

IN THIS ISSUE

Opening Ceremony1
 Important Phone Numbers.....1
 Team Photography1
 Teams Enjoying World Finals.....2
 Shuttle Schedule2
 Creativity Festival2
 Cancellation Stamps2
 Souvenir Stations2
 Weather Forecast3
 Found In Translation3
 Supply Stores3
 Float & Banner Parade3
 Family Ties That Bind4
 Plan your free time!4
 Special Offer.....4
 Event Schedule4
 Heath Services4
 Omer's World News Staff4

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency ONLY**
Fire, Police, Ambulance
911
- Greater Lansing Visitors Center**
 (517) 487-6800
- MSU Campus Information**
 (517) 355-1855
- MSU Physicians Office**
Olin Health Center
 (517) 884-6546
- MSU Public Safety**
Police Department / Parking
 (517) 355-2222
- Props/Storage Information at**
Logistics Central Receiving
 (517) 884-6082
- World Finals Information Desk**
 (517) 884-7469
 or (517) 884-7470

TRIVIA!

1. There was only one industry present in Lansing when it became the state capital. What was that industry?
2. The county seat of Ingham County is not in Lansing, so where is it?
3. Before Lansing became the Capital of Michigan, where was the capital located?
4. What is Michigan's longest river?
5. What is the oldest museum located in the Lansing area?

Answers on page 4

DR. SAM SAYS: LET THE GAMES BEGIN!

BY BRENDAN DWYER

The energy and enthusiasm inside the Breslin Student Events Center during the Opening Ceremonies of the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals was nothing short of magical. Teams and coaches alike shared laughs and high fives as they displayed their creativity and team pride, adorned in bright pink light up flamingo hats, blinking Lady Liberty hats, glowing wands, flashing masks and honking, clacking noisemakers of every kind.



The Breslin Center was bursting with energy and Odyssey pride as a week of creativity officially kicks off.

As one of the largest World Finals events ever, boasting 827 teams from 13 countries and 33 U.S. states, the stage was set for an amazing night and a week of incredible creative competition and camaraderie. Attendees were treated to a parade of participating countries including

Japan, Poland, India, China and Germany.

Cheering reached a fever pitch when Program Director Sammy Micklus made opening remarks and welcomed everyone to East Lansing, Michigan. Micklus' message was one of inspiration: "The only limitations

in life are the ones you place on yourself – never limit yourself!" He then recognized this year's winning Odyssey Angels group. Blue Valley Education from Kansas were awarded medals for helping foster children in their community. This year's Creativity Award was also presented at the ceremony to Korczak Ziolkowski and the Crazy Horse Memorial Foundation. Many told Korczak his dreams were too big, but he



Teammates from St. Stephen's Girl's School in Hong Kong were thrilled to be headed into the OotM World Finals Opening Ceremonies.

TEAM PHOTOGRAPHY

We are proud to announce that once again, Premier Portraits will be the official team portrait photographer for World Finals. We will be available for team photos during the Creativity Festival and at the Breslin Center. We ask that you have your team pictures taken as early in the week as possible to avoid long lines. Costumes and props are strongly encouraged.

Breslin Center
Thursday- 9:30 am - 8:30 pm
Friday - 9:30 am - 8:30 pm
Saturday - 9:30 am - 9:30 pm

Creativity Festival
Thursday - 12pm - 5pm
Friday - 9am - 5pm
Saturday - 9am - 12pm

never gave up. Korczak was awarded for his dedication to his dreams and always looking for new and creative solutions.

No doubt the biggest cheers of the night came for Odyssey of the Mind founder, Dr. Sam Micklus. "This is a night I know you will all remember for the rest of your lives," said Micklus. "The Odyssey program is committed to being the best educational program in the world, because you all are the most creative people in the world." After a heart-felt rendition of the OotM Pledge the Opening Ceremonies closed with a stunning light show and blasting high energy music that had everyone in the stadium cheering, dancing and truly feeling part of something special.

"Perform with grace and dignity and you are all winners," said Dr. Sam in closing. "This is the World Finals – It doesn't get any better than this!"

TEAMS ENJOYING WORLD FINALS? NOT A PROBLEM!

BY BRENDAN DWYER

The International Center on MSU's campus was buzzing with excitement Tuesday night as Odyssey of the Mind teams from around the world began to arrive and get settled. Spotting the spirited teams is easy. One need only look for matching shirts, crazy hats and great big genuine smiles. Smiles were especially glowing on the faces of the team from Limestone Central Elementary School in Gaffney, South Carolina.

If this team, making its first-ever trip to World Finals, doesn't win a first place award, it won't be for lack of confidence, enthusiasm or hard work. The team financed its entire trip with fundraisers and spent all their free time leading up to the competition working on Problem #3.

"We're excited, confident and ready to compete," said 5th grader Ansleigh Touchberry. The whole team was more than happy to share their secret to their success, but team member and fellow 5th grader, Lucy Herrin summed it up perfectly. "The key to team-building is you don't say no to people, you listen, and let everyone contribute," Herrin said. Coach Allie Wells remarked



From left to right: Anna Owens, Naomi Bolden, Lucy Herrin, Ansleigh Touchberry, Bailey Jolly and Coach Allie Wells are more than ready for the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals experience.

how rewarding it has been to watch the girls succeed together and grow both as individuals, and as a team.

More smiles, as well as plenty of giggling, came from another passing team, done with registration and onto their next mission: finding a place to eat! This group, comprised of 5th to 8th graders, comes from St. John Vianney School in Wyoming, Michigan. They may not have traveled far to get to the World Finals site, but they'll go to any lengths to succeed in Problem #1.

"The challenge of OotM competition is great, because overcoming challenges is so rewarding," said exuberant teammate Becca Stella. "People are all creative in different ways and Odyssey is a way to express it." Becca's teammate Olivia Randall could not agree more. "When a team all works together, it's like one giant brain taking on a problem," Randall said. "You can accomplish more when you work together, and we love to work together." Team coaches Greg and Wende Randall said they've seen incredible growth over the last 6 months and win or lose; they want their team to do their best and have a lot of fun.

Odyssey of the Mind offers its competing teams a lot of problems, but clearly, having fun and working together is NOT one of them.



From left to right: Teammates Allison Dick, Maureen Tessmer, Becca Stella, Olivia Randall and sisters Jessica and Cassie Zimmer, along with coaches Greg and Wende Randall prepare to showcase some big-time creativity.

CANCELLATION STAMPS

AVAILABLE AT THE MSU UNION POST OFFICE

Get Odyssey of the Mind World Finals cancellation stamps at the MSU Union Post Office, located on the main floor at the welcome center. The Odyssey of the Mind post office station will cancel any postcard or envelope with first class postage attached at the MSU Union location only. The post office will supply stamps and envelopes onsite for purchase.

Post Office Hours are:

Monday - Friday: 8 am - 5:30 pm
Saturday: 9 am - 12 pm

SHUTTLE SCHEDULE

Indian Trails will be operating bus routes throughout the competition connecting the residence halls, problem sites and facilities, parking, recreational facilities and the Breslin Center. There will be two bus routes running on the Michigan State University's campus for participants during World Finals. Please look for the bus hosts to assist you in finding your way around campus.

Thursday, May 23rd

Odyssey Bus Route: begins at 6:00 am and runs until 12:30 am

Orange Route (Parking only): begins at 7:00 am and runs until 12:30 am

Friday, May 24th

Odyssey Bus Route: begins at 5:00 am and runs until 12:30 am

Orange Route (Parking only): begins at 5:00 am and runs until 12:30 am

Saturday, May 25th

Odyssey Bus Route: begins at 5:00 am and runs until 12:30 am

Orange Route (Parking only): begins at 5:00 am and runs until 12:30 am

Sunday, May 26th

Orange Route (Parking only): begins at 3:00 am and runs until 1:00 pm

CREATIVITY FESTIVAL

Everyone is welcome for this free and interactive event! You can win prizes and participate in activities from other associations, have fun with hands on arts and crafts like decorating an OMER mask (turn in the ticket enclosed in your registration packet at the Creativity Festival and get a FREE OMER mask to decorate and get stamped at each booth), interact with team booths from all over and visit OMER's Pin collection. Please stop by the Odyssey Angels booth to learn more about the program. Also, visit from 1 - 3 pm and make a blanket for foster kids with this year's winning group. Always a great place to trade pins, have some fun and meet new friends!

Plan to visit the Jenison Fieldhouse for the Creativity Festival:

Thursday, May 23: 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Friday, May 24: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday, May 25: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

SOUVENIR STATIONS

Don't miss out on the 2013 World Finals Souvenirs for sale throughout the event. Take something home with you to remember your experience as a participant!

SOUVENIR SALES WILL BE OPEN AT THE FOLLOWING TIMES AND LOCATIONS:

International Center Library
Thursday, May 23rd: 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Friday, May 24th: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday, May 25th: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Pick up pre-orders at the International Center Library during sales hours!

Jenison Fieldhouse - Creativity Festival
Thursday, May 23rd: noon - 5:00 pm
Friday, May 24th: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday, May 25th: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Akers Hall - rooms 137 & 138
Thursday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Friday: TBD, Saturday: TBD

Dr. Sam will be onsite to sign autographs at the Creativity Festival:

Thursday, May 23rd: 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm
Friday, May 24th: 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

WEATHER FORECAST



Thursday | High of 60
Rainy



Friday | High of 61
Mostly Sunny



Saturday | High of 64
Mostly Sunny



Sunday | High of 68
Rainy

FLOAT & BANNER PARADE

You won't want to miss the Annual Odyssey of the Mind World Finals Float & Banner Parade that will be held on Thursday evening, May 23 from 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm at the Breslin Center.

This event gives an opportunity to the World Finalists to display the pride they have for their home states or countries with their own creative banners or floats.

Participants will want to line up no later than 6:45 pm at the top of the truck ramp on the south side of the Breslin Center.

Spectators will enjoy learning about each entry and the diversity that represents Odyssey of the Mind from around the world. Awards will be given for the top ten most creative floats and banners following the parade.

Plan to attend and cheer on your home state or country at this year's Odyssey of the Mind Float & Banner Parade! It is open to everyone and no ticket is required.

FOUND IN TRANSLATION: CREATIVITY AND CAMARADERIE

BY SUBAN NUR COOLEY

Innovation, creativity and camaraderie are just some of the many reasons the seven members of the Gymnasium IM Stift Neuzelle team from Germany compete at Odyssey of the Mind. Though this is their third year, it's their first time competing at World Finals after winning the German Championships.

They don't just love the competition, they "need the competition," according to Domenic Herkt, one of the team members.

Gymnasium IM Stift Neuzelle spent about two and a half days a week on OotM, taking up most of their precious ninth grade weekend to problem-solve with their team. Why, you ask? Well, "By investing a lot of time, you're coming up with better ideas and you get a better development of the ideas. You also need to come up with the right idea, finally finding a good solution for the problem," says Michelle Herrmann.

Though this is true, working together on Odyssey has clearly fostered friendship between the team members. "Of course we have lots of fun doing Odyssey of the Mind," says Eileen Zimmer. "It's a creative competition and we can develop our own ideas in terms of our theater presence and theater play [to showcase our problem], and we really love to come up with these ideas. It's very fun for us."



Team coaches, Andreas Hoffmann and Grit Wellkisch, love to see the impact OotM has on the group. "It really makes it fun to see the kids develop their ideas, developing themselves also along the process until they finally have and present their solution," says Wellkisch.

For Hoffman, "Odyssey gives children the opportunity to really find out something on their own, because most activities in school direct you in a certain direction, and this is really making them think outside of the box."

Like many other international teams at World Finals, there's a lot of acclimating to do before Gymnasium IM Stift Neuzelle can show off their skills. "We arrived at 1:00 a.m. German time, after a ten hour flight, and a two hour layover in Amsterdam," adds Wellkisch. Aside from having OotM on the brain and the time difference, they find Michiganders to be "super well organized,

very helpful and friendly people," and can't get over how big American cars are.



SAFETY RESOURCES

The Michigan State University Police encourages each member of the campus community - students, faculty, and staff - to take an active role in preventing and reporting incidents that jeopardize safety on and around campus.

Residence hall rooms feature hard-wired smoke detectors and fire-rated room and wing doors. Residents regularly participate in fire drills. All room doors have peepholes and night receptionists are in place to see that only building residents, or a guest that a resident signs in and takes responsibility for, are allowed in the building after hours. All halls have security cameras in the lobby.

University facilities are well maintained and their security is given regular attention. The "Green Light" Emergency Telephone System follows major walkways and are placed in campus parking areas. These phones, topped with a green light, are for emergency calls to on-campus numbers.

Here are a few things to keep in mind while on campus:

- Walk confidently and assertively. Walk with others when possible.
- Be aware of your surroundings and others who might be there. If you think you're being followed, turn around confidently and check.
- Walk in well lit areas if possible.
- Carry your backpack or other belongings close to your body and secured over one shoulder and under one arm.
- Lock your room door when sleeping, and lock your door when leaving a roommate asleep inside.
- Do not prop open locked residence hall doors.
- Require identification and authorization from maintenance staff requesting access to your room for any reason.

OotM COMPUTER ACCESS

There is one computer lab in each neighborhood that is available for Odyssey use. The login and password are both "visitor". There is no print access. Computer labs are available with 24/7 access to Odyssey of the Mind guests at the following locations:

Akers - 141

Brody - 143

Case - 337

Wireless is available to the Odyssey participants and guests, however, access will vary based on where you are on campus. Please visit <http://techbase.msu.edu/article.asp?id=4254> for all instructions on how to connect to the campus guest network. Wi-Fi is available when you see the MSUnet Guest ID showing as a wireless option in your area.

ODYSSEY: FAMILY TIES THAT BIND BY TIM PADOT

For Matt Lopez, an international problem captain, Odyssey of the Mind has permeated virtually every stage of his life.

His personal odyssey began in 1989, as a fourth grader at the Ballston Spa school district in New York, when he first started participating in OotM. He quickly learned that this would not just be a passing fancy.

"It was extremely important to me. We would meet at our coach's house every Sunday, October to March. My coaches and teammates were just amazing. We became an extremely closely bonded OotM family."

After eight years as a participant, upon graduation in 1997, he had the overwhelming desire to give back to the Odyssey community. He then spent seven years as a school advisor and math teacher in the very same school where he competed.

"I wanted to give the kids the same experience I had. It was important to me that they learned the same things I did and experienced being part of a tight-knit group."

The sixth graders he inherited as a school advisor are now high school juniors competing in this year's World Finals.

Matt's OotM family extends to his real family as well. His mother and father were

his coaches. His father is a judge at this year's World Finals. Even his wife is an OotM official in New York.

Through the years, Matt's OotM family ties have spread out like branches, continually forming new shoots and creating a strong support structure.

"One of my coaches had a stroke about a month ago. The doctors didn't think he would make it. It was amazing, everybody from my team, other coaches, officials, everyone came back and visited him in the hospital. I just talked to him about our team experiences, pin trading. I just found out that he's expected to be released soon. I truly believe the entire Odyssey family brought him through this."

After nearly 25 years of being involved with OotM, Matt has invaluable experience and sage wisdom to share with the entire global Odyssey family.

"I think as you grow older, you end up realizing that the life lessons you learn from Odyssey of the Mind - independent thinking, problem solving, accepting failure and moving forward with confidence - they will all apply to your everyday life, forever, and make you a much stronger person for it."

EVENT SCHEDULE

THURSDAY SCHEDULE

- 8 am - midnight Team Registration
International Center
- 11:30 am - 7 pmWorld Finals
Competition
- noon - 5 pm Creativity Festival
Jenison Fieldhouse
- 7:30 - 9 pm Float & Banner Parade
Breslin Event Center

FRIDAY SCHEDULE

- 8 am - 7 pmWorld Finals
Competition
- 9 am - 5 pm Creativity Festival
Jenison Fieldhouse
- 7 pm - 9 pm Graduation/
Coaches Comp
Breslin Event Center

PLAN YOUR FREE TIME!

The Greater Lansing Convention and Visitor's Bureau is excited that Odyssey is back in town for World Finals! We have a lot of information available around campus to give some ideas about what to do in your free time after your competitions. Please plan to stop by one of the information booths to get a visitor guide, learn more about our FREE mobile app available at m.lansing.org, and for suggestions about what to do to explore Greater Lansing!

International Center @ Odyssey Information

Thursday, May 23rd: 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
Friday, May 24th: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center

Thursday, May 23rd: 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
Friday, May 24th: 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday, May 25th: 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Visitor Center in East Lansing a free pin is available for participants

Thursday, May 23rd: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Friday, May 24th: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday, May 25th: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Sunday, May 26th: 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Team members and adults with residence hall or Odyssey-provided wristbands are able to participate in recreational activities at MSU's IM East building (basketball, racquetball, volleyball). Towels are not provided.

IM East times are as follows:

Thursday, May 23rd: 1:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Friday, May 24th: 1:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Saturday, May 25th: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

IM West outdoor pool will be available to Odyssey participants as follows:

Thursday, May 23rd: 10:30 am - 6:00 pm
Friday, May 24th: 10:30 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday, May 25th: 11:00 am - 6:00 pm

Participants must be accompanied by an adult chaperone when using recreational facilities. Recreational equipment checkout available to Odyssey of the Mind participants from IM East equipment desk. Athletic shoes are required for recreational activity area (gym floor).

HEALTH SERVICES

The University Physicians Office

Located on the third floor on the Olin Memorial Health Center on East Circle Drive on the north edge of campus
Phone: (517) 884-6546
Hours: Monday - Friday 8am - 5pm

E.W. Sparrow Hospital

Medical care is also available through the emergency department of Sparrow Hospital located at 1215 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.
Phone: (517) 364-1000

Sparrow Urgent Care Center

Okemos Center
2248 Mt. Hope, Suite 106
(at Okemos Rd.)
Phone: (517) 381-4001
Hours: Everyday, 10am - 10pm

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