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The Bottom Line

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THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY SINCE 1948

FEBRUARY 7, 2007



VS.



BOBCAT TRIUMPHANT!

■ See article page 8

FSU Students Present Their New Business Ventures at Trident Meeting

Press Release

The Trident Initiative at Frostburg State University's end-of-the-year celebration featured entrepreneurship students presenting their business projects before an audience of business leaders, bank officials, economic development officials and FSU personnel.

Presenting students were enrolled in the introductory entrepreneurship course, "New Business Ventures." With "seed money" of under \$200 per project, the students formed partnerships to begin a variety of businesses based on an extensive list of possibilities. Students progressed through various steps in order to develop a mini business plan, at which point they requested the seed money, provided through a grant from the Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education.

This semester, Keramat Poorsoltan, who teaches the course, was able to give a total of \$1,900 to 29 students, whose partnerships resulted in 12 different businesses. At the end of each semester-long project, Poorsoltan collects the initial funds, along with a 10 percent "tax" on each business' net profit. Collected funds are deposited in the account of the student-managed FSU Entrepreneurship Club and go towards financing various activities.

BUSINESS cont. pg. 2

USM Institutions Partner to Create Appalachian Research Center

Press Release

An innovative collaboration between two University System of Maryland institutions is paving the way for a unique research and education center in western Maryland. The Appalachian Center for Ethnobotanical Studies (ACES), a partnership between Frostburg State University (FSU) and the University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute (UMBI), as well as West Virginia University (WVU), looks to study and preserve the plant culture of Appalachia.

Jennie Hunter-Cevera, president of UMBI, has been a driving force behind ACES. "The market for herbal supplements and remedies generates \$20 billion worldwide each year, but the scientific community has done very little research on these products. With ACES, we hope to be able to provide scientific documentation for many of the herbal remedies derived from plants native to Appalachia."

Currently a virtual center, ACES was established in late 2002 between FSU, UMBI, and WVU after conducting a baseline feasibility study. Within the next five years, ACES's goal is to develop a physical center in western Maryland that would house a conference center, museum/education center, and a research center.

Beginning in Fall 2007, Frostburg State University will also offer an undergraduate major in ethnobotany, the only program of its kind in the continental United States.

"I've heard from people all over the country expressing interest in the program," says Linda Lyon, program coordinator and a faculty member in FSU's Department of Biology. "Local residents have also been expressing interest in taking individual courses in the program, which has been a pleasant surprise and allows us to reach into the local community in a way that we hadn't expected."

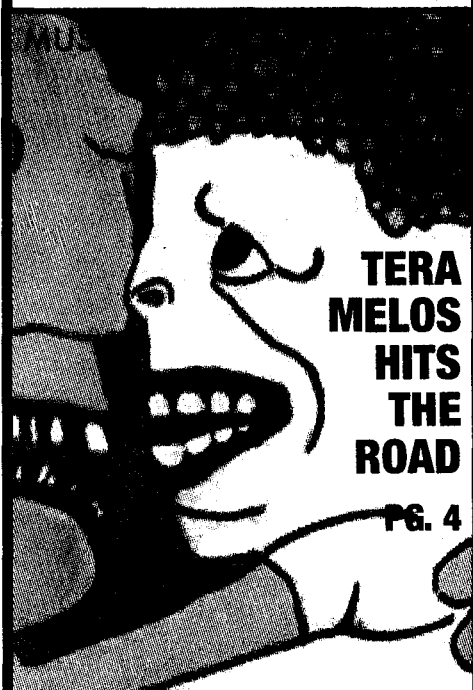
ACES researchers are also drawing significant national attention. Maryland Senators Paul Sarbanes and Barbara Mikulski have assisted ACES in receiving research funding through the U.S. Department of Agriculture to study the use of black cohosh in alleviating menopausal symptoms and ironweed in the treatment of breast cancer. Jim McGraw, an ACES researcher on the faculty at West Virginia University, was awarded a grant by the National Science Foundation to fund his work on wild ginseng.

"With ACES, we hope to provide something for anyone with an interest in Appalachian botany whether they are researchers, local farmers, or someone who just wants to learn about how certain medicinal herbs work," says Lyon.

RESEARCH continued pg. 2

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AT WIRE

pg. 3



YOUR
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PLAYS



VIDEO
GAMES?

Gibraltar Appoints Associate VP for Enrollment Management

MATT MCGUINNESS

Senior Staff Writer

Frostburg State University has been fighting an uphill struggle in recent years. Those of you who have been here for a few these years may be noticing that your classes are not as full as they once used to be. That is due to the fact that the University is faced with the lowest enrollment numbers in twenty years.

Effective March 1, Frostburg will have a new warrior joining its ranks in the ongoing battle against steadily dropping enrollment rates. A familiar face in a brand new position, Wray Blair, is joining the Gibraltar administration this semester as the Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management.

Blair's new position will focus on the recruitment of new freshman, transfers, and graduate students as well as the retention of current students, and financial aid and scholarship programs. Blair will also supervise the admissions office and take responsibility for the University's overall enrollment strategies.

This position is new to campus in the sense that past administrations deemed this position a full vice presidency that would answer directly to the president, while in this case the associate vice president would answer to the provost. Dr. Gibraltar set this position up because of the past success it garnered for him in the past at other institutions. The idea is that by having the offices of Admissions and the Provost work together with Mr. Blair and the Enrollment Committee will create more concrete results and ideas to then take to the President.

ENROLLMENT continued pg. 2

SULLIVAN SPEAKS OUT

Ohio lacrosse player talks about Ohio program cuts

CHRIS SCHOENBAUER

Sports Editor

The following is an interview conducted with Ohio women's lacrosse player Frannie Sullivan. The women's lacrosse team was one of four Ohio University programs to be cut by the athletic department two weeks ago. In this interview, Sullivan discusses the shocking news, her own future and the lacrosse team in general.

Chris Schoenbauer: Was the news of the sports cuts at Ohio a surprise to you or were you aware that the cuts were coming?

Frannie Sullivan: The news was absolutely a shock. There was no warning or hint from any of the administration. We were told at 7pm on Jan 24th which was the middle of mid-terms week. We had heard that a few hours prior the men's track team was cut and that a women's team would be next because of Title IX.

Once we saw all the Athletic Director's standing outside our locker room we knew that women's team was us. No one knew about it, even our coaches found out only two hours before us.

CS: Are you going to transfer to another school to play or just finish your academic career at Ohio?

FS: I haven't decided what I am going to do yet, it's a very complicated process. A lot of the girls have talked about red-shirting this season to keep this year's eligibility so they could transfer having two years left to play. If enough people do that then we won't have enough girls to play out the season. As of right now I am trying to keep my options open for any scenario.

CS: What is the morale of the team now? Is everyone still excited for this season or just upset?

FS: The morale of the team is pretty low right now. Everyone is still a little in shock from the terrible news and stressed to figure out the next step to take. As I mentioned previously, we haven't made a decision yet if we will carry out the season or not. It's sad and unfortunate to say this, but the whole ordeal has brought our team closer than we already were. It has really bonded us and made us appreciate things more since you never know when what you love will be taken right from under you. I think the majority of the team wishes we could all play out the season and then say our goodbye's if needed, but that's just not the case. We all will

respect the decisions of one another since people have to do what's right for them at the time.

CS: What are your general feelings about the cuts, the athletic department, other players and your personal feelings?

FS: My feelings were and still are very disappointed and betrayed by the athletic department. We were only told two weeks before our season was supposed to start and not warned of the financial issues the department was facing. Apparently, the athletic program is in debt \$4 million and cutting four teams was the most immediate solution. Generally speaking about our team, everyone feels bad for everyone. The freshmen feel bad for the juniors since we will not play a senior season and we feel bad for the freshmen since they never got a chance to put on an Ohio jersey. I also feel horrible for the incoming freshmen since they will have to look at other options and face issues of scholarship money and full rosters. Overall, it's a horrible situation for everyone including the coaching staff.

CS: How loud is the rallying cry in Ohio to save the four cut sports?

FS: The students and faculty of Ohio have made their opinions known about the decisions. A popular road going uptown has 3 graffiti walls alongside it.

SULLIVAN continued pg. 7



WinterSports
Offered in a town
near you

pg. 8

PULSE

The Tutoring Center
Open for Business

pg. 3

AT WIRE

The Surge
The next move in Bush's Iraqi
"experiment"...

pg. 6



ENROLLMENT *continued from front*

"This is an upgrade of the enrollment management process. Dr. Gibraltar is committed to reorganizing the process," said Provost Dr. Stephen Simpson.

Blair is no stranger to Frostburg. In 1984 he started his career as the Sports Information Director. A year later Blair was named the University's Assistant Director of Admission and then the Associate Director of Admissions until 2004. Blair's proverbial homecoming is following a highly successful stint as the Director of Admissions for Potomac State College. While At Potomac State, Blair increased the school's applicants by 50%. Dr. Gibraltar expects that Blair's networking con-

tacts throughout the state's community colleges and high schools will be another added bonus to everything Blair is bringing to the table.

Although FSU met their target goal for freshmen enrollment this fall, the road ahead for Blair will be tough. Dr. Gibraltar's target goals for the next two years mean that 500 additional students will need to be recruited and retained. According to Dr. Gibraltar, the target goal for Fall 2008 is 300 students and the target goal for Fall 2009 is another 200 students. After those goals are met the focus will turn to stimulating the graduate program. Blair will not be fighting the low-enrollment beast alone, as the marketing and branding task force will be working closely with the enrollment management task force, according to Dr. Simpson.

One of four finalists, out of an even larger applicant pool, Blair was chosen by a search committee consisting of faculty and staff members. The search committee was to select a candidate that would be able to make an immediate impact, and with Blair, there's already a familiarity with the people he will be working with and with the Frostburg community in general. Blair is coming back to Frostburg with the utmost confidence and support of the administration.

"Blair brings years of experience and great relationships with other state institutions," said Dr. Gibraltar.

"I've had the opportunity to work with him in the before, Wray [Blair] is positive and energetic. I'm delighted to have him here," said Dr. Simpson.

RESEARCH *cont. from front*

To this end, ACES is building collaborations with other institutions, such as the Tai Sophia Institute in Columbia, Maryland, which offers graduate degrees in herbal medicine. ACES also held its first seminar for the general public last summer, offering area residents the opportunity to learn about the uses of wild ginseng and the possibilities of cultivation for pharmaceutical use. A follow-up workshop to be held in conjunction with Allegany College is planned for fall 2007.

For more information on ACES, visit its website at:

<http://www.frostburg.edu/aces/>.

About the University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute: With research centers in Baltimore, Rockville, and College Park, the University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute is the newest of 13 institutions forming the University System of Maryland. UMBI has 85 ladder-rank faculty and a 2006 budget of \$60 million. Celebrating the institution's 20th year of service to Maryland and the world, UMBI is led by microbiologist and former biotechnology executive Dr. Jennie C. Hunter-Cevera. For more information visit www.umbi.umd.edu/.

BUSINESS *cont. from front*

The students and their projects are: Ryan Smith and Mikaela Walker (computer recycling); Neil Alexander, Andrew May and Megan Falls (calendars featuring local scenery); Ryan McLaughlin, Jacob Burk and Shavonn Griffith (student home repairs); Kiera Douglas, Dale DeBerry and Matthew Ritter (live performance recording); Timothy Kotchenreuter, Anthony Nelson and Patrick O'Brien (baked goods catering); Robert Arnott and Danielle Hainsey (home cleaning); Scott Taylor and Ryan Sarigianis (event planning); Sara Mordent, Gregory Bosserman and Christopher Idol (moped repair, redesign, and resale); Jon Eichel (postcards with local appeal); Kodjo Gnatiko and Sean Leaman (water aerobics); Paul Merrill, Ryan Ferriter and Michael O'Haver (trash recycling); and James Valiga and Herman Harris (resale of used clothing).

A panel of judges comprising of faculty and local business professionals awarded certificates of recognition to several teams and a cash award to one team. The award for "Marketing, Teamwork Effectiveness and Most Community-Oriented" went to Neil Alexander, Andrew May and Megan Falls. The award for "Best Financial Reporting" was given to Kotchenreuter, Nelson and O'Brien. Valiga and Harris won the award for "Best Marketing Plan." The "Best Business Project" award, which included a cash prize of \$300, was given to Merrill, Ferriter and O'Haver for the trash recycling business.

The Voltage Gate will return next week with "The Evolution of Sex," just in time for Valentine's Day.

CRIMELINE

1/28/2007 CDS/Alcohol Violation: Police investigated suspected drug activity in Annapolis Hall. Student charged with underage possession of alcohol, drug paraphernalia, possession of controlled dangerous substance.

1/29/2007 Burglary: Housekeeping reported theft of supplies from storage area in Fine Arts.

1/29/2007 Damage to Property: Faculty member reported damage to her vehicle parked in the PAC lot.

1/30/2007 Alcohol Violation: Police responded to Westminster Hall for a noise complaint. Three adult underage alcohol citations issued.

2/1/2007 Burglary: Gray Hall resident reported theft of personal items from her room.

2/2/2007 False Fire Alarm: Police responded to Edgewood Commons for fire alarm activation. Pull station activated, but no smoke or fire present.

Computer crime can take many forms. You can easily become a victim of fraud or identity theft through careless computing habits, but don't forget that thoughtless use of your computer can make you an offender just as easily. Don't issue threats, attack others for their personal characteristics, act as a middleman in certain types of foreign transactions, or make illegal downloads. Just a few casual keystrokes could have far-reaching consequences.

Brian Shanley, Chief of Police
Frostburg State University



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SHELBY DEVORE
Staff Writer

Garrett and Allegany County winters are miserable, frigid, blistery and salty, yet if you're from the mountains, you can't get enough and if you're an out-of-towner, you can't wait to come back. Why is that? Simply because childhood favorites such as snowball fights, snow forts and sled riding as well as the coming-of-age adventure sports such as cross country skiing and the snowmobiling are ever so popular in the 'burg. However, a hop, skip and a jump WEST will land you paralleling down the slopes of the Wisp Resort at Deep Creek Lake.

According to the website, www.wispresort.com, Garrett County averages annually 100 inches of the powdery white snow per year. The slopes of the Wisp are groomed each night, ready for the slew of skiers in the morning. The Wisp offers great rates to students and features Roy Rogers' Tuesdays, Locals Night on Wednesdays and McDonald's Thursdays all only \$15 plus rental for evening skiing. By presenting your

Frostburg State University student identification on Tuesdays, you will receive a special discount. Students can also receive a discount on season passes. Regular rates start at \$599 and student discount rates begin at \$269. Season Passes have the benefits of dining discounts, discount lessons, rentals, the resort and spa located at the Wisp and tubing at Bear Claw tubing park.

Wisp offers three types of lift tickets. Half day tickets (from 1 p.m. - 5p.m.), Night tickets (from 5p.m. - 9p.m.), Twilight tickets (1 p.m. - 9 p.m.) and extended day tickets (9a.m. - 9 p.m.). Rentals for snowboarding and skiing equipment begin rates begin at

\$32. The cost of each ticket varies from PEAK time (now through March 4th) and POST SEASON (March 5th

website.

The mountain is made up of 41% beginning slopes such as Wisp Trail, Possum, and Happy Camper, 28% of intermediate slopes such as Muskrat, Boulder Run and Down Under which features a go-through-tunnel and 31% advanced or "black diamond slopes" such as Main Street and The Face.

The Wisp contains 32 trails totaling 10.5 miles and 132 acres of mountain. Ninety percent of the trails are available, open and snow covered nightly. Two quad chair lifts, five triple seating chair lifts, three ski carpets and four surface tows are also available. The Terrain Park, Rail Park,

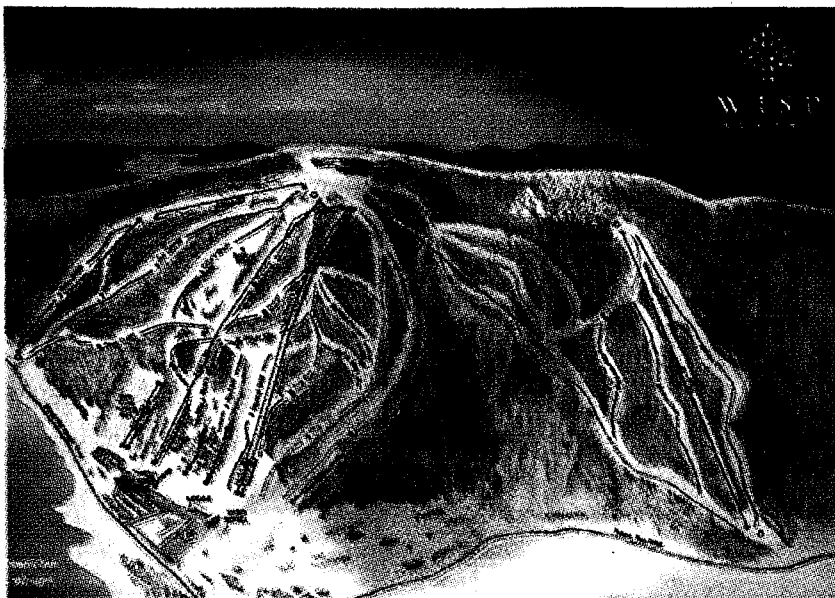
half pipe, fun boxes and rails ranging from five feet to forty feet have recently been added as well as the SuperPipe, redesigned ProPark, and Whip Saw Terrain Trail.

Other activities at Wisp include ski and ride schools, private lessons or group instruction for a small fee, snowshoeing and snowmobiling and tubing with nine lanes and two service lifts.

And if you begin to see greens under the snow in Frostburg, it's fine. The Wisp owns "One of the world's largest most energy efficient snowmaking systems with computerized weather and pumping stations that are world-renowned for their efficiency" claimed the website, which basically means they are always home-making snow.

The Wisp Resort is hosting Mardi Gras on the Mountain of February 24th, and Special Olympic Winter Games the 25th through the 27th as well as many other events throughout February.

Go to www.wispresort.com or call (301) 387-4911 for more information on hours of operation, rates and special events.



through Close) and also differs due to weekends and holidays. Detailed rates and hours are posted on the Wisp's

Flirting Goes Web 2.0

SexPress

Amanda Baldwin

"Ever has it been that love knows not its own depth until the hour of separation." — Kahlil Gibran

So why is it that when we are in a relationship, we push for that separation to test love's depths?

Instead of a relationship becoming a game of "how much can the other person take?" why don't we appreciate what we have and utilize the moments to make something great.

For example, why do guys feel the need to flirt or talk to other girls when they have the best girl they are ever going to get in their arms? And why do girls feel the need to have every guy pawing at them when they have a guy that absolutely adores them? And why don't those guys and girls get together and appreciate each other?

I really shouldn't blame people. I should blame MySpace and Facebook. They offer opportunity. Oppor-

tunity for guys to look up some "hott chick" and have a secret cyber-relationship with her. Opportunity for girls to post photos in which they only look attractive so that they can get messages from a cyber-hottie and lead him on.

And really, it is kind of fun. You get to be someone else...and not the person you are with your significant other. But that person needs to stay within those boundaries. And that person must also know when to draw the line. And one should not keep it from their other half; after all, lying is a form of cheating.

Instead, make a game of it. See how many people message you and then check TOGETHER what each person has, what messages they've received...that way you're other half can laugh and say "haha, I have her/him, A-hole."

However, for this to work, both players need to be completely honest. And for some couples, that is not going to work. For example, I'm way too jealous to allow anyone to even

talk to someone I'm interested in. And I believe that if he's talking...then what else is he doing or what else COULD he be doing?

Anyway, back to the whole "you never know what you had until it's gone" thing.

You have to ask yourself, before you talk to someone else in that interested kind of way, if what you have is worth jeopardizing. And would you really want to start all over again, and work to get where you're at with this person, with someone else?

I am in no way saying "stay in a relationship because you've put effort into it!" But I am saying, if you feel it's worth the effort, put forth the effort. If it's a finished relationship, don't keep it alive (I like to call them zombie relationships). And if you're not sure, then talk it out.

I think I'm going to do a column on mind games that people play, just to get that stuff out there. We're in college, the only games we play should involve drinking or stripping. PTFO!

YOUR BF PLAYS VIDEO GAMES?



AT Wire

Derek Hidey

In the second episode of Pure Pwnage, an Internet show that parodies the life of a gamer, the main character, Jeremy, went to local bars and hang-outs and interacted with the girls there. He asked them questions like, "Would you ever date a gamer?" and "Would you rather date a rich guy or a guy with 'uber micro'?" Of course, the episode was hilarious since most of the girls' responses amounted to nothing more than blank stares. Despite its ridiculousness, the episode brings up a fairly complicated question: What do a majority of girls think about guys who play video games?

Now, I'm speaking mostly to the female audience here, but you guys still have something to benefit from this, even if it's just the satisfaction of knowing someone else out there understands.

Have you ever watched your boyfriend play video games? Today, even the most hardcore of athletes find time to play games like Madden 07' and Halo 2. So, unfortunately for you ladies, even the guys you thought you wouldn't have to worry about are no longer 100% game-free. So you're watching your boyfriend play video games; what do you do? Do you sit in the corner on the opposite side of the room and roll your eyes until your contact lenses dry up and fall out? Should you complain and make annoying comments in the hopes that he will get agitated and stop playing? Perhaps you've even considered walking up to the console and unplugging it? Don't feel bad if you've ever thought or done any of these things because they are all perfectly normal reactions. However, there are other, less painful ways to accomplish your ultimate goal to have fun.

There is no doubt in my mind that a girl who is forced to watch someone play video games is the most bored

she has ever been in her entire life. Trust me; I can't stand it when I'm with my high school buddies because all they want to play is NCAA Football. I tried playing too, but they made me watch after I tried running the Hail Mary play from my own end-zone every down. But this brings me to my first suggestion: Try playing the game with him! You're tired, you're bored and you want to do something. You're ultimate goal is to be entertained, right? Well, don't let all the spite ruin your time. Make an honest attempt to sit down and play the game with your boyfriend. You might end up being surprised at how much you like a certain game and who knows, maybe he'll end up being the one in the corner.

Just because your boyfriend likes to play video games doesn't mean you have to be hardcore about video games. It doesn't even mean you

have to like them at all! If there is one thing a gamer hates more than poor translations in his Korean MMOs, it's a girl who pretends to love the fact that he plays video games. If you're a gamer you can just tell who is a casual gamer, who is a hardcore gamer, and who isn't a gamer at all. No amount of fake behavior or enthusiasm is going to deceive us, so don't try.

My girlfriend is about as much of a hardcore gamer as my old Mac Classic is a high-end gaming machine. Nevertheless, there were a bunch of times over the winter break where she played the Nintendo Wii. She enjoyed crushing me in the baseball part of Wii Sports, too. This is where we can start placing the blame on ourselves. It's a lot easier for the girl to get involved if she is genuinely asked to play. On the other hand, some guys don't bother asking because they assume she will say no. But don't be so quick to jump to conclusions because you never know when she might surprise you with a "Yes, I'd love to slay those demons with you."

The Tutoring Center Open for Business

JAMIE WIESNER

Staff Writer

Having problems differentiating between Bosnia and Botswana? Struggling with crazy, complex biology terms? Are you finding that you spend more time in class calculating the circumference of your neighbor's bald spot than deciphering your math professor's illegible scrawl on the board? The Tutoring Center in Pullen Hall is an effective and convenient tool that is available to everyone looking to further their academic success.

Rachel Hoover, Coordinator of Academic Skills Development says that there isn't just one type of student who

takes advantage of the resources in the Tutoring Center.

"There's a wide array of students who use the Tutoring Center. Sometimes a student just needs help with one section in math, or a single question on a biology worksheet. Some students have an A and want to keep it. For others, college was a bit of a shock and for that, we have tutors that can help with organization and building better study skills."

Tutoring is available for any GEP course and also for certain courses that are notorious for their level of difficulty. "Chemistry, physics and Telecommunications Law are all popular courses that students seek tutors for." And

the best part; it's absolutely free.

One awesome thing about this facility is that a struggling student can come in and get immediate help. "We have a math specialist on staff, and people who specialize in time management, study skills and college success strategies," says Rachel Hoover.

All tutors are students who excel in the subject in which they tutor. Applications to become a tutor are available in The Tutoring Center and the starting wage is \$7.00/hour.

"If students need help, they just have to come ask us." The Tutoring Center is located in Pullen Hall and is open Monday-Friday 8:00AM to 4:30PM.

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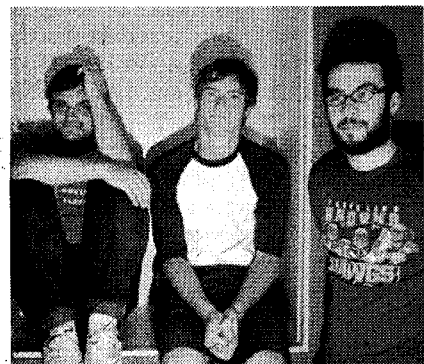
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MUSIC

LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF THE TWILIGHT ZONE

Tera Melos hits the road with Fall of Troy, Dameria and Portugal the Man, promotes original music and film



STEPHANIE THORNTON
Music Editor

"I don't even know where I am right now." Can you imagine hearing these words from an audience member directly after your band's live performance? Nick, guitarist and drum machine of Tera Melos, explained that he heard that phrase one evening after their set on their current tour. They were touring with The Fall of Troy, Dameria, and Portugal the Man. This was their first national tour. Apparently, Tera Melos's time on stage can be very intense, even though the band lacks a vocalist and all of their stuff is completely instrumental. "When we first started the band we were a thrash punk band. We had a 'Don't-give-a-f**k' attitude. We were fast and super

loud. It was really intense. We would have a lot of crowd interaction and we'd smash our equipment. Now it's a different sort of intensity. It's hard to explain, but a lot of our fans will make drug references," explained Nick. It's no joke. A comment on their myspace page, www.myspace.com/teramelos, reads, "Do you fellas smoke ganj?" Hence, their new album's title, *Drugs to the Dear Youth*, which is their second release from Springman Records.

The offer to do this national tour with The Fall of Troy "was a trip!" explained Nick. Doing a national tour was a big goal for Tera Melos, and "we were never sure we'd make it," he said. Now that they've accomplished that goal, they're ready to conquer the rest of the world. "All we want to do is record cool records and play cool shows everywhere," said Nick. He mentioned travel as being a huge priority for the whole band. On the current tour, Nick is having a lot of fun with the other band members that he has met. "In the touring we've done, we've made some lifelong friends," he said. "These guys are some awesome dudes and we can just hang out all night." Nick is a fan of all of the bands on the current tour, and he can't pick a favorite live act. As far as appreciating live acts, "It's cool when bands change it up and don't sound like their record."

He enjoys Fall of Troy because they are able to improvise a lot during their set. "I think it's organic when a band sounds different or messes up," Nick stated. "It feels real." Of course, the



amount of freedom a band will have to change things up or improvise will depend on the style of music. So how does Tera Melos describe their sound?

"To me, it makes more sense to leave that up to other people. I wouldn't know how to describe our sound," said Nick. Their new album is streaming on

www.punknews.org. The site indicates that they have a punk sound, but Nick said Tera Melos is "partly punk, but very jazzy." The band has been compared to The Promise Ring and Cap'n Jazz, but Nick said it's hard to name specific influences. When Tera Melos formed, they didn't set out to sound like a specific band. "We just wanted to play music that would hold our attention," he explained. Tera Melos's goal was to stimulate themselves with their music. Some bands that Nick really appreciates are Dillinger Escape Plan and Hella, but lately he has been listening to John Mayer, Peter Gabriel and a lot of electronic music. Although their sound may not be completely punk, Nick thought that "our music sort of goes against the grain, and I think that's what being punk rock is all about." When Nick and Nate, the bassist, first started playing music together, they were a thrash punk band, and they invited their buddy Jeff into the band as a second guitar. Finding a drummer was "a pain in the ass," according to Nick. "Jeff met Vince (Tera Melos's drummer) at his jazz class in community college, and it was really awkward asking him to play for us." Of course, they are all the best of pals now. However, their second guitarist, Jeff, recently left the band and Tera Melos is currently a three-piece,

but there is "no big drama" to report on that subject, according to Nick. "We are still good pals". Jeff's motorcycle hobby was consuming a lot of his time, and, after cycling across the United States over the summer, he decided to leave the band. One of the most important things Jeff had to offer was his gigantic beard. "On one of our first tours as a band, we were eating lunch and we had a watermelon. Jeff ended up trapping a ton of seeds in his beard. There were like a hundred in there. It was like something out of The Twilight Zone," laughed Nick. That incident sparked the idea to name the band Tera Melos. They took the word "watermelons", and derived a name from the letters used in the word.

Nick has an interesting hobby himself. "This summer my friends and I spent \$20,000 on equipment to film a movie," he said. "It's going to be like a cross between *Kids in the Hall* and the movie *Gummo*." The movie will be entitled *Snakeville*, and Nick hopes to see it released by this summer. He is currently promoting it through the website, www.myspace.com/snakevillthemovie.

Tera Melos has some interesting tunes to offer, so if you'd like to hear some good jazzy punk without a whiny vocalist, check them out.

The EC: Everwood Commons by Heather Ravenscroft

For EC archives visit the-ec.blogspot.com



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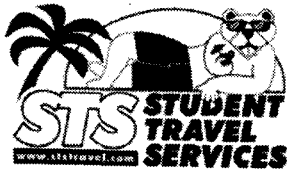
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What Do You Mean Jesus Isn't God!?

Interviews with God
Michael Weaver

MW: It's been a really long break, but we're back!

GOD: That's right. Interviews With God-That's me-is here again to tackle all the big

issues that keep you from sleeping at night, like drinking too much coffee. Keep e-mailing your questions for God to mweaver0@frostburg.edu where they will be lost, found and finally misinterpreted; all in a timely manner.

MW: And speaking of too much coffee, our letter today is from Sasha Cohen, a Sophomore who doesn't go to FSU. Sasha writes, "Dear God, I know that you and Jesus are the same person, but sometimes I pray to God and sometimes I pray to Jesus. Should I switch back and forth evenly or does it not matter which one I pray to?"

GOD: Hahaha, my dear Sasha! How silly of you to ask! You don't go to Frostburg; you have no business speaking to Me.

MW: God! Come on. Give her a chance. It's not like she's a Sikh.

GOD: Very well, Sasha. I will start by saying that Jesus and I are not the same person. I don't know what ridiculous joker gave you the idea that a dude could literally be God, but...

MW: Wait a second, God. Check out this passage here.

Mikey refers God to a particular passage in The Bible.

GOD: Huh, well how do you like that? That's what Jesus said, and it does seem to indicate that he says he's Me, but why would one of My own cronies make such an egotistical and preposterous claim?

MW: Why don't you call up Jesus and ask him yourself. You two haven't spoken to each other since that awkward dinner party where he spilled communion wine on your suit.

GOD: Fine, Fine. As long as I don't call him in the middle of a putt again. He never forgave me for his loss to Tiger.

PHONE: *Ring* *ring* I'm a phone *ring* *ring*

JC: Wassup, Old Spice! You know I'm in the middle of a putt, but I'll forgive you this time. What's on Your mind, Cracka?

GOD: Stop calling me that! I'm calling because I'm furious with you. I'm going to ask you something and tell Me the truth or I swear by the Hammer of Thor that I will punish you!

JC: You sound like Sailor Moon. How could You punish me?

GOD: Don't get cocky with Me. I'll punish you by turning all of your followers into irrational, closed-minded, nincompoops who will have no independent sense of morality, will have no respect for anything they disagree with and will try to hold a monopoly on "truth"; Truth that they will offer no evidence for other than blind faith; a blind faith which they will admit is no different in nature or reasoning from that held by any other faith, except that it is right and therefore all of the other faiths must be wrong!

JC: That sounds terrible. You're saying this is what will happen if I don't tell You the truth? Very well then. What's the question, fatty?

GOD: Have you been going around and telling people that you're Me? That is to say, are you teaching folks that "I" is You?

JC: Of course I have. Just the other night I totally impressed this girl by doing an impersonation of You... I flooded Indonesia then sent all its citizens to Hell. (Laughs) That was a good night. Don't talk too loud, by the way. She's still in bed sleeping.

GOD: If you're really Me, prove it. Tell Me what I'm thinking about right now.

JC: Brittany Spears.

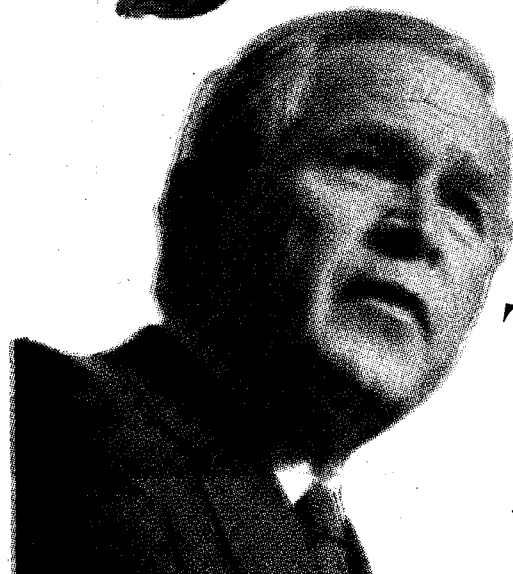
MW: You too?!

GOD: That's obvious. Tell Me something about Myself that only I would know.

JC: You like emo-rock. You're enamored with the color purple and, oh yes, You shot an old man in the face.

MW: Is that true, God?

GOD: It was Noah and I had too. He forgot to pick up at least five species that mankind will be deprived of forever; including the chimpanrocovark who's tears can cure cancer, and the venomous sharklionhawk which, I admit, is probably better off extinct.



No Gods No Masters Donovan Martin

Welcome back to Frostburg. I hope everyone enjoyed their break. I know I did although a few things

in the news got me thinking, which is sometimes a dangerous thing. The first and foremost on my mind was the President's State of the Union Address and with it, his plans to boost troop presence in Iraq by 20,000 soldiers.

Now, it serves us all to ask whether or not this is really the best course of action and, if it is or isn't, to try to discern why it may or may not be the best course. In my initial reaction was that it was too little, too late.

There is a particular irony in this since, for the most part, a lot of the mistakes President Bush made in the Iraq war were due to taking action prematurely, from 2002 invasion to his flyboy appearance on the deck of the USS Lincoln to declare his "Mission Accomplished" to the rushed constitutional and governmental elections which left several of Iraq's divergent ethnic groups largely disenfranchised. Here we are, five years from that premature invasion and democracy in Iraq is still in an incubator, the U.S. tax payers footing the bill to keep it from floundering.

If the President or the American people really think that sending more

troops to Iraq will solve the problem they need to bite the bullet, so to speak, and send 120,000 troops to completely crush any and all opposition to a U.S. lead democracy. But this would be political suicide for Bush and for the national integrity of the United States, if indeed we still have any.

The reason a drastic move like this will only work to undermine U.S. integrity is because it would reveal to the world our true intentions for being in Iraq in the first place. Those are, of course, to secure an American economic stronghold in the Middle-East and thereby assure the West perpetual access to the resources there and continue a policy of political hegemony which destroys diversity, subverting all sovereignty to the interests of the United States.

This isn't anything new to U.S. foreign policy. A spokesman for the Bush White House reported in October 2002 that, "we don't need the [UN] Security Council," so if it "wants to stay relevant, then it has to give us similar authority" to that granted by congress—essentially the authority to use force as the U.S. sees fit. Clearly, the bush administration is not willing to submit to the will of international law which President Wilson had fought so hard to make real.

But really, this plan for political hegemony goes back at least to Wilson who firmly believed that elite of

gentlemen with "elevated ideals" must be empowered to preserve "stability and righteousness." This noble Platonic ideal was a goal, so long as Wilson was one of the elite gentlemen. He must have overlooked Plato's emphatic assertion that those who desire power least deserve it.

Philosophic digressions aside, it was clear that the Bush White house had no regard either for the opinions of their international allies or of the citizenry who were whipped into a frenzy by propaganda which explicitly took advantage of the 9/11 tragedy in order to forward this imperialist agenda. The use of propaganda has been an explicit policy, again, since Wilson who formed the Committee on Public Information modeled on Winston Churchill's Ministry of Information which undertook "to direct the thought of most of the world." Edward Bernays, a leading participant in Wilson's CPI, claimed that the "engineering of consent...the very essence of the democratic process."

Walter Lippman, in a "progressive" essay on democracy in the industrial age, declared that, "The public must be put in its place...through the manufacture of consent," a "self-conscious art and regular organ of popular government." The problem for Bush has been that this consent has disintegrated since his repeated failures to secure a working, peaceful democracy in Iraq.

The people were regulated to their place by Bush's propaganda; a position as spectators. But from that position they were only spectators to the death of their young men and women in uniform and the growing anti-American sentiment which propaganda of another kind is helping to proliferate through the Middle-East and the world.

The New York Times wrote "Publication of the [National Security Strategy] was the signal that Iraq would be the first test, not the last...Iraq became the Petri in which this experiment in pre-emptive policy grew. Strangely enough, the White House correlated this assessment when it released the statement, "we will not hesitate to act alone, if necessary, to exercise our right to self-defense by acting preemptively," now that Iraq stands as a precedent.

So, the question returns slightly reformulated, can 20,000 troops get us out of this international debacle? I doubt it. The real tragedy of the whole thing is that, in the eyes of the world, it is the U.S. people who are responsible for the war when in fact they were herded toward war under false pretenses arising from an imperial strategy formulated in the aftermath of World War II.

These questions will be pursued further next week when I consider the future possibilities of Bush's Iraq experiment.

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- The 130th Commencement Ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, May 26, 2007 in the Harold J. Cordts Physical Education Center. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will hold its service at 10:00 a.m., while the College of Business and College of Education will present their graduates at the 2:00 p.m. ceremony.
- If you have not yet filed for a graduation application at the Registrar's Office, YOU MUST DO SO IMMEDIATELY. All mailings related to Commencement are based on the listing of students who have filed for graduation.
- The first mailing, which details additional information about Commencement, is scheduled for the first week in March. Information is sent to both your local and your permanent address. If the Registrar does not have an updated local address, please provide them with this information as soon as possible, or you can update your local address online.
- Caps and gowns are provided at no cost to all graduates; however, you must be fitted in advance. Order your cap and gown now at the University Bookstore. Please place your order by March 12.
- A Grad Fair will be held March 12 in the Alice Manicur Assembly Hall in the Lane Center from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Vendors will be present for ordering your class ring or diploma frames. The bookstore will also be present for fitting and ordering your cap and gown or ordering your announcements. There will also be other University services available as well as giveaways and refreshments.
- Full details about Commencement are on the University's website. Go to "Current Students" and Commencement information is under Academics on the left side.

If you have any other questions about Commencement, please contact Brittini Teter at 301-687-4423; bkteter@frostburg.edu.

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SULLIVAN continued from Front

FS (continued): They are usually used by students to paint upcoming events on or basically get information out. After the news, someone had written on one of them, "RIP women's lacrosse, men's track and men's swimming...we bled green". It also said, "new bobcat costume: \$10,000...President McDavis' self-appointed bonus of \$300,000...new student center \$60 million...114 athletes TOO EXPENSIVE? Everyone, including the faculty has been very supportive and sympathetic to what has happened.

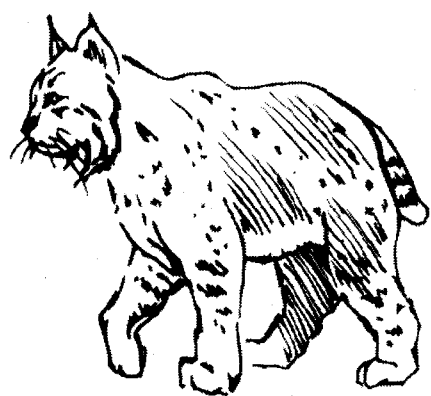
CS: What are most of the players going to do next year?

FS: I'm not positive what most of the girls will do for next year. I just know that as of right now everyone is trying to investigate all avenues and keep their options open. Each person knows what is right for them and no one can tell them otherwise. We are all supporting each other the best we can even though it will be heartbreaking to say goodbye to some of your best friends and teammates.

CS: What other schools were you recruited by that you chose Ohio University over?

FS: Before I chose Ohio, I was recruited by Northwestern, Notre Dame, and James Madison. I committed to Ohio because of the team, the environment, and the combination of academics and athletics. The campus is beautiful and the student body is very friendly. I always said that if I had to stop playing lacrosse for whatever reason that I would still want to go here. I still feel that way, but it will get harder to keep that mentality once your closest teammates decide to transfer. These 26 girls have become my family and that bond is hard to break. I'm so glad I chose Ohio because it was a perfect fit for me, too bad we had to find out the life-changing news when we did and how we did.

CS: Thanks again Frannie, and good luck this season and with whatever decisions you make about lacrosse.



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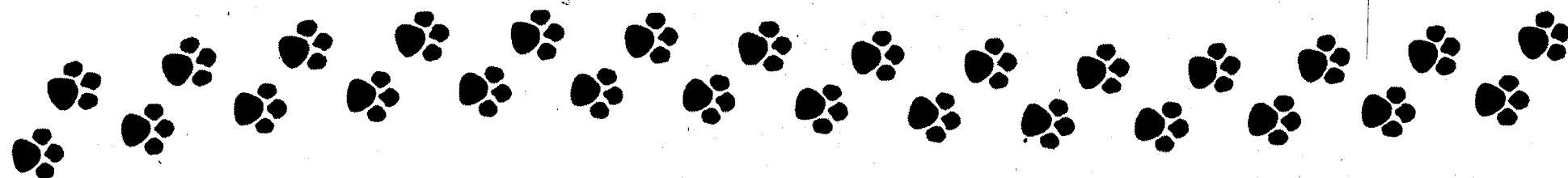
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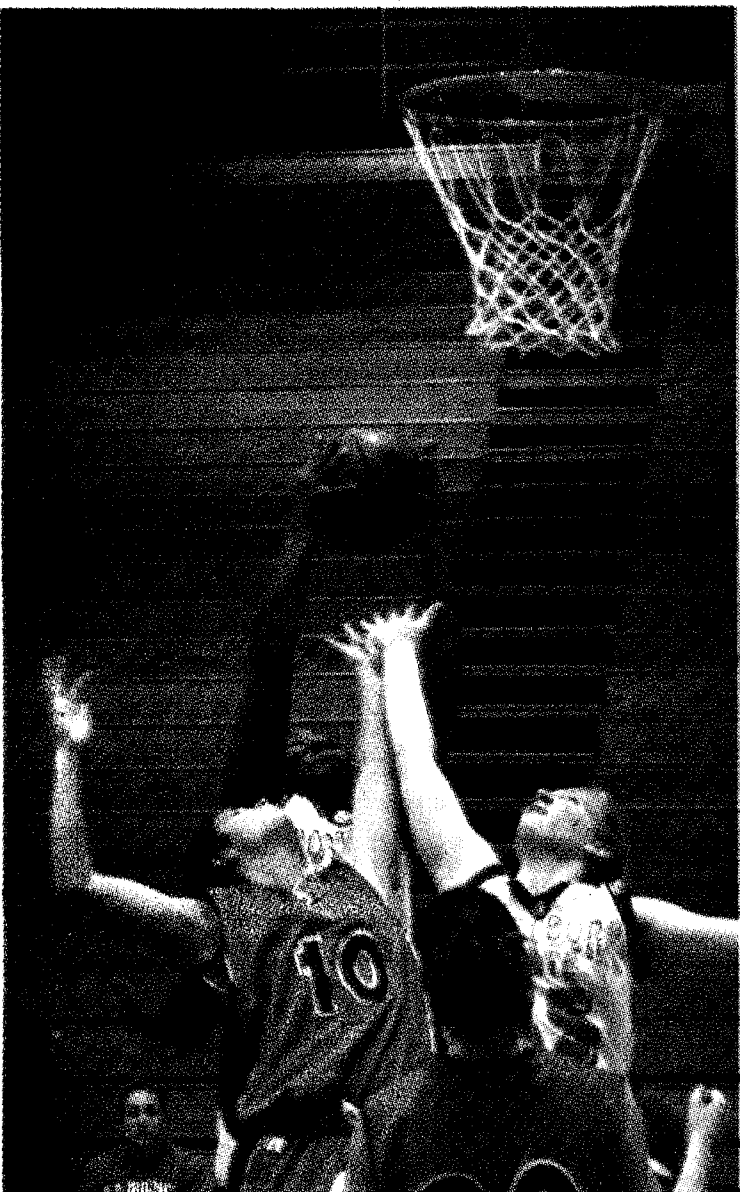
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Lady Bobcats Shred the Redhawks

Shanell Williams Nets 20 in the Win



RISING UP Frostburg rises up to beat La Roche on their home court last Wednesday.

GREG SHEDD
Staff Writer

The Frostburg State women's basketball team stepped out into Bobcat Arena full of confidence after their recent victory over Bethany. Dressed in white, the Bobcats prepared for conference opponent LaRoche whom FSU had defeated earlier in the season.

The Bobcats controlled this game right from the beginning. Senior Tracie George recorded a steal early after LaRoche won the tipoff. Directly following this a fast break put the Bobcats up 4-0 early causing the Redhawks to use their first timeout. Playing good defense another senior, Krystin Hargrove, stole the ball and converted the fast break opportunity while getting fouled putting the Bobcats up 8-2 within the first five minutes.

Toward the end of the first half Bobcats ran into turnover trouble as the Redhawks began to press. The Redhawks went on a 7-0 run caused by steals due to the pressure of the full court press. Coach Jodi Pepple called a timeout to discuss the pressure with the team. Tracie George ended this streak to finish off the first have by converting a long jumper. The first half ended with a score of 33-21 with 20 of the Bobcats points coming from stellar performances by freshman Shanell Williams and Brittany James. The two also collected 14 rebounds and two steals in the

first half alone. Marlis Graves of LaRoche put up 12 of their teams 21 total points of the first half.

Beginning the second half with the first bucket and then a quick steal by Krystin Hargrove, who converted the fast break, it was clear that Frostburg came out ready to continue their hot streak from the first half. The Bobcats got their 50th point with over twelve minutes left in the game. Freshman Courtney Lancaster got an offensive rebound and put it back in to give Frostburg their largest lead of the night, 19, with a score of 56-37. Krystin Hargrove received a technical and the referees received a chorus of boos from the stands of Bobcat Arena. Following this LaRoche got a steal and missed the fast break wide open lay-up crushing all hopes and dreams of a comeback. The closest the Redhawks came to winning this game was the opening tipoff when it was still tied. The game ended with a final score of 71-55.

This was a very impressive performance showing the depth and talent of the Frostburg team with two double doubles by Freshman Shanell Williams and Brittney James as well as solid figures by the older members Amanda LaPorta and Krystin Hargrove recording in double digits for points as well.

With this win, the Lady Bobcats improved their record to 12-8. The next home game for the women is on February 10th against Hilbert.

Shattered Dreams

Armchair
Q.B.

Chris Schoenbauer

In an instant, everything is gone. Everything you have worked for over the years. All of the blood sweat and tears; they mean nothing. You put your heart and soul into workouts at six in the morning before a full day of classes all winter. Then one day you wake up and

hear the news: your athletic team doesn't even exist anymore.

This is a sad truth at Ohio University where four sports have been cut as of the 2007-2008 school year. On January 25th, Athletic Director Kirby Hocutt announced that men's swimming and diving, men's indoor and outdoor track and field and women's lacrosse would all be cut from the department. The cuts will leave Ohio with 16 varsity sports, the Division I-A minimum.

Hocutt stated in a press conference that cutting the programs would save the institution that is in financial trouble \$685,000. Ohio University President Rod McDavis also stated in a town hall meeting along with Hocutt, that these cuts would help the university comply with Title IX. The university had the choice to cut some sports, or add one more women's program to meet the Title IX standards. Instead of adding one women's team, they decided to cut one women's team and three men's teams. Now the student-athletes don't know what to do.

Many of the athletes are left with a tough decision: finish their academic careers at Ohio University with their scholarships, or transfer to another school and finish their athletic career there. What about the seniors who will never get a senior season now? Maybe the sophomores and juniors can red-shirt this year and keep a few seasons of eligibility but not the seniors. What about the freshmen who were never told during their recruiting process their program would be cut the next year. "The news was absolutely shocking," says women's lacrosse player Frannie Sullivan. "There was no warning or hint from any of the administration...No one knew about it, even our coaches found out only two hours before us."

The cuts for these teams do not take place until the next academic year. So how will the teams handle playing this final season? Will they even carry out their final season at all if many decide to red-shirt and transfer schools? Sullivan says that the morale of the team is very low. The news has brought the team closer together because they have learned that no one ever knows when what they love will be taken away from them.

The athletic department at Ohio University has betrayed their student-athletes. There was no sign or warning that these cuts were coming. Even coaches were kept in the dark about reducing the number of programs. The athletic department has not taken into account these students' decisions when they were being recruited by Ohio to attend that school instead of another. These students chose Ohio over other programs for a reason, and now it seems as if the administration does not even care.

When teams are formed, teammates form a special bond. These players go through everything together. They have been through the tough losses and the glorious wins. They have been through the early morning workouts together. They have helped each other in times of personal need, and had some of the best times of their lives with each other outside of their sport. And now, it's all gone.

The members of these teams now face some very difficult choices. Most likely they did not come to Ohio just because of their athletic program. There were probably some other factors that contributed to their committing to the university. Now their "family" at school is being broken up. When someone plays a big time sport that takes up all of their time, most of their friends at school are on the team with them. So what are they supposed to do now?

Unfortunately cuts like these are happening far too often in collegiate athletics. There are several ways to deal with these types of cuts; Ohio University picked the worst way. What message does not letting athletes know until the last minute that their sport will be cut send to the other athletes in your department? The department has put these athletes in a tough predicament instead of giving them a full year to decide what to do with their future. These teammates must now make quick, impulse decisions on what to do before it is too late. For now, all they have is one more season, and some shattered dreams.

Men Basketball Fall at Home to La Roche

AARON SCANLON
Staff Writer

After two consecutive victories, the men's basketball team fell to conference opponent La Roche College last Wednesday night at Bobcat Arena 67-59. It was an exciting game with fast paced action, but missed shots were the dagger that killed the Bobcats.

The Bobcat's came out shooting 0-9 and didn't score until seven minutes into the game. While the offense was struggling, the Bobcat defense stepped up allowing only three points during that seven minute span.

Then FSU began to comeback scoring 13 points in five minutes, tying the game at 13.

La Roche answered back with three points to gain the lead once again. Just seconds later Jermaine Kapombe came through for FSU with a big three point shot to tie the game.

With four minutes left in the first half the Bobcats took their first lead of the game courtesy of Juan Wansley, who scored on a lay up inside and was fouled for the three point play.

Unfortunately for Frostburg their lead was short lived as Zach Kistorick of La Roche tied the game with an open three point shot.

Just seconds before half time though there

was a chance for FSU to tie the game once again when Makiha Cooper was sent to the foul line. Cooper only made one of the two free throws to cut the lead to one. The score at halftime was 27-25 in favor of visiting La Roche.

Frostburg kept the game interesting for most of the second half taking the lead once and keeping the score close, but with 8:30 left to play La Roche began to pull away, not letting Frostburg within a basket of tying the game again.

La Roche won with the final score of 67-59.

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