



# THE WESLEYAN ARGUS

*Five Women, Same Dress*



NOAH MERTZ/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**"Five Women Wearing the Same Dress,"** directed by Gwendolyn Rosen '15, will be performed on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. in the Downey House Lounge. For more, see page 16.

## Getting Into Costume

The Argus Explores The Wesleyan Costume Shop

By Sonya Levine  
Staff Writer

Large cutouts of unidentifiable creatures, spray-painted with metallic paint, adorn the walls. File cabinets brimming with period jewelry can be found upstairs near a desk covered with mini action figures. Posters from virtually every decade hang everywhere. A stray blond wig sits atop an ancient sewing machine, and a life-size puppet of a small child grins at visitors as they enter.

Welcome to the Wesleyan Costume Shop.

The Costume Shop, located in the basement of the Center for the Arts (CFA) dance and theater studios building, has been in existence for over 25 years, but it was only

11 years ago that Costume Shop Manager Christian Milik took over and revitalized the space. Having made costumes for his own shows in high school and having eventually studied theater arts with a concentration in costume design at Brandeis University, Milik came to Wesleyan with ample talent and ideas.

The shop is home to thousands of costumes—pants, dresses, skirts, hats, shoes, jewelry, and the like—from various periods of history. Some of the pieces are as old as the eras they represent.

In one room, the costumes are organized by fashion history by decade. On the left, women's floor-length, turn-of-the-century dresses come first, in polka dots and purple hues, interspersed with more drab

designs in ecru and white. From there, the collection slowly morphs, eventually merging into the more psychedelic fabrics and prints that define the 1970s. The other side of the room is full of vests: leather, denim, tweed, and more in outrageous patterns and designs. Other rooms in the shop are organized according to garment type, with skirts and pants placed in their own sections.

"Costumes are purchased online and locally, and we also get donations from alumni and local folk," Milik said.

Milik and his student employees often create a great deal of the costumes themselves, made

COSTUMES, page 17

## Volunteers Rescue Leftovers, Combat Community Hunger

By Hilary Brumberg  
Staff Writer

Every day after Usdan, Pi Café, and Summerfields close their doors to ravenous Wesleyanites, two students swoop in and save uneaten sandwiches, pizza, and salads from their otherwise inevitable fate in the bowls of trashcans and landfills. They transport the leftover food out of the realm of meal swipes and points to a world where the location of one's next meal is not always certain.

The students are members of the Office of Community Service Food Rescue Program, which works to alleviate food insecurity issues in the local community and to reduce the amount of waste that the University produces. The program is part of an umbrella organization, Hunger and Homelessness, which also includes Bread Salvage and Habitat for Humanity on campus. According to

Food Rescue Coordinator Catherine Marquez '16, the program has a community partnership with the Eddy Shelter in Middletown.

There are two Food Rescue shifts each day of the week: one to Usdan at 8 p.m. and another to Pi Café and Summerfields at 9 p.m. Wesleyan student volunteers package the excess food in catering trays in each kitchen. They then drive the trays themselves to the Eddy Shelter, which is located on the Connecticut Valley Hospital grounds, about a five-minute drive from campus.

According to Marquez, the University started Food Rescue about six years ago, and it has always been run by student volunteers. Originally, the group only rescued food from Usdan, but now it covers Pi Café and Summerfields as well.

Until recently, food laws prohibited Food Rescue from taking many uneaten goods. However, recent law

changes protect restaurants and food services that donate their extra food, Marquez explained.

Marquez said she was encouraged to apply for the coordinator position at Food Rescue after volunteering at St. Vincent de Paul's Soup Kitchen on Main Street and exploring her interest in hunger issues by getting to know the people affected by the program first-hand.

"One of my favorite aspects of rescuing food is the interaction with the residents at the shelter, both at our community dinners as well as when I drop off the food," she said. "Talking to them reminds me how I take basic amenities for granted and how easily the inequitable distribution of resources can foster this dichotomy where just five minutes from a community of individuals with

SALVAGE, page 21

## Anonymous Activists Swap Restroom Signs

By Sofi Goode  
Staff Writer

Students around campus looking for restrooms may have noticed a change in signage: many of the "men's" and "women's" signs that previously adorned public restroom doors have been removed. In many cases, they have been replaced with a sign declaring that the bathroom has been claimed as a gender-neutral space.

The gendered signs have been removed by a group of anonymous students acting on behalf of the trans\* community at the University. Though there are officially gender-neutral bathrooms in specific locations around campus, the group believes that they are not sufficiently available and do not meet the needs

of trans\* students.

Haley Weaver '14, who supports the student action, believes that trans\* people deserve the same bathroom access as those who are cis-gendered.

"This issue isn't just a matter of people's comfort and what trans\* students want," Weaver said. "It's very seriously a systemic problem in the country in general that trans\* people are at much higher risk for urinary tract infections and kidney infections, and all these sorts of issues that come from not having convenient bathrooms."

The activists believe that in addition to easing health concerns, having all bathrooms on campus be gender neutral will make trans\* students

SIGNS, page 5

## Students To Create Recording Studio

By Sophie Zinser  
Assistant News Editor

Ismael Coleman '15, Derek Sturman '16, and Ron Jacobs '16 have been working since the spring to open a new recording studio on campus that will offer more accessibility to students than previously existing options. The studio is set to begin beta testing in the coming weeks, and information about when the studio will be open to students will be released later this month.

There are currently two recording studios available to students on campus: one studio in the Center for the Arts (CFA) and one at the Green Street Arts Center in the North End of Middletown. However, as Coleman pointed out, both are difficult for students to access. The CFA studio is only open to certain music majors, and he has found the Green Street Arts Center space difficult to reserve. Spaces are available for public recording outside of Middletown, but often at a high cost.

"Not everyone can afford to go to Brooklyn for the weekend and record," Coleman said.

The project began at a fall 2013 meeting of the Rap Assembly at Wesleyan (RAW) when Coleman

expressed the need for a space for students to record on campus. Sturman agreed to work on developing the project and took the lead in the preliminary planning. Sturman is a composer, producer, and songwriter who is interested in pursuing a career in the music business. As a freshman, Sturman found that the University lacked the facilities for a non-music major or underclassman to practice recording.

"In order to take the collaboration between artists and producers and maximize the potential of the students, we had to make a studio that was by the students, for the students," Sturman said.

Through RAW, Sturman teamed up with Jacobs, who is the founder of the Wesleyan DJs and Producers Club. Jacobs is a DJ, producer, and songwriter. The student group, which he created last year, currently has over one hundred members. At the beginning of the spring 2013 semester, Sturman, Jacobs, and Coleman set out to request funding and find a space for the project.

According to Sturman, when the three students met with President

MUSIC, page 5



DANIELLE PRUITT/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**Derek Sturman '16, Ismael Coleman '15, and Ron Jacobs '16 are the main organizers of the student-run recording studio, which will open to the University public later this month.**







# NEWS

## STARS Gives University Silver Rating for Sustainability

By Miranda Katz  
News Editor

The University was recently awarded a silver rating from the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS), a program that evaluates universities' sustainability efforts and operates through the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education. There are five possible ratings: reporter (a school that has reported its data but does not earn enough points for a bronze rating), bronze, silver, gold, and platinum. Currently no schools have a platinum rating, and silver is the most common ranking.

"It evaluates not only environmental criteria but also social and financial criteria and looks at sustainability very broadly in terms of what a college does," said Sustainability Coordinator Jennifer Kleindienst.

The STARS categories are co-curricular education, curriculum, research, building operations, climate, dining services, energy, grounds operations, purchasing, transportation, waste, water usage, coordination and planning, diversity and affordability, human resources, investment, public engagement, innovation, and supplemental data.

The silver rating means that the University received a score of approximately 50 percent in each category. A score of 25 is required for a bronze rating, a score of 45 for a silver rating, a score of 65 for a gold rating, and a score of 85 for a platinum rating. The University scored 51.64.

"It means that we're doing relatively well, but there's still work to be done," Kleindienst said. "The rating is nice on paper, just to say, 'Oh look, we're a silver school,' but to me it's more important to look at the different credit categories to know what we're doing well and where there's room for improvement."

The rating does show that the University is making positive progress toward sustainability, as Sustainability Intern Isabel Stern '14 noted.

"I think it's good that we got silver, and it shows that we're making strides in this area, but I think it's also important to know that we are not where we should be," Stern said. "We are not carbon neutral by

any means. I think it's good that no school has achieved [platinum] yet, because it should be something that's such a high standard."

Sustainability Intern Ari Lewenstein '16 agreed that it is important to keep working toward a high standard.

"It's really good that we have a silver rating, and we're really proud of that," Lewenstein said. "It also means that there's work to be done, too, so just because we have a silver rating doesn't mean that we can sit back and rest on our laurels. We should always be doing more to reduce our usage and increase our sustainability."

According to Kleindienst, there is progress to be made across the board.

"There are a lot of credits like that where we're working toward a goal but we still have a ways to go, and just because it's STARS' goal doesn't mean it's Wesleyan's goal, so we kind of have to find a happy medium there," she said.

One of the Sustainability Office's primary goals moving forward is to revise the Climate Action Plan. The original plan, written in 2010, outlines a path toward carbon neutrality. The new plan will be a sustainability action plan, rather than being strictly limited to carbon neutrality.

"It'll have many of the same elements," Kleindienst said. "A large focus of it will be on reducing our carbon footprint, but we'll also be looking more broadly at things that are sustainable but might not directly impact Wesleyan's carbon footprint. The original plan looks primarily at operations—energy, waste, water—and focuses a small amount on academics, but really nothing with social sustainability."

The STARS rating allows Kleindienst to identify which issues should be prioritized on campus.

"STARS was really helpful to get a sense of where we are in terms of sustainability," she said. "Now we can use this information to incorporate into our next plan and figure out what of these things is feasible and how to make it work."

The Sustainability Office is also hoping to make greater strides in education. STARS looks at whether a university has a student sustain-

ability educators program; in fact, Kleindienst and Sustainability Intern Rebecca Sokol '15 have been developing an Eco Facilitators program this year and hope to launch it next fall.

"I think we need to be doing more in terms of education," Kleindienst said. "We're doing a lot, but a lot of students graduate Wesleyan without any real knowledge of what sustainability is and why it's important. We're hoping that [the Eco Facilitators] program will reach people that might not choose to take a sustainability-related class, because it's going to be directed at the general population."

Stern similarly noted the importance of education.

"We are doing a lot of other things that haven't necessarily been implemented yet but are in the making, like a map of campus to see where exactly is using the most energy in real time," she said.

Many of the University's positive credits on the STARS rating come from student-led initiatives.

"I already knew that there were a lot of student groups doing a lot of things, but this really put it into perspective, that without students we wouldn't have a silver rating," Kleindienst said. "There's so much enthusiasm and so much hard work that students do to make Wesleyan more sustainable."

The STARS rating lasts for three years, though the University has the option of renewing it earlier.

"I don't think we will, just because I don't really think we'd learn much from that," Kleindienst said. "I would like to redo it again in three years. I think it's definitely possible that we could go for gold next time."

Lewenstein similarly noted that the silver rating is encouraging and validating, but that total financial, social, and environmental sustainability is the ultimate goal.

"We're always going to be striving for the gold rating or platinum rating," he said. "We're hoping to be a leader in sustainable education."

## LiNK Hosts TED Screening, Discussion



CHONG GU/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Attendees watched and discussed a TED Talk by North Korean refugee Joseph Kim.

By Matthew Shelley-Read  
Contributing Writer

On Tuesday, Oct. 29, Joel Chang, a member of Liberty in North Korea (LiNK), screened a TED talk and led a discussion with a group of University students. The event was co-sponsored by the University's LiNK chapter lead co-chairs Deborah Ko '15 and Tess Lemon '14. LiNK is a grassroots organization based in North America that is devoted to North Korean human rights and humanitarian crises.

"It's the only organization in North America that focuses on the rescue and the resettlement of North Korean refugees," Ko said. "In the past they've rescued 188 refugees from North Korea. They also want to change the public focus from North Korea's political crisis to the major humanitarian crisis that's going on as well. [LiNK] sends groups to go on tours across the country to show films and lead discussions."

The screened TED talk was given by Joseph Kim, a North Korean refugee who narrowly escaped starvation by fleeing to China. After entering China, LiNK helped Kim resettle into America. Kim recounted the hope he needed to survive in North Korea.

"When I could not fall asleep from bitter cold or hunger pains, I hoped that the next morning my sister would wake me up with my favorite food," Kim said during the TED talk. "That hope kept me alive."

Chang, who recently had the chance to meet Kim, expanded on this theme of hope in North Korea.

"When people watch the news, all they see is the negative images from North Korea, the nuclear weapons," Chang said. "But North Korea is a hopeful situation. The North Korean people are very smart; they're intelligent and they're making changes right now. Our organization actually believes that North Korea will be free in this lifetime. With this underground market, it is fueling changes in the country from the bottom up."

An underground market began in the 1990s, which allowed North Koreans to secretly trade for banned goods. Both Lemon and LiNK member Hae Kwon '17 reacted to this message of hope.

"North Korea is a hopeful situation because of the bridge LiNK is promoting," Lemon said. "There are

a number of refugees who are now outside of Korea, and they're finding new, innovative ways to help those living in North Korea. The refugees are helping the people in North Korea empower themselves. The more the refugees are able to help, the more hope there is of fostering change in the country from the inside out."

Kwon spoke in a similar vein. "While many people assume nothing can be done because of the dictatorship and this huge boundary, there actually is hope," Kwon said. "We can do something about it and I think we should."

Despite the growing hope for those remaining in North Korea, the journey to escape to China is still a very difficult one. North Korean refugees discovered by the Chinese government are promptly deported back to their homeland, where they are punished for their attempt to flee. In addition, many refugees are subject to exploitation as well as sex trafficking in China.

In his TED talk, Kim mentioned that living in China was in fact more difficult than living in North Korea. Kwon noted that this was not surprising to him.

"I heard about how horrible it was for refugees in China before," Kwon said. "But I've never seen anyone talk about it like Joseph did; it definitely became more real."

North Korea has been in the news this past summer after former NBA star Dennis Rodman met with Supreme Leader Kim Jong-Un. Yet the news hasn't reflected the current struggle of the North Korean people.

"It is helpful that North Korea has been in the news recently," Lemon said. "However, LiNK's message is that the news shouldn't just be about North Korea's nuclear program but about getting people to recognize other things that are happening there. So many are living in starvation just like Joseph was."

Lemon elaborated on the need for people to be aware of the atrocities in North Korea, and the University's LiNK chapter's aims to do just that.

"It's almost disturbing [that] people don't talk about what is happening," she said. "For example, if you were discovered to be a defector, you're entire family would be sent to a gulag for life. Obviously these aren't fun things to talk about, but I think people need to be talking about them."



C/O WESLEYAN

Kleindienst spent much of the past year gathering data to submit to STARS; she plans to do so again in three years in the hopes of a gold rating.



# Alternate Spring Break Available

By Courtney Laermer  
*Staff Writer*

Beginning this year, the University and the Office of Community Engagement will offer two alternative spring break (ASB) options for students. Students that are unable to return home or who are simply interested in the programs will be able to participate in a community service trip through Habitat for Humanity or to engage in local community service in the Middletown community. The ASB program will be sponsored by the University and will seek to encourage community engagement.

The main organizer of the program, Bruno Machiavelo Tinoco '16, explained that when he recognized that the University did not have any ASB programs, he was determined to help create one. Machiavelo Tinoco, who serves on the Wesleyan Student Assembly (WSA) Student Affairs Committee, published a committee update on the WSA website on Oct. 14 explaining the program.

"Unfortunately, Wesleyan does not have any institutionalized, recurring, and consistent ASB program," Machiavelo Tinoco wrote. "So, I did what any WSA member would do: I set out to change this. After many meetings with relevant administrators and students, Wesleyan's ASB program was born."

Machiavelo Tinoco added that these options will be especially beneficial for international students, for whom it is particularly difficult to leave campus.

"As a previously international student, I had a lot of trouble finding things to do during school breaks while others were off galivanting around the United States and/or visiting home," Machiavelo Tinoco wrote. "This was especially true during spring break, especially due to the fact that we have two whole weeks off. Through talking with a lot of my international friends that now attend American universities, I learned that a lot of them were participating in their school's 'Alternative Spring Break' program."

A survey provided by the WSA indicated that many students at the University, both international and domestic, expressed interest in having these sorts of alternative spring break options. For student groups whose mission would benefit from a trip that would be difficult to schedule while school is in session, spring break also provides an excellent opportunity.

Vice President for Student Affairs Michael Whaley expressed his excitement about the program.

"I am fully supportive of offering some service options to students interested in spending a portion of

the recess working on community service projects," Whaley wrote in an email to The Argus.

Coordinator for the on-campus chapter of Habitat for Humanity Alex Drexler '16 said that he has been planning to organize a trip for Habitat for Humanity since his freshman year. According to Drexler, the details for this trip are still being finalized, but the trip's itinerary will entail working on building a specific house from Monday to Thursday and then having time off on Friday and Saturday to explore the area.

"It is very open," he said. "It is going to depend on who ends up wanting to go, how many people we have, and how far we are willing to travel."

As for the domestic alternative spring break program, students are organizing a one-week program through the Hunger and Homelessness student group. Group leader Francesca Moree '14 explained that students who choose to attend this will remain on campus throughout spring break.

"Time is long overdue for Wesleyan students to engage in an alternative spring break," Moree wrote in a message to The Argus.

Students who choose this trip will either work on various projects in Middletown or select one larger project to complete throughout the week.

Machiavelo Tinoco is hopeful that ASB will prove as popular as the WSA survey suggested it might be.

"Personally, I think that students will [take advantage of the program], especially international students," Machiavelo Tinoco said. "I probably would have gone on an alternative spring break trip if it had been available."

In the future, ASB may not be limited to the two options available this year: Drexler hopes this program will grow over the years, possibly offering a larger array of alternative trips to students.

"As far as Alternative Spring Break trips go as a whole, I am really excited about getting more of them put together," Drexler said.

Machiavelo Tinoco added that this trip provides a unique opportunity for many students at the University to get involved with the Middletown community as well as communities elsewhere.

"Hopefully we get a good turnout and the trip is successful, fun, and very beneficial for the community," Machiavelo Tinoco said.

# Workshops Seek To Foster Font And Formatting Skills

By Emma Davis  
*Staff Writer*

On Thursday, Oct. 31, Ford Fellow Piers Gelly '13 hosted the second workshop in the Publishing Workshop Series, which aims to familiarize students with the basics of layout, typography, and printing. During the first workshop of the new series, held on Oct. 17 in the Center for the Arts (CFA) lab, Gelly gave a brief introduction to Adobe InDesign, a standard layout software, and presented his audience with a short handout on formatting and font.

"The goal is to have students come away with new skills that they can use to publish their own work," Gelly said. "Also, [to show] how to create a document that is handsome in appearance and fun to read. I think that's just a skill that makes things subtly better."

Gelly, along with Savannah Whiting '13, is one of two Ford Fellows in the Writing Program at the University. Students in their senior year can apply to spend an additional year on campus as a Ford Fellow, assisting with the administration of the Writing Program and the Writing Workshop, which trains students to act as tutors for their peers free of charge.

The Ford Fellows play a key role in the development of University-wide writing programs, particularly by creating new events, services, and online offerings, but they are also encouraged to conduct their own research. They receive a stipend and health insurance and are granted ongoing student status, allowing them to continue taking classes at the University. This year, they are joined by the Kim-Frank Fellow, previously known as the Shapiro/Russell House Fellow, who works jointly with the Writing Program and the English Department to organize music and literary events.

Next week, Gelly will continue the Publishing Workshop series with a field trip to a local publishing house. Later in November, he plans to conclude the series with a screening of a documentary about typography accompanied by a panel of students studying graphic design.

Gelly is a veteran of graphic design, having done layout for The Argus as an undergraduate and leading Stethoscope Press during his senior year. He expressed the hope that the series will provide students with access to layout training that they might otherwise find out of their reach.

"There are people who come in and know layout, and there are people who learn from doing layout at The Argus, but [for] most people, short of taking the intensive graphic design class that the Studio Art department offers...there isn't really anything like [this]," Gelly said. "I thought that as long as we were offering a bunch



EMMA DAVIS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**Gelly, one of the Ford Fellows for the 2013-2014 academic year, is the brain behind the publishing workshop series.**

of new workshops for freshmen who were in First Year Seminar courses... I'd throw in this one because it would be fun to teach."

Director of Writing Programs Anne Greene seconded Gelly's rationale.

"Writing Programs with Andrew Curran, [Dean of the Arts and Humanities and Director of Curricular Initiative Academic Affairs], who's developing the Freshman Year Seminars [FYS], decided that not only would we provide writing tutors to support the FYS courses, but that there would be a series of interesting workshops to support freshmen who had various kinds of projects in mind," Greene said.

Not every project, Greene noted, must be strictly academic.

"Some of the workshops are focused on something very pragmatic, like editing your academic paper, but Piers was quite right in thinking some of the workshops should be non-academic in focus," she said. "He's developed this series of Publishing Workshops for undergraduates who want to start periodicals."

Amy Mattox '17, a Writing Hall resident whose poems will be published by Stethoscope Press this fall, attended the first workshop.

"I definitely intend to attend future workshops," Mattox said. "I feel like they will get more and more helpful and more and more informative as they go on, and [Gelly] definitely is very competent and knows what he's talking about."

Throughout the series of work-

shops, Gelly said he aims to send the same message: font and formatting do matter.

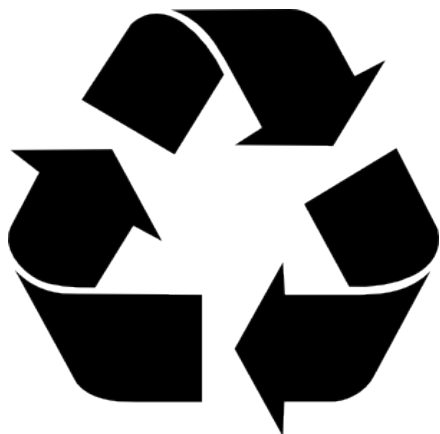
"It always bothers me when I read somebody's paper and the little numbers at the bottom, the footer, are in a different font than the body font, and they haven't changed it," Gelly said. "It probably doesn't bother most people, but it's the little things that I think demonstrate that you have a full command over the words that you're using."

Gelly is adamant that students be aware that formatting and typography can enhance their work.

"In the same way that we can't describe the world around us without resorting to words, which are these symbols we invest with meaning and use to talk about things, you can't really use words on the printed page without making design choices, whether they're active or passive," he said.

Gelly is also coordinating the 48 Hour Magazine Project, which is scheduled for mid-November. He hopes that this will allow attendees of the Publishing Workshop Series to make use of their newfound skills. As for other writing-related programming, Gelly and the other Fellows hope to hear feedback directly from the University community.

"If people want to do, or would like us to do things for them in this vein, we are here to do them," Gelly said. "We are a body that exists to make students' experiences on campus more enlightening and more interesting."



# RECYCLE THIS ARGUS





# Signs: Students Strive To Degender Restrooms

continued from front page

feel more comfortable in the bathrooms. They also hope that it might decrease the chance of violence or harassment these students may face if they enter a bathroom that does not align with their biological sex.

An anonymous student supporter of the activism said that having gender neutral bathrooms makes them feel more accepted on campus.

“When I used to use ‘men’s’ bathrooms, I felt silenced in a way that tried to disappear my sense of myself as being a gender-nonconforming person,” they said. “Already that was a violence that was incurred every day. But now when I enter a bathroom that has urinals in it that may still be mostly frequented by men, I feel less like I have to fit into the singular category of ‘man’ to enter into such a space.”

In several buildings, such as the Public Affairs Center and the Freeman Athletic Center, unknown faculty and staff have replaced the gendered signs or put up paper signs to gender the bathrooms in their stead. Weaver found the replaced gender signs to be a stronger statement of trans\*phobic feelings than the original gendered bathroom system.

“The replacing of the single-gender signs... I found that really upsetting on a personal level,” she said. “Obviously these bathrooms were already upsetting to people, but taking down the all-gender signs and putting back up these paper signs is very specifically saying, ‘No, we don’t want people of all genders here.’ That was a more violent action than having the single-gender signs

in the first place.”

The University has not issued an official statement regarding the vandalism of gendered bathroom signs; however, according to Dean of Students and Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs Rick Culliton, some students may face Student Judicial Board (SJB) hearings as a result of their actions.

“My understanding is that some students who were involved with tearing down the original signs were identified and physical plant is assessing what the actual cost of the damage and sign replacement is,” Culliton wrote in an email to The Argus. “Those reports when completed will be reviewed by the SJB to determine what charges may be warranted.”

Interim Director of Public Safety (PSafe) Tony Bostick described PSafe’s response to the incidents. While PSafe did not take any direct action, officers did respond to reports of vandalism.

“We were involved when people contacted us regarding the signs disappearing,” Bostick said. “People were asking what was going on and there was some confusion over the use of the bathrooms.... Our main concern was the vandalism.... We addressed that and the other part of it is being addressed by the dean’s office.”

Another anonymous student involved in the activism has been in conversation with several administrators and is hopeful that, whatever the outcome, changes will be made to the University’s gendered policy.

“The bathrooms have already been de-gendered” ze said. “It seems kind of backwards to re-gender them at this point. Whatever happens,

they’re not going to just replace [the system as it was].”

However, not all students are comfortable with the newly de-gendered bathrooms on campus. In a thread on WesACB (Anonymous Confession Board), multiple anonymous students have expressed discomfort sharing bathrooms with students of the opposite sex. Students also expressed concern for students whose religion forbids them from sharing these spaces with people who are not of their biological sex, as well as for survivors of sexual assault.

“I feel like it would be really awkward for girls and guys,” said Peter Cornillie ’15. “Nothing against the idea of gender equality, but I feel like there are some spaces where we don’t want to see the other party, and that’s one of them.”

Other students are comfortable with the idea of gender neutral bathrooms, but believe that both gendered and ungendered spaces should be available.

“I think it’s a great initiative and I definitely agree with the idea, but I don’t necessarily agree with the fact that it’s being imposed in buildings like Olin and Usdan, where people from outside of Wesleyan come in and they might feel uncomfortable with the idea of gender neutral bathrooms,” said an anonymous student. “But, otherwise, campus wide, all the student facilities I think would be completely fine.”

Another anonymous student said that they believe that many of the bathrooms are still functioning



SADICHCHHA ADHIKARI/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**Anonymous students have removed gendered signs from public restrooms on campus, claiming them as gender neutral spaces.**

as gendered, but that they are now at least a more accepting place for trans\* students.

“The way that spaces change in their gendered quality takes time because the gendered spaces really are built out of every body that goes into those spaces and interacts with those spaces,” they said. “Even if the official signage changes, there’s still going to be a lot of de facto binary gendered spaces. I think that’s something that will change over time as people forget and change their habits.... But taking away the signs, even if the bathroom is still functioning as a binary-gendered space, does kind of grate away at the authority that a cis-person will have to police which genders enter those spaces.”

Pending the return of gender signs or a statement from the University, unsigned bathrooms on

campus are functioning as gender neutral. The Wesleyan Diversity Education Facilitators (WesDEF) are holding an open forum on the topic of all-gender bathrooms on Tuesday, Nov. 5.

An anonymous student asserted that they hope the University will not make an effort to re-gender the bathrooms and will change the policy to make all bathrooms gender-neutral.

“A lot of people here are completely unaware of how gender-binary bathrooms harm and marginalize decent populations of the school,” they said. “But I think that [the] administration wants to protect their image and there’s also some sympathy there. So I do think that [the policy of gender binary bathrooms] will change, but we’re not going to wait for it.”



Mon.– Fri.  
9-8  
Weekends  
9-5  
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## Music: Student-Run Recording Studio Gears Up To Open

Continued from front page

Michael Roth, he vetoed the idea. However, Jacobs had an optimistic outlook on the initial lack of administrative support for the project.

“This project taught us how to start from the bottom with a lot of obstacles and jump over them...[to] succeed in spite of them,” Jacobs said.

In February, the team consulted with Director for Student Activities and Leadership Development (SALD) Elisa Cardona, SALD Assistant Director Gretchen Streiff, and Wesleyan Student Assembly (WSA) Office Coordinator Lisa Hendrix about securing a room for the project. With the guidance of these staff members, the students organized a formal proposal to present to the Student Budget Committee (SBC).

“[The SALD and WSA staff] really believed in our project,” Coleman said. “They saw our project as more of a long-term goal, and, because of that, they really invested in our project. It’s because of them that we got a space.”

Last semester, the students were given a space at 190 High St. to convert into the recording studio, and they received funding from the SBC to order equipment. Because of the state of the building, the students had to wait for Physical Plant to clean the area before ordering the equipment. The space was cleaned in phases during the spring and over the summer. According to Sturman, Physical Plant

repaired and painted the walls, covered exposed wires, repainted doors, and installed security cameras.

The three recounted their shock upon seeing the state of disrepair that the space was in when they first visited 190 High St.

“There was paint and graffiti all over the walls, which were crumbling,” Jacobs said. “This room was originally used for storage, but the way that they kept the storage in the room was not sustainable.”

Equipment is currently in the shipment and installation phases, and the studio is expected to be primed for beta testing by late November. Coleman says that further information about when and how the studio will be accessible to student musicians will be released after beta testing is complete. The students look forward to the long-term benefits of having a recording studio on campus, particularly from a music management perspective.

“We want to create a network for Wesleyan student musicians and a spot here at a liberal arts college to talk [music] business,” Sturman said.

Coleman added that the student-run nature of the space will help it to succeed in the long run.

“The sound co-op was student initiated,” Coleman said. “So many bands here are started by students; so many students are individual artists. I think that this is the next big thing for music for Wesleyan, and I would also argue that it is the most important.”



# OPINION



## What We Root for When We Root for Wes Football

By JOSH COHEN, OPINION EDITOR

Homecoming/Family Weekend is chock-full of events. The University is welcoming back parents and alumni in droves, and there is not an hour of the waking day without some event to remind everyone that This Is Why. There are campus tours, open houses, lectures by professors and visiting experts, art showings, theatrical performances, concerts, fraternity reunions. Skull & Serpent is holding a reception at The Tomb, which is in keeping with the weekend's festivities, but seems like a strange thing for a secret society to advertise in the official schedule.

Oh, and there's also this football thing happening.

Saturday, Nov. 3 will be the most important home game for Wesleyan since at least 1969. That was the last time the Cardinals went undefeated in football, a fact every Wesleyan student surely knows offhand. Similarly, everyone knows of the fabled run from 1945 to 1948, when Wes ripped off 25 consecutive victories under the tutelage of immortal coach Norm Daniels. With the Little Three and NESCAC championships both on the line, history will be made when Wesleyan hosts Williams.

Now, here are the questions: As members of the Wesleyan community, are we aware of how momentous this occasion is? Do we care? And should we?

Very rarely do we collectively have any clue what's going on with Wes sports at any given time. When I talked to friends and neighbors before the season-opening night game against Tufts, many assumed our football team wasn't that good and that we would probably lose. Fifty-two unanswered points later, no one was making that mistake anymore, though many students also learned that the Jumbos last won a game back in 2010 and have experienced their fair share of drubbings. Per the recorded attendance, 5,048 people

learned a couple of things about NESCAC football that night. Fans then proceeded to show up in much smaller numbers for the next two home games, both emphatic wins as well.

The night game was so popular because it was an event. Thousands of people showed up for novelty and community experience; great Cardinal football was an added bonus, not a draw. Maybe that will be different on Saturday, but the Homecoming vibe, the liveliness of the communal experience, is the main draw. Friends and tailgates first, football second. The game is another rallying point for Cardinals past, present, and future, but I don't imagine the current students being too torn up if Williams ruins our perfect season. Students aren't planning Homecoming parties for Saturday night; they're planning Halloween parties.

I'm generalizing, of course. There are people, including myself, who would be pissed to have six weeks of incredible play ruined by our Little Three rival at freaking Homecoming. But I recognize that we are in the minority and that even the most passionate among us are still fairly casual fans. The Argus considered profiling a Wesleyan football superfan in the lead-up to the Homecoming game; we could not think of any.

There's nothing wrong with casual fandom. Anyone committed to being a diehard fan of one's college football team, the type of fan whose quality of life directly correlates to the team's place in the standings, probably was never looking at Wes, or any other Division III school for that matter. Wesleyan football is 6-0, Jesse Warren '15 has thrown 14 touchdowns and no interceptions, LaDarius Drew '15 leads the NESCAC in rushing, and that all makes me happy. But when I leave the game or close the box score, nothing

is particularly easier or more fulfilling because the Cardinals are undefeated.

I'm here because Wesleyan sports aren't everything to me. They are something, though. Supporting your classmates and peers is something. Taking pride in them and appreciating how they represent Wesleyan is part of that communal experience. It extends past the tailgates and the stands and onto the field.

You don't have to live and die with the football team, but appreciate this game. Wesleyan hasn't beaten Williams since 1999. It hasn't won the Little Three since 1970. Last time the Cardinals went undefeated, the NESCAC did not exist; Wesleyan football has never won a conference championship. All three can happen Saturday, though the Cardinals would need a Trinity loss in order to clinch the outright title rather than a share. Just as preposterously, Wesleyan is undefeated, leading the conference in points scored and points allowed, and is actually favored against the Ephs.

Homecoming isn't just to show the older generation what Wesleyan is up to now, but to celebrate the returning alums for their successes and contributions. If we win these championships, Warren, Drew, Coach Whalen, and the rest will be the Cardinals we celebrate, not just on Saturday but for years after. Saturday isn't only an opportunity to bond together around a football field; it's also an opportunity to watch the people on it secure a place in our collective history, in Wesleyan's history. If there is one time to do away with casualness and invest, this is it.

*Cohen is a member of the class of 2014.*



## Defining an A at College

By ISABEL FATTAL, CONTRIBUTING WRITER

"You don't learn if you don't stumble. Having that challenge to get better at what you love to do is very important."

I heard this advice from President Roth as a high school senior eagerly anticipating the start of my college career. To me, these words epitomized the educational journey that I desired. They further strengthened my sense that Wesleyan was the right place for me, and I was excited to start on a journey of my own here.

I had always enjoyed the feeling of doing well and getting good grades. At the same time, though, I was offended by the emphasis that was constantly being put on grades and on the empirical barometer of success. I wanted the focus to be on learning for learning's sake, and I was elated to be spending the next four years at a place where that notion was shared.

I came here with every intention to put all of my focus on learning and on expanding my mind, placing grades on a much lower scale of importance. I know that I am here to learn, and I don't want to let anything get in the way of that. But in the moment, when I am writing a paper or waiting with bated breath to receive a grade back, I realize that I am not following my own advice. I see myself feeling defined by the letter that appears at the top of the page instead of by the hard work I put in or the new knowledge I acquired. Why am I, yet again, so affected by this?

There is a drive instilled within many of us that is always demanding more. Usually, this drive is a wonderful propeller of achievement. It constantly reminds us to do better, to reach higher and higher and not to stop until we've reached our full potential. But sometimes, this drive can be more damaging than constructive. It can overtake us and make us lose sense of what we want to achieve. It can convince us that our accomplishments are meaningless if they do not lead to As. And this way of thinking belittles accomplishments that are even more important than the grade: hard work, learning, personal growth. That is what we are here to do. If we arrive at college and immediately begin receiving perfect grades, then why are we here?

Of course, there is great value in good grades. They are a necessary aspect of seeking the best possible academic and professional future, and therefore one should strive for success in this area. But while we strive, we must be careful that our priorities do not become distorted. What begins as a desire to do well can easily morph into an obsession that overtakes our most important values as students. Instead of seeing good grades as a step on our journey to ultimate success, we begin to make the mistake of viewing grades as the ultimate success itself, the pinnacle of all of our endeavors.

This skewed vision causes us to define ourselves and our intelligence solely based on the grades we receive, when in fact these concepts can be entirely unrelated to one another. We have all experienced the frustration of working assiduously for an exam or paper, only to discover later that there were areas in which we still needed to improve and that this need for improvement was reflected in our grade. Does this less-than-perfect result mean that we worked hard for naught? By no means. We are here at Wesleyan to immerse ourselves in a life of learning. We are on a personal mission to explore our intellectual potential through study. This is the exciting journey that we are undertaking as college students and as young people, and I would argue that the destination of this journey is learning for its own sake.

In high school, it was all about the numbers and the letters, and our inner drives reflected that goal. But college is a new world, and we need to adjust our motivations accordingly. Our new goals are perhaps even more difficult than our past goals. Here, we aspire to explore, to engage with new ideas, to think deeply about important issues. These aspirations are difficult, but they are also exciting. They are important goals, goals that remind us that we are doing something great and significant as college students. We are embarking on something meaningful, and no number or letter can hold us back.

*Fattal is a member of the class of 2017.*



## The Challenges of Dissent, The Importance of Dialogue, and The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

By DANNY BLINDERMAN, STAFF WRITER

Several weeks ago, I stepped into the Chapel to hear a lecture by Aharon Barak, former President of Israel's Supreme Court. I was taken aback when I saw a protester holding a sign decrying Wesleyan's decision to bring him to campus. Indeed, as a student who wishes to engage with different ideas, this message struck me as unhelpful to the goal of fostering understanding and seeking an end to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The reaction to Wesleyan's decision to invite Justice Barak to deliver the 23rd annual Hugo L. Black Lecture reminded me of the importance of critical engagement. As the President of Israel's Supreme Court, he authored scores of decisions that established him as a leading voice for equality and democracy, including a landmark case that outlawed discrimination in housing and residency by nationality. Barak is seen by many to be a leading judicial voice against the rightward shift in Israeli politics.

As part of its protest of the event, Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) argued that Wesleyan should never have brought Justice Barak to speak in the first place, with the justification

that he is a part of an Israeli political system that the group opposes overall. Excluding his voice, however, would hurt the interests of all Wesleyan students. The call to diminish the breadth and scope of dialogue and engagement on our campus is harmful to the educational mission of the University.

While I disagree with much of the content of the protests themselves, their attempt to bring marginalized ideas and issues to the forefront is a vitally important and productive exercise. As someone who attended the lecture, I wish even more of the SJP members had attended the talk and asked the sort of difficult, challenging questions that a figure like Justice Barak deserves to be asked.

I wish he had been pushed to answer whether and how international law is applied in the West Bank. I had many friends and acquaintances ask me about the protests and the ramifications of the points the protestors made. Students learned something, and they had the opportunity to think critically about both the lecture and the protest, neither of which would have been possible had Wesleyan bowed to SJP's original demands.

At the end of the day Justice Barak's voice on campus and SJP's voice challenging him were both valuable to the conversation. This is why SJP's demand that Wesleyan should never have brought Barak in the first place is so puzzling. What SJP seemingly failed to realize is that if Wesleyan had not invited Justice Barak to our campus, there could have been no dissenting voices and no space created for a critical examination of the issues at hand. There would have been no chance to engage the campus and wider community in dialogue, no chance to ask critical questions, and no opportunity for students to learn something new. Ideas that we find disagreeable inspire frustration and anger not because they have been voiced, but rather because of the reality to which they give voice.

We need to be having a conversation about how we can end the occupation, extend democratic rights and security to inhabitants of both Israel and Palestine, and implement the two-state solution. If Justice Barak had not spoken on campus as per SJP's original demand, this rich conversation about the many challenges that

Israelis and Palestinians face would not have been sparked. We need more conversations about the tough issues surrounding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, not fewer.

The persistent aversion to engaging in dialogue with individuals and groups we find problematic is symptomatic of a wider malaise that afflicts the politics surrounding the conflict. Many advocate for a type of politics that foreswears dialogue and negotiation unless one side has already acceded to the other's position. This sort of politics results in an echo chamber, one where we can hear ourselves perfectly clear but are no closer to solving the difficult issues at hand. Years of non-negotiation brought us no closer to resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The result has been perennial insecurity for Israelis and continuing occupation for Palestinians. It is negotiation that has given Israelis and Palestinians a chance for peace, democracy, and self-determination. The resumption of negotiations with the help of Secretary John Kerry has shown once again the power of negotiations over boycotts and sanctions.

This is why I believe J Street

U's work on campus to be so crucial: it creates the space to grapple with the issues surrounding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and provides opportunities to advocate for vigorous U.S. leadership to reach a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. As a member of the group, I invite everyone to join us in our campaign to make the two-state solution a political reality. If we want to encourage an open and critical discussion on our campus, we need to engage with the most diverse set of voices possible, no matter how challenging they may be.

We need Israeli figures such as Justice Barak, Palestinian activists and leaders, Israeli civil society organizations like Breaking the Silence, and leading American policy makers. It is through dialogue, education, and agitation that we learn about the issues that need our redress and attention. Dialogue opens the space for us to understand the problem, formulate a response, and engage our leaders in an effort to end this enduring conflict.

*Blinderman is a member of the class of 2014.*





# I Scream, You Scream...

By Jenny Davis, Assistant Opinion Editor

Sometimes I get the strong impulse to scream at the top of my lungs, just to see what will happen. It's more of a daydream than an action plan, though, because I've never actually done it. A braver soul might try it, letting out eardrum-shattering shrieks at random moments (in class, in Usdan, in my room at night, the list continues), but I'm too fearful of the consequences. It's unimaginable what such unprecedented screams might bring. Fire trucks? PSafe? My RA?

Because these would be no ordinary screams. If I screamed in the CFA, the sound would echo through Exley. If I screamed in the shower, it would ring in the Chapel. The screams would be so sudden, and so primordial, that people would be haunted for days to come.

What interests me more are their immediate reactions: would my professor stop in the middle of a lecture to ask if there was a problem, or assume that I had just been momentarily overcome with terror and plow ahead? Would my neighbors in 200 Church knock on my door and ask if everything was O.K., or would they assume that I had just seen a spider and keep at their homework? Would the people in Usdan stop their conversations, or go on eating, figuring that I was shocked at what my dining companion had just revealed?

Screams can have many meanings—delight, surprise, terror, frustration—but these screams would be just wicked. These screams would be of the “I just saw It” or “A murderer is in the closet, and I’m not just imagining it this time” variety. These screams would be bone-chilling, hair-raising, pants-wetting. Horror movies can’t come close to replicating them, except for maybe that possessed woman whipped around by an invisible demon in “Poltergeist.”

The main thing is that you would never know when The Screams, as I call them, would be released. Maybe you’d hear them while taking a yoga class, maybe while studying in Olin. The key to their hypothetical success would be the element of surprise.

Sometimes the moment is so ripe that I can feel The Screams tickling the back of my throat. It’s a tug-of-war between instinct and my judgment-forming frontal lobes: do I scream, or do I keep quiet?

Occasionally I release a pitiful little squeak, just to see if anyone will notice, and more often than not they don’t, or they pretend not to. Maybe they really do notice, think I’m losing my sanity, and go back to whatever they were doing.

When I was younger—and who are we kidding, I still do this from time to time—I used to methodically test my family to see if they actually listened to me when I spoke. I would begin a sentence, and toward the end I would mumble some nonsense incoherently and quietly. The following sentence was typical:

“I really want to start [drop voice] murpheadkealhaugh.”

My hypothesis was that more often than not my mother or father would ask me to speak up or repeat the statement, but shockingly—a bit alarmingly, actually—they ignored me, or nodded along passively.

Seriously, parents? What if I had said I really want to start singing in the gospel choir every Sunday? What if I had said I really want to start my dolphin-training career, so I’ll be dropping out of school tomorrow? It’s amazing what you can get away with saying if nobody is paying attention.

And I do feel as though we have a culture of ignoring at Wesleyan. Not when it really matters, of course, but in the small moments. If someone walks into a room wearing something unusual, chances are we won’t comment, if only because acknowledging the peculiarity goes against the grain of our culture of effortless cool. If someone plays absurd music, or dreams up a zany activity, we accept it as alternative and proceed to ignore it. Publicly noticing the outlandish brands one as an outsider, someone hopelessly out of the loop. Our scarlet letter should be R for reaction.

That’s why I want to launch The Screams: how do people respond to things that are impossible to ignore?

Alas, I probably won’t work up the courage to enact The Screams. If the entire campus would join me in screaming as harrowingly as it can at various points throughout the day, I would totally do it too. But I fear that being known as the Lone Girl Who Screamed would be a stigma too huge to ever overcome. So for now The Screams will live buried in my vocal chords, just waiting to be unleashed.

You never know when [drop voice] murpheadkealhaugh.

Davis is a member of the class of 2017.



# Enjoy the Journey: Ten Dollars to Get Lost

By Jenn Cummings, Opinion Editor

I think everyone likes the idea of a corn maze. People line up for miles outside the entrances. They’re willing to hand over 10 dollars per person to get in, which, if you measure money in the same way I do, is roughly three iced coffees. Yet the minute they cross the point of no return, once the entrance and any sign of clear land is replaced by a stretch of seemingly endless maize, you can’t get them out of there fast enough.

I witnessed this change of heart firsthand a couple of weeks ago. There are very few things you can do on Long Island once the beaches have closed. After spending two exhausting days at the mall, a few friends and I decided to head over to the same farm that I’ve frequented every October since kindergarten, and we somehow ended up in the corn maze line.

Maps and blue crayons in hand, my friends and I began our journey with at least mild enthusiasm. We were set out to follow that map faultlessly, tracing out each step. We were sure that we would finish in record time; that would be our reward. It didn’t take us long, though, to realize that it wasn’t going to be that easy. The shocking thing about corn is that all of the stalks look pretty similar. Matching a corner in real life to a corner drawn on a map gets complicated.

While we had originally planned on hitting all of the educational mystery

spots in the maze (the theme was Roman civilization this year, and each spot had a gladiator’s helmet or something of the like for us to discover) and making our way out the way the creators intended, our goal was quickly replaced by a desire to find the exit, quickly. And we weren’t the only people feeling that way. You could see it on the faces of every parent we passed; all of those faces that had been smiling while they stood in line were now dripping with either frustration or resignation, depending on how long they’d been at it.

Where were we even rushing off to? Every single adult in the entire maze, myself included (although I hardly fit the category) was just dying to get out of there to go wash some dishes or sit on Facebook for 12 hours and then complain about how time flies by.

Kids don’t do that. For a child, every turn is a new discovery. Every opportunity to run is a chance to let out energy, an enjoyment in its own right. As my friends and I rounded a turn we’d inevitably passed a few times, we noticed a group of children all huddled around a Roman coin, giggling.

We could all use a little more child-like enthusiasm. As we grow up, we develop this habit of thinking ahead, of constantly feeling like there’s somewhere better to be or something more important to do. We lose the ability to live in

the moment, but it’s that exact ability that makes banalities, like wandering in a field of endless crops, exciting.

For the rest of the day, I tried to appreciate my surroundings. I took note of the beautiful weather and of the fact that I wasn’t toiling away—or procrastinating—in the library. I took advantage of the opportunity to pay attention to the details around me: the smell of candied apples wafting about, the homage to the band Korn tagged on one of the stalks. I was surrounded by my friends from high school, a rare event, and I resolved to make the best of it. It was contagious. Although we agreed that it would have been more fun if a masked ghoul had been chasing us, we still managed to have a pretty good time in that corn maze.

I had forgotten what it’s like to let my inner kid go play in the mud—or the corn. As I completed my journey through the maze, I was reminded that it’s crucial that we all do this, even after we leave the college bubble. Halloween is a great time to start: just throw on a costume and do something ridiculous. Little kids don’t worry about how sexy they look in their cat costumes, and it doesn’t hurt for us to follow their lead. We have all the time in the world to be adults; let’s not forget to be kids, too.

Cummings is a member of the class of 2016.



# Beyond HealthCare.gov: The Health Care We Really Need

By Olivia Alperstein, Staff Writer

There has been a lot of talk in the media about HealthCare.gov, the website that was designed to help ease the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, otherwise known as Obamacare. Amidst all the fuss about the malfunctioning site, commentators seem to have overlooked the fundamental problem that spurred the creation of the Affordable Care Act in the first place: millions of Americans are still without health care coverage, and many of them cannot afford access to proper treatment as a result. Who cares if HealthCare.gov isn’t working properly if our whole healthcare system isn’t working properly? I can speak from personal experience when I say that having access to health insurance can save lives, and that’s why I want to call attention to the ways in which health care in the United States is due for serious reform.

As college students, many of us are already agonizing about how to pay our bills after we graduate. Plenty of us will need to rely on some sort of parental support until we get on our own feet, and most of us have had our parents pay for family access to utilities, phone service, television and internet provider services, and, of course, health care plans. Having access to health care is a huge issue for recent college graduates entering a formidable job market, right up there with paying the rent and paying the bills in terms of importance.

As someone who has had to make use of health insurance and who qualifies as poor according to the U.S. Census, I know that simple measures like routine blood work and a consultation with a physician can cost hundreds of dollars, and an in-patient hospital stay (for testing purposes, non-emergency) can cost the equivalent of tuition at a state university. Almost none of us, save those who did really well on our job interviews with Deloitte, can afford to pay out of pocket for physician visits and related tests; most of us cannot even afford the average annual cost for an individual private insurance plan. Our need to provide for ourselves is made all the more difficult by the obstacles that the adult world

has set before us.

The option of opting into a University-sponsored plan affords students some of the benefits of private health insurance and lasts until we graduate. Students are lucky in that regard. For a long time, low-income families have suffered from the high costs of gaining access to health care. Long before President Obama made a speech in 2008 promising to promote single-payer health care, leaders among poor and minority communities recognized a huge crisis that resulted in major disparities in access to health care.

An average premium for a private health insurance plan is almost twice what a poor family can afford. Systematic abuses of privilege, such as forced sterilizations of minority women, bias in physical exams and quality of healthcare, and problems with lack of proximity of service providers to low-income and minority communities, have long plagued the U.S. They continue to dictate a significant gap in quality of health and health care between wealthier, predominantly white communities and families and low-income and minority communities and families.

Several groups over the past few decades have attempted to provide access to low-cost or free health care in the form of portable, accessible, mobile clinics, community health care centers that provide free health care, and free programs and initiatives that help families navigate the health care system and seek affordable means of coverage. Government intervention, however, along with lack of funding and support and even simple issues of bureaucracy, have limited the effectiveness of these programs, despite their clearly positive impact on local communities.

For a long time, Medicaid has provided low-cost health care insurance to people whose low incomes qualify them for charity care (in addition to state-run Medicaid branches, many states also have their own charity care programs that target a similar low-income population). However, the application processes are difficult and lengthy, information about

the processes is not always available, and demand for these programs far exceeds supply. Many among those who qualify and apply properly for low-cost health care insurance programs are turned away because cuts to funding have limited the amount of overall assistance that each state can provide.

That is a lot to digest, I know, but for many of us it’s a simple reality. Health care is hugely expensive, and for some reason a lot of people on Capitol Hill and around the U.S. seem dead set against the principle of providing affordable health care coverage to anyone who needs it. I think that we are asking the wrong question by scrutinizing Obamacare or the principles of the Affordable Care Act. What we need in this country is free health care for everyone, subsidized by the government. We need a system in which each local community contributes to its own resources, and every medical school emphasizes a service component in its graduate and residency programs. We should make health care an essential, basic right afforded to all people automatically, regardless of their ability to pay. We should pay doctors for the quality of the care provided, and no health insurance company should be permitted to penalize doctors and patients for seeking treatment methods.

Let’s eliminate the absurd idea that a basic physical or eye exam should be billable for hundreds of dollars, and let’s do away with the notion that people who lack significant income don’t deserve the best access to care because they can’t pay. Let’s stop forcing families to choose between health insurance and rent, and let’s fix the reality of an emergency room visit sometimes being more affordable than a routine medical exam. Let’s not force anyone to forego quality of life because cancer and diabetes are preexisting conditions, and let’s devote every spare cent we have to make sure that children grow up healthy, regardless of their family’s circumstances.

Alperstein is a member of the class of 2014.



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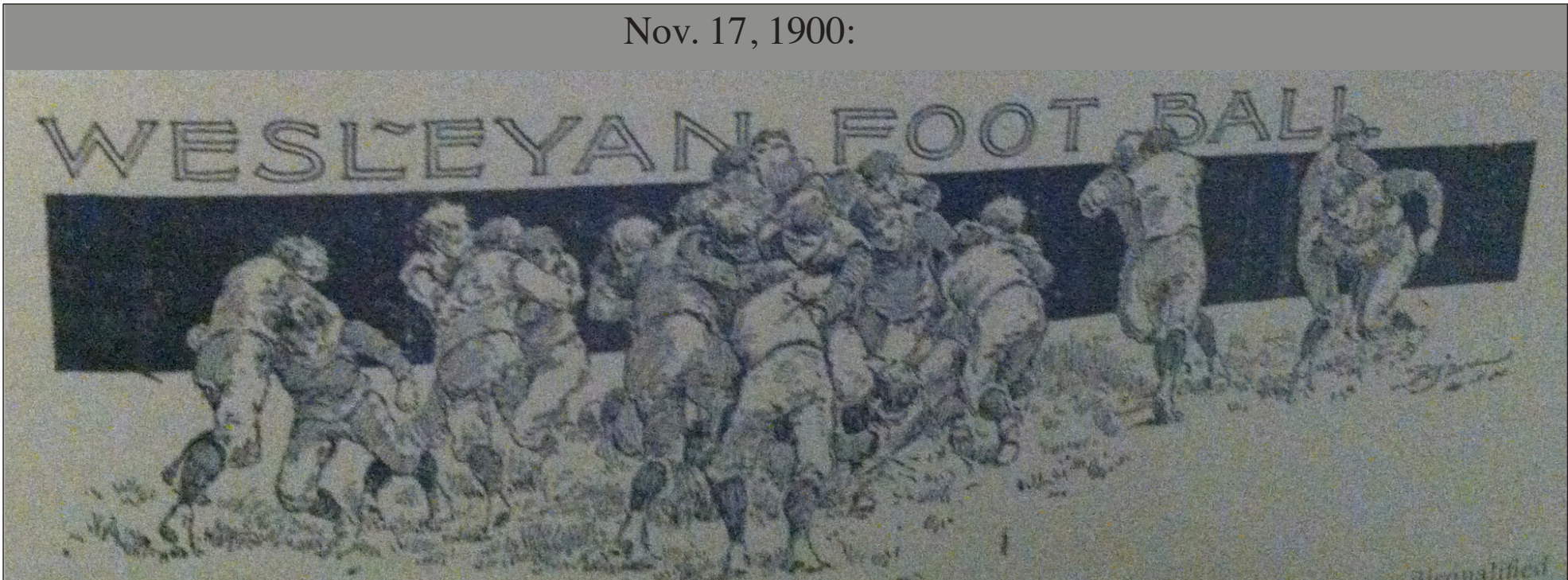
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# A LOOK INTO THE ARGIVES: Football Through The Years

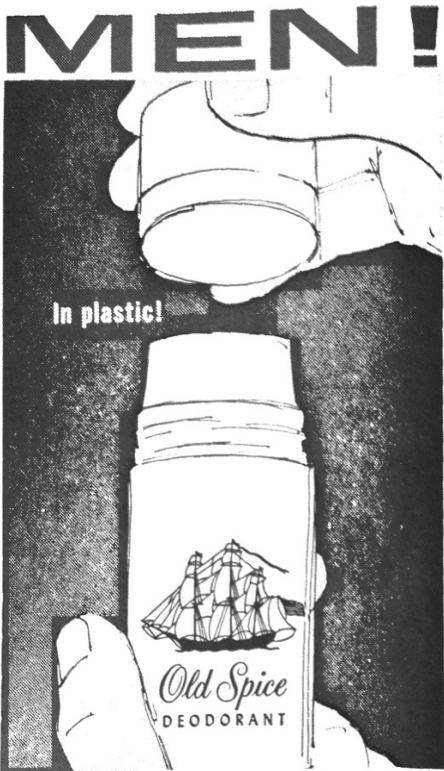
Nov. 17, 1900:



Football.

WESLEYAN, 35; WILLIAMS, 0.  
Last Saturday, Wesleyan won the annual game with Williams for the fourth consecutive time, and by a score, which, to say the least, surprised both sides. Williams was simply overwhelmed. It is true that the score was, to some extent, due to the effect upon the Williams players of the hard-fought game with Amherst a week ago; but Wesleyan, nevertheless, completely outplayed her opponents. Williams held for downs but once and gained her distance but once in the first half. Gutterson, their quarter, however, made some long runs in returning punts. Captain Simmons, at left tackle, played a star game, getting into every play, and was a hard man to stop.

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WE have received from Mr. Burke an interesting statement in regard to the plan and present condition of the new *Alumni Record*. No doubt all who have a regard for old Wesleyan will be glad to hear that this work is so nearly done and so well done. The article, found on another page, was received too late for insertion in the last issue; but we gladly find place for it in this number.

Our local columns contain an account of the foot-ball game between Williams and Wes-

leyan, played on the 19th inst., at Springfield, Mass. Our team is to be congratulated on its victory. Though the day was all that could not be desired, little attention was given to the weather. It seems a little strange, but many if not most of the foot-ball games of this year have been played in the rain. Such, at least, has been our experience. But rain and cold were forgotten as we crowded to the station to welcome back the victors and their attendant friends. The playing was plucky and good. Two features were noticeable: The lack of accidents; and the good feeling which prevailed on both sides. Because of the storm there were few spectators besides the Wesleyan men who went up; for we understand that at Williams the Faculty would not excuse the students from their Saturday morning recitations, which continue through half of the day. We considered ourselves unfortunate in our one hour spent in the class-room on Saturday morning, and do not take back a single word that we said about the folly and old-fogyism of this custom; but the woe of Williams is greater than our own.

Now that the cold weather is here it seems that athletics must be laid aside for a time. The increased interest which Wesleyan has taken in these sports during the past two months argues well for the spirit of the students. The year was begun with boating under a cloud and base-ball and foot-ball doubtful; but matters have been "shaken up," and we go into winter-quarters feeling pretty good over the results.

The general sentiment of the day favors these sports in our colleges. It may be admitted that in some cases athletics are allowed to run wild, forgetting that mental discipline is the main aim of a college course; but in general the public reads the reports of games and



Nov. 1, 1983:

The Wesleyan Argus, 8 November, 1983

# CARD



# GAMES

## Cardinals defeat Ephmen before 7,500 at Homecoming

By Dave Bagatelle and Pete Ardolino

Before 7,500 enthusiastic Homecoming Day fans packed into Andrus Stadium on Saturday, Wesleyan football defeated arch-rival Williams 32-27. It was the first Cardinal victory over a Little Three opponent in their last four outings and, with only one game left in the season, guarantees the Cards at least a .500 record this season.

After a scoreless first period, Williams took over on the Wesleyan 35 yard line and proceeded to march 65 yards for the first score in 11:06 of the second quarter. During the drive, Williams relied on a balanced attack with Sean Crotty and Ted Thomas doing most of the running and Mark Hummon on the receiving end of most of Williams quarterback B.J. Connolly's passes. Williams, despite several key penalties against them (including having a touchdown called back), seemed to get the big play when they needed it. Scoring the touchdown for the Ephmen was the junior fullback Thomas who waltzed into the endzone from the 1 yard line.

Nine minutes later, the Cards found themselves on their own 15 yard line following a long Williams punt. On the first down, quarterback Dave Ross '85 connected with split end Bob Barringer '84 for an

'86 scooped up the ball and out-ran the Williams kick off team for a 61 yard touchdown. Wesleyan failed on the two-point conversion, but closed Williams' lead to a narrow 14-12 with 5:58 left in the third quarter.

The young, exciting Wesleyan D forced another turnover during the next Williams drive. Dave Hill '86 came up with the loose ball, and Wesleyan's explosive offense again came up with the big play. On the first down, Ross hit Barringer on a flea flicker for a 44 yard touchdown pass. Ross again had a big day for the Cards, completing 8 of 18 passes for 283 yards and 3 touchdowns. Wesleyan went for 2 points but the pass attempt failed. The TD gave Wes the lead for good, putting them up 18-14.

Wesleyan continued to roll when Zlotnick's kickoff was fumbled by the Ephmen. The Cards recovered on Williams' 11 yard line, but were stopped short on four downs. Following a Williams punt, Wesleyan got the ball back on the visitor's 37 yard line. On 3rd and 10, Ross, reading the defense and calling an audible play at the line, found Barringer for a 35 yard pass down to the 2 yard line. The offensive line, playing well as they continue to mature as a unit, opened a hole for Mike Gilberto '85, who scored from 1 yard out. Kicker Zlotnick added the point after to raise the score to 25-14 with 13:55

Connolly found Crotty alone in the end zone to pull Williams back within five, 25-20, with 4:07 left in the game, despite missing the point conversion.

Wesleyan was not to be denied as they attempted to avenge their

1982 heartbreaking loss to Williams. With 2:26 left in the game, Ross again found Barringer for their third touchdown hook-up. This tied the record for the most touchdown receptions in a game by a Wesleyan player. This

touchdown covered 62 yards and Zlotnick again added the extra point. The scoreboard now read 32-20 in favor of the good guys.

Williams, who earlier in the year tied a game with 2 touchdowns in the last few minutes of play, did not lie down and die. Two plays after they received the kickoff, Connolly found Mark Hummon for an 81 yard pass play. This play took the ball all the way down to the Cards' 8 yard line. On third and goal from the 8, Connolly found McCarthy for a touchdown. The kick was good to complete the scoring with 1:36 left in the game. Williams attempted the onside kick, trailing by only 5 points, however Glatz recovered and the Cards ran out the clock for a superb 32-27 victory.

This win was the Cards' second in a row and third out of the last four. Ross commented that "the coaching staff deserves this one, especially Mac." The game also meant a great deal to the five seniors on the squad, for it was their last home game: Marty Solomon, Dave Gesensway, Bob Barringer, Steve Bresnahan, and Pat Costello. An ecstatic Coach MacDermott had just two words to say: "Great win!"

Come out next week when the Cards travel to Hartford to face rival Trinity (a.k.a. Triface) and try to win their third game in a row.



MR. STEVEN BARGOTHE Wesleyan Argus

Sophomore defensive back Dave Hill showed why he leads the Cardinal defense in both interceptions (4) and passes broken up (14) in Wesleyan's 32-27 victory over Williams on Saturday.

Nov. 9, 1999:

# Homecoming highlighted by weather and wins

By Vanessa Gonzalez  
Contributing Writer

Approximately 7,500 to 8,000 parents, alumni and students blanketed campus last weekend, during the third combined Homecoming and Family Weekend.

"Overall it was a wonderful event," said Director of Public Safety Maryann Wiggin. "It seemed that there was a large number of families, friends and alumni and it helped that the weather was cooperative."

Sunshine and pleasant temperatures boosted attendance at events that ranged from classes and gamelan concerts to star-gazing sessions and athletic games.

Saturday's football game against Little Three rival Williams boasted one of the largest crowds in Wesleyan history, according to Associate Director of Events Nikki Vinci.

During halftime, a group of students who called themselves the "Richard Milhaus Nixon Marching Band" dressed up and paraded across Andrus Field to promote recycling.

"I loved the tailgating even though I didn't take part in it this year," said parent Andy Barth. "It'll be a reminder for next year and also a wonderful way to revel in the day."

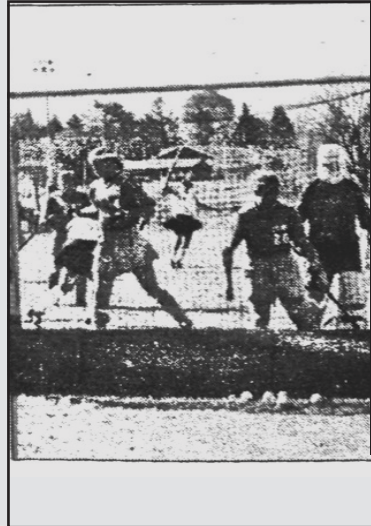
The nineteen WESeminars, hosted by parents, alumni and faculty, were so well attended that visitors encountered standing-room only crowds and some were even turned away, Vinci said. She said she hopes that by next year,

the University finds larger areas to hold the seminars in order to accommodate everyone.

"This year was my mom's second parents' weekend and she always attends as many things as possible. She went to four seminars and really appreciated Jonathan Schell's 'Celebration of Wesleyan Writing,'" said Rachel Kriger '02.

Some of the most popular seminars included Professor of Government John Finn's Friday afternoon program, "A Toast to Prohibition", Professor of Art John Frazer's "A Drawing Lesson"

Families, Page 7



DINA MOSKOWITZ

The Richard Milhaus Nixon Marching Band appeared during halftime on Saturday to promote recycling. The football game was just one of many activities during Homecoming/ Parent's weekend.

# Parents, families in town

Continued from page 1

and Associate Professor of Economics Joyce Jacobsen's "The Economics of Collectibles."

"I really enjoyed being included in the Wesleyan community as well as interacting with the other parents during the question and answer periods," said parent Diane Perlman.

The two special meals held at Mocon over the weekend were also better attended this year than in previous years, Vinci said.

The "Magical Dinner" on Friday, which featured a magician, benefited

from lower prices and an updated menu, according to Vinci. She said over one hundred more people attended this year's Sunday brunch.

In addition, nearly 2,000 people attended a picnic lunch Saturday under the tent on Andrus Field. Called the "Cardinal Carnival," it featured jugglers, games and other entertainment.

Some students whose parents were unable to attend decided to make some extra money by working for University Relations at the carnival and at Mocon.

Visitors were encouraged to register

with University Relations when they arrived, Vinci said. This year 1,908 guests registered; 18 percent over last year's figure, she said.

According to Vinci, parents and alumni from thirteen New England and Mid-Atlantic states received mailings about the weekend festivities.

"University Relations is very excited about the fact that 61 percent of the visitors pre-registered online," Vinci said.

Due to the popularity and efficiency of this technology, Vinci said University Relations plans to expand its online promotion of activities.



SPORTS

Field Hockey Enters Postseason as Eighth Seed

By Grant Lounsbury  
Staff Writer

In the last game of the regular season, the field hockey team travelled to intrastate NESCAC rival Connecticut College and came away with a 3-1 victory, heading into postseason play with an overall record of 6-8 and an in-conference tally of 4-6.

The Cardinals put pressure on early, putting two shots in the back of the net within a 10-minute span. They maintained a tenacious defense throughout the contest, and emerged victorious. They now prepare for the tough competition ahead.

“We made it our team goal to come out strong and set the pace of the game,”

said Captain Blair Ingraham ’14, who got the scoring started for the Cardinals. “Scoring first allowed us to do so, and we were determined to maintain the lead.”

With fewer than five minutes remaining in the first half, the Camels cut the deficit in half. However, that was the only goal given up by Sara Grundy ’16, who recorded five saves. The Cardinal defense was disciplined throughout the game, only allowing the Camels seven penalty corners compared to 14 from the Cardinals. Alyssa Murray ’16 gave the Cardinals some breathing room in the 64th minute, scoring her first goal of the season and extending the Wes lead to two. The offense constantly put pressure on the Camels’ defense by putting 16 shots on goal. As the score shows, it paid off. The

loss puts the Camels’ NESCAC record at 1-9; their season comes to an end without a playoff berth.

The Cardinals, who are the eighth seed in the NESCAC tournament, will travel this Saturday, Nov. 2 to face top-seeded Amherst. Wesleyan fell to the Lord Jeffs on the road earlier in an offense-heavy game. Despite the result when the team last faced Amherst, the Cardinals look to carry their momentum from the victory over Conn deep into the tournament.

“I think this game allowed us to work on skills that we need to perfect against Amherst on Saturday,” Ingraham said. “We scored off of two corners, which is something we’ve been working hard to do, and we need to take that into the

playoffs.”

The Lord Jeffs, which are currently ranked seventh in Division III, will be tough competition for the Cardinals.

“Amherst is a very strong team, and we expect them to come out with its A game on Saturday,” Ingraham said. “We put up a great fight against them last game, and we can be sure that they will come out stronger than they did earlier this month.”

When the two teams met earlier this season, the Cardinals led the Lord Jeffs 2-1 at the end of the first half, but the Amherst squad came out strong in the second half. The Jeffs scored three goals within 10 minutes to take the lead and hold on for the 4-3 win. Playing on the road at the number-one seed’s home field

will require a high level of intensity and focus from all the Cardinal players.

“We let Amherst come back on us last time, and we can’t let them do that to us on Saturday,” Ingraham said. “We have to take the lead and maintain it for 70 minutes.”

Despite the fact that the Cardinals are the underdogs in this first-round matchup of the single elimination tournament, they feel they are up for the challenge and hope to snap Amherst’s six-game winning streak.

“This weekend is do or die for us, and we have to have confidence in ourselves that we can knock off the top team,” Ingraham said. “We have to come out with fire just like the last time we played them and get on the scoreboard first.”

Women’s Soccer Storms Back to Tie Conn College

By Asher Young  
Staff Writer

Following a 2-2 tie against Conn College on Wednesday, Oct. 30, the women’s soccer team is heading to the NESCAC playoffs for the sixth consecutive season. After falling behind 2-0 in the first half, the Cardinals rallied during the second half to tie it up before playing through a pair of scoreless overtimes to a draw.

Wesleyan entered the game in seventh place in the NESCAC. Conn College, in last place, needed a win in order to sneak into the playoff picture. The Cards needed a tie in order to ensure themselves a spot in the upcoming tournament.

Prior to Wednesday’s match, the Cardinals were riding a three-game unbeaten streak, their longest of the year. However, the Camels came out hot, scoring their first goal on a header in the 13th minute, then another on a two-on-one breakaway in the 29th. Heading into the game, the Cardinals had allowed two

goals or more in just 3 of their 13 games.

“It was a shaky first half,” said Head Coach Eva Meredith. “We were a little rattled, but [at halftime] we had nothing to lose. We needed to get a tie, so we said, ‘Let’s start over, and take the next goal.’ And we did.”

In the 55th minute, the Cardinals cut the Conn College lead in half. After getting a pass from Hannah Jellinek ’15, Victoria Matthews ’15 fired a shot from almost 30 yards out that made its way over the keeper and into the back-left side of the net. The goal was the team-leading fourth of the year for Matthews, while the assist was Jellinek’s second.

Wesleyan tied it up in the 80th minute when Marisa Yang ’16 was able to find the back of the net with a low, hard shot from the left side of the box into the right side of the net. Yang had begun the year on the defensive side of the ball, but she had switched to offense when injuries forced Meredith to make changes to the team.

While there were some chances of a Cardinal victory in the overtime peri-

ods, the game stayed tied and eventually concluded with a draw. Conn College outshot Wesleyan 19-9; Cardinal goal-keeper Jessica Tollman ’15 made six saves in the contest.

Last Monday, Tollman was named NESCAC Player of the Week for her performances against Trinity and Middlebury, both shutout wins. In the NESCAC, Tollman currently ranks in the top four in shutouts, goal against average, saves, save percentage, and goals allowed.

“I think she’s been solid as a rock,” Meredith said of Tollman. “She’s been the best I’ve seen her in her three seasons. She has been saving so many games for us, and we’re lucky to have her.”

The Cardinals finished the regular season 2-6-6 with a 1-4-5 record in NESCAC play. The last few weeks of play have marked an impressive turnaround for the Cardinals, who, through the first six games of conference play, were in last place of 11 teams. After changing to a more defensive-minded system, however, Wes picked up the pace

and shot up the standings into a playoff spot.

“For me as a coach, changing our system was the real turning point,” Meredith said. “It ended up giving us a better chance to win because we were more together to attack, and the players took it to another level.”

As the seventh seed, Wesleyan will travel to second-place Williams on Saturday, Nov. 2 for the NESCAC quarterfinals. Just last year, Wesleyan entered the playoffs as the eighth and final seed, playing top-seeded Middlebury in the first round. The Cardinals pulled off the upset with a 2-0 win and advanced to the semifinals before falling to Williams, 2-1.

When the Little Three rivals played earlier this year, the Ephs got the best of the Cardinals in a tightly contested 1-0 overtime win. However, Meredith believed that that game served as a turnaround for her squad, and that the Cardinals have the ability to create a different outcome this Saturday.

“We’re all looking forward to get-



C/O DIANE STONE

**With her first goal of the year, Marisa Yang ’16 completed the comeback against Conn and sent women’s soccer to the postseason.**

ting another chance now, three weeks later, where we’re much more confident and that much better,” Meredith said.

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# Jake Bussani '14 Talks Defense, Championships

By Gili Lipman  
*Staff Writer*

Bear Bryant, the renowned University of Alabama football coach, once said, “Offense sells tickets. Defense wins championships.” This statement could not be more relevant for the 2013 Wesleyan football team, as it has given up only 50 points throughout the first six games of the season.

Credit must go to Captain Jake Bussani '14 for leading that unit. Playing defensive back, he has recorded 1 interception, 1 forced fumble and recovery, and 17 tackles through 6 games. Bussani sat down with *The Argus* to talk about his team's results so far this season, and how he thinks the players will be able to continue their outstanding play on the field.

**The Argus:** On the opening drive of the first game of the season, Tufts drove down the Wesleyan field for a 7-0 lead. What was said in the defensive huddle after that score, and how has it lead to an almost impenetrable group since?

**Jake Bussani:** After Tufts scored on their first drive, [Associate Head Coach and Defensive Coordinator Dan DiCenzo] told us not to panic and that it's going to happen. They were running plays that we hadn't really game-planned for, and he said that if we just did our job, we would be fine. The rest took care of itself, as the defense didn't give up any points for the remainder of the game.

**A:** Despite the team expecting to play at the level they currently are, many of the other NESCAC teams did not anticipate you guys being undefeated at this point in the season. What has surprised you most about this season?

**JB:** I would say the team chemistry hasn't so much surprised me, but I've been really happy with what we've been doing this year. We're all real close on both sides of the ball. The other teams may not respect us, but they still have to prepare for us or they're going to get beat pretty bad. We've been planning for every game like it's a big one and haven't overlooked any teams.

**A:** How has being a captain on the

team this year changed your perception of how you practice and prepare for games?

**JB:** I'm definitely not one of the more talkative captains on the team, so that means that I really have to lead by example. I am certainly more conscious of everything I do during practice, whether I'm cheering [for] my teammates, going hard during every play, or making sure that I'm taking care of my job. If any of the other guys ask for advice, I always try to be there for them.

**A:** Beating Amherst on the road is no small feat, as Wesleyan has not accomplished this since 1993. In practice, how did the defense prepare to stop the triple-option offense, as well as thwart the dual-threat quarterback system?

**JB:** The way that we play our defense, everyone has a job to do. If everyone takes care of their assignment, we won't have any openings. The thing about football that makes it so great is that if one person doesn't do their job, a big play is bound to happen. This forces us all to act as one, cohesive unit in order to stop the triple option, which involves the quarterback, running back, and pitch man. Against Amherst, we were able to limit them from seaming multiple big plays together, and, in the end, we only let up fourteen points.

**A:** Wesleyan has a brick-wall defense, but at the end of the day, points are what you need to win games. The turnover battle is always key in football, and while the defense has been a beast at creating turnovers, the offense has yet to throw an interception. In your opinion, how has the offense evolved throughout the season?

**JB:** The offense has been great this season. For example, we've dominated the time of possession, which keeps the defense off the field and rested. When the defense comes out, we are able to give 100 percent, thanks to the break. The offense not committing turnovers really helps us because we don't have to play anymore than we should. It has been a nice help having the offense bail us out a couple of times this year.

**A:** How has the chemistry in the de-

fensive secondary improved throughout the season with first-year players Devon Carrillo, Justin Sanchez, and Reid Andrew making an enormous impact?

**JB:** The three freshmen are big-time players who make huge plays in important spots. They're real nice kids who work hard, and it's nice to joke around with them. We're a really close-knit group, and tomorrow we're all going to get mohawks together as a team for the Williams game.

**A:** The Ephs' quarterback, Adam Marske, has thrown more interceptions than touchdowns this season. How does the defense go about making him feel uncomfortable and forcing him to make bad decisions?

**JB:** Forcing him to make bad decisions just means that we have to have constant pressure on him and make sure that he doesn't have any time in the pocket. As long as we do our jobs and cover our zones, he has shown that he can't make these throws consistently.

**A:** No matter what the records of Wesleyan and Williams are going into the game, both teams know that there will always be a dogfight on the field. Has the intensity at practice been any different this week and what do you think will be the key to coming out with a victory on Saturday?

**JB:** The intensity at practice hasn't been different. We know that the stakes are higher for this game because we are playing for a conference title, but we're telling ourselves just to do what we've been doing these past six weeks because we are 6-0, and you can't get any better than that. This week just needs to be another one of those weeks where we practice well and show up on Saturday to play. If we do our jobs and force them to make the mistakes, we should come out on top.

**A:** What would it mean to you and the team if you were to win the Little Three championship outright, an accomplishment that has not been achieved since 1970?

**JB:** It would be a great thing for our team to accomplish because we weren't here when it last happened in 1970. We are here now though,



C/O WESLEYAN

and all we can do is play our hardest. We've been working towards this moment for the past three years, and now that we're here, we don't want to squander the opportunity.

**A:** How does the team focus on Williams, who has an average record, when the team has a game against Trinity the week after with a chance for a coveted NESCAC championship?

**JB:** We focus on Williams because they've been shooting themselves in the foot this year. They're a capable team; they just haven't been making the plays necessary to win. Anytime you play a Little Three team, both squads are going to have to show up to win. These next two weeks are playoff games for us. Yes, we want to beat Trinity, but we have to get this week down first. This week is for the

Little Three title and for the opportunity to play for a NESCAC title next week. This game is as big as any in the past or future.

**A:** After the season is complete, how do you want the 2013 team to be remembered?

**JB:** Our senior class wants to finish this season strong for Coach Whalen. Whalen started his Wesleyan career here knowing that we were going to be the seniors who would lead the three younger classes to success. We know that he has brought in a lot of good players, and if you aren't in a playing role, you still need to be a leader and a hard worker. I want to be remembered as Whalen's original class because we started this journey together four years ago, and now it's time to cap it off with what we've been working for.

# Little Three Matchups To Close Out Volleyball Season

By Michael Sheldon  
*Staff Writer*

Head Coach Gale Lackey knows that this upcoming weekend is no joke for the volleyball team.

“This is Senior Celebration, Homecoming/Family Weekend, and Little Threes all in one weekend,” she said. “It doesn't get much better than this.”

The Cardinals will close out the regular season at home before the Wesleyan faithful. With Amherst coming to town on Friday, Nov. 1, followed by Williams the next day, Captain Kim Farris '14 knows that the stakes are extremely high.

“Not only is it Little Three, not only is it Senior Night, not only is it Homecoming weekend, but it's also that these games are our gateway into the NESCAC tournament,” she said.

Wesleyan enters the weekend not just hoping to win the coveted Little Three title, but also desperately looking for a way into the postseason. The Cardinals' NESCAC record of 2-6 puts them in a three-way tie with Bates and Colby. All three teams are vying to secure the eighth position in the standings in this final weekend. Whichever team does so will earn the final playoff spot and the chance to play for the conference championship.

The Cardinals want nothing more than to finish Homecoming as that eighth-place team. In order to give themselves a shot at doing so, they will need to win at least one, and likely both, of these Little Three matchups. Lackey, for her part, is trying to stay focused on playing one game at a time.

“We have no control over whether we will play in the NESCAC tournament because other teams' outcomes are going to play a significant role in that,” she said. “We can only control how hard we compete.”

This is a worthwhile concern for Lackey, as the Cardinals have lost a number of close matches over the course of the season; Wesleyan has gone to a fifth set and lost in each of its last three NESCAC matches. Several players have cited the team's failure to play all the way through points as a reason for their current predicament.

If the comments of Captain Kate Centofanti '14 are any indication, however, the team will be rearing to go this time around.

“Going into this weekend, Homecoming weekend, we're really ready,” she said. “We're pretty confident we can take this Little Three title. We've been wanting it for so long, and we're just so ready.”

Despite the fact that it's been a

rough season for Wesleyan so far, the team has managed to remain a cohesive unit. The team's positivity has persevered, despite a number of difficult setbacks.

“There's always going to be some frustration when you're not winning,” Farris said. “However, I don't think it's frustration at specific people on the team. It's just a frustration that, as a whole, we're not living up to our full potential.”

Centofanti also emphasized the team's togetherness.

“We foster such a sense of community,” she said. “We've all become really close. I love my team.”

Despite the positivity that pervades this group, the Cardinals know that Amherst and Williams are going to combine to pose a very difficult weekend challenge. Amherst is in third place at 6-2 in NESCAC play, and Williams sits atop the conference with an undefeated 8-0 record.

However, Lackey remains confident, noting that this team has improved drastically since last season, and is perhaps better than its NESCAC record shows.

“Our three seniors are offensive NESCAC leaders, and the sophomores and juniors understand the demands of the task significantly better than last season,” she said. “We are getting very



SHANNON WELCH/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**Kim Farris '14 will have to power the offense if the volleyball team wants to make the NESCAC playoffs.**

able contributions from our first-year players. We're much more mindful in practice. We're working not only harder but more efficiently.”

While Lackey has praise for the way her players have performed this year, the players credit her for putting them in position to succeed.

“I feel like she's the wizard in ‘The Wizard of Oz,’” Farris said of her coach. “She's just this all-knowing entity. She makes us realize—she points

out the skills and potential that we already have.”

The Cardinals are hoping that the individual successes experienced by so many players, coupled with the adept coaching of Lackey, can translate into wins this weekend. Farris, for one, looks forward to the high-stakes matchups ahead.

“They are going to fight like hell,” she said of the Little Three foes. “But we're gonna fight like hell back.”



# Lynch '15 Nets Golden Goal in Men's Soccer Finale

By Brett Keating  
Assistant Sports Editor

Matt Lynch '15 netted his second golden goal of the year, Omar Bravo '15 assisted on a late game-winner for the second straight game, and the men's soccer team bettered the Conn. College Camels 1-0 in overtime on Wednesday, Oct. 30 in New London, Conn.

The goal came just over 90 seconds into the overtime period. Bravo put a beautiful chip pass over the defense to Lynch, whose quickness was too much for Camel keeper Max Nichols. Lynch finished on a nice touch to secure the second seed for the Cards in the upcoming NESCAC tournament.

Goalkeeper Emmett McConnell '15 earned his sixth shutout of the season, making seven saves and extending his scoreless streak to almost 350 minutes over four games. McConnell was challenged in the first half, making five saves, but saw little pressure thereafter.

Captain Daniel Issroff '15 returned for the Birds after missing most of the season following surgery. He was back in top form, immediately returning to the flow of the offense and firing two shots on goal. Brandon Sousa '16 also had a decent scoring chance, forcing Nichols to come up with a save.

The Cardinals finished the season with a 7-3 NESCAC record. Of those ten games, nine of them have been decided by a score of 1-0. Wesleyan is last in the NESCAC in scoring and third in the league in goals against. Unsurprisingly given those team stats, no Cardinal player ranked in the top 10 in scoring or points this year. Of the top-three teams in the league, all in the Little Three, only Amherst had a player register in the NESCAC top 10 in points or goals this year.

Head Coach Geoff Wheeler did not see this lack of a singular go-to scorer as an issue, supporting the approach that brought his team to this point.

"Good defending can be more important than a potent attack," he said.

The Cards' regular season exceeded expectations. They managed to retain control despite game suspensions that many members of the team faced at the start of the season. They also filled in for the loss of All-Americans Adam Purdy '13 and Rory O'Neill '13 with an effective combination of recruits and promoted players from the bench and the junior varsity squad. Wheeler credits more than players' skills and looks instead to the team's intangible strength in explaining its success.

"I think there is a real belief and

confidence this team has that is beyond its years in experience," he said.

Still, McConnell shone on the stat sheet as well. He never appeared in net for the Cardinals before this season, but finished first in the league in save percentage, third in goals against average, and third in shutouts. Wheeler started three goalies in the first three games for Wes, finally settling on McConnell, who posted a 7-4-1 record.

"Emmett has been fantastic this year," Wheeler said. "He won the job early with his consistent shot-stopping and management of the penalty box."

Wesleyan was able to secure the second seed only because Williams, who owned the tiebreaker against the Cardinals, lost 2-1 in a shocking upset to Hamilton. Hamilton had to win to make the playoffs for the first time in school history and did so by defeating the second-place Ephs, leapfrogging Trinity to earn the eighth seed.

Because the Cardinals moved up to second in the conference, they will not have to face an imposing Amherst team until the championship round. The Lord Jeffs, currently on a 36-game unbeaten streak, will open the playoffs against one of the only opponents to make them seem mortal this season. Hamilton played them to a 1-1 tie earlier this season, one



C/O PETER STEIN

**Matt Lynch '15 won the game for men's soccer with a golden goal, his second OT game-winner of the year.**

of the Jeffs' two non-wins this season.

Conn. College finished the season as the seventh seed, so Wesleyan will play the Camels again to open the postseason. The Cardinals have won 14 of 15 against the only more southerly NESCAC

school, their only defeat coming in October 2012. The two teams have never met in this league's playoffs. They'll take the pitch on Jackson Field this Saturday, Nov. 2 as part of the Homecoming celebration.

# Little Three, NESCAC Glory Within Reach for Football

By Felipe DaCosta  
Assistant Sports Editor

For the first time since 2002, the football team is playing for more than just bragging rights at Homecoming. With its spotless 6-0 mark, this 2013 squad has done an immaculate job of revitalizing Cardinal football, and the upcoming matchup on Saturday, Nov. 3 against Williams is the chance for the ultimate redemption. After defeating Amherst in the first leg of Little Three play, the Cardinals have placed themselves in an unfamiliar position: championship territory. A win over the 2-4 Ephs would mean the first outright Little Three championship for Wes since 1970. Additionally, since Wesleyan is the last remaining unbeaten NESCAC team, a Cardinal victory this Saturday would also mean at least a share of the conference championship for the first time in school history. With all of this riding on Saturday's rivalry matchup, the Redbirds are ready to realize their destiny.

For current NESCAC Offensive Player of the Week LaDarius Drew '15, remaining humble despite achieving unparalleled levels of success this season will be key.

"I speak for all of us when I say we expect a real battle with the Ephs," Drew said. "We have to keep doing what we're doing on and off the field to prepare, just like any other team. Just looking at last

year, we did not play to the full potential of Wesleyan football. This year, we've been able to tap into our playmaking sources on all sides of the ball, so we're definitely capable of putting up a bigger fight than we did last year."

With nine touchdowns on the year and an average of 109.2 rushing yards per game, Drew has been the premier runner in the conference, leading a running back corps that has powered the Wesleyan offense this season. With Drew in the backfield, the Cardinals have been able to bulldoze through NESCAC defenses, leaving them to gunslinger Jesse Warren '15 and his aerial assault. Head Coach Mike Whalen deeply emphasized the role Drew will need to play in the upcoming games as well as the strength of the team overall.

"For LaDarius, it's all about being healthy," Whalen said. "He's been healthy this year, but there are times where he hasn't been 100 percent, and he still performed well. But Saturday [against Bowdoin] was probably as good as he's felt in a long time. He ran hard and broke a lot of tackles. He worked fast, which was the reason why we kept giving him the ball. We know that we're going to need all of our backs for these next two games because they're going to be really physical games. The fact that we have great depth in that position is going to bode well for our football team."



SHANNON WELCH/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**With Jesse Warren '15 under center, the undefeated football team is leading the NESCAC in scoring.**

With running mate and fellow NESCAC rushing leader Kyle Gibson '15 severely limited over the past few weeks due to injury, Drew has been called upon time and time again to bear the weight of the Wesleyan offense. Success against Williams will come only with a balanced assault that incorporates all of the Cardinals' backs, including John Vassar '16 and Lou Stevens '17, who have been instrumental in maintaining the pace of the Cardinals' offense, particularly in the second half.

Although it may seem like Drew and the gang will have an easy time running roughshod over atypically underperforming Williams, Whalen, who served as the Ephs' head coach for six seasons, still holds a great deal of respect for his former squad.

"The first thing about Williams is that their record is not an accurate assessment of their talent level," he said. "They might be the best 2-4 team in the country. They have good players. All you have to do is watch their games where they're beating Trinity in the fourth quarter and beating Middlebury in the fourth quarter. They made some mistakes that cost them, but talent-wise they've played the best teams in the league, and they play them tough."

Regardless of what has happened so far in its season, Williams still has the opportunity to play championship-caliber football in its last two games of the season against Wesleyan and Amherst. The Ephs' early-season struggles can be easily washed away with another Little Three title, and the opportunity to knock off Wesleyan during a year of great resurgence sweetens the deal even further.

For defensive standout Nik Powers '15, the undefeated Cardinals still need to prove themselves to the world by downing the Ephs and taking the Little Three.

"The stage couldn't be bigger," Powers said. "These next two weeks, specifically our game against Williams, are the reason our team has come together to work for a championship. This game means a lot to prove that we are the team we think we are."

Despite having outscored opponents 217-50 to date, the Cardinals of 2013 retain the character of an unproven squad. The Birds are viewing the Homecoming game and the season-ending showdown at Trinity on Saturday, Nov. 10 as the playoffs, according to Whalen, which gives players the chance to prove their mettle.

"Our approach last week going into the Bowdoin game was that it was the last

game of our regular season," Whalen said. "The next two games are playoff games. We don't go to the playoffs, we don't go into the NCAAs. We knew that if we beat Bowdoin, then no matter what happened in Week Seven, we gave ourselves the opportunity to play in two championship games, one for the Little Three Championship and one for the NESCAC Championship. And we're excited about that."

For the Cardinal players on the field, this Saturday will be the biggest game of their athletic careers. If they are successful in their pursuits, it may also be the first time many Cardinal fans witness a football championship on Andrus Field. The prospects of this game have Drew feeling blessed.

"To me, winning the Little Three would be like an early Christmas present that will last me forever," he said. "I feel the same about the NESCAC championship. I've talked to some alumni and older students, and this program has come a long way, and I'm ecstatic to be a part of it. I'm honored to have made my family and the alumni as happy as they are now, and I plan on not disappointing them. I just have the utmost confidence in us that we can achieve the goals we've set since my freshman year."

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# ARTS



## ARTS

# “The Library Project” Takes Storytelling into The Depths of The Olin Stacks

By Haley Rauch  
Contributing Writer

Wesleyan students have a history of pushing theatrical boundaries. In the past, performances have incorporated flowing rivers, abandoned houses, and the occasional accidental stabbing. This weekend viewers are in for another unique treat: “Stories Better Never Told, or, The Library Project,” will be performed in Olin Memorial Library this Saturday, Nov. 2 at the stroke of midnight. I got a chance to sit down with some of the creators of The Library Project, or, as they call themselves, the students of ENGL 000, to discuss what has been going on in the stacks.

**The Argus:** So, what is The Library Project?

**Emilie Pass:** What isn’t The Library Project? But actually, it is an immersive theater piece.

**Margaret Curtis:** An experience!

**EP:** With singing, dancing, acting, reading, mics, sounds, props, sounds, colors...

**Gabe Gordon:** It is an adaptation of the Odyssey in which the characters are removed from the world of Homer and placed inside the Olin Library, where they speak and appear through parallel characters from more contemporary literature.

**Ben Zucker:** More contemporary than Homer, which is pretty easy to be.

**GG:** In a lot of ways, it was written for Olin. Before we knew it was going to be an adaptation of the Odyssey, we knew we wanted to do a play in Olin. The stacks are such a familiar and simultaneously mysterious and exciting space that are just asking to be performed in. There’s something so theatrical about them.

**A:** How did you go about getting a performance in Olin?

**EP:** The library from the start has been very excited about the idea of having a play done there.

**GG:** Patricia Tully is the absolute homie. She is director of the library, and we reached out to her at the very beginning of last semester to make sure that this was even possible, and thankfully they loved the idea and have been huge supporters of it the whole way through.

**EP:** Yeah, they couldn’t have been more enthusiastic.

**GG:** They’re going to come see it, and hopefully they like it!

**MC:** I’m sure that they will.

**A:** And how do you think that being in Olin has influenced your project artistically?

**EP:** It’s influenced a lot of the organizational logistics of it because we’re always aware of the space; we had to hold a lot of rehearsals outside of the space but just thinking about what we wanted it to look like in the space.

And there were a lot of scenes we were working on where we were like, “Oh, this would be great in this part of the stacks!” or, “Oh, this would be great in the basement!” Everyone had the library in mind when they were writing.

**GG:** Even before we knew specifically where things were happening, we knew from the very beginning that we were using the library as a template for not only the set but also the script.

**A:** So you’re really all over the library, huh?

**GG:** Oh, yeah.

**EP:** It was a big question when we were rehearsing, like, “Why does this scene need to be in a library?” “What about the library?” “Why can’t it be anywhere else?” We tried to ask ourselves that with pretty much everything.

**A:** Why did you choose the Odyssey?

**MC:** We had a really difficult time choosing a story to adapt at first.

**GG:** The Odyssey was a very early, initial idea that came to us very easily, but we threw out a lot of other ideas before we settled on it. I know, for me, the Odyssey is something I’ve read a bunch of times and loved. I’m very into epics and mythology.

**EP:** I always loved the really corny idea that learning is an epic journey, and literature is a journey, and that was something that we really wanted to explore. I think that’s why we’re all doing this project, because we think that academic work is exciting.

**MC:** It also gave us a lot of creative license because it has a lot of different characters within it that we could use and give to our actors to create.

**GG:** So much literature has been inspired from this one foundational text, so it just seemed like a really great way to give us a framework to work within that would also allow us to go in so many different places.

**BZ:** It’s not exactly what you would call a straightforward and direct adaptation of the Odyssey. It’s more the ideas and the universal qualities of it.

**A:** How’s the creative process been for you? What do you think has been most challenging, most unexpected?

**MC:** It’s been a lot of fun!

**GG:** It’s been the most fun project I’ve ever worked on.

**MC:** We also did it in a really systematic way. We figured out pretty early on that we needed to create; it was going to be a really creative project with a lot of different directions, but we needed to have some sort of very structured beginning in order to make it successful. So we started by making a grid. It was almost mathematical in its genesis, and then it kind of became more creative as we gave ourselves more license to fill in that structure.

**EP:** The beginning was a lot of very general conversations with the whole cast and crew, just about what we wanted to see in the play, what we wanted to happen, what our concerns were. That kind of became writing workshops, where whoever wanted to could come and write scenes with us.

**GG:** And then as they were rehearsed, they’d be refined and edited.

**MC:** You can’t really tell when you’re watching it, but there’s a lot of structure behind what’s going on at any given time.

**GG:** And with everything we’re saying, we’re like “We chose to do this,” “We wrote this part because...” While everyone had their individual ideas, every single part of this has been so collaborative, which is really exciting. It’s so much fun to work with other people who are excited about the projects you’re working on, especially when they’re talented and fun to be around. But it’s also really exciting to see how your ideas can only be enhanced by other people’s ideas, and they come together in this fully realized project that none of us would have been able to do on our own.

**A:** Overseeing such a large immersive show can be tough. How do you keep all the people in different locations in sync, running on the same time line?

**MC:** The grid!



CHONG GU/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The cast member of “Stories Better Never Told” immerse themselves in literature and the stacks of Olin to tell the story of Homer’s Odyssey.

**GG:** Script-wise, there are a sequence of scenes that all time up with one another. The way that’s actually happening was just Matt’s genius.

**Matt Hixon:** Well, with the grid, each character has seven scenes that they move through, and they web through with other characters.

**MC:** So some characters might have scenes together.

**MH:** And so the way to have these scenes switch around at perfect timings and to help them function as this grid is sound. Sound is the cue to move from place to place. So me and Ben have made a ton of soundtracks for every floor, and that will help tell the actors when to move from space to space.

**EP:** Yeah, it’s really been kind of a lesson in group problem solving. A lot of the questions, you wouldn’t ask them if you were in the ’92 or any sort of conventional space. We all just kind of had to think of them together because there’s no set guidebook on, “Oh, here’s where you put your audience. Here’s how the audience watches the show.” We just all had to figure it out.

**BZ:** It’s really opened us up a lot and allowed us to realize how it’s possible to do theater here. Instead of falling into the same presentation over and over again, now we can take the lessons we’ve learned from working in Olin and apply it to places like the ’92, Westco Café, the CFA, Weshop, Foss Hill...

**MC:** “CATS” on Foss!

**GG:** “Angels [in America]” in the Center of American Studies!

**EP:** Basically, what we’re saying is that we have a lot of other immersive, site-specific projects in the works.

**A:** And how much do you encourage audience members to interact with the space around them, with other audience members, with the actors?

**GG:** The space around them, a lot! Each other, not a lot. The actors, a lot.

**MH:** The boundaries will sort of become relatively clear when they go in, I think. Either an actor will engage

with you or they won’t. But the space is definitely... there for touching.

**GG:** Yeah, there’s a design to it and we’ve added stuff to it, but I know I could spend an hour on my own wandering the library just looking at the spines of books, so there’s always something to engage the audience members. Hopefully it will be the actors, but it could be something other than the actors as well.

**A:** So I’ve heard you’ve incorporated a lot of dance and music into the project as well.

**MC:** Where’d you hear that?!

**EP:** We’ve been really fortunate to work with Collective Motion on this project, and they have put together some amazing stuff for the show. There’s also singing; music is a huge part of the show, and that’s been a really fun thing to explore. When do you get to sing in a library, right? Not a lot.

**MC:** All of your senses will be stimulated.

**A:** How’ve you been dealing with rehearsals with so much space and so many possibilities for story lines? Do you divide up? Do you follow different characters?

**GG:** So, our rehearsals until last week or two weeks ago were not in the library; they were in traditional rehearsal spaces or in Art House. So we would focus on each scene individually and then once each scene was written, blocked, and talked about, then we put it into the library. Luckily since we do have a team of directors, we can work on more than one thing at a time, and actors can direct themselves at times too. But we’ve had to get all these things done before we could put them together.

**EP:** We would also have runs at Art House where we would do all of the scenes that were happening at the same time simultaneously, so that we could experience that, and while that was happening we could say, “Oh, I should be watching x, y, and z, and you should be watching this.”

**GG:** So I’ve finally seen every scene,

but you won’t.

**EP:** That’s one of the tragedies of the show.

**GG:** But your story will be unique to you, and it will be exciting because of it.

**MH:** A huge part of it is the experience that you get from it, and then when you share that experience with all your friends after the show you sort of create your own story.

**MC:** Yeah, you definitely have to think of it as an experience rather than a play.

**EP:** If you go in there looking for a first act, a second act, a dramatic resolution, and all the usual character arcs you see in theater, you probably won’t be that happy. There are really well-developed characters who have their own dramatic arcs, but if you’re looking for a big overall story that might be frustrating.

**MH:** Not a comfort show. Not a popcorn show.

**GG:** Can I say one thing?

**A:** Sure!

**GG:** Since it’s so collaborative, we really liked the idea of considering the whole ensemble equal members of a company, so throughout the process we came up with the name, “The Students of ENGL 000” because, for one, we’re really deeply immersed in literature. We’re reading a lot; we’re students; we’re learning. This has been such an educational experience too.

**MC:** It’s 000 because it doesn’t exist.

**GG:** But also, if, hypothetically, this team wanted to do another project next semester, we’ve already formulated a process. We know who’s good at what things. We function as a company. Maybe we’ll never do something together again. But maybe we will, and this show is really the product of an entire team’s work.

**MC:** There also were no normal roles. Everyone took on roles that weren’t just actor or just technical design. People worked hard to pitch in as much as they could in any way.

**A:** That sounds wonderful. I’m so excited to see it.



# Alumna Talks Chinese Art Culture, Calligraphy Paintings



C/O AIAI CHEN

“Oracle Bone Script Paintings” and “Characters Paintings,” on display at the Mansfield Freeman Center for East Asian Studies, were part of an honors thesis by Aiai Chen ’13.

By Yi Ding  
*Staff Writer*

For an art journalist, there may be nothing more exciting and refreshing than interviewing an alumna artist. Aiai Chen ’13, once an East Asian Studies major, has been working at Ethan Cohen Fine Arts, one of the first contemporary Chinese art galleries in New York, since graduation. “Oracle Bone Script Paintings” and “Characters Paintings,” two series of innovative sumi-e paintings under one theme, “Return,” earned her a degree with high honors this past spring. The works are currently on display in the lecture room of the Mansfield Freeman Center for East Asian Studies.

Chen agreed to talk about her career path in the art world and her views on the Chinese art scene in the U.S. via Skype this week. The interview was conducted in Mandarin Chinese and translated into English for The Argus.

**The Argus:** Do you mind telling me something about your background related to Chinese art?  
**Aiai Chen:** I studied Chinese calligraphy with a famous Chinese calligrapher, Mr. Lu Weizhong, ten years ago. It was at Wesleyan that I came to first learn

how to paint in water and ink, a very different skill from calligraphy, with Mr. Shinohara Keiji in my sophomore year and continued doing tutorials with him since then.

**A:** Can you talk about your inspiration for your honor thesis? Any particular mentor, book, or personal experience? How did your ideas about this piece change over time?  
**AC:** Though I got a lot of compliments for my final project for my sumi-e painting class, I was not satisfied at all then. A long time practitioner of Chinese calligraphy, I couldn’t help to think about combining Chinese characters with paintings in an innovative way since then. To me, Chinese characters in any script are art, and thus I began to use merely calligraphy to construct painting, such as a mountain in a landscape. It was actually far harder to do that than [I imagined] because of the very subtle variation of ink and the delicate way blank [space] works in Chinese landscape painting. I nevertheless kept on trying throughout my junior year, and my summer experience at the Tokyo National Museum made my belief in doing creative calligraphy paintings even firmer.

**A:** It seems interesting to me that you are a sumi-e painter who has a solid background in calligraphy and culture research [relating to] East Asian Studies. Do you want to talk about how your liberal arts experience at Wesleyan shaped your vision concerning your honors project?  
**AC:** I actually didn’t know if my vision about calligraphy paintings [would eventually] work at the beginning. However, I was very determined to do that because of, I guess, an inner urge to delve into the origin of things. I came to Wesleyan with many ambitious goals, but it was the diverse and dynamic campus culture that later pushed me to rethink my artistic and life values. [There were] also many Humanities classes I took at Wes that stimulated me to focus more on the nature of things. You know, to use the tree as an analogy, I was more into the fruit of the tree before, and my Wes experience really successfully trained me to pay attention to the root, the origin and essence of things.

**A:** What do you mean by the origin of things, and how does this relate to your art making?  
**AC:** In my thesis’ case and even in my current art making, it became an emphasis on the most fundamental part of

myself and Chinese classical culture: the very life and the beauty of nature and the world. To me, calligraphy paintings [are] a great way to express those because of the classical aesthetics in composition, color, characters, and also realm. This aesthetics on a visual beauty is quite different from that of other contemporary Chinese and Western art, which values much more the concept and sort of grotesque creativity and beauty.

I would also thank [Adjunct Assistant Professor of East Asian Studies and Anthropology Patrick] Dowdey’s Contemporary Chinese Art class, where I was inspired by so many great artworks he showed in class. In this sense, I would say my Wes experience made me able to appreciate some overarching values and techniques from different artworks. I’m saying the origin of things because I am with growing certainty that our outward appearance springs from our heart. “Return”, in this sense, I guess is to delve more deeply into my heart.

**A:** That said, how has your work experience at a gallery full of contemporary Chinese and Western art been influencing you? Any expectations for either yourself or the Chinese art scene in

general?  
**AC:** I have some mixed feelings about my life now. On the one hand, I did learn a lot from the artists, the colleagues, and the clients I have encountered everyday, and I indeed feel very lucky to be exposed to many great, varied exhibitions here in New York City. They gave me many inspirations for my own Chinese art making. Yet, surrounded by so many new things to learn, such as art business and Western art, while continuing to be an artist among many peers who are working in more mainstream industries where people focus more on practical aspects, I can feel constant pressure, stimulation, and, of course, motivation. When surrounded by so many different voices, I kind of felt lost at first. It was hard to decide my priorities when too many ideas, including some practical pursuits, came into my mind.

I do miss my life at Wesleyan sometimes, when the pace was not this crazy and I had more time to explore freely and wildly. Right now, however, instead of some uncertainty and even solitude I now and then feel about my own vision of doing Chinese art, I am determined to insist on exploring my expected kind of art and career. There is really nothing more important than following my heart right now.

# Arcade Fire Builds a Double-Sized Magnum Opus

By Richard Starzec  
*Staff Writer*

When Arcade Fire released the lead single from its upcoming album, Reflektor, back on Sept. 9, many fans found themselves puzzled yet intrigued by the new direction. With David Bowie backing vocals and a more focused percussion section to create a 70s-rock meets 80s-disco vibe, the band seemed just about finished exploring indie rock and anthems such as “Wake Up” and “Sprawl II” in exchange for a different kind of expansive sound.

Sure enough, once Reflektor finally made its way online, it was met with just as much praise as criticism. Some deemed it a masterpiece and their finest album ever, while others tore it apart for being too bloated and excessive. Reflektor is certainly the group’s most critically divisive album since Neon Bible, although it’s clearly much more ambitious than its sophomore effort.

Before the release of what was easily the most anticipated album of the year, next to Kanye’s Yeezus and Daft Punk’s Random Access Memories, there was an overwhelming sense of pressure resting on the shoulders of the band. So, now that the dust has begun to settle, what do we make of Reflektor?

The album itself is split into two halves: Disc 1 and Disc 2. Disc 1 carries the general vibe of the opening track, “Reflektor.” It mostly focuses on weaving the rock vibes from previous work with the new synth and reverb-heavy atmosphere present on tracks such as the “Month of May”-reminiscent

“Normal Person” and “You Already Know,” although Win Butler starts off the former song with a small interlude asking the listener if they “like rock n’ roll music, cause I don’t know if I do.”

If anything is clear by the midway point of Disc 1, it’s that Arcade Fire is finished being “that indie rock band.” If you didn’t know what Arcade Fire was after 2010’s Grammy-winning The Suburbs, listen up, because the group is here to stay. And just as the album moves between its rock roots and new dance-oriented rhythms, songs like “Here Comes the Night Time” and “Joan of Arc” switch tempos at random points throughout the song to give each a unique shift that tosses the viewer around for an unforgettable experience of mirth. If you’re not smiling from joy by the end of Disc 1 then you haven’t yet experienced Reflektor properly.

As “Joan of Arc” ends and Disc 1 transitions into the second half of the album, the listener is left with the sound of wind blowing in the distance as the music fades into the abyss. What follows next is arguably the better of the two halves, beginning with “Here Comes the Night Time II,” which has a familiar tragic disposition to “The Suburbs (Continued)” as it slows the tempo down, making the world feel heavier and much more difficult to maneuver against the pain and sorrow of love.

The next two songs are meant to be played back to back, and rightly so. “Awful Sound (Oh Eurydice)” and “It’s Never Over (Oh Orpheus)” are the pinnacle of Reflektor, the first be-

ing a gorgeous building anthem that chronicles the love of one man for one woman. It doesn’t matter whether you want to follow the Greek myth or simply let the song wash over you. If Disc 1 focused on the larger theme of isolation and love lost between people during the Reflective Age, “Oh Eurydice” is about the bonds of love, and uses the story of Orpheus and Eurydice to highlight the power that can still exist when the world fights against your passions.

But the story doesn’t end there. “Oh Orpheus” is a powerful ballad that tears through the emotion of “Oh Eurydice” and knocks it off its feet. Trust and faith are reckoned with and seemingly deemed impossible to believe in. At this point, the album shifts into its most cynical and grim-sounding piece with “Porno” which, no doubt thanks to the fantastic production by James Murphy, sounds like a post-breakup LCD Soundsystem song. But after this there is a notable shift back to the upbeat “Afterlife” before the album ends with the long but not unnecessary “Supersymmetry,” which closes with a slowed-down reversal of the first half of the song.

There will no doubt be many critics who argue that the album reaches the greatness that Arcade Fire set out to create but that it stumbles over its length and excess, but I would argue that it’s just as close to a perfect album that any artist has produced in 2013. Reflektor is all about duality both on a small and large scale: Disc 1/Disc 2, “Here Comes the Night Time I/II,” the reflected second-half of

“Supersymmetry,” themes of love and loss, life and death, reality and reflection, man and woman, etc. It is only fitting that the album dives head first into these concepts and explores them thoroughly from each side. And it ends on the opposite side from where it started: a yearning to live in the moment without the worries of death and loss that can plague the mind throughout life.

Two other albums came to mind after I finished listening to Reflektor: Talking Heads’ Remain in Light and Radiohead’s Kid A. The first makes more sense while the other is a bit of a stretch, but hear me out. Spending a couple of years heading in one direction with each album proving better than the last, both Talking Heads and Radiohead took great risk on each of their fourth LPs. For Talking Heads, it was more about sonic experimentation and the blending of funk, African rhythms, and lead singer David Byrne’s poetic lyrics, while Radiohead sought to blend Yorke’s voice with the experimental electronica to heighten the themes of alienation and paranoia in the age of computers. Reflektor lands somewhere in the middle. Obviously nowhere near as transformative as Kid A, the album creates a similar feel in terms of new direction and sound.

It’s doubtful that Reflektor will set a trend for how music will sound in the coming decade, but it still is an impressive shift from the raw rock power of Funeral and the deceptively simple nature of The Suburbs. Both Kid A and Reflektor even end with a



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final song that strips lyrics away and eventually transforms into soft, ambient soundscapes that bleed out into complete silence. Even the couple of blips that start off Disc 2 allude to a kind of rebirth akin to the Radiohead track “Kid A.”

It’s difficult to place Reflektor in Arcade Fire’s catalogue after only a few days of listening. I’m typically a bigger fan of The Suburbs than Funeral, but both are masterpieces. Neon Bible is definitely the weakest album of their discography, but it’s still an impressive sophomore album that expands on the themes and sounds that Funeral generated back in 2004.

Reflektor heads in such a different direction for the group that it can’t really be considered on the same level as the first three albums. Only time will tell where Reflektor finally comes to reside in the scope of Arcade Fire’s career, but I predict that years down the line it’ll be considered their magnum opus by many. Just you wait.



THE IDIOT BOX

"Masters of Sex"

By Sarah Corey  
Contributing Writer

Before there was Cosmopolitan Magazine, before there were sex tapes, before there was Oh Megan, there were Dr. William Masters and Virginia Johnson, the research team that pioneered the study of human sexuality. Beginning in brothels with rudimentary vibrators, they eventually legitimized a study at Washington University in St. Louis. The new Showtime series “Masters of Sex” chronicles their lives and their study from its start, featuring each masturbating prostitute along the way.

If that’s not enough to hook you, the show’s well-crafted plots, detailed characters, and beautiful 1950s-era design should do the trick. Masters, played with wonderfully subtle chilliness by Michael Sheen, is an OB/GYN dedicated to uncovering the secrets of sex and sexuality through the first true studies on the topic. It’s clear from the start that he’d probably benefit from the study more than anyone; he and his wife sleep in separate beds and he’s surprised to learn in the first episode that women can fake orgasms. Johnson, charmingly played by Lizzy Caplan (whom you might recognize as Janis Ian from “Mean Girls”), begins working at Masters’ Washington University hospital and is clearly his polar opposite, with none of the degrees but all of the intuition. He brings her on board to assist in his study and we watch the two begin to make history together.

Masters and Johnson make such an odd couple and their inevitable future romance (I promise I’m not giving anything away here—this is based on a true story, after all) feels a bit hard to root for. Perhaps this is just a matter of the difference in their personalities, but a little bit more chemistry between them would make their relationship more compelling. Nevertheless, the juxtaposition of Masters’ buttoned-up, scientific misunderstanding of people and sexuality and Johnsons’ warm affability is delightful to watch.

“Masters of Sex” plays like a sort of “Mad Men” and “Sex and the City” crossover, a hybrid I can definitely get behind. In one frivolous scene in the fifth episode, Masters tells Johnson that when he explained the details of the birds and the bees to an ignorant housewife, she looked as if she saw the second coming. Johnson coyly retorts, “Wait until she sees her husband coming.” Swap out the antiquated medical equipment in her hand for a cosmo and we might as well be watching Samantha Jones gossiping with the girls in a SoHo bar.

This definitely makes for entertaining television, but I can’t help but wonder if it’s compelling or realistic. One of the charms of “Mad Men” is how smoothly the characters fit into the 1960s setting. With her witty sexual puns and generally liberated attitude toward sex and relationships, Johnson seems a bit removed from the world she’s supposed to inhabit. Pair that with the character’s apparent lack of faults, and we’ve basically got a perfect woman on our hands. As the series progresses, I’d like to see a bit more complexity for her beyond this one-dimensional sexual liberalism.

This series has all the elements of great television, and I’m just waiting to see them all gel together. As we move further and further into this first season, the show’s slow pace allows for more details of character and plot to be revealed, and as this happens the series only gets stronger. “Masters of Sex:” come for the sex, stay for the quality storytelling.

Look What I Did: “Five Women Wearing the Same Dress”

By Gwendolyn Rosen  
Arts Editor

It’s no secret that one of the best things about Wesleyan is the student initiative. This newspaper you’re reading? It’s completely student-run. The café I’m writing from? Espwesso, a late-night coffee shop that is, you guessed it, completely student-run.

One of the most expansive student-run parts of campus culture is the performing arts scene. Almost every weekend, you can find a concert, play, or dance show that’s put together entirely by students. After my first semester at Wesleyan, I knew that I wanted to be a part of this go-getter culture and direct my own show.

Every single aspect of directing “Five Women Wearing the Same Dress” has been a collaborative process with other students. From putting together my cast and crew to asking other student directors about their experiences, it was a joint process. Even the decision of which show I would be directing came with the help of a friend who had read “Five Women” and thought that it was just my style.

And she hit the nail on the head. While the concept may seem obvious from the title (although I’ve had a surprising amount of people ask me if all five women are wearing one dress, which is not the case), “Five Women” is so much more than a story about a bunch of bridesmaids. It’s a story about the female experience that transcends across generations. The play was written in 1993, making it as old as I am. Performing it two decades later and seeing how relevant it remains makes it even more important to me to tell this story.

To me, the play embraces the experience of being a woman in everyday life, something that strikes me both in my academic studies and in my personal introspection. It’s easy for me to identify why the play is important to me, but one of the challenges of being a director is being able to assemble a cast and crew who take your

play as seriously as you do. I was lucky enough to have no trouble with this. My stage manager, Helen Handelman ’16, has put all her effort into making the show a success, and my assistant stage manager, Rachel Kaly ’17, followed her lead from the beginning. Even more importantly, we put together a cast of actors who were not only extremely talented but also completely invested in making the show come alive.

By the time you’ve been doing shows at Wesleyan for two years, it’s easy to cast actors whom you’ve seen before, who you know will give a great performance. I admit that I did this with Wesleyan theater pros Ali Goldberg ’15 and Conor Boughton ’15, both of whom I’ve seen give beautiful performances in past semesters. They nailed their auditions, and I knew they would be fun and easy to work with.

But Helen and I could not ignore the large amount of freshman talent that overwhelmed us at auditions. It seemed risky to cast actors that I had never met, especially on a campus where it sometimes feels like you know everyone. Are they fun to work with? Do they work well under pressure? Are they even nice people? After several short auditions, Helen and I felt that we had picked the best when we cast four talented freshmen: Annie Cooperstone, Connie Des Marais, Rebecca Hutman, and Jessica Wolinsky.

These ladies recognized that you only get one first shot, and they’ve been determined from day one to make this show an epic start to four years of theater at Wesleyan. The cast as a whole put in an amazing amount of work both in and out of rehearsal, and every time I got a selfie from them practicing their lines in their dorm rooms, my heart melted. Having so many people work so hard to make your vision come true is a humbling experience, and I couldn’t be happier with the results.

Even with all this talent and enthusiasm, directing was no easy ride. I’ve acted

in my fair share of shows, but my behind-the-scenes work is limited. The cast and crew relied on me for everything from an opinion about which lighting captured the mood of the room to the number of flowers on the tacky bridesmaids dresses: I was overwhelmed. I felt like my opinion was no more informed than anyone else’s, but it’s the director’s job to make the final call. Character work comes easily to me, but decision making in general does not. Giving the final word on most decisions regarding the production proved an immense challenge.

This may be a love letter to the cast and crew I’ve worked so hard with for the past two months (forgive me, it’s tech week, so emotions and exhaustion are running high). But I also have a few words of advice for those who think they may direct during their time at Wesleyan, which I highly recommend.

First, take some risks. Whether that happens during casting, rehearsals, or crew meetings, don’t be afraid to stretch yourself outside of your comfort zone. Second, don’t be afraid to ask for help, because there are a million people on this campus who are more than willing to lend a hand just to be a part of something special. Third, be prepared for things to go wrong, and look forward to the satisfaction of finding a solution. Fourth, take your position seriously, and remember that being a director is a leadership role before anything else.

And, lastly, laugh with your cast. It’s important to remain focused, but I’m so grateful for the times that rehearsal got a little off topic. A close cast makes for a great show, so taking the time to get to know one another is just as important as solidifying blocking. And which are you going to remember more: who stood where during the performance, or the wonderful stories you shared?

“Five Women Wearing the Same Dress” will be performed in the Downey House Lounge this Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.

“Counselor” Confuses Audience

By Dan Fuchs  
Arts Editor

Michael Fassbender, Penélope Cruz, Cameron Diaz, Javier Bardem, Brad Pitt, Ridley Scott, Cormac McCarthy. What a cast and crew. You’ve got some of the finest working actors, a brilliant writer, and a legendary director; together, they make up a massive chunk of the power behind the most critically and commercially acclaimed movies—and books, in McCarthy’s case—of the past two or three decades.

So when when it was announced that all of these luminaries would be working together on “The Counselor,” heads began to turn and the Internet hype machine began to churn. Trailers were released, showing sleek, tightly shot scenes; a strong, memorable crime thriller seemed to be on the horizon.

Unfortunately, as these star-studded collaborations occasionally do, “The Counselor” largely disappoints, often confusing more than it thrills and providing little reason to relate to the characters, even if said characters are portrayed by some of the finest working actors around.

Centering on the border between the United States and Mexico, “The Counselor” focuses on a nameless lawyer identified only as, yes, the Counselor. He (Fassbender) lives a life of luxury in southern Texas, with a beautiful girlfriend, Laura (Penélope Cruz), and a wealthy business partner, Reiner (Javier Bardem, whose hair in the film lies somewhere between your typical Backstreet Boy and an actual porcupine). From there, the Counselor falls down the rabbit hole, beginning

a foray into drug smuggling that ultimately threatens him and those he cares about. Also involved are Malkina (Cameron Diaz), Reiner’s girlfriend, who herself is a major power player, and Westray (Brad Pitt), another member of the smuggling ring who serves as the Counselor’s main advisor.

While the film has an interesting concept with clear potential, McCarthy and Scott fail to structure the film in an engaging way. They deal with multiple large organizations and complex hierarchies, and the film fails to help the viewer piece the narrative together. This isn’t to say that viewers should be coddled by films, but there are at least three points in the film where I was entirely lost in terms of where the characters were and why exactly they were doing what they were doing. The dialogue doesn’t help the confusion, either. Characters speak both simultaneously at breakneck speed and cryptically; they have a clear idea of their situation, but the same can’t be said for the viewer.

What’s more, the film has moments that feel downright unnecessary. I don’t consider myself a prude, but there are several scenes of violence and sex that the film has not necessarily earned. The teaser of the film is a sex scene that precludes any real exposition, and there’s a scene involving Cameron Diaz and a car that I simply don’t feel comfortable writing about. The same can be said of the film’s violence, as several characters are brutally decapitated.

These moments should feel emotionally intense, but, because of the confusing nature of the narrative, they feel out of place and jarring. The nature of the film’s context (the drug wars in

Mexico) left the potential for some interesting social commentary, and while there are one or two strong moments in which the film addresses this framework, they are ultimately few and far between. Instead, Scott and McCarthy use the brutality of the violence in an attempt to create some sort of shock-commentary.

There’s a lot of potential in “The Counselor,” especially in the film’s characters. All of the actors are clear professionals and perform to the best of their abilities, but our protagonists are too despicable to be liked, and the most relatable characters, like Laura, aren’t given enough screen time to be a focus of the film. Not even the titular Counselor is relatable; his mystery and lack of name tie the film to the stellar 2011 crime film “Drive,” but whereas “Drive” featured an intriguing, mysterious protagonist, “The Counselor” doesn’t have that same charm. Fassbender is a fantastic actor, and he has some truly tragic and emotive moments, but he’s too verbose to be captivating; instead, he’s just inexplicably under-explained.

There’s a difficulty in disliking a film like “The Counselor.” A crime thriller featuring such a strong cast and crew seems tailor-made for lovers of “Drive” and “The Conversation,” like myself. But, at the end of the day, “The Counselor” simply perplexes, lacking a clear narrative and relatable characters. If nothing else, “The Counselor” is the very bane of the modern hype machine, proving that even the strongest casts and crews can disappoint. If you’re looking for a strong thriller, “The Counselor” falls flat. As for me, I’ll just watch “Drive” again.

Arts Calendar

Friday, Nov. 1

**Gag Reflex: The Homecoming Show**  
World Music Hall, 8 p.m.

**Desperate Measures: The Baby Shower Show**  
Nicolson Lounge, 8 p.m.

**Five Women Wearing the Same Dress**  
Downey House Lounge, 8 p.m.

**Fall Senior Thesis Dance Concert**  
'92 Theater, 8 p.m., \$4

**THIS IS WHY: Dar Williams '89 in Concert**  
Crowell Concert Hall, 9 p.m., \$25

**The Pluto Moon/ South Station/ Ari & Arian**  
Earth House, 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 2

**Homecoming Reception: The Alumni Show II**  
Zilkha Gallery, 2 p.m.

**CFA 40th Anniversary Celebration Concert**  
Crowell Concert Hall, 8 p.m., \$6

**Five Women Wearing the Same Dress**  
Downey House Lounge, 8 p.m.

**Fall Senior Thesis Dance Concert**  
'92 Theater, 8 p.m., \$4

**Saint Rich and Verdigirls**  
WestCo Café, 10 p.m.

**Stories Better Never Told, or The Library Project**  
Olin Library, Midnight

All events are free unless otherwise noted.



FEATURES

Costume: Shop Harbors Eclectic Array of Attire

Continued from front page

to order for Dance Department and Second Stage shows. He buys fabric from local stores and from a particularly large fabric outlet in Springfield, Mass. Occasionally, employees buy fabric online as well.

In addition to making costumes from scratch for particular shows, the Costume Shop has a lending policy for the costumes they already posses. Students make appointments with staff members and explain their visions for the costume they are looking for. The staff member then pulls out options, and the students can choose which they like best. They then “rent” them out for two weeks through a newly installed online checkout system, which was conceived by Jessica Jordan ’13. Costume borrowers are expected to have the clothes dry cleaned or washed accordingly prior to returning them.

Unfortunately, students hoping to find and borrow particularly elaborate Halloween costumes will be turned away; only theater, dance, or thesis film rental requests are granted.

The Costume Shop employees are students with a particular interest in costume design or theater production more generally.

Sisam Acharya ’16, a new employee,

has enjoyed her work in the shop thus far.

“I used to sew and I love working with costumes,” she said. “I’m really into clothing history and fashion design. It’s a really great place to work because our boss is really nice and funny, and it’s just fun work.”

The student staff does everything from creating puppets and masks to fixing hems and designing costumes.

Emma MacLean ’14, a longtime Shop employee, remembers some funny instances that have become staple stories in the shop. Each of the five sewing machines that Milik inherited when he arrived at Wesleyan bears its own name. Once, a student dropped one of them on the ground, picked it back up, attempted to sew with it, and, miraculously, it worked perfectly. To honor her good fortune, Milik named the sewing machine after her.

Another fond memory materialized last spring, when the shop employees crafted nearly 20 Chinese robes out of satin for the Theater Department’s production of “Peony Pavilion.” Thanks to a child puppet that she had helped create earlier in the year, MacLean also managed to scare a Public Safety officer late one night when he was locking up the shop.

Though Milik and his staff have created some awe-inspiring costumes, he is most proud of some of the puppets they

have created over the past few years. Two springs ago, for the Theater Department’s production of “Doctor Faustus,” the shop employees created a lifelike dog and the aforementioned child puppet, both of which are now on display in the shop. Milik also spearheaded the creation of the puppets for “The Master Peter Puppet Show,” which is a puppet show within a puppet show. That collection eventually went on display at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. A dismembered Don Quixote puppet from the show is on display in the men’s restroom in the CFA theater and dance building.

Milik is also fond of the costumes created two years ago for “The Skriker,” a play by Caryl Churchill. The fabric for all of the costumes and puppets he created was recycled from donated materials.

Another product that Milik created himself is a vacuform, a machine used to create masks by pushing plastic down to a mold of a face in order to create a mask specifically for that person. Milik mastered this particularly difficult process with ease.

Milik works closely with Theater



ELIZABETH GELMAN/CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

**Claire Whitehouse ’14 works at the Wesleyan Costume Shop, which has been expanding its collection and staff, providing performance groups with a variety of snazzy garb.**

Department Artist in Residence Leslie Weinberg, who conceives and creates the costumes for all department shows.

“We have developed a relationship in which she takes advantage of my skills in her designs, which has lead to much more elaborate construction,” Milik said.

The shop’s inventory has grown immensely since Milik has taken over, so much so that the employees purge the

shop every few years to make room for new garments. They now have twelve types of sewing machines instead of five to accommodate the growth of the Theater Department and the higher demand for garments.

If you’re in need of a purple satin gown or a fur vest for an upcoming show, there’s one stop you should definitely make before heading over to Goodwill.

DIY Degendering Follows History of Gender Activism

By Abbey Francis  
*Executive Editor*

In the fall of 2003, the University inaugurated a gender-blind hall for incoming freshmen in Nicolson 6, the first of its kind at Wesleyan and, by all accounts, the country.

The hall’s institution was the result of extensive efforts by the school’s Queer Task Force and other queer, trans\*, and gender-nonconforming activists and allies. It came only a year after the revision of the University’s non-discrimination policy to include gender identity and gender expression.

And yet, that first year was an experiment, and not an entirely successful one.

According to the Wesleyan University Trans/Gender Group, some students who had requested to be placed on the hall were not, and most of the students who were placed on the hall had not requested it as a housing option. Only one trans-identifying person ended up living on the hall, and the room in which that student lived was the only mixed-gender room on the hall.

Due to these and other problems with the hall’s organization, like the fact that it separated transgender and queer students from the rest of the University community, it was discontinued for the next academic year.

Wesleyan is often touted as one of the most liberal schools in the country, regularly finding a place in “Top 10 Something or Other” lists to this end, as well as ill-informed articles about “the naked dorm.”

Recently, local media were drawn to campus yet again. Eyewitness News 3, WFSB aired a report and posted an article about the recent DIY degendering of campus bathrooms. The reports noted the student action as a push for a “literal free-for-all,” and described the movement for gender-neutral bathrooms on campus as having gone “rogue.” Despite the manifestos posted on many bathroom doors around campus under the authorship of “Pissed Off Trans\* People,” Eyewitness News reported that the campus was unaware of the signs’ authors.

Trans\* and queer rights are considered to be at the heart of degendering bathrooms and other spaces on campus. The general degendering project has, in effect, been present since the University

started admitting women in 1970.

Head of Special Collections and University Archivist Suzy Taraba remembers that, during her time as a student in the early 1970s, dorms alternated gender by floor. When students spent the night in a partner’s room—not an irregular occurrence in the 1970s, Taraba pointed out—the bathrooms would become co-ed or gender-neutral by default.

“I think there’s been a long history of kind of informal co-ed bathrooms,” Taraba said. “It’s only in the last few years, partly related to the expanded number of openly transgender students at Wesleyan, and everywhere, that there’s been an expanded interest in degendering public bathrooms, outside of dormitories.”

The Office of Residential Life (ResLife) began offering co-ed rooms to students in 1995, though never to freshmen. However, these decisions were not the result of concern for transgender rights. Rooms designated as co-ed, after all, fail to acknowledge students who do not identify as either male or female.

The movement to degender spaces on campus to make them safe and comfortable for trans\* and queer people has been gaining ground since 2001. That year, the Queer Task Force, a subset of the Wesleyan Student Assembly (WSA), ensured guaranteed singles to all transgender students, though by its very nature this accommodation was only applicable to students willing to identify as transgender to the University. In 2001, single rooms also incurred an added \$300 cost to housing fees, making the option potentially out of reach for some students.

The next academic year brought the inclusion of gender identity and gender expression in the school’s non-discrimination policy and the decision to institute a gender-blind hall. When the hall, during its first year out, was deemed an ineffective solution, however, the Queer Task Force, the Undergraduate Residential Life Committee, and ResLife created a proposal to allow all freshmen students to request a gender-neutral room in any dorm for the 2004-2005 academic year. Students who chose this option were to be paired with another gender-neutral-requesting student or placed in a single room.

While the new proposal was being crafted and considered, newspapers across the country picked up on the story of the gender-blind hall. Perhaps most signifi-

cantly, The New York Times published a long story in its Style section in March of 2004 about students at Wesleyan, Brown University, Sarah Lawrence College, and Smith College who had recently made headway in their struggle for greater transgender rights on campus.

“[These students are] at the cutting edge of a new kind of campus activism,” reads the article. “[They are] transgender students and their allies who are convincing colleges to meet needs that include private bathrooms and showers, specialized housing and sports teams on which students who don’t identify themselves as either male or female can play.”

Zach Strassburger ’06 and Paige Kruza ’07 were featured extensively in the article. Strassburger was a sophomore who had played a key role in instituting the gender-blind freshman hall, and Kruza was the one openly transgendered person living on the hall.

Strassburger’s experience speaks to the difficulty that transgender students faced in choosing housing at the time. Hir freshman year, Strassburger had wanted a roommate, but because ze was biologically female, would have been placed with a female student. Ze therefore opted for a single instead, and told the Times and other news organizations that ze believed every student should have the opportunity to live with a roommate. That’s why ze pushed for a gender-blind hall.

In an Argus article following the one published by the Times, Strassburger registered hir disappointment in the entirely positive tone of the piece, saying that while it was generally good, ze wished more of the nuances of the situation had been covered.

“The uniformly positive statements expressed in the article do not fully reflect my feelings about the administration silencing student voices,” Strassburger wrote.

By the beginning of the next academic year, the fall of 2004, activists would have more to be concerned about.

That summer, about 80 students requested a gender-neutral housing assignment under the Universal Gender Neutral Housing Policy meant to replace the gender-blind hall. Under what was said to be a randomized system, only 16 of these students were placed with a person of a different biological sex. When ResLife called the students, 12 of the original 16, upon discovering that gender-neutral did not just mean living on the same hall with

all genders, decided to switch. Two pairs chose to stay in their original assignment.

However, in August, then-University President Douglas Bennet and then-Interim Dean of the College Peter Patton reportedly pushed for the splitting of these pairs. According to the Trans/Gender Group’s website, this was because Patton’s moral values would not let him condone the pairing of a biological male and biological female. The Argus reported that, until August, Patton had not realized that the gender-neutral policy meant that two students of the opposite biological sex could be paired together.

The University community responded in force. In early October of 2004, the WSA passed a unanimous resolution in support of the reinstitution of the Universal Gender Neutral Housing Policy.

“The historical rationale for same-sex roommate assignments is based upon antiquated heterosexist assumptions and obsolete concerns which no longer factor into University Housing Policy,” the resolution reads.

Within the month, the WSA conducted a student-wide poll about the policy, which had an unusually high response rate. Over 1,000 students responded to the poll; 92 percent of them were in favor of a gender-neutral housing option.

Over the next two years, student activists lobbied the administration to reinstate a gender-neutral housing policy. It was not until the fall of 2006 that a freshman class matriculated under the option to live with a roommate not of their biological sex.

Though degendering living spaces was the primary article of contention between administrators and student activists, degendering common spaces has been of key import for trans\* and queer students since at least the early 2000s.

According to Strassburger, students put up a sort of public art project to degender bathrooms in 2002. Activists put up pictures, writing, and art in two bathrooms on the ground floor of Allbritton, with some level of permission by the University. The degendered bathrooms lasted for about one week.

“We wanted it to be in a place where people would see it,” Strassburger told The Argus this week. “But [we] didn’t necessarily want to take over the campus. It both provided a space for people who didn’t have other bathrooms to use and

provided information, conversation, and education.”

In 2006, the Trans/Gender Group along with the Queer Task Force formed a group called Survey of Wesleyan Access to Bathrooms (SWAB). SWAB was created to tackle the lack of gender-neutral bathrooms and wheelchair-accessible bathrooms on campus.

“Using a checklist employed at other universities and public spaces that they customized for Wesleyan, SWAB intends to use the data collected by over 80 volunteers to provide specific recommendations for physical plant, and to publish the locations of gender-neutral and wheelchair accessible bathrooms online,” reads an Argus article published that year.

It appears that the only specifically gender-neutral bathroom not in a dorm on campus at that time was in the Exley Science Center.

Since 2006, some other bathrooms on campus have been degendered. This is consistent with the University’s history (dormitories became co-ed and then degendered) of having gender-neutral bathrooms in dorms instituted by vote. (There have been some reports, however, that recent years have seen more students voting in favor of their dorms having gendered restrooms.) Still, the University administration, as well as faculty, staff, and some students, have remained apprehensive about the DIY degendering.

Strassburger, who is now an attorney representing youth in the foster care system, said that, while ze acknowledged that ripping down signs is perhaps not the best way to convert people to one’s cause, ze thinks it’s still a good way to start conversation on campus.

“I’m glad that Wesleyan students are still activists,” ze said. “And while I wish that this was an issue that could be solved so that students could move on to other issues, I’m glad that Wes is still weird.”

Trans\* and queer activism at the University, while certainly moving in ever more progressive directions, is nothing new. Moxie Trissel ’07, in a September 2004 Argus article, wrote of Wesleyan students’ tendency to push for matters of activism and justice.

“Wesleyan students have a way of taking things into their own hands, in terms of housing or otherwise,” she wrote. “Folks will end up living where they feel comfortable one way or another.”



# WesCeleb: TAYLOR STEELE

By Adam Keller  
*Features Editor*

WesWings makes some good pulled pork sandwiches, don't get me wrong. But when I was lucky enough to encounter the amazing catering services of Taylor Steele '14 on a film thesis shoot this past weekend, I was subject to one of the most amazing culinary experiences I've had at Wesleyan. Aside from his launching the barbecuing club "CarnivorWes" (with the slogan, "your carbon footprint never tasted so good"), Steele is an avid reader and writer, actively involved in writing programs across campus. Steele sat down with me to discuss barbecuing, mystery writing, and how to be an engaged reader and a college student at the same time.

**The Argus:** So, what makes you a WesCeleb?

**Taylor Steele:** I was hoping you'd tell me. I'm really not entirely sure. I'd say this year I've started holding more or less weekly barbecue potluck events at my senior house, so lots of people have come for those. It's pretty open, and my goal is to shift it from me inviting my friends via email, which is what I've been doing, to more of a true student-group-style event. I've created a student group called CarnivorWes, so part of the goal is to do these open potluck-style meals where we barbecue things, and then the other part that I want to work on, which I'm doing now, is providing a student catering option. I've catered a senior thesis film shoot, and I'll be doing that again this weekend. I live with [Gideon Too '14], the captain of the Rugby team, and they have a barbecue at the end of the season traditionally, so I'll probably be catering that this year.

I'm interested in helping other student groups and organizations have events where food is featured, so that it maintains a sort of all-student, all-Wesleyan sensibility in terms of that all of it is done by Wesleyan instead of having to go outside of school. Getting food from restaurants in Middletown can be wonderful, but it's also fun to feel like a Wesleyan group can provide

food for another Wesleyan group. My weekly potlucks I just hold at my house on Cross Street. My plan is, particularly in the spring, to see whether other people are interested in helping out. I know a lot of people on campus have grills and I assume would enjoy having the chance to use those or to learn more about barbecuing.

We've been doing them on Saturday evenings, which is a time when people tend to be free; they're not quite ready to go out, but it's a good time to do something. The dining options on campus tend to not be as full-fledged on Saturday night, so it's a good time to have people come together, relax, and enjoy good food. I think by sponsoring that, I've gotten to know a lot of people and become known for that.

**A:** What kinds of food are you known for?

**TS:** If you want a brief explanation of barbecuing versus grilling, the basic difference is that barbecue really involves smoking, so using real hardwood rather than charcoal, or hardwood in addition to charcoal. On a grill you can do a lot of things, but it's more or less like an open-faced oven in some sense, where you use high heat. When you smoke things, you tend to use much lower heat, and you want the smoke to sort of infuse the food. It adds a whole extra dimension of flavor.

Traditional cuts of meat that you would barbecue instead of grill include pork shoulder, which is what you use to make pulled pork sandwiches, which are something I've definitely done a few times and I think I'm known for. Barbecued brisket is wonderful, and what else have I done? Pork tenderloins, I've done smoked salmon, smoked chicken. My hope is to do something for Thanksgiving, to roast or smoke turkeys. You can do just about anything. It's definitely pretty meat-centric, but I also support other eating styles and eating habits, so I try to make vegetarian options as well. It can really be interesting when you try. Grilled vegetables are great, but really trying to provide more of an entrée-style vegetarian meal from the grill can be really challenging but fun.

**A:** Tell me a bit about your writing.

**TS:** [Laughs.] All right. I'm doing a Writing Certificate. I'm a COL major but focusing as well on creative writing.

Particularly within that, I'm doing fiction writing; I've taken many fiction workshops at Wesleyan.

This year, I'm doing a thesis that will be a murder mystery set at a lightly fictionalized version of Wesleyan. I'm working with [Kim-Frank Family University Writer in Residence] Amy Bloom; she's my thesis advisor. It will be in the form of a novel, but because it's a thesis and there are time constraints and page limits, I probably won't be able to finish it or hand in the whole thing. My final product will probably look like about 100 pages of polished work and a detailed synopsis of the rest of the novel, which is challenging.

It's one of the things that's difficult about doing this, because, particularly with the murder mystery genre, for the reader, most of the fun things happen towards the end of the novel. A lot of what I'll be working on will be the setup and the character development. But those are the things that, as a writer, I really want to work on, rather than just seeing whether I can make exciting things happen at the end. But yeah, it's already been a lot of fun and quite challenging at the same time, and I hope that that continues throughout the year. It'd be nice to have that balance and to have it be not just a frustrating project, but also something that I can enjoy.

**A:** What types of fiction do you most enjoy? Who are your favorite authors?

**TS:** I'm terrible at these types of questions. For whatever reason, I don't tend to gravitate towards having favorites among films, books, authors, et cetera. But if I had to name a few authors who I enjoy and potentially would recommend, David Foster Wallace is one author I really enjoy reading. I'm not particularly interested in writing like him—better read than imitated—but I think he's an incredibly adept writer and also manages to achieve some of the emotional goals that I think fiction really strives for.

Beyond that, I enjoy, I think, a kind of eclectic group of writers. Just to rattle off a few names: Kelly Link, John Collier, Lydia Davis, John Cheever, Wallace Stegner, George Saunders, and the list goes on. One of the things that's been great for me at Wesleyan is being exposed every year to different writers, particularly short story writers. Coming into college, I really didn't

know much about the short story form and about short story writers. I'd read, both for pleasure and for school, almost exclusively novels. The past few years, most fiction classes focus on short stories, because it's almost impossible to write anything like a novel in a semester. Even a novella would be difficult. It just makes sense from a form point of view to look at short stories. Particularly as writers, they're worth looking at, because they don't get the same sort of coverage that novel writers tend to get. So it's been interesting to watch how my tastes have changed as I've been exposed to a different form of writing.

**A:** It can be hard to balance pleasure reading or being a "good reader" with the time pressures of schoolwork. Do you have any tips?

**TS:** I think one thing I would urge off the bat is for students who are even vaguely interested in reading to sign up for a creative writing course. I know they can be difficult to get into. One way to get around that is to apply for a POI course instead of trying to enter into the Techniques level. If you're able to talk directly to the professor, you have a better chance of getting into a class than if you're just a name on a computer list.

If you manage to get into a writing class, then you're guaranteed to have books that you'd normally read for pleasure in your schedule, which I think is enormously helpful. You can still fall into that trap of, if you're behind on work, then even if it's a novel or a short story that you're reading, it can become tedious or frustrating

rather than enjoyable. But it is great to shuttle back and forth between academic writing and traditional pleasure reading and writing styles. If you take a writing course, you'll probably find that you appreciate writing and reading in a different way, and it's something you can apply even as you're reading for academic classes.

Even if none of that is really what you're interested in, or if you're not able to add a writing class to your load, I don't have any wonderful tips for anyone, but I think something I tend to do that works well in some ways is to bring a few books to school that you really want to read at some point, to put them on your bookshelf or wherever you keep your academic books. I always find that eventually, at some point in the semester, usually in the fall around November or in the spring around April, I'm fed up enough with the normal course load that I end up taking usually about a week where I take the books I brought to read for pleasure off the shelf, and devote the week to reading those rather than necessarily plowing through another academic tome.

It's helpful to have those as almost a reward for working through a lot of difficult and not-pleasurable reading. It's a great contrast in the middle of the semester. But it does take effort, and it does take that sort of leap to say, "I'm gonna put aside the other stuff and pick up the fun book for a little while." But it's worth it.



ADAM KELLER/FEATURES EDITOR

# Canadian Students Represent The Great White North

By Jenny Davis  
*Assistant Opinion Editor*

Early October found Aaron Veerasuntharam '14 and Maddy Oswald '14 ready to celebrate Thanksgiving—Canadian Thanksgiving, that is. Oswald prepared a turkey and cooked mashed potatoes; Veerasuntharam commandeered social networking sites to coordinate fellow Canadians.

"Aaron and I tried to do this last year, but this year so many more people showed up," Oswald, a Toronto native, said.

Veerasuntharam, also from Toronto, was thrilled by the event's success.

"There was an awkward silence, but it was a 'we all have this thing in common, and this is awesome' silence," he said of the celebration. "Even though we camouflage well with Americans, at the end of the day we're still international students. That in itself presents challenges. Having Canadian Thanksgiving together allows us to be mindful of these challenges and share an enjoyable experience that generates the same fuzzy feelings we would experience back home."

The fact that they blend in so well with American students can be attributed in part to cultural overlap, which Oswald thinks is responsible for similar senses of humor in the two countries.

"Humor is related to pop culture," she said. "Because we all watch the same movies and the same TV shows, it's become the same. I was surprised at how

many people here knew about 'Degraasi,' a show I grew up watching. It's set in Toronto, with Canadian actors."

Assistant Professor of History Jeffers Lennox, who has lived in the Canadian cities of Toronto, Halifax, Montreal, and Vancouver, agreed that Canada's cultural output hits above its weight. He thinks that the Canadian brand of humor retains something unique, though.

"Canadian humor is more self-deprecating," he said. "I probably laugh about stuff with my Canadian friends that my American friends don't understand."

Veerasuntharam agreed that he jokes differently with his Canadian friends, hinting at underlying divergences between the two countries.

"My friends at home aren't very PC," he said. "We're pretty progressive, politically, but we aren't PC. We take our tolerance of others for granted sometimes, and we make statements that you couldn't make here."

Lennox attributes Canadian progressivism in part to the flexibility of the Constitution of Canada, which was patriated from an earlier act—and thus redefined—in 1982 as opposed to America's own Constitution, drafted in the late 18th century. He also noted that the separation between church and state has been more successful in Canada than it has been in America.

"There has been more of an effort to keep religion out of government," Lennox said. "Many people are spiritual and have

faith, but it's not so much about organized religion. Being religious and being progressive are not mutually exclusive."

Oswald, Veerasuntharam, and Lennox agree that Canada stands in stark political contrast to America.

"During the [2012 Presidential] election, people were so much more invested than anybody I knew in Canada," Oswald said. "Their political views were so much more known—so much more part of their identity. At home, nobody's like, 'I'm a conservative.' It's not this big hype, these two- or three-year-long campaigns that people invest time and money into. Politicians are like celebrities here. I don't even know the Prime Minister's wife's name."

Lennox believes that lack of strong partisanship contributes to a sense of cohesive Canadian identity, a feeling that Canadians themselves struggle to define.

"There's the obsessive question of what defines what we are. The perennial question is, 'What is the Canadian identity?'" he said. "A lot of people say, 'A fair country,' or 'a country more concerned with global well-being.' What makes it unique is that it has competing identities and still has succeeded."

Veerasuntharam, too, is proud of his country's many identities that form one tolerant nation.

"Part of the Canadian identity is multicultural, inherently," he said. "Just generally, we're an extremely diverse place that's pretty accepting."

Perhaps it is this atmosphere that

people in the United States find appealing. Still today, Americans often see Canada as a haven north of the border, a refuge for those dissatisfied with American policies and politics. Lennox believes that this view is evidence of a lack of understanding about Canada.

"Americans moving to Canada would have real shocks," he said. "It's obvious that people who say, 'If Romney wins, I'm moving to Canada' don't understand what the government is like in Canada. Right now there's a conservative government, so people looking to flee to a left-leaning bastion would be disappointed."

Veerasuntharam agreed that Canada is not the stereotypically progressive, anything-goes country that some Americans make it out to be.

"I think we're less liberal than we think we are in Canada," he said. "I thought that I was ready for Wesleyan when I came down here, but I felt conservative at the beginning. It's 10 times more liberal than anything I'm used to."

In response to those who proclaim that they will move to Canada if their favored politician loses an election, Veerasuntharam extends an invitation.

"The more the merrier, in my opinion," he said. "My parents are immigrants. My dad moved from Sri Lanka to England, which he found to be racist. Canada is safer than America, that's the biggest thing. Walking around at all hours of the night, not worrying about being mugged—that's a big difference."

For Lennox, the realization that he is in a different country comes daily on his commute to work.

"I always ride my bike past the Wallingford Gun Club," he said. "I don't think I ever heard guns shot before [I came here]."

As far as stereotypes about the differences between the United States and Canada go, Veerasuntharam is not bothered by comments about his accent.

"If people are looking for my accent, they'll call me out on it," he said. "But people in America have accents from different places too. It comes out more at some points than at others."

Oswald, on the other hand, finds others' obsession with her accent irritating.

"I tried to tone my accent down because people focused on it so much," she said. "In freshman year, I couldn't go three sentences without this girl I knew commenting. I thought at the time, 'Maybe I shouldn't talk the way I do so people will talk to me for me.' Now I don't care. And now my friends at home make fun of me for talking like an American. You can't escape."

In addition to the comments on his accent, Veerasuntharam also has no problem with the prevalent image of Canada as a peaceful, even overly mellow and non-threatening, nation.

"I'm okay with Canada being nice if it means I can travel around the world and have people not hate me—in fact, the opposite," he said. "I think it's awesome."



# Summerfields Screammers Bring Decibels to Dinner



KATHY LEE/PHOTO EDITOR

**Kate Davis '16 thoroughly enjoys her job as a number caller at Summerfields, where she gets to scream to her heart's content.**

By Rebecca Brill  
*Assistant Features Editor*

It's Wednesday evening at Summerfields, and over the buzz of the crowd a single voice roars.

"Sixty eight!"

The yeller, a spritely student in skinny jeans, calls out as a to-go container of salad is plopped onto the food counter. Soon after, a plate of chicken tenders emerges. He consults the paper tab rested against the plate, and a mischievous smile creeps across his face. "Six-teh niiiiine," he finally calls out, rotating his hips in wide circles. He cracks up, and on the other side of the counter, the assembly line of full-time Summerfields workers laughs along with him.

Calling out order numbers for pickup may seem fairly tedious, but the student workers at Summerfields get quite a kick out of it. Three students at a time work at Summerfields

during any given lunch or dinner shift, and they usually rotate tasks to avoid monotony. Employees generally consider number-calling the most desirable among the jobs, which include wiping down tables and cutting desserts.

At the beginning of the semester, Kate Davis '16 started working during Friday lunch and Saturday dinner shifts at Summerfields as a way of earning some extra spending money. She found that calling order numbers was a surprisingly social job because it connects her with people she doesn't get a chance to see as much as she would like to. Sometimes, she even modifies the order-calling protocol to give the experience a personal touch.

"It allows me to interact with them a little bit, say, 'Hi,' maybe call their name instead of their number to make them feel special," Davis said.

The job is conducive not only

to strengthening preexisting bonds but also to forming new friendships. Ari Markowitz '17 uses the position to expand his social circle and showcase his personality.

"It's the best job," he said. "It's the most exciting. You can talk to cute girls, you can make friends with huge lacrosse players. You just make more friends and [get to] be sassy."

The connections forged between diners and number-callers extend beyond the walls of Summerfields. Davis and Markowitz both receive recognition from students outside of the campus eatery. Markowitz has even received compliments on his number-calling skills.

"People walk up to me like, 'Oh, it's the Summies guy! You kill it,'" he said.

Of course, it's not always hugs and smiles at Summerfields. The cafeteria often gets crowded on weeknights, which can make order numbers difficult to hear. This sometimes creates tension between callers and diners. After Markowitz has called a number several times in a row, for example, he likes to playfully threaten to eat the number holder's meal. Sometimes, he even pretends to get angry. Often, the diner is unaware that Markowitz is only joking and apologizes for not showing up sooner.

Noah Gup '16 found himself in an even more awkward situation when a diner recently placed an order and then went upstairs for an extended period of time. Gup was frustrated when the diner finally picked up his meal after his number had been called for a full half hour.

Gup explained that in general, though, the job has been a positive experience for him. He began work-

ing at Summerfields last year because it was convenient for the Butterfield C resident. At first, he was anxious about taking on the authoritative role of number-caller, especially as a freshman. Ultimately, though, he viewed it as empowering and formed bonds with his coworkers. He held no reservations about reprising his role at Summerfields this year.

"You get sucked into it. You get to know how it works, and the people who work there are all really nice," he said. "It's a really nice environment to work at, so I'm happy to keep doing it."

Gup also appreciates the emotional release that the job provides. Once he falls into a rhythm of calling numbers, he becomes extremely calm and forgets his troubles.

"It's kind of cathartic in a really cool way," he said. "After I've been calling it for a while, I just feel really relaxed. Once you're literally yelling as loud as you can, everything else is pretty relaxed. It almost gets rid of all that angst or excitement that you might have, and you'll be calm and focused for the rest of the day."

That said, one major drawback of the job for Gup is that it sometimes leaves him with a sore throat and hoarse voice. To cope, he makes sure to stay hydrated throughout his shift and allots number calling to other workers when he doesn't feel up to it.

Vocally, the job has had the opposite effect on Davis, who, as a coxswain on the Wesleyan crew team, spends much of her time shouting. Davis noted that calling numbers at Summerfields may be good practice for her coxing work and believes it may have even fortified her vocal cords.

"I'm not really sure if your vocal cords work that way the more you use them," she said. "Hopefully, they might have just been getting stronger. I haven't lost my voice yet."

Benefits aside, Davis wonders whether, in a high-technology age, the Summerfields ordering system is as efficient as it could be. Particularly, she has noticed that students have trouble holding onto their receipts and suggested that they be replaced with a digital alternative.

Markowitz expressed similar sentiments and proposed that the eatery use either handheld buzzers or a flashing light to indicate that an order is ready. But he believes that Summerfields has retained its relatively outdated ordering system because it creates an extra job for a student employee that a machine would otherwise replace.

"People need work-study," Markowitz said. "It's part of them trying to get as many job opportunities on campus as possible. They want at least three workers to be allowed to work at a time."

Gup, too, concurred that an electronic method of announcing orders would be more effective. Still, he would object to the eatery upgrading to a more advanced system, or even getting a loudspeaker system like the one used at WesWings. After all, he considers number callers to be pivotal in creating the distinctive environment of Summerfields.

"It adds personality to the experience," he said. "Depending on who the number caller is, you have a different Summerfields experience. I think it makes it kind of fun and kind of goofy in a way that an electronic system couldn't. It would be less personal."

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# ROVING REPORTER

## What are your plans for Halloweekend?

By Sonya Levine '17



“I’m going to a party and trick-or-treating. I have a surprise costume.”  
*Theo Haymond '14*



“My friend’s visiting, so I’m going to show her the wonders of the Wesleyan social scene.”  
*Julia Morrison '17*



“I’m going to go to bible study and pray for everyone’s souls.”  
*Davion Wilson '15*



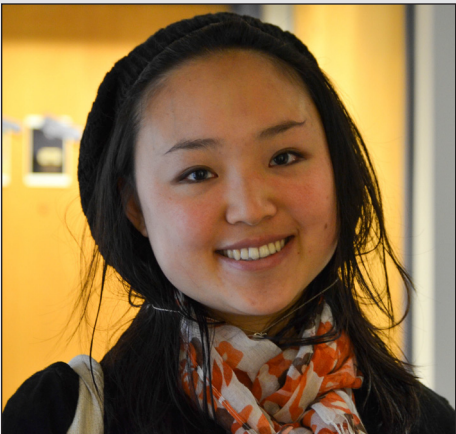
“I’m in a performance at Olin Library, so not much.”  
*Ari Markowitz '17*



“Partying and stupid mistakes.”  
*Alex Mehner '14*



“I haven’t even thought about it yet!”  
*Julia Baez '14*



“I’m going to ensure the safety of my residents.”  
*Katherine Lu '15*



“I’m going to celebrate my sister’s engagement.”  
*Noah Sellman '17*



# Caramel Apples Sans Saccharine Attack

By Jess Zalph  
Food Editor

“I don’t do sweet,” I say adamantly, referring to everything from candy to relationships.

Of course, this statement should be clarified: I certainly do hyperbole. Sweet can be fantastic in the proper place and in the proper dosage. I love strawberries, but given the choice I err on the side of slightly underripe. I love chocolate, but bittersweet varieties have the firmest foothold in my heart. I love Sour Patch Kids, but the real point for me is the “sour.”

Caramel apples, a classic fall favorite, need to find this happy medium as well. Too many times I have bitten excitedly through the rich caramel into the crunch of the apple, chewed, swallowed, and been done with the entire experience after that single bite.

Finding this balance is what makes making caramel apples tricky. It takes apples that have enough acidity to combat the potential for cloying sweetness. It takes the proper ratio of apple to caramel. It takes playing around with toppings that give you the flavor palate you desire. But when you’re ignoring homework and job applications, you have all the time in the world to do such experimentation.

There are two approaches to making these desserts. There’s the “Oh, [creative expletive], it’s my friend’s birthday in 20 minutes, and I have nothing in my fridge but caramels and apples” approach. Conversely, there’s the “Oh, [creative expletive], I need to impress someone really important who’s also a world-renowned chef” approach.

This article will provide you with the resources to handle either one of these common crisis situations. Just roll up your sleeves, whip out your candy thermometer (you carry one everywhere, right?), and start melting. The most fun part is playing around with different topping combinations—in light of the holiday, the scarier the better, like diced onions and Nutella.

If you’ve run out of costume plans for the rest of this Halloweenweekend, this is the activity for you; alchemists are “in.” Cooking sugar for the caramel is a sweat-inducing, stress-reducing, manically meticulous experience that can produce magical (good-tasting caramel) or dangerous (blackened sugar and a call to Physical Plant) results. More importantly, if you’re disappointed because you feel you spent the fall season under a pile of midterms instead of leaves, this can be a last hurrah before we are buried under our next blizzard.

**INGREDIENTS FOR CARAMEL**

2 CUPS PACKED LIGHT BROWN SUGAR

1 3/4 CUPS HEAVY CREAM

3/4 CUPS DARK CORN SYRUP

2 TBSP UNSALTED BUTTER

2 TSP KOSHER SALT

**Homemade Caramel**  
*Adapted from Chow.com*

1. Prepare an ice water bath in a large bowl by filling the bowl half-way with water and ice.
2. Combine sugar, cream, corn syrup, butter, and salt in a medium-sized, deep saucepan. Over medium-high heat, bring the mixture to a boil.
3. Using your candy thermometer, continue heating the pan until it is 250 degrees, which should take approximately 10-15 minutes.
4. Immediately place the bottom of the pan into the ice bath to stop the cooking, and let it rest for approximately a minute until the boiling subsides completely.
5. Stir the caramel in the pan, thoroughly mixing the cooler (stiffer) caramel from the bottom with the warmer caramel on top. Remove the pan from the bowl of water.

**INGREDIENTS FOR APPLES**

8 SMALL GRANNY SMITH APPLES

8 CRAFT STICKS, SKEWERS, OR EVEN (CLEANED!) STICKS

HOMEMADE CARAMEL SAUCE OR LESS-HOMEMADE SAUCE

TOPPINGS OF CHOICE (FOR EXAMPLE, MINI-M&M’S, CRUSHED REESE’S CUPS, MINI DARK AND WHITE CHOCOLATE CHIPS)

FOR LESS HOMEMADE SAUCE:

1 14-OZ. PACKAGE CARAMEL CANDIES

2TBSP. HEAVY CREAM

1 TSP. VANILLA

**Caramel Apples**  
*Adapted from Chow.com*

1. Skewer apples with sticks, and place them standing on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper.
2. If your apples are waxed, or if you are unsure, dip them in a pot of boiling water. The wax will otherwise make the caramel unable to stick to the apples.
3. Prepare caramel sauce. For homemade sauce, follow directions above. For less-homemade sauce, combine caramel candies and heavy cream in a double boiler (makeshift—a heat-proof bowl atop a small pot with boiling water—or standard), and let melt, stirring frequently. Add vanilla and stir until smooth.
4. Dip apples in caramel, and quickly roll them or sprinkle them in desired toppings before the caramel begins to set. Once the apple is dipped, you have approximately half a minute before it becomes tricky.
5. Allow apples to rest on parchment paper until caramel is hardened.

# FOOD

# Sweet Seasonal Muffins To Tantalize Your Tastebuds



C/O WWW.BABBLE.COM

By Hilary Brumberg  
Staff Writer

What are the first words that come to mind when you think of Fall?

As a native New Englander, I think of apple picking, Halloween, pumpkins, and warm beverages.

Every year during the days that follow Halloween, my kitchen at home is full of freshly picked apples and a trick-or-treating bag swollen with my prized candy loot. I always eat so much candy that I imagine my dentist shaking his head in disapproval and acknowledge that I will endure stomach aches for days. During this time, I always cook the classic fall treats: caramel apples, apple pie, and apple sauce.

But every year, no matter how many candy-induced comas I endure and apple pie variations I bake, a few candy bars and slightly-bruised apples linger in my house until it’s impossible to go into a store or listen to the radio without hearing Christmas music. This Halloween muffin recipe is my creative solution for disposing of both types of fall treat leftovers.

After I finish with my Halloween muffins, I feel the need to continue with the fall theme by turning to pumpkin donut muf-

ins. The only logistical challenge with this recipe is determining when the muffins are fully cooked, but when prepared correctly, these fluffy, spiced muffins might just be my favorites.

Both of these muffin recipes, paired with a steaming mug of tea, cider, or hot cocoa make a comforting and delicious fall breakfast or snack.

**Halloween Muffins**  
*Adapted from Kids Can Cook*  
Makes 12 large muffins

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Coat 12 large muffin tins with oil.
2. In a medium bowl, combine flour, oats, sugar, baking powder, salt, and M&Ms. Make a well in the center.
3. In a small bowl, combine apples, egg, oil, and water.
4. Pour wet ingredients into well in dry ingredients, and stir until just combined (about 25 stirs).
5. Spoon the batter mixture into oiled muffin tins, filling 2/3 full.
6. In the center of each muffin, bury one fun-sized candy bar.
7. Bake for 20-25 minutes, or until muffins are golden brown.

**Pumpkin Donut Muffins**  
*Adapted from Martha Stewart*  
Makes 12 large muffins

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Coat 12 large muffin tins with oil.
2. In a medium bowl, combine flour,

- baking powder, baking soda, salt, nutmeg, and allspice.
3. In a small bowl, combine butter-milk and pumpkin puree.
  4. In a large bowl, beat butter and brown sugar with an electric mixer until light and fluffy. Beat in eggs one at a time. Add flour mixture in three shifts, alternating with two additions of pumpkin mixture. Beat with mixer to combine until smooth.
  5. Spoon the batter mixture into oiled muffin tins, filling each 2/3 full.
  6. Bake for 40 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean.
  7. While the muffins are baking, combine granulated sugar, cinnamon, and melted butter in a medium bowl.
  8. When the muffins are cooked, roll them in the sugar coating mixture.

**INGREDIENTS FOR HALLOWEEN MUFFINS**

COOKING OIL SPRAY

2 CUPS FLOUR

1/3 CUP QUICK (NOT INSTANT) OATS

1/3 CUP SUGAR

2 TSP. BAKING POWDER

1/3 TSP. SALT

2 FUN-SIZED PACKAGES M&M’S OR REESE’S PIECES

2 GRATED APPLES

1 EGG

1/3 CUP CANOLA OIL

1/2 CUP WATER

12 FUN-SIZED CANDY BARS (REESE’S PEANUT BUTTER CUPS, SNICKERS BARS, AND HERSHEY’S KISSES WORK THE BEST)

**INGREDIENTS FOR DONUT MUFFINS**

COOKING OIL SPRAY

1 1/4 TBSP. UNSALTED BUTTER, ROOM TEMPERATURE

3 CUPS ALL-PURPOSE FLOUR

2 1/2 TSP. BAKING POWDER

1/4 TSP. ALLSPICE

1/3 CUP BUTTERMILK

1 1/4 CUPS PURE PUMPKIN PUREE (FROM A 15-OUNCE CAN)

3/4 CUP LIGHT BROWN SUGAR

2 LARGE EGGS

2 1/2 TSP. GROUND CINNAMON

1/4 CUP MELTED UNSALTED BUTTER

# Salvage: Rescuers Reduce Waste, Provide Food for The Middletown Community

Continued from front page

no reliable source of food or shelter, pounds and pounds of food get thrown away on a daily basis.”

Dat Vu ’15, who has volunteered for Food Rescue for the past two semesters, said he joined the organization because he was disgusted by how much food the campus wastes.

“I worked in the dining hall during my first two years, and I saw lots of food wasted everyday—not just leftovers from the students, but also the untouched dishes,” he said.

Vu said that he is impressed by Food Rescue because it approached the food waste issue directly. As part of his shift, Vu and his co-rescuer pick up leftover sandwiches, bagels, and sal-

ads from Pi Café every Sunday evening and drop them off at the Eddy Shelter.

Food Rescue also holds a community dinner at the shelter, where volunteers meet and talk with the residents. Vu noted that through volunteering for the program he has learned about the larger issues of food availability and security in the Middletown community.

“The whole experience makes me feel more connected to the local community, and I am glad not to see all the food flushed down the drain,” he said.

Similar to Vu, Lili Kadets ’17 joined Food Rescue during her first semester on campus because of her passion for reducing waste on campus.

“It’s incredible how much food we waste on a daily basis,” Kadets

said. “I was—and still am—really passionate about the subject.”

In her high school sustainability class, Kadets spent a lot of time studying food waste, and she created a website to help educate people on how to reduce personal waste.

“I thought [volunteering with Food Rescue] was a really cool way to get involved and stay connected to something I’ve been studying,” she said.

Like Vu, Kadets and her co-rescuer go to Pi Café and Summerfields directly after they close on Tuesday evenings and pick up the excess pastries and unserved food.

“Even if it’s only a couple of trays of food, we can still make a small dent,” Kadets said. “It’s also nice to know that the food we’re not eating can benefit people who need it. It’s all about redistribution.”



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# Weird Wes: 2017’s Food Quirks

By Emma Davis  
*Staff Writer*

Back in high school, I was once politely asked to step away from the Pancake Club’s cook-your-own-pancake table because I was scaring away other customers with my love of raw pancakes. And when I say raw pancakes, I mean raw: dripping with batter, and nowhere close to what most people would consider fully cooked.

To me, that kind of pancake is delicious, no matter how gooey the paper plate is when I’m done. To anyone else, it’s just a request for salmonella; not only does it look weird, but it’s also about as socially acceptable as chowing down on uncooked pasta.

This taste preference of mine is what I call a food quirk. A food quirk can be a bizarre habit, an extreme aversion, or even a kind of worship. What matters most is that it involves food and it’s unique to you, or to your roommate, or to that extra-strange kid in your group of friends. Here at Wesleyan, food quirks are one of the more under-appreciated ways that the class of 2017 adds to the diversity of the student body, although it may be less recognizable outside of the cafeteria line.

One of the first freshmen I spoke with on the subject of food quirks was Cheryl Hagan ’17, for whom the phrase had an immediate association.

“My best friend sniffs everything, which I always think is weird,” Hagan said. “She sniffs people’s drinks. She sniffs food, obviously, and apparently that helps her decide if she wants to eat it or drink it.”

However, Hagan was unafraid of admitting to her own oddities.

“I love mangoes,” she noted. “I ate a mango every day for two years when I lived in Gambia. So from [ages] four to six, I ate a mango pretty much every day, and I still love them. I haven’t gotten sick of them.”

Freshman Sonya Levine’s foods of choice are apples and avocados.

“Apples are my favorite food, so I usually eat at least two or three every day

in any way,” Levine said. “But the weirdest thing I do is eat avocados whole, just scoop them out and eat them....Or I also put mashed avocado on toast, and eat that....I eat guacamole plain. I just like avocados. I could subsist solely off of avocados and apples.”

Unfortunately, not all such food fixations end as happily. One such case is that of Luke Schissler ’17, who still has residual trauma from a past experience with Velveeta.

“One time I ate so much Velveeta that I threw up, and now I can never eat Velveeta again,” he said. “I don’t know if that was a blessing or a curse, but don’t give me Velveeta, okay? That’s mean. If you show me Velveeta, I’ll get sick.”

Schissler is also sensitive to certain everyday items, such as ketchup and mayonnaise. Even a whiff of either of these condiments is enough to send him over the edge.

Maia Nelles-Sager ’17, meanwhile, has trouble convincing herself of the merits of soup, even Nutella soup.

“I do like Nutella on anything, and when I say anything, I mean anything,” Nelles-Sager said. “Like literally anything. I don’t think I’d like Nutella on soup, though, because I don’t like soup.”

In fact, a passion for dessert is a common theme among food-quirky students such as Amy Hood ’17, who confessed to having a major sweet tooth. For Nate Gardner ’17, dessert is especially important because it’s an opportunity to blend different but equally delicious types of food.

“I’m really big on dessert combos,” Gardner said. “I’m a big fan of throwing [things] together—so if [I’ve] got a cookie, or a brownie, or whatever, [I] grab that, grab some ice cream, grab some sauces and whatnot. Most people go for the single dessert; I’m a fan of mixing it together.”

When it comes to coffee, Ella Israeli ’17 takes a similar approach, though with a more practical bent.

“One thing I like to do: I take a

scoop of ice cream and put it into a coffee mug, then put coffee into it also because then you don’t have to put milk and sugar in because you already have milk and sugar in it from the ice cream,” Israeli said.

Israeli has taken this system a step further with her version of breakfast cereal: yogurt and Cheerios. Although pragmatic in nature, it perhaps only approximates her intended taste. Jacob Sussman ’17, who enjoys a still stranger breakfast mix, cites fellow freshman Fred Ayres as his inspiration.

“I mix peanut butter and chia seeds and hemp seeds in a bowl, in the style of Fred Ayres,” Sussman said. “It’s delicious, and he says it’s nutritious, so I’m going along with it.”

In contrast to this wholesome snack of choice, however, Sussman’s regular Usdan routine is a little more greasy.

“Whenever I go to Usdan, while I walk around and get other food, I always eat a slice of pizza,” Sussman said.

Nonetheless, Sussman’s mode of pizza consumption is distinctly harmless when compared to other, more dangerous feasts, such as those attempted by Schissler. Schissler recalled with some chagrin the confusion of food that resulted from his middle school-era games of what he calls “food Jenga.”

“When we were in middle school, me and my group of friends played food Jenga,” Schissler said. “So we’d try and stack all of the components of our lunches as high as we could, until something spilled on someone or it came crumbling down and destroyed all of our lunches. And we continued to do it, even though it was destructive to our meals.”

Still, few food quirks came close to matching that of Gardner, whose attitude toward eating can only be labeled as “adventurous.”

“When I travel, I like to try a lot of stuff,” he said. “One of my favorite things I had recently, honestly, was a broiled cow-tongue taco. That was actually really tasty; I wouldn’t have expected that.”

# Food Fight: Will Insects Be The Next Dietary Staple?

Ready or not, here they come. Many new companies are turning their attention to increasing food sources in the United States, and insect-based products will roll onto shelves as early as next year.

Is this new approach a trick or a treat? You decide. Argus Food writers tackle the issue, debating whether the movement is welcome and logical, or simply a waste of time.

## In Favor of Insects as a Source of Protein

By Emma Davis  
*Staff Writer*

Whether or not you personally appreciate them, bugs are one of Earth’s most abundant resources. According to the Encyclopedia Smithsonian, there are approximately 10 quintillion (10,000,000,000,000,000,000) insects alive at any given moment, representing about 80 percent of the world’s species. That’s about 143 million bugs per person, or 300 pounds for every pound of human on earth. Compare that with the number of chickens—19 billion as of 2009, or about 3 chickens per person—and it’s hard to understand why only one of these protein sources is considered central to our diet.

Insects are not only widely available, they’re also healthier than most of the livestock we rely on for food. For example, one hundred grams of grasshopper contains 20 grams of protein and a mere six grams of fat, whereas one hundred grams of choice sirloin beef has 29 grams of protein and an astounding 29 grams of fat.

Moreover, insects represent a more environmentally friendly source of food. A 2010 study conducted by Wageningen University entomologist Arnold van Huis revealed that raising insects such as locusts, crickets, and meal worms for consumption emits a much lower amount of greenhouse gas, producing 10 times less methane and three hundred times less nitrous oxide than farming livestock. Sure, that steak looks better on your plate, but is it worth the damage to your arteries and the ozone layer?

Since the yuck factor is still a major obstacle, particularly among Americans, it’s important to consider the number of cultures for whom eating insects is a delicacy rather than a horror. Despite associations with the primitive, bugs are enjoyed in a variety of sophisticated cuisines, from the iconic escargot in France to roasted bee larvae in China, to deep-fried crickets served with beer in Thailand. In Mexico, you can experience an insect dish with almost every kind of meal, ranging from French-fried caterpillars and buttered ant eggs for a snack, to chocolate-covered locusts, candy-covered worms, and worm-flavored mescal, an alcohol made from the agave plant, for dessert.

Lastly, to further highlight their culinary novelty, just imagine the food revolution that might result if insects were combined with 3D printing. With

everything inside the exoskeleton mashed up into a protein-filled paste, you could simulate more appetizing meats—similarly to how pure gluten is used to generate seitan—or even create unique food sculptures, such as flowers or figurines. So, once the technology of 3D printing improves, what’s stopping you from making your next Valentine’s Day bouquet out of grasshoppers?

## The Problem with Fake Food

By Erica DeMichiel  
*Staff Writer*

In a New York Times blog post headlined “Disruptions: Silicon Valley’s Next Stop: The Kitchen,” Nick Bilton investigates a food start-up known as Chirp Farms and its advocacy of crickets as a source of protein in the human diet. Some might call this groundbreaking, others might say revolting. I call it pointless.

In reality, manipulating insects to make them fit for human consumption is highly unnecessary despite the company’s claims that there soon won’t be enough meat-derived protein to feed the world. Whether or not we resort to eating bugs, unless we address food waste we must abandon home for a world without malnourishment.

A parallel issue can be found with 3D food printing. Though the scientific ingenuity of such an endeavor cannot be denied, there is no reason why we should not first salvage food that is grown naturally before taking to the laboratory. In this way, we might better facilitate the distribution of wholesome foods to prevent global health concerns directly related to malnutrition and starvation.

According to the 2013 data collected by the World Hunger Education Service, over 870 million people across the globe struggle with food insecurity. Though the issue of hunger appears to be getting worse, the world is actually producing 17 percent more food than it was just 30 years ago. Data even reported that if the global food supply were apportioned to all 7.1 billion people on Earth, each individual would have a daily intake of 2,720 kilocalories. This figure surpasses the standardized two thousand-calorie diet promoted by major health organizations such as the Food and Drug Administration. Clearly, the problem is not a lack of food.

The true issue is poor allocation resulting in excess waste. The United Nations Environment Programme states that one third of all food produced during a given year gets lost or tossed. With 1.3 billion tons of uneaten commodities annually, the redundancy of alternative food sources could not be more obvious. Before we panic about scarcity, we must take steps to reduce waste by implementing measures to control portion sizes and to distribute leftovers to low-income households.

Bugs on grocery store shelves are bound to go uneaten, and 3D food printers are inefficient and expensive. Instead of searching for ways to artificially manipulate our food to solve health issues stemming from hunger, innovators should instead develop ways to improve the access and production of more natural foods that would otherwise go unused.

# The Pickle Stand Reviewed



ANDREW RIBNER/FOOD EDITOR

By Andrew Ribner  
*Food Editor*

Joining the more than forty restaurants on and around Main Street in Middletown, The Pickle Stand recently opened at 195 Main Street, where Central News stood for nearly 70 years as a tribute to once-popular “old-world” newsstands. The restaurant has a lot of potential with a fun atmosphere and strong, traditional deli menu, but still has room for improvement before its grand opening in November.

The Pickle Stand, which advertises itself as a delicatessen and tavern, offers a wide selection of breakfast and lunch sandwiches, as well as pizza, salads, and a soup of the day. However, it is neither full deli nor full tavern. There are no meats hanging from the ceiling as one might expect in a more traditional deli; the fare tends toward roast beef, corned beef, and pastrami, though it offers some other meats as well. In terms of alcoholic beverages, it serves only wine and beer and has a 12-tap system, though only seven are currently in use in its soft opening.

It have not yet had its official grand opening and is awaiting recognition from the Middletown Chamber of Commerce, which owners expect will happen in the next two weeks. As workers are still operating in soft-opening phase, offerings

are limited. They serve soup in plastic takeout containers and only received appropriate plastic soup spoons in the last week. Before that, they were using plastic teaspoons.

The owner is also founder of Keagan’s Irish Pub, located on Main Street and formerly Hair of the Dog Saloon. The owner’s brother, who has helped with founding the restaurant, explained that it’s named The Pickle Stand simply because it’s a catchy name.

The ambiance of the restaurant is that of a fun, old-style tavern. The layout has been kept as close as possible to when the storefront opened in the 1920s. Indeed, the south wall is the exposed original brick. All the other walls and wood paneling on the floor were salvaged from an 1880s barn in Connecticut. The only modern additions in the restaurant are the bar and a couple decorative items, including a high-tech jukebox that can only be used after 9 p.m. because of the noise it creates.

When I went on Tuesday with Wesleyan Argus Executive Editor Abbey Francis ’14, we had a good sampling of the lunch options. Francis ordered the daily special, a steamed roast beef sandwich with sautéed onions and Swiss cheese, which she ordered on toasted fresh rye bread with spicy tavern mustard. I ordered the stuffed eggplant sandwich (the one non-meat sandwich on the menu), which came overflowing with provolone cheese on a toasted hoagie roll. Both sandwiches came with a side—potato salad, pasta salad, or coleslaw—and we also each ordered a beer on tap.

The sandwiches were large, to say the least. We each ate half our sandwich and were full. Both sandwiches were stuffed and piled high with fillings, and the rye bread on the roast beef sandwich was particularly good. The roast beef was

very tasty, which speaks well to the deli aspect of the establishment. The hoagie was standard and not particularly exciting, and eggplant was somewhat bland. Nevertheless, it was warm and filling.

Sandwiches were fairly inexpensive, especially given the size; they became two meals. Ours were seven dollars each. Sides were disappointingly small and were also somewhat bland. I wasn’t particularly excited about either the potato salad or the coleslaw, and they both came in small, prepackaged, plastic one-ounce cups.

The beer selection was fine. They have rotating taps, two different ciders and five beers. The server was not very knowledgeable about what was on tap and hadn’t tried most of the beers. When I asked her what kind of Dogfish Head was available—one of the five beer taps clearly on display—she said she didn’t know and instead offered me a taste. We ended up with McKenzie’s Hard Cider and a Samuel Adams OctoberFest. Neither was nearly cold enough, but they were reasonably inexpensive: five dollars per beer. Still, I’d rather go to Eli Cannon’s for a better selection of colder beers for the same price.

While I wasn’t especially impressed by the food or the service (they forgot to give us pickles until we specifically asked for them, which seems like a problem given the name of the restaurant), I would try it again once it’s been around for a few months. Next time, I’ll plan to go back for dinner because pizza can only be served after 5 p.m., and the restaurant is only open past 3 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. It is open until midnight Wednesday through Sunday, so next time I feel like wandering down to Main Street for pizza and a beer at 11:30 p.m. on a Wednesday night, I’ll know where to go.



# The Wesleyan Ampersand

## How to Please Your Woman: Tips from Sexpert Anders Eckhart

What do women want? It's an age-old question to which countless men have sought an answer, but the holy grail of your quest may have been within arm's length this whole time! The journey to manhood is a long and hard one, and many of us have had to figure out the mysteries of the fairer sex by trial and error, but today I am going to put the key to success in the palm of your hand.

At first, many readers may erupt with disbelief, while others might shrink and recoil at such a simple yet elusive

idea. But the truth is, women are simple.

A woman wants to be treated the same way you want to be treated. She wants to be loved, respected, and nurtured daily. Set aside some time each day to think of ways to reach out to your partner. In the shower, after work, and before bed are all great times to think of ways.

The trick to keeping her attention is to maintain a smooth, consistent (but not rushed!) pace within the relationship. If you are both overstimulated you may end up

burning out before you get a chance to really get to know each other, but if you take things too slowly, you may end up getting tired and bored before reaching the climactic peak of the relationship.

Courting a woman is like starting a fire. If you burn all your kindling at once, you will be left with a cold, dry, ashy mess, but if you take too long to start your fire, a bear will most likely come along and steal your firewood, and then the bear and the firewood will share a hearty laugh over you and your inadequacies.



## How to Pretend to Jumpstart a Car

1. Park a running car directly in front of the car with the dead battery (make sure the hoods are facing each other.) Pry open the hoods with your bare hands and insist that everyone stay inside the vehicle (even if you are by yourself), because this is a man's job.

2. Keeping your legs spread apart and your knees bent, grab your jumper cables and vigorously attach the prongs to the different pipes and wires in either car. Grunt while doing this to give the impression that you are manly and frustrated with your car.

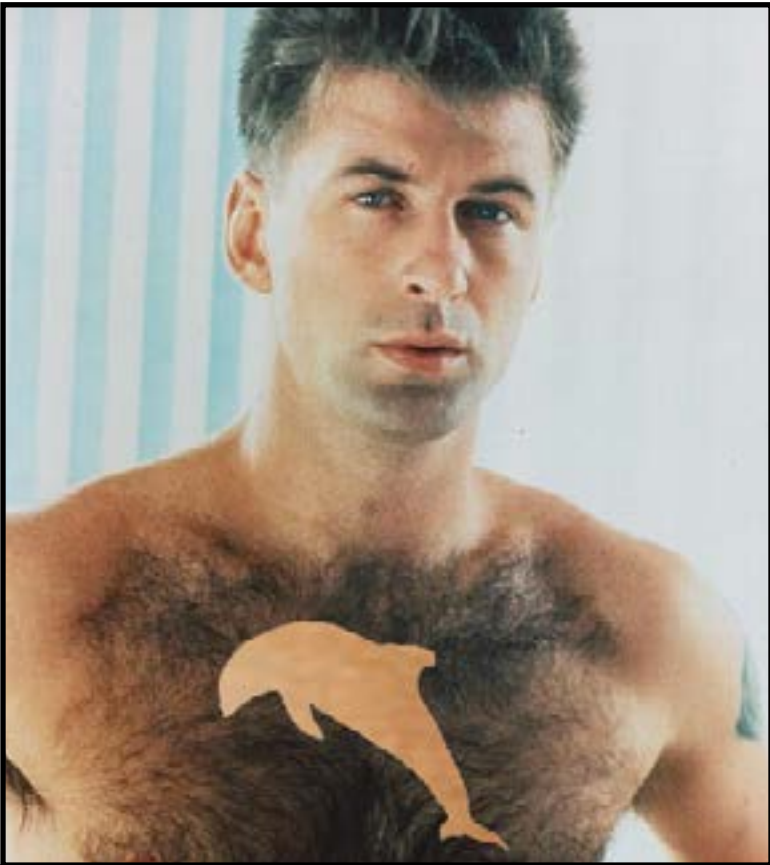
3. Attempt to start the ignition, emitting more grunts

to intimidate the car. If this aggressive approach does not work, try soothing your vehicle by cooing,

"C'mon baby! Wake up for Daddy," over and over.

4. Stare into the deep abyss of the engine, and, as a bead of sweat slowly drips down your brow, cut the red wire as every adventure movie ever has taught you to do in times of crisis.

5. Just because you couldn't salvage your car battery doesn't mean you have to lose your dignity. Clean up your tools, rub some grease on your hands and call AAA for assistance like a real man.



Manscape? More like seascape!

**Note:** DKE loves satire, but not when the object of the joke is women. DKE would like our readers to know that they do not want to be associated with any of the opinions expressed in this edition of The Ampersand.

## The AmperMan Interviews Xena: Warrior Princess

*Xena: Warrior Princess* talks about her turn-ons, turn-offs, and the Satyr that got away.

*Amper Man's 2008 Sexiest Woman Alive* Xena returns to discuss the finer points of a romp around the goathides. She's even fiercer, stronger, and more bountiful than we here at Amper Man remembered.

**AmperMan:** What is it in a guy that makes you want to get off of your horse and onto your mount, so to speak?

**Xena: Warrior Princess:** How rude. I'm a real sucker for a man with nice eyes.

**&:** Eyes that you can get lost in? You're such a girl. We love it.

**X:** Yeah... like, eyes that you look into, and can see the dead-

ness of the world, you know? Like you can see the remnants of warm feelings, even a conscience... just trodden and blackened in the margins, clouded and turned matte after seeing too many lives ended. And maybe just replaced with that sharp coldness that you usually only get with the people in hell. I mean, it's just hot.

**&:** Hah! I think we all know some guys like that. So, what would you say makes you want to stab a guy, rather than have him take a stab at you?

**X:** Whoa-

**&:** So to speak.

**X:** Weakness is a big turn-off for me.

**&:** You like a man who doesn't

submit to your womanly naggings?

**X:** More like, if he can't actually tear my armor off of me, I don't want him under there anyway, you know? And it's about attitude as well. If we're really going at it, I don't want him to be thinking about me! He should be trying as hard as he can to keep in his mind on the day's horrors – like, the blood, the screams, the basic human guilt! – I mean, when you're in bed with a guy, you can tell where his mind is. And if it's not back on the bloodied plains of Corinth, at least for me, that's not gonna do it.

**&:** Got it! Keep the mind anywhere but on her– keeps the sword sharp.

## How To Identify If You Have A Feeling

*Sometimes a man might find water on his face when it isn't raining. His chest might be constricted even when he isn't pumping iron at the gym. Sensations like these don't have to be confusing anymore—here at AmperMan, we want to help you determine if you have a feeling and what that feeling is. Here is a guide to what some feelings are and how to tell if you have them.*

### Anger

Are you throwing stuff on the ground for no reason? When people ask you simple questions, do you lash out at them or just not respond at all? I've got news for you, bro—you're angry. Being angry can be unchill, so if your fantasy football team loses, just work on

picking better matchups for next week rather than letting rage build up inside you.

### Happiness

You know when you're playing catch with your kid sister on a fall day, or you're shot-gunning beers at Chad's place, or your girlfriend gets you popcorn with Raisinettes at the movies and you didn't even ask her to, and warmth and security rush over you and all feels right in the world? That's happiness, man. Cherish it while it lasts.

### Fear

It's the moment when you got home from the gym and flexed your obliques in the mirror and thought to yourself—I'm not ripped. Or when Kobe Bryant tore

his Achilles, and you realized we are all mortal and fated to expire, and you broke into a cold sweat. Fear is real for every dude.

### Desire

When you were in third grade and your math teacher Ms. Keller leaned over and you saw down her shirt and you needed to put your binder over your pants. Today, it's what happens to you when you see boobs, or they are suggested. Alternatively, when you look over at Chad on the treadmill (note from AmperMan editors: Bro, we support you whomever you love, no matter what). The heart wants what the heart wants, but no homie should let himself be a slave to his desire.

*The Wesleyan Ampersand: In It For the Money. Sarah Esocoff, Editor in Chief; Ian McCarthy and Emilie Pass, Assistant Editors; Keelin Q. Ryan, Editor Emeritus; Emma Singer, Queen of Layout. Please Your Woman., Dillon Krauss; Jumpstart, Willie Molski; Alec, Emma Singer; Feelings, Emilie Pass; Xena, Anton "Wrecking Ball" Meier.*  
**Visit our website: [wesleyanampersand.tumblr.com](http://wesleyanampersand.tumblr.com)**



# AMPERMAN



## How to be a Hunter-Gatherer in this Pussy-Ass World

Looking to return to your masculine and totally hetero roots? Here’s a series of tips on how to be a boss hunter-gatherer in this modern, pussy-ass world:

- With a painted war-axe, decapitate a sacrificial lamb over a burning Whole Foods. Sacrificial lambs are easy to find on farms or in petting zoos. Don’t forget to scream invocations to your favorite death god! They’ll hear your bloodlust better if you masticate with conviction.
- If you’re having trouble murdering your prey with a blood-mottled javelin, you may want to try a car tire instead. Remind your delicate wife that rubber cooks great in stews. It’s practically food!
- In difficult times of famine, don’t be ashamed to scavenge for your meal. Did you know that 60% of the time road kill isn’t infested with maggots or larvae?! Be economical and try to use every part of the dead animal: possum feet make for great key chains! Use entrails instead of ribbon on your Christmas tree!
- Don’t live somewhere with enough wild game for your wife to cook in her subordinate domestic sphere? No problem! Neighborhood cats and dogs make for easy hunting. If you skin the pet and grind the meat, she’ll never know she’s cooking Hamburger Helper with Muffin, Mrs. Nance’s Bichon from next door!

## Bro-etry Corner: Guy-kus!

Everyone knows that chicks dig guys with a sensitive side. But did you know that 76% of women wish their partners knew more about traditional Asian literary form? Here’s a list of haikus you can use to give your bottom bitch what she’s craving and maybe win you some chips you can cash in at bed time.

boobs are girl muscles  
only things better than mine  
I wanna feel both

kickboxing her butt  
chicken wings hot wings more wings  
ESPN boobs

love sings inside me  
echoing chills in my heart  
kiss my dick right now

empty vagina  
I am going to fill it  
12345

## Tired of wrestling and double-dog dares with the bros?

Come to The TestSPAsterone where we put the MAN in Manicure!

Here at The TestSPAsterone, we take steps to ensure that even though you’re at a spa, you can feel secure in your masculinity.

Steps like...

- Our cucumber beer is refreshing, and it’s beer.
- Our robes are made out of dank-ass football jerseys.
- Our spa technicians work at the Hooters across the street, so you can have a rack to stare at while your feet are being exfoliated. More like exBROliated, am I right?
- We mix manly shards of glass into our facemasks. Talk about BROpening your pores!
- We like our manscaping like we like our landscaping: fast, loud, and with a chainsaw.

*\*We serve free MANtinis with every mud wrap on Wednesdays!*

MORE &  
INSIDE!

The Wesleyan Ampersand: In It For the Money. Sarah Esocoff, Editor in Chief; Ian McCarthy and Emilie Pass, Assistant Editors; Keelin Q. Ryan, Editor Emeritus; Emma Singer, Queen of Layout. Pussy-Ass World, Nick Martino; Orgasms, Dillon Krauss; Lifting Women, Rachel Earnhardt; Scarfing, Emma Singer; Spa Day, Rachel Earnhardt; Haikus, Sam Raby. [wesleyanampersand.tumblr.com](http://wesleyanampersand.tumblr.com)

## 3 Orgasm Myths: BUSTED!

- 1. Slow is sexy.**  
Wrong! Fast is fierce, and your girl will be impressed by your efficiency. She’ll be reassured by how obviously you’re attracted to her. And let’s face it: there’s a Suits marathon on that excites her way more than you ever could.
- 2. Only women can be fakers.**  
Jerry Seinfeld was stunned when Elaine told him that she “faked it,” but c’mon Jerry, get with the times! It’s not only women who love Suits. Sometimes enough is enough, and you just want to fake some

grunts and grab the remote, and that’s ok!

- 3. You should always wear a condom.**  
More like con-dumb! Do you know where condoms come from? They’re made by underpaid children in China, whose parents need protection way more than you do. China’s population is fast outpacing ours. We need to stop our unnecessary overuse of contraception and bring back the baby boom. It’s time to put America back on top. So don’t slip on that rubber—stop and think of others!



## How to Pick Up A Woman

1. Get ripped! Spend approximately seven hours in the gym daily working your delts, pecs, glutes, ‘ceps, and arms to get that sweet tone. Make sure your muscles bulge. Bitches love bulges.
2. Let your dick pick your chick—feel free to spend a little time weighing your options.
3. Approach.
4. No time for conversation. Lay your muscled arm across her shoulder slowly so as not to startle her. Then, bend and put your other, equally toned arm behind the crook of her knees. Lift.



## How to Look Manly While Wearing a Scarf (page 4)