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A circular logo with a light blue border. Inside the circle, the letters 'T' and 'C' are in a dark purple serif font, with an ampersand '&' in a light beige serif font between them.

T&C

# The Miracle Among Us

wrestling

Jeremy Paul

Disney



# Editorial Staff

## Editor-in-chief

Kris Crews

## Assistant Editor

Sara Anloague

## Creative Director

Caylin Barnes

## Staff Writers

Alicia Kriebel  
Alex Futo  
Abby Studebaker  
Jenese Wallace  
Lilly van Wyngaarden  
Katelyn Shipley  
Jerry Parrish  
Jaleah Butler  
Jasmine Caldwell  
Will Day

## Photographers

Madi O'Neill  
Kris Crawford  
Justin Jordan

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PRESS

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### Editor's Letter

When I think about college, the first word that comes to mind is transform. Each year has been filled with so many different experiences and challenges that have brought me to where I am right now. Before my freshman year of college, family, friends were lending me advice about what to expect and how I needed to let college be a learning experience. Letting this learning experience not just be in the classroom, but for me to also learn about myself, what I want to do and how I can learn from each experience that comes my way; whether it be good or bad.

I've definitely had to use that advice all throughout my undergraduate years. Freshman, sophomore, junior and senior years have all been so different, and there has been a theme for my life each year. Freshman year was the year of adjustment, sophomore year was the year of gaining confidence, junior year was the year of taking chances and senior year is the year of learning how to keep my passions alive and figuring out what I want to do after college. It's hard keeping a certain passion alive when school is often my main focus. My other hobbies and activities that I thoroughly enjoy get pushed to the side at times due to an excessive amount of credit hours and being involved in organizations, making it easy for a passion to be lost.

I spent the summer in LA for an internship, and there was where I was able to do what I loved every single day, but coming back into school mode in August was difficult. I was lost and really didn't know what the next steps in my life were after coming off a high. I lost the motivation for a while to finish strong, and maybe some of that is senioritis, but I was feeling the need for something more. The third week of school I was reminded by a staff member on campus that I am close with that my passions aren't dead. I just need to see my passions in a different way and realize that they haven't gone away.

She reminded me that sometimes you have to go through seasons of drought in order to be reminded of what you're passionate about. Ever since then I've been able to remind myself of why I started what I am doing and that what I am doing has a meaning behind it, one that will help others. I hope others can do the same and know that every passion will come with its challenges.

Follow us in this issue as we talk about the passions of other students and faculty on campus. From stories about near death as a student collapsed on the university sidewalk, to wrestling being brought back to the sports department and how students are following their dreams with once in a lifetime internships. Read through these pages to see how they are using their passions and how they are making an impact throughout the Otterbein community.

*Kris  
Crews*

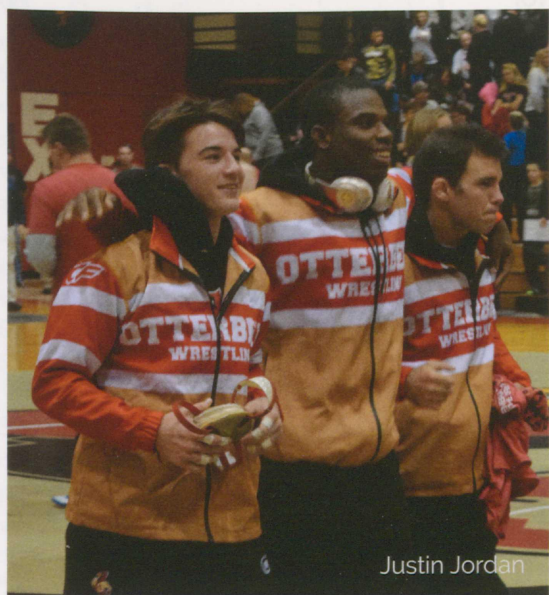
Kris Crews  
Editor-in-chief



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# Q&A

## Alumni with Cool Careers

Story by: Kris Crews

**After graduation what job did you land?**

I started working as an assistant publicist for a company called W&W Public Relations where I work under five people. My job is to assist them with writing press releases, coordinating interviews, being on calls, helping with events and also doing a lot of administrative work, such as sending emails and being the point person between the client and whatever is going on at the moment. I was in Los Angeles for six months working in the office, but now I am back in Columbus, Ohio where I am able to work remotely. The only difference in working remotely would be not being able to go to the events.

**Has it been difficult adjusting to non-college life?**

No, not really. The way I look at it is it's just a different stage of life that I get to experience and you adjust along the way.

**What's a normal day of work like for you?**

There's not really a normal day at work, which I like. It depends on the week and on what we have to do within that week if something is being released.

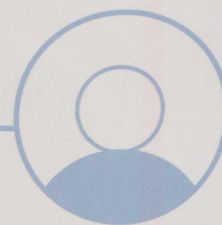
Sometimes you think it will be a quiet day, but then things can change and pick up quickly. Since I work under five people, a lot can happen because I do tasks for all five of my higher-up bosses. One thing that is normal and occurs daily is that I am on my computer the majority of the time. That is essentially how I start off my communication and coordinating with my bosses and clients, as well as being on constant calls. My job is supposed to be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., but it just varies. That's what keeps it exciting and interesting. It's honestly a lot of multitasking and balancing out work in a fast-paced environment.

**How did Otterbein prepare you for this position?**

Otterbein prepared me specifically in the communications department. The program is set up really well to where you learn the skills in the classroom but you use those learned skills once you're out doing practicums or internships. Students tend to get scared of internships, but they are such a great experience because you learn so much and see if you really like what you're pursuing. I used the help and responsiveness that I received from my professors to my advantage. Their help and the opportunities I was able to experience played a huge role in my education.

**What is the most fulfilling part of your job?**

The most fulfilling part of my job would be looking back and thinking "hey, I did that!" When you're in the moment you don't realize what you're actually doing, but then you look back and say "I can do anything!"



**Name:** Tabatha Piper  
**Major:** Public relations  
**Minor:** Sports communication  
**Graduation year:** 2015  
**Age:** 24  
**Hometown:** Sunbury, OH

**What is the hardest part of your job?**

The hardest part of the job would be that it can sometimes be overwhelming. As a young professional, I'm still learning and trying to get adjusted while juggling these tasks I have. It's not necessarily hard or a bad thing, but more so a process with having to learn a lot in a new environment.

**What are your future goals? What would be your ultimate dream job?**

Growing up the job I have now was the dream job I always wanted. I've been working towards this for a long time. I've always wanted to work with celebrities and do red carpet events, so it's amazing seeing how all of it is actually happening now. I haven't settled, and with that being said, I still have goals. I don't know what the future holds, but I know everything will work out.

**What is one important word of advice you'd give a student who is concerned about their future career plans?**

Don't be afraid. You can do something if you try. You have time to figure out your life and still go after what you want. In the end everything will be all right. It's a different phase of your life and that's what's exciting. Just do what makes you happy!



Photo Provided

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Photo Provided

## BEHIND THE LENS

Story by: Abby Studebaker

When Drew Shaffer was in sixth grade, he started making mini movies with his best friends. From reenacting *Drake and Josh* episodes to coming up with superhero spoofs like “Bunny Man Returns,” making videos was always a fun way to goof off after school, but they never thought anything more would come of it. Now, nine years later, Shaffer is putting his talent with a camera to good use as the head and founder of his video production company, Shaffer Productions.

Shaffer is a junior journalism and media communication major at Otterbein, but pursuing a career in video production wasn't his original plan.

“I did want to be a lawyer at one point,” said Shaffer, “but every time I went on vacation I would make a video about it.”

At first, Shaffer made videos to share memories with his family and friends. When one of his friends pointed out that people would be willing to pay for quality videos like his, Shaffer began to see production as a viable career path.

Shaffer Productions was founded a little over a year ago on Jan. 4, 2016. It's made up of five people: Drew Shaffer, creative director, videographer, and editor; John Schuman, photographer; Alex Backenstoe, animator; Jack Johns, chief financial officer and Jason Weihl, videographer and editor.

Together these five men have been diving into the production world and making a name for themselves one client at a time.

In the past year, Shaffer Productions has worked to make promotional videos for a wide variety of businesses and individuals. A few of their projects include videos for Get Air trampoline park, the Homeless Families Foundation of Columbus, the Columbus Blue Jackets, Power Train Sports & Fitness and Outer Banks Furniture. They got their first gig filming Yours For the Taking, a band from Otterbein that graduated in 2016. Shaffer also takes on solo projects during the school year when his team gets busy with school and sports. He recently worked with the Columbus Editorial Society, a local modeling agency, Sigma Alpha Tau sorority and several DJs. After getting the chance to film artists like Maxx Crowder at Haunted Festival in Columbus, Shaffer finally got a taste of what will hopefully be his next step as a videographer.

“The dream is to be a videographer for an EDM [electronic dance music] band like The Chainsmokers or Martin Garrix,” said Shaffer.

He wants to travel while he's young, filming bands and DJs on the road and at festivals, then focus on larger productions or films later in life. For now, he's happy to be broadening his portfolio, honing his skills and learning something new from every project.

Shaffer is an advocate of working hard behind the scenes, so that the finished video comes out polished and professional. He says that the majority of what makes a video seem finished and put-together comes during the editing phase—this is when the raw footage is refined, music is added and scenes are pieced together into one seamless story. But he didn't always know how to do these things.

“I'd say I'm about 90 percent self-taught, which is the case for a lot of videographers,” said Shaffer. “YouTube is a great teacher.”

Shaffer didn't get to where he is now overnight. Long hours spent experimenting with editing software, watching video tutorials and simply practicing every day have gotten him far.

“I'm ten times better than I was a month ago, and I'm a million times better than I was a year ago,” said Shaffer. “That's just filmmaking.”

Shaffer's advice to aspiring filmmakers is to just go out there and start filming. The best way to learn is through trial and error, making mistakes or having an idea and seeing if you can make it happen. Whether you want to be the next Steven Spielberg or just make videos to remember special times, all you need is a camera and some drive. Who knows, like Drew Shaffer, it may even turn into a career.

&



Members of the team are all smiles after their first match of the season | Justin Jordan



## LEAVING IT ALL ON THE MAT

Story: Sara Anloague

Bodies being slammed on the mats, loud grunting, coaches yelling, shoes squeaking, heavy breathing. What was once a dark, quiet room known as the racquetball court that was rarely used, is now the practice room for the new Otterbein wrestling team. The coach shouts "Go!" and the drill partners go at it, wrestling in full effect for one full minute until the coach yells "Stop!" for the groups to switch out. Teammates are watching and resting on the side, while the the groups of two are dripping sweat, filling the hot, smelly room.

"Keep wrestling through it," said new head coach Brent Rastetter. "You've got a minute left, you can do anything for one minute. Come on, push. You need to score!"

From crickets to loud body slams, the room tucked away in one corner of the Rike has undergone an immense transformation.

This year marks the start, or restart, of Otterbein's wrestling program. The university started the wrestling program in 1963, and it came to a screeching halt in 1974 because of the enrollment and financial situation of the school. Nonetheless, wrestling was a top pick in the sport interest survey the university sent out. It was already an Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) sport and Otterbein wanted to stay competitive, so to meet the desires of current and prospective students the wrestling program was reborn after more than four decades.

However, the rebirth of the program is not the only reason wrestlers are attracted to Otterbein. Rastetter seems to be one of the main reasons students are choosing to come to Otterbein to wrestle and pursue their degree.

Rastetter took a pay cut and left a school where he had a record of 208-34 as well as eight straight conference championships.

One might wonder why Rastetter would make the decision of leaving Lexington High School to take the head coaching position at Otterbein. But Rastetter has no regrets and would do it again in a heartbeat.

Although the process of building the program from the ground up has been a little more daunting than Rastetter expected, he has enjoyed every part of the process. Since being hired last October, he has been learning NCAA rules, recruiting wrestlers and other important but little things that have led to this point of getting to do what he loves.

When Director of Athletics, Dawn Stewart, was choosing the new head coach of wrestling she had the choice between five finalists. Only one of those finalists did not have any college coaching experience, and that was Rastetter. Despite that, Rastetter had something that stood out to Stewart that would be far more valuable to the program. He had an understanding of the balance that goes along with being a student athlete, putting academics first and making sure that priorities are in order. Most importantly, he understood that for such a physically and mentally demanding sport like wrestling, it's important to implement a culture of family and team unity.

Rastetter identified himself very early in the search process for a coach as a strong role model for any student athlete.

"It spoke to us, and it made a lot of sense and fit with who we are as a program," said Stewart.

Fostering a family atmosphere among the team, every practice is started with a joke of the day to keep the mood light. Rastetter also keeps the practice time to a minimum, about an hour and a half per day, so the wrestlers can still enjoy their college lives.

He understands that these Division III (D3) athletes aren't getting any scholarships for wrestling. They are actually paying their way to do something they love, so Rastetter tries not to make it a job for them.

"If they are miserable, I'm miserable, and if I'm miserable, they are miserable," said Rastetter. "I just want an environment where we are enjoying the sport and the process."



Rastetter is also hard on the wrestlers about their academics. He asks only two things of all the recruits coming in: to make their degree their number-one priority and to have a passion for wrestling no matter their skill level.

Rastetter has been either wrestling or coaching the sport since 1983. The life experiences that he has endured have had a great impact on the way he coaches today. Early in his coaching career, losing a match would seem like the end of the world. It would take him days to get over. But things changed when Rastetter was only 29 years old and in the best shape of his life; he was diagnosed with cancer. Around that same time, he and his wife had a son who was born with various different health issues.

Their now 16-year-old son was born with cerebral palsy and serious seizure disorders. Rastetter and his wife had to have nursing care to help take care of him at night. He is nonverbal and cannot walk.

"I'm dealing with that aspect of my life then I'm dealing with the cancer at the same time and you just kind of look at things in a different light," said Rastetter. "You value things in a different way. Losing a wrestling match just is not that big of a deal when you put it in perspective of all that other stuff."

Although Rastetter wants to win just as much as everyone else, he realizes that won't happen every time. He tells the wrestlers that a loss is only a loss if you don't learn from it. He has faith in his team and has set high expectations for the season.

"I'm not setting my sights any lower than going and winning every time that we step on the mat," said Rastetter.

The wrestlers have also set the bar high for themselves. Freshman nursing major, Jackson Lakso, and 26-year-old sophomore, Jake Vaughan, both want to be national champions. Lakso has been wrestling for about 14 years, and is a three-time state qualifier.

"I just fell in love with the sport, wrestled year round and worked hard to be the best wrestler I could be," said Lakso.

He decided to quit football and baseball to focus on wrestling in college. He is now the only 125-pounder on Otterbein's team and was guaranteed a starting position. Lakso's drill partner, Vaughan, is the captain of the wrestling team.

Vaughan feels that it's a big responsibility being the captain of the team. He wants to be able to make this first team back at Otterbein legendary. With more than 20 years of wrestling experience and genuine passion for the sport, success will be achievable. He attended Ohio State University after high school where he started a couple of varsity matches before getting injured and eventually leaving the university. He worked a few odd-end jobs, including working on Verizon cell phone towers and coaching wrestling.

Four years later, Rastetter contacted Vaughan and helped him through the process of applying to Otterbein to get him back in school and on the team. Vaughan had to take 14 credit hours at Columbus State Community College while working more than 60 hours a week because his GPA wasn't where it needed to be. Vaughan was accepted and is excited to move on from climbing and building cell phone towers.

"I was just pretty ecstatic to be able to wrestle again," said Vaughan.

Vaughan explains that Rastetter stood out to him because of how much passion he shows for the sport and the fact that he was taking on this big challenge of starting up a new program. The two now meet daily in the coach's office to touch base on Vaughan's grades, to see how he's feeling and to exchange helpful advice.

Rastetter was influential in many of the wrestler's decisions to chose Otterbein.

"After I talked to the coach here, I pretty much decided right then and there," said Joey Tromba, freshman engineering major, during his Otterbein visit.

Tromba has been wrestling since he was five years old, and has improved every year since. He also played football his senior year of high school, which is when he tore his ACL forcing him to take a break from sports.

His injury, however, doesn't stop him from being a part of the new wrestling team. He still goes to practice, lifting and team events. But Tromba believes that the injury could possibly be a blessing in disguise because of how hard the engineering workload is.

Rastetter has encouraged Tromba to stick with it and keep working towards doing what he loves: wrestling. Tromba says the best part about wrestling is "after your hand gets raised, that feeling of winning." He mentions how that feeling is in every sport, but in wrestling it's special because they're on their own out there on the mat.

Tromba is excited for the team and is optimistic that they can reach their goal of winning the OAC.

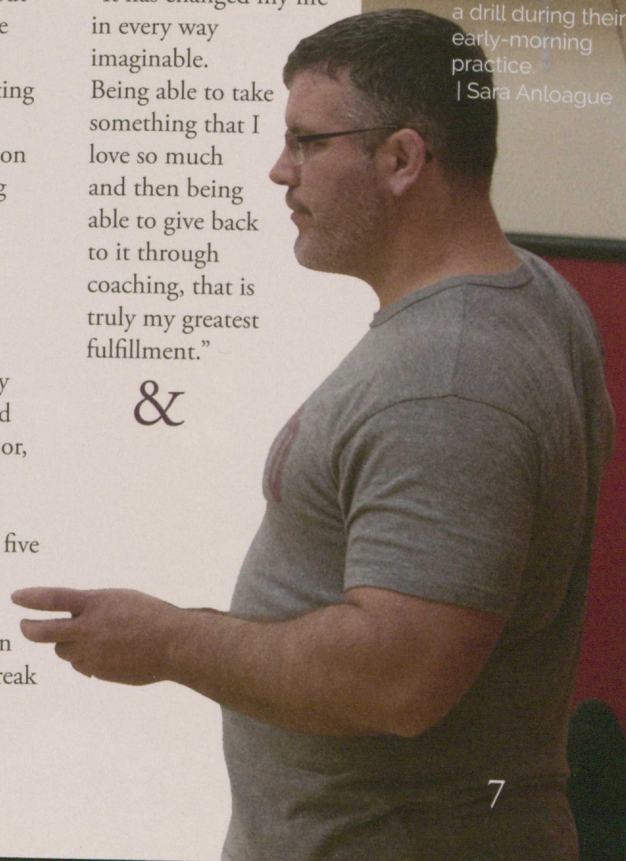
"I think we can do it," said Tromba. "There are a lot of talented kids on the team, and I think Coach is going to get them ready for it."

The wrestlers put a lot of faith in Rastetter, but he believes that people who can find their passion can live a happier life. He looks forward to going to work every day and interacting with the wrestlers. He feels privileged to be able to see them grow in the wrestling room and the classroom.

"I love the sport of wrestling," said Rastetter. "It has changed my life in every way imaginable. Being able to take something that I love so much and then being able to give back to it through coaching, that is truly my greatest fulfillment."

&

Rastetter timing the wrestlers for a drill during their early-morning practice  
| Sara Anloague





Cameron West  
standing with one of  
his Disney College  
Program friends in the  
park  
Photo provided



# Earning Their Ears:

## Making Magic with Disney

Story by: Alex Futo

Attractions, merchandise, character performer, photographer, front desk, food service and custodial are among the spread of checkboxes on the application. After putting hours of thought into each checkbox and job reference, the application is whisked away with a college student's dreams on the line after a single click. Next, a web-based interview with personality based questions determines if someone is Disney-fit. Then, a phone interview makes the final call.

Congratulations, and welcome to the Disney College Program!

"Getting my acceptance email was a moment I will never forget," said Joelle Marshall, a senior middle childhood education and theater double major. She had applied three times before being accepted into the program. Applicants can apply only once per semester to do the program the following semester, and Marshall tried applying both semesters freshman year. She wasn't accepted until spring semester of her sophomore year after being encouraged to apply again by a sorority sister.

"I didn't expect to get in after my third try," said Marshall, but she did.

Marshall was assigned to attractions. She worked at Fantasyland in Magic Kingdom, helping operations at Mickey's Philhar-Magic 4D experience, Prince Charming's Carrousel, and Princess Fairytale Hall. Marshall was also trained to work fastpass kiosks and help put on the fireworks show, Wishes, that performed every night.

"There were long days, but making magic for people was what made it all worth it," said Marshall. "Disney World is a magical place, and working for them is like a dream."



Emma Shaner, a senior public relations and communication studies major, applied and was accepted alongside Marshall for the fall 2015 program. As a former Disney Store employee, she'd had her eye on the program for a while. It matched well with her passion for Disney and her studies. To sweeten the deal, she developed an independent study on how communication works in the resort for internship credit.

"It forced me out of my comfort zone," said Shaner. "It really gave me the 'adult experience' because it was a full-time job, and I had to live on my own."

Shaner worked at The Emporium, one of the world's largest gift shops, where she helped stock merchandise and operate the registers. She got the chance to see what goes on behind the scenes in the store and had some free reign to work on her own projects. One project involved sticking Mickey stuffed animals across a wall to recreate the distinctive "D" in Disney as a unique store display.

"There's a trick to it," said Shaner about the display. "But I can't tell you because it would ruin the magic."

Shaner met with hundreds of people everyday at Disney and built long-lasting relationships, which she said helped her professional development.

"I learned valuable skills that now help with my current internship," said Shaner. These are skills she'll now carry with her for the rest of her adult career.

Cameron West, a sophomore public relations major, worked as a character performer for his Disney experience. He, like a lot of students in the program, also took classes at Disney University to help network with others and keep him on track to graduate on time. He enrolled in two collegiate courses, transferable to Otterbein, called Disney Corporate Communication and Disney Creativity and Innovation.

Instead of outright saying that someone plays a character, Disney prefers that character performers say that they are friends with the character to uphold the park's magical ideals. West's likeness to characters from his height, build and face determined which characters he was most qualified to be friends with.

Most notably, he was close friends with the boy that never grows up: Peter Pan. His work dealt a lot with character integrity and the importance of character portrayal.

"I got to portray these world-famous characters that people have grown up with their entire life," said West. "These characters are very, very important to a lot of people's lives. I had guests walk up to me and say they had waited their entire life to meet that character, and then they'd hug me and start crying."

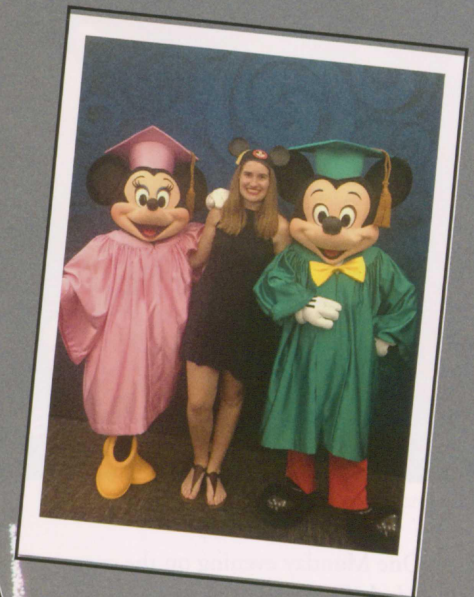
Different interactions with people, such as with children from the Make-A-Wish Foundation or an old man visiting annually to honor his late wife, humbled West. Also, in his time with these characters, he realized the parts of himself he liked best and missed when he was in character. Overall, he declared the experience eye-opening on a professional and personal level.

The Disney College Program offers a wide assortment of opportunity for all, whether a student is into the rides, gift shops or the characters everyone knows and loves. It's free for all undergraduate students to apply and welcomes talent of any kind. As the park advertises: Disney is a place where dreams come true.

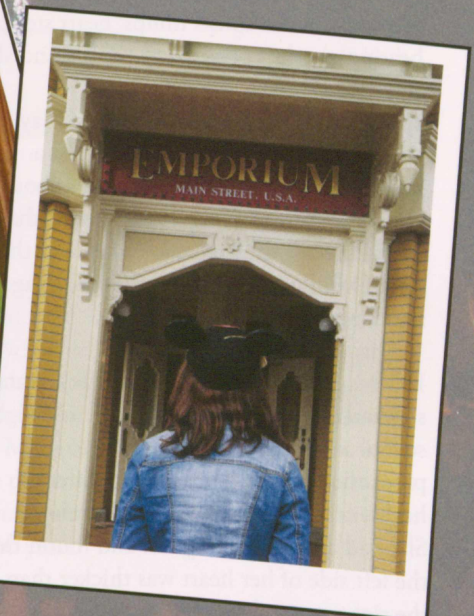
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Joelle Marshall stands with Mickey and Minnie as she officially earns her ears in the program.




Peter Pan strikes a pose in front of Neverland as he prepares to make friends and interact with Disney guests.



Emma Shaner stands outside The Emporium where her semester-long Disney journey is about to begin.





Phillips, Fenton and Suever sitting on the steps of the sorority that gave them lifelong friendship. | Kris Crawford

# The Miracle Among Us

Story by: Alicia Kriebel & Abby Studebaker

One Monday evening on the corner of South Grove Street, surrounded by her sorority sisters, Anna Phillips' heart stopped beating. As she collapsed to the ground she went into cardiac arrest, and for approximately 19 minutes her body lay still and lifeless. 19 minutes without a heartbeat. 19 minutes that nobody should survive. Yet miraculously, for reasons that shocked both the first responders and those surrounding, her heart began beating again and hasn't stopped since.

Her biggest enemy was her own body, and she had no idea. Two years prior, as a high school senior, Phillips had taken precautionary measures from a different health concern and visited a cardiologist. She had an echocardiogram and found that the left side of her heart was thicker than the right.

After wearing a heart monitor for a few weeks, she had shown no signs of irregular heart palpitations or arrhythmias. Most people who are diagnosed with Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy never show symptoms until they go into cardiac arrest.

On Sep. 21, 2015, Phillips' sorority decided to have a sisterhood scavenger hunt. Apparently, she wanted to do the scavenger hunt, which is very out of character, she said while laughing. The only other thing Phillips remembers is giving a campus tour to a prospective student at Otterbein earlier that day.

After the paramedics reached the scene, she had been lifeless for minutes. They attempted to shock her, but nothing was working.

The brain can survive for about five minutes without oxygen after the heart stops, according to the Brain Injury Foundation. Phillips was way past that mark. Eventually they put her in the ambulance with little hope. Then the unexpected happened—her heart started beating again. There was no rhyme or reason as to why, but having her here today is undoubtedly a miracle.

Among those who were present at the time of the incident were Phillips' two best friends. Jennica Fenton and Tori Suever are also students at Otterbein and belong to the same sorority. They are her right hand women who had a front row view of it all, while being equally as numb and helpless as their best friend.



Two days before the incident, Anna teased the two about changing the passcode on her phone, saying they would never be able to figure it out. What was innocent joking among friends would become an obstacle when the two tried to reach her family after the accident. Luckily one of Phillip's sorority sisters found a way to eventually contact one of her sisters. Word traveled to her parents and the family was immediately en route to the hospital. Today the three still laugh at the password they tried so hard to crack, because it in fact was "get out."

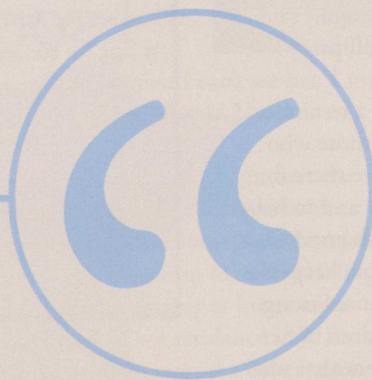
Finding ways to stay busy was a struggle for Fenton and Suever during the long few days of waiting and not knowing if she would wake up, and if so, if she'd have brain damage.

"At the time I couldn't even cry or be upset," said Fenton. "It was almost as if my brain wasn't allowing me to comprehend what was happening. I went those few days without accepting it was real. I would think about what it would be like if she didn't make it. That never lasted long because I refused to spend time believing that, Anna is resilient."

Moving forward and taking on life again, the three friends still live together and plan to graduate in the spring of 2018. They like to look at the incident with a lighter heart now while moving forward. They didn't bother with a birthday cake this year, instead making Phillips a Death Day cake with extra blue frosting and fish-shaped sprinkles to celebrate the one-year anniversary of her incident. In addition to switching out birthday cakes for death day cakes, she faces some physical limitations now.

"My sisters ran cross-country in high school," said Phillips. "It's not like I would want to run, but sometimes I wish I had the option."

Due to her heart condition and the medication she now takes, Phillips faces limitations on some activities many of us take for granted. For instance, she can no longer go up more than three flights of stairs because her heart can't keep up with her body. She also has a defibrillator that automatically shocks her heart if necessary.



I would think about what it would be like if she didn't make it. That never lasted long because I refused to spend time believing that, Anna is resilient

- Jennica Fenton, friend of Anna's

"I have to take elevators a lot, which makes me feel dumb," said Phillips "My honors advisor lives on the third floor of Towers, and those stairs are the death of me. I also walk much slower to class now, but I just can't care."

She feels dramatic at times but knows she has to do what it takes to keep herself alive and healthy.

In February 2016, about 18 months after her incident, she started to notice some red flags. There is not an exact science to her condition. For now she just deals with it day by day, and does her best to live her life outside of her condition. After consulting with her doctor, she knows that her condition is just something that she will have to live with. Though Phillips takes new obstacles with a grain of salt now, normal day to day activities still can be challenging

for this twenty-one year old. Some days Phillips struggles with something as simple as picking out an outfit.

"It's really fun when I am trying to wear something cute and have this thing sticking out of my chest," said Phillips jokingly.

Even though she is learning new ways to take on life, something she can't learn to live without is junk food and pizza rolls. Luckily, her doctor has assured her that right now there is no reason to switch up her diet, and she will not have to part ways with her one real love.

With any great challenge comes an even greater reward. Phillips is the living truth of this. The summer

before her incident, she was a camp counselor at Camp CONNRI in Connecticut with her two sisters. The trio also happen to be triplets. Before she knew it, the camp gave her more than she could have imagined. This is the summer that Anna and her now fiancé, Jordan Lock, met. Following their post-graduation wedding, the two have plans to move back to her hometown of Medina, Ohio. Their future home will be the house that she grew up in and has been passed down in her family for over 130 years.



Shockingly out of the many obstacles she has learned to overcome, one that remains is how she is treated on campus. She notices that people often see her as the girl that died or the girl Otterbein had a candlelight vigil for.

"I am tired of people treating me as if I'm fragile," said Phillips.

Local media sought Phillips out for her story, but her lack of memory made it hard for Phillips to tell how she felt. She greatly appreciates all that the Otterbein community did for her throughout her journey as well as helping her moving forward. At the time, it was a lot for Phillips to handle trying to understand the efforts others put into place because she is not an attention seeking person.

Almost two years later, she has still not talked to many people about what actually happened that day. She believes that it may even be more traumatic for other people to talk about it than it is for herself. Her scavenger hunt group still struggles with reliving the incident. She remembers almost nothing from the day or the few following days when she was in a coma.

A part of her wants to know exactly what happened while other parts of her are okay with just looking forward.

"I think the fact that I somehow lived is just enough," said Phillips.

As a reminder of those who were there for her and to help with good vibes, Anna keeps the #AnnaStrong banner in her room that was made for the vigil ceremony shortly after her incident. The people who really know her showed gestures of love like making bows that are her favorite color, black, which is what meant the most to her.

I think the fact that  
I somehow lived is  
just enough.

- Anna Phillips

In just about two short years, Phillips has faced many hardships that would be unexpected for any college student. Her world was flipped upside down and made its way back even better than before. Through the unknown power of a miracle, she still walks among us.

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The #AnnaStrong banner is still a reminder of struggles overcome by a community.  
Photo: Madi O'Neill





## Story by: Kris Crews

Being away from home can make the heart grow fonder, and for Otterbein student Martha Nyarko, distance hasn't been an easy adjustment but it is one that has come with rewards. Nyarko is a first year with sophomore status, majoring in allied health and minoring in psychology. Unlike most students who may have grown up in America their whole lives, Nyarko has lived in two other countries before coming to Otterbein.

Her family, fully African, is from Ghana but she was born in Scilla, Italy. Nyarko lived in Italy with her parents and brothers for six years before moving to Ghana. Once in Ghana, she lived there for 7 years with her mother and brothers while her dad moved to America. It wasn't until six years ago that she, and her brothers, came to America.

"My dad wanted me to come here because Ghana is a second world community. He wanted to come here to work and to gain the resources America has to offer, and that's why he wanted me and my brothers to move with him so we could succeed in school and jobs," said Nyarko.

The resources and opportunities were something for Nyarko to look forward to, but in doing so, she had to leave behind someone very important to her—her mother.

Nyarko's mother stayed in Ghana because her sister died. Her sister had six children who were not able to take care of themselves, so she stayed in Ghana to take care of them while the rest of her family moved to the states.

"Sometimes it's hard for me because I looked up to my mom and I know her a lot better than my dad because I lived with her for 10 years while my dad was in America working.

I can't have the experience with my mom like my friends do and it makes me sad because I can't see her. I miss her, but I've adjusted," said Nyarko.

Not being able to see her mom isn't the only thing she has had to adjust to since moving to America six years ago. Nyarko notices the differences in her surroundings when it comes to staying at home compared to living in her residence hall. Back in Ghana her mom owned a bakery that overflowed with laughter as people walked in and out, giving off an energy that anyone would want to be around, but the energy in her house with her dad and siblings is much different.

"It's much different living with my dad. He is always working and my brothers are in school. It gets lonely sometimes, but living on campus, having a great roommate and friends definitely make it more lively," said Nyarko.

Living on campus has also given Nyarko the chance to meet so many other nice people as well as being able to grow closer with her professors, which has been an enjoyable experience for her. She sees that there are differences with her friends and professors, but that it doesn't change how she is viewed.

"The professors here invest so much time in you and believe in you, not to mention I am surrounded by so many nice people here. Although we are different, they respect me and accept me for who I am," said Nyarko.

Nyarko has become very involved in organizations. She is involved in N.E.S.T, gospel choir, a mentoring program called Girls Are Really Awesome (G.A.R.A.),



Best of Both Worlds, the Promise House, HOLA and she works two jobs, at the Clements Recreation Center and in the MBA program office in Roush. Although she is very busy, Nyarko enjoys being involved because it reminds her that she has freedom, which is something she is learning to enjoy.

"The most enjoyable part of being in the states and in college is enjoying my freedom and knowing what I can do with that freedom. In Ghana you're not on your own until you're married, but since I moved on campus, I've experienced that freedom much faster and I know it's hard for my dad. But I am learning how to be independent," said Nyarko.

Experiencing independence and freedom much faster than those in Ghana has given her the chance to narrow down what she wants to do with her future. After college she is thinking about becoming a physician assistant or going to medical school. Her passions lie there and she wants to help people. Moving here has given her strength and has been a journey that is shaping her into someone who is more aware and knowledgeable.

"Moving here has helped me mentally, emotionally and socially. Hearing others talk about their experiences has broadened my horizons and knowledge. I've become more open-minded and I think about others more," said Nyarko.

Through struggles and distance, Nyarko has kept a good head on her shoulders and is learning how to take pieces from her life in Ghana to her everyday life in America, making Otterbein her home away from home.



# DISCOVERING HIDDEN HOBBIES

Story by: Abby Studebaker

On the surface the world sees a student. An orientation leader. A soccer player. A sorority girl; but who we are is so much more than what group we're associated with or what category we seem to fit neatly into. Part of what makes us who we are is what we're passionate about, and oftentimes those passions are surprising. Under an ordinary, everyday surface you might find a ninja warrior. A yo-yo champion. A scuba diver. Throughout Otterbein's campus there are people with astonishing, interesting, and amazing hobbies, hobbies their peers are often unaware of. They are doing what they love while also juggling class, work, sports, clubs, and a hundred other obligations. We all have our passions, those things that we do for the pure joy of it, for stress release, or simply for ourselves. They are things we could do or talk about for hours and never get tired of. These are the stories of ordinary students with out-of-the-ordinary hobbies, hobbies that have grown over time into passions.

Ryan Karapas  
Rapper



"I'm about to burn, if you listen then you learn. It ain't all about the money, there's respect for me to earn. But that is what I do so I'm really not concerned, there ain't enough of me so the ladies take turns." -Ryno

Last year Otterbein was introduced to a new rapper: Ryno. But don't be surprised if the man behind the music isn't quite who you expected him to be.

Ryan Karapas is a second year finance and economics double major at Otterbein. He plays for the men's basketball team, but in his free time likes to write and produce his own raps. With the help of his roommates, Karapas has been making a name for himself with his clever rhymes.

The attraction began at a young age. Since elementary school Karapas has been writing songs, but it was around eighth grade when he started becoming more interested in the style of rap he does today. He cites Lil' Wayne as one of his greatest influences and the spark that got him going. Today his musical tastes have branched out, and he takes inspiration from artists like Drake and G-Eazy.

When it comes to the writing itself, the words come naturally for Karapas. He works with his roommates to come up with ideas for songs, like a common theme or what background beats they'll use. Once those are established it only takes Karapas an hour or two to write the lyrics. Then the whole thing is recorded in their dorm room and uploaded to SoundCloud, a popular music sharing website.

"Jane Lumley, 18, Lyme." That's a phrase that



Jane Lumley  
Pageants

Jane Lumley has practiced over and over again this past year.

Lumley is a freshman journalism and media communication major at Otterbein, and this was her second year competing in the Miss New Hampshire Teen USA pageant.

Lumley was introduced to pageants through a modeling agency she used to work with when she was younger. After seeing that one of her friends was signed up to compete last year, she decided to give it a shot, and ended up loving what she found.

Miss Teen USA pageants in each state consist of three parts: swimsuit, evening gown, and interview. The first two parts are meant to measure poise, grace, style, elegance, and most of all confidence. But the most important segment by far is the interview.

"Everyone gets a three-minute interview, one-on-one with the judges," said Lumley. "That's just for them to get to know you, your personality and it's your time to show them 'I'm your girl, I'm your next Miss New Hampshire Teen'." The top five girls are then given an onstage question, usually about current events or politics, that they must answer on the spot before the judges and audience.

When Lumley began competing, she knew she would get to wear a pretty dress and meet girls from all across the state, but she never could have imagined how much discipline it would take, the confidence she would gain or the wonderful friendships she would make with not just the other competitors but the team of people helping her prepare.

Pageants aren't cheap, and the girls competing in them are often far from rich. Lumley had to go to countless businesses in her hometown to seek sponsorship for everything from her hotel room to her dress to production costs. She sold ads in the pageant magazine, and even started a GoFundMe asking for donations.

Madi O'Neill  
Scubadiving



Madi O'Neill is a sophomore art major with a concentration in photography, and one day she wants to capture everything she's seen just below the ocean's surface.

O'Neill's love for the ocean started many years ago, and though she just got her scuba diving certification when she was 16, she's been snorkeling since she was young. First introduced to diving by her grandma and aunt, she tries to go at least once a year when she has the time and money to travel.



Scuba diving has some major risks the divers should be aware of. The equipment is heavy and cumbersome, and they have to make sure each piece is in perfect working order before going under. Every diver wears a bodysuit as well as booties, fins, a mask and of course an air tank. They also take a portable dive computer that tracks time and depth underwater.

O'Neill usually goes scuba diving in warm locations like the Bahamas or the Florida Bay, where she can see all kinds of wildlife, from fish to manatees. As a photography major she hopes to take her camera with her underwater someday to capture images of the oceans she loves.

"Go out and try diving," said O'Neill. "It's amazing what is out there, and maybe if more people were able to go and explore our oceans they would take better care of them."

Through scuba diving, O'Neill's own eyes have been opened to the beauty and importance of the natural world around us.



Keegan Orr  
Yo-Yo

When people see him around campus, they often do a double take. Because wherever Keegan Orr goes, his yoyo goes with him. Orr is a junior engineering physics major and he's been yo-yoing since he got his first yoyo, a cheap plastic one, in a kid's meal when he was around 11 years old. His dad taught him some basic tricks like around the world and even gave him his old yoyos, buried in the basement of Orr's grandparents' house.

Learning tricks from a VHS he rented from the library, at first Orr saw yo-yoing as something fun to play around with. It wasn't until he was about 13 years old that he began looking up videos on YouTube, and stumbled across yo-yoing world champion and pioneer, Hiroyuki Suzuki.

After being exposed to this new world of competitive yo-yoing and impossible tricks, Orr was hooked. He got his first real yoyo, one made of metal and with a ball bearing so it could spin for days, and began learning everything he could find about yo-yoing. He practiced new tricks, entered competitions and discovered a community of yoyoers who feel like family.

"I've always had an interest in physics, and there's just tons of physics involved with the yoyo," said Orr. "[But] the thing that kept me stuck with it was the community. There's many times where I've wanted to quit, but it was going to contests and hanging out with friends and having people tell me 'Dude, that trick was awesome, teach me that trick.'"

There are five styles of yo-yoing, 1A-5A. Orr does 1A, the most popular style and the most recognizable. It consists of one unresponsive yoyo, meaning it will sit on the string and spin for a long time, and won't come back to the hand with a simple jerk of the wrist. He has competed in the state, regional, national and world levels of the National YoYo league, with his highest rankings being third in Ohio, the upper 50s at nationals, and 95th in the world. Passions can be found young or discovered later in life.



Jesse Wildman  
Ninja Warrior

For junior allied health major, Jesse Wildman, his passion began just last summer and helped get him through a hard time in his life.

In the summer of 2015, Wildman's parents were going through a divorce, so he chose to live on campus to get away from the stress at home. He had always had an interest in the TV show American Ninja Warrior, in which competitors use strength, agility and aspects of parkour to make it through an obstacle course. When Wildman heard that a ninja warrior gym was opening near Polaris, he took a chance and offered to help free of charge as it got off the ground.

Now a full year later, Wildman still works at that gym, Movement Lab Ohio, and he has competed in ninja warrior competitions in multiple states. He's become a part of the growing community of ninja warriors, a community that is open to everyone. There are ninja warriors who are 15 and some who are 70, and they're all training for the love of the sport.

After playing soccer for 15 years, Wildman wanted to get involved in something where he could stay athletic after college and still satisfy his competitive nature. Ninja warrior offers just that. Though everyone wants to win, they also all support each other and cheer for one another to do their best.

"The hardest part is definitely having a short memory," said Wildman. Unlike other sports, one wrong move means a ninja warrior must wait weeks or months to try again in the next competition. But luckily, competitions are happening more frequently across the country. After starting in Japan 15 years ago, the sport is now exploding in the US.

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| Photos Provided





Essence practices driving herself to school accompanied by her father.  
Photo : Madi O'Neill

## KEEPING UP WITH COMMUTERS

Story by: Katelyn Shipley

On most days, Essence Auls sits in the passenger seat next to her mom or dad while one of them drives her to campus because she doesn't yet have her state driver's license. Tyler Hammond is running through campus because he can't find parking spots anywhere close to his classes.

Their daily journey to Otterbein's campus is quite different than most of their fellow

students, but they aren't alone. There are others who walk more than a mile, sometimes in brutal cold and snow, to get to campus. Others have to take a city bus or ride their bike.

Long before some students can take an exam or write a class paper, they have to get to Otterbein first, and it's not always easy.



According to U.S. News & World Report, 1,319 out of 2,808 students at Otterbein live off campus. That's 47 percent of the Otterbein student community.

The university attempts to make life easier for commuters but it's still a challenge for those who don't live on or next to campus. It's can also be a challenge for them socially because their time in and around campus is often limited by time, jobs and traffic.

"It's hard because I live 30 minutes away," said Auls. "There's no telling what traffic will be like, so I always feel pressured to leave extra early so I'm not late to class."

For Hammond, a 20-year-old junior mathematics and business administration double major, his challenges as a commuter are mostly about parking. Hammond lives only 15 minutes away, but he has to leave at least 30 minutes before his class starts to find parking.

Hammond notes that there is rarely a spot on campus to park, and admits a truth he experiences every day: Otterbein doesn't have many designated parking spots for commuters.

"I will see the same car in the same spot every day for the entire semester... Since I don't have a dorm, I have to keep the things I don't need in my car," he said. "I have to make the decision of carrying four classes worth of books around all day, or walk off campus each time to get something out of my car."

Hammond believes Otterbein should have a designated parking lot for commuters. He pointed out that many students who are residents work and need access to their cars daily. Instead of three parking pass system (commuter, home, resident), Otterbein should create a "working resident" and a "non-working resident" pass. He believes this would allow students who work or commute to park closer to where they need to be.

The daily commute for Essence Auls is also quite different than the typical Otterbein student.

The 19-year-old sophomore theater major has her temporary driver's permit so needs one of her parents to ride in with her to campus.

"My dad insisted that he was going to teach both me and my brother to drive at the same time when he turned sixteen and I was eighteen," said Auls. "That didn't end up happening. My brother learned in driving school and my dad didn't start to teach me until this past summer right before I turned 19."

Auls often spends anywhere from six to 12 hours at Otterbein depending on the day. During her free time between classes, Auls is found in the basement of Roush Hall in the computer lab doing homework. When she does not have homework, she can be found in the commuter lounge, located in the basement of Towers Hall. Because of the 30-minute drive and her lack of ability to get home, she has to stay on campus during long breaks between classes.

If Auls makes the choice to participate in sorority or theater functions, she gets home late in the evening, only to wake up early the next day to make it to class on time.

Auls' schedule depends solely on when her parents can pick her up and drop her off, making it hard to attend campus activities and join groups.

The commuter lounge is a small room in the basement of Towers Hall. It has a few couches, a vending machine, a Keurig, and a TV.

Hammond and Auls both agreed that more often than not, they don't feel included at Otterbein's on campus activities. Otterbein very rarely holds events for commuting students. The university also doesn't always take the schedules of commuters into consideration, which includes drive-time. James Prysock, director of the Office of Social Justice and Activism, is looking for more ways to get commuters involved with on-campus events and organizations.

"Most of our events start at seven because they are student-led, and that's the time that's most convenient for them," said Prysock.


"In the future, I would like to see more events starting around four so the commuters and professors who want to be involved can be. "There is a suggestions box in the lounge for commuters to give feedback on what can be done to improve their space."

Prysock also said he would like to explore plans to renovate buildings and create a larger, more accessible space for commuters.

Whether Hammond is working on his homework, or just using his free time, he is typically in the Commuter Lounge. He said that while there are improvements that could be made to the lounge, he loves it there.

"Most of the people that come in here, come every day," said Hammond. "You really get to know them, and create a bond with someone outside of your major."

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It's hard because I live 30 minutes away... There's no telling what traffic will be like, so I always feel pressured to leave extra early so I'm not late to class.

Essence Auls

Auls feels being a part of Otterbein's community is hard as a commuter. While Auls is a part of the theater program as well as Tau Delta sorority, it is difficult to make it to all of the events. And she often finds herself missing out on times with her friends.



# THE NEW AGE OF POLITICS

Story by: Lilly van Wyngaarden

With policy papers stacked high and Jon Bellion's "All Time Low" drifting out of the speakers, the Otterbein University Student Government (OUSG) office transforms into a home for Jeremy Paul, a sophomore political science major, and OUSG Treasurer. Through late nights and spontaneous Chick-fil-A runs, Paul has found a home in the office, but also in his political role at Otterbein University. Whether he is starting a petition to make Otterbein a sanctuary campus or answering questions about a new credit model, Paul uses his voice to start conversations on campus. However, petitions and models are not the only conversations surrounding Paul. Focus has shifted to the 2018 Ohio elections, where Paul's name will be making its own spot on the ticket.

Paul, a 20-year-old democrat, originally planned to run for Governor of Ohio; however, Paul now plans to run for the Ohio House of Representatives alongside his political role at Otterbein. Due to his obligations at Otterbein, Paul rethought the governorship.

"I originally announced that I would be running for governor of Ohio," said Paul. "But through a lot of thought and discussion, I decided the House of Representatives would be a better fit."

The checkered floors of the Ohio Statehouse greeted Paul at a young age, while touring the historic building with a family member who was a senator. The experience was the first spark that ignited Paul's early interest in politics. Once in high school, Paul took a keen interest in the 2012 presidential election between Barack Obama and Mitt Romney.

Something about all the different perspectives was just so interesting to me,"

said Paul regarding the 2012 presidential election. "Every political opinion is valid, and sometimes I think we forget that, but I also think that's why I enjoyed it because there are so many moving parts to it."

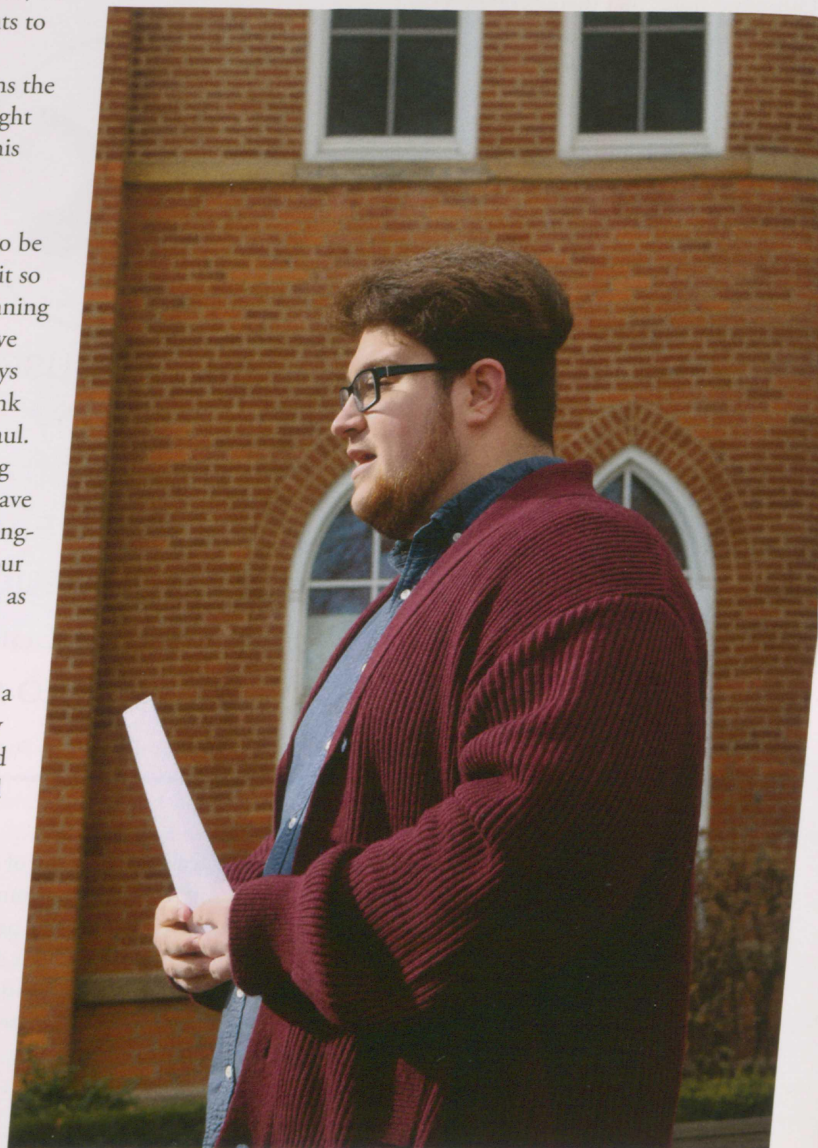
Paul's political involvements on campus, including being OUSG Treasurer and the founder and chapter leader of Students for Education Reform Otterbein, also fuel his passion in his race for the House of Representatives. While he hopes to use the experience as a stepping stone onto the political radar of Ohio, he said he wants to ensure that whoever wins the race is the right person for this area.

"I just want to be able to make it so that those running against me have to think in ways they didn't think before," said Paul. "I want to bring up issues that have become increasingly prevalent in our generation, such as human rights."

Bethany Blinsky, a senior philosophy and individualized double major, and OUSG President, has worked alongside Paul

and encouraged his political goals. As someone who also got her start in politics at a young age due to her parents' strong political leanings, Blinsky supports Paul's decision to run in the 2018 Ohio election.

"Government is bureaucratic and can be confusing," said Blinsky. "But by serving in the capacity that he is now, paired with how much he cares for people, I think he's on the right track."



Paul speaks to fellow students during Toss DeVos rally at Otterbein University in front of Towers Hall Jan 30, 2017. | Kris Crawford





Paul protests Trump's pick for Secretary of Education in front of Towers Hall

Paul's passion for helping others is rooted in his interest in human rights, and becomes evident in the types of messages he hopes to send out over the course of his run for the House. Paul pushes the message of equality on all levels, including race, religion or education. Paul jokes that there is a reason equity is such a hot topic in the political atmosphere right now.

"Equity on all fronts is a message that can resonate with people of all ages, of all creeds, and really make sure people feel comfortable in their state," said Paul.

Paul's dedication to human rights is evident through his actions on campus. With political unrest spreading across the nation, Paul worked passionately for a petition to make Otterbein a sanctuary campus, a petition that would protect the immigration status of students. The petition was a response to the immigration executive order President Trump signed in January.

Paul also organized and held a protest through the Students for Education Reform Otterbein chapter in front of Towers Hall against President Trump's pick for Education Secretary, Betsy DeVos. The Students for Education Reform National (SFERN) planned protests across the nation, and Paul took on the role at a local level, engaging himself and his peers in a national movement.

Colette Masterson, director for the Center for Student Involvement and OUSG advisor to Paul, notes her advocacy for Paul's growing political involvement.

"Jeremy makes the effort to understand the experiences of many students so that his role is representative of the true needs of the student body," said Masterson.

With the platform he has, Paul plans to use his experience to bring a voice to those who may not have the same opportunities.

"I think it's only right for people who are in a position like mine to take the message of those who go unheard and bring that voice to a community, to a state, and make them known," said Paul.

Despite his age, Paul hopes to use his voice and experience to also bring a different light to millennials. He notes that it is no longer practical to wait until, "you're 30 or 40 to get involved in the political world and to shape your country, state or community."

For Paul, all involvement starts at a local level. He feels that any involvement in the political world is important, whether it be attending a township meeting or running for a state governmental position.

Paul's grassroots, or simple bleed into his campaign for the House of Representatives. talking to people on a personal level relates his plans back to an experience he had working on a campaign for a friend, who was running for the House in the summer of 2016. On his experience of going down to the district in the summer of 2016 and how it was the perfect way to connect to the people. He plans on using that technique for his own campaign. However, he doesn't plan to start his campaign anytime soon.

"My priority right now is Otterbein University," said Paul.

Even though Otterbein is at the top of Paul's priorities, he plans to start his campaign in 2018. He wants to make sure he is offering all the help he can to his various involvements on campus to ensure a strong community.



I originally announced that I would be running for governor of Ohio... But through a lot of thought and discussion, I decided the House of Representatives would be a better fit.





Bean ladies attending to students. | Madi O'Neill

## SERVING IT UP: THE LIVES BEHIND THE COUNTER | story by: Will Day

"White Mocha!"

That's the sound of an order bouncing within the counters of the Otter Bean Cafe. The "Bean" as it is known to the members of Otterbein seems like a coffee shop to any passerby, but for so many it is more than just another Starbucks watering hole. To both students and faculty, the Bean is a gathering place, a board room, a quiet corner to read and even a place to release stress of the day-to-day college life. Known for its red walls, high counters and extremely long lines the bean is a focal point of campus.

But above all else the Bean is Kat and Mel. They are two members that are so integral to the image of the Bean that it would seem unthinkable to separate one from the other. Known by the students who frequent the Bean, they are Kathy Grey and Melissa Fullerton commonly known as the "Bean Ladies."

Kat and Mel as they call each other, have been the main baristas at the Otter Bean for 10 and six years respectively. Having been the main baristas for almost a combined two decades, they have seen students come in as freshman, graduate and start all over again. With every passing class they have been a constant to Otterbein's campus.

The Bean Ladies have been an ear to those that listen and a friendly face for students that are willing to spare a moment.

"Just say hi," said Kat over some steamed milk.

For sophomore public relations major Rachel Lager, Mel is as close to a second mother as one can get. Being a daily visitor to the Bean, Lager calls both of them 'mom'.

"I come see them every day even if I don't buy anything because I love them," said Lager.



"We're parents away from parents," said Mel. "Sometimes we know more about their lives than the actual parents do," said Mel.

If you were to sit in the Bean and listen, you would come to the same conclusion. Whether it be a music student struggling with Beethoven or a freshman admitting she's skipped more than a few classes, students can come for a Macchiato and a burden off their chest. As it is with many parents, the relationship with their children is not always perfect.

Sometimes children can misbehave. For Kat and Mel, that's an understatement. If the ladies of the Bean have one complaint, it's that the students don't listen.

"I can't tell you the number of drinks I served this morning that just didn't get whipped cream because they don't listen," says Mel.

Melissa, a mother of three, originally from Michigan found herself in Columbus when her husband's job was relocated. Having moved to Columbus eight years ago, she says that the youngest of her children has just gotten over okay with being in Ohio.

"I didn't want to move down. When I thought about moving south, Ohio was certainly not in mind" said Mel. Mel's entire family lives in Michigan and she openly admits to missing Michigan.

As Mel fills up an iced coffee for a student, she admits that her husband's job down here, however, pays the bills. "Mine just pays for the groceries."

While there may be a give and take when it comes to attention, the ladies of the Bean really do know their customers. "We see a different group than the night people see. We see different groups than Roush sees. So we have our groups that know us," said Kat between an iced coffee and a chai tea.

When it comes to groups of students, the ladies can almost set their clocks to when the crowds and long lines will start up. They both agree that Monday's schedule is much easier than Tuesday's due to the classes being every hour and not an hour and 45 minutes a half.

After the line goes down in the morning, Kat knows she has about an hour to restock and organize before the next group comes in.

For anyone who has stepped into the library between classes, you've seen the long lines, the anxious students, and multiple orders being filled at the same time.

"You have a line of cups on the counter. They give you that look like 'Why aren't you on my drink?'" said Melissa. She just has to tell herself not to look at the end of the line or it can get nerve racking.

Now how do they work so well together? In all honesty, not even they know. "I don't know how we're not running into each other and knocking drinks down," said Mel. Kat thinks it just clicked, the two of them working together, maybe a month or so after Melissa started. While making an Americano, Kat was quick to comment that the teamwork was just kind of there, but she doesn't really know when asked, both of them could only think of a single instance where they ran into each other and spilt coffee everywhere.

"I was turning around from getting more milk and Mel was turning around from the cash register, and we just ran straight into each other," said Kat. "The thing is, neither of us got stuff on ourselves just all over the floor," said Kat.

Observing the ladies, it would seem that the two were born working together. Each making drinks while calling orders to the other and manning the cash register in a system more fluid than a machine. Mel chalks it up to the possibility that they work well together because they are older, and their work ethics overlap.

"I think that maybe having gone through the stress of work and long lines together made a sort of bond. Almost a 'misery loves company' scenario" said sophomore Payton Kelly, a Pre Vet (veterinary medicine) major.

Why the "Bean Ladies"?

"It doesn't matter how long we wear our name tags; no one knows our names. We're just the Bean Ladies," said Kathy. She has come to realize that no matter where they are, they are the Bean Ladies.

"We were going to the drag show this year and went to pick up our tickets. The girl at the ticket desk asked what name they would be under and they weren't under either of ours. Then I guessed 'Try 'the Bean Ladies'.'" And sure enough, there they were. They literally put our tickets as the Bean Ladies." While it's not their name they wear the nickname with pride.

Kathy, a mother of six and recently married is a native of Columbus and has worked at the Bean going on 11 years. Kat started here as a supervisor at a Quizno's where the Den currently is.

"The students wanted something different so I just stayed over here. I like what I do," said Kat. "Not sure I'd want to make a career out of it but at 46 years old, where am I going to go?" said Kat.

"We try to make it fun over here. If it's not fun then it's not worth it," said Kat.

Having been working here almost 15 years combined, the Bean Ladies know what it's like in the work industry, and say that this is probably one of the best favorite jobs they've had. After coming from working several positions at Kroger, Mel loves that the company doesn't breathe down her neck at the Bean. Whether it's a nice tweet they get saying that "The Bean Ladies just made my day" or a friendly wave while going to the library, they both agree that they love it here and don't plan on leaving any time soon.

"It's the students," said Mel. "We come back year after year for you guys."

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Bean Ladies talking to one another  
| Madi O'Neill



# STANDInG For Change

Story by: Jenece Wallace

The active voice that the Office of Diversity has on campus has led the office to change their name to the Office of Social Justice and Activism. What was formerly known as the Office of Diversity has been a pillar of social justice and activism within the Otterbein community. By putting on peaceful protests, social justice information events and by actively supporting diverse student organizations, the Office of Social Justice and Activism is committed to educating Otterbein students on social, ethical and political issues.

This name change was brought about because the office wants to be more inclusive to all Otterbein students, faculty and staff, and to create a more dominant presence of social justice and activism on campus. Many other colleges and universities are also doing social justice and activism work. The Office of Social Justice and Activism wants to be more intentional about their new mission by changing their name officially at the Martin Luther King Jr. convocation.

"I like that the Office of Diversity changed its name," said Claudia Owusu, a sophomore and president of Sisters United, an organization that advocates for women of color. "It is more appropriate to go by the Office of Social Justice and Activism because it is more inclusive, which is what Otterbein is all about."

Otterbein officials said the office added a new mission statement, which involves resolving systematic inequalities for all members of the campus community through research, education and promoting a healthy and engaging campus climate. This new addition to its mission will give the office more creative freedom and ways to educate students about social inequalities. For example, the office has sent students to race and social justice conferences out of state to offer beneficial experiences.

Currently, about 18 percent of students and about 9 percent of faculty members are minorities. The office wants to include every ethnic group to participate in voicing their beliefs. With the new name change, the office plans on having new programs in place as well. One of the notable programs is a "justice league" team that will go and explore Otterbein's campus views towards different political issues that are going on, as well as diversity issues on and off campus. The team will then relay the information they receive to the office, and the office will come up with events or materials to help the students with any questions or concerns they may have. The office plans to implement monthly campus conversations, workshops for faculty and staff and heritage month celebrations.

“

It is more appropriate to call themselves the Office of Social Justice and Activism because it is more inclusive, which is what Otterbein is all about.

Claudia Owusu

Since the office has changed its name, the country has been engulfed by several highly charged, divisive political issues, including President Trump's attempt to impose a travel ban on seven Muslim nations from entering America. The office will state their ethical opinions about political events by holding informational meetings, organizing peaceful protests and seeking to understand the campus climate. If any political action does not align with Otterbein's mission and values, the Office of Social Justice and Activism will protest and protect the students, while holding the government accountable for unethical acts.

The office intends to educate students and get them involved by setting up gatherings where students can write letters and call government officials to voice their concerns about decisions that have been made. The office is also looking to partner with Westerville Progressive Alliance, a local organization that works towards ethical and environmental activism. They allow students to participate in their meetings and activities to further their involvement in social issues.

James Prysock, the director of the Office of Social Justice and Activism, is the forefront of educating students about the name change.

"The Office of Social Justice and Activism is aimed at supporting anyone who is oppressed, which goes beyond just sexism and racism" said Prysock.

Beyond social injustices, the office also wants to tackle everyday problems students face, including the price of textbooks and a lack of financial means to support themselves. The office is striving to focus on students being comfortable enough to stand up to social, ethical and cultural injustices. To get involved and to stay updated with events that the Office of Social Justice and Activism is putting on, go to its new website at: [www.otterbein.edu/public/equity-inclusion.aspx](http://www.otterbein.edu/public/equity-inclusion.aspx) or like its Facebook page: Otterbein University of Social Justice and Activism.

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Claudia Owusu, sophomore and a creative writing major, voices her opinion about objecting the travel ban.  
| Madi O'Neill




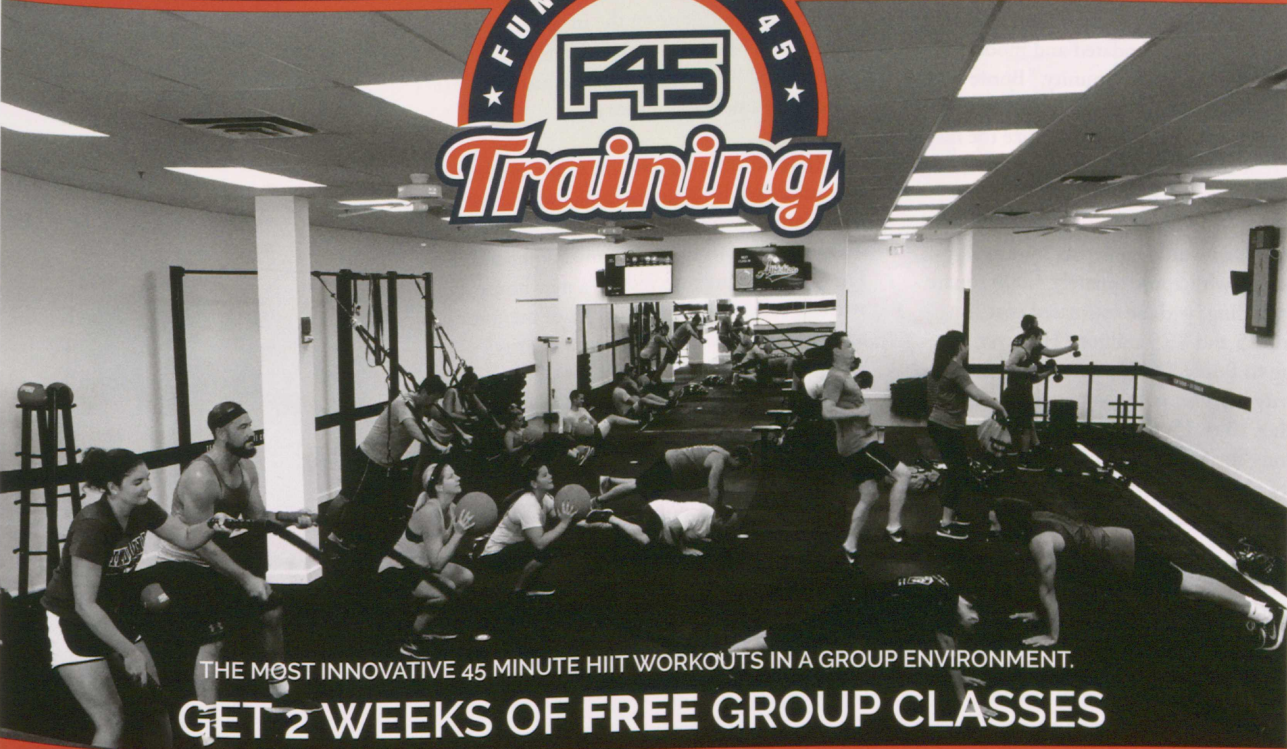
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# DIVISION IN UNITY: CREATING A GREEK VILLAGE

Story by: Jerry Parrish

Since the first Greek chapters were formed at Otterbein in 1908 and 1911, they have progressed from meeting in designated rooms to moving into their own houses decades later. Each one is a staple of the organization's history. By being spread out around the campus, the Greek chapters have gained both a sense of independence and a connection to the university.

However, this historic positioning of the houses may change in the future. As part of the campus master plan, a vision developed in 2012 that will add new buildings and renovations to the existing ones, a concept has been proposed called the "Greek Village." This section would include some Greek chapters being relocated to a single area east of the campus center. The idea has sparked some controversy in the Greek community. Troy Bonte, of the Center of Facilities Management and Planning, said the new plan addresses concerns of those involved in Greek life.

"Focus groups including students and alumni identified the need for updated and modern housing for the Greek community," Bonte said. "Their sentiments were echoed by community planners which are hoping to revitalize the historically residential neighborhoods surrounding campus."

The master plan would construct four new Greek houses with approximately 4,000 square feet per building, with an estimated cost between \$5.5 and \$6.9 million. However, according to Bonte, "the project is very low on the priority list, and probably wouldn't happen for another 10 to 15 years." Another main concern among the Greek community is how the university plans on convincing the chapters who own their own houses to move out.

"It's an opportunity for chapters looking for the amenities and conveniences that modern Greek housing could provide," said Bonte. "I see more space for the chapter, better space for the resident, and greater accessibility overall."

This question was further expanded by Ben Schwarz, director of Greek life, who sees the concept of Greek Village as being "convenient for all chapters and their needs to create a vibrant community."

"The Greek Village in the master plan would build newer facilities which would appeal heavily to chapters as well, as several have issues with their chapter-owned houses."

For the organizations that do decide to move to the village, the question to think about is: what will be done with their original houses?

Each chapter that owns its own house will be able to decide whether they want to stay or move. On the other hand, Otterbein-owned houses will have a case-by-case based decision in order to meet community needs.

With this new information coming to light, Greek Life students have been asked their thoughts and opinions on the issue. Senior David Parkison of ΛΓΕ (Lambda Gamma Epsilon) said it would be difficult to lose something that carries that amount of history.

"We have an amazing amount of memories that are, quite literally, written on our walls," said Parkinson. "It would be a shame to be forced to leave a major part of our organization behind. I'm conflicted because yes, it's a new house, but we have to leave behind 30 years of memories and all of our independence and security."

Freshman Bridget Bowman of ΚΦΩ (Kappa Phi Omega) believes the proposal would be undermining the traditions and history that has been made in the chapters' houses. She also touched on the financial aspect of it. She believes the new property taxes that the students would have to pay for is too high and the money could be spent elsewhere.

InterFraternity Council (IFC) President, Noah Richelsen of ΠΒΣ (Pi Beta Sigma), sees the proposed idea as a cause for great concern among many members of the Greek community.

"While we understand the logistical benefits of updated housing, the University neglects to realize that this is not the priority among most Greeks. Each Greek house represents the heart of its organization," said Richelsen. "If the University aims to achieve camaraderie within the entire community, they must first establish pride within individual chapters."

The Greek community has been a part of Otterbein's campus for over 100 years, with each house boasting an abundant amount of experience and tradition. The plan may have the right goal in mind—to bring chapters together for Greek unity—but is it worth the cost of moving the organizations out of their houses that hold so many memories? Greek Village may gather the Greeks together, but this unity will not be achieved in the end without first causing separation.

&



The class of 2014 outside the house the chapter has owned since 1997 | Photos Provided



COMPONENT 30 - GREEK VILLAGE



Prerequisite: None.

Component 30 - Greek Village

4 New Greek Houses @ 4,000 SF Per Building  
Site Improvements  
Total Construction Cost  
40% Soft Cost  
Operational Set Aside  
Total Project Cost

	16,000 SF 1 LS	Low Range		High Range		Low Range Total		High Range Total	
		@ \$	200 SF LS	@ \$	250 SF LS	\$	\$	\$	\$
						3,200,000	-	4,000,000	
						350,000	-	500,000	
						3,550,000	-	4,500,000	
						1,420,000	-	1,800,000	
						532,500	-	675,000	
						5,502,500	-	6,975,000	



# Fuzzy Feeling: Otterbein Students Finding Animals a Home

Story by: Jaleah Butler

Chocolate Chip and Gumdrop are two cat best friends who are staying at the Citizens for Humane Action Animal Shelter (CHA). Chocolate Chip wears a blue collar, and seems like the more mature of the two. All he wants to do is sit in someone's lap as they pet his head. Gumdrop wears a red collar, and is much more energetic than Chocolate Chip. He also loves to play and nibble on fingers. At CHA Animal Shelter, Chocolate Chip, Gumdrop and many other cats and dogs have a safe and loving temporary home while they wait for an even more loving permanent home.

Students at Otterbein are helping to make sure that they get one.

Mara Eisenbarth, a Pittsburgh native, is the head of the Otterbein Animal Coalition (OAC). She is a senior at Otterbein and is majoring in zoo and conservation science. There are a handful of students involved in the OAC and most of them are in the same major as Eisenbarth. The OAC was started by the Cardinal Corps Leaders, who are a group of students that have received a service scholarship from the university and lead all of the volunteer programs and plunges provided by the Center for Community Engagement. Eisenbarth joined the OAC her sophomore year. At the time, the OAC was volunteering at the Franklin County Animal Shelter. Eisenbarth then founded CHA, and they started volunteering there.

"I really appreciate the way the CHA runs their shelter," said Eisenbarth. "They just do something a little bit different. They care a lot for each individual animal. On the cages, they have sheets to describe each dog that help people really understand them. Especially if the dog has some kind of issue, they explain it and show you how to fix it."

Even though the students involved with OAC are there to help the animals, they are also helping the people who work at CHA. Being such a small shelter, the CHA can use all the help it can get, and that's why the OAC is so important to Eisenbarth.



Mara Eisenbarth helping to clean the dog cages.  
| Kris Crawford



Breena from CHA Animal Shelter enjoys her time outside of her kennel.  
| Kris Crawford





They just do something  
a little bit different.  
They care a lot for  
each individual animal.

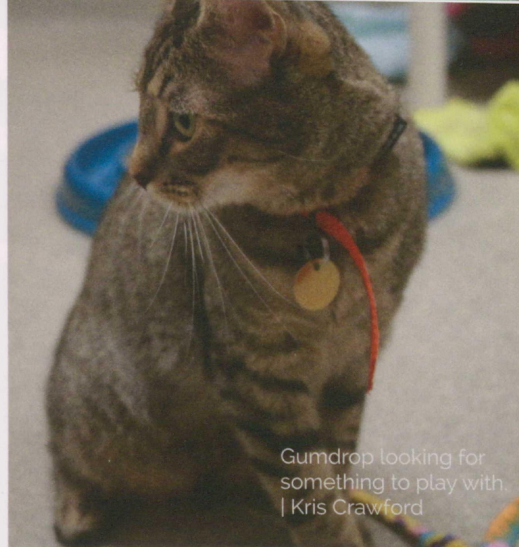
“They take the time to get to know us as volunteers,” said Eisenbarth. “I think that they really appreciate the work. The dogs get that kind of care even if we’re not there, but it just helps the staff do things they wouldn’t have the chance to do since they would be cleaning all morning.”

Helping out at the shelter is a positive experience for Eisenbarth and the other students involved in the OAC, but there are some hard parts to the job, such as cleaning up after the animals. To Eisenbarth, the hardest part is seeing a dog not get adopted. The OAC is full of people who love animals. It is shown by their commitment to wake up before the sunrise each week and volunteer. For people who want to join the OAC, Eisenbarth has some advice:

“Just be open to doing anything,” said Eisenbarth. “Usually we do the same thing, but a lot of it is having compassion for the dogs who are jumping at you and just want to walk. It’s hard when you are used to your dog sitting when you put the leash on, and these dogs don’t do that.”

Anyone can join the OAC, if a student has a passion for animals and is willing to do the work, it is a great way to get involved. Students can email Eisenbarth for more information at [mara.eisenbarth@otterbein.edu](mailto:mara.eisenbarth@otterbein.edu). The experiences that a student can gain and the people they meet will make missing a few hours of sleep worth it.

&



Gumdrop looking for something to play with.  
| Kris Crawford



One of the dogs from  
CHA Animal Shelter.  
Kris Crawford



Gwen the cat cuddling  
with a visitor.  
| Kris Crawford





Professor Brian Day teaching his class | Madi O'Neill

## By the Numbers

Story by: Jasmine Caldwell

Click. With the click of a button, \$10,000 was gone. All of the Accounting 2000 students looked at each other in disbelief. Their professor, Brian Day, had just bought \$10,000 in stock in response to a question asked by one of their fellow students, "Is buying stock easy?". Students looked around at each other, in confusion and dismay. How could it be that easy for their professor to spend that much money, just to teach them about how to buy stock? In that moment, students realized their professor was passionate about accounting and teaching so much that he would spend a large amount of money for his students to learn.

Day grew up in Cleveland, Ohio in a house full of 14 children, seven boys and seven girls. His path to accounting started very young. He loved numbers ever since he could count. It came easily to him.

"When I first started counting I never stopped. You get all the way up to nine, and then you have to start over," said Day.

One of his first jobs he delivered newspapers around the neighborhood, keeping a makeshift accounts receivable ledger in order to keep track of who had to pay him and the numbers.

While in high school, he worked at the local United Dairy Farmers (UDF). After graduating, he went to seminary for a couple years in order to become a priest and "save souls." He then spent a summer in the marine corps in Virginia, but realized that path wasn't for him. He finally settled at Niagara University, by Niagara Falls in New York.

"It was similar to Otterbein, except instead of methodist it had a catholic influence," said Day.

When it came to choosing a major, he was not exposed to a lot of different areas. He had an older brother who was an accountant. His older brother, who was an accountant, aptitude tests and his fondness of numbers influenced his decision to

choose accounting as his major. It proved be a well-chosen major, as it became one of his biggest passions.

After four years at Niagara University, where he met his wife of 40 years, Sue, he graduated with a BBA in accounting.

His love for accounting has grown over the years, and he sees how important it is to have this skill.

"It's a compilation of frameworks for solving problems, and you can have a tremendous impact on your business by helping pull the numbers together, so decisions that are being made can be quantified," said Day.



After working a couple odd jobs, he finally came into his own and his career. He worked at an accounting firm for a couple years and was then recruited and hired at Sherwin Williams, where he worked for about 15 years.

Throughout his time working there, he was an accounting and audit manager, vice president of finance and strategic operations in Canada. He was the worldwide director of internal auditing for 2,500 separate locations and the director of accounting.

He then began business consulting and teaching at Lewis University in Chicago. While working there, he enrolled in Case Western Reserve to get into an M.B.A. program. From there, he was recruited by Arrow International, where he worked for another 15 years. Through Arrow International he was able to travel to Mexico, Canada, Europe and many other places. He became the director of finance. While working at Arrow, he taught at the University of Akron as an adjunct faculty member.

After leaving Arrow International, he began working for Jefferson Wells International, where he led the firm's consulting practice.

While consulting, he met someone through financial executives who was a faculty member of Otterbein. They needed an adjunct professor for four years. He signed on, began teaching a variety of accounting and finance courses and then became a full-time professor four years ago.

"[Teaching] felt like an obligation and is a joy to give back to the community and the next generation," said Day.

Through Otterbein, he has noticed how wonderful the atmosphere is.

"There is a love for the institution, it's a great feeling here. The students are great, the campus is wonderful, the courses are a nice mix," said Day.

He knows what it is like to have to fork out a lot of money for college. He and his wife have spent almost a quarter of a million dollars on college tuition for their three children Collee, Brian and Michael.

Because of this, he tries to create a serious attitude in the classroom and he wants to ensure that students do not procrastinate.

He wants students to look at his classes with the seriousness that he does so the experience is worth the money being spent on tuition.

Other than being an accountant, Day lives a normal life. He describes himself as "not at all an adventurous type of person, a contemplative monk." He enjoys reading, golfing once a week, watching the Cleveland Indians, praying and reflecting. He believes heavily in religion.

He obtained a degree in biblical studies and teaches three religion classes.

"Religion isn't just learning about faith, but you have to feel it. [You have to] sense and feel the presence of Him in your life," said Day.

Day believes that two of the biggest passions in his life, accounting and religion, are related.

"Accounting and religion [are similar], they both have a set of rules and objectives," said Day. Accounting has the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) and Christianity has the Ten Commandments. "They both transcend the individual."

He works in his church's financial office, updating the congregation's contributions to the church. He admitted that in all of his life, he can count on his hands how many times he has missed mass.

His family is very important to him. He loves being a father. Growing up, Day never went on family vacations because there were so many members in his family. But now that he has his own children, he made sure that they always went on at least one big family vacation per year. They have gone to Key West, Europe, Niagara Falls, Prague and Czech Republic among many.

Combining two of his favorite things, family and accounting, inspired him to start a newsletter, Day Investment Club, where he is the Chief Investment Officer (CIO) and editor.

The newsletter is sent out every quarter and shows how the family fund is growing. Similar to how his family fund is growing, Day hopes to help his students grow as well.

"I feel like I've definitely learned a lot in his class. A lot of what we've talked about, I've noticed occurring in my daily life that I never realized before," said Megan Bennett, a student in his Accounting 2000 class.

With everything that he does, he wants students to leave his class with an abundance of knowledge that will not only help them in other classes but throughout their life.



[Teaching] felt like an obligation and is a joy to give back to the community and the next generation.

Brian Day



# A Department's Promise

Story by: Alex Futo

Little Beth Daugherty lies on her stomach on the living room floor with an open newspaper at her fingertips. She excitedly picks “a”, “an” and “the” out of the text. She writes stories and makes little storybooks out of construction paper and yarn. Using a small blackboard on her front porch, she plays teacher with her younger sister. Memories of letters, words, simple sentences.

Even as a child Daugherty believed in the power of language to transform people. In her case, it opened doors to a burning passion. A passion for literature, for reading, and for teaching. A passion she sees blooming every day within the Otterbein English department, and a passion she wants to fuel with the Daugherty Promise Scholarship

Fund for incoming English majors, to which she and her husband have already contributed \$25,000.

It all started when Daugherty and her husband, Gary, recognized the growing financial troubles of working college students. They discussed the balancing act of work and studies a lot over the years, often looking back on their own experience.

Daugherty recalls that her husband paid his college tuition in thirds. “ $\frac{1}{3}$  from scholarships,  $\frac{1}{3}$  from a summer job, and  $\frac{1}{3}$  from work during the school year,” said Daugherty. She too had scholarships, a college job, as well as the help from her grandmother, of which she is thankful for the support.

But now the earning power of students has changed, and that’s made balancing college and work more difficult. Students just can’t find jobs that pay enough to support their schooling, which leads to them working more than one job or taking on demanding schedules. The workload is exhausting and stressful. This concept planted the seed that grew into the Daugherty Promise Scholarship.

The logistics of the scholarship states that an incoming freshman will be judged based on reviewed writing samples and interviews and, upon winning, must keep a 3.0 GPA and remain an English major all four years; it’s a source of income founded from talent that an English student can count on to



Beth Daugherty smiles as she talks about her passion for the department.  
| Justin Jordan.



relieve financial tensions. In other words, it allows the student to follow their passions and focus on their studies without being limited by costs.

"Paying it forward," said Daugherty about the importance of the scholarship.

Paying it forward to the students so they may value their education, as well as their time in the English department that welcomed and helped Daugherty thrive as a teacher and scholar after coming to Otterbein in 1984. Daugherty praises the talents of her fellow faculty members, describing the department as a celebration of differences, full of dedication and focus on students and their work.

"They [English faculty] are some of the most passionate people I've ever met in my life," said Sarah Carnes, managing editor of Quiz & Quill and a junior psychology major and English minor.

Carnes describes the English faculty as driven, warm, and inspiring and that those qualities are reflected in the students they teach.

Yoshi White, an English transfer student from Columbus State, explains her relationship with an English professor and accomplished playwright, Jeremy Llorence, who was her first faculty introduction to the department. White considers him a valued mentor, and they are currently working on an independent study together.

"Without him, I wouldn't have ever explored playwriting," said White.

With Llorence's guidance and the welcoming atmosphere of the department, White felt right at home.

"[The faculty] are truly invested in you and your success," said White, which she claims she never fully experienced in high school, or at Columbus State.

The feeling of being valued has kept White driven, and the department's investment in her has been a major influence since she arrived.

Carnes, too, feels at ease in the department. Her freshman year she felt lonely, but was eventually brought out of her shell through her involvement with Quiz & Quill.

Despite dropping her creative writing major to a minor, a piece of her still lives within the department. "I chose psychology, but my heart and home is still English," said Carnes.

"[The department] creates community and is dedicated to the student experience," said Shannon Lakanen, the English department chair. She explains that the community is a space for depth and exploration, fostering a desire to find meaning in everything. The department puts a lot of time and effort into workshopping student work, holding open mic nights, inviting accomplished writers to campus, putting together events like the English Studies Conference for presentations of student work, and creating an English community on campus.

A lot of the department is student driven. Once students are hooked and connections are made, it clicks and passion drives them forward.

Students are flooded with ideas and, when given the chance, have the power to influence their courses. Faculty also have opportunities to design courses based upon their own interests. It's a way to keep their passions thriving.

Daugherty feels as though she hasn't really worked a day in her life because what she's doing matters to her. Her dream is that students get a chance to explore and find out what clicks for them; she wants them to

be absorbed in their passions, to the point where three hours fly by and they don't even notice.

"If at all possible, choose your work based on what you love, not on the paychecks," said Daugherty. "But if you can't, feed your passion some other way, no matter your job or position."

The scholarship's promise upholds that standard. Focus on what you love, and the scholarship will help alleviate the cost.

The scholarship needs to at least double in size before it can be implemented and help fund someone's passion, so every donation counts. The English department organized a book sale and a benefit reading over this past Homecoming weekend to help the fund, raising over \$850. The Where We Stand Matters campaign has created a donation page to show their support, and Woolf Pack t-shirts, inspired by a Virginia Woolf class Daugherty taught, were sold as a booster fundraiser. Lakanen even has a change jar in her office with a picture of Daugherty's face on it to help raise money, if only a little, because every cent counts.

With these efforts Daugherty's generous donation of \$25,000 has grown to over \$29,000, and the goal is to breach \$30,000 before the school year ends. Eventually, the Daugherty Promise Scholarship will do much more than pay for college. It will promise to pay for passion.

&

74 English  
majors

13 English  
faculty

24  
Film Studies  
minors

Avg. Class  
sizes: 12-15