There’s a buzz on campus, traveling through gender-defined dorms, slowly making its way across the traffic jam on the way to Olde Oak. A nameless event is given breath and life on the lips and tongues of students. Events advertised in collages lining stairways create a yearlong excitement among the students of Olivet. Adults are reduced to childlike wonder with glorified games of steal the bacon and movies projected on an inflatable screen on the intramural fields. Finger painting takes on a whole new meaning in the annual Paint Wars. Spirits rise as kind strangers ardently approach each other with kind words and friendly affection. The heart of Olivet rests in its students.
In the red line station, volunteers grin in genuine excitement, directing the foot traffic towards the Chicago Marathon taking place just a few blocks away.

A short walk later and we’re pressed against a line of people standing haphazardly on the edge of a curb, waving signs in the air and shaking a contraption that appears to be a combination of a hand bell and a cow bell, in the worst way. They bang thundersticks together above their heads. They check their phones constantly for updates on their friends or family members in the race. They scream encouragement at strangers running by with their names written in sharpie on their shirt.

A stream of runners thickens and thins at irregular intervals, feet pound pavement like a drum line, and orange shirts proclaim individuals as part of the collective conscience of Team World Vision. Friendly faces are bountiful, with 131 runners from Olivet. Genesis Perez said proudly, “Running the marathon makes me feel as if I am taking a journey to find water for my family.” He’s wasn’t alone. All in all, Team Olivet was able to raise $75,000 for clean water.

Heidi Watson agreed, “I learned how much farther one can go when it’s for someone else rather than ourselves. When you give to others, you truly do reap a huge reward in return.”

By David Modica

Jessica Morey ran the Chicago Marathon for Team World Vision alongside runners from all over the world, in the name of providing clean water to Africa (1). Brandon Doyle kept his pace with his headphones (2). Preston Shelton flashed a smile despite the grueling run (3). (rh)
Steve Spear ran down the center aisle of Centennial Chapel on his way to the podium. The audience expected him to be somewhat out of breath given the length of the aisle, until they realized that this man who is their father’s age is an ultramarathon runner.

“I hate to run,” he said. Despite the proclaimed aversion, he has established a goal to raise 1.5 million dollars for Team World Vision by running 120 marathons across the country.

He opened the address with awe-inspiring facts about his run from California to New York. “I consumed on average 5,000 calories per day,” he said. Most of the fuel for his runs consisted of peanut butter and jelly sandwiches eaten midstride. In addition, he also consumed two blizzards from Dairy Queen after each run, substituting a McFlurry only when necessary.

At the end of his speech he invited the marathon runners up to the altar, calling on the congregation to lift their hands as a sign of support as he prayed to encourage the runners for the marathon, which took place Sunday, October 13, 2013.

By David Modica
Students were relaxing by the petting zoo after a stressful start to the semester and professors were enjoying fresh cotton candy with their families.

Suddenly, the heat of the day diminished, the wind picked up, and clouds rolled in. “60 mile-per-hour winds and quarter-sized hail are heading our way,” Matt Smith announced over the loudspeaker. Although he was being sarcastic, soon he wasn’t kidding and he demanded everyone go inside.

At first, students laughed off the weather. “Bungee jumping in the wind was crazy fun because it was making me jump so much higher,” said Kristen Alaniz. “At the same time it was scary because I couldn’t control myself at all.”

As a massive thunderstorm encased campus, students began rushing for shelter. “Save yourselves!” yelled Smith. As the wind picked up, tents and carnival games began collapsing. The wind knocked one heavy 10-foot high metal shelf forward, missing Loren Crawford by inches. “I’m just glad I was standing closer to the table,” she said. “The shelf fell right next to me and almost hit me!”

As the wind threatened to blow everything away, students and faculty scrambled to tear down tents and anchor the bounce house. As thunder cracked, the petting zoo staff hurried their animals to shelter. Associated student council representatives braved the elements to cart carnival supplies into the basement of Chalfant and supply trucks. Soon, only empty vintage soda bottles and plastic carnival hats on the lawn evidenced the 2013 Block Party.

By Kassandra Spinnie

Bear Hunting

Much work goes on behind the scenes to prepare for the Block Party. Vice President of Social Life, Brandon Klemm, compares planning the Block Party to killing a bear because the event is so monstrous. He said, “The event is huge; over two thousand people attend each year, and it’s hairy working with all of the different vendors, but man does it feel good when you kill it!”
The theme of the Block Party was “vintage carnival.” Bacon-wrapped corn, cheese-filled pretzels, and vintage soda filled the Weber lawn in the hands of students, staff, and children. The unique food as well as carnival games and ASC workers wearing suspenders provided a fun festival atmosphere. Bounce houses, obstacle courses, and carnival games allowed students to fellowship with each other without the interference of homework. After finishing the obstacle course, sophomore Bethany Munroe said, “I love it when college lets me act like a little kid again!”
Dominique “Shep” Shepherd is the face of the blue team, the proud sophomore class who emerged with a second-place win. (kw)

Seniors rush the field to celebrate their first victory in four years, (kw)

Junior Dustin Dehart makes a great catch during a frisbee game. (kw)

The junior ASC representatives flex their muscles for the camera. (kw)

Katie Reed and the sophomores dance to the Cha-Cha Slide before the games begin. (kw)

Seniors rush the field to celebrate their first victory in four years. (kw)
As students gathered in the field next to the Warming House there was one question on everyone’s minds: who would win the Wacky Games this year? Brandon Klemm, Vice President of Social Life, did not hesitate. “The seniors, of course!”

This year’s Wacky Games included the classic competitions present each autumn, but two events drew special attention. Students crowding the bleachers vocalized their horror and amusement when Matt Smith announced that this year competitors would have to drink tea, root beer, lemonade, and syrup combined in a large Tupperware container for the popular chugging game. Klemm laughed off the mixed responses, saying, “Some students said it tasted awful, but others thought it tasted like candy.”

The buckets were drained and teams patted the backs of the brave souls who risked their taste buds and dinner for the cause, but the final competition quickly grabbed full attention: a game of ‘steal the bacon’ with large, soapy inner tubes.

A few male participants let their competitive nature get the better of them on the muddy ground, resulting in one of the senior boys being yanked off his opponents by Smitty for getting too rough. The intense moment ended up in the loss of points for seniors. When asked about the quarrel, Klemm said that a minor fight was bound to happen: “It’s kind of hard to be nice when you’re ripping a tube away from someone else.”

Klemm’s intuition was right, and the seniors emerged from the games victorious, causing a sea of orange to flood the middle of the field. The tubing incident was forgotten and the nausea from chugging down beverages that should never be mixed anished as orange noodles waved high in the September night air.

By Doni York

#wackygames

**Jeff Gerstenberger** @Jeff_Gerst
freshmen class: 700+
ounces of baby powder: 285
baby powder bottles: 15
wacky games: 5
participating in Ollie’s Follies @ONU: PRICELESS

**Alyssa Davis** @uhh_lyssa94
Head’s killer, stomach hurts, throat’s burning, and I’m exhausted. Definitely regret drinking after everyone at wacky games. #sickkkkk

**Mark Holcomb** @mholcomb28
Cha cha. Wacky games warm up. #lifeatolivet
Annette Carr and Chelsea Risinger performed as characters from the musical *Wicked*.

The sophomores created an unforgettable moment with their rocking dance finale. (AH)

![Image of Annette Carr and Chelsea Risinger performing](image)

**The Buzz on Campus**

Cast and crew ran up and down the aisles during Ollies Fol­lies rehearsals even just hours before the big event. Shouts rose up for misplaced props. Dancers spun the wrong way and ran into their neighbors. Leaders were encircled by classmates with questions and problems. Technical staff pulled together lighting and video transitions in just a few days.

“The streaming system was buzzing, so there was one guy who was running back and forth throughout the entire day trying to figure out what it was,” explained media service worker Truitt Murrow.

In the midst of the chaos, however, the shows were solidified. “It was a little chaotic but we got it together eventually,” said freshman Riley Anderson.

![Image of Ollies Fol­lies rehearsals](image)
Students flooded Chalfant Hall to the sound of shouting, cheering, and laughing, ready for the road trip to begin.

The freshmen began a with dance to a Hannah Montana/Miley Cyrus montage. Things got strange when “Miley” actually showed up on stage. The wayward pop country singer was portrayed by freshman Justin Kollar, whose blonde wig fell off halfway through the performance. “All I could think was, ‘What would Miley do? The answer was twerk,” Kollar said.

The sophomores followed their east coast route from the sea to the city, including Broadway musicals like “The Lion King” and “Wicked” into their performance. The juniors used “#PureMidwest” to encourage viewers to follow them on their road trip across the midwest. Boys in shorts made the audience laugh with their dance to “She Thinks My Tractor’s Sexy.”

The seniors video followed David Timm, Lillian Guenseth and Matt Jones on a roadtrip to Olivet, guest-starring Dr. Bowling and Public Safety along the way. Their dance routines included a number of different props like umbrellas, coffee cups, and flashlights. Orange flooded the stage as the seniors were announced the Ollies Follies winners. By Katelyn Oprondek

Tyler Sowards hit the floor to help the seniors win (1). The freshmen kicked off with a western themed dance routine (2). Matt Jones and David Timm traveled across stage in a cardboard car (3). (AH)

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**Ryan Guertin** @tweetguertin
Had a fantastic time meeting new friends at the show tonight and at the rehearsals before it. #puremidwest #lifeatolivet

**Kara Hewett** @karahewett
Every day of the year should be Ollies Follies. Enough of this school nonsense, let’s just variety show until graduation. #lifeatolivet

**Zach Thurston** @zachthurston
Nights like tonight make me so glad I am where I am. I love ONU. #olliesfollies2013 #lifeatolivet

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People // 105
Purple and Gold Days is an event for high school seniors and their parents, meant to give prospective students a taste of the Olivet college experience. This experience is highlighted by tours of the campus and presentations meant to prepare high school students and their parents for their college careers. Though the activities are meant to be a fun and exhilarating peek into the future, they also have the potential to catapult a student into a nostalgic reverie of early high school lunch days and the anxious attempt at finding friends.

Shayla Hancock and Jessica Ellison help answer questions at the Admissions building. (RW)

Lillian Guenseth gives a tour of the Perry Center to prospective students and parents. (RW)

Tanner Garner speaks to visiting high-school students about the philosophy of education with a Christian purpose. (RW)
Life-Long Friends

Overladen with the inevitable life transition of choosing a college, Lisa Boaz and Rebecca Busier attended Purple and Gold days with different mindsets and similar circumstances. Neither girl knew anyone. While Rebecca had already made her decision to attend Olivet, Lisa was not yet sure of her path. “I wasn’t focused on people, but more on the school,” she said.

Both girls were intimidated by the prospect of Purple and Gold Days. They met after both asking admissions counselors about lifeguarding opportunities in the community. Later, on the bus trip to Chicago, Lisa randomly decided to turn around and talk to the girl behind her on the bus, remembering her as the one who asked about lifeguarding. They immediately clicked and talked about everything from prospective majors to boys to the amusing fact that Rebecca had never been introduced to the famous Chicago Bean.

Meeting someone so early helped both Lisa and Rebecca. Purple and Gold Days was the final factor in Lisa’s decision to attend Olivet. Taking advantage of the situation, they quickly decided to be roommates, and remained so all four years. They claim to have skipped the usual awkward roommate phase. They were able to communicate early on about preparing their room, and always had a friend for meals and events.

When reflecting back on their ideal experience with Purple and Gold Days, they say the best parts were the memories that were made, having fun and engaging leaders, and meeting new people they still talk to today. Both advise nervous prospective students that the weekend is well worthwhile, and that it’s important to be willing to meet others and to step out of your comfort zone. “We wouldn’t have met if we hadn’t turned around randomly and talk to each other,” Busier said.

By Drew Leavitt

Brandon Maranion understands the anxiety inherent in transitioning from high school monotony to the overwhelming, battering college decisions. There is a sudden inevitable requirement at this point in every prospective student’s life to sample adult responsibilities and make decisions that no high school student could be accustomed to. Brandon is more than willing to host prospective students when they visit for Purple and Gold Days because he remembers the older students who encouraged him when he stayed with them at his own Purple and Gold Days. More than willing to have the same effect on prospective students, Brandon says, “I always hope that as students come for Purple and Gold Days, I can play a little part in this important time of their lives.”

By Drew Leavitt

Brandon Maranion discusses some of the experiences he has had hosting prospective students. (RH)

Cassidy Glandon, Alii Hill, Rebecca Busler, and Lisa Boaz have been roommates for the last three years. They have a unique reason for standing in this order: their initials spell out CARL, which is what they call their apartment. (S)
Narmaly Jean-Baptiste and Kerrielle Davis recite spoken word poetry. (jr)

Ariel Turner, Mike Gonzalez, and Laura Fosnaugh sang during the Unity Week Tuesday worship night at Kelley Prayer Chapel. (sf)

Professionals of Olivetians

Unity Week’s “Profiles of Olivetians” featured multicultural stories. The first student was Noadia Jean-Baptiste, a graduate student studying Christian ministry. Noadia described her upbringing in a Haitian household and expressed how hard it was trying to be both American and Haitian. “It was confusing,” Noadia said, “like a tug-of-war.” Reetu Height, married to Jeremy Height also spoke about the difficulty of straddling two cultures. Her family moved to the United States from the Punjab region of India when she was in the first grade. “I wanted to be American,” Reetu said. “It was like I was living a double life.”

By Garrett Corpier
One of the highlights of Unity Week was the chapel service in Kelley Prayer Chapel. Dr. Thalyta Swanepoel gave a moving speech about her life in South Africa. Dr. Cynthia Taylor, the leader of Unity Week, also spoke, and the service ended with everyone singing together.

Gospel Choir Uncut
Unity Week was about coming together as one to embrace cultural differences and celebrate the commonalities that bind us together as God’s people. It was full of music, food, and prayer. Participants left with a broadened cultural perspective. The week concluded on Saturday, Nov. 23 with a concert by gospel choir, which included rapping, poetry, worship songs that involved the audience, and a step dance. The color guard also performed an impressive and energetic flag routine.

By Alex VanDehey

//Ride on, King Jesus

One of the highlights of Unity Week was the chapel service in Kelley Prayer Chapel. Dr. Thalyta Swanepoel gave a moving speech about her life in South Africa. Dr. Cynthia Taylor, the leader of Unity Week, also spoke, and the service ended with everyone singing together.
Candy Coma

Chalfant Hall was filled with laughter and the smell of caramel corn as students wandered through Candy Costume Fest, seeing everything from Rapunzel to the grand prize winning costume of a homeschool boy with “all of his friends.” (During the small group competition, Kyle Johnston ran onstage alone yelling, “Come on, guys!”)

Both costumes and food were in abundance. “Halloween is the only time you can stuff your face with as much candy as you want and not feel guilty about it,” said Jean Mosey. After over 4,000 pieces of candy that filled 12 buckets, 15 buckets of popcorn, 6,000 donut holes, and $520, Olivet completed another successful Candy Costume Fest. “You know what the problem is with donut holes? Nothing. Holy cow I ate 25!” said Smitty. By Kassandra Spinnie

It is not the materials of a costume alone that makes it great, but also the personalities underneath and their performances. Jason Walker, dressed as Indiana Jones, and Tyler Watson, dressed as Fred Flintstone, brought their characters to life as they walked across the stage to compete. When Indy offered a hand of greeting to Fred, Fred look at the hand with a confused expression and proceeded to put Indy’s hand in his mouth.

The resident assistants of the Grand apartments dressed up as Barbies that never made it on the shelf, with titles like “Plumber Barbie” and “Sodexo Barbie.” (AH)

Garrett Muhlstadt and Abbie Allen played characters from the short film Paperman. (AH)
Matt Smith declared his personal favorite to be The Abominable Snowman The Bumble™ (Jon Lehman) and Yukon Cornelius (Rachel Keck) from Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. Their creativity won them the title of best air. (AH)

(1) Madison Davis, Ayla Price, Rachel Blunier, and Cara Butler personified several social media sites. (AH)

(2) Spencer Allen hopped across stage as the Pixar lamp, one member of a large group entry portraying various Pixar characters. (AH)

(3) Tutus, tights, and tiaras made Disney princesses out of Kacey Richman, Lainee Abbott, Melinda Kearney Sayer Smith, Caleb Cornell, and Jacob Gouge. (AH)

College Kid Costume
How do college students make creative yet cheap Halloween costumes? Freshman Jacob Neal would be at the top of the class if cheap Halloween costumes were a major. Using a donated washing machine box from Lowes, duct tape and spray paint, Jacob created a magnificent WALL-E costume. He is lucky that Chalfant has double doors because otherwise he wouldn’t have been able to fit through the door.

Student Life // 113
Behind the Curtain

Audience members silently waiting in anticipation between each number at Broadway Revue would be surprised at the commotion taking place backstage. Cast member Melody Long said, “It’s pretty chaotic! In between songs everyone is trying to change costumes for the next couple numbers, so there is a lot of running into each other. But there’s also a lot of goofing off, singing, and fun too.” The chemistry between the singers on stage makes the show more entertaining to watch. Melody said, “We became like a family so fast—even if I hadn’t formally introduced myself to some of the cast, we still laughed and talked together as if we’d always known each other.”

As the cast rushed on stage for one final number, the crowd went wild as they sang the lyrics from *Grease*: “We’ll always be together!”

By Erin Taylor
Green Room: Theatre Club

Q: What did Olivet see this year?
Hannah Williams: Olivet produced both The Music Man and Middletown. Students were invited to see the performances from 24-Hour Theatre and Open Mic Night as well. Many people who are not even in Green Room but are musically inclined participated in Open Mic Night, so it is a campus-wide event.

Q: What does the Green Room mean to you?
A: I got involved with Green Room my freshman year after I was cast in the fall play. I served as club treasurer for two years, and I am so honored to serve as president this year; I am following in the footsteps of some incredible leaders. I also feel blessed to have such a great vice president in Ron Gamache... I couldn’t do so much of what we do as a club without him. Green Room means the world to me. The members are some of my best friends and biggest supporters. I have found a great family and community to identify myself with.
Nine stories, 19 characters, and one location in the middle of nowhere on a cold, wintry night in a place known as Almost, Maine, set the stage for this year’s fall play. Two by two, characters gave their hearts to each other in exaggerated ways. Falling in love meant falling on the floor incapable to stand up, and love turned out to be the only thing that is worth getting hurt over in scenes like “They Fell” and “This Hurts.” The message sent by the play was that love comes naturally; it is not forced or complex. It may have awkward tendencies, but when love is meant to be, it will find a way.

By Erin Taylor

Taking a knee, Kolby Meador pondered the news that Jordan Hirl’s broken heart was in the paper bag (1). Ashley Sarver’s character contemplated her decision to chose a career over a relationship with Alex Osbourne’s character (2). (hm)

Hannah Williams and Nick Allen warmed the hearts of the audience. (3) Jennifer Taylor and Cody Kepner studied a picture together. (4) Ron Gamache and Michaela Maris portrayed the dynamics of human relationships. (5) Colin Kepner, Emmaline Brown, and Lindsey Shoemaker acted out a restaurant scene. (6) (hm)
Justin Kollar reflected upon his troubled relationship with Tatiana Diaz, who portrayed his wife, as they observed the stars.
Laughter filled Ludwig as students gathered to celebrate at the all-school Christmas party. Sodexo staff spent nearly three hours preparing the food and drinks. ASC members meticulously hung sparkly snowflakes and garlands. The hard work paid off as students came pouring in to find a winter wonderland full of food, friends, and fellowship, but one favorite was the chocolate fondue. “I mean seriously, I’ve got a glass of it,” Andy Thompson said as he dipped pretzels into a plastic cup full of chocolate. Similarly impressed, Megan Huschen said, “I especially love the cookies and the frosting was so good. I think I ate four of them!”

Some students decorated gingerbread houses and competed in the ugly sweater contest, while others sat and enjoyed conversations with friends. “I love being able to come together as a community and spend time with friends before the end of the semester,” Melanie Breunig said. In previous years, the party occupied only the main cafeteria portion of Ludwig. This year the entire building was utilized to accommodate the growing student body. “It’s a lot more fun and lively now that the whole building is being used,” said Amanda Hogan, a Resident Director in McClain Hall.

By Kassie Spinnie

“The event is a visible reminder that Olivet is people—not buildings or programs.”

-Dr. Bowling
Luke Steelman, Josh Altmann, Tyler Crater, Hunter Jacobs, Alex Thorson, Matt Restad, Abe Barwegan, Austin Davis and Zach Wagner—mostly members of the men’s basketball team—sang an impromptu version of the “The 12 Days of Christmas” in Ludwig.

Freshmen enjoyed their first Christmas at Olivet (1). Materials to make gingerbread houses ended up in a myriad of forms (2). Walker Runyan and Robin Gerboth frosted cookies (3).

Family Aspect

Dating back at least 50 years, the Christmas party hosted by Dr. Bowling and his wife is a cherished tradition for faculty and staff. Students usually assist Sodexo as servers. Dr. Bowling explained, “The Christmas gathering allows folks who work together to get acquainted with each other’s spouses and families. The event reinforces the community and family aspect of Olivet and is a visible reminder that Olivet is people—not buildings or programs.” Biology professor Dr. Daniel Sharda related that the party “is a good time to have fellowship about non-school related topics.” Dr. Bowling gives employees a gift every year. In years past, this gift was a large frozen turkey, but they now receive cash and gift cards to Cracker Barrel.
The numbers are in, and it turns out you don’t need to be engaged by graduation — go figure. Facebook recently released a study concluding that only 28 percent of married couples with profiles on the social networking site went to the same college, and 15 percent of spouses attended the same high school.

According to the data, Olivet is one of the top 25 schools in America where men find their spouses. However, Olivet didn’t make the list of top schools where women find their spouses.

So it seems the evidence is mixed. Is ring by spring is nothing more than a clever farce? Perhaps ambiguity is to blame for the overwhelming power that the mindset has on campus. The belief that every other person has found love and that you are alone in feeling lonely can be overwhelming when you’re sitting by yourself with Ramen and Netflix on a Friday night.

But you’re not the only one feeling that way. So whether you’re single, engaged or married, remember: campus culture is created by you.

### Couples A and A

65 percent of Olivet students agreed with the marriage equality act passed in November that legalized gay marriage in Illinois, according to a poll by the Glimmer-Glass.

Couple: Tyler Abraham and Angela Ames
Wedding date: June 6, 2015

**Why do you think now is the time for you to get married?**

We began dating at the beginning of our junior year in high school and we have always believed that the point of dating is to find a spouse. We both agreed that we wanted to be engaged for at least a year so that we could do pre-marital counseling and take some financial classes so that we are better prepared for our lives together. Plus after a little over four years of dating, everyone was kind of wondering when we were going to get around to it!
Blane Mowry
“Do not marry off before May 2nd, 2015”
Do you think it is a bigger deal to remain single at graduation than to be married? Why?

For me, I think relationship status at graduation is irrelevant. God has plans for my life, and those are independent of the date of May 2, 2015. However, I think if polled most of Olivet’s student body would say it’s a bigger deal to be married at graduation than single. Honestly, I think most people wait until after graduation to get married. That said, I think there is a notable pressure for many to be in some form of a relationship, or to have something locked down by graduation before starting out in the “real world.”

Aaron Hemgesburg
“Paul clearly advocates singleness”
Do you think the Bible promotes being married or being single? Why?

“I think there are points where it does advocate marriage and points where it doesn’t. Paul clearly advocates singleness for the purpose of better ministry. But marriage has always been a design of God’s. I would say be single if you can be, but there is just so much beauty in a godly marriage.”
The first game played during paint wars was Capture the Flag. Students were armed with knee-high tube socks, which were dipped in paint before being used as paint soaked weapons to defend their flag. (JR)

Kendra Maxon was irritated by the event staff’s decision to water down the paint. She said, “I saw all the cool shirts from last year... this year all the paint came off. What’s the point?” (St)

Loren Crawford wasn’t safe from being covered in paint, not even her teeth. (JR)

On September 14th, 750 students gathered at the Fortin Villa for the largest Paint Wars in Olivet’s history. Competitors were armed with a paint-soaked sock and a pair of safety goggles. An intense game of capture-the-flag occurred and students fought courageously against their enemies to retrieve the winning flag as paint threatened to overtake them. Oceans of red, green, orange and blue flooded the field and rained endlessly from the sky, leaving no participant unscathed. As the event ended, students faced each other in one final battle. Trusting no one, contenders overturned buckets of paint and engulfed the field in a flash flood of paint.

By Kassandra Spinnie
Paint wars participants stared down their enemies, ready to attack. Dodge balls dripping with paint made for a messy rendition of the game. There was no escaping the torrential downpour as dodge balls flew through the air and released their wrath. (JR)

Those not participating in the tube game provided a cheering section for their team (1). The crisp white shirts that students received before the event were quickly transformed as the games began (2). Students twirled paint-covered tube socks at their opponents in an attempt to protect their flags (3). As soon as Matt Smith called out, “2, 5, 7, 9... GO!” the students corresponding to those numbers raced to fight over to the paint covered inner tubes and pool noodles (4). (JR)
Ashley Sarver and Matt Jones paraded around campus in full costume to promote the show before opening night. (1) Christine Caven played librarian Marian Paroo. (2) Ben Geeding wowed the crowd in a plaid suit. (3) (ah)
“The set was beautiful, the acting was great, and it really felt like an old-timey town. There was a definite sense of energy and movement throughout the play that kept things fun. It was great to see so much talent on one stage,” said Logan Long, a senior. Full of fun, catchy songs performed by a lively, talented cast, Olivet’s spring musical *The Music Man* was a huge success. Ben Geeding commanded the stage as Harold Hill, a conman transformed by the honest folks of Iowa. Marian Paroo, the beautiful librarian who falls for Harold and helps him turn around, was played by Ben’s fellow music ministry major, senior Christine Caven from Boise, Idaho. Their chemistry on the Kresge Auditorium stage combined with the fantastic talent of the supporting cast brought this Broadway classic to life. The play, which premiered the first weekend in March, was attended by a large, eager audience at each performance. As Long jokingly (yet accurately) commented before going to see the play for a second time, “Ten out of ten would watch it again!” By Alexandra VanDehey