns, and some great, pounding straight ahead beats. Songs like "Diamond Light Pt. 1" would not work without Spencer's stuttering, patient drum patterns. It's the best track Tweedy has to offer: jagged and experimental but still melodic and playful, all rooted in the persistence of the drumming.

Jeff Tweedy, too, flexes a lot of muscles that he doesn't get to use often. As he is usually relegated to rhythm guitar, we usually don't get to hear him play with the dexterity that he wields on the beguiling "Honeycomb" or the jagged "World Away." His guitar is nimble, weaving itself around corners through interesting finger-picking, strumming patterns, and chord progressions. It's clear that

while the great lead guitar work on Wilco wasn't necessarily played by him, Jeff Tweedy is still truly the mastermind behind his own music.

With 20 tracks of music, this album is a bit overwhelming. It is not particularly cohesive, nor does it have any melodic or thematic through-line like some of Tweedy's finest work. But there is a bit of everything here: punk, ambient, ballad, folk, groove-heavy, bass-heavy, down-tempo, and up-tempo. *Sukierae* is more of a collage than anything else: tiny bits and pieces of really good songs thrown together with no true organization or connection. This is one of the album's great strengths and great weaknesses. The lack of organization means that it can be enjoyed more casually than, say, Yankee Hotel Foxtrot or Summerteeth (which, if you haven't heard, are absolutely worth your time), but it also means that listening to the album all the way through doesn't yield many more benefits to the listener.

*Sukierae* is too long-winded and overstuffed to be something truly great. But it is far, far better than it needs to be. It's a good Rock n' Roll record.



The debut album of father-son duo Jeff and Spencer Tweedy, performing as Tweedy, is now streaming on NPR.

# Telfair: Landscape Collection Builds "Worlds" At Zilkha



C/O SEAMUS EDSON/CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Amy Mattox '17 observes a meld of fantasy and reality at "A World of Dreams." The collection will be on display through December 7.

Continued from front page

is something that you don't get to do all of the time," Telfair said. "These paintings are made up places; they are collages of ideas and experiences. Some I've only imagined."

An integral part of the exhibition, apart from the works themselves, was the Zilkha Gallery space and the manner in which it interacted with the works. CFA Director Pamela Tatge described this component, underlying its unique addition to the final show.

"What excites me most about this show is that it is a site-specific installation," Tatge said. "The paintings were scaled to the size of the bays and walls. Tula [Telfair] had the idea of painting the white bays gray to work against the notion of verticality and to feel the idea of horizontal."

In the Zilkha Gallery, these paintings were quite idyllic, boasting views larger than life. This property, juxtaposed with the gallery's huge windows revealing the New England greenery, created a heightened sense of drama.

Telfair also noted this intended

pairing.

"I wanted to highlight what I appreciate so much about this space," Telfair said. "And look at the way [CFA architect] Kevin Roche framed nature through these beautiful limestone walls, and the glass veils that separate us from nature, but allow us to access it."

The orientation of the room in combination with the largely proportioned paintings created a sense of inclusion in which the landscapes envelop the viewer.

Emery Frick '18 observed this drama and sense of mystical transportation.

"It made you feel like you were actually there," Frick said. "It was really breathtaking. I just kind of stopped and didn't know what to do."

The interdepartmental dialogue emphasized by the diverse visitor demographic was strengthened through the support of a varied group of University faculty. Professors from many departments wrote essays to complement the exhibition catalogue in which they reflected on Telfair's body of work and related it to themes within

their own field of study.

There is a preconceived, utterly ridiculous notion that art exhibitions are about looking at something directly in front of oneself, heaving a "hmm" or "ha" in appreciation, and then moving on to whichever piece is adjacent.

But here the viewer is connected with the artwork. This exhibition forced participation by being a multi-sensory installation that questioned not only "art," but also biology, language, and astronomy. It transported us as the audience into different worlds within our imaginations, thus pushing the confines of art and beauty and exhibiting an increasingly more pertinent interplay between disciplines.

Tula Telfair's "A World of Dreams" will be on display until Dec. 7, and I encourage all to stop by. Telfair will also be giving an artist talk on Sept. 27 at 2 p.m. in the CFA Hall.

"They will draw you in," Tatge said. "They are beautiful, they are evocative, and they are disturbing, and they invite you into a world that you have never before."

# Mount Eerie Talks Sauna, Songwriting, Social Media



Mount Eerie, the stage name of musician Phil Elverum, will play Memorial Chapel on Sunday night. Elverum began his songwriting career in 2003 and has since released 12 EPs and albums.

By Dan Fuchs  
*Arts Editor*

Mount Eerie, the stage name of Washington-based songwriter Phil Elverum—formerly known as The Microphones—has been quietly putting out some of the most fascinating music around in the two-plus decades he’s been working. Fluttering between the experimental, tranquil, and dissonant, he creates music entirely out of categorization, and it shows; works like *The Glow Pt. 2* and *Clear Moon* have songs that range from lo-fi folk to post-rock.

Elverum, currently touring in support of his upcoming record *Sauna*, will be stopping by the Memorial Chapel this Sunday, Sept. 21. The Argus talked with Elverum to chat about his new record and about the ever-changing music industry.

**The Argus:** So you’re on tour supporting your upcoming album, *Sauna*. How has that tour been going?  
**Phil Elverum:** The tour is good! We’re seven days in, and it’s a short tour, but yeah. Hasn’t been going on for that long.

**A:** On the tour, you’ve been debuting songs from *Sauna*, which comes out next year. Have you been going for different sound or using different influences for this record than you have in the past?  
**PE:** Yeah. I know that the album will come out on the Internet and stuff, and in some ways I regret announcing it so early because it’s so far away from coming out. And also, I don’t know how to talk about it yet; I’ve been working on it for a couple of years but I don’t have enough distance to really be able to answer questions specifically. But I’ll try. So yeah, it’s still pretty fresh in my mind. I’m very happy with how it turned out. And it’s definitely different than everything else that I’ve done. I guess I struggle to describe how it’s different.

**A:** Has the recording process been different?  
**PE:** Yeah, it was very experimental and free-form, more so than usual. I gave myself lots of time, I took some breaks between recording days. I just thought about things more than usual.

**A:** Have you been playing with new imagery here? A lot of your stuff in the past has dealt with natural imagery.  
**P:** Yeah, probably, although I always try not to. I always try to push myself to use different vocabulary. That stuff inevitably makes it in. I’m aiming for something new, something beyond the picturesque.

**A:** In the years you’ve been making music, has the way you’ve made

*“I know that the world has changed in a crazy way, but in a lot of ways I feel like at least from the economic side of it I’m still doing it the way I was in the 90s, when I was a teenager making tapes.”*  
*- Phil Elverum*

music changed? How has music changed for you?  
**P:** Well, maybe I haven’t changed that much. I know that the world has changed in a crazy way, but in a lot of ways I feel like at least from the economic side of it, I’m still doing it the way I was in the 90s, when I was a teenager making tapes. Basically I had a thing I wanted to make and distributed it directly. I’m not that adept at maximizing my Spotify royalties or whatever; I don’t know how to work modern systems that well. So I’m still sort of stubbornly trying to pretend that DIY, pre-Internet style can work. And actually it is working, at least on my scale. But that’s just the economics of it. In terms of actually writing music and recording, I’m always trying to try

new things and experiment.

**A:** Have you utilized any new recording technology since you started?  
**PE:** No, not really technology, really, since I use computers, I record on tape. I still use basic instruments. I don’t use MIDI that much. I use a keyboard some, but I mean more in terms of compositional techniques, I’m always trying to experiment more than that.

**A:** What do you think makes tape an invaluable resource for songwriters? Or is that just your preference?  
**PE:** It’s just what I like. I don’t think it’s better or worse, it’s just what I grew up using. When I have dabbled in recording on a computer, the limitless of it is not appealing to me. It’s a problem. And also the physical act of looking at the screen is bad for me, at least. So I don’t like to spend more time in front of a screen than necessary.

**A:** Now that social media is so prevalent, do you interact with your audience differently than you did when you first started out?  
**PE:** Not really; you mean when I’m performing?

**A:** Yeah. Well, both onstage and off.  
**PE:** Well, that feels pretty much the same. I think like, yesterday or maybe the day before, I was looking at my Twitter, and realized that probably a really high percentage of the people that were at the show that I just played follow my Twitter account. And that was just so weird, because that is a thing that is this weird joke project, kind of, and it exists in a bubble where normally I’m just in my house thinking of a dumb joke and sending it out. But realizing that I’m standing in a room full of people who are actually consuming that joke and nobody’s talking about it in real life. I guess that’s what the Internet is. I guess that’s what social media is. It’s just super weird. But I don’t think it’s changed the actual experience of being in a room with people. Fortunately. I like being able to be in a room with people and be a regular human in the world, and secretly have this other reality that happens when we’re in our dark computer rooms.

## The Idiot Box “Boardwalk Empire”

By Aaron Stagoff-Belfort  
*Contributing Writer*

Tony Soprano sat down in the booth of an ice cream shop in Montclair, NJ, his massive physique and formidable stare filling the frame. Then there was darkness. Even though I became a follower of “The Sopranos” after its 2007 conclusion, I imagine fans must have been left in shock, paralyzed by the show’s uncertain end. In addition, a more deep-seated fear must have emerged soon after the final credits rolled: What’s next?

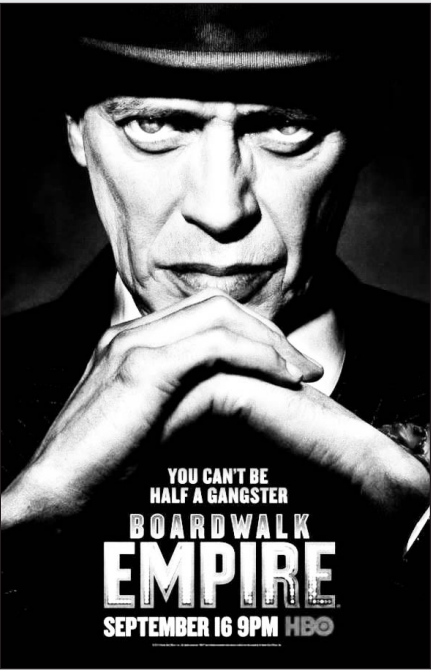
It’s no secret that “The Sopranos” revolutionized television and set a new standard for quality drama on TV. A wave of networks such as AMC and Showtime joined HBO to compete in the quest for prime-time dominance, ushering in a Golden Age of Television. Despite the success of these networks in capitalizing on the trend started by “The Sopranos,” many critics and viewers alike felt empty as they waited for the next “big thing.” “Breaking Bad” certainly attracted praise during its run and the anticipation of its finale mirrored what unfolded during the culmination of “The Sopranos.” Other shows, such as “Mad Men,” continued to push creative boundaries. However, the chasm left by “The Sopranos” never seemed to be fully sealed. Eventually, HBO attempted to recreate the magic of its finest creation by enlisting those who knew it best. They handed “Sopranos” writer Terence Winter a copy of the book, “Boardwalk Empire: The Birth, High Times, and Corruption of Atlantic City,” and told him to get to work.

Winter emerged with “Boardwalk Empire.” The expensive period piece stars Steve Buscemi as Nucky Thompson, the treasurer of Atlantic City and mastermind of its criminal underworld during the Prohibition Era. With Prohibition, Nucky sees a distinct opportunity to create an illicit liquor trade by opening Atlantic City’s ports to an unadulterated flow of alcohol. Nucky enlists his brother Eli (an underrated Shea Whigham) and together, they pump liquor into a growing city that has never been thirstier. As one might expect, conflict ensues over who will control the city, and by extension, the lucrative liquor trade.

Over the past four seasons, “Boardwalk” has expanded its scope beyond Atlantic City to other gangster havens of the 1920s such as Chicago and New York. There is Al Capone, played by a ferocious Stephen Graham, who has yet to create his own criminal empire and instead associates with Chicago mob boss Johnny Torrio (Greg Antonacci). Meyer Lansky and Mickey Doyle (Anatol Yusef and Paul Sparks), members of the Jewish Mafia, are recurring figures, as is New York boss Arnold Rothstein (Michael Stuhlbarg) and a young Charlie “Lucky” Luciano (Vincent Piazza).

Indeed, the show’s commitment to a generally accurate portrayal of the history of East Coast organized crime is one of its most thrilling aspects, as well as its greatest crutch. Any 20th century American history or mob buff will love watching the rise of famed mobsters like Luciano and Capone, as well as the way the police, government, and institutions such as the newly formed FBI respond, or fail to respond, to the threat against Prohibition posed by organized crime in America. However, critics of the show complain about the multitude of story lines that develop at a glacial pace. Even fans of “Game of Thrones” or “Mad Men” will have trouble keeping track of a cast that is as extensive as the show’s budget. In addition, because the show must adhere to history, it is somewhat limited in what it can do with characters such as Capone, Luciano, and Lansky, who we know will arise in a new age of gangsters.

When HBO announced that Season 5 of “Boardwalk Empire,” which premiered Sept. 7, would be the show’s last, it was clear the stakes had to be heightened for a show that had been received warmly by critics but had failed to capture the level of mass adoration of other HBO hits. Winter responded by accelerating the show’s timeline to the year 1931. This seven-year jump will allow the show to conclude as Prohibition is dying out, a smart way to wrap a bow around a story only made possible by the 18th Amendment. Like all of the show’s previous season premieres, the first episode of Season 5 does little to explain how much the landscape has changed. Nucky has traveled to Havana, where he is meeting with the head of Bacardi and an influential U.S. Senator, evidently trying to get out ahead of rumors that Prohibition will be repealed. Nucky’s apparent wish to “go clean” once Prohibition is terminated is an unsurprising development for a man who has always put his business first. Unfortunately, like “The Godfather” has taught us, just when you think you’re out, they pull you right back in. These past four seasons have seen Nucky battle death threats and traitors in his ranks. It’s clear that he will not emerge from Prohibition unscathed, or without some more blood shed first.



HBO’s “Boardwalk Empire” filled the void left by the network’s previous crime series, “The Sopranos.”

# OPINION

## FEMME FATAL

# IN DEFENSE OF EXTRACURRICULARS



By Isabel Fattal  
Staff Writer

We're all familiar with the typical day in the life of the Wesleyan student. It starts off relatively low-key: wake up, go to class, brave the crazy lines at Usdan at 12:30 p.m. But for most, the end of class is hardly the end of the day. It's only the beginning of a whirlwind of activities and meetings: students rush from class to sports practice, grab dinner as quickly as possible before heading to an environmental activism/debate/literary magazine meeting, followed by rehearsal for dance/a play/a cappella/a musical group into the wee hours of the night, with schoolwork somehow interspersed in between and sleep taking a definite backseat to coffee.

When other students used to tell me about what seemed like the thousands of extracurricular activities that they were involved in, I was impressed with their work ethic and passion, but I also shuddered at the thought of being in their shoes. When I got to campus last year, I knew that I was entering a world of vibrant student life with a multitude of opportunities to get involved in, and I was excited to do so. But I also didn't see myself becoming active to quite the same extent as many of my singing, dancing, sports-playing, science-researching, filmmaking friends (and often that's the description of just one Wesleyan student).

Much of my hesitation to take on an abundance of extracurricular commitments was due to my own personal disposition. After attending a Jewish day school with a dual curriculum and juggling about 12 classes a day with several extracurriculars, I learned that the whirlwind lifestyle wasn't ideal for me. I don't thrive on the constant hustle and business like many students my age do, and I perform better

when I can give my all to a few priorities instead of taking on too much. But my hesitation was also guided by a certain view of what my priorities as a student at a rigorous academic institution should be, a view that I realize now is not entirely correct.

I had long dreamed of the academic opportunities that would be available to me at Wesleyan; I spent my time in high school English trying to imagine what college literature courses might be like, and WesMaps was my preferred beachside reading during the summer before my first year at Wesleyan. A place where I could study what I was interested in and work closely with brilliant professors seemed like a rare and precious gift, and I got to campus determined to make the most of it. At the time, I thought that meant skimping on my experiences outside of the classroom. But as I spent more time at Wesleyan, I began to realize that this was not the case.

I didn't realize just how drastically my opinion of extracurriculars had changed until I read psychologist and Harvard Professor Steven Pinker's criticism of extracurricular activities in a recent piece in *The New Republic*. In Pinker's rebuttal of an article by William Deresiewicz, which criticizes the admission process of the Ivy League, he expresses doubt about the place of extracurricular activities in the college admissions process and in the lifestyle of students at selective, academically rigorous colleges.

"Some of these activities, like writing for the campus newspaper, are clearly educational, but most would be classified in any other setting as recreation: sports, dance, improv comedy, and music, music, music (many students perform in more than one ensemble)," he writes of the various extracurriculars that he sees playing a key role in the lives of Harvard students. "Many students have told me that the camaraderie, teamwork, and sense of accomplishment made these activities their most important experiences at Harvard. But it's not clear why they could not have had the same experiences at Tailgate State, or, for that matter, the local YMCA, opening up places for less 'well-rounded' students who could take better advantage of the libraries, labs, and lectures."

Reading this, I surprised myself with a strong desire to argue against Pinker's point. The more time I spend at Wesleyan, the more I realize how mistaken I was to once view extracur-

ricular life and academic life as two exclusive spheres. In reality, they are constantly intertwined in a process of give-and-take that makes for a multifaceted and meaningful college experience.

Truly taking advantage of the rigorous studies available to us at a school like Wesleyan involves taking the curriculum outside of the classroom and testing it in the context of real life. As a student of the humanities and social sciences, I've come to understand that learning about abstract concepts of the human condition, justice, and diversity at a desk is just the first step; it's only when we apply this knowledge in our everyday lives that we can solidify our understanding of these ideas. By collaborating with a diverse student community and pursuing our passions, whatever they may be, we put all that we have learned into real practice, and this personalizes our connection to our studies in a way that nothing else can. Success in a challenging academic curriculum requires dedication and passion, and this is best achieved by the students' personal understanding of why what they are learning is relevant.

While the unique perspectives that we each develop through our extracurriculars might seem unrelated to the academic sphere, these skills often end up most enhancing our ability to succeed in our academics. The visual artist brings his or her attention to detail to the science lab and the literature class; the activist brings his or her passion and real-world experience to the government or social science class. These parts of the student's life do not detract from the ability to make the most of a rigorous academic curriculum; instead, they provide the student with the abilities and the passion to approach his curriculum in creative ways.

At the student activities fair last week, I decided to put my own abstract ideas about the importance of extracurriculars into practice, and I saw many of my peers doing the same. I'm confident that through these new undertakings we will not only find lack of sleep and a strengthened addiction to coffee, but we'll also find new perspective that will enrich both our studies and our lives.



## Laugh If You Want To

By Jenny Davis, Opinion Editor

In hindsight, I'm sure that Shahjahan\* was part unicorn.

Or maybe he was just really cool; that's also a possibility, but what else could explain his boundless energy, his ability to scale cliffs in seconds flat, the groove in his back that was deep as a creek?

The first time I saw Shahjahan was in the dining hall of the farm camp at which I worked this summer and last. The tattered linen tunic he wore, the baggy cloth pants, and the food-covered hands (he didn't believe in utensils) looked like the trappings of most of the camp's employees, but there was something different, something otherworldly, about these things on Shahjahan. He looked like a traveler who had just returned from an 18-year voyage fighting seven-headed snakes and strapping himself to the underbellies of sheep.

In fact, he just might have been Odysseus.

Shahjahan and I worked together for part of the summer, leading a group of 30 teenagers in a three-week quest to change the world. The first week, we embarked on a wilderness retreat, a vision quest of sorts. Shahjahan, a wilderness expert who could set up a tent in three minutes and who had the upper-body strength required to lug three tons of water four miles into the forest, would lead the trip; my co-counselors and I were there for support.

Things began to go wrong from the moment we departed for the forest.

The first thing to go wrong was that the food disappeared. Shahjahan, a nutritionist, had been up all night making 50 gallons of watermelon-cucumber juice, a sloshy mixture stored in huge white tubs. The juice was supposed to nourish us for the entire trip, but we each downed a few cupfuls before leaving camp. As soon as we arrived at our campsite, the campers were ready to break their "fast," which had actually begun that morning after breakfast. The food we had packed, which was meant to last for all three days of the trip, began to disappear as kids smuggled apples, oranges, and gluten-free crackers from the bear box.

Shahjahan watched the food disappear with mild amusement. Then he laughed.

"At least there's some hemp milk and hibiscus for tea tomorrow morning," he said. And then, after a pause: "It's the only thing I'm looking forward to."

My co-counselors, Shahjahan, and I laughed for a solid 10 minutes. It was hilarious. Everything was hilarious when Shahjahan was around.

Maybe everything was hilarious because Shahjahan was always laughing. His motto was "I surrender," and he was also fond of the saying, "Step into the flow and then let it go." He wasn't fazed by much of anything. Instead of wasting the energy, he laughed.

He laughed as the two of us and my co-counselor stood for hours in the hundred-degree kitchen, slapping sandwiches together. He became hysterical as he poured watermelon juice into his mouth, largely missing the gaping target

and sending a tidal wave of sticky red liquid all over the only pair of clothes he'd have for three days in the bug-infested wild. He cackled while driving a golf cart maniacally from one end of camp to another, careening recklessly over the hills, shooting down narrow paths and flying at top speed. He howled with laughter while dumping flour, sugar, eggs, and milk on his farmer fiancée's head to fulfill her wish of "having a cake made on her head." He danced around wildly with flour in his ears, coating his hair and eyebrows.

Shahjahan laughed in the face of danger. He also laughed in the face of hardship, in the face of love, in the face of pretty much everything, including child labor (he coached women through labor using laughter as pain relief).

The second thing to go wrong on the camping trip was that one of our campers pooped in her sleeping bag because she was terrified of bugs, so after a failed counseling session I walked her back to camp, 20 minutes or so away. On my way back, it was pitch-black; I aimed my weak flashlight at the ground and struggled to stay on the correct path. Suddenly I lifted my flashlight directly upwards, and there, standing in front of me with wide, crazed eyes, was Shahjahan. He was on the midnight check for campers who had decided to spend the night alone in the woods (the wilderness-savvy among them had set up impressive shelters and even built fires), and I followed him.

Shahjahan moved like a herculean beast through the night, shimmering through brush and swerving to miss hitting trees. I tried to keep up with him but failed miserably, inevitably slamming into trees and getting stuck in thorny bushes. I imagined Shahjahan as that beast in "Harry Potter" that suddenly morphs into a half-horse/half-human and sprints across the forest.

When we got back to camp, hot, sweaty, and exhausted, and learned that the sweat lodge planned for that evening had fallen through, Shahjahan kept laughing. He laughed when our campers' plans to change the world failed again and again. He laughed even when my co-counselors and I despaired, sure that the campers would leave and tell their parents that they had achieved nothing. We watched everything fall apart to the soundtrack of Shahjahan's laughter: one camper decided to protest the idea on which the group had decided; the organizations we had contacted suddenly canceled on us; the bus fee ate up 90 percent of our budget; and still Shahjahan laughed.

At the end of the summer, for our final world-changing project, we spent a day on the High Line in Manhattan, first delivering fresh produce to the only organization that would have us and then singing songs of peace and love. We didn't accomplish the grand plan of our dreams, but we did something. We spread peace. We spread love. And then, standing on a balcony overlooking West 17th Street, Shahjahan led us all in laughter. Our peals of laughter, which soon became full-fledged hysteria, spread through the gritty streets, causing pedestrians to look up in surprise. Some began to laugh as well, and for a minute it felt as though the entire city had joined in on a raucous laughing session.

You can plan; you can hope; and you can work.

But it's good to laugh.

\*Name has been changed.

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# The New Era of Cable News

By Jake Lahut, Contributing Writer

Cable news is changing for the better. With all of the melancholy current events happening in the world, one’s understanding of them depends upon one’s news outlet of choice. Fox News, CNN, and our beloved MSNBC are in a constant struggle to beat out the competition in ratings, especially during prime time. Condensing complex political problems and debates into sound bites, the machine of cable news slowly churns away at our collective political consciousness.

Cable news is not bad in and of itself. In fact, it’s quite entertaining. The problem with cable news is that it contributes to political polarization, giving different demographics completely different understandings of what is going on in the world.

Unfortunately, these outlets tend to sensationalize the news, sometimes for weeks at a time. Fox News had Benghazi. CNN had the Malaysian airline. MSNBC had Chris Christie’s “Bridgegate.” These stories were perpetually sensationalized for a good reason from the perspective of the cable news outlet: ratings. Each of these stations saw bumps in their critical prime time ratings when these stories broke and festered for weeks on end, increasing advertising revenue that fuels the machine.

Thankfully, some new pundits have come onto the scene, slowly but surely changing the landscape of cable news. Chris Hayes and Melissa Harris-Perry have added a new intellectual dimension to cable news. Both began their MSNBC careers on two hour-long weekend morning shows. Although these shows typically have minuscule ratings, their ethos marked a departure from typical cable news.

Consisting mainly of roundtable discussions with academics, political insiders, journalists, and politicians, Hayes and Harris-Perry broke from the time-honored cable news model of teleprompter-induced opining. Rather, these new pundits shaped their shows with an understanding that politics is something that we do, and they do it on their shows. Arguing in a Socratic fashion, these hosts are not afraid to play devil’s advocate toward the end of reaching some kind of consensus on their respective programs.

Perhaps this is due to their backgrounds in journalism and academia. Instead of studying communications in college, Hayes studied philosophy and Harris-Perry studied political science. After college, Hayes became editor-at-large at The Nation magazine and Harris-Perry became a political scientist at Tulane. Both pundits have a fast-talking staccato style in their broadcast delivery rather than the inflected teleprompter tone of many communications majors that are lucky and talented enough to make it to a major cable news outlet.

Although the demographics for Hayes and Harris-Perry are small, they are perhaps the most engaged demographics in all of cable news. Harris-Perry uses the hash tag #nerd-

land to communicate with her viewers during commercial breaks of broadcasts, while Hayes used #uppers for his first show, “Up with Chris Hayes,” and now uses #inner for his new weeknight show, “All In with Chris Hayes.” I experienced the vibrancy of this community when I was retweeted and replied to by Chris Hayes and Bill McKibben after I tweeted them a question about climate change. Engaging with the viewers rather than simply opining and pontificating to them is a big step in the evolution of cable news.

If one thing is for sure in this world, it’s that cable news pundits love to talk ad nauseam. Whether it’s Chris Matthews’ “Let Me Finish,” Bill O’Reilly’s “Talking Points,” or Lawrence O’Donnell’s “The Last Word,” a cable news broadcast is not complete without a rant. The new kids on the block, Hayes and Harris-Perry, have become the exception to that rule. Hayes even acknowledges the shallowness of cable news, saying on Wednesday night’s show, “Cable news is a thin substitute for senate debate” to a senator who appeared on his show to discuss ISIS. I would argue, however, that the political roundtables that Hayes and Harris-Perry put together are far more informative than our polarized political discourse.

The use of the roundtable appeals to highly educated adults more so than the loud pontification of political analysts shown in split screen shouting each other down. A prime example of what Hayes and Harris-Perry aren’t is CNN’s “Crossfire” with S. E. Cupp and former Speaker of the House and presidential candidate Newt Gingrich. These two conservative commentators bring on guests and often shout them down when their viewpoints do not agree. An even bigger example of shouting down occurs on Fox News, especially with Sean Hannity. Hannity’s attack-dog demeanor attracts impressive ratings, but it further contributes to political polarization as it seeks only to stoke the fire of the far right.

Examples of this exist on the left as well. Chris Matthews occasionally lets his temper get the best of him, despite his decades of experience on the Hill, and he too shouts down opposing viewpoints. The same goes for Ed Schultz and Reverend Al Sharpton. Airing at 5 p.m. and 6 p.m., respectively, these two pundits attract a much older audience, whereas Hayes and Harris-Perry attract a younger, hopefully less pessimistic audience.

There is a stark contrast between the Socratic argument seen on Hayes’ and Harris-Perry’s shows and the shouting matches seen on Fox News, CNN, and the rest of MSNBC, all of which further polarize our collective political consciousness. The most coveted demographic for advertisers consists of 18- to 49-year-olds. This is the demographic for which the major cable news networks compete night after night. Hopefully, with time, we will see more newscasters modeling the Hayes and Harris-Perry model.



# Taking Responsibility in Light of Beta’s Closing

By Bryan Stascavage, Contributing Writer

The deadline for students to evacuate the Beta house has passed this Monday, and with it the fate of the Greek organization and perhaps all Greek organizations on campus is in limbo for the foreseeable future. Accusations of perpetuating rape culture, harassment, alcohol and drug abuse, excessive partying, and more are at the crux of the discussion. But is closing Beta a case of treating a symptom instead of the underlying problem? To dissect that, one must think about Wesleyan’s culture.

It doesn’t take one long to understand some of the major tenets of Wesleyan culture, namely the idea that students are actively encouraged to experiment and go outside of their comfort zone as a theoretical fifth class each semester. Experiment with art, experiment with activism, experiment with expression, experiment with identity, experiment with sexuality, and experiment with substances.

It is those last two that seem to cause the problems on campus, namely because they carry a certain element of risk. That is the idea behind experimentation, after all: to take a risk and venture into the unknown. Experimentation can have positive outcomes, such as a better awareness of oneself and one’s community, or negative ones, which we all have seen.

Going through orientation this year, I felt as though I was being sent two messages at once. The first was to experiment, but the second was to be responsible. The University wants us to try new things and to do it sensibly, but these two ideas are not always compatible. If experimentation means taking

a risk and risks always involve a degree of irresponsibility, then what the University was telling me to do was to practice responsible irresponsibility.

The University—both the students and the administration—should realize that if it is to pride itself on being an experimental campus, it must take the good with the bad. One cannot expect that all experimentation will end up as a positive experience. It is a bitter pill to swallow, but sometimes the culture that the University prides itself on has disastrous results.

This is not to say the decision to close Beta, at least temporarily, was necessarily a bad one. I can only imagine the amount of pressure the administration was feeling when, within the first month of classes, the University was dominating the headlines with a student tragically falling out of a window and sustaining serious injuries. Because of the litany of front-page stories Beta has had over the past few years, the college administration had to do something to transform the headlines with a timely act of damage control. The University and Beta alike have a reasonable responsibility to provide for the safety of their members and guests.

But don’t kid yourself. The closing of Beta is unlikely to make the University safer. The experimentation will continue, just at a different site. Perhaps at a location that is out of sight of the administration, more underground and possibly more dangerous.

And so the University—both the students who are speaking out about Greek organizations and the members of the administration who closed Beta—have a decision to make. There are three choices: the first, to continue to enact a policy of treating symptoms which can have

unintended consequences; the second, to accept that experimentation is risky and tragedies will happen; the third, to attempt to alter fundamentally the alternative culture at Wesleyan. None of the three options seems particularly palatable, but at least with the acceptance that tragedies will happen when the student body is so apt to try everything and anything, the college can take measured steps to improve safety.

Awareness about the dangers of alcohol and drugs without being judgmental is an excellent step, but it is a bit naive. At the end of the day, a majority of students will party and consume substances in excess. Accepting this fact opens up new possibilities to keep students safe. How about creating a policy that all parties are required to have sober students trained in spotting alcohol poisoning and potentially dangerous sexual situations? The students could be paid, giving them a bit of incentive, and their jobs would be to ensure that every party has at least a couple of level heads bound by confidentiality to make decisions should a dangerous event arise. It would also form a contract between the party-throwers and the college; the college would get an assurance that the party-throwers are attempting to be safe, and the party-throwers would gain assurance that they can handle problems without fear of getting into trouble with the college.

Whether or not that idea is supported is not the main concern. The first step in modifying the University’s experimental culture is to acknowledge that it exists and can have tragic negative repercussions. With an honest conversation, we can stop blaming and instead develop proactive, practical countermeasures to reduce the risk and make the Wesleyan experience safer for all.



# Depression Is Invisible, Yet Deadly

By Gili Lipman, Assistant Sports Editor

In the past 18 months, I was forced to visit the cemetery twice, as I buried my grandparents. Everyone who was present stood graveside and shared innumerable tears. Although it was agonizing, I was relieved that death would not be part of my life, at least for a while.

Unfortunately, my sobs returned much sooner than I had wanted, much less expected. While on a trip to Peru this August, I received a text informing me that one of my closest friends had decided to take his own life.

My skin chilled with confusion and heartbreak. I kept asking myself, “Why would someone who had plans for that evening, someone who was about to start his sophomore year of college, someone who was so full of life, do something like this?”

I used to believe that suicide was the coward’s way out of life. But now with more knowledge, I can no longer refute the fact that depression is a serious illness. The disease must be confronted by the medical community, as well as the general public.

Almost 15 million Americans are affected by clinical depression every day. That number is minuscule compared to the 350 million people who suffer from the disorder worldwide. Although it is disturbing to associate depression with suicide, it must be done, because this ailment is the cause of more than two-thirds of the 30,000 reported suicides in the United States each year.

Women, minorities, people

between the ages of 45 and 64, people with less than a high school education, and those previously married tend to succumb most frequently to the evils of depression. These data, though, are derived only from the individuals who chose to report their illness. My friend fell into none of these groups, and if just one person had noticed a symptom, he might still be here with us today.

Friends and family are fooled by the signs, as they covertly hide in the victims’ exuberant and seemingly normal personalities. Think of depression like carbon monoxide, a chemical compound that’s not visible to the naked eye, but is still deadly.

When my grandfather finally lost his long battle with Parkinson’s disease, I was prepared to handle his fate. But as I wept in South America for my friend 3,500 miles away, I felt completely backstabbed by the morals that I trusted.

Depression is very serious and life-threatening, but unlike amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (more commonly known as ALS or Lou Gehrig’s disease), or other diseases that don’t currently have a cure, the pains that come with the former can be assuaged. Just talking to someone can make a person feel leaps and bounds better than they did prior.

Unfortunately, however, 80 percent of depressed people choose not to seek any treatment. This is why finding someone who you can speak to about your problems is so crucial for recovery and future happiness.

Before famous actor and comedian Robin Williams lost his fight with depression, he said, “I used to think the

worst thing in life is to end up all alone. It’s not. The worst thing in life is to end up with people who make you feel all alone.”

The possibility of saving individuals in danger of losing their lives is exactly why I urge someone with signs of depression or anyone who knows of a friend with suicidal tendencies to speak out, because you could just save a life.

Two Wednesdays ago was World Suicide Prevention Day, and I was encouraged by the multitude of families with a history of suicide who shared their stories with the rest of the world. It takes a lot of courage to recount the discomfort and grief, but sharing these stories is also key in raising awareness for this fatal illness.

My hope is that this article achieves the aforementioned goal because, although it can’t save my childhood friend, it can help the millions of people presently battling depression and thoughts of suicide. If feeling dejected, pick up the phone and call a friend or a loved one, because I’m sure that person would be happy to make you feel better.

In the song “How to Save a Life,” Isaac Slade, lead singer for The Fray, sings, “I would have stayed up with you all night, had I known how to save a life.”

Please don’t wait until it’s too late, or else you’ll be stuck wondering what could have been.

I still remember our last time hanging out, our last meal, and our last conversation like it was yesterday. Now, there are no tomorrows. Rest easy, buddy.

“She’s basically the Kardashians of Wes 2015.”

NOMINATE  
A WESCELEB

rebrill@wesleyan.edu // jzalp@wesleyan.edu

SPORTS

Ball Hawk Safety Donnie Cimino '15 Discusses Defensive Strategy for 2014 Football Season

By Gili Lipman  
Assistant Sports Editor

Head Football Coach Mike Whalen has a lot to be optimistic about for the 2014 season. His defense, which led the conference in yards allowed per game a year ago, only lost one starter from last fall. The core returns to the field with enhanced chemistry and three first-team all-NESCAC players: defensive backs and captains Jake Bussani G'14 and Donnie Cimino '15, as well as lineman Nik Powers '15. Letter winners Vincent Davis '15 and Justin Sanchez '17 will augment the experience in the secondary.

Cimino merits a lot of the praise for a unit that allowed fewer than two touchdowns per contest last season. He led the Cardinals' last line of defense with 35 total tackles, one forced fumble, and four batted passes. The captain sat down with The Argus to talk about improving an already staunch defense and eating a specific meal the night before a game.

**The Argus:** The season begins this Saturday, Sept. 20 at Middlebury. How are you feeling about the defensive game plan, and do you al-

ready know beforehand the bulk of the formations that you will be running against the Panthers?

**Donnie Cimino:** I feel confident in what we're doing. I think [Defensive Coordinator Dan] DiCenzo does a good job preparing us in the pre-season for everyone that we're going to face, and really in these past few weeks for Middlebury. We're watching film and seeing what they did last year. They will have a new quarterback after they lost a three-year starter. They'll definitely come out with some things that they weren't showing in the past few years, but we have a general idea of what they'll be doing. As the game goes on, our senior leadership can help to make adjustments. A good thing about our defense is that we're flexible, which will make it easier than in the past.

**A:** You'll be facing an inexperienced quarterback. I would be licking my chops if I were in the defensive huddle. What's the key to disrupting the Middlebury offensive attack?

**DC:** It all starts up front and doing a good job early in downs, so that we can put them in situations where they have to make a play, whether it's second in long or third in long. We want to run our defense as op-

posed to them running their offense. I think that if we stay physical with them and prevent them from going early, it could be good things for the rest of the game.

**A:** Has being a captain on the team the past two years changed your awareness of how you practice and plan for games?

**DC:** I think that being a captain, you have to set the example because guys are going to follow what you do. You can't expect to lead others when you aren't doing what you're preaching. I definitely try and take the attitude where I'm going to practice hard every single day and I'm going to leave the field like no one else outworked me every day.

**A:** Communication is the key to success, especially for defensive backs running all over the field. Do you have any team bonding activities exclusive to the secondary?

**DC:** When we have our team dinners the night before and we have breakfasts before the game, we have our little defensive back table. Other positions don't always do that. We'll have nights during the year where we all go out together. We're a close group. We watch film together, lift together, and practice

together every day. It's funny seeing it as a senior now, because I can remember my first year, and how the seniors took me in, so I have to return the favor this season.

**A:** Middlebury turned the ball over only eight times all of last season. How do you force turnovers and change the field position in Wesleyan's favor?

**DC:** I think it's about everyone doing their job. One guy isn't going to make an interception by himself; it's going to have to be a combined group effort. If you do your job, stick to what we're doing, and [don't go] out of position trying to make a play when you should be doing something else, that's how you get the interceptions. They'll throw it to you; you just have to be there.

**A:** In addition to your contribution on defense, you also help out the special teams unit by returning punts. What's the first thing that comes to mind when watching the ball fly toward you on a return?

**DC:** I try to focus on the ball. I just want to catch it, because catching it's everything. Once you catch it, the return part is easy. Catching the punt is nerve-wracking, especially [when you're] looking down and

you want to see where everyone's at and if you're going to fair catch it or not. I'm thinking house in the back of my mind after I catch it.

**A:** Eating a good meal the night before or on the morning of [the] game is crucial. Is there any food in particular that you like to eat prior to a game?

**DC:** I always like to eat pasta the night before. I've always done that since I've been in fifth grade. I also drink coconut water the night before every game.

**A:** Last year, the team had a great season that led to many honors for several players, but that being said, there was that one blemish on the record. Before the ball is kicked off on Saturday, are there any goals that the team or Whalen has set for this year?

**DC:** Our goal is just to take things day by day and look at everything with a one-step-at-a-time approach. I think the reason that last year against Trinity happened was because we got ahead of ourselves, and we lost sight of what got us to that point. We have a lot of returners and hopefully we can learn from that. The only thing on our mind right now is Middlebury.

XC Teams Have High Hopes for Little Three

By Tobias Thor Lichtenstein  
Staff Writer

One of the unique aspects of any college sport is the turnaround from one year to the next as senior-heavy teams face the imminent truth of graduation while others struggle with transfers, injuries, and the like. However, these factors aren't an excuse when you didn't have any seniors to begin with, as is the case with the men's cross-country team.

"We're losing no one going into this year," said Keith Conway '16. "So naturally, expectations are a little higher."

The 2014 squad enters the year keeping the entire roster from a 2013 team that placed 13th in New England. As an upperclassman, Conway will be charged with handling some leadership duties, as well as capitalizing on the training he's done since the conclusion of last fall. Conway's indoor track times of 8:55.60 in the 3000m and 15:22.98 in the 5000m bode well for the upcoming season, and his teammates show great promise as well.

"We've got a top group of guys who could contend and make nationals," Conway noted. "We've got our eyes on that final meet in Mason, Ohio."

Despite an unchanged roster, the boys are confident that they have improved going into their first meet, the Wesleyan Invitational on Friday.

Keeping in line with last year, the youth of the Cardinal runners will be an ongoing trend throughout the season. Will Dudek '17 (1:59.23 in the 800m; 4:06.52 in the 1500m) and Eric Arseneault '17 will likely be asked to fill top spots in the lineup, and Reid Hawkins '17 will be tasked with competing while coming off a double stress fracture in his left femur that he suffered over the off-season.

"I've learned a lot about myself [while I've been injured]," Hawkins said. "It's given me plenty of time to think about how I define myself as a person.

I'm very much more emotionally mature than I was last year."

The brunt of the leadership will come from Evan Bieder '15, (4:19.47 in the mile, 8:51.80 in the 3000m and 15:10.89 in the 5000m), and Taylor Titcomb '16 (15:00.25 in the 5000m), who look to be the top runners for Wesleyan this fall. But while the outlook for cross-country looks positive, that's only half the equation.

"We're much closer with the girls' team this year," Hawkins added. "Hopefully, we can work together to reach our goals and develop as better runners."

The women weren't as fortunate this year in terms of returning members, as Libby Lazare '14 and Karley Dutra '14 have graduated. Lazare was the top point-scorer for the Cardinals throughout the 2013 season.

However, there is a great deal of promise to be found on the ladies' team. Caroline Elmendorf '17 impressed during the track season, running 18:24.51 in the 5000m and 4:57.79 in the 1500m, while Molly Schassberger '17 ran 18:43.29 in the 5k and 38:35.12 in the 10k; both Schassberger and Elmendorf were part of the scoring five in each meet from 2013.

Adding to the depth is Christine Hebner '17 (4:58.59 in the 1500m) and Eliana Zimmerman '17 (19:10.72 in the 5000m) who will also vie for success and growth during the year, as the women's team looks forward to a solid year of running.

First-year runners Sylwia Lipior, Christina Vyzas, and Morgan Findley will also try to move up into point-scoring contention this season.

After a successful alumni scrimmage race last weekend, the Cards will kick their season off at home with the Wesleyan Invitational on Friday, Sept. 19. Come by the track to watch the runners make some noise as they work toward the upcoming Little Three, NESCAC and New England meets.

Golf Team Looks to Improve in Williams Invitational After Promising Start

By Andrew Jacobs  
Contributing Writer

The men's golf team began the season by taking 12th place out of 13 teams at the Trinity Invitational tournament, which took place Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 8 and 9. This was the eighth consecutive year that the Cardinals opened the season at Trinity's home course, Indian Hill Country Club in Newtonington, Connecticut.

Atreya Sinha '17 led the charge for the Cardinals by shooting a squad-best 16-over-par, 160 for the weekend. Sinha started off red-hot, finishing Saturday with a 6-over 78, and closing out the tournament with a solid 10-over 82 on Sunday. His combined score was good enough to rank him 32nd among 77 participants in the tournament.

Also contributing for the RedBirds was first-year student Emmet Daly. Daly's opening round consisted of a 10-over 82 on Saturday, followed by an 18-over-par, 90-shot performance on Sunday. Nikhil Lai '15 also pitched in on the course; he shot an 84 on Saturday in addition to a 90 on Sunday, for a combined score of 174, good enough for third-best on the team. Andrew Rachlin '18 and Paul Andrick '16 also chipped in for Wesleyan, shooting a combined 178 and 185 respectively.

Colin O'Keeffe '17 posted the Cardinals' best individual round on Sunday. He finished the day with a 17-over 89-shot display.

"We had a good showing there," O'Keeffe said. "We had some low scores. Our two new [first-years,] [Daly] and Rachlin, put up low 80s on the first day, so we were happy to bring in some new talent. [They] both played in high school, so they have some experience. We are proud of how they've done the past two tournaments, and they are showing a lot of potential. I think with more consistency they can definitely be contributing factors for the team."

Trinity took the tournament, with its "A" team pacing the field with 590 total shots. Its "B" team finished second, with a combined score of 616. Wesleyan's golfers combined to shoot 673 on the day, 20 strokes better than next-best Springfield College. The individual tournament winner was William Burchill of Trinity, finishing the tournament at an even par.

After an encouraging opening weekend, the team headed up to Middlebury to partake in the annual Duke Nelson Invitational. Sinha led the way again for the Cardinals, shooting a combined 176 over the two-day tournament. Opening the tournament with a 90, and finishing Sunday with an 86, Sinha will surely look to continue his hot start to the season in the coming weeks. Also scoring for the Cardinals were Lai, who totaled 180 strokes over the two days, and Rachlin, who finished with 183 shots. Daly finished a close fourth at 184.

O'Keeffe provided some insight as to why the team struggled to get going this past weekend.

"This past weekend, at Middlebury, we had some pretty bad weather, so that made it pretty

tough," he said. "[We] don't cancel unless there's lightning, so we played in downpour. That was pretty tough for a lot of the players. The greens were very wet, and it's tough to hold onto the club sometimes. We fought through it."

O'Keeffe spoke about how the team might be able to improve in the coming weeks, through the end of the season.

"We have a pretty young team," he said. "We have some more experienced players in [Sinha] and [Andrick,] who have both been on the team for a couple years. I think mostly just getting the nerves down with some of the newer players, and just relaxing. We play from the championship tees, the tips, which is a little unsettling for people who have never played from them before. Overall, just relaxing and going out there and trying to have fun."

While the team certainly showed promising signs over the weekend, the Cardinals finished 25th out of 25 teams at the Invitational. The course for the tournament, the Ralph Mhyre Golf Course in Middlebury, is a tough par 70. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) took the top spot in the tournament, shooting a combined 605, followed by Trinity and Rochester. Wesleyan finished with 723 total strokes, 34 shots back of Springfield College, the 24th-place team. James Jackson of RPI won the individual crown, finishing at 6-over for the tournament, including a 2-over-par performance on Sunday.

The team competes again this weekend at the Williams Invitational.

# Volleyball Beats ECSU, Improves to 5-1 for First Time in Seven Years

By Illan Ireland  
*Contributing Writer*

Following an exciting three-win home stand this past weekend, the volleyball team looked to improve upon an impressive 5-1 record with their match against Eastern Connecticut State University last evening. Down two sets to none, the Cardinals refused to give up, shocking the Warriors with a ferocious come-from-behind victory that puts the current team on pace with the 2007 squad for the best start to a season in school history.

“We are really excited we were able to pull through and get the win after the two-set deficit,” said setter and captain Claire Larson ’15. “This is the first time I have ever won after being down the first two sets. I am very proud of how we pulled together as a team and stayed mentally tough to come out victorious.”

Jen Farris ’16 shares her teammate’s enthusiasm.

“The game against Eastern showed our team’s mental toughness and will to win,” Farris said. “It was a really great win and a great way to start out our first NESCAC weekend.”

After losing the first two sets 25-18, the Cardinals faced a critical point tied at 15 in the third set. Two consecutive kills from Tyla Taylor ’18 propelled the team to a 25-18

victory. Down 12-8 in a dramatic fourth set, the Cardinals’ serves came alive, leading to nine straight points and a 25-19 win and a fifth, decisive set. The final set was no less dramatic as ESCU jumped to a quick 4-0 lead behind powerful serves from its backcourt. A well-placed timeout from Head Coach Gale Lackey allowed the team to regain its composure, and the Cardinals took the next seven points to lead 7-4 just before the two teams switched sides. The Warriors managed to tie the game at 12 before Sarah Small ’18 gave the Cardinals the lead for good with a decisive kill to make it 13-12. Following an ECSU error, Larson finished the match with a spectacular block, tallying the final score at 15-12.

“It was a great victory,” said libero Rachel Savage ’17. “The fact that we came back to win the match in five after losing the first two sets really speaks to the mental toughness of the team, and our relentlessness. It puts us in a great position going into this big weekend with matches against NESCAC rivals.”

Savage also revealed that the historic rivalry between the volleyball programs of Wesleyan and ECSU made this victory all the sweeter.

“Eastern Connecticut is where our assistant coach [Nicki Gasch] is from, so it was nice to win on their home court,” Savage said. “Wesleyan has had a big rivalry with Eastern and

Western Connecticut for decades, so it was nice to be part of some of that history.”

Larson led the Wesleyan charge with 50 assists and 12 digs, while Savage added 18 digs. Taylor also compiled 18 digs. Sarah Swenson ’18 was first in the kills department with 17, and Naja Lewis ’17 and outside hitter Abby Southam ’16 combined for 11 blocks.

Southam addressed the win over rival ECSU and her hopes for the upcoming weekend in the following manner.

“Last night was a big win for us as ECSU has been a longtime in-state rival,” Southam said. “We started off a little slow but gained a lot of momentum in the third set by putting balls away and keeping our block strong. The whole team played so hard and with so much heart. This is exactly how we want to go into the Little Three weekend.”

Wesleyan will face their first NESCAC opponents this coming weekend, with matches against Little Three foes Williams and Amherst on Friday and Saturday, respectively. The team will look to avenge losses to both teams from the previous season in order to stay on track for a NESCAC tournament appearance this coming November.

# Jumbos’ Stampede Downs Field Hockey

By Grant Lounsbury  
*Staff Writer*

The field hockey team suffered its fourth straight loss on Tuesday night, falling to seventh-ranked Tufts by a score of 4-0. The Jumbos improve to 3-0 in the NESCAC and 4-0 overall, while the Cardinals are zero for two in NESCAC games.

“Throughout the entire 70 minutes, we played a very good hockey game against them,” said Captain Anna Howard ’15. “I am very proud of how we played against a very strong team.”

Although Wesleyan was outshot 12-2 and only had one penalty corner compared to the Jumbos’ eight, the game was not as lopsided as the stats and score would indicate.

“[Tufts] definitely did not dominate the game, and the biggest thing was that they capitalized on their corners,” Howard said. “Most of the game was played in the middle of the field, and our attack had the ball for a good amount of time throughout the game.”

After giving up three goals in a 15-minute period during the first half, the Cards really picked up their play. In the second half, the Jumbos only had four shots and one penalty corner.

“I think that our team played very well throughout the entire game, especially in the second half when we only gave up one defensive corner that they were unable to score on,” Howard said.

The Redbirds continued to implement the new system Head Coach Patti Klecha-Porter started using last week, and it seems to be paying off.

“I think the new formation works

very well for us [because] we can easily support each other and weave the ball down the field,” Howard said. “We need to keep playing like we played against Tufts, and we need to keep getting one percent better each day.”

Despite the loss, the Cardinals were pleased with the way they played, and know what they need to improve on to take that next step. By playing and keeping up with a team like Tufts, Wesleyan shows that it can hang with the best in the country.

“We did a great job on Tuesday,” said Captain Hannah Plappert ’16. “We did a good job of dropping back and tracking their transfer balls, and we had great passing and communication. We are going to continue to improve on our one-on-one skills as well as our circle defense.”

The Cards finish their four-game road trip this Saturday, Sept. 20 at Bates. The Birds look to get back on track with a victory against a team they have had success against in the past. In 14 games against the Bobcats, the Cardinals have won 12, including the last eight encounters. Bates is last in the conference, standing at 0-3 in-league, while Wes is 0-2. They are two of four teams that stand winless in the league, so this match-up will have important playoff implications in the tightly packed conference.

“We’re excited for Saturday, [and we know] Bates is going to be a great game just like any NESCAC game; every team in our conference is challenging,” Plappert said. “We are going to start the game with confidence and play with intensity for the full 70 minutes.”

# Women’s Soccer Gets First Point with 1-1 Draw at Tufts

By Taylor Chin  
*Contributing Writer*

Tuesday’s matchup between the Wesleyan women’s soccer team and the Tufts Jumbos looked all too familiar. Just as it did the year before, Wesleyan stepped onto the pitch as the underdog. Identical to the match-up last season, the game dragged on into double overtime. But this time, Wesleyan did not allow Tufts a last-minute goal, and the game ended in a draw.

The undefeated Tufts team entered the match with three wins under its belt. Wesleyan is the only team this season to not give up three points to Tufts, and the draw marked the Cards’ inaugural point of the season.

Tufts opened up the game in dynamic fashion, firing off three shots in the first three minutes of the game. The Jumbos would go on to record 19 shots on the day, only 6 of which were on goal. Wesleyan goalkeeper Jessica Tollman ’15 kept the Cards in the game with six clutch saves.

Madeline Keane ’16 looked extremely threatening in the first half. With her eye on the goal, she posted three shots in the first 45 minutes but was unable to find the back of the net.

After a scoreless half with little maintained possession for either team, the second half took an exciting turn as Meghan Cunningham ’17 played the ball back to Hannah Stone ’15 just outside the 18-yard box in the 47th minute. Stone didn’t hesitate and unleashed a firecracker of a shot that the Tufts goalkeeper could not handle. Stone’s first goal of the year put the Cards up 1-0.

Before Wesleyan could settle down and even think about managing the game, Tufts forward Jessica Capone served a ball into the box that led to a miss-hit clearance landing in the back of Wesleyan’s own goal.



Wesleyan keeper Jessica Tollman ’15 grabs a low strike in last Tuesday’s game at Tufts.

C/O DIANE STONE

After both teams put on commendable defensive efforts for the remainder of the second half, Wesleyan entered the first half of overtime with vigor, with Kaylie Williams ’16 getting a shot on goal in the first five minutes. The Redbirds could not find that final piece of the puzzle, though, and neither could Tufts.

Wesleyan’s record now stands at 0-4-1, and 0-1-1 in the NESCAC. The Cards still have eight NESCAC games to play, one of which is on the road against Bates this Saturday. The Bobcats stand at 3-1, 1-1 in the NESCAC, and have scored eight goals in their four games while Wesleyan has tallied only three in five

games. Bates also recently lost to the Jumbos 6-0.

Bates’ home-field advantage could play a massive role in Saturday’s game, as the Bobcats have not lost a single game in Lewiston, Maine this season.

Currently, Wesleyan stands at eighth place in the NESCAC. With

the Bobcats knotted up in a four-way tie for fourth with Conn College, Amherst, and Hamilton, this meeting between the two teams could shake up the table quite a bit. Last season, Wesleyan and Bates went to double overtime before ending in a 1-1 draw, so Saturday’s matchup will be no cakewalk.

# AMPERWATCH™



## INSIDE THIS AMPERSAND

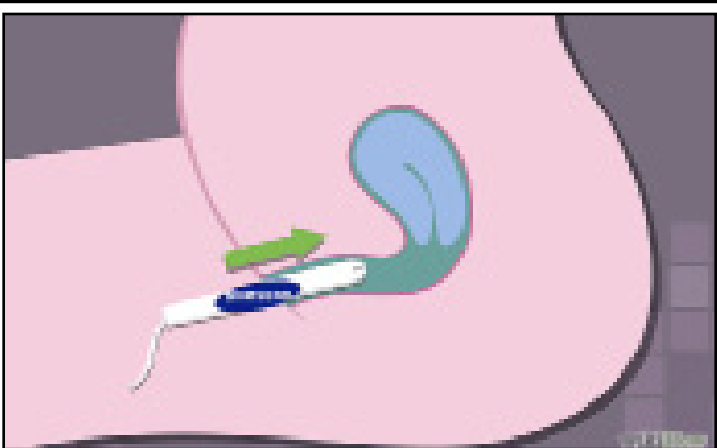
SCOTUS Ruling Deems Apple Watch a “Really Confusing Little Gizgam”

10 Ways to Tell Someone You Actually Want to Buy an Apple Watch

Man Hospitalized for Rolling Eyes Too Hard at Apple Watch Commercial

Things to “Watch” Out For, and Other Puns to Make While Talking About the New Apple Watch

Public Concerned that Apple Watch is Making the World More like “Her”



In order to compete with the new Apple Watch, rival tech company Samsung has also branched out. Its Sampon, or Samsung Tampon, will be available in stores October 10th.



Nokia, not wanting to being left behind, has also released a brand-new product, Nokia Watch, which is a Nokia phone that also tells time!



## Apple Watch-ing Movies

*An editorial by Steve Habner, 37, from Milwaukee*

As a product of the Digital Age, I literally cannot sit through anything longer than 30 minutes without surfing the Net. Spending two hours in a movie theater used to be a nightmare because the jizzfaces behind me would hiss at me to put away my 24” Dell laptop. But now with Apple Watch I can check all of the social medias anytime I want (and light up the whole aisle, too!). And when some dickhole tries to tell me to put my phone away, I will turn and shout “Haha you COCKLAUNDERER—it’s a watch...that does everything but tell time.” On behalf of movie-goers everywhere: Thanks, Apple.

## POINTS OF VIEW:



“I can’t wait to download the waterproof app so I can use it to time my laps in the pool!”  
Ryan Lochte, *Olympic Gold Medalist*

“Since the FDA put that ban on silicon-based microchips, I guess I’ll have to settle for my kids being micro-chipped by corporate America instead of their own mother — and that’s a damn shame.”

Carol Steves, *Local Mother*



“Apple Watch 2015 is a huge deal. Thanks to climate change, we just don’t know if our orchards are going to make it through the season.”  
Tim Leeman, *Orchard Manager at Five Ponds Orchard*

## Apple Watch is the Doughnut Hole of Modern Technology

A recent discussion with Apple CEO Tim Cook revealed a striking similarity between Apple Watch and America’s favorite deep-fried confection: the doughnut hole. Cook stated that Apple’s latest product was inspired by the plight of penniless bakers.

“A lot of people don’t realize this, but we have the Great

Depression to thank for doughnut holes,” said Cook. “Bakers wanted to get as much money out of their products as possible, so they started frying up the dough balls and before you know it, they were the hottest trend of the Dust Bowl.”

Apple has taken a similar approach with their new Apple Watch, which is made entirely

of post-production leftovers from iPhones. Cook went on to say, “It really didn’t take much energy or thought on our part, but thanks to the trendy ‘sustainable’ attitude of our consumers, we’re confident Apple Watch will have the same ‘sweet’ success as the doughnut hole.”

in ways we never have before. The new device will allow you to use other aspects of technology with greater efficiency—you will not only be able to connect with someone on Tinder, but you can also arrange to meet him or her at a specific moment in both of your futures.

There you have it: first we had iPods, then we had iPods with touchscreens, then we had that subpar U2 album, and now we have Time.

## Apple Watch Accompanied by Launch of Revolutionary New App: Time

Toss out your sundials, folks, because the innovators at Apple have done it again. The company that shaped modern life through the inventions of the iPhone and iPad created a new application for the Apple Watch to be known as “Time.”

Time divides the passing of the day into set quantities to be called “hours,” “minutes,” and “seconds.” These divisions will allow humans to distinguish previously vague notions of what came before, what is happening

right now, and what will come after. Physicists are calling Apple’s Time “the Fourth dimension” and are describing it as a force that will “keep everything from happening all at once.”

Leave your hourglass at home and stop fretting about the movements of the stars—the Apple Watch and Time have got you covered. You will never be late for dentist appointments, job interviews, or ritual sacrifices again. Thanks to Apple, we will be able to both look back and plan ahead

## Apple Announces “Apple Earring”

Following the success of Apple Watch, the tech giant has announced its next big project: Apple Earring, a phone that hangs from your ear piercing. It’s sleek. It’s innovative. It’s making one lobe much longer than the other.

Since it dangles conveniently from your ear, you can simply raise one shoulder to push the phone against your ear like your mom does when she’s on the phone while folding laundry or washing dishes.

Need to text? Just look in the mirror! (Otherwise you can’t see the screen lol.)

The Apple Earring is a fashion necessity if you already have an Apple Watch—what else will match with that bullshit?

Convinced? Stop by your local Apple Store or Claire’s today and buy yourself the hottest new tech-cessory.

*The Apple Earring will be released December 2015.*

*The Ampersand is a humor page. Sarah Esocoff, Sam Raby, Katie Darr, Ian McCarthy, and Emilie Pass, Editors; Emma Singer, Queen of Layout. Inside this Ampersand, Sam Raby; POVs, Katie Dar; Apple Watch-ing, Rachel Earnhardt; Apple Earring, Melissa Mischel; Time, Emilie Pass; Doughnut Hole, Katie Darr; Sampon, Emma Singer.*

*Write for the Ampersand! E-mail wesleyanampersand@gmail.com.*

The Ampersand meets at 4:30 on Thursdays in Albritton 004. Join us for food, fun, and friendship. <3