From the Otterbein Galleries...

A contemporary hand-formed pot with color slips by the artist S. Garcia, Acoma Pueblo, New Mexico. Acquired by Professor Earl Hassenpflug for Otterbein College in 1979.

Otterbein College has a diverse collection of art with particular strengths in works from West Africa, New Guinea, and Japan. The collection also includes contemporary American prints and drawings. Towers Magazine will be regularly illustrating examples of works in the College collection. Donors to the collection include College alumni, faculty, administrators and friends.
Features

Students Sleep Out for the Homeless 12
As part of Homeless Awareness Week, several Otterbein students spent 24 hours out in the cold sleeping in tents and cardboard boxes.

In the Wake of Katrina 14
Some alumni lived through it, and students went down to help those in need.

Playing for Peace 20
An Otterbein faculty member travels to the Middle East to see if basketball can help bring peace.

Regulars

College News 2
- Otterbein Holds Pow Wow ~ 2
- Spirits Fly on Campus! ~3
- The House that Moe Built ~ 4
- Service Group Finds New Home ~ 6
- Noted Author and Physicist Visits ~ 7
- Otterbein Fully Accredited ~ 7
- Otterbein Selected for Global Learning ~ 8
- Common Book Author Visits ~ 8
- Otterbein Gets a New Logo ~ 10

Classnotes 26
- Profile: Moo School is in session with Lee Hatfield ~ 28

Milestones 33

Investing in Otterbein 37

The “O” Club 41

Alumni Notes 42

About the cover: Featured on the cover is the symbol from Otterbein’s new logo. You can see and read about the logo on page 10.
Otterbein holds Pow Wow

By Amy Feller ’07

Otterbein hosted a Native American Pow Wow on Nov. 2, 2005, to celebrate Native American Heritage Month.

Sponsored by Otterbein’s Office of Ethnic Diversity, Campus Programming Board and Office of Residence Life, the Pow Wow was held in the Clements Hall lounge, where food and refreshments were provided. Eight members of the American Indian Education Center of Cleveland, Ohio, presented information about their culture to students and others who attended the event.

Program Director Robert Roche, whose heritage is Chiracaua Apache, started the event off with introductions and a brief overview. Ross Davidson, who is Comanche, talked about the importance of the drum as well as music in general in his culture. While the beat of the drum mesmerized the students who were in attendance, Davidson sang a prayer song. Seven of the group members were dressed in tribal clothing and performed their different tribal dances together in a circle.

Davidson explained the meaning for each of their outfits, and for the designs on them. Two of the younger girls were wearing dresses with 365 hollow metal rods hanging from them. These dresses were known as medicine healing dresses. The group invited the crowd to participate in the last two dances, so everyone joined in the circle and followed the steps of the group members.

At the end of the program, Roche talked briefly about Native American history and a video the group recently made.

Angela Harris, the coordinator of ethnic diversity, said that a group from the American Indian Education Center has come to Otterbein for the last three years, and she hopes to continue that tradition.

For more information on the program, visit the American Indian Education Center’s website at www.americanindianeducationcenter.com.
Spirits Fly on Campus!

By Sarah Ozello ’06

John Zaffis, an expert in the field of paranormal activity with over 30 years of experience, visited Otterbein this past October to give a presentation on “How to be a Ghost Hunter” and lead students on a real ghost hunt.

Zaffis began the evening with a two-hour presentation to a packed house in Riley Auditorium on everything from human spirits and ghosts, haunted houses, guidelines to follow when dealing with hauntings and exorcisms. Following the presentation, a group of students was selected to join him on a ghost hunt.

The ghost hunt began in the Old Otterbein Cemetery and continued to The Pit theatre in the Campus Center, Otterbein Cemetery, Towers Hall and Cowan Hall. Zaffis concluded that Otterbein College is an “eight out of 10” in spiritual activity.

He based this rank on his findings in the Philomathean Room in Towers Hall and The Pit. “When I walked into the Philomathean Room, I felt an oppressive male atmosphere, especially the areas furthest over from the doors,” said Zaffis. “You can tell this room has held a lot of years.” He told the *Tan and Cardinal* that the room actually felt like a tomb and the amount of spirits there was extremely high. When the College was established, the Philomathean Room was originally used as a male club, which could explain why Zaffis felt male activity here.

According to Zaffis, when people pass but spirits stay earth-bound, they tend to go where they were most comfortable. The Philomathean Room was the only original room in Towers that was preserved during the renovation in 1999. Upon leaving the room, Zaffis said approximately seven students came up to him and commented on the strong spiritual energy they felt as well.

The other place Zaffis felt spiritual energy was The Pit. In this area, he felt two gentle spirits, which he believed to be female, by the stairs leading to the stage area and behind the curtain in a small hallway.

He felt no spiritual energy at the Old Otterbein Cemetery and the Otterbein Cemetery.

Zaffis thinks people need to understand the paranormal life better. “It is hard for people to understand things they can’t feel or touch,” he said. “The key thing is just talking to people and educating them on what is out there. This will hopefully help people want to know more.”

Zaffis is the founder of the Paranormal Research Society of New England. His research has taken him throughout the United States, Canada, England and Scotland covering several thousands of cases. Through hands-on investigating with other investigators and clergy, he has obtained a great deal of knowledge and understanding of the paranormal and is considered one of the foremost authorities in the field today.

He has been featured on SciFi Channel’s popular show *Ghost Hunters*, AMC’s *Movies that Shook the World* episode about the movie *The Exorcist* and the Discovery Channel’s documentaries *A Haunting in Connecticut* and *Little Lost Souls*, as well as on *Unsolved Mysteries* and *Fox News Live*. In 2004, he co-wrote a book called *Shadows of the Dark* and recently opened a museum housing hundreds of artifacts that he has collected over three decades of work. Since this is just a hobby for John, he does not charge for any house visits or other paranormal activities he does. Along with giving lectures around the United States, he also has a full-time job as a quality control engineer.
by Sarah Ozello '06

On Saturday, Sept. 17, 2005, Otterbein re-dedicated Memorial Stadium. The new $3.2 million structure sits on the site of the original stadium, dedicated in 1948 to the memory of the 14 alumni and students who made the supreme sacrifice in World War II.

The stadium was a joint effort between The Vida S. Clements Foundation and the Otterbein "O" Club. Both organizations provided financial capital and the "O" Club raised an additional $800,000 from private donors to cover construction costs.

For those in attendance, the re-dedication was bittersweet without former football coach and athletic director Robert "Moe" Agler '48 there to cut the ribbon. Moe was a driving force behind building the new Memorial Stadium, but sadly, he passed away less than 24 hours before the complex's dedication, ending a battle with a lengthy illness. He was 81.

Moe graduated in 1948 from Otterbein, where he was an all-conference fullback for the Cardinals. He went on to play for two years in the NFL with the Los Angeles Rams and for three years in the Canadian Football League. In 1955, he returned to Otterbein's football program as head football coach and later, athletic director.

The most successful football coach in Otterbein history, Moe accumulated a record number of 75 wins, 62 losses and five ties over his 14 seasons. He also served as "O" Club president, was a leading figure in the establishment of the "O" Club Foundation and received many service awards for his work. The "O" Club newsletter described him as a man who spent his lifetime using his natural abilities and likeable character to further the interests of Otterbein College athletes.

Moe was also honored during the dedication ceremony, and Athletic Director Dick Reynolds told the Westerville News and Public Opinion, "It was a great honor for Moe for all his work and guidance at Otterbein."
The new stadium, with seating for 2,400, has many new features, including a reserved section in the middle of the grandstand with 500 stadium chairs, a spacious press box, an elevator for handicapped accessibility and, within the Robert "Moe" Agler and Elmer "Bud" Yoest Sports Complex below, the "O" Club Lounge. Located in the lobby area, the Lounge includes a full kitchen and many electronic needs and will be used as a meeting place for "O" Club events and recruiting events throughout the year. The room is also used to display important athletic artifacts including an original varsity "O" sweater and the game ball from the 1946 championship.

Upgrades in the new structure also include state-of-the-art locker and training rooms.

Further honoring Moe, the Cardinals ended their first game in the new stadium with a come-from-behind 17-14 victory against their cross-city rivals, the Capital Crusaders. (Capital went on to post an 8-2 regular season record and for the first time ever make the quarter finals of the NCAA Division III tournament.)

Head Otterbein Coach Joe Loth '91 told The Columbus Dispatch that the players were shaken hearing that Moe passed. "A lot of the guys chanted, 'This one is for Moe.' Our players know this is the house that Moe built," he said. (For more information on Moe, see page 35.)

Otterbein went on to a very successful season, going 7-3 for the first time since 1999.

Clockwise from lower left: Head Coach Joe Loth celebrates the game-winning TD against Capital. The new locker rooms are spacious and bright. The "O" Club Lounge. "O" Club president Paul Reimer '68 joins co-captains of the football team in cutting the ceremonial ribbon on the stadium. The new "house" on campus, from a front and side view. Bud Yoest '53 presents Moe Agler's daughters, Beth Agler Sedlock '78 and Bev Agler Martin, with a plaque commemorating Moe's efforts for the new stadium.
By Amy Feller ’07

The house at 82 W. Main St., previously known as the Mikesell House, is now the new home to the Chaplain’s Office and Center for Community Engagement (CCE). A housewarming party was held on November 16, 2005, providing people with the opportunity to view the new office as well as to find out about the numerous community service programs on campus.

The CCE program on Otterbein’s campus strives to meet community needs through volunteerism, service-learning and community-based action research. The students and staff of CCE currently support five key areas of community engagement: civil responsibility; environmental awareness and protection; youth literacy, education and development; health and wellness; and poverty, hunger and homelessness.

Service-learning courses have been offered at Otterbein since the 1980s. John Kengla, who has been teaching at Otterbein for 17 years, is the staff member in charge of the service-learning courses. There are currently 67 service-learning courses from which to choose. In one course, English 155: Words and Forms, An Introduction to the Literary Imagination, Professor Suzanne Ashworth has her students design and employ instructional materials for students at two of Otterbein’s partner middle schools.

Although there has been a community service program through Otterbein since 1994, the Center for Community Engagement has only been on campus for two years. There are approximately 150 students each quarter who volunteer about three hours each week to the CCE programs of their choice. Those hours add up to about 12,000 hours of service a year.

The group of student leaders who coordinate these community service programs is called TEAM (Together Everyone Achieves More). These students commit to organizing and participating in one or more of the eight weekly service programs. Some of these programs include Sports Pals, Club Whittier, L.I.V.E. (Leadership In Volunteer Experiences), Altercare Outreach and the United Methodist Children’s Home, among others.

America Reads and the Indianola Middle School mentoring program are two of the more widely known programs on campus that work with Columbus Public Schools and Westerville City Schools.

America Reads is a nationally distinguished program that tutors children in third and fourth grades to prepare them for the proficiency tests. Otterbein College students spend about an hour or two hours every week helping the children at Avalon Elementary with their reading skills. “Reading with the kids is a good stress reliever and allows me get away from my busy campus life for a little bit during the week,” said junior psychology major Lindsey Hirsch. “The kids are pretty good readers, and are really excited about reading, which makes the experience more fun for me, too.”

The Indianola mentoring program is a partnership with Big Brothers/Big Sisters that works with middle
school students in an after school program by tutoring, working on self-esteem, and teaching the importance of civic engagement to inner-city youth. After working with the middle school children, Otterbein students take them to dinner in the Campus Center’s Cardinal Nest.

The newest addition to the CCE family is Plan-It Earth, which was brought to life by freshman Whitney Prose. This program is working to establish a recycling program in all of the residence halls and buildings on campus through a unified system. By educating and promoting recycling, Prose hopes that this program will catch on and Otterbein can be more “environmentally friendly.” She is working with Bon Appetit to get the Otter Bean Café and Roost Express to sell reusable mugs so that students can refill them instead of throwing away disposable cups every time they buy something.

Another promising addition is an alumni program. By networking with Otterbein alumni in the community, CCE hopes to build a stronger community bond and continue to add to their list of service programs. The center is working with the Office of Alumni Relations to coordinate some meetings to get this new group started soon.

TEAM also organizes one-day service projects called “community plunges,” as well as service fairs and awareness weeks. A few events coming up this year are the Community Service Fairs on Jan. 5 and March 30, the Spring Community Plunge on April 22, and the Scholastic Book Fair on May 4.

The Center for Community Engagement helps to promote awareness of effective community leadership duties of citizenship and responsibilities to students studying at Otterbein College. With each new service program that is added, Otterbein students grow along with the community to instill a sense of service to help ensure a positive community bond for the future.

Noted Author and Physicist Visits Otterbein

Critically acclaimed author and noted physicist Alan Lightman spoke to the campus on Sept. 26, 2005, as part of the Vernon L. Pack Distinguished Lecture Series. Lightman’s lecture, titled “At the Crossroads of Science, Philosophy and the Arts,” was held in conjunction with the annual Science Lecture Series at Otterbein.

Lightman’s lecture reflected his interest in both science and the arts, which began at a young age with independent science projects and the writing of poetry in high school. Even as he practiced astrophysics as a postdoctoral fellow at Cornell, he began publishing his poetry in small literary magazines. He later worked as an assistant professor of astronomy at Harvard and a research scientist at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics and began publishing essays about science, the human side of science and what he calls the “mind of science.” His scientific essays, short fiction and reviews have appeared in Smithsonian Magazine, The New Yorker, The Atlantic Monthly, Harper’s, The New York Times and many other publications.

Lightman joined the faculty at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1989, where he taught science and writing, as well as physics. He headed the Program in Writing and Humanistic Studies at MIT, helping to establish a new requirement that all MIT undergraduates must have a course equivalent in writing or speaking each of their four years. Also in 2001, Lightman co-founded the Graduate Program in Science Writing at MIT, which accepted its first students in the fall of 2002.

Lightman is also the author of The Diagnosis, a finalist for the 2000 National Book Award in fiction, a selection of Book Sense 76, and a Barnes and Noble national college bestseller.

College Fully-Accredited for Next Ten Years

Otterbein Self-Study Seen as Model for Other Schools

Otterbein College was recently informed that its scheduled 10-year review by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools has resulted in continuing accreditation for the College through 2015. Otterbein has held continuous accreditation since 1913.

Otterbein’s preparations for the accreditation review began in 2003. The Higher Learning Commission has invited Otterbein to present its self-study document in April 2006 at the annual meeting of the North Central Association as a model to help other institutions that will be undergoing accreditation reviews. Otterbein’s next accreditation review will occur in 2014–2015.

Accreditation assures the public of the quality of institutions of higher education. The process of accreditation review included a self-study by the College, an on-campus visit by peer reviewers from other colleges, a review by a panel of peer readers from other colleges, a final review by Higher Learning Commission Staff and a vote by the Institutional Actions Council.

“At an accreditation review is an important marker in the life of a college,” said Associate Dean of Academic Affairs John Weispfenning. “The process at Otterbein involved all the offices and departments on the campus and clearly demonstrated the strengths of the College. The visit team was impressed by the quality of the teaching and learning that goes on at Otterbein, and their positive report reinforces what we know about ourselves. Otterbein is a strong college with nationally-recognized programs, outstanding faculty, and talented students.”

Kidder began his lecture by discussing the man who had compelled him to write Mountains Beyond Mountains. “Paul Farmer grew up living with his family in a bus in campgrounds, on a boat, bathing in the bayou and driving embarrassing cars that his father bought at auction. If I had grown up that way,” said Kidder, “I would want to get out from under my father and have a life with a house with running water.”

But not so for Farmer. Apparently, his life without convenience prepared him for the sacrifices he would later make serving the impoverished of the world. Farmer attended Duke University, where curiosity drew him to migrant farm workers nearby, many of whom had come from Haiti. He became intrigued by Haiti and why these workers left their country. “Former slaves there threw off French colonists and have been punished ever since,” Kidder said of the Haitians’ plight.

In 1983, Farmer went to the central plateau of Haiti before beginning medical school at Harvard University, and he has remained connected with both Haiti and Harvard ever since, running his clinic in Haiti and teaching at Harvard.

In 1987, Farmer co-founded the international health organization Beyond Mountains: Common Book Foundation, creating a network of 16 colleges and universities that will work together over a two-year period. The institutions in this network will use global issues as an organizing principle for general education and develop programs that prepare students for citizenship in a world of global change and interdependence.

The AAC&U believes that “liberal education has the strongest impact when students look beyond the classroom to the world’s major questions, asking students to apply their developing analytical skills and ethical judgments to significant problems in the world around them.” (Greater Expectations report, AAC&U 2002).

“The challenges of today’s world require college graduates to have far more knowledge about the world and our nation’s role within it,” said AAC&U Senior Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Global Initiatives Caryn McTighe Musil. “All college students should have a general education that provides them with deep knowledge of the world’s peoples and problems, and that develops their intercultural competencies so they can see the world from multiple perspectives.”

Otterbein College was selected from a pool of 100 applicants to be one of 16 institutions nationally to take part in the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) project, “Shared Futures: General Education and Global Learning.” This program is designed for participating institutions to help shape liberal education for 21st-century citizens—an education that provides the learning we need now to solve the problems we will face in the future.

The program was established through a grant from the Henry Luce Foundation, creating a network of 16 colleges and universities that will work together over a two-year period. The institutions in this network will use global issues as an organizing principle for general education and develop programs that prepare students for citizenship in a world of global change and interdependence.

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Otterbein Selected for “Global Learning” Program
Otterbein was selected based on its strong liberal arts base and Integrative Studies program, which was established in 1968 and has been updated through the decades to keep up with changing educational needs and make-up of the world. Some goals of Otterbein’s Integrative Studies program include understanding more fully human nature and the many facets of our being; making integrative connections across disciplines; helping to engage complex problems with interdisciplinary knowledge; identifying beliefs and extending knowledge of ethical and spiritual issues to create a broader understanding and tolerance; and knowing how to access and evaluate information, resources, and technology and apply them in the appropriate context.

Through program development, Otterbein students will gain a deep, comparative knowledge of the world’s people and problems; explore the historical legacies that have created the dynamics and persistent tensions of the world; develop intercultural competencies so they can move across boundaries and into unfamiliar territory to see the world from multiple perspectives; sustain difficult conversations in the face of highly emotional and perhaps uncongenial differences; understand, critique, and redefine overarching framings such as democracy, human rights, and sustainable development within a global context; and gain opportunities to engage in practical work with fundamental issues that affect communities not yet well served by their societies.

This project is part of AAC&U’s signature initiative Shared Futures: Global Learning and Social Responsibility. Begun in 2001, Shared Futures seeks to develop curricula that deepen student knowledge of the world, challenge unexamined assumptions about American identity and global citizenship, and test our commitments and ideals for a world lived in common.

Author Talks of “Good Doctor”

Partners in Health (PIH) in the small Haitian village of Cange, to bring the benefits of modern medicine to the poorest citizens of the world. There, he has treated a large caseload of AIDS and tuberculosis, giving him the experience that would make him a world-renowned expert in the field of infectious disease treatment and control.

Through the years, his endeavor has grown from a one-room structure to a health complex with a primary school, an infirmary, a surgery wing, a training program for community outreach workers, a 104-bed hospital, a women’s clinic and a pediatric care facility. Farmer has served patients in Russia, Peru, Cuba and Rwanda, as well as Haiti, where his efforts began and thrive to this day. Farmer also is currently the Presley Professor of Medical Anthropology at Harvard and an attending physician at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston.

In 1994, Kidder met Farmer when Kidder was in Haiti to report on American soldiers working to reinstate Jean-Bertrand Aristide’s democratically elected government. In 1999 Kidder was asked to write “The Good Doctor,” a profile of Farmer that was published in The New Yorker in July 2000 and became the starting point for the book.

“Farmer could have a very cushy life with his credentials and achievements, but he chooses to spend his time in Haiti and Rwanda, flying coach class on planes,” Kidder said. “He doesn’t like all the sacrifices he has to make – he loves a good meal when he is in Boston – but he still makes them.”

Kidder said the lesson to students is, “Pay attention to the world as it really is… Don’t forget the forgotten. Even if you don’t lead the life of Paul (Farmer), one person can improve the world.”

Following the publishing of his book, Kidder decided not to detach himself from the situation. He is still involved with Partners In Health and its fundraising needs, and still keeps close contact with Farmer. Some of the proceeds from Mountains Beyond Mountains supports Partners In Health.

A native of New York City, Kidder earned his undergraduate degree from Harvard College and his master’s degree from the University of Iowa, in between which he served as first lieutenant in Vietnam and was awarded a bronze star. He began writing for the magazine Atlantic Monthly in 1973, covering a broad range of topics.


The Common Book Program is made possible through The Thomas Academic Excellence Series and is intended to create intellectual excitement and strengthen bonds on campus by providing a shared academic experience for many surrounding an annual academic theme.
For 158 years, Otterbein College has created a myriad of logos, symbols and font treatments representing our identity as a college. Many of the marks served their purpose well. But as time went on, we continued to design new logos and retain the old ones to the point where we had no “official” college logo.

As many of you recall the college seal has appeared on sweatshirts, note-books, cups and mugs. There have been various versions of fighting and fluffy cardinals and, yes, cute furry otters. We liked the sesquicentennial logo featuring Towers Hall and adopted a similar version for more permanent use. We’ve used various font treatments including a gothic font that graces a sign in front of Clippinger Hall. For guests who enter the campus from the west or the east they are welcomed with yet another font in all capital letters.

As Otterbein continues to grow and attract students locally, regionally and nationally, it is necessary to unify our brand. By creating one logo and using it consistently through the campus and its materials, we can begin to create an identity that encompasses our brand core of opportunity and our core attributes of being egalitarian, dedicated, authentic, nurturing and holistic.

Following a discussion with the Executive Cabinet and the Board of Trustees, a branding committee was established to select a design firm, conduct research and make recommendations on a new logo. Representatives from the faculty, staff, alumni, administration and students worked together for nine months to narrow the selection down to three marks. The selections were then shared with high school students and their parents, current students, faculty and staff, and members of the Alumni Council to select the final mark. The result is the new logo which we have dubbed the Towers “O.”

The new logo encapsulates the legacy and tradition of the College through its iconic building, Towers Hall. To many, its beauty draws us in, molds us, and welcomes us back. It’s a building of learning and opportunity. The “O” represents Otterbein and its ability to warmly embrace those who join us. The opening in the “O” symbolizes the gateway—and the openness for which Otterbein has been known since its beginnings—for people coming and going as they travel about their various phases of life’s journey. The font treatment used for “Otterbein College” has a traditional and modern edge to it to appeal to all audiences.

A Graphics Standard Manual has been created to use internally as a reference tool to follow as we establish and maintain consistency of the new logo and further position the College to be easily recognizable. This is the “official” logo of the College and the only one to be used to represent the College to our publics. It will be used on all stationery, printed materials, websites, marketing and advertising materials. No other past logo will be considered for use. The Official College Seal and the Fighting Cardinal mark usage are also addressed in the manual to ensure proper use on various materials.

Otterbein Gets a New Logo
College colors will remain tan and cardinal (red) with black and white accents when appropriate. The two-color logo is red and black and tan will be used as an accent as in the past.

The new logo will start to transition into publications, the book store, signage, collateral marketing and advertising throughout the year as reorders take place. We hope that by the fall the majority of the materials will reflect the new logo.

We appreciate your support and understanding of the importance to establish our brand identity to the public. For those of us who have experienced the Otterbein culture and reputation, we have a great sense of who the College is and why we were drawn to the beauty of its campus, friendliness of its faculty, quality of its education and the comfort of Westerville. For others, we have a great story to tell and future generations to educate. ■

The official College seal

Some past marks....

The fighting cardinal

Some past marks....
It was a cold night on Nov. 10, when a group of Otterbein students joined the hundreds of thousands of homeless American citizens as they spent a night out in the cold. During the Sleep Out for the Homeless, sponsored by Otterbein College as part of Homelessness Awareness Week, students lived outside for 24 hours beginning at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 10 on the north lawn of Towers Hall. Sleeping in tents that were donated by local businesses, campus organizations and individuals, 11 students raised awareness, as well as donations of clothing, tents (including those used in the event), sleeping bags and money for the Columbus Coalition for the Homeless. The total dollar amount of the donations made was $1,300.

The event was organized by Integrative Studies 105: Growing Up In America with Professor Margaret Koehler; Otterbein College’s Center for Community Engagement and the Columbus Coalition for the Homeless. According to Koehler, there is an underlying attitude by some that homeless individuals are somehow not like them, and therefore not deserving of the same respect and dignity. The Sleep Out was planned to change this attitude to one that embraces homelessness as a problem for, and a responsibility of, the entire community. “The students experienced first-hand and showed others what the homeless put up with every night as most of us were warm in our beds,” she said.

Koehler said half of the campers were from her class. “I thought it would be a good way to raise awareness not just in class, but the whole campus,” she told the Tan and Cardinal. “I think a lot of people could use this awareness. It is easy for people in the suburbs to hide from this crisis.” Local media also were on hand to cover the event.

Sleep Out for the Homeless featured a presentation on homelessness in Ohio by Georgine Getty of the Greater Cincinnati Coalition for the Homeless; a public reading of Phyllis Cole-Dai and James Murray’s The Emptiness of Our Hands: A Lent Lived on the Streets; and a panel discussion featuring homeless people and those who provide them with services. The event ended with a closing ceremony at which students shared their reflections on a night in the cold.
for Homeless

“Sleeping out was extremely cold and it definitely brought a new awareness to the situation. Of course it was one of the first nights we had frost, and when the sun came out, the freezing cold and dripping water on my face was enough to wake me up several times.” – Brad Feightner

“Everyone I spoke to afterward was curious to find out about my experience. I wish more people had stayed out because that treacherous and sleepless night was the perfect finale to our course.” – Caitlin Morris

“Oh man, it was cold! Sleeping the whole night outside really gave me some perspective on what the homeless have to endure while trying to survive on the streets. I was so grateful when someone showed up with hot chocolate.” – Maggie Meier

“This class overall has been extremely enlightening. I feel that I am much more aware about the issue of homelessness and I now have a much stronger grasp on the false stereotypes that are associated with homeless people. I have developed a greater appreciation for my college education and opportunities.” – Erin Newport
In the Wake of Category 4 hurricane (with winds up to 145 mph) is cause for concern under any circumstances, but the situation was particularly delicate in New Orleans, a majority of which lies below sea level like a bowl and relies on a system of levees to protect it from neighboring Lake Pontchartrain—levées that were only graded to withstand a Category 3 hurricane. When the eye of Katrina passed within 15 miles of the city on Aug. 30, levees were breached and as much as 80 percent of New Orleans was soon flooded, with water reaching a depth of 25 feet in some areas. Making matters worse, Katrina was followed less than a month later by Hurricane Rita.

Before the storm hit, New Orleans was a pearl of the South, or perhaps the “northernmost city of the Caribbean,” as resident Cheryn Alten Houston ’73 described it. Founded by the French in 1718, the “Big Easy” was a city known for its unique multicultural heritage, music and cuisine, as well as its spectacular parties, including Mardi Gras. New Orleans itself had a population of approximately 500,000, while nearly 1.5 million people lived in the greater New Orleans area—all who were evacuated before and after Hurricane Katrina.

Heavy damage was also inflicted on the coasts of Mississippi and Alabama, and current estimates of rebuilding costs are between $200-300 billion, making Katrina the most expensive natural disaster in U.S. history. The official government death toll from all areas affected by Katrina now stands at 1,325 people, while 6,644 others are

Alumni lived through it, students went to help—here are some of the Otterbein stories from a demon called Katrina.

story by Jenny Hill
still unaccounted for, with 1,300 of them feared dead.

Before Hurricane Katrina hit Louisiana, Rebecca Sebring ’84 taught special education in an alternative high school in the 9th Ward in New Orleans, one of the poorest districts before the hurricane and subsequent flooding and one of the most devastated by the disaster. Her home was in St. Bernard Parish, which was all but wiped off the map and, according to the city website, her house is destroyed beyond repair.

Rebecca graduated from Otterbein with a degree in psychology and worked in corrections for 15 years, but chose to pursue a career change after the Lucasville riots of 1993. She earned her teaching certificate and moved to New Orleans two years ago.

“New Orleans was not a nice place, that’s why I didn’t live there,” Rebecca said. Instead, she rented a house in St. Bernard Parish between the canal and the Mississippi River. “I had a beautiful view and used to walk my two Australian Shepherds by the Mississippi River.”

“Looking back, it seems like such a stupid place to choose to live,” she admitted.

But at the time, the peaceful setting and friendly neighbors were a nice relief from Rebecca’s stressful job teaching special education in the 9th Ward at a school for students who had been deemed too violent for public schools. Among her teenage students were prostitutes, hustlers, pick pockets, drug dealers and gang members, many of whom had children and some of

Destruction seen around Pass Christian, Mississippi, were photographed by Otterbein Christian Fellowship students Matt Baker, a sophomore, and Adam Walters, a junior. OCF students assisted hurricane victims in the first week of December 2005.
whom were shot to death before the storm. Still, Rebecca worked hard to give them what they wouldn’t find at home – a childhood.

Days before the storm, one of Rebecca’s two Australian shepherds began acting “strange.” He alternated between cowering and trying to pull Rebecca to the door. Rebecca decided it was time to evacuate.

She had evacuated before, for Hurricane Ivan, but this was a different experience. This time, Rebecca spent 14 hours in her car with two dogs, a suitcase, computer, small television and a cooler. She regrets leaving behind her pictures and books.

“All the ramps were closed until Tennessee. Only National Guardsmen could use the ramps to bring cars gasoline. You would fall asleep behind the wheel, eventually hear a car honking, move up a few inches and fall back asleep,” she said.

Rebecca evacuated to Baltimore, Maryland, where she had been contacted previously for a job opportunity. She is working there now, but plans to return to Ohio. Rebecca first found herself in a Baltimore hotel, until her credit card stopped working because her bank in Louisiana had been destroyed. She was interviewed on the local television station, and a woman took her in until she got on her feet.

How does a storm survivor rebuild? “You go to Walmart at 5 a.m. the day after Thanksgiving, hoping they have a great sale. You go to yard sales. You stop counting on insurance,” she said. She also received modest checks from FEMA, the Red Cross and her teacher’s union.

“The first three days were the worst. I didn’t eat or even breathe. I just stared at the television trying to see friends alive,” she said. She did get news of friends who had survived. On Thursday, three days after Katrina struck, one neighbor pulled Rebecca’s air mattress through her broken win-

dows and picked up another neighbor off a roof before swimming to safety.

Rebecca spent Christmas with her family and traveled down to Louisiana after the holidays. “My landlords are missing – a family of five – and so I have to sign the papers to have the house bulldozed. I am terrified of what I’ll see.”

Cheryn Alten Houston ’73 has a very different story. After graduating from Otterbein, she lived in Columbus for 10 years, during which time she married Tom Houston, who was a professor at The Ohio State University. They moved around before landing in Metairie, Louisiana, in 2003, where Cheryn was a stay-at-home mother to her son, Stephen, and also taught private flute lessons. Tom worked as a professor in the School of Public Health at Louisiana State University. The family had recently decided to relocate to Ohio, where Tom had been offered a job as the director of the smoking cessation program at the McConnell Center at Riverside Methodist Hospital. “We had made the decision to move before the storm because it was not the place for us. It wasn’t a good place to raise children and the schools were deficient.”

In August, Cheryn and Stephen were house hunting and registering Stephen for school. Tom had come up to help when Hurricane Katrina hit, and wasn’t able to return to Louisiana.

Melissa Frazier Dover ’78 took them into her home for a month.

“All week after the storm, we rented a van and went back down to rescue our two cats. Luckily, our cat sitter had left a lot of food on the second floor before evacuating and the cats were fine,” Cheryn said. But the house, which they had planned to put on the market on Aug. 30, suffered damage from two feet of water when the nearby canals flooded.

“It was enough to damage all our possessions on the first floor, and we had some roof and tree damage. But we amazingly had power, but no water. The air conditioning was on, and it probably saved us from the spread of mold,” she said.

They had one day to clean as much as they could. “The smell was terrible and there was slime on everything. They warned us not to get the slime on our skin because if we had an open cut or something, we could be exposed to whatever diseases were in the slime.”

So the Houstons moved everything up to the second floor, secured the house and took a loaded van back to Columbus. They returned two weeks later and stayed one week this time to begin repairs.

As for selling the house, the Houstons have listed it for sale “as is” at a low price. As they make repairs, they will raise the price. “Maybe somebody who lost their house and wants to go back will want our house,” she said with optimism.

“We didn’t lose too much in the end,” Cheryn said. “We are all safe and sound. My husband was already in the process of resigning and planned to turn in his letter. After the storm there was nobody to turn it into, so he finally had to e-mail it.”

E-mail was the most reliable mode of contact after Hurricane Katrina, since phones were out and most people were not at their known addresses. Jessica Perry Brantner ’03 checked in with Otterbein’s Office of Alumni Relations via e-mail. She reported that she was serving at Balad Air Base in Iraq when Hurricane Katrina hit her house on Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Mississippi. Her husband had evacuated to a hotel in Montgomery, Alabama, with their two cats and a few of their belongings. During her trip home from Iraq, Jessica and about 40 others from Biloxi were glued to the television, afraid of what they were coming home to. Upon her return, she and her husband David stayed with family in Ohio, where she was told to stay by superiors until Sept. 24 to get rest and relaxation after her tour of duty in Iraq. While in Ohio, she got news...
from neighbors at Keesler Air Force Base that although the base suffered flooding and damage, her house was intact with her car still in the driveway. Her neighbor reported that the flooding had not reached their part of the base.

**Georgine Francescangeli Combs ’85** also wrote to the Office of Alumni Relations. Georgine, her husband, John, and son, Joshua, had moved from Cleveland, Ohio, to Pascagoula, Mississippi, in November 2004 with a 24-foot U-Haul truck, a car, a van and a trailer loaded with their belongings. Their belongings came back to Cleveland in September 2005 in a 4 x 6-foot U-Haul trailer. The rest of their belongings were claimed by Hurricane Katrina.

Georgine and her family evacuated to Franklin, Tennessee, to stay with friends. When they returned to their house on Sept. 13, Georgine writes that they “only had about two feet of water from the storm surge come through the house.” That was optimistically worded, since the sea water had combined with backed up sewage and created a “stinky, disgusting mess” that claimed many of their belongings.

“We were able to salvage much more than originally thought – most of our clothes that were hanging up and anything above the bottom two drawers of the dressers,” Georgine wrote. “All the furniture as well as anything on the floor or on low shelves or drawers along with all the carpet and parquet flooring was completely destroyed.” In addition, the family lost their Lumina, for which they only had liability coverage.

Four family friends arrived on Thursday, Sept. 8, to help the Combs clean out their house. They tore out all of the carpet and wood flooring, packed up all the salvageable stuff, hauled tree limbs out of the pool (a.k.a. The Black Lagoon), loaded a trailer and slept on air mattresses before heading back to Cleveland on Saturday (Sept. 10). The Combs finished cleaning, packed up remaining items from their home and from John’s office and then returned to Cleveland.

Upon their return, the Combs family moved into a furnished home that was graciously offered rent-free for several months by a friend of a friend. Family friends had even moved their belongings from the trailer to the house. They were lucky to have that convenience because not everything has been so easy. Their insurance company told the Combs that the damage to their home was caused by a flood, and they did not have flood insurance. The company would only cover the fence, tree and back porch damage. But Georgine reported that the state of Mississippi was filing a lawsuit against the insurance company because the alleged flood was caused by the Hurricane’s wind pushing the ocean ashore.

Soon after the catastrophic storm ravaged the Gulf Coast, Reserve and National Guard units were called into action. Among those soldiers called up was Otterbein sophomore and U.S. Coast Guard Reservist Matt Lofy ’08, who assisted in the relief efforts in Louisiana shortly after Hurricane Rita added to the region’s misery. He was happy to help. Matt told the *Tan and Cardinal* that he joined the military for “a thousand and one reasons” and believes that anyone physically and mentally capable should do it. He has several family members in the military, including his father, who serves in the Coast Guard. Matt served for three weeks beginning Sept. 24. He would have stayed longer had he not been in school.

“It was surprising. One day, I was an Otterbein student watching the
coverage on Fox News, and two days later, I was outside the Superdome,” Matt said. “Driving the streets of New Orleans was scary. I heard reports of alligators, snakes and bodies floating in the waters. There were dead animals in the streets. It was a ghost town with nothing but military convoys.” Matt described scenes of homes that were demolished, trailers that were left in piles when the water receded, and damaged boats, yachts and cars that were strewn around the area like trash.

When asked about the smell, Matt simply said, “I tell people it was the smell of death – dead bodies, mold, feces…the smell of death.”

Despite this, Matt would not take back this experience. “My outlook on life changed because I saw things I could have done without, which made me grow up faster. I recently hurt my arm and had surgery, but you won’t hear me complain, because no matter how bad I have it, I know people there have it worse,” he said.

Being in New Orleans also changed Matt’s view of the media. “The media made it into a political issue. But the people down there said to me, ‘We don’t (care) who’s at fault, we just need to come together to get the Big Easy up and running again,’” he said. “When my kids are learning about this in school books, I can tell them and show them pictures of the things they won’t hear about in class.”

Some of these things included the violence. “When we were there, people were shooting at the Coast Guard helicopters while we were trying to rescue elderly people,” he said. “And as they were opening up the city, people were worried about the crime starting back up where it left off. To people down there, crime is an outlet when they have no other outlet. They resort to anarchy, anything to survive.”

Matt added that search and rescue missions were accompanied by armed guards for protection. Matt was originally assigned to urban search and rescue work, as he is trained to drive boats and teach some police work. But when he arrived, much of the flooding had subsided and his actual duties included processing and passing out supplies and sandbags in harder hit areas, including the highly publicized St. Bernard Parish, which was only accessible to members of the military and FEMA at the time.

“At first, I thought, ‘I am missing college for (grunt) work,’ but now it feels rewarding. We did a lot of day-to-day jobs so that the Coast Guardsmen from the base could go home and check on their houses and families, and it felt good to help out our brothers.”

“Making up schoolwork was stressful,” said Matt, “but I joined the military to help my country in a time of need.”

National Guardsman Tom Dodge ’08, a sophomore middle guard on Otterbein’s football team, also answered the call of duty. On Sept. 1, Tom’s National Guard Unit, C Company, 1-148th Infantry Battalion, was called to help. Tom traded his Cardinal football uniform for his Guard fatigues and headed to Mississippi. His teammates and coaches saw him off.

Some students were not called to duty by the military, but rather by a higher power. Twenty-five students traveled to Pass Christian, Mississippi with the Otterbein Christian Fellowship to assist victims. Twenty-five students traveled to Pass Christian, Mississippi with the Otterbein Christian Fellowship to assist victims. Posing in front of the library where they stayed are, Kneeling: Lela Kirkland, Olivia Heap, Jill Van Auken, Natalie King, Adam Walters, Matt Baker Middle Row: Lisa Dota, Laura Kingseed, Heather Massey, Stacy Petrolewicz, Lindsey Hirsch, Chelsea Moyseeenko, April Glover, Kelly Skidmore, Lauren Jones, Cara Gale Back Row: Steve Beeley, Ben Lehman, Scott Habrun, Karen Line, Flint Garrabrant, Brandt Weininger, Ben Titus, Jill Clark, Eric Atwell
get a taste of it to make sure it was what I want to do,” April said.

The students traveled to Mississippi in a caravan of vehicles loaned to them by their parents, funded by money raised through their churches. They stayed overnight each way in Tennessee where a pastor who was a youth minister to one student opened his church to them.

“We had a good time, but we started seeing destruction about half an hour before we got to the town, and we all got quiet. Large trees were snapped in half and gas stations were demolished,” April said. “In Pass Christian, the piers were all destroyed. The shore was shallow enough to walk out about a quarter mile, and trees were left there when the water receded.”

“I’m not able to describe what I saw there, not even TV shows it,” April said. But she added that the stars were beautiful. “Everywhere you looked, there was destruction, but the sky—the stars and the sunset—were peaceful and beautiful. It was strange.”

The downtown of Pass Christian is now comprised of three trailers, one serving as the city hall, one as the bank and one as a store. Most residents were being housed in FEMA trailers in surrounding areas. Many returned to get Christmas decorations from their attics for some semblance of normalcy, April said.

The students stayed in a local library and ate at a charity soup kitchen called God’s Katrina Kitchen. People requesting assistance in the area put their names on a list, which would be tended to by the local charity groups, including Campus Crusade for Christ, which served as the OCF contact.

The Otterbein students did work in gutting houses, dry walling, installing insulation and even some electrical work. April’s favorite assignment was with a large African American man named Robert.

Robert was living in a FEMA trailer with his fiancée and her daughter. He was a “big guy and the nicest man,” April said, “I walked up and said, ‘Would you like some help?’ He answered, ‘Yes ma’am, I would!’ Robert had been on the list, but hadn’t received any help. So our group of 13 was a surprise.”

“When I looked at his house, I didn’t know where to begin. He only had one room cleared, and his house was piled with furniture and the ceiling was sagging. Several people in his neighborhood had died, that’s how badly it was hit. We learned how to read the spray painted signs, and saw that some bodies had been found,” April said.

“I thought we wouldn’t make a dent in his house and that Robert would still be working for two more months gutting it, but by the end of the day, we had it completely gutted, took down all the walls and cleared the house.” From there, Robert could get a building permit and rebuild with the intact frame.

“Robert was a janitor at NASA, and when he went into work and told them his story, they said he should get a gift,” April said. He brought them all NASA pens and invited them to come see his family when the town was rebuilt.

“I want to go back later. You could see even with all the destruction that it was a beautiful town. The coast was lined with mansions,” April said.

Before traveling down, the students had to be up-to-date on their shots and sign waivers. While they were there, they had to wear masks and gloves for their own safety. They encountered rust-colored hurricane water and experienced nausea from the smell and from wearing the masks, which had to be changed often.

“When they left, they had to throw away their contaminated shoes and clothes for their own safety. They also generously left behind the money they had raised and did not need for the return trip.

“It was not only students who answered the call of duty after Katrina. Jay R. Hone ’75, a colonel in the Air Force Reserves, served two separate two-week tours in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. His duties as a liaison officer for the Air Force to Louisiana state and federal agencies led him to another Otterbein alumnus. While on mosquito and fly spraying operations over two million acres of Katrina-affected land, he was surprised to find the commander of the operation was Air Force Reservist Lieutenant Colonel Marty Davis ’73, who had lived across the hall from him in Davis Annex 34 years ago.

While Otterbein’s brave men in uniform were assisting the devastated region, members of the Otterbein community were helping in any way they could from home. Otterbein College’s Support Staff Council initiated a fundraising drive for the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund, which netted $3,256.12.

In addition, the Cardinals football team captains, accompanied by Head Coach Joe Loth, proudly presented a check for $1,534 to the Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund at Columbus Unites: Katrina Disaster Relief Fund, a fundraising event in downtown Columbus on Sept. 8. The donation was the proceeds from the College’s opening football game against Defiance on Sept. 3.

Now the region has to rebuild. As for New Orleans, Cheryn thinks rebuilding will take a long time. “New Orleans is slow to change or to accept change, so it will be interesting to see how it comes back.”

Cheryn reflected on the Otterbein connections as she listened to the stories of some of the others interviewed for this story. “Those who went down are the real heroes. And I am so touched by the Otterbein connections. An alumna took us in when we had no home, and one of the first e-mails I received was from the Alumni Office letting us know we were in their thoughts. It was very touching.”
Could a simple round ball help bring Arab and Israeli Youth Together?

With time running out on the clock and his team trailing by two points, Mohammed, an Arab player from a tiny Palestinian suburb of Jerusalem, catches the ball beyond the three-point arc. He nervously looks around before heeding the cries of coaches, teammates and spectators to “shoot, shoot!” Mohammed heaves a “Cousyesque” two-handed shot towards the rim that hits nothing but the bottom of the net.
The gym erupts as Mohammed not only hits the game winning shot but also scores his first points of the week. Chants of “Mohammed, Mohammed!” fill the air as his teammates lift him onto their shoulders and parade him around the gym. The players and coaches from other games just completed run to join in on the celebration and to exchange celebratory high-fives with the hero of the day.

What these Jewish and Arab players and coaches had forgotten, in the moment of excited delirium, was that they are supposed to hate each other.

The two culturally and politically different factions were brought together by Playing for Peace (PfP), an organization that uses basketball as common ground in areas of the world where conflict is high. The initial PfP effort was in Northern Ireland.

Playing for Peace was founded in 2001 on the premise that “children who play together can learn to live together.” Playing for Peace effectively blends together proven theories of social modeling, conflict resolution and public diplomacy to operate basketball and life-skills programs in historically divided regions that bring thousands of children from different religious, racial and cultural backgrounds together. The programs attract children to participate in basketball and life-skills activities that enable them to learn leadership skills and how to live as friends and neighbors.

A key component to Playing for Peace’s effectiveness is that the programs target children aged 10-14. These children are old enough to pick up the basics of the sport, but young enough wherein many prejudices have not yet been cemented. Through the power of sport, education and the strategic integration of public diplomacy, PfP is altering the pattern of pre-conceived prejudice and equipping children with the skills and education needed to address the serious social and health issues they face.

My initial involvement with PfP began five years ago when they decided to start a program in South Africa. Having spent close to two decades on Wall Street in commodity finance, I had many professional and personal contacts in South Africa and I offered to serve as a liaison for PfP as they began to establish ties in the region. I was also able to assist in the creation of a three year strategic plan and develop a coaching manual for training PfP coaches.

Last spring the opportunity arose for PfP to spread its wings even further as we were invited to partner with Shimon Peres Center for Peace, Right to Play, and Seeds of Peace to bring PfP to the Middle East. Specifically, PfP was asked to host a prototypical basketball camp for Jewish and Palestinian boys in August to be held at the Wingate Center in Netanya, Israel, and I was invited to attend and coach at the camp.

I also made the decision to bring my middle son, Kevin, 14, with me despite the fact that he would be missing the first week of school. Kevin would be the same age as the campers and would have the opportunity to participate in the basketball camp. My wife and I thought this could certainly be a once in a lifetime experience.
On arriving in Tel Aviv on Aug. 17, I was immediately struck by the crystal clear blue sky and orange shirts, protesting the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip – a sight we would become very familiar with over the next ten days.

It was a very moving experience to visit Old Jerusalem; to actually walk the path of the signs of the cross, to see the spot where Christ was believed to have been crucified, to lie upon the rock that Christ's body was laid after his crucifixion, and to witness the emotional culmination of a pilgrimage to the Western Wall. Here, people come and pray, leaving written petitions in the cracks between blocks of the wall.

Shortly before our arrival in Israel, we had received some disturbing news from the Palestinian Basketball Federation. At the last minute they had decided not to allow their players to attend the camp. They decided that the only time their players would mix with Jewish players would be at international competitions when other countries were present. This posed a problem but it did not alter our camp plans as we had also included Israeli Arabs, who consider themselves to be Palestinian. These Israeli Arabs have very little contact with Israeli Jews and the relationship between the two groups was recently described in The Weekly Standard as one where “mutual perceptions typically have been characterized at best by indifference, at worst by total misunderstanding and mistrust.” Some of the Palestinian players ignored the edict and attended the camp anyway.

Since most of the Palestinians were not allowed to attend the camp, we decided to take our message and goodwill to them. In our first night in Israel we held a clinic in Bethlehem, Palestine for local players and their coaches.

The trip from Jerusalem to Bethlehem is a short one but it was here that we caught our first visual representation of the conflict in Israel. Palestinians are not allowed, without special permission that is very difficult to receive, to enter Israel and it is illegal for Israeli Jews to enter Palestine. We were met at a checkpoint at the border by Israeli soldiers who looked to be in their mid-teens bearing light machine guns. As they checked our passports and asked why we were traveling into the West Bank, I thought they looked more frightened than we were.

As we passed through the checkpoint I realized that “Oh, Little Town of Bethlehem” was nothing like I imagined it would be. There were burnt out homes and overturned cars and other signs of violence. We were chased down by crazy cabdrivers who, for a price, would lead us to our destination. We told one cabdriver where we wanted to go but he didn’t listen and assumed that we wanted to visit the Basilica of the Nativity and took us there. On the ride I noticed poster after poster of young men on the walls of the buildings. Later I would learn that these were the faces of suicide bombers. We finally communicated with our guide and he took us to the outdoor basketball courts.

Greg Sullivan, the author and assistant professor of the Department of Health and Physical Education, leads a group of Palestinian youth on a lit court at night in Bethlehem.
We had no idea what we would find but we were pleasantly surprised to say the least. There were well over one hundred kids there anxiously awaiting our arrival. The single court was well lit and there was hip-hop music blaring from speakers. There were a number of local coaches there as well, as they were eager to meet a member of our party. One of the coaches with us, Don Casey, was a National Basketball Association assistant (Boston Celtics during the Larry Bird era) and head coach (New Jersey Nets and the Los Angeles Clippers), and he was going to hold a skull session with the coaches. We, in the meantime, had to improvise as we had a lot of kids and only one basketball court. We decided to break the kids into different learning stations, some where a hoop was not required (passing, ball handling, and footwork drills) and some where a hoop was required (shooting, 2-man offensive game).

The atmosphere was electric. We were excited with the turnout. The kids were pumped and the music only added to the intensity of the atmosphere. Parents, who had come only to view the activity, were called into service to assist with translating so everyone was involved. The pace was fast and furious as the players sprinted from station to station.

We capped the evening off with a dunking exhibition from some of our younger coaches (not me!) and some of the players that had played on the Palestinian national team. The crowd roared with each successful attempt and good natured jeers were heard from all on missed dunks. Players, parents, and coaches came up and thanked us profusely for coming to Bethlehem. There were many hugs and high fives and the head Palestinian coach called it “the greatest night of basketball ever in Palestine!” It was certainly one of the greatest nights for me personally.

During the clinic I spied some American looking men in the crowd observing the activity. At the end of the evening they came down and introduced themselves. They were from a group called Athletes in Action. Athletes in Action was founded in 1966 and is an internationally known organization that utilizes sport as a platform for their ministry. They were amazed and could only ask, “Who are you guys?”

The next day we moved from our hotel in East Jerusalem to the Wingate Institute. Since we couldn’t check into the Institute until late that afternoon it was decided that a day on the beaches of Tel Aviv was in order. Stretched along the beautiful beach strip of the Mediterranean, Tel-Aviv is Israel’s largest city and biggest commercial center. The Hebrew, ‘Tel Aviv’, combines the ideas of antiquity (tel, an ancient site) and radiant newness (aviv, springtime). Tel Aviv is a merging of New York and Miami with a European feel complete with skyscraping hotels. The water of the Mediterranean is spectacular with great waves for body surfing. Sun burnt and tired, as only the beach can make you, we drove up along the coast to Netanya, our home for the next week.

The coaches were scheduled to arrive before the players for an orientation session and the Jewish and Arab coaches had arrived before us. Sitting in the lobby of the Sports Hotel we saw the Jewish contingent on one side of the lobby and the Arab contingent on the other. The entire group was called together and introductions were made. After we settled in our rooms we had a meeting in one of the gyms to discuss the camp and the camps who would be arriving the next day. Sean Tuohy discussed the logistics of the camp and our roles in the running of the camp. Sean was having some difficulty in explaining how a particular game should be played so it was decided that we, the coaches, should play the game. Just as we planned to do with the campers, the teams were mixed. The game involved shooting at each basket against an opposing team and then running to the next basket if you won.

Some of the coaches who had worn shoes or sandals took them off to play the game and were comically slipping on the wood gym floor. We were laughing, cheering, sweating, and congratulating each other just as we envisioned the campers doing during the week. We went to dinner as a group that night and had the opportunity to converse and get to know each other. The ice had been officially broken and we were now ready for the players.

The players, over 100 strong—an equal mix of Jewish and Arab players—showed up bright and early that Sunday morning and we handed them their shorts and shirts. Just like American kids, they complained that their shirts were too big and their shorts were too small. Seeds of Peace had provided us with a number of Jewish and Arab counselors who were a few years older than the campers. Founded in 1993, Seeds of Peace is dedicated to empowering young leaders from regions of conflict with the leadership skills required to advance reconciliation and coexistence. Due to its proven impact and success in the Middle East, Seeds of Peace has earned international recognition as an effective model for resolving conflict worldwide. The counselors guided the players back to the dorms where they would co-exist for the next five days.

The basketball program started early that Sunday afternoon as players were placed on mixed teams and games were played to gauge the talent levels of the players. Coaches then swapped players in an attempt to keep the teams mixed and to create parity among the teams. Initially, it was apparent that the players were staying within their comfort zones, clinging to other players they knew or spoke a familiar language. However, within a short period of time teammates were eating lunch and dinner together rather than with friends. They were starting to act like typical 14-year olds.

“Just like American kids, they complained that their shirts were too big and their shorts too small.”
A day after camp started we were joined by another NBA coach. Herb Brown, the older brother of Larry Brown (head coach of the New York Knicks) has over 40 years of coaching experience most of it in the NBA (head coach of the Detroit Pistons, assistant coach with the Pistons and the Atlanta Hawks) but also on the international and collegiate levels. Brown is also no stranger to Israel as he had the opportunity to coach Team USA to a gold and bronze medal in the Maccabiah Games. He was amazed at what he saw when he arrived at camp. As a regular visitor to Israel, he was shocked to see Jews and Arabs playing with and rooting for each other. He couldn’t believe the camaraderie that was taking place.

Days were spent immersed in basketball – running drills, learning offensive and defensive techniques, and playing full-court games. In the evening, campers had the chance to get to know each other off the court by eating meals together, playing non-basketball games, watching movies, swimming, and socializing. By the end of the week, no longer did we have an apprehensive, segregated group of Jewish and Arab teenagers. We had one hundred basketball players who were eager to learn from a Jewish, Arab, or American coach and were learning to play as a team despite cultural differences.

As coaches, our evenings were spent taking turns traveling into the West Bank to hold additional clinics and to speak with coaches or remaining at Wingate to host nightly coaching clinics for Israeli coaches from all around Israel.

PFP’s clinic with the Palestinian Basketball Federation was held in Ramallah, Palestine. We had been forewarned that our experience at the checkpoint to enter Ramallah would be interesting. The checkpoint looks like a military zone, consisting of a guard tower, a pedestrian waiting area, and two car lanes: one with a long wait for Palestinian cars and a special open car lane for Israeli cars. The lanes are divided by barbed wire and blocks of concrete. The whole area around the checkpoint is constantly patrolled by Israeli army Jeeps on the lookout for Palestinians trying to bypass this point of entry or exit. It is from this checkpoint that we got our first up-close view of the wall that is being built to separate Israel and Palestine. The construction of the Israeli separation wall began in June of 2002. For the most part, the barrier, which could eventually extend close to five hundred miles, consists of a series of twenty-five foot high concrete walls, trenches, barbed wire and electrified fencing with numerous watch towers, electronic sensors, thermal imaging and video cameras, unmanned aerial vehicles, sniper towers, and roads for patrol vehicles.

The road from the checkpoint into Ramallah is strewn with burnt out cars and buildings. Despite the heat, men and adolescent boys sat around fires along the road. Again the posters of the suicide bombers are present. The road itself is a constant series of bumps and ruts; the road was torn up by Israeli tanks as they rode into Ramallah during a military operation aimed at isolating Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat’s compound after a bomb attack on a bus in Tel Aviv left six dead in 2002.

The gym in Ramallah was dimly lit and it was clear how inferior the facilities were in the West Bank than what we had seen in Israel. The Palestine coaches were extremely friendly and open and my presentation, done through a translator, was very well received. Coaches Casey and Brown did a great job of explaining many of the technical aspects of basketball and patiently answered many questions about their philosophies and life in the NBA.

After the clinic the Palestinian Basketball Federation took us to dinner in downtown Ramallah. The city of Ramallah is a bustling metropolitan area and a beautiful city. The president of the Federation presented Coach Casey with a plaque commemorating his visit to Palestine and presented Sean Tuohey, Coach Brown, and me with an Arabic shawl with an emblem of the Palestinian Basketball Federation on it. We gracefully accept-
ed it. They also gave us a medal with a picture of Arafat in the middle. Coach Brown, who is Jewish, acted like the great ambassador that he is, and graciously accepted that gift as well.

Day by day the basketball camp seemed increasingly less like a noble experiment in conflict resolution and more like any other basketball camp I had been a part of as a player or coach. The primary focus was on basketball and the kids were getting along great. The dormitory looked like a typical dorm at a basketball camp with clothes, soda cans, and pizza boxes strewn about. Jewish and Arab players roomed side by side but the individual suites were inhabited by either Jewish or Arab players. That is, until some of the players had requested room changes so that they could live in the same suite with their teammates thus creating inter-cultural suites.

The camp ended with a championship game with parents of all the players invited to watch. Our goal of creating parity between the mixed teams was met as evidenced by the game itself. With 10 seconds left in the game and the score tied, Dan, a lanky left hander who many thought was the best player in the camp, calmly knocked down two free throws to give his team a two-point advantage. Moments later Samer, the Arab point guard for the opposing team, drove the length of the floor and kicked it to Ido, a Jewish shooting guard, who drained a three at the buzzer to win the camp championship. The gym erupted and pandemonium ensued. As the players and coaches hugged in celebration of their victory, the triumphant spirit of what had been accomplished over the course of one week resonated throughout the gym. Everyone knew they had been a part of something special. Parents, skeptical of the concept at the beginning of camp when they dropped their sons off, were amazed at what they saw on and off the court at the culmination of the camp—players uniting on the court and players sitting together off the court.

One of the camp organizers, Matt Minoff, a former Yale basketball player who is currently playing professionally in Israel, shared the following with me in an email received shortly after returning home: “One Jewish camper captured the essence of the camp when he asserted, ‘I am from a kibbutz near Gaza. All I have ever seen or heard is hate from the Arabs. Now I have had the chance to live 24 hours with them, play as teammates and laugh with them. My life will never be the same.’ Many, like this camper, took with them meaningful and unforgettable memories. Yet, while the PfP Basketball Camp was a very significant positive stride, it is only the beginning for Playing for Peace in Israel/Palestine. We will be working year-round to create pathways for Jewish and Arab youths (both living in Israel and Palestine) to interact and find common ground on the basketball court.”
Class Notes

Compiled by Mary Kay Beougher ’85. Submit information for Class Notes and Milestones to Classnotes, Office of Advance-ment Resources, Otterbein College, Westerville, Ohio, 43081 or email: Classnotes@otterbein.edu

1948
Clifford Kerns was honored in the Circleville Herald in Circleville, OH for his service in World War II.

1949
Carl Becker has written the book Miamisburg in World War II; The Soldiers and Sailors of an American Community. The book analyzes the letters that soldiers and sailors of Miamisburg, OH, wrote to the editor of the Miamisburg News during WWII.

1950
James Recob and his wife, Betty Knight Recob ’50, reside at the Otterbein Retirement Community in Lebanon, OH. They are active in the Otterbein Lebanon Church and are members of various musical organizations. Jim is the editor of Echoes, a monthly publication for residents of the retirement community.

1954
Bob Hastings has formed an advertising-agency type of business called Bob’s Ideas in Bowling Green, OH. He also teaches speech and interpersonal communications part-time at Owens Community College in Findlay, OH.

1955
Joe Eschbach was awarded the Amgen International Prize for Therapeutic Advances in Nephrology in June 2005.

Howard Longmire and his wife, Virginia Phillippi Longmire ’55, just celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They reside at the Otterbein Retirement Community in Lebanon, OH. Howard is very active in the chorus programs there and Ginny is the church organist.

She also works with an Hispanic ministry in her community.

Bruce Flack is serving as interim chancellor for the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission in Charleston, WV.

Sandra Alexander Gulian is retired from active nursing but remains a parish nurse. She is also a part-time hospital chaplain at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn, MI. She conducts educational programs on living wills.

Ralph Wilson and his wife, Kay Thornhill Wilson ’63 are retired and residing in Nashville, TN. Ralph continues to golf, play basketball and is active in genealogy research.

1960
Janet Christy Chamberlin teaches French part-time at Western Kentucky University and Spanish part-time at the Western Kentucky University Community College as needed.

1965
Thomas Heisey celebrated the arrival of his second grandchild.

1967
Tina McCune Watman is trying her hand at art after retirement. She will be having her own show, “Reasons for Rescue: Pet Portraits by Tina Watman,” at the David Myers Art Studio & Gallery in Westerville, OH, in Apr. 2006.

1968
Tom Wonderling has accepted the position of principal/CEO of St. Mary’s Springs High School in Fond du Lac, WI.

1969

1970
Gordon Bury is a residential mortgage loan officer with National City Bank in Wadsworth, OH.

Jeanette Litsey Westerfield is serving the United Methodist Church as director of the Women’s Division and the General Board of Global Ministries (2004-2008). She and her husband, David, a retired United Methodist minister, live in Louisville, KY.
Jeannie Monteith Campbell is a language teacher at Harrison High School in Harrison, AR. In 2003, she took a group of students to France and another group is planning to go in June 2006. She has one grandson, Ethan, who is 7 years old.

Revs. John Ciampa and his wife, Patricia Schar Ciampa '69, have moved from Indiana, PA, to Community United Methodist Church in Harrison City, PA.

Michael Ducey has announced his plans to retire at the end of 2006 from Compass Minerals International, Inc. in Overland Park, KS, where he is president and chief executive officer.

Cea Cohen-Elliott spoke to a group of teachers from St. John’s of Delphos, OH, at the Knights of Columbus Hall. She has been in education for 35 years as a teacher and guidance counselor. She currently specializes in conflict resolution and anger management with students and teachers.

Ronn Rucker was recently honored by the mayor of Cincinnati and was recognized in The Advocate, the national gay and lesbian news magazine. Monday, Oct. 10, 2005, was declared Ronn Rucker Day in Cincinnati in recognition of his 27 years of service as a district health officer. He retired in September 2005. Among his many accomplishments was to establish, along with the Centers for Disease Control, the world’s first anonymous HIV test site.

Martha Day Sorohan is acting editor for the weekly Conneaut Courier in Conneaut, OH. She received the Ohio Professional Writer’s Award for superior news reporting in a 2004 communications contest for her coverage of the demolition of an 80-year old viaduct on Route 20 in Conneaut, OH.


Stephanie Lewis Helsel is a licensed professional counselor in Boulder, CO.

Robin Rike Morgan is the media director for Living Legends Media in Altamonte Springs, FL.

Janice Cowan Johnson is the new pastor at Trinity United Methodist Church in Spencerville, OH.

1971

Robert Cribs is the president of the Jasper Cabinet Company in Jasper, IN. He currently resides in Grand Rapids, MI.

Daniel Fagan has been appointed as chairman of the board of Synthetech, Inc., in Albany, OR.

Pamela Hill is currently directing the play Meshuggah-Nuns! at Gallery Players in Columbus, OH.

1975

Chuck “Bisco” Eckerson was named international coordinator with FamilyLife, which is the marriage and family ministry of Campus Crusade of Christ. He resides with his wife and two teenage children in Little Rock, AR.

1978

Rebecca Smith Rohrer is named 2005 Adjunct Faculty Member of the Year for North Central State College in Mansfield, OH.

Reunions Year! Alumni Wkd.

1979

Richard DeVore and his wife, Cynthia, have 3 children; Chris, 20; Kevin, 17; and Carly, 14. He remains active in music and is playing drums in a church worship group.

1980

Stephanie Rapp Kreisher was named 2005 Adjunct Faculty Member of the Year for North Central State College in Mansfield, OH.

1981

Trish Katsidzira-Madon- do is the managing direc-
Lee Hatfield ’93 never saw himself working the family dairy farm in Centerburg, Ohio. But he enjoyed life on the farm, and found himself back in the family business. However, Lee did take what he learned while earning his degree in business communication at Otterbein and added a thriving educational community outreach program to the successful dairy operation.

Lee and his brother, Gail, share the honor of running Hatfield 7 Dairy, Inc., so named because the brothers are the seventh generation of his family to run the farm, which was established in 1831. Lee graduated from Otterbein in 1993 and returned to the family business two years later, when they expanded the dairy from 40 cows to 260. Now, between two farms that make up the dairy, there are approximately 1,000 cows. Additionally, the dairy has 21 employees.

Lee, the dairy manager, focuses mainly on the cows and, with his wife Jennifer, has developed an educational tour for children and adults alike. After the elementary school class taught by Lee’s sister-in-law visited in 1999, Lee saw the opportunity to teach non-farmers where their food comes from. He says the adults learn as much, if not more, than the children when visiting the farm.

Approximately 2,500 visitors toured the farm between April and October 2005. Lee strives to show visitors the many steps that go into “making a wholesome, high-quality product that’s good for them while taking excellent care of the cows, as well as the many steps involved in our conservation efforts.”

“We host school groups, social groups and senior citizen groups,” Lee said, which is why he worked with a local principal to base his program on state educational standards for different age groups, focusing mainly on math, sciences and social studies.

About a year ago, Lee and Jennifer launched www.mooschool.com. The online Moo School teaches children about cow care, feeding and milking, as well as introducing them to the equipment and environmental aspects of the dairy and agricultural industries.

Hatfield 7 Dairy also entered into a partnership with Velvet Ice Cream in nearby Utica for a program called “Cow to Cone,” in which visitors first tour the dairy to learn about cream as a byproduct of milk, and then tour Velvet and sample some ice cream. Besides Velvet Ice Cream, milk from Hatfield 7 Dairy ends up throughout Ohio, such as Guggisberg Cheese in Millersburg, the Keebler Co. in Fremont and United Dairy Farmers in Martins Ferry, whose milk ends up in schools in 14 counties in south-central Ohio.

Lee and his family not only focus on the educational aspect of dairy farming, but also responsible conservation practices. Through responsible and proactive resource management, Hatfield 7 Dairy was the 2001 recipient of the Environmental Stewardship Award from the Ohio Livestock Coalition. “I have the same concerns as everyone else — I’m a consumer, I have kids, I live next to the dairy,” Lee said. “We do these things because we want to, not because we have to.”

In addition, the cows’ health is important to Lee. Tours are scheduled so that the needs of the cows come first. “We take extremely good care of our animals. Their diets are actually healthier than most people. And we handle our cows with care because we need calm, healthy cattle to produce high-quality milk,” Lee explained. After giving birth, a cow must be milked three times a day for 300 days, and then they take a 65-day vacation in the farm’s pastures. “I wish I could take a 65-day vacation,” Lee mused.

While Lee loves life on the farm, sometimes he misses his days at Otterbein, and the people who made his experience such a good one, including Allen Prindle, John Buckles, the members of the former fraternity ATO, which he served as president, and many others. A football player in his days at Otterbein, Lee is also happy about the new stadium and recent progress of the football team, for which he credits Head Coach Joe Loth ’91 and Tim Doup ’91, who were both his teammates.

Lee lives on the farm with Jennifer and their children, Megan, 8, and Daniel, 6.
Carol Mika Iott has accepted the position as personnel manager of the Cleveland Orchestra in OH.

Lauren Stitt is a teacher of students with special needs in the Akron Public School System in OH. Prior to this, she worked as a successful actor in the Cleveland area. She is working towards her Ph.D. in educational philosophy with her focus on the effects of arts and literacy. She resides in Cuyahoga Falls, OH, with her love, Alan, and dog, Booser.

Martha Trudeau lives in Philadelphia, PA, with her husband, Dr. Hugh Carter Donahue, and 2 children; Andy, age 14; and Rose, age 12. She co-authored an article in the Annals of Surgery, July 2005, entitled “Preoperative Antibiotics and Mortality in the Elderly.” She also co-authored the article “Changes in Prognosis After the First Postoperative Complication” in the Medical Care publication.

1985

1986

Janet Walton Carr is a Westerville artist who designed the logo for the 2005 Art in the Park, the second annual multi-arts event presented by the Westerville Concert Band and the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Susan Wright Whittaker is a certified public accountant with Toukan & Company in Westerville, OH.

1988

Sherry Meadows Febes has been appointed as vice president and senior relationship manager for Huntington Bancshares’ Private Financial Group in Columbus, OH.

1990

Deborah Goslin received her masters degree in education with a concentration in fine arts in 2005 from the University of Rio Grande in OH. She finished her second masters from Rio Grande in December in mathematics education. Deborah is a 7th grade math teacher at Vinton County Junior High in OH.

1991

Andrew Bower has established a practice in Pendleton, OR, where he is a general surgeon.

Deborah Lockhart Johnson and her husband, Jeff, have been married five years. They have two children; Conrad Daniel, age 4 and Abigail Frances, age 3.

Jeff Jones is the head football coach for Westland High School in Columbus, OH.

1992

Christine Loretta-Brandt has relocated to Phoenix, AZ, where she is a marketing director for Evening Star Promotions, a live concert promoter.

Todd Cordisco has recently accepted the position of marketing specialist/coordinator for Johnson Engineering, Inc., in Ft. Myers, FL.

1993

Elaine Lipman Barnes is the executive director for the Cleveland Green Building Coalition in Cleveland, OH.

Amy Fribiley McKinlay has been named an Ohio Super Lawyers Rising Star by Law & Politics and the publishers of Cincinnati Magazine. The designation is bestowed upon the best up-and-coming Ohio attorneys under the age of 40. Amy practices family law with the Columbus, OH, firm of R. Chris Harold & Associates.

1994

Jennifer Gibbs recently graduated magna cum laude from Texas Wesleyan University School of Law. She is practicing law with the firm Thompson, Coe, Cousins & Irons in Dallas, TX.

Dan Mejek and his wife, Robin Lawson ’94, currently reside in Columbus,
OH. Dan is working freelance full-time in television doing camera and videotape replays for sporting events such as the Columbus Crew, Columbus Blue Jackets as well as the NBA finals in Detroit, MI, for the last two seasons. He and his wife have 6 cockateils and Robin has a new 4-year old Standardbred horse.

Lisa Ferrante Mozeleski teaches anatomy, kinesiology and health at Wyoming Seminary Upper School campus in Kingston, PA.

1995

Stephanie Shipman Andriani earned her master's in Counselor Education from the University of Dayton, in Dayton, OH, in 2001. She is a vocational counselor at the Center of Vocational Alternatives (COVA) in Clintonville, OH.

Joey Clipard Thompson is the owner of Serenity Stables, LLC in Galena, OH. She also is a counselor and therapist at the facility for equine assisted psychotherapy.

Alicia Caudill Colburn was recently named associate vice president and dean of students at Gainesville State College in GA.

Diane Kirschbaum Comella is a parish nurse at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Lafayette, IN. She and her husband, Shawn, have four children ages 8, 7, 5 and 3.

Kendra Scheehle Foley is a physical therapist at the Orthopedic Institute of Dayton in OH. She received her masters degree in physical therapy from the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN, in 1997. She and her husband, Stephen ’97, reside in Waynesville, OH, with their two daughters; Loren Elisabeth, age 4 and Jenna Grace, age 2. They are expecting their third child in February 2006.

Shawna Goebel Hansen is the new director of Really Big City Festivals with Kingdom United out of Nashville, TN. The event is centered around racial reconciliation and diversity initiatives with speakers and singers touring college campuses. She also tours as singer/songwriter under the name of Shawna Ray.

Robert Hull is the operations manager at Lowe’s Home Improvement in Perrysburg, OH. His wife, Julie Austin Hull ’95, is a first grade teacher for Anthony Wayne Schools in Whitehouse, OH. They reside in Toledo with their two daughters.

Christine Elenniss Kreminski is pursuing a masters degree in positive organization development and change at Case Weatherhead School of Management in Cleveland, OH. She plans on graduating in May 2006.

Beverly Mellars is the regional manager for the Midwest region for ALSCO Metals Corporation which is headquartered in Raleigh, NC. She resides in Chicago, IL.


Meredith Hofacker Robeson and her husband, Kirk, are both dentists with their own practice in Canton, OH.

Sarah Sphar is the new editor for the Northern Ohio Live magazine. The magazine was named “Best Magazine in Ohio” by the Ohio Excellence in Journalism Awards. She is currently completing a book for the Cleveland Clinic Press and is a contributing writer for a food and travel website.

Jenny Stratton works in the emergency department at Children’s Hospital in Columbus, OH. She is studying to become a paramedic. She lives with her two children; Ivan, 6 and Kiki, 3, in Clintonville.

Jo-el Fernandez Suroviak received her master of science degree in organization management from Eastern Connecticut State University in 2005. She is a social worker for the State of Connecticut in the department of children and families (child protective services). Jo-el resides in Lebanon, CT with her husband, Joe, and son, Brendan, 10.

Amy Pierce Helmke is a third grade teacher in the Hamilton Local School District in Johnstown, OH.

Cristi Colagross Laukhuf is a dance teacher at Jillian’s School of Dance in Colorado Springs, CO.

1997

Kristopher Foster has joined Fifth Third Bank as a vice president in Columbus, OH.

Leah Gillig is the co-owner and consultant of Abacus Inc. in NV.

Erin Alward West has been promoted to chief financial officer of ProCentury Corporation in Columbus, OH.

1998

Doug Eckelbarger is a teacher at Highland Schools and coaches football and track at Big Walnut Schools in Delaware, OH. His wife, Melissa, is also a teacher at Big Walnut Schools.

Jason Gilham is the new director of communications for the Colorado Crush of the Arena Football League.

Sonya Lowmiller Higginbotham is the manager of corporate communications at Worthington Industries in Worthington, OH.

Stacie Oliver is currently serving as the military legislative assistant to Senator Mike DeWine and is pursuing her second master’s degree at the Naval War College in RI. On Oct. 20, 2005, she completed the Marine Corps marathon in Washington, DC and finished in the top 48 percent of all female finishers.
1999

Jared Archer received a doctorate of philosophy in chemical engineering from The Ohio State University. He currently works for Leadscape in Columbus, OH.

Tim Dye joined Able Industries, Inc. of Columbus, OH as president and CEO. He returned to Columbus last year with his wife, Katie Callison Dye ’00, after five years in Cleveland. Tim still maintains Capital Management of Ohio, LLC, his local real estate investment firm. They currently reside in Powell, OH.

Jeremy Fulwiler is the director of admissions and music for Mizentop Day School in Pawling, NY.

Kathryn Pees is directing the 2005-06 Human Race Theatre Company’s Teen Conservatory Program in Dayton, OH.

2000

Chris Azzola is the MBA program administrator at Otterbein College.

Emily Barber Capece was one of 30 teachers awarded a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to participate in the summer institute Mozart’s Worlds in Vienna, Austria this summer. She is currently pursuing her master’s degree in music education and choral conducting at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ.

Debra Heyse Carey is very active in theatre around Columbus as well as internationally. She recently received “Best Supporting Actor in a Drama” for her role in The Water of the Moon which was presented in Boumemouth, England. She is currently in rehearsals for Acts of Redemption.

Jennifer Williams Dutcher is the editor-in-chief of the Ohio State Journal of Criminal Law in Columbus, OH.

Anthony Fulton is a full-time lecturer at the University of Dayton in OH. He teaches writing and honors English.

Robyn Henry is the production stage manager at the Atlantic Theater Company in New York City, NY. She also works as a freelance stage manager and production coordinator for various theaters in the New York area.

Jared Jensen is a detective with the Colorado Springs, CO, narcotics unit. He and his wife, Natalie, plan on moving back to Chicago to return to acting in theater. He considers his time with the police department a great “sabbatical” for an actor.

Shannon R. Lord was admitted as a member of the Ohio Bar Association in May 2004. She is currently practicing law in Westerville, OH.

Jillian Pinter Lowe is the marketing assistant for Allied Supply Company in Dayton, OH.

Ashley Palmer appeared on television Fox’s Kitchen Confidential premiere on Sept. 19, 2005. She currently resides in Los Angeles, CA, and was the cover model for Stephen J. Cannell’s novel, Runaway Heart.

Seth Perkins is the athletic director for the Grove City Christian School in Grove City, OH.

Brian Randles was interviewed in The New York Times about his job with I.B.M., in Dublin, OH. He is a business consultant who works primarily with banks to use technology to fine-tune their marketing and improve their customer service.

Jennifer Maline Reed is an EM14 math coach at Windsor Academy with Columbus Public Schools. She works with students and teachers in grades PreK-5 to support the learning of math.

Leah Santalucia has gone on disaster relief assignment as a disaster services human resource volunteer with the Red Cross.

Misty West Taylor was recently hired as assistant nurse manager for the Intermediate Unit at Riverside Hospital in Columbus, OH. She has been working at Riverside for 5 years.

Katie Thompson is the communications coordinator at Nationwide Insurance in Columbus, OH.

Jennifer Maline Reed is an EM14 math coach at Windsor Academy with Columbus Public Schools. She works with students and teachers in grades PreK-5 to support the learning of math.

Brianne Stewart Harman is the communications director for the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association in Columbus, OH.

2001

Lance Green is the superintendent at Quail Hollow Country Club in Concord, OH. He received his bachelor’s in turf science from The Ohio State University in June 2005.

Billoah Greene won the Best Actor award at the Miami Black Film Festival in Florida for his performance in On the One.

2002

Andrew Boatright was appointed to the Ohio Power Siting Board. He is the electric utility manager for the Westerville Electric Division in Westerville, OH.

Nick Cox is a pricing analyst for Reynolds & Reynolds in Dayton, OH.

Matt D’Orazio has left the Columbus Destroyers and signed with the Chicago Rush Arena Football League.

Jaimie Knittle is a morning on-air personality with WWXM, Mix 97.7, as “Marley” with the Mix Morning Mojo in Myrtle
Adam Kolp is an art teacher at New Albany Middle School in New Albany, OH.

Krista Lively recently joined COSI (Center of Science and Industry) in Columbus, OH. She is an outreach demonstrator and performs science shows for schools in Ohio and surrounding states.

Hilary Pyles is a dance instructor with the Arts Castle Dance Company located in Delaware, OH.

Amanda Blair Riess was admitted to the Illinois State Bar in November 2005. She is currently seeking a position as an attorney in Chicago.

Ryan Smith is working with 97.1 FM in Columbus, OH, doing production. He also owns and operates his own disc jockey business.

2003

Brook Cann is a language arts teacher at Granville Middle School in Granville, OH.

Jared Circle and his wife, Kristin Keen Circle ’03, now reside in Westerville, OH, after living for more than two years in Seoul, Korea. Jared owns and operates Koguryo Martial Arts Academy in Westerville and Kristin is seeking her doctorate in biomedical sciences at The Ohio State University.

Michelle Mikolajewski Cox is an RN in the operating room for Children’s Hospital in Dayton, OH.

Meghann Schneider Green is the human resource administrator for Techmate in Concord, OH.

Tim Miller is the city manager for Royal Paper Stock in Columbus, OH. His wife, Kim Leonhard Miller ’03, is an account executive at Fahlgren Mortine Public Relations in Worthington, OH. They reside in Commercial Point, OH.

Chyke Nduaka is the assistant bank manager at Bank of America in New London, CT. Prior to this, he was a hotel manager at Foxwoods Resort Casino in CT.

Heather Lillibridge Tromba is a first-grade teacher at Perry Public Schools in Perry, OH.

2004

Mamie Alsdurf received her master’s of library science degree from Kent State University and is the teen librarian for the Edmondson Pike branch of the Nashville Public Library in TN.

Sara Sable-Antry is co-owner of Tri-State Audiology in the Weirton Medical Center in Weirton, WV. She is also an adjunct professor of advertising at Franciscan University of Steubenville, OH.

Jeremy Bridgman is an account executive with Makovsky & Co. in New York City, NY.

Wes Clarkson has accepted an internship position with the National Hockey League corporate office in New York City, NY.

Amber Rood Dennis is a social studies teacher at North High School in Springfield, OH.

Suzanne Basista Frank is pursuing a masters degree in educational interpreting from Kent State University.

Carissa Hershey is working at Wells Fargo Financial as a credit manager in Westerville, OH.

Jami Jones is a first grade teacher for Westerville City Schools in Westerville, OH.

Rebecca Smith Knudsen is attending graduate school at the University of Colorado in Boulder, CO. She is working towards a master of music in vocal performance and pedagogy.

Joshua Price helped coach the Bexley Bandits, 6th and 7th grade students in Bexley, OH. He is working towards a master of music in vocal performance and pedagogy.

2005

Erin Bachman is an exercise physiologist with McConnell Heart Health Center in Columbus, OH.

James Dailey has written his first book entitled An Actor’s Nightmare.

Tim Deering teaches physical education and health at Harmon Middle School in Aurora, OH.

Andrea Fisher has been accepted into the Michigan College of Optometry at Ferris State University in Big Rapids, MI.

Robert Hille played Tony Lumpkin in the Actors’ Theatre production of She Stoops To Conquer at Schiller Park in Columbus, OH.

Jamie Levy is currently working at the non-profit organization, ArtSafe: Art for a Child’s Safe America Foundation, in Columbus, OH. She is an administrative assistant and an artist assistant with the organization.

Chris Miller is a math teacher at Miami Trace High School in Washington Court House, OH.

Meghan McLaughlin Sparks is the field hockey head coach for Dublin Coffman High School in Dublin, OH. She is also a teacher at Karrer Middle School in Dublin.
Marriages

1985
Jeffrey Bradway to Theresa Conroy, June 26, 2005.

Kelly Syx to Gary Hicks, July 7, 2002.

1986
John Piper to Michele Barcus ’94, June 12, 2005.

1989

1990

1992
Steve Roth to Terri Bender, May 24, 2005.

1995
Heather Rutz to partner Beth Jokinen, June 4, 2005. Included in the wedding party were Kate Aliier Reagan ’97 and Evonne Segall ’95.

Toni Snyder to Nicholas Neff, Sept. 17, 2005.

1996

1997
Erin Alward to Mark West, July 9, 2005.


Timothy Reed to Jennifer Maline ’00, Aug. 10, 2002.

1998

1999

Nikki Hersh to Garrett Wheeler, June 18, 2005.


2000
Chris Azzola to Lindsay Metcalfe ’00, July 24, 2004.


Cynthia Davis to Victor Fielding, Oct. 8, 2005.


Misty West to Adam Taylor, Sept. 18, 2004.

2001
Lance Green to Meghan Schneider ’03, Oct. 1, 2005. They reside in Willoughby, OH.

Matt O’Hearn to Brandy Norris ’04, July 16, 2005.

2002

Edith Dinger to Andrew Wadkins, Aug. 13, 2005.

Angela Dixon to Scott Cornett, July 16, 2005.

2003
Michael Binkley to Katie Huebner ’03, July 9, 2005.

Jared Circle to Kristin Keen ’03, June 4, 2005.


2004
Suzanne Basista to Nicholas Frank, July 16, 2005.

Jeffery Kuss to Stacie Troutman ’04, Aug. 6, 2005.

Amber Rood to Jack Dennis, June 10, 2005.

2005
Katherine Elmers to Ryan Buckingham, Sept. 4, 2005.

Additions

1983

1984
1990
Tracey Rammelsberg Conklin and husband Russell, a son, Grant, Apr. 12, 2005. He joins big sister Hannah, age 7.

Sharon Mataruski Gourtay and husband Jeff, a daughter, Samantha, Sept. 8, 2005. She is their second child. Their son, Niko, passed away at 2 weeks old.

Jay Newsome and wife Romina, a daughter, Alexandria, Mar. 5, 2005.

Bobbye Fritsch Skipton and husband Todd, a son, Brock William, Feb. 1, 2005.


Carrie Heibel White and husband Benjamin ’88, a son, Andrew Dean, July 18, 2005. He joins big brothers Joel, age 5, and Evan, age 20 months.

Julie Warner Wilcox and husband Tim, a daughter, Olivia Marie, Sept. 19, 2005. She joins big brother Zechariah, age 6, and big sister Kaleigh, age 2.

1992
Kelly McAdams Reichert and husband Joe, a daughter, Christina Margaret, July 26, 2005. She joins siblings Cora, Joseph, Lida and Ariana.

1993
Laura Demyan Clouse and husband Dwayne ’95, a son, Zachary Robert, June 24, 2004. He joins sister Ashley Nicole, age 3.

Amy Fribley McKinlay and husband Steve, a baby girl, Payton Elizabeth, Nov. 30, 2004. Proud relatives include grandfather Mike Fribley ’66, uncle and aunt Dean ’84 and Kathleen McKinlay Miller ’86. In addition, Payton was delivered by Carol Svensson Jenkins ’88.

Stephanie Shipman Andrian and husband David ’93, a boy, Dawson Dean, Nov. 3, 2004. He joins big brother Camden, age 2.

Scott Bechtel and wife Jennifer, a daughter, Abigail Jane, July 6, 2005.


Julie Austin Hull and husband Robert ’95, a daughter, Joelle, Apr. 21, 2004. She joins older sister Kaylee, age 6.


Stacie Lingle Emerson and husband, Jamie, a son, Colt Walker, July 20, 2005. He joins older brother Braedon, age 3-1/2.


Iris Wang Love and husband David, a daughter, Molly Sophia, May 29, 2005. She joins older sister Julia. Proud aunt is Martha Wang Montgomery ’95.


Rebekah Wolf Dook and husband Justin, a daughter, Vivian Raine, May 20, 2005. She joins big sister Morgan.

Doug Eckelbarger and wife Melissa, a daughter, Liberty Maelyn, June 11, 2005. Proud relatives include grandma Karen Stoltenberg Eckelbarger ’93 and uncle Jeff Eckelbarger ’04.

Marina Ourshansky Eller and husband Tom, a daughter, Sophia Marie, May 24, 2005.

Sonya Lowmiller Hogg botham and husband Carl, a son, Ayden Nelson, July 1, 2005.


Rachelle Chestnut Kinkead and husband John ’98, a daughter, Molly Anne, June 5, 2005. Proud relatives are grandma Martha Slack Kinkead ’63 and aunt Marsha Kinkead Siefker ’94.


Heather Collins and husband Adam Kolp ’02, twin girls, Hadley Marie and Gretchen Nicole, July 6, 2005. Proud aunts are Jodi Kolp Longwell ’98 and Jennifer Collins ’97.


Katie Callison Dye and husband Tim ’99, a daughter, Cameron Lee, Aug. 11, 2005.
Kay Freshour Halterman and husband Lane, a daughter, Danielle Nicole, Apr. 27, 2005.

Tracy Zielke Wehner and husband Todd, a daughter, Shay Elizabeth, Apr. 28, 2005.

Brian Zartman and wife Myra, a daughter, Ava Jean, Aug. 31, 2005.

2004

Deaths

1926
Jane Barton Nichols passed away Feb. 20, 2005.

1927
Chester Ferguson passed away Aug. 7, 2005. He was preceded in death by his wife, Anna Ruth Ferguson; parents, Charles and Flora Ferguson; daughter, Patricia Connaught Sunderman; and sister, Eleanor Grooms. He is survived by son, Chester Ferguson, Jr.; seven grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren. He was 101 years old.

1930
Leland Sprecher passed away Aug. 31, 2005. He was preceded in death by his wife, Charlotte Sprecher; father and mother, John and Nina Sprecher; his son-in-law, Walter Lakin; and grandson-in-law, Mike Block. He is survived by his son, Phillip (Janice) Sprecher ’59; daughter, Cynthia Lakin; brother Jack Sprecher and many extended family members. Leland was the owner of Sprecher B.I.E. and was 97 years old.

1934
Edna Burdge Sporck passed away Sept. 1, 2005. She was preceded in death by her husband, Howard Sporck ‘34; father, LeRoy Burdge ’1905; sister, Dorothy Burdge ’37; and sister, Grace Burdge Augspurger ’39. She is survived by son, F. Thomas Sporck ’67; and relatives, Harold Augspurger ’41, Linda Ancik Augspurger ’71, Richard Augspurger ’69, James Augspurger ’71, Betsy Augspurger Duncan ’76 along with many extended family members.

1935
Ruth Owens Rhodes passed away in April 2005.

1939

1941
Doris Ebright Carpenter passed away Aug. 25, 2005. She is survived by her husband, William Carpenter Sr.; children, Elaine Ebright, Rebecca (John) Borland and William (Gloria) Carpenter Jr.; seven grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. She was a singer in the 1940’s and early 1950’s on several area broadcast series. She was also a director and member of Thea’s Thrushes chorus from 1967-2000 in Columbus, OH.

1943
Harry R. Bean passed away Oct. 6, 2004. He is survived by his wife, Margaret Stark Bean ’46; sister, Janice Bean Hahn ’42; brother, Herbert Bean ’50; daughters, Pamela Bean and Paula Bean-Keeton; and extended family members.

1947

1948
Robert “Moe” Agler passed away Sept. 16, 2005, after a lengthy illness. He is survived by his children, Beverly Martin and Elizabeth Sedlock, along with many other relatives. Moe began his coaching career at Otterbein in 1953 as the assistant football coach and then head coach and athletic director in 1955. He continued to be the athletic director until his retirement in 1975. He also helped establish the ‘O’ Club at Otterbein and served as its president and on its executive committee. (More information on page 5.)

1949
Beatrice Drenten Hrapsky passed away Sept. 29, 2005. She was preceded in death by her son, Mike Hrapsky and brother, William Drenten ’51. She is survived by her husband, Mike Hrapsky; son, Alan (Claudia) Hrapsky; daughter, Jan (Mike) McAdams; daughter, Sandy Thunberg Hrapsky; sister-in-law, Shirlie Dennis Drenten ’53; and many extended family members. Bea had a long career as a social worker in Quincy, IL and taught for many years in Flint, MI.

1951
Frederick Whittaker passed away Oct. 9, 2005. He is survived by his wife, Julia Ramos; and sons, Steven and Frederick Whittaker.

1953
Samuel Gayton passed away Sept. 22, 2005. He is survived by his wife, Margaret Gayton; son, Samuel Gayton; daughters, Karen Burley, Barbara (Craig) Schneider and Kim (Frank) Gayton Norton ’74; seven grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. He was a veteran of WWII. He was also a retired teacher, coach, principal and public school superintendent.

1954
Sally Hall Wareham passed away Oct. 12, 2005. She is survived by her husband, Robert Wareham ’52; daughter Sande Johnson; son, Robert (June) Wareham; son, Brad (Meg) Wareham; son, Brian (Jenny) Wareham; eight grandchil-
Robert Heiser has passed away in 2005.

Cynthia Hill Rodman has passed away.

William Schmitt has passed away in 2005.

Michael Bridgman passed away Sept. 25, 2005. He is survived by his wife, Cynthia Hupp Bridgman ‘75; son, Jeffrey Bridgman; parents, Richard '49 and Carolyn Boda Bridgman ’50; brother, John Bridgman; brother, David Bridgman ’78; brother, Thomas Bridgman; and many nieces and nephews. He spent a decade at Battelle Memorial Institute in Columbus, OH before accepting a position with LMI Government Consulting in 1989, where he served as a logistical consultant for national defense in McLean, VA.

Rosita Porter passed away Aug. 29, 2005. She is survived by her husband, William To ’81; and daughters Sharon and Erin To.

Sarah Nau Braddock passed away Sept. 15, 2005. She taught briefly in the Fort Frye School District in Beverly, OH, and was employed a number of years at United National Bank in Parkersburg, WV. She was preceded in death by her brother, Harry Nau. She is survived by her husband, Gary Braddock; son, Phil Braddock; parents, Andrew and Margaret Nau; and two brothers, Herman (Betty) Nau and Carl (Bonnie) Nau.

Annabelle Hoge passed away Aug. 1, 2005.

Young Koo passed away Oct. 17, 2005. He was a retired chairman of the Department of Economics and Business Administration at Otterbein.

Roger Tremaine passed away Oct. 8, 2005. He was a retired assistant professor at Otterbein College.

Sarah Rose Skaates Gorsuch ’56 passed away Nov. 24, 2005. Born in 1935 in Marietta, Ohio, Sarah received her bachelor’s degree from Otterbein in 1956 and went on to earn her master’s degree at The Ohio State University in 1982.

Sarah taught for many years at Blendon Middle School and served as director of Christian Education at Church of the Master United Methodist. She was an avid book lover and educator and once told This Week Westerville, “I feel a strong sense of satisfaction working with children in school... I enjoy talking with kids about the books they read.”

Sarah had several non-fiction short stories published in Jack and Jill magazine, Highlights for Children and other children’s publications. She also worked for 20 years as a drama/arts reviewer for the Westerville News and Public Opinion. In 1990, Sarah compiled a catalog listing books dealing with disease, children's disabilities and general family concerns to help children and their families to cope with difficult issues.

Sarah served as president of the Otterbein Alumni Council, the Otterbein Theatre Advisory Board, the Westerville Otterbein Women’s Club and the Westerville branch of the American Association of University Women.

At Otterbein, Sarah was involved in Theta Nu, Student Council, Modern Dance Club, Quiz and Quill, Cap and Dagger, Tan and Cardinal and Sibyl yearbook.

Sarah was preceded in death by her husband Richard Gorsuch and is survived by her children Joanna Skaates Schroer and Calvin Skaates; stepchildren Hans Gorsuch and Heidi Gorsuch; and five grandchildren.

Sarah’s family asks that donations be made in her honor to create Sarah’s Children’s Corner at Otterbein’s Courtright Memorial Library. Donations should be mailed to: “Class of ’56 Exhibition of Creative Talent,” c/o Sonya Evans, Office of Alumni Relations, One Otterbein College, Westerville, OH 43081.

You are invited to join Otterbein’s Alumni On-line Community!

With the Otterbein On-line Community you can find long-lost friends, learn about happenings at Otterbein, view pictures from alumni events, and register for events on-line. Members of the Otterbein On-line Community also receive periodic e-newsletters.

www.otterbein.edu/alumni
Leadership Giving Society Members Honored

Otterbein hosted Leadership Giving Society members from Towers, Patrons and the President’s Bronze, Silver and Gold groups at Winding Hollow Country Club in New Albany on Oct. 14, 2005. Heritage and Futures society members also joined the group. Some 160 guests previewed an exhibit by the College’s Starving Artists group and after dinner entertainment by the Otterbein String Orchestra. Musical accompaniment during cocktails was provided by pianist Richelle Swineford; harpist Gretchen Streiff entertained during dinner. Fiscal year 2005 (July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005) funding provided by Leadership Giving Societies totaled nearly $500,000.

Endowed Fund News

Former parents and faculty, Roger and Betty Neff have created The Roger H. and Betty A. Neff Endowed Scholarship. This endowed fund will provide scholarship assistance for students interested in international studies or a study that reflects a global perspective.

Marian A. Snavely ’26 left a bequest to endow The Marian Snavely Endowed Faculty Research Fund in honor of Dr. Charles Snavely. These funds will be used by History or Political Science faculty to engage in research that will help improve the quality of undergraduate instruction. Dr. Snavely was a member of the Otterbein College History faculty, and received in 1934 the honorary degree of LLC.

The Majidzadeh Family Scholarship was created by Farah B. and Kamran Majidzadeh to assist a junior or senior student planning to graduate with a degree in Business, Accounting and Economics.

To find out more about supporting an endowed fund, please contact one of our gift officers: Richard Dorman, 614-823-1280; Jack Pietila, 614-823-1957; Carolyn Williams, 614-823-1454; or Kirk Winter, 614-823-1953.
Fall Annual Fund Phonathon

Investments in Otterbein College through the Annual Fund support a wide variety of programs that touch nearly every facet of a student’s life. It allows the administration to renovate buildings, finance student activities, upgrade technology, and ensures that the professors are the best in their fields.

The following individuals made a donation of $100 or more to the Otterbein College Annual Fund during the fall term phonathon. Student callers contacted alumni and parents from Sept. 19 to Nov. 10, 2005.

For additional information on how you can help, please contact Jennifer Westbrook ’01, director of Annual Giving, at 614-823-1948 or JWWestbrook@Otterbein.edu.

Barry S. Ackerman
David & Cheryl Adam
Herbert J. & Klara Krech Adams
Deborah Collins Agan
Donald S. Ailes
Jerry & Tina Albert
Stanley L. Alexander
Mr. and Mrs. Barry Alexin
Fred & JoEllen Allman
Brenda Dall Andrews
Thomas Andrian
Bruce & Jean Ansley
Mike & Debbie Ansley
Lynne Puterbaugh Apple
David E. Arick
Katherine Armstrong
Natalie Lueders Arthur
James R. & Linda Ancik Augsburger
Janice Slaybaugh Auttenrieth
Gary & Julie Babst
John H. Baffa
Jon W. & Karla Courtright Banning
Charles F. Barcus
Susan Lehota Barkan
Ralph J. Barnhard
Wayne E. & June Nelson Barr
Janice Barrett
Scott D. & Deborah Netzly Bartlett
Lowell D. Bassett
Nancy Vermilya Baughman
Herbert E. & Lois Brockman Bean
Fred & JoEllen Bandyberry
Marybeth McFeeley Bowman
Judith A. Brancacio
Abraham & Loislee Brandyberry
Marc A. & Mary Margaret Braun
Brent and Nancy Martin Living Trust
Joseph R. & Dawn Markham Bresson
Donald P. & Karen Hom Brough
Kathleen Cinger Brown
Robert M. Brown
David E. & Margaret Kerr Brubaker
Michael J. & Elizabeth E. Bruha
Melissa Renee DeVore Brune
Peter W. Bunce
Dennis R. Bunnell
Thomas A. & Mary Herron Burak
James E. & Sandra L. Burchfield
Ronald & Susan A. Burdett
Charles & Eleanor Burnham
Kevin M. & Amy Trimbile Burton
Kimberly Busche
Harvey A. & Cynthia Houglan Butler
Kathleen A. Butler
Ronald S. Butterbaugh
James K. & Molly Ratliff Byers
Muriel A. Byers
Patricia Smith Caldwell
Gary & Cynthia Cameron
Frank H. Campbell
Susan L. Cainfeld
Scott P. Caroll
Antonia Churches Carter
Gloria Cortebt Carver
Brenda Simmons Casciani
Marjorie Cauley
Bryan J. Cerqua
Jill Phillips Cervantes
Willia M. Chambers
Mr. and Mrs. Shaki Chatterjee
Roberta Cherasso
J. Edward Cherryholmes
Jean Childers-Arnold
Andrew & Deborah Chrien
Michael W. & Judy Pohonner Christian
Don J. Ciampa
Fred & Kay Ciminello
Clapp & Campbell Enterprises
Christopher G. & Ellen Heeney Clapp
Anne Liesmann Clare
Michael & Anita Clary
R. Gerald & Elly Kassner Cleaver
Jerry & Deborah Clevery
Alice Toney Click
Jack D. & Helen Morton Coberly
Elizabeth Candler Cogley
Debra Fryling Cohagen
Eugene W. & Marilyn Miller Cole
Linda J. Cole
Frederick H. Collins
Clara Kirkpatrick Colsch
Daniel & Ruth Connelly
Marcia A. Cooper
Daniel R. & Beverley Hancock Corcoran
Jeff & Barb Couture
Dennis & Linda Joyce Cowden
Donna Sasso Craven
Bobby Crenshaw
Vivian Rinehart Crist
Heidi Haberman Cross
Charles T. Croy
Jan Nuhref Cruz
Janet Sibert Cseeak
Stanley J. Czerwinski
John P. Dale
Ray W. Daniels
Margaret Swartzell Dargan
Janet Wentzel Davidson
Karen Miller Davies
Clifton E. Davis
Robert & Deborah Davis
Dayton Foundation Depository
Rosalie More DeArmas
David H. DeClare
Elizabeth Hertrick Deer
W. O. Delp
Robert & Deborah Davis
Marjorie Abbott Denham
Don & Helen Denton
Gloria L. Dewey
John R. & Cheryl Conklin Dimar
Margaret Morgan Doone
Harvey W. Douglas
Melissa Frazier Dover
William E. & Harriet Downey
Michael & Marcia D’Oyly
Rose Mansfield Drewes
Chris & Laura Dunham
James Eby
Thomas F. Edgar
Donald C. Edwards
John & Carol Egan
Steve & Marcia Eisenbrown
John & Betty Elder
Cecil L. & Carol Krech Adams
Jennifer Albert Emmert
Bruce Fabiny
Donna Fabiny
Jim & Donna Falvo
April A. Faris
Earl E. Farthing
Gina Grogg Fearn
Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Fedorenko
Barbara L. Fegley
Christopher J. Fehn
Sophia Osterman Fiedler
James E. & Elaine Pool Fippin
David J. Firth
George F. Fisher
Max C. & Caroline Powell Fisher
Bruce C. Flack
Francis Flowers
Steven & Susan Flowers
Dial Huekler Foley
Leslie D. Foer
F. Louise Foster
John E. & Kathryn Spence Fox
Richard L. Fox
James L. Francis
Kay Lucas Frey
Robert & Patricia Frey
Jodie Ward Fritinger
Meg M. Fuchs
Jeremy J. Fulkner
Susan McDaniel Gable
William J. Gabriele
John E. Gadd
Robert A. Gail
Paul E. & Kay Bechtel Garfinkel
Rick & Carol Garrabrant
Nancy Dorod Garrett
Frances M. Garver
Susan Fish Gatton
Nancy Baumann Gaunt
David E. Geering
Brett & Lisa George
Christopher C. & Amy James George
Janet R. Gilbert
Rod D. & Deborah C. Gilkey
Kenneth R. & Opal Adkins Gilson
Lynn D. Gilt
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Glass
Donald & Ruth Glessner
Deborah J. Goode
Terry L. Goodman
Ronald F. Gorman
John C. Gould
Kimberly Smith Grabovich
Christopher S. & Susan Howell Grant
Nancy Leonhardt Green
Lynn A. & Patricia Fish Greene
Katherine Gregg
Mike & Becky Lust Gribler
Amy Burkholder Gustafurro
Andrew C. Hall
Sheila C. Hall
Peter & Linda Leatherman Haller
Laddie & Cheryl Halluch
Joyce Hamer
Lawrence L. Hard
Lynn Rigg Harden
Bruce & Laura Hardie
Ross & Mary Harding
Carol Wilcox Hare

JWestbrook@Otterbein.edu.
From the crossroads of science, the humanities and the arts.ist and science writer Alan Lightman provided a perspective of Harvard University. In addition, distinguished novel-\[\ldots\]2005 Vernon L. Pack Science Lecture Series\[\ldots\] From their academic progress and aspirations to attend college. The Program is a collaboration among Otterbein College, Big Brothers Big Sisters and Columbus Public Schools. The Pro-\[\ldots\]\[\ldots\]\[\ldots\]A grant of $1,000 from the U.S. Department of Education's Teacher Quality Enhancement Project. As key players in this project, Edu-\[\ldots\]For a second year, Otterbein College was awarded $1,500 from Lake Shore Cryotronics Inc., $1,000 from Chemical Abstracts Service, and $1,500 from Ashland Chemical Company were awarded for the 2005 Vernon L. Pack Science Lecture Series. This year's series, BIG BANG BOOM: Einstein's Universe in the 21st Century, featured lectures by two renowned scientists: physicist Michael S. Turner of the University of Chicago and the National Science Foundation, and astronomer Robert Kirsh-cist Michael S. Turner of the University of Chicago and the National Science Foundation, and astronomer Robert Kirsh-\[\ldots\]For a second year, Otterbein College was awarded $1,500 from Lake Shore Cryotronics Inc., $1,000 from Chemical Abstracts Service, and $1,500 from Ashland Chemical Company were awarded for the 2005 Vernon L. Pack Science Lecture Series. This year's series, BIG BANG BOOM: Einstein's Universe in the 21st Century, featured lectures by two renowned scientists: physicist Michael S. Turner of the University of Chicago and the National Science Foundation, and astronomer Robert Kirsh-\[\ldots\]Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. Please call 614-823-1400 to note changes.

Recent Grant Awards to Otterbein College

A grant of $65,000 was awarded from Cleveland State University for the Ohio Department of Education's Reading First-Ohio project. As a subcontractor, Otterbein will help K-3 teachers acquire the knowledge and skills they need for effective reading instruction, data-based instructional decision-making, accurate diagnoses, and powerful interventions that ensure children's progress in Language Arts.

For a second year, Otterbein College was awarded $92,897 from Columbus Public Schools to be a subcontractor for the U.S. Department of Education's Teacher Quality Enhancement Project. As key players in this project, Education, Mathematics and Science faculty will create a specialized urban teacher preparation track with a focus on math and science at the middle school level to increase urban student achievement. The “urban teacher strand” will target pre-service teachers at partner institutions and CPS in-service teachers at the apprentice and professional stages of their careers.

Columbus Public Schools awarded $12,000 for the second year of the Otterbein Indianaolana Mentoring Program. This 21st Century Community Learning Center Program is a collaboration among Otterbein College, Big Brothers Big Sisters and Columbus Public Schools. The program guides and nurtures middle school students to promote their academic progress and aspirations to attend college.

Grants of $1,000 from Lake Shore Cryotronics Inc., $1,500 from Chemical Abstracts Service, and $1,500 from Ashland Chemical Company were awarded for the 2005 Vernon L. Pack Science Lecture Series. This year's series, BIG BANG BOOM: Einstein's Universe in the 21st Century, featured lectures by two renowned scientists: physicist Michael S. Turner of the University of Chicago and the National Science Foundation, and astronomer Robert Kirsh-\[\ldots\]
Following the homecoming game on Oct. 22, the “O” Club hosted its 50th anniversary annual meeting and program at the Embassy Suites. Paul Reiner ’68, the “O” Club’s 10th president, presided over the event.

The membership voted on changes to the bylaws and Judge Fred Shoemaker ’50 swore in the “O” Club’s newest directors: Greg Johnson H’04, and Linda Beckner ’69.

Reiner recognized the founding fathers of the “O” Club including Edwin “Dubbs” Roush ’47 and Harold Augspurger ’41 who spoke to the audience, reflecting on their experiences with Otterbein athletics and the “O” Club and of other contributors, past and present. Roush, together with Francis “Red” Bailey ’43, founded the “O” Club in 1955 and served as the first president. Augspurger served as an original director.

Reiner also recognized the contributions of the Vida S. Clements Foundation and its trustees, and others including Stadium Project Co-Chairs Elmer “Bud” Yoest ’53 and William Freeman ’57, both of whom shared some thoughts about their experience with Otterbein College athletics.

Dick Reynolds ’65, presented the Athletic Directors Award of Distinction to Gary Tirey and Dave Lehman ’70 presented the Excel Award to Rich Seils.

The evening concluded with a picture presentation compiled by Stephen Grinch ’98, Otterbein’s archivist, and narrated by Bob Kennedy ’87.

Mark Your 2006 Calendar!
Homecoming – October 7
Annual Social & Auctions – October 8
32nd Annual Fall Golf Classic – October 9

Contact Information
Executive Director – Rebekah Carlisle ’81 • Otterbein “O” Club • Rike Center • 160 Center Street • Westerville, Ohio 43081-1405 • 614/823-3555 (office) • www.otterbeinoclub.com • E-mail: oclub-home@columbus.rr.com

50 Golden Years: At left is Paul Reiner, current and 10th president of the “O” Club; Edwin “Dubbs” Roush, first president of the club; Harold Augspurger, an original director, and Stadium Committee Co-Chairs William Freeman, Elmer “Bud” Yoest, and Rich Seils.

This sign hangs off the lobby of the new Memorial Stadium and pays tribute to two Otterbein greats, friends, and former athletic directors. Both men had long and successful coaching careers at Otterbein. When Agler retired as athletics director in 1975, Yoest accepted the position, retiring himself in 1992. Agler and Yoest were appointed by the “O” Club to head up the Stadium Committee in August 2002.
About this time last year, I had dinner at a Chinese restaurant in Dallas, TX. After the meal the waitress presented me with the obligatory fortune cookie. Unlike most fortunes that bring a quick smile and are quickly forgotten, this fortune stuck with me. It said, “Things begin to happen when we put as much attention to our dreams as we do to our fears.” It may sound silly, but I could not get that fortune off my mind. It was, for me, an epiphany.

Fast forward a few months from the fortune cookie incident. I departed Baylor College of Dentistry, where I had worked for 14 years, and directed my attention towards the dream of working in alumni relations at an undergraduate liberal arts college. Two months later I was on the Otterbein campus to interview for the new position of assistant director of Alumni Relations at Otterbein. A short four weeks after that my home in Texas was sold and my husband, daughter, cat and two dogs left Texas and began our new life in Ohio.

As the assistant director of Alumni Relations, one of my tasks will be to assist with the formation of regional Otterbein Alumni Clubs. The mission is for the Alumni Clubs to connect alumni to other Otterbein alumni in a region, and to keep alumni connected to their alma mater. The Clubs will provide support to current students, provide avenues for career assistance/strategies, and will engage alumni in community service and/or service to Otterbein. Clubs will serve as ambassadors of Otterbein throughout Ohio and beyond.

Initial target areas for Alumni Club development are Akron/Canton, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dayton and Central Ohio. Leadership teams in Akron/Canton and Cincinnati have been meeting for the past year. Akron/Canton’s Summer Affair of Fun (August 2005), summer send-off picnics to welcome the Class of 2009 (August 2005), and Cincinnati’s Have a Ball event (September 2005) are examples of the fruit of their labor. Just imagine what we can do as more alumni get involved!

Upcoming editions of the alumni e-newsletter will have more information about the Alumni Clubs and the Club events planned in 2006. If you are interested in participating in an Otterbein Alumni Club in your area, go to www.otterbein.edu/alumni and click on “Get Involved.”

It is an honor and a pleasure to serve as assistant director of Alumni Relations for Otterbein College. To paraphrase the Otterbein Love Song, “…I pledge anew, I will be true, Dear Otterbein.” Please call or e-mail me at any time!
Camp Wanake 60th Anniversary

Camp Wanake will celebrate its 60th anniversary in 2006. Plans are being made for the celebration to be held over the July 22-23 weekend. Unfortunately, records have been lost and we are looking for names and addresses of anyone who was employed as a summer staff, volunteered in any aspect, or was a camper at this EUB/United Methodist East Ohio Conference Church Camp from 1946 to present.

If you would like your name entered or updated in the databases, please contact Camp Wanake by email at Wanake@verizon.net. Please include your years and type of attendance.

Get back in touch and keep informed at the Wanake website at www.eocume.com/camps/wanake.

- submitted by Kathy Butler ’72

Cheryn Alten Houston ’73, left, recently moved back to Central Ohio shortly before her home in Metairie, LA, was flooded by Hurricane Katrina (stories of Katrina can be found starting on page 14). Here she is shown with fellow music education majors and Class of ’73 alumni Dan Clark, Helen Herbst, Dave Leist, and Vicky Sinclair Capper.

2005 Homecoming Pics!

Extreme OC Makeover
“Building a New Tradition”

Those interested in planning for the ’06 Homecoming, contact Becky Smith at RSmith@Otterbein.edu.
Treasures of Italy Trip
Oct. 13-21, 2006

Join your fellow alumni on the trip of a lifetime! The enchanting landscapes of Tuscany combine breathtakingly with some of Italy’s greatest cities. From the charming spa towns of Chianciano, situated in the colorful Tuscan hills and Fiuggi, just 40 miles from Rome, discover some of Italy’s historic treasures. Visit Florence, birthplace of the Renaissance and Rome, a living museum that includes the Colosseum, Roman Forum and Vatican City. Savor the atmosphere of rural Italy as you explore the quaint hillside towns of Assisi and San Gimignano, or explore the ancient ruins of Pompeii.

For pre-registration, visit www.otterbein.edu/alumni or call The Office of Alumni Relations @ 1-888-614-2600 or 614-823-1650 or email Becky at RSmith@otterbein.edu

Spring Musical with Sunday Brunch
Sunday, May 21, 12:30 p.m. Brunch with 2:00 p.m. performance, 42nd Street
Sponsored by Otterbein College Theatre, Bon Appetit and Alumni Relations • Cost $25.00 for brunch and theatre ticket • Reservations by May 1, 2006 at www.Otterbein.edu/alumni or call 1-888-614-2600

Sunday Brunch is a highlight in the Otterbein Cardinal’s Nest when omelets are cooked to order and you leave the cooking to Bon Appetit. In the newly renovated Cowan Hall, you will join in a celebration of Broadway and the people involved in making the magic happen. It focuses on aspiring chorus girl Peggy Sawyer, and takes us along her journey to stardom. Musical hits include “You’re Getting to Be a Habit with Me,” “Dames,” “I Know Now,” “We’re In the Money,” “Lullaby of Broadway,” “Shuffle Off to Buffalo” and “Forty-Second Street.”

Save the Date for AlumMatters
Register online for these events at www.otterbein.edu/alumni/event/registration

Feb. 11 African American Alumni Network Pre-reception 6:30 p.m. prior to the Harlem Gospel Choir, Cowan Hall

March 4 Ft. Myers Area Alumni Gathering, Cypress Lake Country Club, 6767 Winkler Road, Ft. Myers, FL at 12 noon

March 5 Tampa Bay Area Alumni Gathering, Bayou Club, 7979 Bayou Boulevard, Largo, FL at 2 p.m.

March 18 Westerville Alumni Gathering at the Old Bag of Nails Pub, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

March 23-26 Cardinal Migration to Santa Fe

April 2 New York City Alumni Gathering with Senior Theatre Showcase

May 21 Sunday Brunch and musical theatre performance, 42nd Street 12:30 p.m. registration required

June 5 Zero Year Reunion for the Class of ’06, Otterbein Rike Center

June 9-11 Alumni Weekend ’06 with reunions for the classes of ’56, ’61, ’66, ’71, ’76 and ’81

June 24 June Bug Jamboree, Waynesville, OH for Dayton area alumni, 4 p.m.

Aug. 7 (week of) Summer Send-Offs in Akron-Canton, Cincinnati and Dayton

Oct. 7 Homecoming ’06, reunion classes of ’86, ’91, ’96, ’01

Oct. 13-21 Treasures of Italy/Tuscany Tour
Members of the class of 1945 met for lunch on Aug. 25 in Middleton, OH. Pictured are Jack Thomas, Betty Bridges Schneider, Martha Miltenberger Thomas, Wilma Bennett Potter, Clarence Frederick, Marjorie Day Frederick, Anna Jean Walters Flood and John Flood. Not pictured but in attendance was Mary Lord.

Mrs. Burton’s Boys: For the past 30 years, Otterbein Alumni and their families have gathered annually to celebrate the life and influence of Mrs. Clarice Burton of Westerville. “Mrs. B’s” home at 133 N. West St. served as a home-away-from-home for nearly 100 Otterbein men over 30 years. Held Aug. 14 this past year at the home of Jerry and Denise Lang in Mansfield, the reunion included Neil Bayer, Rev. Robert Bloomquist, Rev. Walt Weaver, Jerry and Denise Lang, Brian and Terry Haltzell, Elaine Weaver (seated), Rev. David and Gail Bloom (seated), Geoff and Janice Astles, David Wood, Rev. Charles Shaffer, James and Joy Brubaker, Sharon Shaffer and Richard Harsh.

Reds Baseball Game: Cincinnati area alumni enjoyed a behind-the-scenes tour, reception and game on Sept. 24, 2005. Interested in more Cinci alumni events? Go to www.otterbein.edu/alumni and click on “Get Involved.”
Tales of Otterbein Traditions

Share tales with classmates of the Tug-O-War-Scrap Day-Beanies-Maypole Dance-Serenades Songs-Bonfire-Snake Dance-Chapel-Freshmen Talent Show and many other Otterbein Traditions

Celebrate the Golden Reunion for the Class of ’56 • Honor the 2006 Alumni Award winners at the annual Alumni Luncheon • Chapel Tales and Reminiscences • Alumni Choir Concert • Friday dinner around the Maypole • Class Reunion Gatherings • All-Class Saturday Dinner at Embassy Suites • Share your Otterbein Memories and hear a few from Dean Joanne Van Sant • Connect with past faculty and staff members • Campus and Westerville Van Tours • Tour the Frank Museum of Art • Photographic Retrospective of Otterbein Traditions • Creative Talents of Class of 1956 on Display

For a schedule of events, periodically visit the Otterbein College website at www.otterbein.edu/alumni or call 1-888-614-2600

Alumni Weekend 2006 ~ Save the Date! June 9, 10, 11