

# Oswego News

## Oswego State to welcome parents, family, and friends

Hundreds of relatives and friends of Oswego State University students are expected to converge on campus Oct. 8 to 10

for Parents, Family, and Friends Weekend. The campus is ready to welcome them with special activities, including a

Shakespearean play, a comedic hypnotist, art exhibits, open houses, and sporting events.

Weekend activities begin Friday, Oct. 8, with registration from noon to 8 p.m. in the formal lounge of Hewitt Union. Attendees can also pick up their tickets and detailed schedules of activities from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday in the formal lounge.

President Deborah F. Stanley will welcome the guests at a faculty-staff coffee at 10 a.m. Saturday in Hewitt Union's Forum.

A highlight of Parents, Family and Friends Weekend is the theatre department production at Waterman Theatre in Tyler Hall. This year's play is Shakespeare's "The Comedy of Errors" with a student cast. Shows will be Friday and Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoon.

"The Amazing Sandman," a comedic hypnotist, will perform at 8 p.m. Saturday in the food court in Hewitt Union, followed by a Solid State and State Singers concert from 10 p.m. to midnight in Hewitt Union.

Also on the musical schedule will be a concert of the Oswego College-Community Orchestra, under the direction of Juan La Manna, and the Oswego College Choir and Chamber Singers, under the direction of Julie Pretzat, at 1 p.m. Sunday.

Sports will be on tap for those who like to participate or watch. The women's soccer team will have games Friday and Saturday. There will be open recreation available for guests in the Lee Hall gym and pool Friday and Sunday.

Also available each day will be two displays in Tyler Art Gallery: "Alan Shields: A Survey" and "Demonstrative: Marked by a Display of Feeling, Works by Tyrone Johnson-Neuland."

Additionally, the Rice Creek Field Station will have open house from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Those seeking more information about the events of Parents, Family and Friends Weekend may call the Campus Life Office at 341-2301.

## Oswego students tackle math equation

Recently, three Oswego High School students—Jon Darvill, Suraj Ram, and Dennis Wallace—decided to use their spare time to solve a mathematics problem.

The problem was proposed by Ayoub B. Ayoub, of the Pennsylvania State University, Ogontz Campus in Abington, Pa.

Mathematics Department Chairperson Mike Caldwell said, "The kids worked on a problem with OHS math teacher Bernadette Barber and her husband, Dr. Fred Barber of Oswego State University. They submitted the solution and it was published in the New York State Mathematics' Journal, Volume 49, Number 1. Two of these students are now attending college and a third is registered at the Oswego High School and is taking college courses.

Caldwell noted, "This was not your average mathematical equation. The problem read: In acute triangle ABC, BC=2, altitude AD=1 and  $m(\angle DAC)=15^\circ$ . Show that  $AB=2$ ."

The students worked independently to find the solution.

Darvill said, "Mrs. Barber got us involved. We met with Dr. Barber after school and he brought in problems for us to solve. We had all taken most of the Ad-

vanced Placement Calculus course and it was near the end of the year. The problems were Course II and Course III with geometry and trigonometry proofs. Math 12 and AP Calculus definitely assisted in our problem solving skills."

The solution to the problem was: AD is an altitude and  $m(\angle DAC)=15^\circ$ , so  $m(\angle DCA)=75^\circ$  degrees. From triangle ADC,  $\tan 75^\circ=1/DC$ . Also,  $\tan 75^\circ=\tan(30^\circ+45^\circ)$  which when expanded yields,  $\tan 75^\circ=[1/\sqrt{3}+1]/[1-1/\sqrt{3}\cdot 1]=1/[2-\sqrt{3}]$ . Consequently,  $DC=2-\sqrt{3}$ . Using the Pythagorean Theorem the right triangle ABD, AB is found to equal 2.

Caldwell noted, "It is an honor and a great experience for our students. Their work reflects on what we are attempting to do in the Math Department. We feel we have instilled in students the desire to work on the more challenging mathematics problems and as a result we have seen more and more of our students participate in AP Calculus and AP Statistics. Our students are also becoming more and more interested to work on math on their own."

Darvill is a senior at Oswego High School while Ram is a student at Boston University and Wallace is in his first year at Iona College.

## University to join tobacco education project

Oswego State University was one of five campuses across the nation chosen to take part in a project to promote "social norms" of tobacco-free decision making among its students.

The program is directed by the Bacchus and Gamma Peer Education Network and is funded by a grant from the Center for

Disease Control and Prevention.

"We are excited to be a part of this project," said Kimberly Bowman, coordinator of Oswego's LifeStyles Center, which is running the campus program. "Not only will we be able to better understand our specific student population, but we are an instrumental piece in shaping national research on health issues for college students."

The LifeStyles Center will use ads, posters, and other media with the anti-smoking theme of "People Are a Lot Like You." The first ad appeared in last week's student newspaper.

"We focus on the fact that more people choose not to smoke than people who do," said Brandi Noyes, graduate assistant for the Oswego Peer Education Network, who is coordinating the program. "Everybody doesn't smoke. These are the real numbers."

A random survey conducted on campus last semester and analyzed by Bacchus and Gamma in Denver, showed that the majority of Oswego students choose not to smoke and support those who choose to quit.

There were 500 surveys distributed on campus. Oswego had the highest return rate of the colleges participating, according to Noyes. Of the respondents, 67 percent said they choose not to smoke cigarettes and 94 percent choose not to smoke cigars.

Seventy-one percent said they prefer to socialize in a smoke-free environment, and 85 percent said, "all things being equal," they would rather date a non-smoker.

The "People are a Lot Like You" series of posters and ads will feature these Oswego-specific numbers.

Participating in the project with Oswego are the University of Maryland, Gustavus Adolphus College, University of North Carolina at Asheville, and Texas Christian University. Each campus was allotted \$10,000 in the grant for materials and training of staff.

"Oswego has been one of our premier chapters," said Jan Gascoigne, project director at Bacchus. "They do great work."

She said Oswego was chosen, in part, because the LifeStyles Center has done social norming work in the past, such as with the "Majority Rules" campaign about alcohol use.

"We wanted to engage folks who've had a little background in the process," Ms. Gascoigne said.

Those seeking more information about LifeStyles Center programs may call 341-5648.

## Library board plans meetings

The Oswego SD Public Library Board of Trustees will hold its regularly scheduled meeting in the multipurpose room located on the lower level of the library (120 E. Second St.) Tuesday, Oct. 5 and Oct. 19 at 9 a.m.

Regularly scheduled meetings of the library board of trustees are held on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. Meetings are open to the general public.



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