

Showcase highlights Wesleyan Starletts



Joakim Soederbaum | Rambler Staff

The Wesleyan cheer and dance teams held tryouts April 18.

Jacqueline Wittman
jrwittman@mail.txwes.edu

The Starlett dancers are preparing for the first annual Spring Dance Showcase at Texas Wesleyan University April 23. The dancers join with the Boys and Girls Club of Fort Worth.

Many of the dances the Starletts will perform are from their experience at the Universal Dance Association Spirit Camp this past summer in San Marcos.

The Starletts came out of camp with distinguished honors including traditional fight song recognition, home pom recognition, 11 blue individu-

al ribbons, two red individual ribbons and an overall team superior gold.

"This year has been great because our dancers have gone above and beyond," said Carolyn Ikens-Owen, director of dance. "We started the team in 2008, and last year was a complete positive turnaround for the program. We represent Wesleyan well and have become another quality program on campus."

The Starletts dance team includes junior captain Margo Wring, junior Amber Sanders and freshmen Yvette Rodriguez and Kesha Carter.

Wring wanted to include the Boys and Girls Club of

Fort Worth in the showcase to open their eyes to the art of dance.

"I figured it would be a good way to give back and incorporate kids from our community," Wring said. "I wanted to help them realize they can do anything once they set their minds to it and try."

The girls from the Boys and Girls Club range from ages 8 to 12.

"It's all about fun and creating the potential for the girls to become interested in dance and Texas Wesleyan University," Wring said.

The Starletts have been practicing with the girls since the beginning of April.

A variety of dances will be showcased such as jazz, hip hop, pom and lyrical. Each Starlett, except for Rodriguez who is out due to injury, will perform a solo dance.

The Starletts will also perform with the girls to *Boom Boom Pow* by the Black Eyed Peas. The routine is a home routine the Starletts performed at camp, with a few alterations to make the routine more kid friendly for the young girls.

"We want to show them that there are young women in the community who can make a positive impact in their lives and surround them with good role models who perform as

dancers and students," Wring said.

Ikens-Owen said the girls are the future of Wesleyan.

"The girls are a part of our community, and our Starletts are great mentors to them through dance," she said. "They are teaching the girls the importance of education and giving them the opportunity to learn other activities that are fun and rewarding."

The showcase is intended to get the community involved and attract groups such as the Polytechnic High School dance team and local dance studios to join in future showcases at Wesleyan.

For next year, Wring already

has a vision: to get a dance camp started at Wesleyan that will lead to a larger summer showcase for the community.

"Summertime is when kids get in the most trouble, and it will be a way for them to get off the streets," she said.

While the Starletts main appearances are at the Rams basketball games, they are also looking to attend other sporting events next semester.

"The Starletts are willing to support any department on campus to represent the university in a positive manner," Ikens-Owen said.

The free performance is at 7 p.m. April 23 in Martin Hall.

Time to graduate, Rochau has firm grip on his future



Toby Rochau

chou is scheduled to graduate in May with a bachelor's degree in business marketing and a bachelor's degree in business management.

Rochau is an international student from Frankfurt, Germany, and has been a student and soccer player at Wesleyan for four years. He traveled to America in 2002 as an exchange student and was placed into Grand Prairie High School as a junior. He was goalkeeper for the Gophers a year before returning home.

After completing high school in Germany, Rochau returned to the States to pursue a bachelor's degree.

"I wanted to attend a college near Grand Prairie in order to stay close to my host family and my friends from Grand Prairie," he said.

Four years at Wesleyan can bring about many memories, but Rochau said he will always remember defeating Oklahoma City University, the No. 6 nationally ranked team in the NAIA, 2-1 in his senior year.

"We fought together as a team, and it was a unique experience to beat our rivals, especially a nationally ranked team," Rochau said.

Rochau had eight saves on nine shots on goal in the match, which led to the first Ram soccer victory over a top-10 team in Wesleyan history. The win over Oklahoma City also led the Rams to a 6-0 winning streak in the beginning of the season.

"Toby's work ethic and commitment to the team was shown every day in prac-

tice, and he was the ideal captain for our squad," said senior defender Jorge Pineda.

Rochau was ranked No. 35 in the NAIA division one in saves per game at 5.85 and named RRAC men's soccer defensive player of the week for Sept. 7-13.

"Toby is a coach's dream because he does what you ask of him, and he is a great goalkeeper," said Gaspar Martinez, head coach of the men's soccer team.

Away from soccer and studies, Rochau interns at ESPN radio in the promotions and marketing department. He also works part-time as a journalist for Spox.com, a German online sports Web site, covering the Dallas Mavericks games, focusing on forward Dirk Nowitzki who is also from Germany.

After graduation Rochau plans to pursue a career in sports marketing/management or complete his master's degree.

"Toby is a go-getter kind of guy and he will do very well for himself after Wesleyan," Martinez said.

His teammate agrees.

"I was fortunate to get to know Toby for three years on and off the field and his continuous efforts in the classroom have made his future bright," Pineda said. "He is headed in the right direction, and he will be successful in life."

Rochau said he knows he will be leaving something special behind to pursue the career he has worked hard for.

"I will miss playing as a team and seeing my teammates and the Wesleyan community on a regular basis," he said.

Wesleyan Week-in-Sports

- The **Lady Rams Softball** team (23-12, 15-3 RRAC) hosted Bacone College April 17. The game was halted due to rain at the bottom of the third inning with the score at 3-3.
- The **Rams Baseball** team (21-19, 8-0 RRAC) took a run-shortened 10-0 win against Northwood University April 16.

The Weekly Sports Quote

"I don't want to shoot my mouth in my foot, but those are games we can win."

Sherman Douglas
football legend

Upcoming Sports:

	Game	Time/Place
Thursday	Baseball vs. Oklahoma City Univ.	4 p.m. LaGrave Field
Friday	Baseball vs. Southwestern Assemblies of God Softball vs. Huston-Tillotson University	2 p.m. LaGrave Field 5 p.m. Sycamore Park
Saturday	Softball vs. Univ. of the Southwest Baseball vs. University of Houston-Victoria	Noon Sycamore Park 1 p.m. LaGrave Field
Tuesday	Softball vs. Langston University Baseball vs. LSU-Shreveport (LA)	1 p.m. Langston, OK 4 p.m. LaGrave Field

90 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP

1920  **SGA** 2010
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Contact Us at
Phone: 817-531-7550
Email: stugov@txwes.edu

Visit us at
OC Hall 202 and 204

WANTED

The Rambler is looking for YOU!

Now seeking applicants for all positions for Fall 2010.

Visit www.therambler.org or stop by the Human Resources Office located in the Administration Building for more details and applications.

Don't Miss Your Opportunity!