

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

March 3, 2010

Volume 36, Number 25

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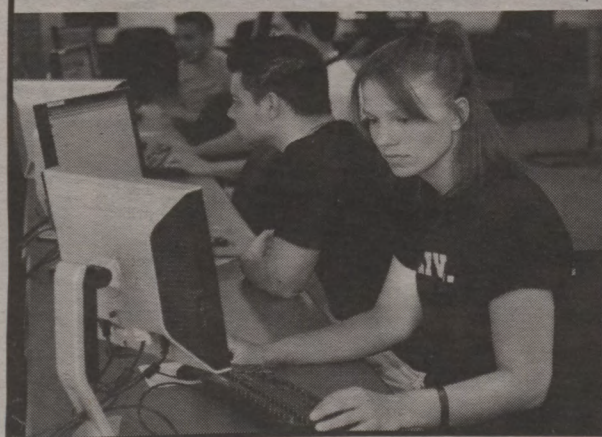
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Cover illustration by Bryan Culver & Jason Willis

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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"To provide a forum for news, information, opinion and discussion for the Oakland University community."

— The Oakland Post mission statement

Perspectives

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March 3, 2010

STAFF EDITORIAL

Save us students a spot

Board hogs 20 spots all day for short meeting

Students and administrators have spent countless hours finding a \$1.7 million solution to arguably the most salient campus-life issue: Parking.

An ongoing effort, it will come in many small increments and an abundance of innovative thinking.

A parking committee comprised of students, administrators and faculty has found a way to create 468 new spaces this summer. Last summer, re-striping and re-purposing of existing lots created 72 new spaces for the bargain price of about \$2,000.

Despite all of this effort, all of the grief and tardy marks the congested lots cause students, it seems we are still at square one.

On Tuesday, the Oakland University board of trustees met in the Elliott Hall auditorium for an hour and 24 minutes from 2 p.m. to 3:24 p.m. For that short meeting (our campus editor who had to sit through it would argue otherwise), 20 parking spots right in front of Elliott were blocked off so that the seven trustees and apparently quite a few others could pull right up.

This is where you imagine hearing

somebody scraping a needle across a southern rock record for dramatic effect. Everybody lowers their sunglasses, and the board members feel awkward for their faux pas.

Maybe this service, provided by OU Police Department as a courtesy, is just a long-standing norm that has yet to be reconsidered. But we know that the board is aware of parking issues on campus, as it's frequently addressed at their meetings.

Their meetings are once a month, which is worth noting. And sometimes they don't even meet for months. The last one before Tuesday's was in November. The bulk of them are in the summer when parking isn't such an issue. So it's not like they have to make this arduous journey, say, three times a week.

Many administrators who work on campus walk to the meetings. President Gary Russi and his colleagues are often spotted on the walking path between the Oakland Center and Elliott. So we know those extra spots aren't for them.

It's time the board considers giving up these spots, for the sake of the hard

work this university is doing to remedy the parking problem. We suggest they take advantage of the luxury golf cart sometimes used to corral visitors, like they did at the Community Outlook meeting held on campus over break.

Shortly after the board meeting ended, a woman pushing a stroller was spotted heading to her car from Elliott. There are sidewalks, but there happened to be a utility truck parked on it, right at the intersection of Library and Pioneer drives. She had to push her baby in the road as motorists whipped around the corner. She may have been one of the thousands of people Tuesday who could have parked a little bit closer had those spots not been reserved.

Putting aside 20 spots during one of the busiest days on campus during the busiest times is just kind of cruel.

This is prime real estate our tuition is paying for. A re-pavement project in the lot between Graham Health Center and Wilson Hall will yield 10 spots, costing us \$12,300 per spot.

We are willing to pay the cost, but not to have the spaces sit vacant for the benefit of seven people.

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Letter Policy:

Writers must provide full name, class rank, phone number and field of study. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. Letters may be edited for content, length and grammar.



CORRECTIONS CORNER

In February 17th's "Russi to attend next OUSC meeting, the multicultural affairs director is Ranna M. Abro.

In February 17th's Campus Briefs, we reported the ticket sales for Drake performance begins March 1. The actual date is March 8.

The Oakland Post corrects all errors of fact. If you know of an error, please e-mail oakpostmanaging@gmail.com or call (248) 370-2537. You can also write us at 61 Oakland Center Rochester, MI 48309.

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

— The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States

There's more to our student liaison than the suit



Student Congress president and vice president; Student Programming Board chair; Student organization executive board; I can guarantee that nearly every student reading this article has a good idea of what these campus leadership positions are and maybe even what they entail.

Now give this one a try: student liaison to the board of trustees. Heard of it?

In my two years as student liaison, many haven't. When asked why I'm wearing a business suit during lunch in the Vandenberg Cafeteria — a must-wear on board of trustees meeting days — the first response I usually get is an enthusiastic, "Great!" followed closely by a perplexed, "... what do you do?"

How thoughtful of you to ask! Curious souls, step forward: I would be happy to explain.

The board of trustees, OU's official governing body, meets regularly throughout the year to discuss and decide upon financial, academic and legislative university affairs.

As a student liaison, attending each of these meetings is a requirement. However, the word "attend" is used loosely since student liaisons are not part of the audience. Rather, they sit with the university vice presidents and even have their own microphones so they can provide, ideally, unbiased cross-sections of student

views and opinions throughout the meetings.

The position, though unpaid, is as close to a legitimate professional internship an OU student can get.

Liaisons actively interact with the OU administration and the seven-member board of trustees, all whom are well-respected and experienced leaders in their individual fields. They prepare formal reports on student activities to present to the board, communicate student concerns, and relay board of trustees and administrative activities relevant to students to the local media, Student Congress, and other student organizations.

Business suit? Make that a double check.

Don't let this unofficial job description intimidate you. Acting as student liaison to the board of trustees is a rare opportunity for a student to make a tangible difference for the OU community while working independently of, yet in cooperation with, a large organization like Student Congress or SPB.

I've found the position to be one of the most flexible and richly rewarding leadership opportunities OU offers.

Concrete requirements such as those I've mentioned above do exist, but what one chooses to do with the esteem the student liaison position brings and the abundant networking opportunities presented along with it is entirely up to them.

The recently launched Bike Share program was the brainchild of a former student liaison. My fellow liaison, Corey Schmidt, has made it a priority to emphasize to students the reliability and approachability of student liaisons as informational links.

I've spent my time in the post promoting more inter-

action between the administration and students. For example, an informal forum about the OU William Beaumont School of Medicine was hosted between the provost and pre-medical students. We also encourage students to attend more board of trustees meetings.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention that being liaison has its additional perks. I have attended black-tie galas and mingled with newly-elected House representatives at Meadow Brook Hall.

To me, though, even these "benefits" are considerably overshadowed by the opportunity I have had to forge meaningful relationships with the upper administration, staff and student leaders of Oakland University.

Are you a current or potential student leader? The positions Mr. Schmidt and I have held are now available for the next generation of student liaisons.

Don't miss your chance to become a valuable connection between university leadership and your fellow students!

Please visit the OU board of trustees website or the Dean of Students office by March 31, 2010 for more information, qualifications and an application to apply.

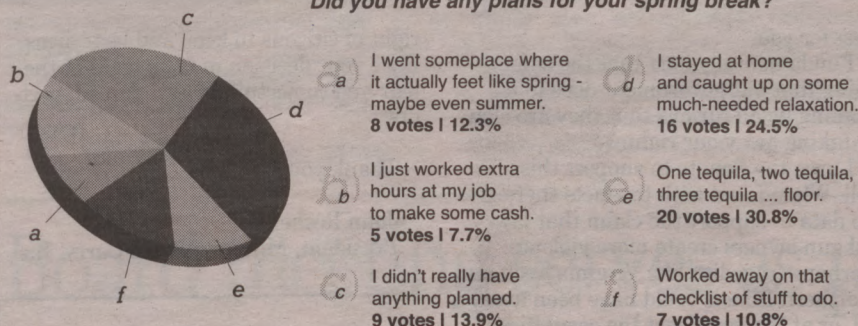
Contrary to popular opinion, you don't have to major in political science, public affairs or the like to become student liaison. I'm a biology major, and I can assure you that the knowledge I have gained firsthand about leadership, the political process, major fiscal decision-making and university operations will still be indispensable for any future experiences I may have.

As for the rest of you ... you can still come to the Elliott Hall Auditorium to observe the several board of trustees meetings left this semester!

poll of the week

last issue's results Total Votes: 65 | Poll conducted at oaklandpostonline.com

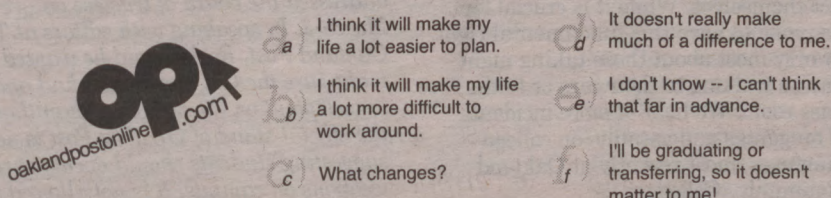
Did you have any plans for your spring break?



current poll

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What do you think about Oakland's decision to combine registration, which will let students register for full year instead of by individual semesters?
Check out our cover story on pages 16 and 17 for a more in-depth explanation.



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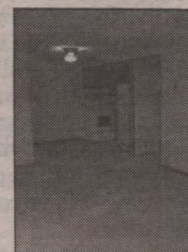
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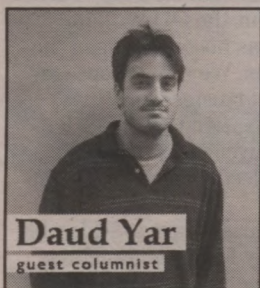
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Pole dancing heading to ... the Olympics?



Daud Yar
guest columnist

Just when the world thought it had seen it all, pole dancers may show up to the 2016 Olympics looking to compete — thongs, bras and all — for gold medals. This may seem like the perfect April Fools' Day joke, but the cosmos are aligning for this crude art form. Just think of it ...

Sportscaster Bob Costas' potential future commentary: "Candy Waxheimer takes her position at the freely suspending pole. It all comes down to this; One woman, one pole, one medal. She begins with the standard wrap ... Nicely done. Now each competitor is required to do at least four compulsory maneuvers and two stunts comprised of combination movements. Candy has gone through the basics with no problem and here comes the last stunt ... She nails her last stunt with a knee hold cradle spin followed by a shoulder mount flip over. Let's see what the judges say ... And she has taken over the top spot. Will that be enough for gold? Stay tuned for these messages ..."

So how did this all begin? The erotic style known as pole dancing began to be recognized as good exercise. Pole dancing cardio routines and instructional classes recently became widespread.

The hobby has become so popular that a group — let's call them pole dancing enthusiasts — decided it was time to take this kinky past-time to the international

level. A petition currently is being circulated. If all goes well, pole dancers will be standing on the 2016 Olympic podium.

Pole dancing is controversial but let's not deprive those women who work hard to show off their moves. These individuals may not have the flexibility of gymnasts, but they are older than 13. Flexibility and gymnastic fitness seem to reach their peak at 16. In fact, pole dancing, or the "vertical beam" could be the sport for those gymnasts in their late teens.

Let's not forget about the men either. Men have the same right to the vertical beam as women. If the International Olympic Committee can allow women's hockey, men's vertical beam is surely acceptable.

Many may say the Olympics is a family-oriented affair. I couldn't agree more. Fortunately I have a few remedies to keep the would-be sport G-rated:

1) Implement U.S. Pole Dancing Federation dress code rules: No nudity, no G-strings or thongs. Special suits can be made to expose only forearms and shins with the country logo or flag branded on the side. It's elegant, classy and the performers might just look like Olympians.

2) Straight, nonsexual classical music will be used instead of the overused, burlesque music beat. Mozart, Rossini, Schubert, Beethoven and Liszt are all appropriate. Classical music takes the funk out of the dance. A stripper may bounce her junk to the beat, but only an Olympic vertical beam participant will move gracefully to a piano concerto.

3) No financial bonuses during the routines. Tipping

will be outlawed among vertical beam athletes. A main stigma of pole dancing is based on the wager system. A dancer will look and do things more sexy with a monetary incentive. Take the dollars out, take the sexy out.

Even a sport that is family-oriented with time honored tradition — curling, track, bob-sled or soccer — needs to have a substantial audience. Ever wonder why the shot-put is only broadcasted 5 percent of the time compared to the 100-meter dash? It's all about TV ratings. This is an area made for the vertical beam. If everything goes according to plan, Bob Costas will get, substantially, less airtime.

For those of you watching the Winter Olympics this year and for the past 16 years — these games are the 9th Olympics for Bob — I feel your pain. NO MORE COSTAS! He can't even pronounce Chris Collinsworth's name correctly. His best performance, to date, was last Thursday on the Colbert Report. Even Rachel Maddow does a better show.

The vertical beam could attract a new crowd; an untapped abundance of viewers with a combined capability to boost TV ratings. Now, I know the Summer Olympics may not need a bigger audience, but more popularity never hurt anyone.

All in all pole dancing has a long way to go to reach Olympic status. It will most likely not be an Olympic sport by 2016, but some of us are dreamers. At least pole dancing is good exercise nowadays. So watch out guys. If your girl is taking pole dancing lessons, it doesn't necessarily mean she's a stripper. She may just be working out.

Letter to the Editor

I would like to bring to light another side of the Michigan House Bill 5474 that would allow students to lawfully carry guns on campus in order to protect themselves.

As this discussion heats up you will hear many myths and tall tales from anti-gun lobbyists. I want to set the record straight in regards to some of these myths.

Myth: "That's what the police are for, you can't allow students to carry guns. Think about the children!"

Fact: Police are minutes away when seconds count! Police seldom prevent crime; they merely react to it. Also, the Supreme Court has ruled that the police have no duty to protect citizens. This responsibility falls on the individual.

Myth: Drinking on campus will create an environment for gun violence.

Fact: Concealed Pistol License holders are among the most law abiding segments of society and take their rights seriously. There is no evidence to support "drunken gun fights" on campus.

Myth: Crime will increase as a result of the guns.

Fact: 15 states currently allow carry

on campus and there have been no statistics to support this myth. In fact none of these schools have had any reports of gun violence including threat or suicide. Studies show that CPL holders are five times less likely to commit a crime than non-CPL holders.

There is an option currently available to students giving them the ability to protect themselves at school. Open carry of a handgun is legal for those possessing a concealed pistol license in Michigan's pistol free zones, or as I like to call them, criminal empowerment zones. The law clearly states that a person can not carry a concealed weapon in Michigan's pistol free zones, but the law does not prohibit from openly carrying.

All of the arguments for gun control are born of fear and conjecture not based in facts.

We preach to our youth and to our students that they are the future, "the best and brightest," but we take away their fundamental right as an American citizen and as a Michigan resident to keep and bear arms. The only message that we are sending is, "we don't trust you and we will pick and choose what is

best for you."

Fundamentally isn't that the same thing that our government does to us, making us all furious that they are slowly taking away our rights?

I urge the Senate to support this bill. When faced with the facts there is no data to support the claim that lawful gun owners create more violence. Perhaps tragedies like Virginia Tech and Northern Illinois could have been avoided, or at the very least the casualties could have been severely limited if there was a law allowing students or staff members to carry a gun for self defense.

The facts are that pistol free zones are commonly referred to as criminal empowerment zones for a reason. They take away the ability for citizens to protect themselves. While it is crucial for everyone to have this fundamental right, I worry most about those taking night classes walking to their cars or to the class room. We hear of more incidents of muggings and assaults on college campuses, most recently at Oakland Community College.

Again I urge you to support and embrace all legislation that supports the

right of citizens to keep and bear arms. Base your decision in facts and not the fear and conjecture of anti gun supporters.

Thank you

John Roshek
President, Michigan Open Carry, Inc

Editor's note: Above is a letter that Roshek had planned to present to the Oakland University Senate in January, but was unable to because he is not a member of the OU community in the sense that he is not a student, member of the faculty or staff. Roshek instead addressed the board of trustees on March 3. In speaking with editors at The Oakland Post, Roshek said he wanted to make sure the OU community had another viewpoint on the bill other than that of the official stand of OU. The Post is not suggesting students should openly carry weapons on campus. It is not allowed on this campus and there could be legal or other disciplinary actions.

OUSC meeting featured Russi Q&A

By MIKE SANDULA
Senior Reporter

Before turning to usual business, Oakland University Student Congress's Monday meeting featured three guest speakers.

President Gary Russi opened with a presentation followed by a forum in which he answered students' questions.

During a half-hour slideshow, Russi said he recognized tuition and OU's future as the biggest student concerns.

"You can see that most of the money has gone directly or indirectly into the pockets of students," Russi said.

With a minimum base cut of 3 percent and a 5 percent reduction in state funding, Russi said he's not sure how future tuition will be affected because of two other key factors: student enrollment and the actual tuition rate.

He added that an increase is likely.

Russi also gave a summary of the progress he said OU has made during his tenure as president.

The rest of his presentation revolved around Vision 2020, a nine-component plan to grow OU in the next decade. Russi outlined core values such as stewardship and external community engagement, a target of 25,000 students and a research-intensive agenda. A complete list can be found at www.oakland.edu/2020.

He said his administration has a long-term goal of 4,000 students living on campus.

One of the last things Russi touched

on before fielding questions was the OPTIONS case. He reiterated that the appeal is not specifically about Micah Fialka-Feldman, who is currently living in university housing.

"It's not about an individual, this case is much, much larger," Russi said. "This case is about the freedom of OU to decide who comes into the programs throughout the university."

Q&A

After concluding his presentation, Russi took questions from students

Asked what he felt was the most valuable project he was working on for students, Russi put co-curricular activities among the top.

"I think any activities that support living on this campus is very important," Russi said.

Football was not at the top of his list.

"In present day terms ... the idea of mounting a football program at Oakland University is out of the question," Russi said, citing the expenses of it.

Legislator Michael Diedrich brought up the possibility of removing the sales tax from textbook sales.

Russi said he and Mary Beth Snyder, vice president of student affairs, are looking into it.

Russi again stated that the creation of a teacher liaison position isn't up to him, but he supports the idea.

Student body president Kristin Dayag asked about having a percentage of the vending machine fund set aside for stu-

dent programming.

The fund, which Russi said is typically \$100,000, derives from a vending fee OU got every time a vending machine was used. He said Dayag's proposal is "part of the discussion."

Other questions included OU's "You can afford this" slogan and whether Russi felt it was a good message.

"It's not a branding campaign," Russi said. "It is a specific campaign to communicate to (struggling) families."

Russi urged students to get involved with the legislative process at all levels.

"I meet with student leaders all the time, that door is open, and the door is open to any of you," Russi said.

LGBTQA garners support

Dean Julie Voelck and communication Professor Shea Howell also appeared as guest speakers. They spoke on behalf of Tim Larrabee, chair of LGBTQA Employee Resource Group, saying they'd be submitting a request to the board of trustees to gain equal benefits for OU employees with same-sex employees.

Voelck asked students to support their efforts and Howell urged OUSC to pass a resolution demonstrating their support.

Legislature changes

Joshua Solomon, a trustee to the center of multicultural initiatives, was conditionally approved as a legislator, pending a validation of signatures. Legislator James Kaminski was approved to join

the scholarship committee.

Ryan Brandon was removed from the legislature due to a lack of attendance.

Alejandro Herrera, a junior, became Student Program Board events chair.

Legislator Andrew Gustafsson joined the Student Activities Funding Board.

OUSC budgets

The administrative assistant budget was passed. The \$2,000 will go toward refreshments at OUSC meetings where guest speakers are present.

Legislator Anthony Ivone sought to also boost the elections committee budget to \$5,000. Bill Hamilton, elections committee chair, said the current budget of \$1,000 is not sufficient, citing the costs running two debates and hosting a "meet and greet" catered by Chartwells with DJ entertainment.

"Why not spend more money and try to increase student interest?" Ivone said.

Nick McCormick, OUSC public relations agent, said about \$2,500 was spent last year, but a lot of that was spent from their PR budget. Hamilton said leftover funds would go back to OUSC, which currently has a rollover of about \$54,000. The budget will be voted on at the next meeting.

Possible tuition forum

CFO John Beaghan might be attending a future OUSC meeting to discuss tuition. Dayag expressed hope that tuition would either freeze or be lowered.

Board meeting serves as public forum for many issues

By KAY NGUYEN
Campus Editor

A board of trustees meeting Tuesday proved to have a chock-full agenda that saw six guest speakers in addition to board consideration of planned agenda items.

The meeting was the first since November after February's formal session was canceled due to a lack of necessary business.

After the consent agenda was approved, senior vice president for academic affairs and provost Virinder Moudgil made a recommendation to appoint physics professor Gopalan Srinivasan a distinguished faculty member.

"Dr. Gopalan Srinivasan is internationally recognized for his research in physics of magnetic and composite

materials," Moudgil said. "His work has led to significant civilian applications in consumer electronics as well international defense and homeland security."

The motion was unanimously approved.

A new major of actuarial science was approved by the board as well after a brief presentation.

A new university gift policy was approved as well. It gives more specific guidelines to things like naming buildings, according to Susan Davies Goepf, vice president for university relations and executive director of the OU foundation.

Tim Larrabee, the LGBTQA Employee Resource Group chair, presented document packets and a speech before the board to ask for inclusive workplace policies.

Dean Julie Voelck and communication professor Shea Howell asked for student support at Monday's OUSC

meeting on behalf of Larrabee.

Because of this and a postcard campaign, many students donning buttons of support were in attendance.

Trustee Henry Baskin inquired as to what exactly Larrabee wanted out of the meeting today.

He provided a brief history of the LGBTQA ERG's struggles on campus, which Larrabee said started in 2004 and are ongoing.

Student body president Kristin Dayag urged the board to support LGBTQ interests on campus, saying that it affected the entire school.

Saman Waquad, student body vice president, spoke

See BOT on page 9

Students will be able to vote on club sports funding

By MAS RAHMAN
Contributing Reporter

Club sports are now one step closer to being directly funded by student tuition money instead of going through an intermediary.

Currently, club sports get about \$25,000 a year from the \$25-per-student-per-semester student activities fee through the directly-funded student organization Student Activities Funding Board.

At the last Student Activities Fund Assessment Committee meeting on Monday, March 1, SAFAC members passed a referendum to take 5 percent from SAFB's current 29 percent from the activities fee money to club sports with a vote of 6-3 with one voting member absent.

As it is students' money, students get the final say of whether this referendum will be passed.

It will be on the ballot of the student body elections.

If students vote yes on the change, the amount of money club sports get would stay roughly the same but "would provide a slightly more secure funding option" for club sports since the amount currently fluctuates from year to year, said Mark Medaugh, SAFB chair.

Medaugh said another option to provide a more secure option is to change the bylaws of SAFB, which distributes its money to other non-directly-funded

organizations.

"The current system is working fine," he said, but he didn't want it to be up to the whims of the future SAFB chairs.

Voting members were representatives from the current seven directly-funded student run organizations and three students-at-large.

Some think that the percentages shouldn't be changed because directly-funded orgs are supposed to provide a service for the entire student population and not just a small group.

Student Video Productions, The Oakland Post and WXOU voted no on passing the referendum.

At the previous meeting on Feb. 15, many said they don't think club sports represent the campus as a whole and thus doesn't meet the criteria and guiding principles behind SAFAC.

"Why should a restrictive group be receiving funding that will not encompass the entire campus?" said Heather Haughey, faculty advisor for SVP.

"I would like to see a change of 100 percent student participation before directly funding (club sports)," said Colleen Miller, editor in chief of The Oakland Post.

Club sports council president Kyle Nieporte, a junior, said all students can participate in or spectate club sports and that the clubs' achievements in tournaments bring visibility to Oakland University.

"We allow anyone to come and start a

club," Nieporte said.

He also said if one club team is full, students can start a D2 or D3 club for the same sport.

Another concern raised at the Feb. 15 meeting was the lack of awareness for club sports.

"Why is it not more visible on campus?" questioned Jean Ann Miller, advisor for Student Life Lecture Board.

Nieporte said at the March 1 meeting that advertising for club sports could be better and that the council is planning to increase it to let students know about the club sports' events.

Another concern raised was the difficulties of students to spectate the events as almost all the events take place off-campus, even if it's a home game.

Nieporte said events need to be off campus because OU "doesn't have the facilities to hold them all" and that providing transportation to off-campus events is "almost impossible."

Club sports teams can also consist of up to 40 percent of non-students.

"This is the first step in the right direction," Nieporte said. "As enrollment increases, our funding will too."

Colleen Miller, Editor in Chief of The Oakland Post requested money from the Special Projects Fund to upgrade The Post's computers, send a reporter to cover the men's basketball team if it makes it into the NCAA tournament and buy a photo/video camera.

SPF receives two percent of the stu-

dent activities fee, and currently has about \$16,000 left this semester.

It's a reserve that the directly-funded organizations can try to tap into for special circumstances.

The Post requested \$17,696, more than what the fund contains.

Colleen Miller said she requested more than what she thought would be ultimately approved, including nine iMac computers to replace the current mini-Mac ones because they don't support necessary software and future upgrades.

The request also includes a scanner.

Because The Post spent about \$4,300 upgrading software recently, it's "unrealistic" that it would also upgrade its computers within the next year from its own funds, she said.

The computers, combined with the camera, would give a way to provide more multimedia content for The Post's website, Colleen Miller said.

She also said that The Post didn't anticipate the possibility of the Grizzlies going to the NCAA on this year's budget, which was determined in June of 2009.

The Post's request was tabled to another meeting, possibly next Wednesday.

The scheduling of the meeting was due to the possibility of a budget change dependent on a travel request to the NCAA tournament.

Colleen Miller has since retracted the funding request for travel because of the high possibility of a student bus trip that a reporter could go on.

SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT ORGS

Alpha Lambda Delta | First Year Honor Society

By GABI JAYE
Staff Reporter

Over the course of spring break, many Oakland University freshmen received news that their academic endeavors had paid off.

Those that maintained at least a 3.5 GPA and are in the top 20 percent of their class during their first semester of studies were invited to join Alpha Lambda Delta, the OU freshman honor society.

According to ALD adviser Karen Conn, there is a specific reason for why the organization is just for freshmen.

The group was founded in 1924 by the Dean of Women, Maria Leonard, at the University of Illinois to recognize academic excellence among freshmen women as a compliment to Phi Eta Sigma, a men's freshman academic honor society.

OU's chapter is relatively new and has only been active for about three years.

"I think it will look very good on my list of school accomplishments and it is a nice recognition for my hard work," freshman Julieta Saluzzo said. "It will impact me positively because it highlights my good work and the events they will offer me will be rewarding in many ways."

Students eligible for the organization were notified by an e-mail sent to their OU student account.

The invitation acknowledged the hard work of the students and commemorated their "good study habits and the self discipline to use time wisely."

ALD offers students the chance to take part in service projects and other activities geared specifically toward members of the society.

By participating, members can be eligible for national scholarships and other

honors organizations.

"I'm looking forward to being around students that exhibit similar academic aspirations," freshman Andrew Wernette said. "I don't want to be distracted from my career ambitions."

With the acceptance of this invite is a \$40 initiation fee that covers a lifetime membership to ALD, local chapter dues, an initiation pin and a certificate that recognizes their participation.

Once a student is a member of ALD, they have opportunities to meet with other students in the group, compete for \$140,000 annually in national scholarships, participate in different leadership opportunities and follow the OU mantra of "get involved."

"When I read that the society only invites the top 20 percent of the freshman class, I was ecstatic," freshman Ashley Cerku said. "I think with this under my belt, my college career will be

more fulfilling and worthwhile."

Following the invite will be the initiation ceremony Sunday, March 28 from 3-5 p.m. in the Banquet Rooms of the Oakland Center.

The invited student and up to three guests are encouraged to attend the celebration.

Students who meet the requirements after this semester are encouraged to apply for membership as well, as invitations were only extended based on a fall semester list.

Potential ALD members were also informed that they could run for an officer position.

"We are currently looking for enthusiastic, hard working freshman members wanting to hold office in their sophomore year," Conn said.

Those interested can e-mail Conn at conn@oakland.edu with a small bio about themselves by March 7.

SAE pres. to shave head

By RORY MCCARTY AND JACOB THIELEN

Staff Reporter and Contributing Reporter

Sigma Alpha Epsilon is currently raising \$10,000 to help the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, and for each \$1,000 raised, one SAE member will shave their head.

SAE President Dan Evola's head is first on the shaving block.

SAE will be hosting their annual Paddy Murphy party on Friday, March 5.

The event will be held at the Crofoot Ballroom in Pontiac. Doors open at 9 p.m. Guests must be at least 18 years old to attend.

The proceeds from the event will benefit The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Michigan as part of SAE's Bic-A-Brother campaign.

Until March 9, SAE will be raising money for their Bic-A-Brother fundraiser, one of the fraternity's community service projects.

James Norris, organizer for the event, said that a pack of tickets to Detroit Pistons games and gift certificates to Buffalo Wild Wings are among the prizes that will be given away during the

event's raffle.

The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society uses funds donated to fight different blood related cancers, including leukemia, Hodgkins and non-Hodgkins lymphoma, and multiple myeloma.

Jan Kniahynycky, patient services manager for the Michigan chapter of the society, says that the money is used in a wide variety of ways that benefit patients of the blood cancers.

One way the money is used is to provide patients \$150 a month.

Kniahynycky said that although the money is a drop in the bucket compared to the cost of their medication, which can be \$4,000 to \$6,000 a month, it can be enough to provide someone with gas money to get treatment or buy a wig.

"You can imagine what its like to walk back into a classroom after you're bald," Kniahynycky said.

She said that the thing that sets Leukemia and Lymphoma Society apart from other cancer societies is that they are focused on their goal: a cure for blood cancer.

"Your support means a lot," Evola said, "and hopefully we can all pull together and do this great thing."

Continued from page 7

BOT

along the same lines.

"One of the core values for Oakland University's 2020 vision is diversity," Waquad said. "Accessibility to the same opportunities and benefits regardless of one's religion, race, culture, gender identity and expression is vital to ensuring a truly diverse environment."

Both Dayag and Waquad agreed with Larrabee about increasing diversity to attract the best possible faculty by providing a welcoming atmosphere.

"When the rules governing an institution, especially one of higher education, do not explicitly state such inclusivity, it is imperative upon such an institution to step up to the plate to protect the rights of its community members," Waquad said.

Director of university diversity and compliance Joi Cunningham anticipates policy will be changed by fall.

"I assure you, I am one who fully supports this. The university and I respect and value the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender community as we do all members of this community," President Gary Russi said.

Board of trustees chair Jacqueline Long said she'd like the board to look

at the issue in a timely manner, which elicited cheers from the crowd.

John Roshek, president of the Michigan Open Carry campaign spoke in support of Michigan legislation that could allow for the carrying of concealed weapons on campus and did not want decisions to be ruled by "fear."

Richard Feldman recalled the way he felt the day his son Micah Fialka-Feldman moved into OU housing and also voiced his feelings about the school's appeal on the court decision regarding Fialka-Feldman.

After receiving information from a Freedom of Information Act request, he said he learned that the university has spent over \$140,000 on the case.

Former AAUP spokesperson Joel Russell was the last to come before the board.

Speaking as a professor and member of the campus community, Russell addressed Russi directly about further opening lines of communication between faculty and administration.

He pointed out the idea of faculty liaisons to the board once again and stressed that Russi must come through on his November faculty forum promises as the faculty's vote of no confidence will occur later this month.

The meeting adjourned shortly after.

The next formal session is scheduled for April 7 in the Elliott Hall Auditorium at 2 p.m.

March

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY
 1 2 3
 7 8 9 10
 14 15 16 17
 21 22 23 24
 28 29 30

Billing and payment information:

- Fall tuition is due in September 2010
- Winter tuition is due in January 2011

For important billing and payment information, including information on available payment plans, visit the Student Business Services Web site at oakland.edu/sbs.

Plan ahead

Take advantage of combined FALL 2010 and WINTER 2011 registration at Oakland University

With combined registration, eligible students may register to obtain a fall and winter class schedule. That means on **Monday, March 15**, eligible students can begin registering by class standing and earned credit hours for fall 2010 and winter 2011 classes.

Priority registration dates will be staggered based on class standing and the number of earned credit hours (outlined at right). Go to the **Check Your Registration Status** feature in SAIL to view the number of earned credit hours you have to date.

Just follow these steps:

- Go to the OU homepage (oakland.edu)
- Click on SAIL (in the upper right-hand corner of the OU homepage)
- Log in using your NetID and password
- Once inside the portal, click on Register for Classes
- Click on Check Your Registration Status
- Select a term (fall semester 2010)
- View your assigned registration time status, any registration permits/overrides and your total earned credit hours.

The chart is based upon the combination of total degree credit hours earned on an Oakland University transcript as of **Friday, March 12, 2010**. Enrolled credits will not be considered.

Class Standing	Earned Credit Hours	Fall/Winter Priority Registration Dates (all start at 12:01 a.m.)
All graduate students	Not applicable	Monday, March 15
Second undergraduate degree students	Not applicable	Tuesday, March 16
Seniors	121 credits and above	Tuesday, March 16
Seniors	91 credits and above	Wednesday, March 17
Juniors	73 credits and above	Thursday, March 18
Juniors	56 credits and above	Friday, March 19
Sophomores	42 credits and above	Monday, March 22
Sophomores	28 credits and above	Tuesday, March 23
Freshmen	16 credits and above	Wednesday, March 24
Freshmen	0 credits and above	Thursday, March 25
Post-bachelor, non-matriculated and guest students	Not applicable	Friday, March 26
All students		Saturday, March 27

2010 OUSC ELECTIONS MEET THE CANDIDATES

BRANDON GUSTAFSON
PRESIDENT

JUNIOR
Major in finance and economics

OUSC Experience
1 year as Financial Affairs Director

ticket 1



CAMERON SCHEA
PRESIDENT

SOPHOMORE
Major in finance

OUSC Experience
Almost 1 year as a legislator

ticket 2



SAMAN WAQUAD
PRESIDENT

SENIOR
Major in biology
Minor in human resource management

OUSC Experience
4 years. 1 as legislator, 1 as legislative and Multicultural Affairs Director, 1 as Legislative Affairs Director, and 1 as student body vice president.

ticket 3



AMY RING
VICE PRESIDENT

SENIOR
Major in Spanish

OUSC Experience
2 years, 1 as a legislator, 1 as Legislative Affairs Director

ticket 1



MIKE DIEDRICH
VICE PRESIDENT

SOPHOMORE
Major in public administration

OUSC Experience
1 year as a legislator

ticket 2



LAURA DeSANTO
VICE PRESIDENT

SENIOR
Major in international relations

OUSC Experience
None.

ticket 3



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MBT Productions sure to entertain

By MIKE SANDULA and
THOMAS GOULDING
Senior Reporter and Contributing Reporter

With spring around the corner, Meadow Brook Theatre is getting ready for three shows centered around romance and comedy.

An adaptation of the Anthony Horowitz novel "Mindgame" is closing out its run at Michigan's largest professional producing theatre.

The mystery thriller is directed by resident stage manager and associate director Terry Carpenter.

"Mindgame" gives them the idea that they need to come to the theatre ready to watch and listen closely in order to not miss a clue and to decide what is and what isn't a clue," Carpenter said. "From the moment the curtain rises, they will realize something is not as it should be."

Performance schedules can be found at mbtheatre.com. Tickets can also be bought via the website.

With "Mind Game" wrapping up March 7, the next play in MBT's 2009-10 season is "Enchanted April."

Travis Walter, MBT interim artistic director, directs the romantic comedy

which runs from March 17 through April 11 is based on Elizabeth von Arnim's 1922 novel.

The novel inspired two movie incarnations, one in 1935 and another in 1992. Matthew Barber's play adaptation is based off the latter.

Two housewives, frustrated with their marriages, decide to rent a castle in Italy. To help with costs, they recruit two English women who help the two French sisters realize what they left behind.

"Some of the things we need we already have at home, but we don't realize until we leave them," Walter said.

Walter said most of the cast producing the show is new to the production business.

Because the story takes place in both London and Italy, the show will feature two completely different sets.

"Usually most of our audience is used to viewing just one set," Walter said.

Tickets range from \$24 to \$39.

Also, the second annual children's series wraps up with two performances of "Seussical the Musical" March 20.

Tickets are \$15.

Slated for March 22 and 23 is a pair of intern-produced performances.



Photo courtesy of Meadow Brook Theater

The Meadow Brook Theatre season is in full swing with performances for the entire family.

Nights of entertainment entitled "No Strings Attached" features two one-act comedic plays.

Robert "Bo" Anderson's "Puppet Play" will start off each night at 7 p.m. Directed by Alex Pedica, OU alum and performance intern, the play is about two different couples — a teacher and a teacher's assistant, and a puppeteer and a dresser — where one person in each pair is having a hard time growing up.

One of the characters has an "instant" that requires all four of them to take a step back.

"All four of them are forced to really look at what is going on in their lives," Pedica said.

The other play, "The Macbrided Mactragedy of Macbeth," is directed by administration intern Becky Doster. Six young theatre professionals perform a very abridged version of Shakespeare's "Macbeth" in an attempt to make it relatable to a contemporary audience.

Tickets to these shows are free and available at the door, but donations are recommended. Proceeds go to Meadow Brook Theatre.

POLICE FILES

Domestic violence: Feb. 14 two officers answered a call from a student claiming that her ex-boyfriend had beaten up their friend. Officers found her with a large swollen bruise on her cheek and several scratches on her neck. The student stated that her ex-boyfriend had beaten her after she refused to have sex with him. The room was dark and she felt her ex punch her in the face. After he knocked her to the ground, he choked her, telling her to be quiet. The student snuck into another room once her ex fell asleep. When an officer made contact with the ex, he claimed that he did not physically assault the student. He said that her bruise might have been from falling off of the bed. The ex was placed under arrest for domestic violence. The student was transported to Crittenton by her mother.

Suspicious person: Feb. 14 an officer found a student slumped in a corner by an elevator in Hill House. The student could not say how much alcohol he consumed and said he did not do any drugs. The student's pants were torn in the front and appeared to be wet. The officer advised the student to lie down and go to sleep in his room. The hall director was notified and on the scene as well.

— compiled by staff reporter Gabi Jaye from OUPD's media logs



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OU Videoproductions
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248-370-2400

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CSA

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Forms at www.oakland.edu/csa/lead



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society

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Addict hits 'rock bottom'

By MAS RAHMAN
Contributing Reporter

"I started running, and then these police cars came out of nowhere. Next thing I know, I'm on the ground getting arrested. The first question the cop asked me was 'Where's the TV?' It's back on the bus. Second question: 'Crack or heroin?'"

For him, it was heroin.

Because of heroin, he did poorly in academics when he was a student at Oakland University, got arrested for stealing, went to rehabilitation, relapsed, ran away from home, got banned from OU for stealing again, got arrested, went to jail, was released after five months on a GPS tether, got the tether removed, and is now awaiting to hear when he has to go back to court-mandated in-patient rehab.

He has two felonies to his name for two larcenies, and one more felony will be the third strike and land him in prison.

He said he's clean now, and wants to stay that way.

But he said he also desires to start doing heroin again, and realistically thinks he has a 50 percent chance of staying clean for good this time.

Start and escalate

The 21-year-old white man from Holly said he was always interested in all kinds of drugs. He watched films about it, both fictional and documentary. He researched various drugs and their effects.

"I was a drug geek before I was a drug addict," he said.

Then he started experimenting with drugs as a teen, and kept a checklist of the ones he tried, which ranged from marijuana to hallucinogens and cocaine, "pretty much everything except meth."

He said he didn't try heroin until he came to OU, when he met a dealer by the smoker's hangout outside South Foundation Hall in early 2007 during his freshman year.

The dealer offered him money to drive him to Detroit to buy drugs, and then offered to start paying for the ride in heroin. He said he first tried sniffing it, then moved on to shooting up "because it was three times more for the money."

"The stigma of doing drugs with needles is reasonable," he said. "But it hits faster, and you get higher."

"It makes you feel like you're wrapped

in God's personal blanket," he said.

Eventually, he started calling the dealer to get drugs, instead of the other way around.

He lost two food service jobs because of his habit.

"I started showing up late, or not at all," he said.

His girlfriend also started doing heroin with him, so he had two habits to support and not just one, he said. This meant about \$50-\$100 every day.

After two months, "I had to have heroin every day, or I'd be a mess."

A "petty thief"

To support the two habits without a job, he said he took to stealing. He started selling CDs and other electronics from his home. He said he even committed electronic retail fraud, by listing items on eBay.com, getting paid for selling them, but not sending items to the purchasers. This lasted until his account was revoked.

He also stole a laptop from his classmate, which resulted in his first felony, even after he returned the computer.

"I'm ashamed of stealing, becoming a petty thief. It makes you do desperate things," he said. "But the best thing about heroin was it makes any pain go away, physical or mental. Even shame."

This behavior lasted until June 2009, when his parents found him stealing, and he confessed to being an addict.

"I just couldn't keep it going anymore and I needed help," he said. "They knew something was going on and were sick of it so I admitted my problem and asked for help."

He went to rehab, and described the withdrawal as the most painful experience in his life.

"The first two days, I felt really cold ... The third day, I started coming around ... The fifth day, I felt fully myself again," he said. "Free."

He only stayed in rehab for two weeks because that's all his insurance would cover.

Lost motivation

"Heroin addiction closes your desire to do anything else," he said.

After quitting the first time, he said he got his motivation back. He started writing songs, reading, watching movies.

Then he and his girlfriend started thinking again, he said. They both stayed

clean for weeks, but started being jealous of people who got to have relapses before quitting for good. So they decided to have a relapse for a while, and then quit on their own terms.

But this didn't go as planned. "It escalated beyond control."

His parents found out he was using again, and tried to force him back into rehab, so he ran away.

He said he stayed with his dealer for two months, paying him by forging checks and working for him as a dealer.

Last fall, he stole a camera from OU's student technology center, resulting in his second felony and a ban from coming to campus.

He was arrested two days later when he stole a TV from a store in Sterling Heights and got on a bus, but the police caught and arrested him.

After that, he went to jail for five months. He said he was forced to quit, not on his own terms, but managed to get high once in jail, but was afraid of how quickly he could start it up again, so hasn't gotten high since.

In summer 2009 while he was secretly having his relapse, he said that he got pretty low, but didn't hit rock bottom.

"I think I have to hit rock bottom before I can quit for good," he said then.

Now, he said he definitely has hit rock bottom.

"I don't know how I can sink any lower," he said.

In February, he got released from jail on a GPS tether. During OU's spring break, his tether was removed, and now he's waiting to hear when he has to go to an inpatient rehab.

He said his girlfriend also got caught stealing once, and it scared her straight. Even despite all his ordeals, he feels the desire to start using again. He said she doesn't feel the desire anymore just because of a misdemeanor.

"It always blew my mind how I could have such a bad problem, and they could try the same drugs and walk away the same," he said.

"I remember the pain it caused but I still want to get back to it," he said. "But now I can enjoy everything else without needing drugs to feel good."

He said he got his motivation back again.

Since he can't go to OU anymore, he plans to go to University of Michigan-Flint to study what he was studying

here: international finance and Chinese.

Advice for others

He had help from others throughout, from his girlfriend, a friend and his parents.

"I'm closer to my family now more than I was before I was on heroin," he said. When they found out about his problems, they were worried and wanted to help.

He said he wasn't the only heroin junkie at OU; there were more he hung out with. One of them is now clean, but he doesn't know what happened to the others.

"You have to want to quit for yourself, not for others," he said. "Or it won't work."

He recommends getting a good sponsor, following the addiction recovery steps, and going to Narcotics Anonymous meetings, and spending at least one month in an inpatient rehab facility.

"If my story could help someone else, that would be awesome," he said.

(Editor's note: At the subject's request, The Oakland Post is not publishing the his name due to privacy concerns. The Post verified police records for the incidents mentioned in this article.)

See www.oaklandpostonline.com for a blog written by the reporter about newsroom ethics of writing about drug addicts and using unnamed sources.)

Substance Abuse Programs

If you or someone you know is suffering from a drug addiction, there are several treatment and prevention programs.

Local substance abuse treatment facilities include the following.

The Baldwin Center: 248-332-6101
Common Ground Sanctuary:
248-456-8150
Henry Ford Behavioral Chemical
Dependency: 248-788-3088
OU Substance Abuse Prevention
Program: 248-370-3465

For a full listing of treatment programs in Oakland County, visit www.oakgov.com/health/program-service

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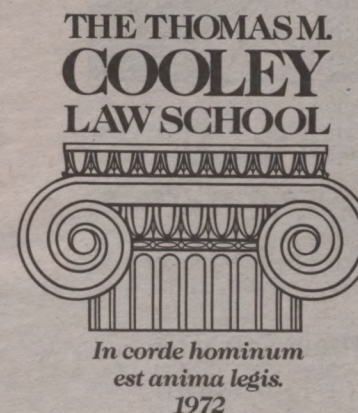
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ANN ARBOR	MARCH 25

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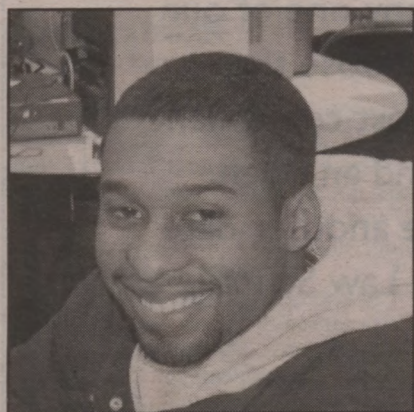
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**spring 2010
open houses**



Students predict Academy Award's Best Picture

The Nominees



"'The Blind Side.' It was a movie that could happen to anyone."

Jordan Sims
Freshman, nursing



"'Up in the Air' because it stars George Clooney."

Matthew Shepard
Senior, journalism

Avatar



District 9



The Hurt Locker



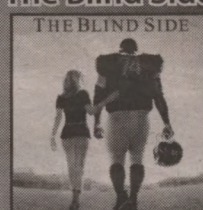
Precious



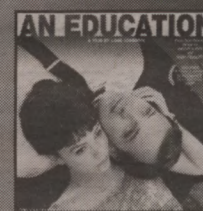
Up



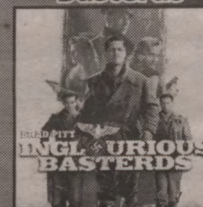
The Blind Side



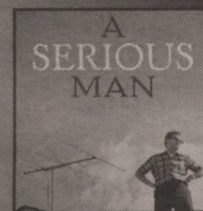
An Education



Inglorious Basterds



A Serious Man



Up in the Air



"'Inglorious Basterds.' It was entertaining and funny."

Billy Jacobs
Senior, biochemistry



"'The Blind Side.' It was nice that the mother (Sandra Bullock) would take someone off the streets into her home."

Natalie D'Angelo
Freshman, undecided

Photos courtesy Amazon.com

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seniors
121 credits and above

Wednesday, March 17
seniors
91 credits and above

Thursday, March 18
juniors
73 credits and above

Friday, March 19
juniors
56 credits and above

Monday, March 22
sophomores
42 credits and above

Tuesday, March 23
sophomores
28 credits and above

Wednesday, March 24
freshmen
16 credits and above

Thursday, March 25
freshmen
0 credits and above

Friday, March 26
post-bachelor, non-matriculated,
and guest students

Saturday, March 27
all students

CRUISING AHEAD

Students jump on board with planning the upcoming year by choosing classes, finding scholarship money and books

written by Ryan Hegedus, Rory McCarty, and Shawn Minnix
designed by Jason Willis

After nearly two years of planning and promotional work, Oakland University is set to unveil their new combined registration process.

The change, which has been advertised around campus through giveaways and postcards and online through OU's website, will give students the option to schedule fall and winter courses at either the same time or one semester at a time.

"We've been talking about this process for over two years now, meeting with constituencies around campus to see how we can accomplish this," registrar Steve Shablin said. "We also talked to Michigan State and Grand Valley, two schools that have been doing this for close to 10 years now; it's been very successful for them." The registration process, which starts on Monday, March 15, is centered on class standing and how many credit hours a student has earned thus far.

Graduate students and undergraduate students going for a second degree will start the process on March 15 and 16, followed by two days of registering for each class standing.

One major point of emphasis regarding the new registration process is tuition due dates. Even though the registration dates have been altered, students will not be required to pay for both semesters right away.

Shablin said he is open to student inquiries via phone or e-mail but feels that there

should be sufficient information available about registration:

"We've been doing a significant amount of communication. My suggestion is that students look at the frequently asked questions, meet with your advisor, and check your registration appointment schedule to see if you have any holds that could prevent you from registering. Educate yourself on the process."

Fall tuition will be due in September and winter tuition would be due in January – the same collection dates as past semesters.

Another concern that students have had in past semesters is access issues on SAIL. Due to the large number of students attempting to register at one time, OU's servers would become overwhelmed with activity.

This issue played heavily into the registration changes and OU's administration is hoping to curb such problems in the future with the new process.

"We really took the concern that students had about access (to SAIL) to heart," Shablin said. "We've staggered the registration period to provide more manageable numbers for students to register. We're hopeful with this schedule that it will minimize problems with fall and winter registration problems that we've had in the past."

With a registration process that most students had grown accustomed to, a change has led to mixed reviews.

"If you change your mind (about your major), it'll make things so much more difficult," said senior integrative studies major Gabriele Gogas. "I can understand how they

might think it's a good idea in theory because it eliminates the need for two chaotic days of registration, but ultimately I don't see it being a success. I just think it's too much pressure to put on the students."

Senior marketing major Kaja Mitevaska is unsure about timing, but supports the process change.

"I wish the full-year registration would have happened sooner. It would have made it much easier to look for internships and jobs if you knew your full-year school schedule in advance. Most people know what classes they're going to take for the next year or so and what order they're going to take them in anyway."

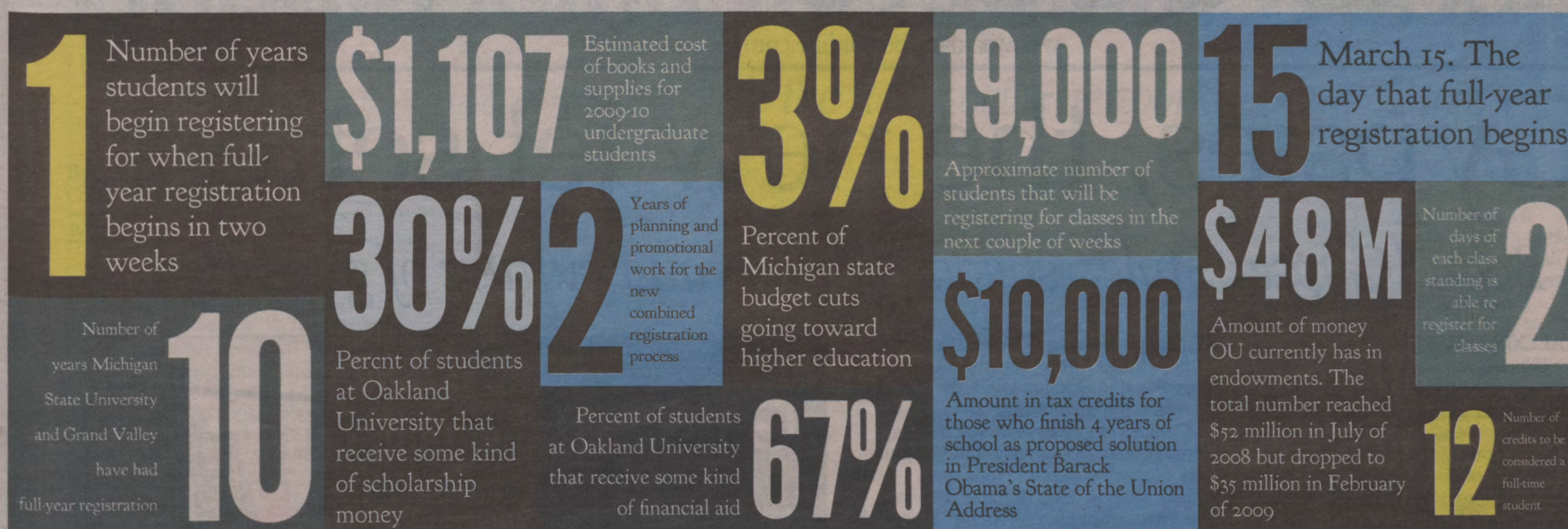
The attempt to emulate larger state universities is a point that some students find most appealing.

"I think it's a very solid concept," said junior exercise science major James Boschian. "You can register for all your fall and winter classes at one time and be done with it without having to stress out a second time during the year. Having the same type of scheduling format as the bigger colleges just shows that Oakland is determined to becoming a bigger, better and stronger school."

As the process is due to change in just over a week, Shablin is optimistic.

"This is a change that the university has embraced and all the offices around campus have taken it upon themselves to identify issues and not say, 'This isn't going to work' but, 'How can we make it work?'" Shablin said. "It's been a real university-wide initiative to make this happen."

See sidebar for registration dates.



Many OU students are feeling the pinch this year with the rising cost of tuition. Worse yet, according to President Gary Russi's communication website, Michigan's budget for 2010 includes a 3 percent cut on funding for higher education.

Still, there are opportunities for students who are willing to do a little work to save money.

One of the often hidden costs of attending college is the price of textbooks. Textbooks can cost over \$200 in some cases and with full-time students taking three or four classes a semester, the cost can add up quickly.

Jeremy Fahrni, textbook manager at OU's Barnes & Noble, said that prices tend to stay the same from store to store but there are ways to save money.

"The best thing to do is to buy used here and then sell them back at the end of the semester," Fahrni said. Books can be re-sold for half their original price if they are being used the next semester.

Students often times try to buy their books online in order to save money.

English major Ashley Gordon said she buys her books both online and from the bookstore at the same time. She uses the bookstore copies until the cheaper online versions arrive and then returns the bookstore copies.

However, many students take online sellers on faith when they say that a book is in "excellent condition." Some students can mistakenly buy an older edition too.

"I don't buy ratty old pieces of crap," Gordon said. "I don't buy anything that's written in or highlighted."

Nursing student Zee Trasevski began buying his books online this year in order to save money from Amazon and Ebay, but he said a few times he's avoided buying the textbook altogether in order to save money and found out he didn't really need it.

"Even now I have books that I don't use that much," he said.

On the other hand, Gordon said she'd rather have the books and not need it.

"I've had some classes where test material has come verbatim out of the text," she said.

Fahrni said it's hard to sell back textbooks online because you can't completely trust online vendors.

According to OU's website, the estimated cost of books and supplies for the 2009-10 year for an undergraduate student is \$1,107.

OU president Gary Russi said at Monday's OUSC meeting said that the he and vice president of student affairs Mary Beth Snyder have looked into getting textbooks exempted from sales tax like some private universities.

Another way students are cutting costs is by taking advantage of scholarships available, though it can be difficult with endowment money fluctuating due to the economic climate.

There is a great amount of students in the area who need and depend on these scholarships to finish their dream of a college degree.

"About 67 percent of the students here at OU receive some kind of financial aid," financial aid director Cindy Hermesen said. "When it comes to scholarships that are available, it's about 30 percent of our students (who) receive that some kind of scholarship."

More scholarship money will be very welcome to students of several Michigan colleges as endowments took a big hit from the stock market collapse over the last two years.

"The economy has had a significant impact on the endowments," vice-president of finance and administration John Beaghan said. "It reached a high of \$52 million in July 2008, went down to \$35 million in February 2009 and since rebounded to a current value of \$48 million."

Although these losses were quite drastic, it was not nearly as bad as some other colleges.

Other public Michigan colleges have taken bigger hits; University of Michigan and Michigan State University have felt the impact as well.

U of M's endowments fell by nearly \$2 billion in the same time frame; that number was about \$280 million for MSU.

However, even with those losses in endowments, Oakland

still continues to grow at a very fast rate.

"The number of students and the amount paid to students has increased in the past five years," Beaghan said. "There were no cuts due to the economy and there are no cuts planned for the future."

A myriad of scholarships are offered by OU in individual schools and departments and the OU Alumni Association in addition to privately funded scholarships.

Though some have qualms about securing financial aid, others have found no problem getting some kind of financial aid from Oakland and are satisfied with the availability of scholarships.

"I don't have a problem with it myself," Amanda Gruenberg, a fifth-year senior in education said. "They are readily accessible and pretty simple things to get."

Transfer students have also found it relatively easy to access and obtain extra help in paying their tuition bills.

"When I transferred, I got a transfer scholarship," said Renae Balconi, a junior transfer student from Macomb studying business. "They give you a lot of information on where you can accept them and how to apply for them, so that's really clever."

However, not every student feels that way about getting the financial aid and some have doubts about the entire process.

"It's easy to get some of the financial aid," Tom Schlaich, a pre-law senior said. "But when you're getting into a particular scholarship, you find out it gets tough."

In the President's State of the Union in January, Barack Obama offered solutions to the problems facing today's college students, including increased Pell Grants and \$10,000 tax credits for those who finish four years of school.

"I know a lot of people who had a hard time going to school because they couldn't afford it," Schlaich said of the President's plan. "It does make it so much easier for people like that to just get started going to school."

With registration dates for the 2010-11 school year rapidly approaching, students are scrambling to find ways to stay in school while combatting the rising cost of higher education.

For information search scholarships on Oakland's website.

The Scene

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www.oaklandpostonline.com

March 3, 2010

Gypsies, the new jet setters

Book "Gypset Style" shadows travel and culture of gypsetters

By ALEXIS TOMRELL
Scene/Mix Editor

BOOK REVIEW

A semi-nomadic tribe of wealthy jet-setters takes off for Essaouria, a tiny village on the coast of Morocco. For most tourists, Marrakesh is the Moroccan destination of choice, but not for gypsetters, the salty-haired, high-cultured pseudo-descendants of bohemians, explorers and hippies.

Gypset is a combination of the words "gypsy" and "jet set." It's all the rage for those who can afford this pricey lifestyle. Other people call them "trustafarians," slang for trust fund kids who travel the world, albeit in a more eco-friendly, mellow sort of way.

Essaouria fits their prescription. The village is exotic and laidback; an African Santorini made of whitewashed houses and secluded beaches.

It is destinations like these and the people that seek them that Julie Chaplin documents in her non fiction book, "Gypset Style."

Chaplin is a New York based freelance writer who has published pieces on art, travel, design and lifestyle in magazines and newspapers around the world. Published last year, Chaplin has continued her search for gypsetters in her blog gypset.com and her Facebook community.

"Gypset Style" is a collection of her travels, the people she's been inspired by and the eclectic interiors of their temporary residences. Chaplin believes "gypset" is the new, more wordly wave of hippie, lived by a free-spirited bunch of artists, surfers and bon vivants.

In Chaplin's blog, which chronicles gypset destinations and happenings, she describes the lifestyle as "an alternative way of traveling and living that's based more on creativity than money. Instead of a luxury hotel in St. Tropez or St. Bart, you might find a Gypsetter in Montauk, Cornwall, or in a teepee in Ibiza."

"Gypset Style" neatly captures Gypsetter influence in photographs and written accounts about the lives and travels of contemporary gypsetters like designer Alice Temperley in Somerset, England and folk musician Devendra

Banhart in Topanga Canyon, California. Other stories feature socialite Jade Jagger, artist Damien Hirst and Tahitian jewelers, the Mignot sisters.

The idea of gypset is an interesting generational concept; one that Chaplin has adopted to coin and tell.

Like beatnik Jack Kerouac believed the great act of life was "move," Chaplin's version of Kerouac's "On the Road" is a global journal of exotic mobility.

The most alluring aspect is its artwork. The book is filled with lost social portraits of artists, '60s fashionistas and beatniks and their modern counterpart's high-low bohemian enclaves. Most pages feature large photographs of offbeat hangouts or stills from movies like the surfer flick, "The Endless Summer."

"Gypset Style" reads like a coffee table book. In between the book's colorful photos, Chaplin plays commentator on a significant and inspiring social phenomenon; a keyhole view to those wondering where our batch of boho went.

During one trip Chaplin describes crashing in Punta Hermosa, a small beach town outside of Lima, Peru.

Her hosts are the hippie parents of the famous surfer Sofia Mulanovich, who open their house to the freelancer for as long as she'd like. During the day, Chaplin surfs with Mulanovich, eats ceviche and passion fruit and parties with passing art students at night.

In Chaplin's blog, she lists various ways to spot a gypsetter. A gypsetter will never be seen wearing a visible logo but they can be heard listening to Neil Young's "After the Gold Rush." G5's bad, Cessna's good, and the most critical, doesn't ask your last name or, "So, what do you do?"

Gypset is a tad ostentatious at times, but it is an accurate depiction of a shift in convention regarding the ways the rich view luxury and spend their leisure time.

Although Chaplin is not on the literary style or social importance of a Hunter S. Thompson or Tom Wolfe, she does render a sign of the times and the changing modes we tell stories, in blogs and online communities.

The modern bohemian collective is faster-paced and Chaplin keeps up with a computer and a hammock.

Chaplin's blog is gypset.com



Photo courtesy of Amazon.com
"Gypset Style" was released in May 2009 and published by Assouline.



Photo courtesy of Amazon.com
Gypset has even become a fashion trend with flowing dresses, tribal prints and airy blouses.



Photo courtesy of Amazon.com
These photos fill the pages of Julie Chaplin's new book "Gypset Style" about artists and travelers.

Google joins the social world

Gmail users stay connected with the new social networking site "Buzz"

By MAS RAHMAN
Contributing Reporter

REVIEW

Have you heard the latest buzz?

Google got into the social networking foray with its debut of "Buzz" last month.

It's an unusual social site because it's built directly into Gmail and is exclusive for Gmail users.

This limitation could be its downfall since it stunts growth or it could be its saving point because it could carve out a desirable niche for people who want something different from the clutter of other social sites.

Buzz started out with a blunder as many people were upset with Google for automatically adding people in Gmail contact lists to the Buzz network and making the list public as default. After much criticism, Buzz rectified the problem and made it easier to control privacy settings, but it's unclear if the users can forgive the sting.

The site is very user-friendly. Click the "Buzz" button under "inbox" in Gmail and you're there. From there one can see a list of people they're "following" and a newsfeed from people that are "following" them. One can start following people from a drop-down list of e-mail contacts.

You can "follow" non Gmail users but those users don't get any notification of

that and can't interact with Buzz or a Buzz user. Thus, a Buzz user following a non Buzz user or non Google account holder is pointless.

The problem with the feed is that it's hierarchical and chronological. You can see Buzz(1), meaning that someone buzzed one thing, but you may not be able to find the new Buzz as it may not be at the top of the feed.

People have profile pages but you can't write on their pages except to comment on posts they wrote. This is the purpose of Buzz: People posting things ranging from short blurbs, essays and links to articles, video clips and pictures and their followers discussing the post. It's very similar to discussions on Facebook status updates, notes or links.

E-mail correspondence is as bare-boned as you can get nowadays and that's why I love it. Buzz, in its current infancy, seems to have simplicity at its core and I hope it will remain that way. If it doesn't, it will probably lose me and others like me as a consumer.

One nagging point is the dollar issue. We don't know if Buzz is supposed to be a self-sustaining feature or if it will piggyback on Gmail's connections and Google's bank account. If it is the former, who knows if there will be ads or how the ads will be implemented. Businesses followed people to MySpace, Facebook and Twitter, but we don't

know if they will invade Buzz too.

Which brings me to my next point: The makers of Buzz are not being very transparent. Facebook users hate having changes every couple months, but at least its makers announce the changes beforehand and at the very least put on an appearance that they appreciate feedback from its users. Buzz could do more to notify users of planned future changes, or lack thereof, and take suggestions from users to find what they want.

My biggest qualm about Buzz is not its present but its future. Yes, it's compatible with Youtube, Twitter and Flickr, and maybe more sites are planned. It's limited to Gmail users now, but we don't know if this will change. We know where Buzz is now, but we don't know where it's going.

If Buzz somehow opens up to non-Gmail users, they will only use Buzz if their own non Gmail e-mail sites contain it (which is an impossibility currently) because it's convenient and not out of their way.

Solving this problem may be impossible for Buzz because its parent company is Google. Google already has a reputation of an overreaching, soon-to-be e-monarch; if it asks its rival free e-mail providers like Yahoo or MSN to let their email users use a product made by a competitor, the likely response will be laughter followed by rejection.

Some people don't use e-mails by big companies; they only use their business or school e-mails. Schools may be more agreeable to try to be compatible with Buzz and add an element of social networking, but many businesses, to try to increase productivity, are cracking down on already-existing networking sites and are unlikely to add another way for their employees to mess around on company time and e-mail accounts.

Overall, the release of Buzz was hasty, clumsy, not transparent and the product is lacking. Because many people are already on other social sites, Buzz doesn't have a huge momentum right now, but could grow to be more popular.



Google buzz

Go beyond status messages
Share updates, photos, videos, and more.
Start conversations about the things you find interesting.

Try Buzz in Gmail [Watch a video](#)

Share publicly or privately
Publish your ideas to the world or just to your closest friends.

Inbox integration
Comments get sent right to your inbox so it's easy to keep the conversation going.

Photo friendly
See thumbnails with each post, and browse full-screen photos from popular sites.

Connect sites you already use
Import your stuff from Twitter, Picasa, Flickr, and Google Reader.

Buzz from your phone
See buzz around you and tag posts with your location.

Photo courtesy of Google Buzz/Screen Shots

Google's newest social networking site allows Gmail users to connect with friends and post links.

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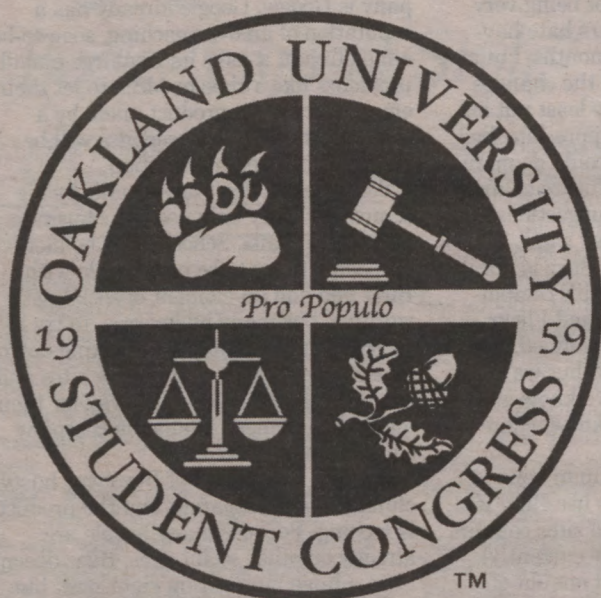
Oakland University Savings

\$10 off any service for first time clients

\$3.00 off any service or 10% off any retail always for OU students

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY STUDENT CONGRESS ELECTIONS 2010 - 2011

EVENTS



CANDIDATE MEET AND GREET
March 8th | 6-8pm | Fireside Lounge

VICE PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES
March 23rd | 11:30-1pm | Oakland Room

PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES
March 24th | Noon-1:30pm | Fireside Lounge

FREE FOOD AT ALL EVENTS!

GO OAKLAND!



Get your Grizz gear

Check out the range of Golden Grizzlies merchandise and apparel, including hats, sweatshirts, t-shirts, jackets and more, available at the OU bookstore in the lower level of the Oakland Center and online at oakland.bkstore.com. You can also find Oakland merchandise at the following local stores:

- Meijer in Auburn Hills and Rochester Hills
- Sports Authentics in Rochester Hills (*OU students receive 10% off all merchandise with student ID card*)
- Finish Line and Campus Den at Great Lakes Crossing Mall in Auburn Hills
- Dunham's in Rochester Hills
- Finish Line at Twelve Oaks Mall and Lakeside Mall
- Textbook Outlet in Auburn Hills

Also check out ougrizzlies.com for more than 400 items available online.

Be sure to stock up on OU merchandise for March Madness. It's a great way to show your Golden Grizzlies spirit!

Sports

March 3, 2010

www.oaklandpostonline.com

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A farewell to OU greats

The regular season ended Saturday with a win on Senior Night

By DAN FENNER
Sports Editor

It wasn't easy and it sure wasn't pretty, but the Oakland University men's basketball team went out a winner in the regular season finale by hanging on to an 86-83 win over IPFW Saturday night at home.

With the victory, the Golden Grizzlies finished 17-1 in Summit League play, the highest winning percentage in conference history.

"I told the team that if we (won tonight), we had to go win the tournament, because if you win 17 games and don't win the tournament, nobody is going to call you the greatest team in the history of the league," OU head coach Greg Kampe said.

Grizzlies junior center Keith Benson moved into second all-time in blocks in Summit League history Saturday. The Grizzlies went ahead by 10 points with 1:30 remaining in the game off a Larry Wright 3-pointer, but IPFW refused to give in.

Oakland made just five out of 12 free throw attempts as the Mastodons clawed back into the game in the final minute with three Jeremy Mixon layups in a span of just 18 seconds.

The comeback bid fell just short as a 3-point attempt by Zach Plackemeier bounced off the front of the rim as time expired.

"They knew we needed a three and something sprung open for Zach Plackemeier to have a shot," Mastodons head coach Dane Fife said. "I thought he could have taken another dribble to get closer, but the shot looked like it was in."

Kampe said he was not happy with the way his team performed in the closing minutes, but accepted that his team was bound to have a game like this over the course of the season and was happy to get the victory nonetheless.

"I've never seen us miss free throws like that, I've never seen us make the mistakes we made, but we got a break," Kampe said. "Then we made another mistake and let (Plackemeier) get open and shoot it, but we got lucky. One of these days we're going to get caught if we're not a little more careful."

The trouble for OU all seemed to start when junior center Keith Benson fouled out of the game with 2:56 remaining. The Mastodons had had no answer for Benson all game long as he scored a career-high 32 points off a variety of dunks, layups and even a 3-pointer from the top of the arc. He also had 10 rebounds and four blocks, moving into second place in career blocks in conference history.

"It was the one-on-one defense," Benson said. "My teammates were able to get me the ball in the right spots and find me for open looks."



Seniors Johnathon Jones (pictured left) and Derick Nelson (right) were honored before and after Saturday night's game in the pair's last regular season game at the O'Rena.

Fife said he saw definite NBA potential in Benson's performance tonight and all season long.

"I think it really came down to Oakland's size and we just couldn't stop Keith Benson for the first three-fifths of the game," Fife said.

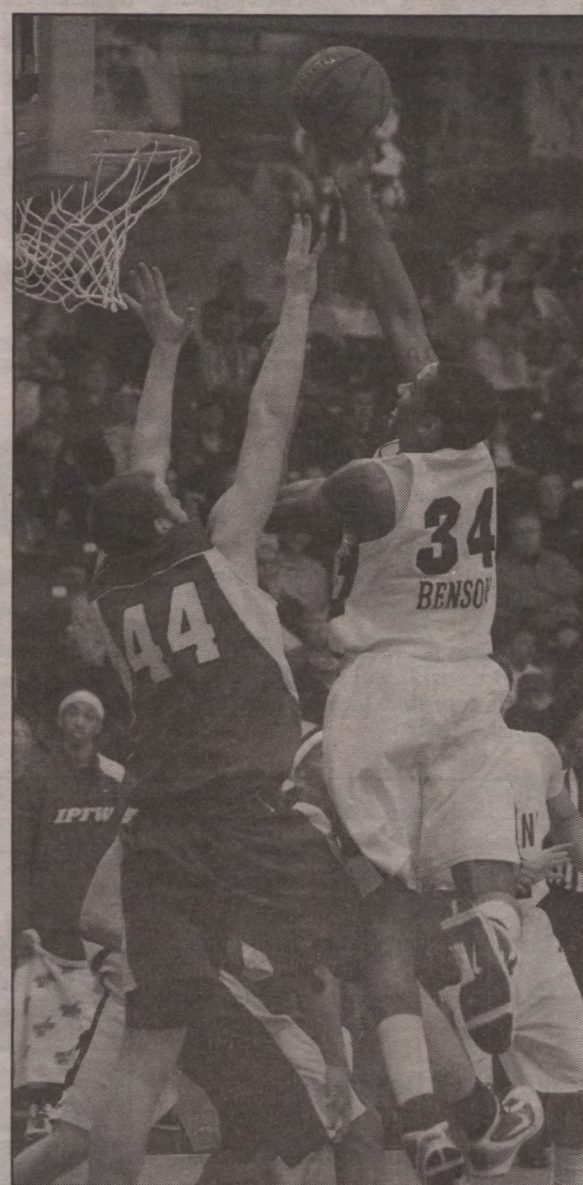
Oakland's defense on the night was inconsistent.

After cutting the Grizzlies lead down to a single point, 30-29, IPFW was held without a point in the last 5:25 of the first half.

Oakland scored the final nine points of the first half, and carried a 39-29 lead into the locker room.

Derick Nelson, one of Oakland's two seniors honored for their last home game, re-aggravated a groin injury he sustained two weeks ago in the opening minute of the second half and didn't return to the game.

In addition to Benson, two other Grizzlies scored in double figures. Senior Johnathon Jones had a double-double with 16 points and 10 assists, while junior Larry Wright put up 17 points.



Keith Benson's 32-point performance Saturday earned him this week's conference Player of the Week award.

IPFW was led offensively by forwards Trey McCorkle and Deilvez Yearby, who scored 25 and 23 points, respectively.

The Grizzlies will travel to Sioux Falls, S.D. this week for an opening round matchup on Saturday afternoon.

GOLDEN GRIZZLIES GAME of the WEEK

Grizzlies win regular season finale

By RYAN HEGEDUS
Staff Reporter

It may have been Senior Night Saturday at the O'Rena, but it was a freshman who stole the show and helped lead the Golden Grizzlies to big regular season-ending victory.

The Oakland University women's basketball team defeated the IPFW Mastodons 82-68 behind freshman forward Bethany Watterworth's career night.

Watterworth scored a career-high 32 points on 12 of 20 shooting, the first time a Grizzly player had scored over 30 since senior Hanna Reising's 32 points in February 2008.

OU women's head coach Beckie Francis honored her four seniors — Melissa Jeltima, Hanna Reising, Stacey Farrell and Riikka Terava — by inserting them all into the starting lineup. Despite coming off the bench, Watterworth quickly got to work.

"About midway through the first half, we got stops on defense that triggered fast-break points for everyone and that got us going," Watterworth said. "We were aggressive and attacked the basket all the way. I kept my head and kept attacking."

Utilizing a variety of low-post moves, fast break layups, and jump shots, Watterworth had 16 points in 16 first-half minutes.

After IPFW had taken a 30-27 lead with just under four minutes left in the first half, the Grizzlies defense picked up their intensity, ending the half on a 12-4 run.

The highlight of the run came when Watterworth made a full court heave of a pass to Jeltima for an easy layup.

On the next possession, freshman Victoria Lipscomb had a block and a steal and quickly went down the court for a transition basket with three minutes left to play in the first half.

"As a freshman, Victoria's stat line is so steady, but she comes up with big plays at key moments to spur us," Francis said. "She has been huge for us all year."

OU held a 39-34 advantage at the break.

The Mastodons managed to stay competitive in the first eight minutes of the second frame, tying the game at 58-58. IPFW sophomore and Pontiac native Stephanie Rosado helped her team's cause with 24 points before fouling out late in the game.

From that point on, however, the game belonged to the Grizzlies, as they promptly went on an 18-0 scoring run and coasted to victory.

"Obviously, we're disappointed because we came up here to win a basketball game against a team we thought we matched up pretty well against. But they're playing really good basketball right now and they took advantage of some mismatches," said IPFW head coach Chris Paul. "Unfortunately, this game came down to a couple of runs. They went on a run, we battled back and then they went on another run."

Jeltima and Reising finished with 12 and 10 points, respectively, while Terava had six assists in the trio's last game played at the O'Rena in their careers.

Also contributing a spark off the bench was junior Anna Patriotto, who had nine points, four rebounds, four assists and two blocks.

The pregame ceremony honoring the four seniors on the roster reached an emotional high as Terava was able to speak with her family in Finland via Skype on the O'Rena scoreboard.

After the game, Reising spoke on behalf of the seniors, thanking the coaching staff, her teammates, the administration and the fans.

"I want to give a lot of credit to our seniors. They played with a lot of emotion," Francis said. "This team is very close, and the fact that they can put the emotion away and get the job done makes me very proud."



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post
Bethany Watterworth, who scored 32 points, bested her previous career-high by eight points Saturday against IPFW.

Oakland finished the season with victories in nine of their last 10 games and a record of 17-12, 14-4 in conference play.

With the victory, OU also clinched the No. 2 seed in the upcoming Summit League Tournament, which begins March 6.

"We're in a really good place right now. We're coming off a lot of wins and playing well as a team," Jeltima said.

Men's Basketball

3/6 - 3/9 The Summit League
Tournament in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Women's Basketball

3/6 - 3/9 The Summit League
Tournament in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Women's Lacrosse

3/4 vs. University of Toledo at
the Ultimate Soccer Arena in
Pontiac 9:30 p.m.



GAME SCHEDULE FOR MARCH 3-9

Baseball

3/5 - 3/7 at Memphis

Club Hockey

ACHA Tournament
in Chicago, Ill.
3/6 vs. Minot State

Softball

3/6 at Pittsburgh
3/6 at Georgetown
3/7 at IPFW
3/7 at Georgetown

Club Wrestling

3/9 - 3/12 NCWA Nationals
in Hampton, Va.

Tennis

3/6 at Bradley

SUMMIT LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

PREVIEW

men's basketball

By DAN FENNER
Sports Editor

The preseason goal was simple: Win the Summit League and advance to the NCAA Tournament.

With a record of 23-8, the Oakland University men's basketball team is well positioned to accomplish its goal heading into the Summit League Tournament, which begins March 6 in Sioux Falls, S.D.

The Golden Grizzlies will have to win three games in four nights to capture the automatic March Madness bid that conference tournament winners receive. Oakland's performance in the regular season will give it every advantage possible heading into the tournament, as the team's 17-1 in-conference record earned it the No. 1 seed and a day off between the first and second rounds.

The opening matchup for OU takes place Saturday evening against eighth-seeded UMKC, a team the Grizzlies defeated twice in the regular season by double-digit margins.

UMKC has lost its last seven games against OU dating back several seasons.

By all accounts, the regular season was a tremendous success for the Grizzlies, and while every member of the team will tell you that it's the conference tournament that matters most, their accomplishments will remain on the record books for quite some time.

Oakland's 23 victories this season have already tied the school-record that was set last year. The 17-1 Summit League record is also the best ever in confer-

ence history and allowed the program to win its first conference championship since the 1999-2000 season.

A rigorous non-conference schedule that included four teams currently ranked in the Associated Press Top 25 poll posed a daunting task to Oakland's early season hopes.

But all of those road games in front of huge crowds of hostile fans prepared the team for anything a conference opponent could throw at the team later in the season.

On Feb. 20, a win over North Dakota State was followed by celebration of the regular season championship, which included cutting down the basketball nets as 3,000 fans cheered them on at the O'Rena.

The Grizzlies enter the tournament on a roll having won 17 of their last 18 games, with just a single loss since Dec. 28.

This run catapulted the team into the top 10 of the Mid-Major Poll and makes Oakland a heavy favorite to win the tournament next week.

OU reached the Summit League Championship game last year, but lost to North Dakota State on a tie-breaking shot with three seconds remaining.

The biggest hurdle standing in Oakland's way to the NCAA Tournament will be IUPUI, the only team to defeat the Grizzlies in conference play this season. IUPUI enters as the second seed and a third meeting of the season between the two teams appears likely to be the championship game.

Third seeded Oral Roberts is also a team to watch, as the Golden Eagles have won their share of tournaments



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Head coach Greg Kampe and his team enter the Summit League Tournament as the top seeded team for the first time ever.

in the past decade and played OU very close in two meetings this season, most recently in the Homecoming game back on Feb. 6.

All games of the tournament can be watched on www.espn360.com and the championship game will be televised on ESPN2 on Tuesday night.

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MARCH 9 @ 8PM
coverage begins at 7:15PM

GO GRIZZLIES!

SUMMIT LEAGUE TOURNAMENT PREVIEW

women's basketball

By DAN FENNER
Sports Editor

The Golden Grizzlies women's basketball team (17-12) enters the Summit League Tournament as the second seed just like last season when the team advanced to the championship game but lost to South Dakota State.

The team is riding a six-game winning streak and has lost just three of the last 18 games since Dec. 29 following a disappointing 2-11 start to the season.

Oakland University's early-season results in non-conference play are somewhat deceiving given that the team was still reeling from the loss of starting center Brittany Carnago, who suffered a season-ending knee injury in the exhibition season. Carnago was expected to be an all-conference player this season.

But the Grizzlies hit their stride once the calendar turned to January, and finished with a 14-4 Summit League record, which earned them an extra day of rest on Sunday if they advance past the opening round.

The Grizzlies' first round matchup is Saturday against Western Illinois, a team OU handled with relative ease twice this season. Oakland limited the

Leathernecks to just 36 and 44 points in the two meetings, the lowest scoring efforts against conference opponents all season.

The favorite to win the tournament will be No. 1 seed Oral Roberts. The Golden Eagles defeated Oakland twice this season behind the strength of a high scoring freshman duo.

Host team South Dakota State is the third seed and will be looking to defend its tournament win from last season. SDSU and OU split the season series this year.

Oakland is led offensively by senior forward Melissa Jeltema, who averages over 15 points per game. Freshman forward Bethany Watterworth (13.8 points per game) will enter the tournament coming off a 32-point performance in the regular season finale.

The team held its conference opponents to under 60 points per game on average, the best mark in the Summit League this season.

Oakland's opening round game against Western Illinois is Saturday at 3:30 p.m. eastern time.

If OU advances, a matchup between the winner of the South Dakota State - IPFW game awaits the Grizzlies.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Redshirt senior Riikka Terava (20, pictured above) is the only remaining player from Oakland's 2006 team that won the conference tournament and went to the NCAA Tournament.

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Community looks ahead

Rochester Hills hosts Community Outlook Luncheon to examine future possibilities for partnerships, events and businesses

By COLLEEN J. MILLER
Editor in Chief

A solemn reflection of the economic climate, an optimistic forecast for the future and even a playful stab at the famously criticized food served at Oakland University were all part of the Community Outlook Luncheon held on the university's campus Thursday, Feb. 25. But mostly, the theme of the day was how partnerships will bring the region out of this economic slump.

Area leaders including Oakland Township Manager James Creech, Rochester Hills Mayor Bryan Barnett and Mayor of Rochester Jeff Cuthbertson presented how they've managed their municipalities in these tough times to over 200 guests ranging from chambers of commerce members, elected officials and representatives from organizations in the community.

New partnerships

Cuthbertson announced two new partnerships for Rochester: one is with the OU INCubator to help small businesses and entrepreneurs.

The program will provide loans anywhere from \$5,000 and \$50,000 to such entrepreneurs, early stage ventures and grown companies. These funds are expected to be available within 12-18 months.

"The investment of about \$100,000 of (Downtown Development Authority) money will be contingent upon the match of \$400,000 in private equity and capital fund the private sector," Cuthbertson said. The goal is to attract new businesses, "particularly those that are coming through the Oakland University INCubator."

A number of new businesses have managed to pop up in the region last year, including 17 in Rochester Hills carrying over 400 jobs.

Rochester is anticipating five new restaurants to open doors downtown, thanks to bistro liquor licensing and other ordinances friendly toward outdoor dining establishments, and a new assisted living establishment where a vacated Century 21 brokerage sits.

Rochester Hills is expecting a Meijer to open up in May right next to the Wal-Mart at M-59 and Adams. Barnett said he and the city council have also aggressively worked to retain eight companies that were up on a lease or strongly considering leaving the city, but all eight of them, like Webasto, recommitted to Rochester Hills.

Also expected to make a significant economic impact on the region is the Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine, which received pre-

liminary accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education on Feb. 1.

"We are waiting for one more accreditation which will come April 1," said OU's President Gary Russi.

The medical school is on track to begin recruiting and admitting students this spring and begin course work for the charter class in the fall of 2011.

"It can help facilitate, with your help, this region becoming a center of biotechnology and biomedicine and that helps us of course move from an industrial base to a knowledge based economy," Russi said.

At a press conference preceding the luncheon, President and CEO of Crittenton Hospital Lynn Orfgen highlighted their partnership with the Karmanos Institute.

"We have a mutual desire to provide patients with quality care and the most recent manifestation of that commitment is the development of the Karmanos Crittenton Cancer Center," he said, which is located at M-59 and Crooks. It opened Feb. 1 to offer innovative cancer treatments.

Eco-friendly initiatives

Not only is Rochester Hills becoming a hub for medical growth but also for green technology and living.

Barnett spoke highly of the eco-friendly initiatives the city of Rochester Hills has taken, including the single hauler waste removal that began April 1, 2009.

The partnership with Allied Waste and the Recycle Bank rewards program has not only increased recycling in the city by 400 percent but has brought an estimated \$300,000 to local businesses, all in less than 10 months.

"In 2008 we had about 18 percent of our population regularly participating in recycling. With the new program, over 90 percent of our residents now recycle regularly. In just 10 months we have diverted 5,200 tons of materials from landfills to reuse," Barnett said.

Barnett said he plans to announce the results of the city's "25 in 2" plan soon, which called for a reduction in energy consumption by 25 percent over the past two years.

There is no doubt of the negative impact the market is having on the neighboring communities. Rochester and Rochester Hills have both cut city employees to make up for declining property tax rates. Oakland Township, where housing is their number one market, saw only four new home builds in 2009.

"To tell you that our region has struggled in the past few years would simply insult your intelligence," Barnett said. "Our region has not just struggled but we have been under economic attack." Rochester Hills saw

320 foreclosures in 2009; there were only four in the year 2000.

"As the English proverb says, a smooth sea never made a skilled sailor, and therefore we feel that it's not the absence of challenges but rather how you choose to deal with them that will prove your worth," Barnett said.

Events announced

Coming to downtown Rochester for the fifth year will be Michigan's largest Earth Day Celebration held April 22-25.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of Earth Day and the celebration will be bigger than ever.

"With all the additions this year, we've grown from what was an expo to really now a festival," said Steve Rogge, one of the event's organizers. "We will celebrate what is working in our community and showcase leadership in green business, government and nonprofit."

The event is anticipated to bring 100,000 people to see over 200 green and wellness exhibits ranging from children's activities home improvement and energy conservation displays to organic food and drinks.

Representatives from green auto technology programs, the Sierra Club, local nature centers and health initiative programs will also be there.

Information regarding the Earth Day Celebration is available at miearthday.com

Jeff Cuthbertson also announced another event coming to Rochester on Oct. 17 as part of a partnership with the Special Olympics, the Amazing Michigan Race.

"About 200 teams of four will test their endurance," Cuthbertson said. "They follow clues and compete in challenges throughout the Rochester area to race to the finish line."

The idea for the race was inspired by the popular television show, The Amazing Race, and is scheduled to take place in the middle of October.

"This is a great event that will be a marquee fundraiser for Special Olympics in Michigan," he said. "We're very proud to have them in Rochester."

Michigan's largest Christmas parade will be sponsored by Genisys Credit Union this year and held in downtown Rochester on Dec. 5.

"Right now it's estimated we have about 3,000 businesses and families and non-profit and civic organizations ... participating in the Christmas Parade," said Dennis LaPorte of the Rochester Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Genisys will also be co-sponsor of the Grand Marshal celebration on Dec. 2.

Local briefs: zoo wins contest, city cuts jobs

Sam Riddle says he expects to hire own attorney

DETROIT — Political consultant Sam Riddle says even if a federal judge appoints a lawyer to represent him, he still expects to hire his own attorney in a second corruption trial in Detroit.

Riddle missed a 5 p.m. Monday deadline for informing the court if he has hired a lawyer. Judge Avern Cohn then scheduled a March 8 hearing at which he might appoint an attorney for Riddle.

Riddle tells The Associated Press he "knows who the lawyer will be" but must "keep raising money."

Riddle's second trial on conspiracy and extortion charges is scheduled to start July 12. He is accused of working with Monica Conyers to collect bribes when she was a Detroit City Council member.

A mistrial was declared last month when a jury failed to reach a verdict.

—AP Report

Royal Oak employees face job cuts

ROYAL OAK — As part of a measure approved at Monday night's Royal Oak City Commission meeting, more than 70 city employees may lose their jobs.

The proposal was approved unanimously by the commission in hopes of reducing the city's projected \$8 million deficit in each of the upcoming two years.

Mayor Jim Ellison said he expects the city's unions to agree to early retirement plans, which will result in few municipal job losses.

Chuck Bonar of Service Employees International Union, one of the unions representing Royal Oak city employees, said the union is willing to work with the city. The city currently has about 320 employees.

—You/Local Editor Annie Stodola

Detroit Zoo wins Google Street View Trike contest

ROYAL OAK — The Detroit Zoo beat out all other zoos and theme parks in the nation in the Google Street View Trike contest.

According to the results of a recent survey, respondents chose The Detroit Zoo as the zoo or theme park in the country that they would most like to virtually tour on Google Street View. The zoo received more than 15,000 votes.

Google Street View offers site visitors the opportunity to view panoramic scenes of locations from the street. The site is part of Google Maps. In order to show areas that are not open to vehicles, Street View created their Trike program. The Detroit Zoo tour will be created using their three-wheeled bicycle equipped with a GPS and camera.

The company will begin collecting shots of the zoo in the upcoming months and hopes to showcase the panoramic tour on their site later this year.

Passages of the zoo that Street View and their users have expressed interest in include the underwater Arctic Ring exhibit, including its overhead view of polar bears, and the Australian Outback Adventure, complete with kangaroos and wallabies.

— You/Local Editor Annie Stodola

Michigan considers electronic ballots for troops


LANSING — Legislation meant to make it easier and faster for military personnel from Michigan to vote in elections is advancing in the state Legislature.

The state Senate on Tuesday unanimously passed legislation that would permit the state to send electronic absentee voter ballots to Michigan residents serving overseas. Military personnel could print out the ballots and mail them to election clerks in Michigan.

Supporters say the plan would speed up the process of voting and increase participation in elections for military personnel from Michigan stationed overseas.


The legislation advances to the state House.

— AP Report



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2010 Census distributed

By ANNIE STODOLA
 You/Local Editor

The 2010 census is being mailed to residents this month and recipients can expect a few changes.

One of the main changes to the census, which is distributed once every 10 years, is the discontinuation of the long form. In previous years, one sixth of households received a longer version of the survey.

Beginning this year all households will receive the short form of the census. The short form is only 10 questions and does not ask information about the respondent's legal status or social security number. Types of questions include name, age, race, household relationship and date of birth.

The census is used to determine the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives. It also helps determine funding for community initiatives including hospitals, schools, public works projects, senior centers and

emergency services.

U.S. Postal Service branches will determine the mailing date for the census. Residents should expect the packet sometime in mid-March.

If a resident does not receive a form, call 866-872-6868. Residents who fail to complete the survey will receive a replacement survey. After March, census takers will visit any home that has failed to return a form.

Homeowners should ask census takers for identification and know that the census employees will never ask to enter a home.

College students who live on campus are counted through the school's

housing department. A Service Based Enumeration program is also attempting to count homeless residents at service-based organizations including soup kitchens and shelters. People who are without a home can pick up a Be Counted form at most service locations.

For information about the census, visit <http://2010.census.gov>.

United States
Census
2010

Photo Courtesy of 2010.census.gov
 The 2010 census is being mailed to residents this month and must be completed by April.

GM shuffles leaders

By TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Reporter

DETROIT — When Ed Whitacre Jr. took over as General Motors Co.'s CEO in December, he told reporters that executives wouldn't have long to show results.

He meant it.

GM announced sweeping changes in its sales and marketing operations on Tuesday, splitting the two functions after Whitacre combined them in December and shuffling executives across the company's operations.

Susan Docherty, formerly vice president of U.S. sales and marketing, will now head only marketing, and Steve Carlisle, who ran GM's Southeast Asia operations, was named vice president of U.S. sales operations.

Both will report to North American President Mark Reuss, who said the move eliminates a layer of management between him and the customer.

The structure will allow people to focus exclusively on dealers and sales, while others will focus on

marketing, Reuss said.

He said there was dissatisfaction with GM's results in the past three months, although there were good things like sales staying on par with the industry despite shedding four brands, Hummer, Saturn, Pontiac and Saab.

GM has great new vehicles but needs to do a better job of marketing them, Reuss said.

"We have got to accelerate success in North America," he told reporters on a conference call. "I don't think we've moved far enough fast enough."

At Chevrolet, the company's largest brand, GM kept Jim Campbell, who had been brand general manager, as marketing chief and added Alan Batey to head sales and service. Batey most recently was president of GM's Holden operations in Australia.

At Cadillac, Bryan Nesbitt will move from the brand's general manager position back to the design studio. He'll be replaced by Don Butler, who will be in charge of marketing, and Kurt McNeil. Butler rejoined the company from Inrix, a Kirkland,

Wash.-based traffic research firm, while McNeil was previously general sales manager of Chevrolet.

Brian Sweeney, who had been Buick-GMC general manager, stays on in charge of sales and service at the brand, while John Schwegman becomes head of marketing. He had been Chevrolet product marketing director.

All the brand sales executives will report directly to Reuss, while the marketing executives will report to Docherty.

The moves are a sign of Whitacre's impatience, but may not be wise because it generally takes 12 to 18 months for people to become effective in their jobs, said Jeffrey Sonnenfeld, senior associate dean at the Yale School of Management.

Whitacre, Sonnenfeld said, is all about convincing people to buy GM's products rather than improving them over the long term.

"This is an illusion of take-charge as opposed to actually working on strategic visions, creating great product," he said. "This is his, I think, extremely short-term view."

Dem. Dillon joins gubernatorial race

REDFORD TOWNSHIP — Michigan House Speaker Andy Dillon joined the crowded field of governor candidates on Sunday — calling the race the most critical election the state has seen in decades.

The attorney and former business executive said the next chief executive of the state must do more than simply want to create jobs.

His plan includes a research and development tax credit to help businesses create new products; more funding for the No Worker Left Behind program; and creating new jobs by requiring public utilities to generate some power from renewable sources.

Dillon said he would pay for those programs by making state government more efficient by changes to the state's purchasing process and consolidating the health plans of public workers.

Dillon opposes abortion and embryonic stem cell research, two positions that could put him at odds with much of the Democratic base.

Other Democrats running include Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero and state Rep. Alma Wheeler Smith. Former Genesee County Treasurer Dan Kildee, another Democrat, also has been campaigning.

Republicans in the race are Oakland County Sheriff Mike Bouchard, Attorney General Mike Cox, state Sen. Tom George of Kalamazoo County's Texas Township, U.S. Rep. Pete Hoekstra of Holland and Ann Arbor business leader Rick Snyder.

Dillon, who's in his third and final term in the House, is married with four children.

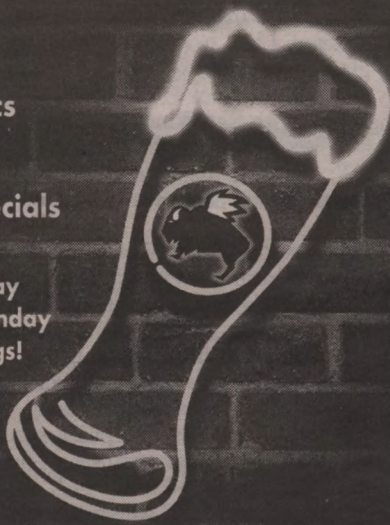
—AP Report

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March 3, 2010

ODE TO THE OLYMPICS

ONE CANADIAN REFLECTS ON THE 2010 VANCOUVER OLYMPIC GAMES

BRYAN CULVER/The Oakland Post

By DAN SIMONS
Mouthing Off Editor

Like most Grizzlies over spring break, I spent my vacation diligently doing my homework, studying, helping others and longing to head back to school.

Oh who am I kidding. I slept past noon every day and didn't even think about schoolwork until Sunday night.

Like a lot of Grizzlies, and the rest of the freaking planet, I did watch the 2010 Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver, British Columbia.

These games held a special place in my heart because, dear reader, I bleed maple syrup. I was born with one skate on. I might even own a mounty hat.

I am Canadian.

You see, my mother was born in the old country and moved to America as an infant, or as they say in Canadian, a "baby." Even though she has her American citizenship, recent laws passed by Canada makes everyone who had to renounce their Canadian citizenship a Canadian again — and the same goes for their kids.

Yeah, one day I just woke up Canadian. Could have been worse.

I've heard all the jokes about Canada being America's hat, or the 51st State, or every other joke about the Great White North. I've also watched the Canadians sit back and let Americans make a joke of themselves, saving them more time to play hockey.

I'm what happens when someone mixes Budwieser with Molsons.

Jokes aside, the Olympics is one of the few times people from around the world are able to get together and celebrate humanity. We finally get most every nation of this war-torn world together in

one place ... and it's to kick each others' asses in sports. No violence, no insurgency, no guns: just athleticism.

Oh, wait, Biathlon. I guess they did have guns.

To compete in the winter games, you need one of two things: something with skates (ice skates, bobsled, luge) on it to play ice games, or something with a flat enough surface (snowboard, skis, your own face if you mess up), to play snow games.

You then take this equipment and prove to everyone that you can make momentum and gravity your bitch while performing and out-scoring the person next to you.

Ohno. Vonn. Rafalski and Miller. These are the names America tossed around during the games with pride in our athletes. Hell, even snowboarder Shaun White proved that goofy-looking people who could easily be mistaken for a stoner can win gold medals.

And then there is curling.

Majestic to some, comical to others, and startling to anyone who watches it the first time and hears the shooter scream their head off at a rock sliding on the ice. Five people, 10 pretty big rocks, and one shot at that rare mix of eternal glory and confused looks. And if you're the Norwegian team, you did it wearing snazzy pants. Go ahead, Google it.

Canada, for the most part, did a great job hosting the games. Any opening ceremony that has a inspiring dedication to the native people AND a group of fiddle-wielding tap-dancing kilt and leather jacket wearing folk-punk rockers wins in my book. Never mind that part of the torch lighting ceremony apparatus failed to raise from the ground, just be glad they didn't do a tribute to Tim Horton's

on ice with doughnuts flying from the ceiling and cups of coffee on skates.

The games ended on Sunday night in a classic clash of the titans when Team USA and Team Canada had a final showdown in men's hockey. Of Canada's 35 million people, 16 million of them watched the game, and that's only because of crappy television reception in the igloo's.

What's a hybrid like myself to do when I have citizenship to the two countries that are fighting for gold in the greatest sport ever? A native of Hockeytown, torn asunder by — oh shut up, I was rooting for Team USA and I'm damned proud of it.

With a Red Wing and Michigan natives on the team, I had to avoid my mom's evil glares whenever we scored. I would have been totally cool with Canada winning, what with Red Wings head coach Mike Babcock leading them, and legend Steve Yzerman as the general manager, but one thing stopped me from rooting for them.

Sidney Crosby. I hate Sidney Crosby.

If Sidney Crosby flew down the street in a Toyota with faulty breaks and had venomous spiders crawling on, around and inside his face, my first thought would be "Oh my god, someone has to save those venomous spiders!" Sidney Crosby, for all intent and purposes, can get hit by a bus that has been set on fire and has spikes mounted to the grill.

After listening to NBC worship him during the Stanley Cup playoffs, after hearing him called Jesus Christ on skates, after turning my TV off in insurmountable anger when he stole Stanley from us on our own turf, I have made it a point to hate Crosby more than anyone else on the planet. To have him win the

gold medal game, in overtime, was a kick to the face for everyone in the US, let alone Michigan, let alone Detroit.

It was, as they say in Canadian, "shitty."

Our sports editor, Dan Fenner, called it a dark day in the history of hockey, and said his head almost exploded when he watched Yzerman shake Crosby's hand after the game. I may have put my fist through a wall, but I can't recall much from my blind rage. All I know is that my mom was still cheering and she won't be getting much this year for her birthday.

The game ended, Babcock and the Wings went on to beat the Avalanche the very next day and Crosby went back to knitting, where he mistakenly pricked himself with a needle and proceeded to cry like a little bitch before calling for his mommy.

The Canadians closed the games with a parade of inflated mounties, beavers, and moose, an underwhelming speech by William Shatner and the music of Micheal Buble and later performances by Nickelback and Avril Lavigne. I was embarrassed to be Canadian at this point, but as a freshly scorned hockey fan, I reveled in the stupidity of it all.

The next winter games won't be until 2014 in Sochi, Russia, where they will convert Cold War era tanks into bobsled tracks, warm the stadium with defunct nuclear waste and shine the ice up with vodka.

The Canadians also have a word for this: "stereotyping."

By 2014, with any luck, Crosby's kneecaps will have been decimated by a sledgehammer that looks oddly like the one in the trunk of my car.

See you in Russia, eh?

Toilet tales: Ladies lament on lavatory

From TP to BMs, the bosses at The Post have a few things to say about bathrooms

The trouble with toilet paper

By COLLEEN MILLER
Editor in Chief

Commercials have a way of making us want things we never thought we knew existed before. Take, for example, the Cheesy Gordita Crunch (emphasis on Crunch). Since the commercial first aired at the turn of the millennium, I can't imagine what life was like before Taco Bell came out with it.

There hasn't been such an influential commercial in my life since then. That is, until Cottonelle made me aware of a debate that could possibly be more divisive and salient than health care reform in this country. Can you guess what hundreds of people did today? Not write to their members of Congress, but voted for "over" or "under," the great debate on how you put your toilet paper roll onto the dispenser on Cottonellerollpoll.com.

Michigan, by the way, is 19 percent under and 81 percent over. We are among the vast majority of states that prefer the over method; California and Connecticut on the rebellious side. The national numbers are something like "over" 75 percent, "under" 25 percent. On the site, Brian from Michigan said he likes over because it's "easier to grab a handful when you're in a hurry or on the run." Hmm, makes total sense! Hope he at least takes adequate time to use the TP when he's in a hurry or on the run.

I'm a radical; I voted for under. Not because that's what I may or may not prefer, but because that's apparently the way I tend to replenish the TP. I never gave it much thought until I laughed and cursed at the commercial because I thought it so ridiculous. Then my mate says, "I like it over. You do it random, usually it's under. I don't know if you realize you're doing it; you say you don't, but ..." He actually seems to think that I do it maliciously.

I guess I have been going to the potty for so long, that the act of reaching over for the cloth was pretty intuitive. The only exception, I'll admit, is when you're in a public restroom and they have taken to hiding the one trillion square, one-ply sandpaper rolls in an abyss known as the toilet paper holder. Oh the insanity when it has a weak perforation and you only get one square at a time. By the way, McDonalds is the worst for this. Hey corporate, make sure they put trash cans in the stall too. Thanks! It's also equally frustrating when folks buy the softest TP known to man. But that's another gripe.

Since those commercials started to air, I can't just auto-pilot through the bathroom ritual. I used to think it was sufficient to put a new roll on when it was time. I will embarrassingly admit that as a child I enjoyed refilling the TP. In fact, my parents always had a dispenser that held two rolls and I would make sure they were both pretty equal at all times. I may have to commission a study of which would be used more in a side-by-side scenario, the under or the over? Then another study for when the over is the closer or the farther of the two.

I haven't been this obsessive compulsive since my fascination with refilling the rolls. In fact I even hate that I have to be more than half conscious to put a roll of paper on a pogo stick in the wall to eventually be used in the most undesirable fashions.

Now that I'm thinking about it, probably too often, perhaps it's a right or left handed thing. I'm told it's a



Never, ever underestimate the number of dirty looks a man will receive when taking pictures of the door to the women's bathroom. Ever. JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

matter of physics or something like that; when it's over the paper is easier to yank off. Otherwise, it requires two hands. Do lefties tend to like it under because it's not as inconvenient to use both hands (most rolls are on the left side). It's actually probably easier to yank with the left hand when it's under. I'm a righty, so maybe I'm just not a lazy wiper — it doesn't bother me to lift my left forearm.

Do people with vertical TP holders argue over clockwise or counterclockwise? Who knows, screw 'em, horizontal is better.

Public pooping problems

By KATIE WOLF
Managing Editor

I've made a few sacrifices for this paper, but none so extreme as the one I'm about to make. I've posed almost nude for a cover and for a Mouthing Off picture. I've actively called out the creepers while I still had to see them in class. Now I have to talk about something so private and embarrassing I'm not sure if I can continue, but here goes anyway...

I hate pooping in public. I know that sounds like a common thing, but I think I'm an extreme case. I am so uncomfortable with the idea of it that I would rather sit in agonizing pain for hours than risk using a public restroom to go "number two." I'm also that person who won't fart in public either. And yes, it does cause many stomachaches.

It's not that I can't use a public bathroom at all. I could pee all the livelong day if I needed. It's the fact that I know my shit DOES stink and I don't want anyone to smell it. You know how sometimes you walk

into a bathroom, and it smells like something died three weeks ago and you groan, "Ugh, what's that smell?" I don't want to be the person who causes that reaction. Don't get the wrong idea; I don't have anything dying in my bowels, and I don't think I'm smellier than anyone else, but it ain't roses I'm leaving behind in the porcelain.

My mom can recall the days when I would get off the bus from school and literally sprint home, up the stairs, and to my bathroom so I could finally release the pressure that had been building all day.

Come to think of it, my weird bathroom habits are not limited to only public restrooms. It took all summer of practically living with my best friend before I could "take care of business" at her house. And even now, I still wait until she's asleep or right before I take a shower so I can run the water, removing any risk of her or her fiancé hearing me.

My boyfriend teases me all the time whenever he hears rumbling in my tummy. He knows something's brewing and he knows I'd rather die than let him catch a whiff.

It's only very recently that I've been able to poop in public, and I can credit that to The Oakland Post. Tuesday productions do not allow time for privacy when I'm here from 10 a.m. to midnight, sometimes even later. I still feel a burn of shame and fear clutches at my heart from the thought of someone walking in while I'm doing "that." But a woman's gotta do what a woman's gotta do, especially when it comes to bodily functions that are out of my control.

I still need complete privacy if I'm going to have a BM in public, but hopefully with time I can ditch my neurotic behavior and flush it right down the toilet with the poop I'm not afraid to leave behind.

Sec. of State brings phones to Chile

By MATTHEW LEE
Associated Press Writer

SANTIAGO, Chile — U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton made a small dent in Chile's growing needs following a massive earthquake, handing over 25 satellite phones Tuesday while promising more in the country's capital.

"We stand ready to help in any way that the government of Chile asks us to. We want to help Chile who has done so much to help others," Clinton said during a brief visit to Chile that took her nowhere near areas with heavy damage. She spent most of her time at an undamaged area of the airport.

Clinton toured an area of the airport where tea, flour and other supplies were being loaded into boxes for shipment to parts of the country where supplies are short.

Meeting with the country's President-elect, Clinton said she is sure Chile is handling the disaster well. She said there has been no discussion of sending U.S. troops to help distribute aid or keep order, as was done in Haiti following the far more deadly earthquake there in January.

Clinton gave one of the donated phones directly to current President Michelle Bachelet, who had said shortly after Saturday's pre-dawn quake that her country did not need much help from other nations.

That changed as the magnitude of the disaster became clear — power, water, food and medical care are urgent needs in the country's second-largest city Concepcion, and along a coast hit by both the quake and a resulting tsunami.

The United States has pledged additional help, including a field hospital with surgical facilities that Clinton said is "ready to go."

The United States is sending more satellite phones, which work in areas where land lines and cell phone towers are out of commission. Chile identified the phones as a high priority, Clinton said.

Also on the way are eight water purification systems, generators, medical equipment and supplies. Other donations could include mobile kitchens, temporary bridges and helicopters. The amount of such aid will depend on what Chile requests, Clinton said.

If the initial U.S. donation seems small, U.S. officials say it is in part a reflection of Chile's initial reluctance to ask for more. U.S. officials said Chile would not have to repay any U.S. assistance.

Chile's neighbors have already acted.

Argentina on Monday flew in an Air Force C-130 with much of a hospital — including a surgical and intensive care unit, ambulance and laboratory — three water treatment plants and power generation units, the military announced.

Five other planeloads of aid were supposed to arrive by Tuesday night.

Brazil's President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva visited Chile on Monday. He said a first planeload of aid would arrive Tuesday, followed later by a full army field hospital.

Peru said it was sending a mobile hospital and doctors with 15 tons of blankets and tents.

Witnesses in whale attack talk

By MATT SEDENSKY and TRAVIS REED
Associated Press Writers

MIAMI — A killer whale that dragged a trainer to her death eluded SeaWorld workers' frenzied efforts to corral it with plastic nets while it swam pool-to-pool, according to witness statements released Monday.

After the massive whale was finally trapped last week, it refused to unclench its teeth and let go of Dawn Brancheau, according to the investigative reports released by the Orange County Sheriff's Office. Its jaws were eventually pried open.

"The whale would not let us have her," another trainer, Jodie Ann Tintle, told investigators after the Wednesday attack.

Investigators have said that the 40-year-old trainer died from multiple traumatic injuries and drowning.

In the new investigative reports, Brancheau's co-workers describe the swiftness of the attack and the furious response that came after alarms sounded around the pool. Employees who were at other pools, behind computers or emptying coolers of fish rushed to the scene.

The reports released Monday include the first extensive accounts from employees who witnessed the attacks at the park in Orlando.

Jan Topoleski, whose job is to monitor trainers' safety during shows, told investigators he saw

Brancheau lying on the deck face-to-face with the 22-foot-long, 12,000-pound whale and communicating with him right before the attack. He said the whale, named Tilikum, bit Brancheau's hair and pulled her into the pool in a span of about two seconds. He sounded an alarm and grabbed safety equipment.

Susanne De Wit, a 33-year-old tourist from the Netherlands, told investigators her group had just walked to a window for a photo when she saw the attack. The attack occurred in front of about 20 visitors who had stuck around after a noontime show.

"Suddenly I saw (the whale) grabbing the trainer ... and pulling her down in the water," she said. "It was scary. He was very wild, with the trainer still in the whale's mouth, the whale's tail was very wild in the water."

Tanner Grogan, who scrambled to help other employees unfurl nets to corral Tilikum, said the whale at one point let go for several seconds, but snatched Brancheau again by the foot before anyone could react. The plastic, weighted nets — similar to temporary fencing used at construction sites — were unrolled and dropped in the water to help direct the whale to a pool with a hydraulic lift.

It's not clear how long it took workers to finally trap the whale in that pool and lift him from the water.

One witness said it seemed like 10 minutes. Another said it could have been as long as 30.

N W BRIEFS

Source: Associated Press

3-3 | KABUL — Afghanistan's intelligence service has announced a ban on live media coverage of insurgent attacks, saying that such broadcasts bolster the cause of militants. The ban came three days after Taliban militants struck at hotels in the heart of Kabul with suicide attackers and a car bomb, killing 16 people — half of them foreigners — in an assault that showed the militants remain a potent force. The National Directorate of Security told representatives of The Associated Press and other news organizations about the ban during individual meetings Monday at its heavily secured compound. Saeed Ansari, a spokesman for the directorate, did not disclose specific details about how the ban would be imposed, but said there would be punitive measures taken against journalists who did not comply. He did not elaborate on what steps the directorate would take against news organizations if they violated the ban.

3-3 | KAMPALA, Uganda — Landslides in a mountainous region of Uganda killed more than 30 people overnight and left more than 100 others missing in the East African nation, a police commander said Tuesday. The landslides occurred about 170 miles (275 kilometers) east of the capital, Kampala, in the mountainous region of Bududa. The area has long suffered from landslides but rarely has the death toll been so high. Police and rescuers headed to the site early Tuesday, said Joel Aguma, a regional police commander. Aguma said that more than 30 people had been killed in the landslides but said the death toll could be even higher.

3-3 | LEWISTON, Idaho — A couple escaped unharmed after they left their kitchen for the living room, just moments before a pickup truck came crashing through the kitchen wall. Lewiston police said a drunken driver was apparently participating in sexual activity with a passenger when he lost control, left the road and drove a 2003 Dodge pickup through the house, coming to rest in a nearby yard. The Lewiston Tribune reported that neither the driver nor his passenger were injured. The driver was arrested on a misdemeanor drunken driving charge. The residents of the home, Teresa Roesner-Weatherby and her husband, Bill Weatherby, also escaped injury. Damage to the home is estimated at about \$50,000.

3-3 | WASHINGTON — The right to bear arms is back before the Supreme Court. This time the focus is on handgun bans in Chicago and one of its suburbs. The justices were hearing arguments Tuesday in a case that asks them to extend their 2008 decision striking down a Washington, D.C., gun ban to state and local laws. The court ruled then that the Second Amendment gives individuals a right to possess guns for self-defense and other purposes, but that decision only applied to federal laws, such as Washington, D.C.'s. The court has ruled that most of the rest of the Bill of Rights applies to state and local governments. Chicago Mayor Richard Daley says local officials need flexibility to decide how best to protect their communities.

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