

THE OSWEONION

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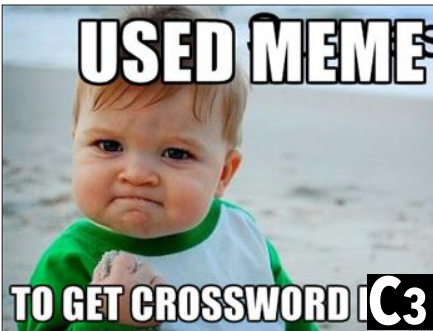
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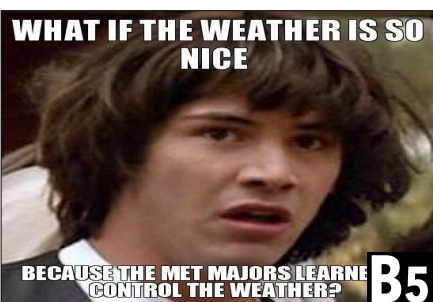
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Opinion

WEATHER MYSTIFIES US



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REACCREDITATION FAIL



Graphic by Adam Wolfe | The Osweonion



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institution and instead chose, unjustifiably, to focus on a rather irrelevant rubric of criteria."

She promised she would appeal the decision with the organization.

The decision will likely lower the reputation of Oswego State, making it harder for graduates to find well-paying jobs.

"Oh yes, SUNY Oswego students should expect to struggle in the job market, especially those in the liberal arts fields who lack demonstrable skills," said Daniel Drew, an employment analyst with the Human Fund, a non-partisan policy institute.

Drew suggested Oswego students should adjust their expectations downward when looking for work.

"Given the current recession, I wouldn't advise someone with an Oswego degree to do anything that could be categorized as, 'following your dreams.' They're basically worthless, and you'll probably fail," he said.

The decision will likely impact recent alumni as well; however, none could be reached for comment, because there was a big lunch rush at McDonalds

Thursday, and none could be rotated off the deep fryer.

Middle States gave several reasons in their report for the reaccreditation rejection.

"It always tears at my heart to tank a school's reaccreditation," said Henry Flagger, an executive at Middle States said. "But not with Oswego. That decision was easy as pie. I mean, have you seen their mass emails—they call that communication? Come ON! You know whose going to read those? Nobody."

One other reason was a critical failure to hire enough competent teaching faculty. A specific example cited by the organization was the hiring of a squirrel to coach volleyball last fall. Still the committee was encouraged by the squirrel's firing, and the college president's decision, announced late Thursday, to withdraw her nomination of her favorite horse, Incitatus, to the chair of Faculty Assembly.

Another problem for the Middle States team was security on campus. They noted the recent killing of several freshmen by geese-slaying dogs as one example.

Oswego officials are trying to find a way to stem the damage in the aftermath of

the Middle States decision. In order to compensate for the reduced value of Oswego degrees, several plans are being considered.

"One option we're exploring is to arrange promotional trades with local franchises," said Leland Stanford, Vice President of business relations. "For example, an Oswego student would be able to exchange their diploma for a free coffee, or maybe a hearty bagel." (in the interview, Stanford incorrectly pronounced the word bag-elle)

These types of exchanges will keep the Oswego degree from becoming, "virtually worthless," Stanford said.

Currently, Tim Hortons and Dunkin Donuts have both signaled that they would agree with such a deal.

"We've already cleared a spot in the back where we're going to keep all the coupons—sorry, I mean diplomas," Jay Gould, who works the cashier at a local coffee shop, said. "There's been some talk on the staff about using them like trading cards. I'll probably try to see how many social science degrees I can collect. I mean why not? Otherwise they aren't really worth the paper they're printed on."

Syngg saved after state declares it historic site

Local lobby gives building reprieve from demolition; noted for 'famous stairs'



Adam Wolfe | The Osweonion

The artistic stairs in front of Syngg. Critics credit designer with demonstrating futility of human life.



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Syngg Hall has been placed on the register of historic sites in New York State, stymieing plans to demolish the building this summer.

The college president and the administration here at Oswego State had been debating the past few weeks over how and when to blow up Syngg. The building located right next to the new science complex that will be replacing most functions of the old hall with brand new laboratories, class rooms, equipment and a planetarium. Because of the buildings new historic status, it can no longer be demolished.

"I don't know why I didn't think of it sooner," said Anita Hobby, who petitioned the state to declare Syngg as a historic site exclaimed. "There's a lot of history to the building, and we realized it was too valuable. The building has too many memories; we just can't bear to tear it down. It's an asset to this community."

Hobby and a group of citizens calling themselves "The Syngg Pigs" had been searching for a way to save the building from dynamite since plans to shutter it

were announced. The Pigs filed for historic status in April. The register lists sites with having "historic, cultural or artistic value," which then cannot be torn down or significantly altered.

Among these factors the historic register committee cited to make Syngg hall a candidate for tourism were its bleak, labyrinthine floor plan, unnecessarily heavy doors, scorching heat of lecture hall 101 and especially its famous wide-but-short stairs.

"Those stair represent the futility of the human condition," said Ken Vas, an art critic noted for his seminal work about homosexual themes in modern art, titled "Lines: Are They Really Straight?" He added, "The stairs foist a transformation of subjectivity onto the walker. By forcing you to take either two tiny steps or one giant one, they disrupt your normal patterns of thought, and thus subvert bourgeois ideology."

Syngg is noted for the accomplishments made by the people who worked in it as well. After all, who could forget the infamous science experiment lead by Irena Melt who discovered the element Iraphorium? The element, extracted from the tears of virgin scientists while they waited by the phone Saturday night, is key ingredient used in topical creams to treat acne, and in Long Island iced tea.

Since the campus is now stuck with relics of 20th century architecture, the new plan, announced Thursday, is to turn the building into a tourism hotspot. Some plans include recruiting science students to give voluntary tours, until robots can be trained to do the job themselves.

See SNYGG, page A3

CONTENT

- Potpurri.....C2
- Likes Pina ColadasC7
- DespairC6
- Can I Get Yo Numba?.....A2
- Crossword Puzzle.....C1
- All Been Done BeforeA1
- Lorem IpsumB5
- Choose Your Adventure ...B1
- You Are ThoroughC6

THE OSWEONION

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Who's that foxy lady?

Mary Walker attracts after hours dance crowd to keep lights on



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In order to raise revenue after the state's most recent round of budget cuts, Oswego State has been renting out Mary Walker Health Center as a lesbian nightclub, according to tax documents discovered by The Osweonion.

"We figured, hey, on the weekend, this place is locked up tighter than a girl on the first three dates," said Tina Kennard, who promotes the club, which is called "L.U.G."

The club opens just hours after the health center closes Friday evening, and has had found success with the local element. The waiting room is converted into the dance floor, while the reception desk becoming a full service bar, renowned for its Miller Lite and Shocktop.

"What more could a lady want?" Bette Porter, who bartends at the club, asked. She added that another hot seller is the L.U.G.-brand cherry chapstick stocked behind the counter. A Saturday-night visit reveals a posh décor and well-dressed clientele where Birkenstocks outnumber high heels. In the back, one will find VIPs sequestered in the "Indigo Lounge," complete with bouncer Shane "Galileo" McCuchneon.

"It can get pretty rough in here" McCuchneon said. "That's why I wear my catcher's pads to work."

While placement of a lesbian bar on campus may seem incongruous, these ideas actually fit together like flannel and timberland work boots. Mary Edwards Walker, the Oswego resident and first female surgeon awarded the Medal of Honor, after whom the Health Center is named was once referred to as "the most famous sexual invert in the United States." Indeed, Walker was an ardent advocate of "dress reform," allowing women to wear slacks instead of skirts. She also took to wearing a top hat, bow tie and vest in her later



provided by **Tom Jones** | The Osweonion
Mary Edwards Walker, above, was first female in the US to be awarded the medal of honor

years. For a while starting in 1867, Walker shackled up with a female educator and aspiring lawyer named Belva Lockwood. The two were fast friends and worked together on suffragist causes.

(Editor's Note: [raised eyebrow])

As it turns out, the nightclub has already brought two frequent patrons together. Freshman zoology major Alice Pieszcecki and junior women's studies major Dana Fairbanks met at L.U.G. in March and have since started dating.

"I was instantly smitten when I first saw her," Pieszcecki said. "Looking at that tall drink of water was like taking a windmill pitch to the heart."

Records obtained by The Osweonion show that Fairbanks has already put a deposit on a U-Haul van, even though the pair has only been on two dates (FEEL THE JUDGEMENT).

"It's funny, at first I was really hesitant to go out with her, because she came to the club with a few of her exes," Fairbanks, who bears a close resemblance to Justin Beiber, said. "They're still all friends you know; should I be worried about that? Anyway, after a while, I don't know, there was just something about her that brought us together. I just couldn't get over her attractive thumb ring—what a lady magnet."

CIRCULATION

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CORRECTIONS

We couldn't care less about our mistakes.

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Local couple's arrest leads police to discovery of Bridge Street Mosey



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Happy Hour is out and early-bird specials are in this week with the discovery of the old-age pub-crawl known to participants as the Bridge Street Mosey.

Previously unnoticed, the police were tipped off to the tradition when they caught Muriel Cartwright, 72, in an indecent position with Jasper Jones, 69, in Brietbeck Park Thursday, after the two had allegedly knocked-over a local convenience store. Jones, who has diabetes, was unconscious because he had gone hours without his insulin.

The two were taken into custody where they told police they had taken part in the Bridge Street Mosey, which they said is an annual event. The pair said the pub-crawl has gone unnoticed because it has been overshadowed by its sister tradition, the Bridge Street Run.

"It's been ignored all these years, all because it's not as young and flashy," Edgar Cane, an organizer of the event said. "How can I put it for you kids? Bridge Street Mosey is mybook and Bridge Street Run version is facespace."

Bridge Street Mosey, or BSM, takes place every year from late March to the

end of April, as it takes senior citizens that long to reach all of the bars, according to organizers. Unlike BSR, which takes a single day, BSM prides itself on a pace lower and steadier than a Vietnam War story, inspired by the seniors that participate.

The Mosey is not without risk though. There have been many hospital visits in the past, said Cane. Several reports of broken hips have been caused by table-top bar dancing. Lost dentures are a common complaint, especially after body shots, and car wrecks are unfortunately quite frequent. In each case, the designated driver tested negative for alcohol, but positive for glaucoma.

"I have never had that type of accident," Gertrude Walker, an enthusiastic participant said, chuckling. "But really, uh... yes, hmm... what were we talking about? Tapioca?"

Exclusive to BSM are the specialty beverages; prune juice and vodka, apple juice and rum, or, for those that remember prohibition, water and decaffeinated tea. Early bird specials start at noon and continue through three in the afternoon at some bars.

Police are still baffled as to how they could have missed this yearly occurrence, but are looking for ways to combat the Mosey next year.

"One idea currently under consideration is to find out when it's going on and then program a 'Price is Right' marathon to discourage attendance," Oswego Police Officer Sylvester Hoges said. "Another plan is to litter the street with pictures of other people's 'grandkids.' They won't be getting too far."

Dos mueren en un accidente de ascensor



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A pair of elevator tragedies struck Oswego State Monday, as one student died and another was left in critical condition.

The first occurred at noon in Seneca Hall. Freshman Sonny Shaft was coming back from class and waiting alone for an elevator on the first floor of the south side of the building. One of the elevators was out of service and the other was on the 10th floor when he first arrived in front of the elevators, according to Seneca Hall Director James Beam.

Shaft waited for about 30 minutes before the elevator finally made it to the first floor, but it was full from students coming back from lunch.

"He looked really tired and weak," sophomore Kyle Broseph said. "We would have let him on but it would have been really, really uncomfortable."

After another two hours of waiting and countless students resetting the elevator in order to avoid picking up anyone on the first floor, Shaft collapsed to the floor.

Sophomore Anita Go found Shaft on the ground when she came to wait for the

elevator. She attempted to help him, but the elevator showed up so she decided to get on.

"Those elevators can take forever," Go said. "I would have called 911 but there isn't any cell phone service in the elevator."

The hall director found the student three hours later and called 911, but by the time emergency services showed up, he was already dead.

The second incident occurred later on in the night, at approximately 10:30 p.m. in Hart Hall. Dylan "D-Bag" Bagford was coming back from visiting a friend in Waterbury Hall and decided to take the elevator to the third floor, where he lived, according to police.

Five other students, all of whom lived on the seventh floor and were taking the same elevator, attacked Bagford for his laziness and put him into critical condition.

"People like that deserve horrible things to happen to them," said Kent Clarke, one of the attackers. "He didn't even give a 'sorry, I'm lazy.' He just pressed the button like it was no problem."

Campus police decided that no arrests needed to be made, as it was determined that the five students did a service to the community.

"These five students stood up for what is right," Office Hank Cuff said. "If anyone should be arrested it's the jerk who takes the elevator two floors."

Bagford remains in critical condition at Oswego Hospital, but many doctors are refusing to treat him

"Scum like him don't deserve my treatment," Dr. Steph Ascope said.

CTS parties like it's 1998



Graphic by **Nick Graziano** | The Osweonion



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After announcing the prospective upgrade of campus-owned computers to Windows 7, Campus Technology Services has updated their choice of preferred operating system. Judy Renolds, Chair of the Discovery of Instructional Systems Committee, said that they "reviewed the different versions of Microsoft's Windows operating system, and decided upon Windows 98."

Renolds commented that they selected Windows 98 over Windows 7 due to the number attached to each operating system.

"98 is much higher than seven, so it seemed like the obvious choice," Renolds said. "We've estimated that it's about 71 percent better, in fact."

Dr. Sam White, professor of computer science, took this as a surprise, since he said there is a version of Windows with a number higher than 98.

"Windows 2000 should be so much

better than Windows 98," he said. "2000 is over 20 times greater than 98."

Students are concerned with the proposed change in operating system, since the change to Windows 2000 would require new user passwords, as well as changes to the programs students most often use.

Adam Kurt, a junior, philosophy major, was critical of the change.

"I want them to keep it the same," Kurt said. "I like Microsoft Office, and I wouldn't be able to use it with Windows 2000."

Since any version of Microsoft Office is not designed to run efficiently on computers running Windows 2000, students would be forced to get a new office suite, which has not yet been chosen by DISC.

Some of the benefits of upgrading to Windows 98, Renolds said, are that "it offers serious upgrades from its predecessors. The USB support is more robust, the browser is more up-to-date, and there is built-in support for DVDs while keeping support for floppy disks. Windows 98 adds new features while allowing people with older devices to continue working with the campus-owned computers."

"Windows 98 is a little outdated. It comes with Windows Media Player and only the fourth version of the included browser," White said. "The networking may be a little buggy due to the coding practices in place when Windows 98 was

made. All in all, I still think Windows 2000 would have been a much better choice."

Renolds claimed that the upgrades will start soon in smaller computer labs as a trial. If they are proven successful, they will be applied to all of the campus-owned Windows machines over the summer.

"You should see it in Mahar and Penfield soon, where we can accurately judge how people are adapting to and utilizing Windows 98," Renolds said. "If they seem to be able to handle the switch, and if the software runs smoothly, then we'll upgrade all of the machines by the time students return for the fall semester."

With the switch to Windows 98, many campus servers and applications would have to be prepared for Windows 98. Patches would have to be installed to the server that allows people to log in to the campus network. ANGEL and MyOswego would need to be properly safeguarded against any of the features introduced by the native browser. The college's own website would have to be recreated in order to maintain the look and feel that people are used to seeing.

"I still think that it's time for us to leave Windows XP behind. We're been using it for years, but it's too old now. We need something better," Renolds declared at the end of the interview.

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Squirrel faculty, coaches under fire

Sprinting and climbing coach's rodent revelation riles up debate on speciesism



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After an investigation on women's sprinting and climbing coach, Sandy Oaks, which revealed her to be a squirrel, Oswego State will implement a new policy that will impact the hiring of faculty in all departments.

Oaks, who shocked the Oswego State community with her rodent status, has been fired in the wake of this incident.

"Upon learning that coach Oaks is a squirrel, the decision was immediately made to fire her," the Oswego State president said in a prepared statement. "We will be investigating how coach Oaks managed to pass a background check and take steps to prevent the future hiring of any squirrels, marmots or rodents of any kind."

Now the administration is creating new rules to prevent this from happening again. The hiring process, which previously included a background check and a few interviews, will now involve multiple tests, both physical and psychological.

"Following this incident, applicants will now have to prove they are Homo sapiens," the Oswego State president said. "We are still working on developing more tests but two have been finalized so far."

The two tests that have been developed so far are a climbing test and a psychological test involving acorns. In the climbing test



Artist rendering of squirrel faculty protesting in front of Laker Hall Thursday.

Graphic by **Aimee Hirsch** | The Osweonion

the applicant will have 20 seconds to climb a tree, if they get to the top in the allotted time, they fail. The second test involves the applicant sitting in a room with a bowl of acorns and a bowl of popcorn for 10 minutes. If the applicant chooses the acorns they are considered either to be a squirrel or just plain nuts.

While the administration develops new strategies to prevent the future hiring of squirrels, the athletic department is still trying to figure out how Oaks was hired in the first place.

Athletic Director May Pultree said she isn't sure how Oaks managed to pass herself off as a human.

"I guess now that I think about it she skittered around a lot, but Sandy never gave any other indications that she was a squirrel," Pultree said. "That might explain why some of the other coaches were missing their lunches. She was probably storing them away for winter."

Oaks' firing comes at a bad time for the sprinting and climbing team, which was in the middle of its most successful season in program history.

Senior captain of the team, Andrey Acorn, said the team is devastated by the loss of their coach and wants some answers.

"Coach Oaks is dedicated and fair and I don't understand why her being a

squirrel even matters," Acorn said. "If she can do the job why does it matter if she's not a human? Honestly it feels a little bit like discrimination."

This is the first and only season the team was coached by Oaks. The team placed first in two sprinting events this year and has gone 4-0-1 in climbing competitions.

In addition to changing the hiring policy the administration is also investigating several other faculty members to make sure they are actually humans.

"Squirrels are sly," Pultree said. "There's a possibility there are more of them on staff that we have not discovered yet."

Plus Plan adds plus size options



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Larry Lager took another sip from his strawberry daiquiri as part of his new mandate in Oswego State's meal plan.

"I like to stick with the fruity drinks as a good source of Vitamin C," Lager said. "There are a lot of healthy choices to choose from, at the convenience of swiping your card."

Recently, the World Health Organization implemented new guidelines for the food pyramid, effecting Oswego State's Plus Plan and the local economy. Beginning at the bottom, the new pyramid illustrates that a healthy carbohydrate intake consists chiefly of beer and French fries. Working its way up, a good source of vegetables can come from Bloody Mary's, and fruit resources from beverages like strawberry daiquiris and margaritas. Other foods such as cheeseburgers and pizza provide the necessary diet of meat and dairy.

With the new food pyramid in place, state subsidies have affected the way college meal plans operate. Oswego State has jumped on the bandwagon to get a head start on a national conversion and pinpointed a way to tackle the changes.

Upgraded Plus Plans have been enacted to allow students the use of their student ID to purchase food and beverages at all local bars and grills. Meal plans are currently in progress at Old City Hall, Greene's Ale House, The Raven, The Shed and other affiliated businesses.

Meal plan specials have been created in support of the conversion. Oswego State's sports teams have the privilege of swiping their ID card at local bars for the use of their establishment for training purposes. Get your pump on with draft 16-ounce curls. Serious weight lifters are allowed reps of 12 IPAs. For those who are building stamina and endurance, free shots are offered at the bar. Old City Hall recently opened its own health clinic in response to new food-pyramid advocates. With the casual throw of a bar stool, each student receives a free punching bag.

"I've found that cheeseburgers are a good source of protein and have really expanded my workout," said Oswego State athlete Donny Dumbbell.

For students who need a break from long hours of studying, meals are provided after 9 p.m. All food purchased must consist of 3,000 calories or more. Late Night specials include: glasses of water, breathalyzers and field sobriety tests. A benefit of Late-Night bar and grill dining is the opportunity for a new friend to take you home, free of charge.

Freshmen face rising danger at Oswego State

First-year experience to include survival games, warding off geese-killing bloodhounds



Graphic by **Nick Graziano** | The Osweonion



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In response to years of complaints from students that Oswego State admits too many freshmen each year, the school will begin an initiative designed to limit the number of incoming freshmen.

Residence Life and Housing announced Monday that the school will hold a contest at the beginning of each year, in which 50 incoming freshmen will be randomly selected to compete in a battle to the death, with the last student standing given the opportunity to attend Oswego State, with the added perk of their own parking space. This contest will be broadcast live on both WNYO and WTOP.

"We think this is a really innovative idea that works on two fronts," school official Tom Mapother said. "We provide an entertaining show for our returning students, and the other freshmen stop their incessant complaining. Everybody wins, except for the freshmen who get killed in the contest, obviously."

This contest will consist of 50 randomly selected freshmen who will hunt each other with weapons and their own survival techniques, using the entire Oswego State campus as their battleground. The participants will be given weapons based on their high-school GPAs. The smartest students will be

given swords and firearms, while students with lower grades will get a stick, or possibly a pillow. Upperclassmen are forbidden from interfering with the contest unless they have a sibling or cousin participating. The only safe zone is Hewitt Union because school officials said that since no one ever goes inside Hewitt, no one would be able to see anything that happens there.

"We don't want to rob the students of quality entertainment," Mapother said.

This planned contest has faced an enormous amount of controversy from the incoming freshmen and their parents.

"We don't care about what students or parents say," school official Paul Hewson said. "We already have their deposits for the first year, so that's all that matters."

Hewson also discussed where he got the idea for this contest.

"A lot of people have said we're just ripping off 'The Hunger Games,' but that is just not true," Hewson said. "We are paying homage to 'Battle Royale,' the Japanese movie that 'Hunger Games' shamelessly stole from. People need to get their facts straight."

While some older students are horrified by this proposed contest, others are intrigued by it.

"It sounds like Humans vs. Zombies, except interesting," Colin Connolly said.

This plan is still subject to approval by SUNY, but school officials are optimistic, saying that they will carry on with the plan whether or not SUNY gives them permission.

"We don't care what they think, it's not like New York state owns us or anything," Mapother said. "Wait, they do? I was not made aware of that information, but we're doing it anyway, damn the consequences."



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After the first attack on a student, Oswego State decided it was finally time to take action against the increasing swarm of geese on campus.

The Oswego State president looked at many options on how to dispose of the geese, including hiring the deer to run them out, making it a GST requirement for incoming freshmen living in Johnson Hall and hiring the Ghost Busters.

After the deer turned down the offer and the Oswego State president realizing the Ghost Busters did not actually exist, the president came up with the solution of training dogs to kill the geese.

"I was watching Animal Planet and there was a show on where a lion was hunting down a zebra, so I thought we can train dogs to do the same, but with geese," the Oswego State president said.

According to the president it was a grueling process trying to find the right dog for the job. She said that German Shepherds were too focused on Cayuga Hall residents, Border Collies only rounded the geese up, Golden Retrievers ended up being chased by the geese and thought the school might be put in a bad light using pit bulls.

The decision quickly became clear after University Police discovered an underground dog-fighting league on campus using Chihuahuas. The dogs, 11 in total, were taken and cared for by U.P. and have begun training on how to take down the legion of geese. After the decision to not take down Snygg Hall for being an historical sight, it has become the new training ground for the dogs.

"The dogs' progression is coming along nicely in our 'Operation Take Down the Geese Apocalypse' program," head officer of the program, Harry Douglas, said. "A few are already taking down four geese in a matter of 10 seconds. We're looking forward to the science building being complete so we can experiment with a few ideas to turn the dogs into Super Chihuahuas."

Kent C. Strait, junior zoology major at Oswego State, believes "Operation Take Down the Geese Apocalypse" is the wrong thing to do.

"I originally thought that the school paid for the geese to be here as a kind of decoration," Strait said. "It is not the geese's fault they attacked that kid. They're probably just angry and confused with the lack of winter there was."

Despite Strait's concern, the program is still moving forward looking for more Chihuahua recruits. Douglas believes the current dogs will be ready to go by the end of the semester and the program will go into full effect during the summer time. Program officials will be posting fliers around campus informing students to not play with the dogs or act like a goose because they will be attacked.

	Killed by Dogs	TOTAL	Enough?
Geese	165	No	
Smaller Geese	209	No	
Vtrns. of Geese War	75	Close	
Freshman	6-ish	N/A	
Sickly Antelopes	All	Yes	
Paddington Bear	1	Shut it down	

Graphic by **Adam Wolfe** | The Osweonion

Life contains little meaning; give up

From SYNGG, cover

The administration said they were looking forward to working with VEGA, chemistry club, or freshmen anxious to add something to their resumes.

According to the college president, some of the ideas for the tour include special tours in binary code for a few extra dollars. They have also found a great spot in the building for training dogs and squirrels. Adventurous tourists have the option of taking the exact same exams science students back in the day took in the building. There is also a cool part of the tour where you can try on simulator goggles that replicate feelings of stress and anxiety felt by students, much like drunk goggles.

"I'm really excited to bring something of this caliber to the community. We are already planning on planting exotic verbena and Venus Fly Traps, for when the May flies come in spring," said the college president.

Snygg hall was named after Donald Syngg, who wrote and published books on phenomenological psychology, which is the study of human nature and how phenomenon experiences give meaning to our life and relationships. He was considered a historical and authority figure in the field.

"We believe by having tours, it will not only benefit the intellectual community here on campus and in town, but it will bring tourists from around the world and really get people talking about Oswego," said Dan Daniels, a top administrative advisor. "Still, we're all going to miss those parking spaces that were supposed to be built on this site."

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