Seek and you will find. Your life is a story, and it is up to you what adventures you will fill it with. Each weekend at Olivet offers new events, ways to learn and to be entertained. Each event has a premise that draws us, but what we remember is time with friends, inside jokes, and memories that come back to you in the most unexpected of moments, leaving a smile on your face.
When asked what she was looking forward to the most about the Color Run, Senior Emma Wright laughed and said, “Walking.”

This year’s Color Run took place on an unseasonably mild day, a hint of the autumn chill lingering in the air. Matt Smith hosted the run with his typical humor and charm. The event was bookended by celebrations on the lawn outside of Weber; Zumba in the beginning, impromptu line-dancing at the end. The main event, of course, was the run: a 5K trek through campus, onto the track, and back onto campus again.

Intermittently, runners found checkpoints populated by Residential Life staff who sprayed them with colored chalk—either blue, yellow, orange, green, purple, or pink. Students wore white shirts, bandanas, and sunglasses that gradually become more and more colorful as the race continued. These checkpoints kept runners energized. “You’re running, and you’re tired,” said Junior Jacob Mellinger, “but something about getting to the colors just revitalizes you.” Things ended with everyone tossing their color packets into the air. “The color was almost like smoke, it was so thick,” Mellinger said.

People began the run in the sequence of how much running they planned to do. Some, such as Senior Caleb Burkey, ran the whole way, but cheered on those who walked or jogged. For seniors, such as Josh Ewing, it was about making the most of their final year. “It’s my last semester at Olivet,” said Josh, “and I figured if I was ever going to do a 5k, it would be a Color Run because it looked like a lot of fun...It was really for the memory.”
Taylor Schott and John Hand helped students and their families carry various items up to their dorm rooms. Many students brought carpets and rugs to make their new living quarters feel more like home.

New this year, each incoming freshman class will receive a word to describe and motivate the students. This year, “Exemplary” has been chosen for the class of 2018, and it is quite fitting for this outstanding group of students.

Thomas Georgakopoulos and his family took a break from moving-in and stopped at Ludwig. They had time to rest, chat, and eat before saying those difficult goodbyes.

Freshman Connections Mentors Thomas Fazio and Sarah Ready waited at their Jumpstart table to greet their students and answer questions.

The move-in process was grueling, but fortunately, ROTC and student leaders were there to offer assistance.
Every year, Olivet welcomes a new group of students, fresh out of high school and eager to see what the year will hold for them. These students are about to embark on a journey to gain their independence, while learning to become academics along the way. Some of the freshmen, like Kayla Wilson, were excited about “the experience and not being at home.” There were others who said they were looking forward to an upcoming sport, or simply finding their place here at Olivet. Overall it seemed that this year’s freshmen are ambitious, stepping onto campus with a major already decided and a mini fridge fully stocked with their favorite goodies (thanks to Mom and Dad). It’s important to remember that in moving towards one place, you have to move away from another. Freshmen move from everything they have ever known to a new and unfamiliar place. So here’s to the freshmen: the ones who come here not sure what to expect and leave at the end of their first year having developed a solid foundation of who they are and what they are called to do.
At Olivet we celebrate new beginnings with our annual school-wide Block Party. Despite inclement weather approaching, the Block Party went on inside the Perry Center field house. All of the finest elements of a carnival were present, and students spoke out about what got them most interested in the festivities. Brooke Fraley, a sophomore, expressed that she was more than happy to get a day off from running around and getting her “class stuff together.” She really enjoyed the petting zoo and spending time with her friends who have slowly settled into the pace of the school year. At the start of school, students not only prepare for their classes, but also for a semester without home cooked meals readily available. Junior Garrett Muhlstadt shared, “Food’s what I look forward to the most!” Many students over the years come to the block party in hopes of filling their bellies with free food, and this year’s event did not disappoint.

Summer lived on for a little while longer as students participated in the various games, conquered inflatable obstacle courses, and—of course—lined up in full force for the cotton candy stand. Some traditions of the block party never change. Senior Sam Emaus explains that he comes in hopes snagging some pizza and, “Every year, I end up getting a lot of Papa John’s.” When it comes to the block party, Olivet knows how to kick the year off right.
Far Left: There were many different activities available for the students at the Block Party, and many joined in on a spontaneous dance party.

Left: The Block Party was planned and executed by the Associated Student Council. VP for Student Relations Tiara Long and VP for Women’s Residential Life Michaela Maris were two members of the Council who gladly pitched in to make the Block Party a success.

Below: Due to inclement weather, the festivities were moved from the Weber Lawn to the Fieldhouse in the Perry Center.

Left: Jenelle Wilson and Kendra Leimbach raced each other through an inflatable obstacle course.

Far Above: Destiny Paden and Austin Kelly stopped by the annual Block Party to relax and have fun.

Above: Students enjoyed the snow cones made by Sweet Street, a local store offering candy and various other treats.
Right: With “bombs bursting in air,” the senior class erupted with patriotism and class spirit to kick off their final Wacky Games.

Below: In the Ollies Follies Athletic Competition, Frank Tapia went up against Morgan Bundenthal in the annual soccer game.

Far Below: While the seniors make their grand entrance, Caleb Duffy stopped in the madness to blow one of the many noisemakers.

Above: Intently watching the game, emotions ran high for the sophomore class as they took on the juniors for Ollies Follies soccer.

Right: Drinking up a delicious concoction, juniors Breanna Greer and Andrew Fischer did their best to earn points for their class.

Far Right: New to the Wacky Games, the freshmen tried their hardest to keep up with the experienced upperclassmen.
All in Good Fun

Wacky Games and Sports As you entered the field by the Warming House for the 2014 Ollies Follies Wacky Games, you were surrounded by seas of yellow, blue, green, and orange shirts. Competitors played hard in attempts to help their class achieve victory. The sound of cowbells came from every side of the field as well as from team huddles while spectators shouted support to their teams from the bleachers. This year’s theme of Seasons was represented by the seniors as summer, juniors as winter, sophomores as spring, and the freshmen as fall.

It was difficult to decide which game was the most fun to watch. Tug of war, bobbing for apples (and gummy worms), and an eating game honoring the seasons all deserved honorable mentions, but the classic “chugging” and “tube” games drew the loudest cheers from the onlookers. In the chugging game, players had to finish a concoction of lemonade, juice, milk, and apple cider before the other teams. Exclamations and spluttering came from the players as they were encouraged by yells from their classmates. Everything else was forgotten though, as preparations for the tube game began.

The sight of large black inner tubes being dragged onto the field received shrieks of excitement from students. The tubes were soaped up and the game began! Matt Smith, host of the games, commended the girls for their determination as they fought for possession of the tubes. The sophomores held their own, and the juniors and freshmen struggled to keep up. However, players scrambling for the tubes discovered early on that the seniors were a force to be reckoned with. The seniors ultimately came out on top and became the 2014 Ollies Follies Wacky Game champions!

Ollies Follies Sports Final Scores

Seniors 10,000
Sophomores 7,500
Juniors 5,000
Freshman 2,500

Above: With one last chance to win it all, seniors Hunter Jacobs, Loren Shattuck, Jake Friesen, Bryce Goldade and Charlie McNulty led the class in cheering on their friends to victory.

Left: In the ever-popular tube game, competitors were splashed with water, making the contest even more of a challenge. The classes battled it out in this Wacky Games favorite.
**Right:** In their tribute to the summer MIA trips, Seniors donned tribal wear and danced to multicultural music.
Ollies Follies Variety Show 2014 – an event current Olivetians will never forget. This year marked the first year the variety show was held in Centennial Chapel, emceed by Late Night Talk Show Host Matt Smith. Jiggly Azalea A.K.A Joey Ramirez, debuted his Flabby music video featuring “Smitti” on the big screens shortly after Matt Jones took the stage as Maleficent. The night was jam-packed with laughter, nervousness, and emotion.

The freshmen gave the upperclassmen a run for their money, the sophomores were right behind them, the juniors did everything they could to keep up, but the seniors put on their best show yet. “It was definitely a blast working with the Class of 2015 to put on one last Ollies Follies Variety Show together,” said senior Daniel Going.

In their video, Dr. Bowling gave the Senior Class Council a list of tasks to do in order to “save summer.” The tasks included going on MIA trips, to a wedding, a beach party, a baseball game, a Fourth of July parade, a county fair, and stargazing. The last task on the list was to win Ollies Follies, and the Seniors, impressively, did just that.

Far Above: Up to his old tricks, Matt Jones had the audience rolling with laughter with his portrayal of “Maleficent.”

Above: Sophomores smoothly ended their part of the show with a “Very Sophomore Spring” finale!

Left: The Junior Class brought everyone’s favorite winter characters to life including Dan Berkiel as the grinch.

Far Left: Freshmen showed a huge amount of enthusiasm for their first Ollies Follies variety show and wowed the crowd.
Alana Steward is an Accounting major and Spanish minor from the wonderful state of Kansas. At Olivet, she has been involved in varsity track and field, Enactus, and intramurals. She has served as a resident assistant in Williams and the Oaks, an accounting tutor, and Ludwig Center student manager. After graduation, Alana dreams of finding a job and using her vocation to serve in ministry.

The coronation festivities were hosted by chaplain Mark Holcomb and his wife, Teri.

Haley Carroll is majoring in Elementary Education with a minor in English as a Second Language. Throughout her time at Olivet, she has grown tremendously in her walk with the Lord and has made many meaningful relationships. Her favorite memories of her time at ONU include spontaneous trips to Chicago, late night talks with her roommates, and, of course, Ollie’s Follies. To finish out her last year as a student, Haley is on Senior Class Council for ASC, a freshmen connections mentor, and works in Admission. Haley has been blessed to serve as an RA in Grand for two years and has been given the opportunity to be the hands and feet of Christ in Thailand and Cambodia the past two summers. She has also been a part of Women’s Residential Life, SOS, Kappa Delta Pi, and Sister 2 Sister. After graduation Haley plans to be obedient to the Lord in his calling on her life, using the gifts and passions given to her. She has a passion for women and children being trafficked around the world and hopes to take part in the movement to help protect and encourage them. Her desire is to love Jesus tenaciously, and her favorite Bible verse is Joshua 1:9!

Susan Morrill is pursuing a bachelor of arts in Music Ministry. In the past three years, she has been blessed to participate and invest in several on-campus ministries: D-Groups, Party With Jesus, Prayer Warriors, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Chrysalis Choir, Orpheus Choir, jazz combo, chapel band, and class chapel. Additionally, she has spent the past two years investing in local churches by means of music ministry, traveling as a Music Ambassador and a member of Ministry Teams. Her life was forever changed this May in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, on a two week MIA trip. After graduation, Susan will be co-leading the MIA trip back to the Congo as well as completing her supervised music ministry internship requirement. God has given her a heart for people and a heart for Africa. She cannot wait to see what He has in store for her next!
While Olivet’s annual Homecoming Week is marked by many on-campus events, Homecoming Coronation is the crowning jewel.

The coronation ceremony is planned, coordinated, and executed entirely by Women’s Residential Life (WRL), while also working in combination with other campus organizations. One such partnership led to the unveiling of three beautiful chandeliers gracing the stage of Chalfant Hall.

“We began planning for this event in April,” stated Michaela Maris, Vice President of WRL. “It bridges the gap between alumni and students by being able to show how we’re proud of our students.”

The theme of coronation this year was “Blessings.” The ceremony began with Maris reading a portion of Proverbs 10:6, which says “Blessings crown the head of the righteous.” After her introduction, Chaplain and Mrs. Holcomb introduced the parents of the Homecoming court.

The five women and their escorts were then introduced and interviewed, and as the women walked from the stage, they were able to hear a special message from their parents.

Kathryn Schrader, the Homecoming Queen of 2013, was then announced and given the opportunity to crown this year’s queen, Alana Steward.

“Coronation is a great reminder of how much of a community is here at Olivet,” shared Steward. “It was such a humbling experience being nominated and crowned. I kept thinking about the four other women on the court and how they deserved it just as much.”

“Alana is such a genuine person,” said her escort, Phil Caffee. “She is wonderful to be around. It was nice to see her be crowned, as she really deserved it.”

While the ceremony aimed at honoring Steward and her court as blessings to Olivet’s campus, Steward felt that she has been blessed in return.

“It was such a privilege to be able to participate in the court. I seek to do God’s will in my everyday life, and the morning after, I kept thinking about how I have been honored for the things that I have done. Now, I keep asking myself how I can continue seeking God’s will in my life.”

Sarah Fox has traveled all the way from California to study music and enjoy the wonderful community of Olivet! During her time at Olivet she has been blessed to have served as an RA for two years, as well as travel with the ministry team The Narrow. She has been in Orpheus choir for the past four years and currently serves as the Orpheus Chaplain. After graduation, Sarah hopes to enroll in an Accelerated Nursing program to become a nurse. Her favorite verse is found in Philippians 3, “But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.”

Loren Crawford is an Engineering major with a concentration in Mechanical Engineering. While at Olivet, she helped found the first Society of Women Engineers chapter for Olivet. Loren is also a teaching assistant for the Engineering Department, involved in intramurals, and part of a mentoring program for freshman engineers. Other than the stellar people Loren has met, her favorite thing about Olivet was getting to travel to the country of Swaziland twice with MIA to help design and install irrigation systems. After graduation, Loren plans to work for Dow Chemical Company and keep pursuing opportunities to serve others. In the meantime, she is currently working on a design project to make modifications to a hand-peddled trike for disabled people in third world countries. She desires to cling to the second name she was given in Swaziland, Hlengiwe Dlamini, which means God redeems.
Homecoming week is one of the busiest weeks of the year for Olivet students, a close second to finals week. Senior Heather Rossner shared the following story which conveys the Homecoming spirit here at Olivet. “On the Wednesday of Homecoming Week I was running late to work, low on sleep, and in need of some fuel from Common Grounds. Because a lot of the visitors for Homecoming hang out in the coffee shop, there was a large group of alumni in front of me in line. At first I was a little irritated. Here I was struggling to keep my eyes open and these people were laughing and enjoying themselves. It must have been obvious how stressed I was because one of the alumni in front of me asked if I wanted to go ahead of them in line. I immediately thanked her, to which she replied, “No problem, we’ve all been there.”

Heather made the connection that this attitude is why Homecoming is so important here at Olivet. Homecoming is all about returning to a place that helped shape who you have become. At the Homecoming chapel, Dr. Bowling presented the young alumni award reminding us all that, “you don’t have to wait to make a difference.” The group of young alumni who let Heather move ahead of them in line were once students too, and now they had the chance to make a difference in another’s life. Homecoming is celebrated with athletic games and awards, but the real reason people return to Olivet during this time is to be reminded of who they have become and how they can use their experiences to be the hands and feet of Christ.
Far Left: Raising a fist in victory, Heidi Schoenbein and her teammates celebrated the point in the Homecoming Volleyball game.

Left: Going up against his opponent, Zach Wagner (45) contributed to the Tiger’s huge victory over Silver Lake, 111-65.

Below: Smiling with their “breakfast,” seniors Joy Jenen and Haley Carroll enjoyed the “Occupy Ludwig” annual Pancake Breakfast hosted by ONU alumni.

Far Above: Dr. Bowling introduced the Homecoming Chapel speaker Ben Zobrist who was inducted into the Olivet Athletic Hall of Fame.

Above: Michael-Andrew Spalding performed on stage during the Homecoming Chapel as a member of the Olivetians.

Left: At one of Homecoming Week’s biggest events, John Litrenta (29) led his teammates as they faced off against William Penn University.
Right: Students on the orange team charged forward to reach the sponge dodge balls before their opponents.

Below: Hannah Schmersneider shared that, “paint wars was to dye for.”

Far Below: An Olivet favorite, the inner tube game, was modified for this event. Instead of soap, the tubes were coated in paint.

Lydia Puentes @lmpuentes

Paint Wars with these lovelies! #paintwars #onu #lifeatolivet

Above: The rules of dodge ball were slightly changed for this event; you could not catch the ball to get the thrower out. Any contact with the ball resulted in elimination from the game. Samantha Sanders took aim and threw the paint soaked dodge ball at her target on the opposing team.
On this hot September day, Olivet’s students piled into cars or took the walk to Fortin Villa. Their objective: these white shirts better look a lot different when they arrive back on campus. Paint Wars is a celebrated, widely anticipated event of playing games such as Capture the Flag and dodgeball while smacking white t-shirts with paint-soaked socks. It is a time to get away from the books and the cramped living quarters and get out and have fun with paint and friends.

The sound system blared “It’s Always a Good Time”, and students got in their color groups marked by bandanas. Sophomore Reagen Dykhouse was all ready to go, “I am psyched.” Nothing would stand in his way as he was prepared to “destroy people.” Sophomore Nathan DiCamillo added, “This is what makes college, college.” No one can deny that. Students type, write, and read, but most everyone will put aside all homework plans to go crazy and throw some paint around. Shouts erupted as each field got called off for “role-call.” Some fields were timid to make that first move, others not so much. Dodgeball paint balls went flying, splattering paint all over the students below.

As Senior Carolyn Horne left her field for a quick swig of water, she said, “I have done this every year, and this year the paint has not disappointed. My only wish is to have my death by Paint Wars.”

She lived to tell the tale, and Paint Wars 2014 was certainly a hit. Huge groups rounded up at the photo booth at the end to forever remember the day they got soaked in paint by their friends. As students headed back to campus, smiles and laughter flooded the area. College needs a little more than just athletics, clubs, and books. It needs energy, life, and vigor. Thanks to events like Paint Wars, we can always have a fresh supply of those things on hand.

Left: Austin Davis refilled his sock for the next round of Capture the Flag. The objective was to use the tube sock and tag opposing players before they could steal your flag.

Far Above: The inner tube game was played with a new twist. In addition to the tubes, pool noodles were added to the mix in the fight for points.

Above: As their numbers were called, five women from each team raced to the middle to retrieve tubes.
Above: The William’s RA team dressed up as “Life at Olivet.” They personified different aspects of campus life including Mac-n-nugs, Ollies Follies, Joey Ramirez, Ring by Spring, the Olivetians, Purple and Gold Days, ONU squirrels, Solomon, the new Jesus statue, and the Tree of Knowledge.

Right: Dressed in costume as well, the ONU Jazz Band provided music for the event.

A herd of Olivet students wearing masks huddled outside the doors of the auditorium. As the doors opened, they flooded into Chalfant to enjoy some doughnut holes and get a glance at the other contestants. Students could barely hear themselves think with all the noise and colors floating around the room. Laughter ensued when Matt Smith invited various students onto the stage to debut their costumes. The lineup included a bee and beekeeper, Paula Deen and her trusty stick of butter, and Jesus and his disciples at the Last Supper. So many contestants entered the competition that they were instructed to move the line to the floor in front of the stage.

The first place winner for the singles competition was dressed as an anemone from the Pixar movie Finding Nemo; She took up the entire backseat of the car with all of the balloons attached to her! Two Jazz Band love birds led the couples competition dressed as Link and Zelda. And the large group winners put together an ensemble representing Life at Olivet. In the midst of all the candy and costumes, even the media students working the event were dressed for the occasion!
Far left: Brendan Shea and Arika Schmitt caused many laughs by wearing “Taco Belle.”

Left: The Parrott RAs and RD participated by bringing back the Magic School Bus.

Below Left: A group of students constructed a live version of the famous “Last Supper” painting.

Below Right: Hannah McNaught, Claire Barber, and Laura Trosien dressed up as the infamous Olivet squirrels.

Left: Tammy Chalikian, Eva Winters, and Amy Brenner are the painter Bob Ross and his famous painting “Happy Little Trees.”

Far above: Cassandra Petrie and Katie Reed supported their favorite coffee, Starbucks!

Above: A group of students got clever with their costume and portrayed a literal representation of Dr. Bowling.
Right: A talented group of girls performed “It’s a Hard Knock Life” from the popular musical Annie.

Below: Jessa Hendrickson was overly excited to portray Alice in “Welcome to Wonderland” from the musical Wonderland.

Far Below: Madie Bloom participated in the 2014 Broadway Revue.

Above: From the popular musical Seven Brides for Seven Brothers, this handsome group of men performed the song “Sobbin’ Women.”

Right: The cast decided to spice up the night by performing the song “You Can’t Stop the Beat” from the popular musical Hairspray.

Far right: From a musical based on the book of Genesis, a part of the crew reenacted “Children of Eden.”
The audience settled down in their seats, ready for a relaxing show. Then, out of the sides of the stage student performers poured in. The energy was extrinsic and enticing. Cast member Kaity Legg said, “Welcome to Wonderland is my favorite because it’s our opener and it’s so in your face and quirky [that] it just reels you right into the show.” This production was far from ordinary. With so many talented performers bringing the audience’s imagination to life, this year’s Broadway Revue was something beyond everyone’s wildest dreams, fulfilling the revue’s theme, “In Your Dreams.”

The second act opened with “A New World,” really capturing this year’s production which held a lot of new elements, new directors and new cast members. It may have been a new world of talent, but this crew was still as close as ever. Legg shared, “The Greenroom community is a really great one. I feel like we are this one big musical crazy family. They’re really supportive too, which is great!” With a closing performance of “You Can’t Stop the Beat,” it was clear that nothing could ever stop the beat of these talented performers.

Far Above: Jackie Clark was raised up at the end of the song “Just Can’t Wait to be King” from The Lion King.

Above: Brandon Burchfield was the center of attention during the performance of “Live in Living Color” from the musical Catch Me If You Can.

Left: Lillian Guenseth channeled Princess Fiona when she sang “I Know It’s Today” from Shrek the Musical.
Olivet’s Theater Director, Jerry Cohagan, once again assembled a unique, very talented cast to put on the show “The Boys Next Door.” Cohagan ended up at Olivet after traveling the United States performing original comedy routines with a Christian focus along with his “longtime comedy partner,” Stephen Hicks.

Cohagan has written over 25 books filled with ideas and one-act plays and has also directed and performed in over 40 productions. He co-wrote the musical Sweet River County, which is currently on tour, and was invited to perform at the Orlando Repertory Theatre. Cohagan has also received an honorary Dove Award from the Gospel Music Association.

“The Boys Next Door” is a two-act comedy-drama about four intellectually disabled men who live together in an apartment. Jack, their social worker, is the glue that holds the group of guys together, but he is also on the verge of career burnout. In the production, the guys grapple with the ups and downs of everyday life.

The cast was phenomenal in their roles, leaving the audience feeling the genuine aura of the work. Matthew Jones graced the audience with his humorous mannerisms, Nick Allen’s true talent was beautiful and overwhelming, Cody Curtis’ rawness allowed the audience to feel his pain, and Brady Bettis’ entrancing franticness was a job well done. Newcomer Hope Morris wowed the crowd with her role as Matt Jones’ love interest, Sheila. The audience truly enjoyed the show – Olivet’s Theatre program did not disappoint.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cast</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lucien P. Smith – Nick Allen – Senior Multimedia Studies Major</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arnold Wiggins – Brady Bettis – Sophomore English Education Major</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barry Klemper – Cody Curtis – Junior Criminal Justice Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norman Bulansky – Matthew Jones – Pastoral Ministry Grad Student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack – Miles Kolby Meador – Senior Multimedia Studies Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheila – Hope Morris – Freshman English Education Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Klemper – Joe Brunker – Junior Ministry Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Corbin – Dan Flynn – Junior Philosophy and Religion Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Warren – Jessa Hendrickson – Sophomore Corporate Comm. Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Hedges – T. Paul Hubbard – Freshman English Education Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senator Clarke – Logan Clarke – Senior Philosophy &amp; Religion Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Fremus – McKenzie Smith – Junior Corporate Comm. Major</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Above Top: Arnold Wiggins (Brady Bettis) claimed a rat made its way into the group apartment.

Above Middle: Norman (Matt Jones), Arnold (Brady Bettis), Sheila (Hope Morris), and Lucien (Nick Allen) put on a puppet show at Jack’s (Miles Kolby Meador) going away party.

Above Bottom: Lucien P. Smith (Nick Allen) convinced Arnold (Brady Bettis) to look at the books he had just checked out from the library with his new library card.
Far Left: Barry (Cody Curtis) discussed his golf career with Mrs. Fremus (Mackenzie Smith).

Left: Norman (Matt Jones) had Sheila (Hope Morris), his love interest, over to his “pad.”

Below: Norman (Matt Jones) and Barry (Cody Curtis) invited Mrs. Warren (Jessa Hendricker) to sit down and have a conversation about her son’s missing hamster, which they had mistaken for a rat.

Far Above: Jack (Miles Kolby Meador) contemplated his job as the leader of the group home.

Above: Sheila (Hope Morris) gave Norman (Matt Jones) a kiss on the cheek as she said goodbye.

Left: Norman Bulansky (Matthew Jones) caught the “rat” by smothering it with a pillow, before flushing it down the toilet.
**Right:** Orpheus Choir performed classic pieces from “Handel’s Messiah.”

**Below:** Emily Fernette sang a solo during the production of “Handel’s Messiah” and wowed the audience with her vocal talents.

**Far Below:** Sarah Mowry performed treasured Christmas songs with the Olivetians in “Sounds of the Seasons.”

**Above:** The band displayed their musical abilities and played a wide variety of songs for “Sounds of the Season.”

**Right:** The School of Music was recently recognized as a top program by the Apple company, and the students in the School of Music used this technology during their performances.

**Far Right:** Matthew Cockcroft played his cello during the performances and added depth and a unique sound to the band.
The arrival of the Christmas season makes way for two popular annual events on Olivet’s campus: “Sounds of the Season” and “The Messiah.” These two concerts showcase the talent of Olivet’s School of Music while also spreading Christmas cheer across campus and among the community.

These two performances mark a very busy time for members of the various ensembles. “Rehearsals are a mess,” explained violinist Amelia Claus. “They are wonderful, hilarious, and filled with pain and chaos, but everyone is a good sport.”

“Having the multiple performances helps people get into the Christmas spirit, even amidst the busy schedules,” said Seth Lowery, member of the Orpheus and Apollo Choirs and Concert Singers, as well as the tenor soloist in “The Messiah.” “[The shows] are well attended by the community, which allows the most visibility of the School of Music outside of campus. It’s a great way to see what goes on here and for students to see what their friends are doing.”

“Sounds of the Season” always contains an array of popular Christmas tunes intermixed with a wide range of unique pieces. Large campus ensembles such as Orpheus Choir, Apollo Choir, Concert Singers, Jazz Band, and Orchestra are featured individually as well as in a large combined group. Other ensembles such as The Olivetians, Harp & Bronze Ensemble, Sound Foundation show choir, Proclamation Gospel Choir, and the Overtones Flute Choir also make appearances throughout the show.

“I think that “Sounds of the Season” freshens up the classic Christmas songs that we all know and love,” shared Katelyn Oprondek, alto member of Apollo Choir. “We sing different arrangements and mash-ups that are surprising and add that much more enjoyment to the show.”

“The Messiah,” on the other hand, is a performance of George Friedrich Handel’s master oratorio. The combined choirs and orchestras come together to perform Handel’s musical representation of the complete story of Jesus Christ.

“The Messiah” does a wonderful job of connecting with the listener during the season of advent,” explained Andrew Moore, member of Orpheus Choir and Concert Singers as well as trumpet player for the orchestra, and the bass soloist of “The Messiah.” “It draws attention to the bigger picture - the coming and purpose of Christ as well as the redemption story.”

As a whole, these two musical benchmarks during the Christmas season give the campus of Olivet and the larger community a chance to relax and reflect on this wonderful time of year.
Christmas is the season for warmth and cheer, friendship and family. Olivet’s campus-wide Christmas party was filled with all these things. Students were staying warm and cozy in their Christmas sweaters while they enjoyed Christmas cookies, ice cream sundaes, and nachos (all provided by Sodexo). Destiny Mitchell, a member of ASC who helped with the event, said, “I had been on my feet for hours, and when I finally got to sit down and eat it was wonderful! I consider myself a buffalo sauce aficionado so the fact that it was waiting for me in the buffet line was perfect. Also, I really loved the cupcakes. All the food was delicious!” Students and faculty got their creativity on upstairs decorating cookies and ornaments, while some even went downstairs to let their competitive nature take over in a game of Bingo or to show off their dance moves.

There were even free massages for students, which was a helpful option leading into the stress of finals week. Nathan DiCamillo stated, “My favorite part was the massage. It was really relaxing during a stressful time in the semester and a cool addition to the Christmas party. I got lucky and only had to wait 10 minutes and others had to wait like 40 minutes because the line got really long.”

Christmas is also the season for miracles. This year it was a miracle that the fire department was able to help two Olivetians who were stuck in the Ludwig elevator. The Christmas spirit was alive and active throughout the entire evening. Students and faculty who attended the party ended up leaving with full tummies and the joy of a child on Christmas morning; there was something in the air that called out, “Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!”
Santa Dash at Olivet, selfies with Dr. Bowling, and the all school Christmas party. Day made /\❤️
#onuyearbook @lifeatolivet
@santadash #sofun #latergram
@shmegs419

Left: Krista Postell showed off her incredible gingerbread house building skills by turning the simple snacks into a recreation of Snoopy’s doghouse.

Far Above: Esther Paek and Ellie Clarke got crafty and decorated their ornaments using ribbon, glue, and other supplies.

Above: Jennifer Buhr showed off the fun shirts that were distributed for the Santa Dash.

Left: After completing the Santa Dash, students posed for a photograph and enjoyed delicious desserts as a reward for their accomplishment.
Right: The Parrott RAs bond as they have a photoshoot at Perry Farms. Some would say the best thing about being an RA on Olivet’s campus is the fellowship.

Below Left: Chapman RAs gather around Chapman’s RD, Blake Spencer, to take a selfie.

Below Right: Grand RAs, Caitie Johnson, Brooke Smith, Rachel Pasch, and Kristy Kjell, get together during the Student Leadership Retreat.

Q: Why is the RA role important to you?
A: The role is important to me because it is a way to speak truth into lives of guys that may have come from situations that weren’t so great. Whether that is something bad happening at home, personal problems, or even girlfriend issues, this ministry has allowed me to speak truth in different ways that I would find harder to do without being in this position.

Q: What’s your favorite part of being an RA?
A: My favorite part of being an RA. Do I have to choose? I love everything about being an RA! From staying up late just goofing off with my guys or to just talking and getting to know more about their lives, I love being an RA. I say if you love life and want to speak truth into the lives of guys or girls, then you should consider becoming an RA.

Q: What would you like others to know about the RA role?
A: RAs are not cookie cutters. There is not a single mold that makes a person a good RA. Every girl on my wonderful University Place RA team is so different, but our common goal is to glorify God and accompany our residents.

Q: Why is this role important to you?
A: You only get a college experience like this once. Yes, you can go to school later in life, but this experience, especially at Olivet, is unique. These years are so shaping as to the person you are becoming and so many life-altering decisions are made. I love what I do because I get to love these girls for who they are, where they’re at. I love being involved in each girl’s journey through these years.
Q: What does the RA role do for our campus?
Q: This role is vital for the campus in general. If there weren’t people who cared deeply about upholding the rules of campus, there would be a lot of craziness we would have to watch out for. One of the biggest reasons this role is important to me is because it means investing in the lives of many women. You never know what people’s backstories are, and sometimes it means so much to them just for you to be there. So if I can be that person who points towards Christ when no one else does, then I will have done my job right.

Q: What’s your favorite part of being an RA?
A: My girls! They are so great, and I LOVE having the chance to invest in their lives, even if it just means being that person that is consistent when no one else is. Some days are really hard, but one interaction with a resident can turn my entire day around. I love them all so much already!

Q: Why did you choose to be an RA?
A: I chose to be an RA because I wanted to be able to connect with other guys on campus and walk alongside them spiritually. I want my RA role to be one of ministry to my residents. I wanted to share life with these gentlemen and help them to grow and bring them from where they are currently into the next phase of their life past college.

Q: What’s your favorite part of being an RA?
A: My favorite part about being an RA is getting to interact with the residents on a daily basis. Passing by them on campus and getting to say hello and just getting to share in these pivotal college moments and memories with them is incredibly rewarding.

Above Left: Grand and Howe RAs strike a pose during the RA training. Danielle Branham, RA for Grand, states her favorite part about being an RA is that she gets to build great relationships with some wonderful girls and not only encourage them but be encouraged by their lives.

Left: Williams RAs soak up the sun by representing their hall on the beach. From friendship to family, RAs get to bond with their fellow sisters and grow together.
Men in Uniform

Michaela Maris @michaelamaris

Thanks to everyone who came out to Mr. ONU tonight! It was truly a blast! And of course, congratulations to @nate_allen1 our 2015 #mronu #lifeatolivet #onuyearbook

Right Above: Drew Frey impersonated Batman during the entire performance complete with a facemask and raspy voice.

Right Below: In their opening number, the men of Mr. ONU revealed that being a manly man can include choreographed dancing.

Women’s Residential Life continued to bless Olivet’s campus with this year’s Mr. ONU pageant - A Man In Uniform. The pageant included a Chipotle worker, a male cheerleader, a luchadore, a male model, a hipster pastor, the eternal flame caretaker, a mall cop, and Batman. After the careful process of nominating and voting for the eight contestants, the men were able to begin working on their respective videos and talents.

“I chose my “uniform” based on what I felt fit best and what I like doing the most,” said junior contestant Jordan Lingle, Mr. ONU’s hipster pastor. “My video was a parody of the “ Stuff Christians Say” videos. I wrote the script for the video before coming up with my talent. For my talent, I wanted to do what goes with my personality. I almost went serious with my Spoken Word, but then decided that I wanted to make people laugh.”

Other contestants agreed that their video was their first priority. Freshman Micah Forshee, the Chipotle worker, stated that his video was the “focal point,” from which the rest of his act developed.

“I wanted to have a theme that as many people as possible could relate to, while also making people laugh,” said Forshee.

Nate Allen, the luchadore and this year’s Mr. ONU, states that his staged rivalry with Mitchell Moon drove their acts. “Mitchell and I decided to pick fun at each other before the theme was decided,” Allen shared. “We tied together the theme with the rivalry. We decided to have the same person interview us in our videos and find random things to blame on each other. We were goofing off so much that I thought there was no way I would win.” According to the contestants, the staged antagonism between the sophomores was the only competition existing amongst each other.

“All of the guys that I got to work with were absolutely hilarious,” said senior Daniel Going, the mall cop. “It was such a joy to be around them and see how much fun they were having with being a part of this show. We definitely all bonded over going through the process of the show. We came as contestants and left as friends.”

“This event is the funniest thing that our school puts on,” stated Lingle, reflecting on the pageant as a whole. “We as contestants get to entertain and be entertained. It’s a great experience.”
Above: Nate Allen, the winner of Mr. ONU 2015, embodied a luchador, a Mexican wrestler, and sang a song, in Latin, about his hate for Mitchell Moon. By the end of the show, the made-up conflict between the two was resolved in a friendly manner.

Far Above: Brandon Maranion gave a shout out to the show "New Girl" by using the title song during the shorts competition but tailored it to fit his persona of the eternal-flame keeper.

Left: Mike Warner, a member of the cheerleading team, performed a remixed version of the “12 Days of Christmas” where the cheerleading team did many tricks and he was called “The kid who doesn’t know anything.”

Below: Mitchell Moon channeled Zoolander and displayed his many outfits with gusto including the white winged number he wore for the talent section.

Far Above: ONU’s resident mall cop, Daniel Going, entertained the audience with his jokes for the talent section.

Above Middle: Micah Forshee celebrated his love for Chipotle by impersonating a Chipotle worker and singing a song about his love of burritos.

Above: Jordan Lingle got in touch with his inner hipster pastor during the show and revealed his talent for preaching.
The senior women and the retreat speakers gathered together in one of the cabins to discuss real life topics like graduation, careers, family issues, and other things that they will encounter during life after Olivet.

Sarah Fox led the senior women in worship during the last session of the weekend.

The women had the opportunity to submit questions anonymously to the panel of guest speakers who shared their own experiences and answered those burning questions.

The women at the retreat worshiped together on Sunday morning before hearing a devotional.

Robin Gerboth, Janice Burneson, and Haley Carroll shared a laugh and good conversation over the wonderful food that was served at the retreat.
Alyssa Keuther attended ONU’s annual senior women’s retreat, a time for senior ladies to get away from school and bond with each other at Inspiration Wood Cottage Inn & Conference Center. The speakers included: Mary Schweigert, Diana Bartling, Jeannette Martinson, and Faith Newman.

Q: What was your favorite memory?
A: My favorite memory from the trip is probably just spending time with my three roommates in our nice, cozy cabin room. The very first night, the four of us all just stayed on the couch squished together enjoying talking to each other about life—everything that we are thinking, experiencing, going through, etc. We were able to have some significant conversations, be sources of encouragement to each other, and spend quality time as good friends. It was a really great time.

Q: Did any of the speaker’s impact you? If so, what was it they said?
A: I think that each speaker in different ways said something that spoke to me—they each had a significant message that we needed to hear, and I certainly was able to get something out of every session. The most significant message for me was probably on the topic of fear. In my current stage in life, less than two months until graduation, student teaching ending in just twelve days, and absolutely no idea what’s coming next, where I am going, or what I am going to do/want to do, there is a lot of fear and uncertainty. This speaker encouraged us, in this scary time of life, to seek first the Kingdom of God and to put our eyes on Jesus. She encouraged us that if we are filled with the Holy Spirit, then we are within His will and that He will guide us in the next step. And if we do not know what is next, just simply take the next step we know to do. This was very encouraging for me, and many other girls that I talked with this weekend.

Q: Did you enjoy going on the retreat?
A: I thoroughly enjoyed going to the retreat, and I would go again! It was such a refreshing time away from all of the chaos, stresses, and struggles that are constantly surrounding us. It was at the perfect time in the semester when we all really needed a break, and God did some truly incredible things in my life—He reassured me, gave me peace, and reminded me of His goodness and love that is unfailing and constant even amidst my doubt, uncertainty, and fear. He is sovereign and never fails. These were words and reminders that I needed to hear during these days.

Q: Did the retreat challenge you spiritually?
A: Yes, I certainly felt challenged spiritually. There were so many pertinent topics that were presented that were in someway relatable, whether directly in this present stage of life, or will be in the future. God was present amongst these women and it was very refreshing to be in His presence and to have serious and necessary conversations about the work that He is doing and will do in the coming days.

Above: The retreat allowed the senior women to escape their busy schedules for a couple of days and spend time in fellowship and grow individually by listening to the guest speakers.
A young woman recently released from prison enters into the real world by way of a little town named Gilead. Percy, played by Reilly Roberts, was inspired to start her life anew in this little town from a picture she has kept with her for years. Once she makes her way through town, Percy finds herself working at the only decent restaurant in town: The Spitfire Grill. The musical of the same title explores small town life, giving insight to the various characters one might find: a rough-and-tough woman with a secret; a cop looking to settle down; a young man bravely taking on the role of protector; and a young wife desperately looking for something more in such a lonely place. Through each character’s background, The Spitfire Grill demonstrates to the audience the power of redemption. In the end, Percy transforms from a mysterious criminal into a shining beacon of hope for a town digging itself out of the wreckage of loss.

In the audience program, director Jerry Cohagan explained a little bit about the history of the play itself. He wrote, “The Spitfire Grill was first released in 1996. Later, it was performed as a musical off-Broadway just after the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center. Using a folk and bluegrass score along with a homespun philosophy, the simple yet compelling story hit home with America at a time of national doubt and fear.” This story has a rich and important history and a message that touches every member of the audience. Olivet’s rendition was a fantastic retelling of this moving story, and the cast and crew did a phenomenal job.

Cast:
Caleb Thorpe - Joe Brunker - Junior Communication Studies Major
The Visitor - Cody Curtis - Junior Criminal Justice Major
Sheriff Joe Sutter - Paul Davison II - Freshman Film Studies Major
Shelby Thorpe - Selina Gaines - Senior Music Major
Percy Talbott - Reilly Roberts - Sophomore Music Major
Hannah Ferguson - Ashley Sarver - Senior Journalism Major
Effy Krayneck - McKenzie Smith - Junior Corporate Communications Major

Above Top: Shelby Thorpe’s (Selina Gaines) glow showed the pride of a life filled with purpose.

Above Middle: Sheriff Joe (Paul Davison II), Hannah (Ashley Sarver), and Caleb (Joe Brunker) discussed the fate of the beloved Spitfire Grill.

Above Bottom: Customers dished out some small town gossip at the grill.
Left: Percy Talbot (Reilly Roberts) quickly learned life is tough on the outside.

Below: When his role as protector of the town was questioned, Caleb Thorpe (Joe Brunker) showed the audience how a real man gets angry.

Far Above: At it again, Hannah Ferguson (Ashley Sarver) endured Effy Krayneck’s (McKenzie Smith) endless nosiness.

Above: Working together, Percy (Reilly Roberts) and Sheriff Joe (Paul Davison II) found freedom and beauty in the forest.

Above: The cast rolled out their reward - hundreds of letters sent from across the nation.