

Foreign Oren live at Chellie Club



Photo by Kristin Gumbert

Foreign Oren rocked out Thursday, Feb. 23, in lower Hinkhouse for over 80 Cottey and prospective students. The band played from 8 to 9:30 p.m. and entertained students with good music and stories. Brandon Eagle, musician and singer from Nashville, Tenn., opened for the four-member band of Dallas, Texas. Katie Ogle said, "I think Foreign Oren was a really good band for Cottey students. There was a lot of interaction between the band and the crowd." "Several students got up to dance along with the music throughout the show. Foreign Oren had its own unique sound and played a variety of music from slower to more fast-paced songs.

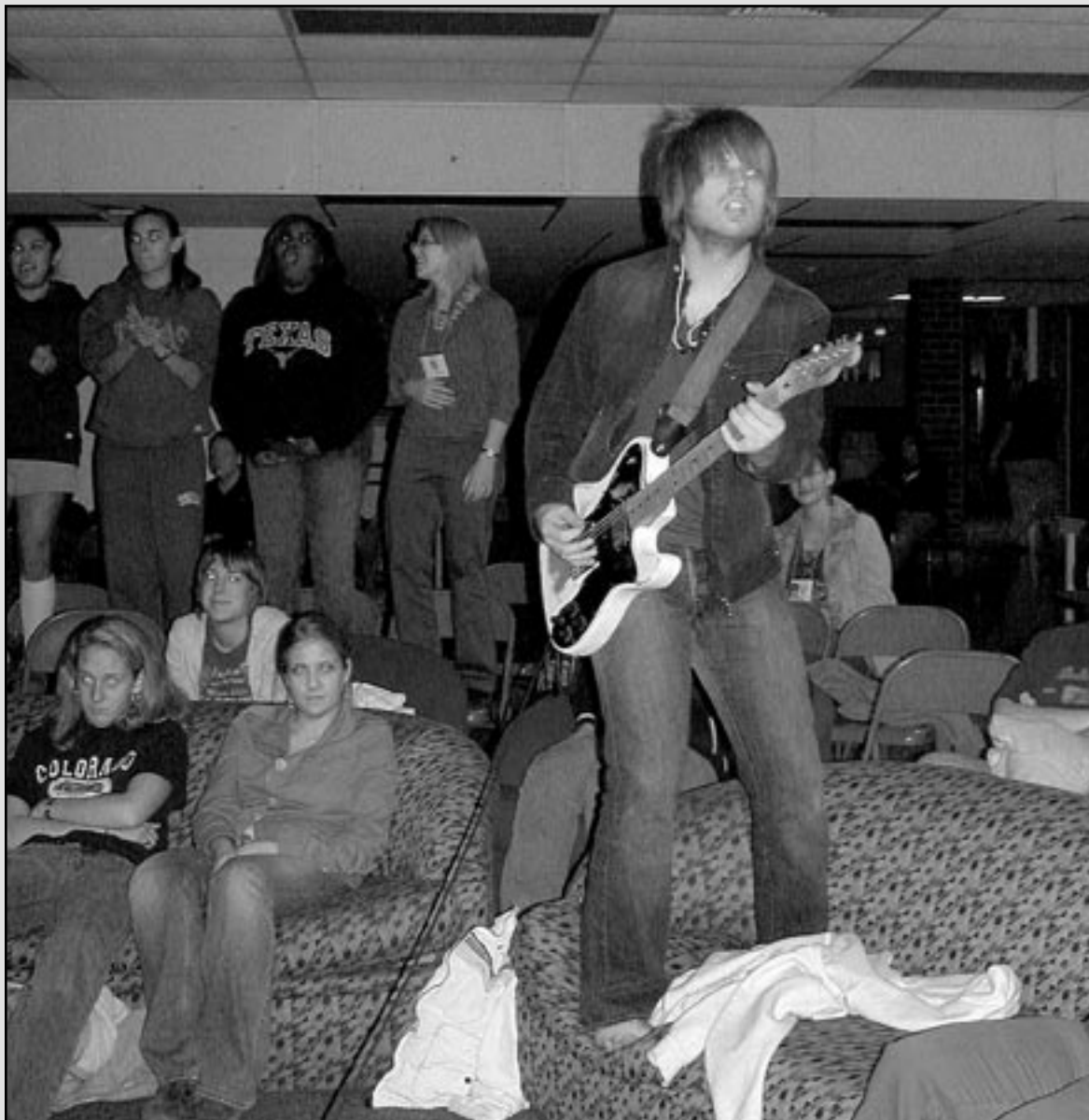


Photo by Kristin Gumbert

Blake Panter, Foreign Oren's guitarist, even blended in with the audience while playing.



Photo by Kristin Gumbert

Derric Bonnot, the lead singer of Foreign Oren, belted out one of their original songs.

First-year student asked to become a Lumina Leadership Team member



Photo by Barbora Batokova

Courtney Cowart, sitting on the far left, takes notes as Gladys Brown, first member of the Lumina Project National Advisory Board to visit campus, gives a presentation on diversity, education and leadership. Cowart is a first-year student from Tucson, Ariz., and serves on the Student Academic Advisory Board of Cottey College and the newly created Lumina Leadership Team.

By Barbora Batokova
Editor

Courtney Cowart, a first-year student from Tucson, Ariz., applied at the beginning of the year to serve on the Student Academic Advisory Board (SAAB) of Cottey College "to gain more involvement with the students and work with professors and administrators." She was selected to become a member, along with four other students and now, since the college received a grant from the Lumina Foundation for Education, she has also become a part of the Lumina Leadership Team and serves as the liaison between the two committees.

SAAB, apart from Cowart, includes the Vice President of Academic Affairs Mary Emily Kitterman, Assistant Dean of Faculty Melinda Rhodes and first-year students Kayla Wardrup, who also serves on the Academic Appeals Board; McKay Knight who is the student liaison for the Board of Trustees; and Miroslava Kireva, SGA liaison for the SAAB.

Cowart, as a member of SAAB, was first in charge of Afternoon Connections, a program that is planned to take place after spring break with the purpose of promoting contact between the students and professors outside of the classroom. Cowart is now trying to organize several professors to give presentations on diversity topics that are chosen because of the Lumina grant. "It allows the professor to speak on a certain topic of interest and it allows them to communicate (with the students) outside

of the classroom," said Cowart. SAAB has so far met three times this academic year, but the student members also meet outside of formal meetings, said Cowart.

The Lumina Leadership Team, which was created to manage the diversity project, apart from Cowart, consists of Cottey College President Judy R. Rogers, Kitterman, Dean of Student Life Mari Anne Phillips, Director of the Center for Women's Leadership Kay Kuhlmann, Coordinator of Institutional Research Nancy Kerbs and Lumina Project Coordinator Melissa Earll. One of its primary functions is to bring various experts to campus and have them give workshops on the importance of diversity and how to recruit more diverse student body and faculty.

Cowart believes that more people will learn about the project through the workshops and "hopefully they will get involved with it."

"I think it is a great opportunity and honor to have these guest speakers to come and learn more about diversity, education and multiculturalism. I have learned a lot about the importance of diversity and how it helps the learning environment."

Cowart also held a leadership position while she was in high school. She served as the publicist and historian at the District Council Youth Ministries, a committee that organized activities for all the churches in the district. Cowart's responsibility as a publicist was to create various flyers and posters for the planned events and then send them to the district office for distribution.

Clubs PIG and SAVE to sponsor showing of two Wal-Mart movies

By Rachel Lynn
Staff Writer

Living in Nevada, it is hard not to spend money at Wal-Mart, which has truly become the store to find any item on the one's shopping list. It is undeniable that Wal-Mart simply does have everything and is popular among Nevada residents, including the Cottey community.

Two organizations have thus seen the growing need to educate the Cottey community on Wal-Mart. The political interest group, PIG, and SAVE, Students Against a Vanishing Environment, are sponsoring the showing of the films "Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price" and "Why Wal-Mart Works And Why That Makes Some People Crazy," which will educate students on the benefits and disadvantages of the Wal-Mart industry. These films will be shown in the Missouri Recital Hall after spring break.

The films selected discuss the advantages and disadvantages of Wal-Mart on communities and small businesses. The sponsor of SAVE, Whitney Jones, said, "It is important to educate students, especially when Nevada has experienced the effects of Wal-Mart."

The first film, "Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price" directed by Robert Greenwald, chronicles the personal stories of families struggling to keep their small businesses from going bankrupt against Wal-Mart. The main focus of this film are the negative effects that Wal-Mart carries on to small businesses and communities.

In order to give students a broader view on Wal-Mart, the second film "Why Wal-Mart Works And Why That Makes Some People Crazy," directed by Ron Galloway, will also be shown.

This film was created by Wal-Mart after "Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price" came out in order to defend their company. This film shows the productivity at Wal-Mart, and counters some of the claims made in "Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price."

Both of these films analyze Wal-Mart in an environmental and political sense. PIG President Jennifer Hanna

said, "Wal-Mart has created a lot of economic issues and it is important for our generation to be aware of these consequences, because we will be paying from them when we are adults."

The president of the environmental club, Molly Austin, said, "Wal-Mart does have an effect on our environment to a certain extent, and it is important for students to realize those affects."

The question needed to be asked is, "Does Nevada depend on Wal-Mart? Has it truly become the main source for shopping and a necessity of everyday living?"

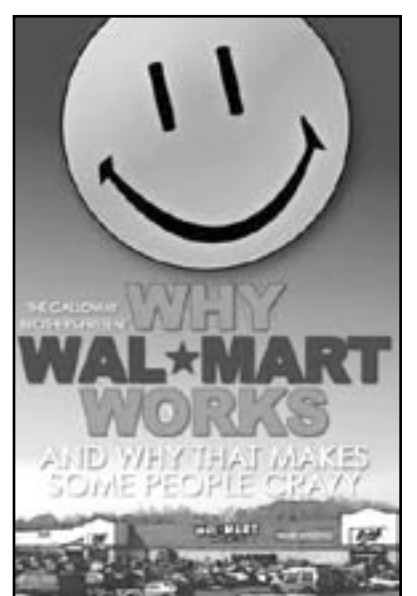
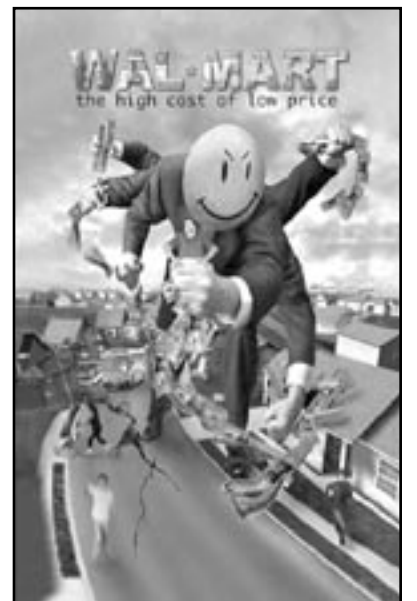
First-year student Mira Kireva said, "Wal-Mart is probably bad for the local businesses, but it is good for us because we can get everything for cheap prices. You can get everything you need even at 2 o'clock in the morning."

With Wal-Mart being the main store in Nevada, Cottey students have different opinions on the company. Second-year student, Laura Joliff said, "I don't like them because they drive out 'mom and pop' stores," and I don't like that the major industries are starting to take over small towns."

It is safe to say that Nevada is a prime example of the effects that Wal-Mart has on smaller towns. When one drives through the downtown square, it can be noticed that more than half of the buildings are boarded up or closed down. There are few remaining stores in Nevada. The Wal-Mart Supercenter produces multiple services such as a salon and eye center, which take away businesses in Nevada.

Second-year student Rachel Spurling said, "I shop at Wal-Mart not because I like it, because it's the only place to shop, since all the smaller shops have been put out of business by Wal-Mart."

The producers of "Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price" said that "to say that Wal-Mart wipes out ALL existing businesses is of course ridiculous, and we do not make that point in our film. Businesses close for a number of reasons. The point we are making in the film, a point that is supported by a wealth of evidence present and not present in



the film, is that Wal-Mart, in the final equation, hurts rather than helps these businesses in the struggle to remain open and competitive."

On the website the director gives commentary on why he chose to target this particular topic for a documentary.

"A neighbor of mine, who had some health issues, was hired at Wal-Mart. As we were talking about it, I expressed my relief that he would now have health insurance. He replied that no, unfortunately, the coverage offered at Wal-Mart was so expensive and had so many requirements, he couldn't afford it and might not qualify even if he could pay," Greenwald said.