

The Oakland Post

Sept. 25, 2002

www.oakpostonline.com

25 cents

Beer Lake car owner found

BY JENNIFER DECKER &
REBECCA WYATT
THE OAKLAND POST

The origin of the mud-coated station wagon pulled from Beer Lake last week is no longer a mystery.

OUPD Chief Samuel Lucido said a former student was located and admitted putting the car in the lake. No insurance claim was filed at the time of the incident, and investigators ruled out criminal fraud.

Lucido anticipates closing the case within the next few days.

According to Lt. Richard Tomczak, the car had been in the lake since 1993.

Dietz Smith and Bill Kukuk, two university groundskeepers, noticed the car's roof while making rounds at 7 a.m. last Thursday and immediately notified OUPD. Shortly after, the Oakland County Sheriff's Department and the Sheriff's Department Marine Dive Division arrived on campus.

According to Lucido, the vehicle was a mid-80s model GM station wagon with a 1994 license plate.

Lucido said a "very experienced" diver went out to investigate the vehicle. An extra-heavy duty tow truck from Byers Wrecker Service in Rochester pulled the car from the lake, a process Lucido said took nearly four hours.

Police found clothing, shoes, a blow dryer and curling iron, a suitcase and purse inside the vehicle.

Beer Lake, a storm water storage area, is roughly 13 feet deep. According to Simon Ren, university engineer and associate director of Facilities



A curious crowd gathers around the station wagon pulled from Beer Lake last Thursday. OUPD Lt. Richard Tomczak said the vehicle had been in the lake since 1993.

Heather Clement/The Oakland Post

Management, gradual drainage began in May so construction workers could complete bridge repairs. A total of seven feet of water have been drained, and the lake level was lowered three feet the day before the discovery.

Ren said the lake will be

almost entirely drained in the coming weeks so repair work on the dam on the east side can be completed.

The lake will be refilled only to 10 feet in an attempt to allow for more storm water storage and ease erosion problems.

Other changes are planned for

Beer Lake.

"We're going to reconstruct the lake to make it more stable," Ren said. "We're going to re-landscape it with taller plants that have deeper roots."

Several students and faculty lined Beer Lake's bridge to watch the car get towed, and

many developed their own theories of how it found its watery resting place.

"Maybe he tried to park it, but there were no spots," joked senior Colin Dolcetti in reference to OU's parking situation.

Walking for a reason



The 2002 Metro Detroit American Heart Walk drew roughly 18,000 people last Saturday. Money raised from the event will be used to fund heart disease research and education. This was the fourth year OU hosted the fundraiser.

Dan McDuffee/
The Oakland Post

Auditor General's report released

BY GAYLE ISSA
MANAGING EDITOR

OU was rated as "generally effective" by the Michigan Auditor General in a report released last week but was faulted for low success rates in remedial math courses and language problems of some School of Business Administration (SBA) faculty. The Auditor General's report is an independent assessment of OU to help improve its public accountability.

The audit, which was prepared by Auditor General Thomas McTavish, covered a three-year period from July, 1998 through January, 2001 and made seven findings and nine recommendations to which OU must respond within 60 days. The university concurs with the recommendations according to OU President Gary Russi.

"We will take each of the auditor's recommendations

and design a plan for immediate implementation. These plans will be ongoing," Russi said. "I think it's (the audit) a tremendous endorsement for how the university provides educational services to our students."

The report recommends that OU determine the causes of low success rates in remedial math courses and correct them. Remedial math courses are preparatory classes for college level math, the credits of which do not count toward graduation. For OU math placement, either a student's ACT score or the results of the OU math placement test are required.

According to information in the audit report, freshman enrollment in 2000 was 1,761. Of those, 883 enrolled in a math class during fall 2000 or winter 2001.

Elementary algebra (MTH 011) had a 43.1 percent pass rate and intermediate alge-

bra (MTH 012) had a 45 percent pass rate.

Twenty of the 282 students enrolled in MTH 011 without evidence of placement. Four of those passed. Twenty-five of the 282 students enrolled in MTH 012 after being placed in a lower class. Of the 25, eight passed.

Interim Chairperson of the Mathematics and Statistics Department Jack Nachman said he is aware of problems with OU remedial math courses.

"There are long term plans to do a better job. We're not ignoring it, but the problem is not unique to OU," he said.

Nachman said that once a student has failed a remedial course the chances of passing the same class are low. He blamed inadequate math preparation in high school for the freshmen placements and failure rates.

However, he also said the

Please see REPORT on A2

Russi presents budget at Senate meeting

BY JENNIFER J. DECKER
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

OU President Gary Russi reported Fiscal Year (FY) 2003 Budget priorities last Thursday to the OU Senate and called for managed growth and faculty support as top concerns, while raising a warning of a possible budget rollback in January.

"All in all, OU is doing very well as a university," Russi said. "Let's not put our heads in the sand. Two years in a row, we've seen massive cuts in everything but education. The value of education is very high in the current administration (of Michigan Governor John Engler)."

Russi said with the staggering economy, state revenue isn't at

expected levels. Higher education has seen no increase in funding at all Michigan universities, he said.

"I think the reason we've been able to get zero allocations this year is because of the value and support for higher education," Russi said. "In particular, Governor Engler."

Russi explained that program and personnel cuts would be necessary if it weren't for enrollment growth for the past several years and the one projected for Fall 2003. He said enrollment is currently at 16,028 students. Final enrollment figures will be released today.

"In the faculty area, we have not considered a hiring freeze," he said and added that \$1.5

million will go towards new faculty hires.

Despite funding challenges, Russi said that strategic priorities for the campus community include quality faculty and staff, academic programs, student support service, health and safety issues, capital campaign, campus facility renewal and deferred maintenance.

Russi said OU has to move forward, and the Capital Campaign to increase fundraising on behalf of the OU Foundation is currently in the works.

"This is an absolute essential resource throughout a university," he said. "It's a great source of activity and support."

"There will be a change in the

governor's house in January," Russi said. "We don't know what he or she will do about the deficit. I think we will receive a budget rollback."

John Henke, Associate Professor of Marketing, expressed his concerns to Russi regarding traffic and road situations, in particular how to get students off-campus in an emergency.

"For the first time in the 19 years I've been here, we don't have an infrastructure," he said.

Russi responded by asking his own question, "Last year, 9/11, do you remember the difficulty in getting home to our families?"

Currently, Russi said a task

force is working with local municipalities to control traffic lights to relieve problems at peak times.

Cooley Law School's presence on campus was also discussed at the meeting.

"The question is how far we want to go in offering classes," Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost Virinder Moudgil said. "(While) 8 percent of gross revenue from Cooley Law School will go to Academic Affairs, I'm constantly looking at, 'what can you do for us?'"

"You can't change the quality from the outside. You have to go inside. I like to look in the mirror and say, 'am I the best in the world?' There is room for improvement."

FOIA replies costly

BY JENNIFER J. DECKER
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

OU, a tax-payer supported state institution, is required by law to open its records to public scrutiny.

However, the university has the right to charge fees information gathering and during a 12-month period, *The Oakland Post* found some critics who think the charges are unreasonably high.

An *Oakland Post* study of OU's Freedom of Information Act policy revealed that on average it charges more than MSU or U-M for similar information.

Between the period of July 3, 2001 and July 3, 2002, OU received 41 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests with estimated fee charges that totaled \$10,242.36. On average, OU charged \$249.81 per request.

Out of the 41 requests, at least 23 of those were purchased for a total of \$1,129.33 in fees. Some of the records were sketchy as to whether or not the requester opted to pay the estimated fees in certain cases. The time it took OU to handle requests varied from four days up to a month.

FOIA is a law that provides access to certain public information regarding the affairs of government, public officials and employees. A public body may charge a fee for search and copying, as long as the information is non-exempt in nature. There are 25 exemptions to the state FOIA law including police investigative records or records disclosing social security numbers.

Diana Fernando, OU's FOIA coordinator and general counsel, said OU charges 10 cents per copy and the lowest hourly wage of the employee preparing the copies.

"We charge what's allowed under the statute," Fernando said.

"Oakland's policy provides access to public information, is applied uniformly to all requests, and is consistent with the Freedom of Information Act."

According to Vice President of Finance and Administration Lynne Schaefer, the fees OU collects from FOIA go into the General Fund.

The Mackinac Center for Public Policy, a government think tank in Midland, was given the highest estimate for a request - \$4,349. Elizabeth Moser, an education research associate for the Mackinac Center, said her organization routinely issues thousands of FOIA requests annually. It took OU 15 business days to respond to the Sept. 12, 2001 request for the number of graduates in majors and the SAT scores of education graduates.

Fernando said the estimate was set at \$4,349 because completing the request would require review of hard copies of every OU graduate's information. Instead of paying the fee, the center withdrew its request for the test scores.

"I consider Oakland University's response to our FOIA last year to be in the top five percent of the most costly and slowest responses," Moser said. "The estimate of \$4,349.84 was only for two items in our original FOIA request. We opted to not formally receive these items due to the exorbitant cost estimate. We did choose to receive other items in the request that were more reasonably priced."

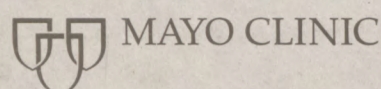
Moser said in a comparison of requests for the same documents from Michigan's other public universities, OU's estimated charge far exceeds MSU's estimate of \$403 and U-M's \$162 price tag.

Jane Briggs-Bunting, adviser for *The Oakland Post* and media law attorney, requested OU's financial database to teach in one of her classes. She was informed it would cost \$2,534, a figure she opted not to pay.

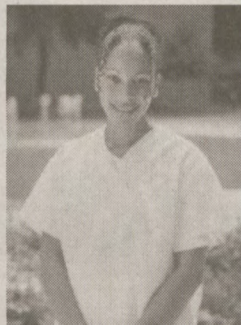
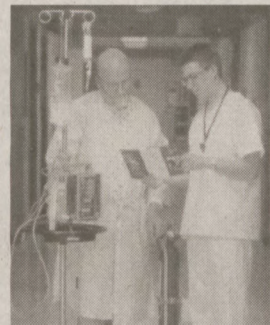
"I think the fee charges are unreasonable," Briggs-Bunting said. "It discourages inquiry into what a public institution is doing with its money."

"What I'm asking for is public information for students to use in class. My job as a teacher is to instruct students in the real world ... If OU is getting millions of dollars, it needs to show where it goes. It only frustrates students as future alums. I won't stop trying."

Please see FOIA on A8



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Application Deadline:
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www.mayoclinic.org/summer3-rst

REPORT

continued from A1

numbers in the report might be faulty because the calculus (MTH 154-155) pass rate was unusually high at 83.3 percent.

According to Russi, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs, Provost and Professor of Biological Sciences Virinder Moudgil recently met with the Mathematics faculty to emphasize the need to address the problems swiftly. Russi said that Moudgil's request was enthusiastically received.

A solution the department is considering, according to Nachman, is the creation of a math emporium, similar to one at Virginia Technological Polytechnic Institute and State University, where a large number of students may do homework with help available.

In addition to problems with the math department, the language speaking ability of a few SBA faculty was raised in the report. According to student evaluations, 39.7 percent said six of 95 faculty used "speech (that) was unclear" or were difficult to understand in class.

The SBA said that student evaluations are used in its faculty promotion process. Four of six faculty members cited were promoted according to the report. In addition, unnamed SBA representatives acknowledged that though there were communication problems with some of six faculty members, they instead suggested that students were not in favor of their teaching methods or demanding coursework.

According to the audit report, neither the SBA Dean's Office or department chairpersons had attempted to improve this problem. Calls to the SBA department chair offices were not returned.

Russi referencing this issue said, "We are asking our departments to concentrate on communication skills as a key criterion while they conduct faculty searches."

The audit also noted OU's accomplishments. Between 1995 and 2000 OU introduced more than 30 academic degree and certificate programs including an MBA in health care management and Michigan's only medical laboratory sciences program. OU was also the first school in Michigan to provide students with

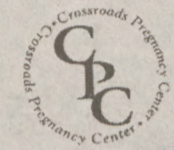
network access in the residence halls in 2001.

Between 1995 and 2002, \$200 million was spent on capital projects including the Elliott Hall of Business and Information Technology, the Science and Engineering Building, the Recreation Center, the School of Education and Human Services Building, the student apartments and a parking structure. Also noted was the \$1.6 million spent making OU disability accessible and renovating North Foundation into a one-stop center for student services.

Gary Brown, Audit Division administrator said that OU was last reported on by the Auditor General in 1990.

According to current Appropriations Act requirements, the Auditor General's office must audit three public universities a year. He said that OU's performance was similar to that of other public universities in the state relative to its size.

Other problems were identified in the audit. The full report may be read in full at www.state.mi.us/audgen (under complete audit reports' 2001-2002 index and the subhead universities and colleges).



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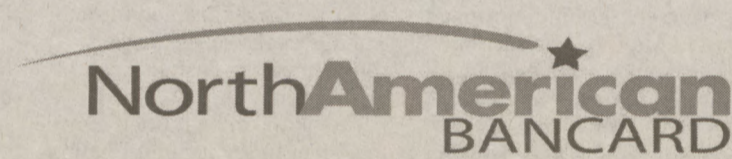
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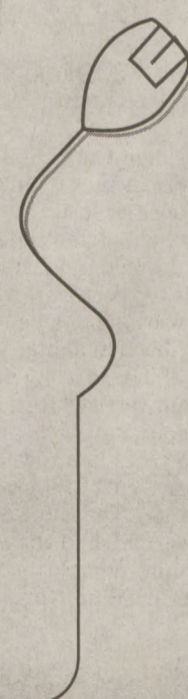
For more information:

Contact the Office of New Student Programs at (248) 370-3260 or e-mail nsp@oakland.edu.



How to join:

You will receive an invitation, via your Oakland e-mail account, to register for Freshman OUtlook. All you need to do to register is go to the link provided in the e-mail and follow the simple instructions. Once you register, we are sure you will begin to benefit from the timely advice and tips the program offers.



Career Services holds fair

By DANA LACKEY
SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

Career Services is trying to help students find employment with events this week as part of Career Prep Month.

To start off, free resume critiquing will be held from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. today in the hallway of the OC.

According to Robert Thomas, director of Career Services, this is the first time resumes will be critiqued in the OC. "We're going out into the Oakland Center to make it easy access for students to have their resumes critiqued so they don't have to go to the Career Services Center," said Thomas.

Resumes will be critiqued by two business professionals. No appointment is necessary. Resume critiquing is open to anyone.

A career fair will take place from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. tomorrow in the Student Recreation and Athletic Center.

According to Thomas, up to 50 companies will be present at the Career Fair. "It will be a cross-section of business and social service agencies," said Thomas.

Companies include DaimlerChrysler, Sprint, Comerica Bank, the IRS, Plante Moran and Enterprise Rent-A-Car, to name a few, and about 20-50 percent of the employers will be OU alumni, Thomas said.

According to Thomas, the career fair gets students a second interview. "The second interview gets the student the job," said Thomas. "I think that they're

(the Career Fair) successful at getting students exposure to companies both for pre-graduation employment and post-graduation. That is the student feedback that the Career Services receives."

The Career Fair is open to everyone. Thomas said that last year more than 600 students attended the fair.

To help students prepare for interviews, Career Services will hold mock behavioral interviews after the career fair from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, in the Oakland Room of the OC.

"The purpose is to get some feedback on the interviewing process and how well the person interviews and how they can improve," said Thomas.

The sessions will last for 30 minutes. About 20 minutes will be committed to the interview and 10 minutes will be committed to feedback.

To participate, students need to sign up at Career Services. Both morning and afternoons times are available.

Mock behavioral interviews will be given by employers from six companies: Payroll One, Hantz Group, Comerica, ASG Renaissance, EDS and Account Temps.

According to Thomas, more than 50 students participated in the mock behavioral interviews last year.

Thomas feels these events are important for a number of reasons.

"One, I think it brings career awareness to the student, hopefully as early as possible. The students are aware of what it takes to be successful in the career in the job market particularly, but also



Dan McDuffee/The Oakland Post

A government panel informs students about government jobs in the Fireside Lounge Tuesday as part of Career Prep Month.

after you get the job, what it takes to be successful," Thomas said. "It also gives the students the opportunity to have direct access to employers. It is particularly important in a soft job market."

Alonya Franklin, junior, who has par-

ticipated in the career fair and the mock behavioral interviews in the past, said both were positive experiences.

"I have learned the correct way to build and display my resume," said Franklin. "As a result, I now have a

paid internship with Oakland County."

Anyone who wants more information can call (248) 370-3250 or visit Career Services at 275 West Vandenberg Hall.

'Action News' man offers his advice

Guy Gordon speaks about his early days in broadcasting

By AMY KNAPP
SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

Many people, especially college students, have often wondered whether or not they are on the right career path, including Guy Gordon.

The OU Student Video Club (OUSVC) arranged for Gordon to give a 30-minute lecture and then questions from the audience about how he got from college to a successful career. The event will take place at noon on Tues., Oct. 1 in Gold Room A of the OC. It is free for OU students and faculty.

Gordon has been a successful broadcast journalist at Channel 7 for more than 20 years. Currently, he is the "Action News" anchorman at 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. But he didn't always know that it was what he wanted to do.

"We (the OUSVC) wanted to bring someone in from the community who has already successfully done what we are working to do ourselves," said Anastasia Stanecki, junior journalism major and OUSVC vice-president. "Guy Gordon is a great person to bring to the university to discuss what he has done to make it in the (journalism) business."

Gordon said he likes to talk to students "whenever they ask and whenever time allows" because he remembers what it was like starting out. He refers to college as "a grand mystery" to which "no one's written the end of the story."

He said that journalism is a "tough business to get into," it's "harsh and unfair," but "if you're passionate ... it's a wonderful profession."

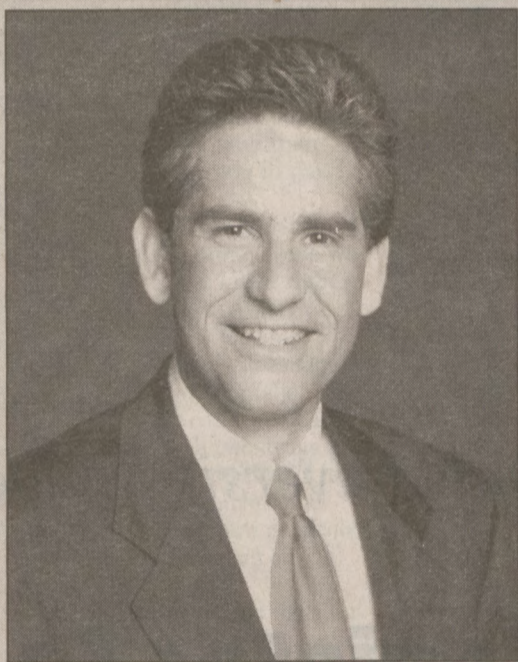
A graduate of East Grand Rapids High School, Gordon attended CMU with the hopes of going into the oil business.

"I realized I had as much aptitude for geology as I did for needlepoint," he said. He also said that going into the news business was "ironic" for him.

"I was a news junkie as far back as I can remember ... but I didn't think about (a career in journalism)," he said.

An opening came up at the CMU campus radio station for a disc jockey. Gordon thought it would be something "fun to try." This gave him a taste of broadcast journalism, which later led him in the direction of television.

Gordon made his television debut at CMU, as well. He hosted a game show, which he thought would give him "some good experience." He said he regrets the fact that there is a tape of his first show out there somewhere. Then he laughed and said it is one of those embarrassing moments, and if OU is really lucky, maybe he will bring it for students to see.



Courtesy of the OUSVC

Guy Gordon, news anchor for Channel 7, will be on campus to speak to students.

Alum helps animals

By LAURA ANGUS
SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

An OU alum who spent time in prison for his animal rights activism brought his controversial films to students this week detailing animal abuse.

Gary Yourfsky, invited by Students for Ethical Treatment of Animals (SETA) and John Simecek, a special topics lecturer in the Rhetoric department, spoke to students this week.

Yourfsky lectures on the vegan lifestyle and the true meaning of animal rights. "I orate in schools to make people accept the fact that veganism is the only ethical and acceptable way to live on this planet," he said.

Yourfsky is a speaker known for the images he shows during his speeches.

"In order for students to fully understand the pure, unadulterated evil of the meat, dairy and egg industries, explicit videos must be shown," Yourfsky said.

He began lecturing in 1997 because, for him, the best way to promote animal rights is through education. He said he has spoken 112 times in 60 different institutions across the country.

According to Yourfsky, "Education is the only way to make substantive change for the billions of enslaved animals on this planet who are terrorized and murdered every year for food, clothing, research and entertainment."

Last March, Yourfsky teamed up with People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) to "instill compassion in classrooms." This semester, Yourfsky is planning to give 48 lectures in 30 schools including OU, Harvard and Cornell.

Simecek had Yourfsky speak in his four Rhetoric classes this week.

SETA invited Yourfsky to speak because "it's all about awareness," SETA vice-president Meghan Bogden said. "I think people need to know everything before they can make an educated decision with their lives," she said.

Junior, Andrea Carter went to see Yourfsky speak because as a vegetarian she relates to what he has to say.

"It's nice to hear some of the arguments put together so nicely," she said.

Yourfsky's lecture will be available for purchase this fall at www.peta.org. Students can visit www.goveg.com for information.



Dan McDuffee/The Oakland Post

Yourfsky explains his beliefs about animal rights and veganism in the OC Tuesday.

Troubles at home

Problems plaguing the apartments leave students frustrated

By LAURA ANGUS
SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

OU students living in the new apartment buildings are dealing with several technical problems. The primary complaint among apartment residents has been of the inconsistent or nonexistent cable and Internet access.

Senior Laura Taylor and her roommates have not had cable or Internet access since they moved into their new apartment in August. They are also having a problem with their phone, a problem shared by students in other campus apartments.

The Internet access problem has been a real problem as she and one of her room-

mates have Internet classes, and Taylor is also in a tech class.

"I have been going back and forth to the library a lot," she said.

Taylor said she is concerned about when she will have homework for her tech class, since she doesn't have the access to what she needs at home.

"I'm sure it's a big process, and I understand that," said Taylor, "but we're going into our third week of school."

Like Taylor, Mike Helms, junior, has yet to have cable access in his new apartment.

"They say people are coming (to fix the problem) ... and they come, but it's still not working," he said.

Helms does not have a computer yet, so he has not had an issue with the Internet.

Katie Legg, sophomore, explained she has the Internet in the 7000 building, but her roommates' Internet connections have been inconsistent.

"It's pretty much off and on," she said.

Both Taylor and Helms said the cable works for some people they know, but many residents are experiencing these problems. According to Taylor, some people will have cable one day and not the next. Many students are frustrated with the lack of service.

Eleanor Reynolds, Director

of University Housing and Food Services, said at this time, cable is active in all of the apartment buildings. There are some individual complaints about a weak signal, but Comcast comes to OU about two to three times a week to resolve those problems.

If students are having an issue with their cable, they should call the Housing Department at (248) 370-3570.

Teresa Rowe, director of Information Systems, refused to comment on the Internet issues.

Students having Internet problems should call the Wireless Trouble Line at (248) 370-2534.

CRIME WATCH

A resident assistant from East Vandenberg called police after she smelled marijuana coming from a room Sept. 20. Officers recognized the two male students had underage alcohol violations from earlier in the term. One of the men admitted to smoking marijuana in their room and led police to a Nintendo Super Mario All Stars game pak. Inside the

game pak was a tray containing a baggie of suspected marijuana, a green and silver pipe and a Bic lighter. The baggie contents tested positive for marijuana. Police are seeking a warrant for marijuana possession.

In a separate incident the next day, the same head resident from Vandenberg smelled marijuana in the hallway of

Fitzgerald. She knocked on the door of the room to advise the occupants, two women and two men, that they were being too loud. Police observed the odor of marijuana coming from the room. Police searched the women's room. Two men were arrested on warrants. The other female non-resident was asked to not return to OU by OUPD until she spoke

to the Dean of Students about her behavior. The case remains open.

A naked man was spotted swimming in Beer Lake on the evening of Sept. 18 by a female student. The man was seen exiting the lake and walking towards Vandenberg Hall. Witnesses stated people were waiting for the swimmer on the bank with a

towel and clothes.

A male student reported that he suspected his roommate took his Chrysler Lebaron convertible without permission and returned it with extensive damage done to it, Sept. 15. He noticed damage to the right fender. Upon further investigation, police noticed a large hole in the convertible top and the ignition key had been

broken off in the ignition.

A female student reported that between Sept. 5 and Sept. 19, she received six to seven threatening phone calls from a person(s) who told her "Don't come out of your room" and "I will cut your throat." The calls came between approximately 2 a.m. to 3:30 a.m. from both on-campus and off-campus locations.

**OAKLAND UNIVERSITY
HISPANIC CELEBRATION 2002**
September 16 - October 16, 2002

Monday, September 30

Strength in Diversity: Volunteer Fair
11:00am - 1:00pm
Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center

Tuesday, October 1

Strength in Diversity: "Reaching the Local Hispanic Community"
Noon - 1:00pm
Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center

Wednesday, October 2

Strength in Diversity: "The Jewish-Hispanic Experience"
Noon - 1:00pm
Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center

Thursday, October 3

Latin Crafts & "Practice Your Spanish" Night
8:00pm
Vandenberg Dining Hall, Vandenberg Hall

Saturday, October 12

Hispanic Diversity Night
7:00 - 11:00pm
Vandenberg Dining Hall, Vandenberg Hall

Tuesday, October 15

Hispanic Storytelling, Art, and Cyber Cafe
5:30 - 7:00pm
350 Educational Resource Laboratory (ERL), Education and Human Services Building

Wednesday, October 16

Musical Play: "Tres Vidas"
10:00am, 8:00pm
Varner Recital Hall, Varner Hall

Closing Ceremony & Reception
Noon - 1:00pm
Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center

The Oakland Post invites students to apply for a position on its board of directors. The board meets 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month in 61 OC. For more information, call Ann at (248) 370-4268.



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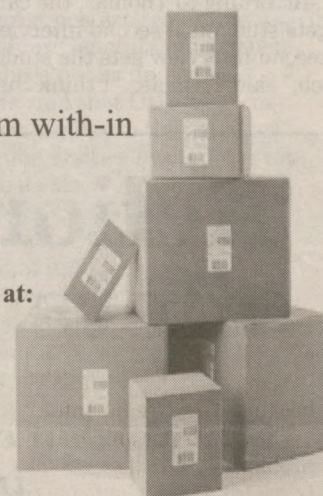
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Oakland University Student Congress

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Tariff for 911 cell phone calls

By LAUREL ROSENBALM
SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

SBC Ameritech is asking the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) for a 10-cent tariff for every call placed to a 911 operator. The company claims the money is needed to reimburse it for its role in a new wireless location tracking system.

In 1997 the Federal Communications Commission decided a new method was needed to allow more specific wireless tracking. The system was designed to help 911 operators find the exact location of a caller using a cell phone.

A current system is already used to trace calls made from a home or office. However, in a world gone wireless, helping those in need has become increasingly difficult.

The new cell phone tracking system works in two different phases. Phase one, already in effect, has wireless carriers

insure all cell phones transmit a 10-digit dial-back number, and operators can locate where the nearest cell tower is to the caller at his or her current location.

The 10-digit dial-back number is especially important, because of the high occurrence of cell phone users losing their signal and being disconnected prematurely. Emergency operators are often cut off from the person needing assistance and are left with no way to call them back.

In the next phase, called automatic location information, the cellular phone sends out a signal that lets a 911 operator know the longitude and latitude a person is calling from, so the caller's location can be narrowed down to an area of about 150 meters.

While these improvements may save lives, the question of who will pay for the cost of the new technology remains unanswered.

Some feel 911 facilities should pay the extra money, using funds from a 55-cent

surcharge approved by the state in 1999. Diane McLaughlin, senior, agreed.

"911 should pay the extra cost to Ameritech so that they don't burden consumers or the community", she said. "We pay enough in taxes and extraneous fees that they should cover this."

Bob Dadow, assistant deputy executive for Oakland County, said the money was used "for the development of a county wide radio system" to allow police, firefighters, and other rescue workers to all communicate on one system.

Dadow said much of the financial confusion in this matter is because Michigan legislators never offered SBC Ameritech any sort of compensation for its part in the system.

"Ameritech got stuck here," Dadow said.

SBC Ameritech representative Denise Koenig agreed. She said to transmit the newly needed information and to better work with 911 communities, SBC



Dan McDuffee/The Oakland Post
Cell phones can be used to call in an emergency, but the price might be rising.

Ameritech had to upgrade its technology.

Koenig insists wireless customers will not experience an increase in fees. Some people still worry if an agreement is not reached then the job of repaying SBC Ameritech will fall to local communities

Please see TARIFF on A7

GLOBAL GLANCE

• The collapse of a school railing killed 21 and injured 47 schoolchildren in Fengzheng, a city in the Inner Mongolia region of northern China. Authorities said a guardrail along a set of stairs inside the building gave way while students left classes.

• The U.N. Security Council voted Tuesday to pass a resolution demanding Israel end the siege of Palestinian Leader Yassar Arafat's compound. The U.S. abstained from the vote, the only country to do so. Diplomats said the reason for the U.S. abstention was to avoid alienating Arab opinion in its campaign for U.N. support against Iraq, although U.S. officials called the resolution "flawed."

• The Hong Kong government released details of a proposal to enact an anti-subversion law which critics fear could crush civil liberties. Chief Executive Tung Chee-hwa said the law was necessary for national security and would not diminish the civil rights now enjoyed by citizens.

• British Prime Minister Tony Blair agreed with President George W. Bush on the threat of President Saddam Hussein. Blair said Hussein has a large cache of weapons of mass destruction and that his arsenal is growing. While diplomatic channels are being pursued, Blair insists Iraq and its neighbors would be better off without Hussein in power.

• President George W. Bush continues his campaign in support of a military attack against Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, while Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld dismissed suggestions that the U.S. would attack alone if necessary. The U.N. Security Council, with the exception of British Prime Minister Tony Blair, has refused to back Bush in his plans to attack Iraq.

• Due to the recent civil unrest in Ivory Coast, Africa, 200 heavily armed U.S. Special Forces are expected to arrive to protect Americans against rebels. Violence broke out last week when Abidjan army personnel were released for disloyalty. At least 270 people have been killed as a result of the revolt and hundreds more wounded. One of the first tasks for U.S. Special Forces could be retrieving more than 100 American children who have been trapped in different Ivory Coast towns held by rebels.

• The West Nile virus has claimed 94 lives this year in the U.S. and 11 in Michigan the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported. So far, 1,963 cases in the U.S., 252 in Michigan, have been reported as positive human cases.

• The Bush administration lowered the government's terrorist threat alert status Tuesday from "Orange: High Condition" to "Yellow: Elevated Condition." Over the past two weeks the U.S. has been on the heightened Orange alert due to the anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks.

Global

goof

Argentinean Senator Jorge Capitanich, a former Cabinet chief, has submitted a bill before congress that all political candidates be screened for insanity before being allowed to run for office. The candidates would have to take physical exams as well as psychiatric tests.

-Compiled By Jo Randazzo,
Production Assistant and Adam Neal, Local News Editor

Sources found in various news sources

Canadian Senate pushes marijuana legalization

By ADAM L. NEAL
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

The Canadian government made alcohol legal at the age of 19, prostitution is legal in Canada, and now there is a push to legalize marijuana.

Marijuana is illegal in both Canada and the U.S., but the Canadian Senate wants to make it legal for anyone more than 16 years old.

Not everyone in Canada wants marijuana to be legal, including the Windsor Police.

"Police do not support or endorse the legalization," Sgt. Danny Woods of the Windsor Police said. "Drugs are illegal because they are harmful."

This could possibly cause a problem with drug trafficking between the U.S. and Canadian border, especially in Michigan because of the Blue Water Bridge, Ambassador Bridge and Detroit-Windsor Tunnel connections.

Dan Yen, communication officer at the Blue Water Bridge boarder services, refused comment on the possible law, but said, "All we do at customs is administer it."

A spokesperson for the Canadian customs department said, "The law is all speculation right now, but it is against the law and remains against the law."

The Canadian customs dept. is going to treat everything the same unless the law changes.

The U.S. already has a problem with drug trafficking from Mexico, but this could lead to the hiring of more border patrol personnel, more frequent stops and longer delays to cross the border coming back into the U.S.

Lt. Richard Tomczak of the OUPD said he is unsure of the outcome for the U.S. if Canada legalized marijuana.

"The impact is unknown, but it might be what happened when Canada dropped the age for drinking," he said. "We still kept ours at 21, and we were not influenced by their age being 19."

Tomczak also said it is "anybody's guess" what will happen if Canada does legalize marijuana however, he hopes that trafficking will not go up.

Another concern for the U.S. is citizens going across the border to buy or use marijuana, where it would be legal, and come back to the U.S. still under the influence of the narcotic.

Basic possession of marijuana is a misdemeanor if there is no intent to deliver or sell. Police just make the arrest, but it is up to the prosecutor to decide if further charges will be filed Lt. James Mynsberge of the Auburn Hills Police Department said.

Other charges of intent to deliver or sell could depend on how much marijuana was involved, how it was packaged and where it was found.

Mynsberge said he is concerned about minors going over to Canada to drink, and now use marijuana then returning to the U.S..

"Drunk drivers is the number one way to get killed right now in Auburn Hills," he said. "If Canada does legalize marijuana, people can come back

to the States with two drugs in their bodies because alcohol is a drug, too. We can have something just as prevalent as alcohol now with another drug on the roads."

Mynsberge compared marijuana to alcohol, and said it is much harder to catch someone who used marijuana because the only true indication is glossy, red eyes.

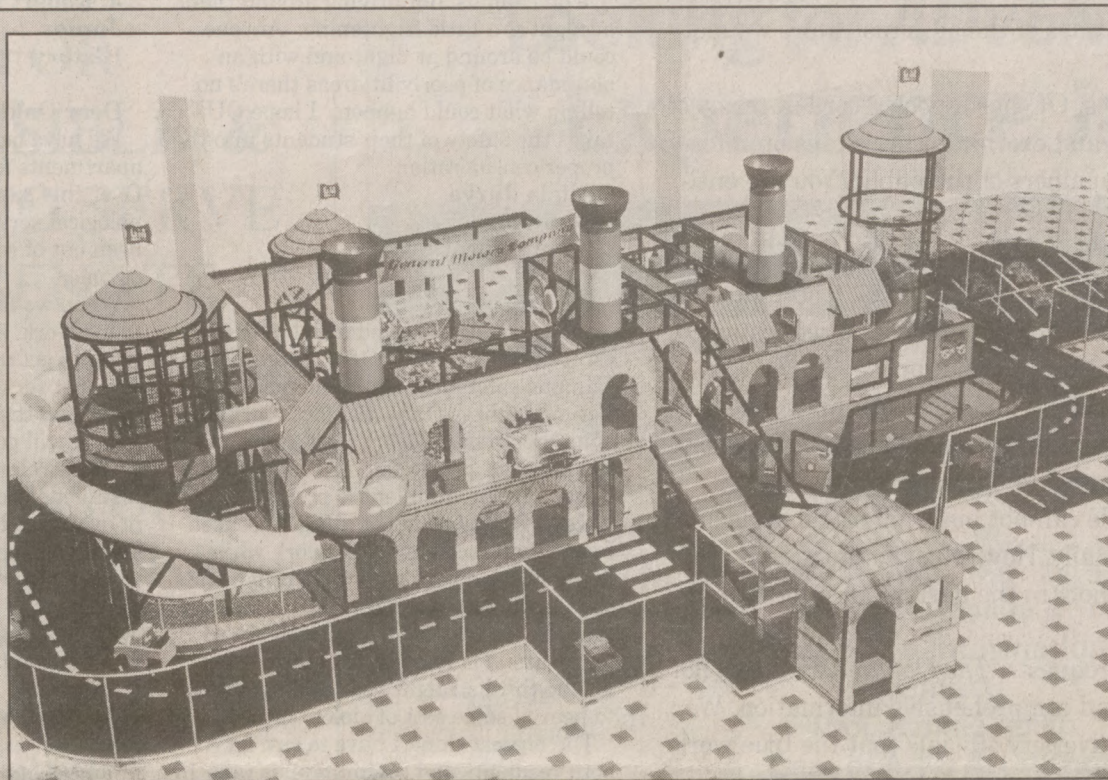
Even though it is illegal under federal law in both U.S. and Canada to possess any amount of marijuana, some states will not ticket patients who have a physician's recommendation who are suffering from cancer, anorexia, AIDS, chronic pain, spastically, glaucoma, arthritis, migraine or any other illness for which marijuana provides relief www.Vote96.ss.ca.gov reported.

Woods said he does not think the law will pass.

"I don't think you'll see it for some time. The public is not ready for it," he said.

"Police do not support or endorse the legalization. Drugs are illegal because they are harmful."

Sgt. Danny Woods
Windsor Police
Department



Courtesy of the Summit Place Mall
A model of the new children's play area shows the design idea to reflect an automobile factory.

Mall attempts to revitalize

Pontiac's Summit Place Mall to put in children's area, make shopping easier and safer for parents

By AMBER FELTNER
SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

Summit Place Mall officials announced plans Thursday to construct a children's play area to bring the mall's status up to compete with other area malls.

The play area will replace the vacant Sourdough Cafe.

The mall has been experiencing problems with declining business and vacant store fronts ever since competitor Great Lakes Crossing of Auburn Hills was built.

"It's going to be modeled after an automobile factory and will appeal to several different age groups," said Carl Solder, Waterford Township Supervisor. "There will be slides, shooting balls, a racetrack that will go around the area and various other entities."

The construction, which is scheduled to start in October and may be finished by Thanksgiving, is being built in order to make shopping more convenient for customers with children.

There will be a security system to accompany the area in which parents will be given a

token when checking a child into the area, and upon giving back the token the child will be returned.

Rene Smith of Waterford said she would probably make use of the new facility when shopping with her daughter.

"I think that it would be helpful," she said. "It would definitely be a draw for parents because it would be much easier to shop without using a stroller or carrying a child around."

The mall was bought by Namco, a Los Angeles based company, earlier this year.

Namco is hoping to save Waterford Township's main revenue source by bringing revitalization into a community-based effort and adding recreational facilities. There has been talk of constructing a pool, which Waterford high schools have been lacking, and there is also an idea of building an ice arena.

Diana Welz, senior and Waterford resident, said the idea of community-based redevelopment is a positive one. "I agree with redeveloping the mall because we have been lacking a community center in Waterford and we've needed

this for a while. It might attract more people and boost the mall's overall sales."

Kurt Haines, junior, is a little more skeptical.

"Adding a community center might be a good idea, but I don't know how many people would come around for the added facilities," he said. "I probably wouldn't go, but it could work for others."

Bob Vallina, Waterford's community planning and development director, said having the community enter the picture is still at the brainstorming level.

"The owner of Summit Place wants to make this a partnership, but the township hasn't yet projected a budget on how much they are willing to spend," he said.

Several people agree something needs to be done. Haines worked at Summit Place's now absent Olga's Kitchen before Great Lakes Crossing came around.

"The mall used to be so busy, and now you just don't see that many people," he said. "I went there this weekend, and there are so many stores that have closed down. It's depressing."

Tunnel rate increases from Detroit to Canada

By SANDARELLA BATRES
SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

Motorists driving from Detroit to Windsor via the tunnel now have to pay an extra 25 cents raising the rate to \$2.75 U.S. and \$4 Canadian.

According to the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel website, the increase is needed for renovations, operating and security expenses that went up after the attacks on Sept. 11, and tunnel traffic dropped 25 percent in 2001.

A new ventilation system is needed and Detroit's side of the tunnel is beginning renovations immediately.

The Canadian side of the tunnel has not increased its price, but the rate on the Ambassador Bridge went up to \$2.75

U.S. and \$4 Canadian in July.

"The reason for the separate change dates is due to different owners," By said Gordon Jarvis, president and chief executive officer of the Detroit & Canada Tunnel Corp (DCTC).

The DCTC and Windsor Tunnel Commission own the tunnel, and the Ambassador Bridge is privately owned by Manuel Maroun.

The tunnel fare rates have not changed going from Canada to Detroit due to disagreements between the two sides. There are unresolved disputes between the tunnel's two operators in Windsor and Detroit over safety and cost of the renovations.

Detroit estimated it will cost \$9 million for an electrical and ventilation system,

while Windsor has proposed a \$36 million tunnel improvement project. Since an agreement could not be met between the two sides, Detroit decided to go ahead and start the process.

Detroit raised its rates and will start renovation on the U.S. side since disagreements could not be resolved, according to Jarvis.

"As soon as we begin the renovation, eventually Windsor will have to start on their side of the tunnel," said Jarvis.

Karen Kasmikha, senior, said she didn't mind the increase.

"It's only 25 cents, who cares," she said. Natalie Amaral, senior, agreed with Dasmikha.

"It's not a big deal," she said.



Dan McDuffee/The Oakland Post
Going from Detroit to Canada now costs 25 cents more, but coming back is the same price.

Editorial

Communication is key

Open lines of communication are vital for the continued success of OU and this newspaper, the only independent news source on campus.

During the last two weeks, *The Oakland Post* editors have met with students, faculty and administrators for feedback about the newspaper and also to introduce ourselves to the movers and shakers of this university. Having constant communication with key people is the only way to ensure that news is current and accurate.

Talking about the successes and failures of the newspaper with our readership is indispensable. In that way, as a news organization, we are able to gauge what grabs readers' interests and what issues and events are the most pertinent.

Recent meetings with administrators have proven to be constructive both in terms of their praise and criticism. Fortunately, they appeared open to working with *The Oakland Post* and willing to provide complete information as well as their own insights into campus news. They also seemed excited about the long-term potential of the newspaper, as well as, student feedback in general.

However, OU's policy on answering the Freedom of Information Act requests is in conflict with the attitudes of the administrators we met with in preceding weeks.

In comparison to other universities, OU has a poor record in terms of response time, general cooperation and exorbitant price tags on information that we are entitled to as members of the public. You are entitled the same information.

The Oakland Post examined the FOIA requests made to OU over a one-year period. The results showed that in some cases, when the records were provided they were not complete and/or the requestors were charged an outrageous amount for information.

This double standard should not slip by unnoticed. A university's goal should be to disseminate information not only for the purpose of learning but also to encourage informed and proactive citizenry. Without relevant information people can not make informed decisions about issues that affect their lives daily. How to spend money, how to vote and where to place trust are shots in the dark in an information vacuum.

Despite OU's resistance to FOIA requests, *The Oakland Post* will not drop its efforts to obtain truthful and comprehensive information. We hope our outreach will persuade university officials that the true work of a mature institution is a policy of openness to students, community and the media.



Letters to the Editor

Student concerned about blue lights

Dear Editor:

I was appalled last Wednesday when I picked up the Post and found a headline reading "Broken Lights Threaten Safety."

Being a female student who has one night class a week, I would like to know that the blue lights are in proper working order. I already feel like I have to talk on my cell phone just to feel safe when walking to my car when class is over at 9:50 p.m. I would hate to have something happen to someone because the blue lights weren't working properly.

I also think that OU should take into consideration putting blue lights in some of the parking lots so students do not have to run across the street to get to one. I think that if a huge university like MSU can make a habit out of checking their blue lights every two weeks, why can't OU check our blue lights every two weeks or at least once a month.

I also have an issue with the fact that our entire campus is poorly lit. I do not live on campus, but driving around there at night is a little frightening. Anyone could be around at night and with an abundance of poorly lit areas there's no telling what could happen. I hope OU takes the safety of their students into the proper consideration.

Alicia Jurva
Sophomore
Communication

Dear Editor:

I must say that the editorial in the latest issue of the post (9/18/02) regarding Campus safety to be quite humorous. Let me rephrase that, the fact that the equipment doesn't work isn't funny, but the fact that people find OU to be such a dangerous environment is preposterous.

News flash: OU is not a Big 10 school. I can recall receiving paperwork while living in the dorms with OU's crime stats on it, and there was virtually nothing on there in the way of violent crime for a few years. I'm staying on campus now for the third straight year and have yet to hear of some sort of violent crime.

The biggest thing I have to say, for both residents and commuters, is take 10 seconds and look around you and see where OU is located. It's in conservative, dare I say yuppie Rochester (I'm a 20

year resident of Rochester, so unless you've been here longer don't complain to me). The people of this area are too busy with other things, and for the most part, are too well off to waste their time striking hearts in the fear of the Golden Grizzly populace.

Some may say, "but what about Pontiac?" First of all, way to feed a stereotype. Second of all, if some of the more unfortunate people in Pontiac want to take all the time to come over to OU to cause a raucous, then come on and do it, because I doubt you'll find many takers. Even those people don't have the time or wherewithall to come here and mess with our student body. It's all really a matter of common sense, but it seems that "common" sense isn't all that common anymore.

Next time you think that the Rochester/OU area is dangerous, go home because you're obviously not ready to handle yourself in the real world.

J. Robert Myers
Junior
History

Dear Oakland Post:

We have been living in the new student apartments for almost a month now. Over this past month almost every technological service in our apartment has been out of service for different amounts of time.

When we first moved in the phones didn't work, and it took them over a week to get us access codes. Our Internet service didn't work for the first week and then again over the past weekend. It will go off and on intermittently.

The wireless service hasn't even been installed, forcing a few of us to go buy network cards just to do our homework. The worst part is our cable TV. It hasn't worked the way it has supposed to since day one. The first two weeks we didn't even get a signal. Now we get a very weak signal that goes in and out, making it impossible to even watch the news.

We have called several times each week. All we have gotten are broken promises and unfulfilled prophecies. We have even gone as far as asking for a discount on rent for services that were not received. They always state this is not

possible because it's all wrapped into one fee. Then where is our money going?

I surely hope OU is not getting charged by the contractors and Comcast for services that were not delivered.

Concerned students of the new student apartments

Dear Editor:

In its efforts to raise standards for Student Congress participation, let's not stifle the enthusiasm of new members just beginning to serve our student body.

To join Student Congress, there are three requirements: Collect 50 signatures from fellow students, write a brief essay stating why you are interested to serve and make a presentation to members of Student Congress of your qualifications and interest to serve. If elected, there are three additional requirements: Be faithful in attendance at Student Congress meetings, hold an office hour each week and actively participate in the work of at least one committee.

On Sept. 9, I spoke before those in attendance at Student Congress. I expressed an understanding of the responsibility associated with membership and my hope that participation would allow me to become more connected with the university community.

I would hope that anyone who questions my preparedness and sincerity of purpose has evidence to their position. I am active on the Student Services Committee and plan on attending meetings that address Legislative Affairs. In addition, I will be attending meetings of the Ad-Hoc Committee that will be considering new requirements for incoming legislators. Stay tuned, Dr. Early.

Doug Merriam
Sophomore

All letters to the editor must include a name, class rank and field of study or OU affiliation. Please limit letters to 450 words. Letters may be edited for content and length. The Post uses discretion and may reject any letter for any reason. Letters become property of The Post.

FEATURED COLUMNISTS

OU parking dilemmas



MICHELLE JAMIAN

Student Body Vice President

Each morning that I search for a spot in which I can squeeze my little car, I am always amused by the unusual parking jobs I see.

Still, nothing could have prepared me for the most unusual parking spot of all, discovered only last week.

Apparently the new place to

park your car is in Beer Lake. Right in between Vandenberg and the Oakland Center: Where could be better? I am just upset that I hadn't discovered it first.

Not too many of us would choose to park our car in a lake, so where do we go?

Well, I have news. It's not necessarily good news nor bad news and I'll let you decide for yourself how you feel about it. The proposed parking structure, which broke ground in April 2002, will open by the end of this October.

But ... it is located all the

way by the Recreation Center and the lower fields. Kind of far, unless you take all of your classes in the new education building.

So here's my idea. If your classes are in North or South Foundation, I suggest strapping your Huffy bicycle to the top of your vehicle, parking in the new structure (since we obviously cannot find spaces in the main lot) and biking to the Foundation Halls.

If you know me at all, you probably have noticed that I am always a bit rushed and pressed for time, as I run all

over campus throughout the day. So which is the quicker route searching for a spot in front of North and South, or parking in the new structure and taking a hike?

As college students we are learning more and more every day, just how important each minute of each day has become in our lives. I think it's safe to say that we are all just about fed up with the endless search for a parking spot before our classes.

Tell me where you want to park, tell me your ideas, speak up!

Point/Counterpoint

Should marijuana be legalized in Canada?

Yes

By BRETT JONES
PRESIDENT OF CAMPUS GREENS

There's been a big stir lately that marijuana prohibition in Canada may end. Individual border states may soon also adopt changes in their legislation, a change that could bring several benefits.

Legalized marijuana would result in cost reduction and benefit our society. Let's say someone gets arrested for possession. There is always the possibility of someone getting killed during the arrest, whether it be a cop or the possessor. Then there's the cost of the administrative work done by the police, the court fees and the national average of \$22,000 a year it costs each prison to hold each prisoner. Now juxtapose that with the fact that nationwide, there have been 734,498 arrests for marijuana possession since 2000.

The U.S. has spent \$250 billion on the war on drugs since 1980. The average taxpayer has spent \$6,000 since September, 1989 on a war that could never be won.

There are other costs involved with the continued prohibition of marijuana

that cannot be measured. For example, many states are notorious for letting violent criminals out of prison to make room for non-violent possession offenders. Due to the ineffectiveness of our "corrections" facilities, these violent offenders are generally not reformed, and the cycle of violence continues with innocent people getting caught in the middle.

Scientific research shows that marijuana use is not unhealthy. In 1995, editors of the British medical journal *Lancet* (the British equivalent of *New England Journal of Medicine*) published a 30-year study that concluded "the smoking of cannabis, even long term, is not harmful to health."

Marijuana is not a gateway drug. Just because heroin addicts might also smoke pot doesn't mean anything. Ninety percent of all kids who try marijuana do not go on to use other drugs and do not continue to smoke marijuana.

The last argument to be made is that the war on drugs is a war on personal freedom. People should have the ability to make the choices that affect their own lives.

No

By RACHEL RYBICKI
LIFE & GET OUT EDITOR

Students can drink at age 19 in Canada, and now there is a push for legalizing marijuana.

A Canadian Senate committee said Sept. 5 pot smoking should be legal for residents more than 16-years-old.

Anti-drug groups in the United States say liberalizing Canadian drug laws would increase access to illegal drugs in the U.S. The report was hailed by marijuana activists but fiercely condemned by the Canadian Police Association, calling it "a back-to-school gift for drug pushers."

Legalized marijuana would cause many problems for those who smoke it and those who deal. Legalizing the drug would put the dealers out of business, creating fewer jobs for people than there are now. There is a whole underground market, and all of those people would be without a job. In the economy that we are in, we don't need any more unemployment.

Another issue is driving to and from Canada while under the influence of narcotics. Studies have shown that marijuana alters the state of con-

sciousness, creating an even larger cause for concern if people are drinking in Canada and getting high, then driving back into the states. It's a lethal combination.

According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, "Someone who smokes marijuana regularly may have many of the same respiratory problems that tobacco smokers have. Continuing to smoke marijuana can lead to abnormal functioning of lung tissue injured or destroyed by marijuana smoke." It also reported smoking one marijuana cigarette is the equivalent of smoking an entire pack of cigarettes. If cigarettes destroy lungs, imagine what one joint can do.

Under current law, marijuana possession is illegal in Canada. However, last year the government approved regulations allowing medical patients to grow and possess marijuana for medicinal purposes, but it has yet to create a distribution network.

Some still argue that marijuana should be used for medicinal purposes, but in all actuality, how many people would be using it for that reason if it were legalized?

If these lax laws were implemented, Canada will be the Amsterdam of North America.

The Oakland Post 61 Oakland Center Rochester, MI 48309

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Volume 29 • Issue 5

Oakland University Student Congress



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TARIFF

continued from A5

or wireless customers. "The issue here is we're sitting here putting together (the police departments) budget, and (SBC Ameritech) are not giving us the information we need to put together this budget," Dadow said.

He also said SBC Ameritech has been less than forthcoming with reports about the new tariff, and said his department is getting only "bits and pieces" of the information it needs.

Koenig said because SBC Ameritech is a quasi public company and cannot increase its prices without state public service commission approval, it must file for the 10-cent tariff with the MPSC to recover its costs.

The Oakland Post is very interested in reader feedback. Send comments and suggestions to editor@oakpostonline.com

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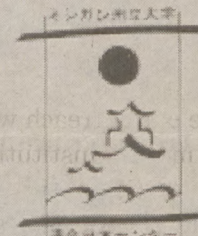
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FOIA

continued from A1

Briggs-Bunting pointed out that the offices of Student Affairs, Academic Affairs and the Registrar are very good with FOIA requests, but within Finance is where the problems are occurring.

"I think it's a targeted decision in an attempt to discourage journalism students and me," she said. "The biggest obstacle is this university. It prevents the learning of students."

Rebecca Wyatt, senior, was one of five students who requested information during the 2001-2002 year. She was charged \$53.70 for information regarding the monetary contributions to the alumni association.

"It was only one page and not even really what I asked for," said Wyatt, who is now campus news editor for *The Oakland Post*. "Other schools, like MSU and U-M were really very helpful and sent the information that I requested to me electronically and for free."

Oakland Press reporter Diana Dillaber Murray requested memos between OU President Gary Russi and former Provost Louis Esposito. The estimated cost was \$176.78. Murray said she was able to avoid the cost by reading the documents in the office.

"For the things I've requested, they've (OU) complied," Murray

said. "They've been pretty accommodating. In a couple of cases, there was so much paper that I was over there for days (reading). Those were different attorneys then. In the past, you didn't have to use FOIA to get information."

Dave Richard, manager of Textbook Outlet routinely requests class counts and course requirements to ensure that his store has books on hand for students. In the same one year time period, Richard made seven separate requests and paid \$117.97 for the information.

"We need to know what professors are using," Richard said. "I give the requests to Diana (Fernando). She's very helpful

and nice. In theory, we have a right to the information ... Their hands are tied in certain instances. What's the harm if we have the information?"

Scott Barns, executive director of the American Association of University Professors made a few FOIA requests this past year, most notably to request that the university budget be placed in Kresge Library. Due to a simultaneous request by a task force to Russi, the budget was placed in the library the afternoon of Barns' request. Barns wasn't charged, but said the information was needed for adherence to the Salary Disclosure List, a 1979 act making public salaries available

to people.

"I get the actual earnings per month (when requesting salaries). I think Diana (Fernando) has tried to help me. General counsel wants a paper trail (from FOIA requests)," Barns said.

The Oakland Post makes frequent FOIA requests. Last year, in six separate requests, fees from OU were estimated to be a cost total of \$1,401.94.

Tom Quasarano, assistant attorney general in charge of FOIA and the Municipal Affairs Division for Michigan, frequently conducts training workshops for statewide public body designated FOIA coordinators.

"I think public body training is so important," Quasarano said. "It's voluntary training through the state. I am impressed with FOIA coordinators' knowledge."

Quasarano said a public body has five business days to respond to a FOIA request for an extension and that the fee language is relatively general. If a fee is waived, it is in the public interest.

"It should not be an adversarial relationship between the entity and requestor," he said. "The statute language states fees shall be uniform, not by identity. I've got to believe most FOIA requests are correctly processed."

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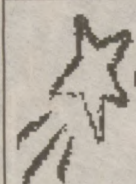
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TIME: 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

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Hispanic Celebration 2002: "Strength in Diversity!" September 16- October 16

You are invited to celebrate Hispanic Culture by attending the following programs during Hispanic Celebration 2002. Programs will continue through October 16.

Monday, September 30

Strength in Diversity: Volunteer Fair 2002... by making a difference in your local community. Over 20 volunteer organizations both on campus and in the community will be represented. Check out the CSA table at the Volunteer Fair to learn more about our new Volunteer Incentive Program (VIP).

11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Fireside Lounge and Main Hallway, Oakland Center

Tuesday, October 1

Strength in Diversity: "Reaching the Local Hispanic Community"
Presentation by Carlos Marillo, Director, Hispanic Outreach Program, Pontiac, Michigan
Noon-1:00 p.m., Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center

Wednesday, October 2

Strength in Diversity: "The Jewish-Hispanic Experience"
Presentation by Patricia Korman-Razi, OU student
Noon-1:00 p.m., Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center

Thursday, October 3

Latin Crafts & "Practice Your Spanish" Night
8:00 p.m., Vandenberg Dining Center, Vandenberg Hall

Student and Greek Organizations

1. The registration packets for Student and Greek Organizations are now available and can be picked up in the CSA Office. For current student organizations, don't forget to turn in your registration packet by September 27.
2. Remember to sign up to attend Student Organizations Officers Training. It will be held on Saturday, October 5, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., in the Gold Rooms OC.



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OU Fall Blood Drive

Monday-Wednesday, October 14-16

Blood Donor Tip: What health conditions might prevent one from donating blood? People who have certain conditions, such as high blood pressure or anemia, are typically eligible to donate if the condition is under control on the day of donation. Many medical conditions are also acceptable. We often follow the rule of mending versus maintenance. If you are recovering, you probably cannot donate. However, if you take a medication regularly to control a condition, you may be able to donate.

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- Signing up at the Donor Sign-up Tables
- Calling the CSA Office at (248) 370-2400
- Making an appointment online at <http://give.lifedonor.org> (The sponsor is Oakland University, the access code is: OUBlood.)

AT THE CSA SERVICE WINDOW

✓ Reservations for:
CSA has arranged for discount tickets to be made available for the following shows and events for the entire Oakland University Community.

- Seniors: Set Your Sail! - September 28
- Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus - October 5 & 6
- Stomp - October 13
- Il Trovatore - October 16 & 18
- Detroit Pistons vs. New York Knicks - October 30
- Detroit Pistons vs. Memphis Grizzlies - November 1
- Grease - November 3
- 42nd Street - November 3, 6 & 10
- Moscow Ballet's Nutcracker Ballet - November 9 & 10
- Disney on Ice: 100 Years of Magic - November 9 & 10
- Don Pasquale - November 8, 13 & 15
- Tale of the Alergist's Wife - November 17
- Detroit Pistons vs. Miami Heat - November 20
- Bolshoi's Ballets "Swan Lake" - November 21
- Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular with the "Rockettes" - November 29, December 5, 12, 23, & 27
- Some Like it Hot - December 15

✓ Tickets on Sale for:
- Meadow Brook Fall Ball - October 18

Do You Have It?
Find Out October 7-11

Professional 'racquet'

Sophomore ranks fifth, hopes for first in world

BY BRENDAN STEVENS
SPORTS EDITOR

Most 19-year-old college students worry about juggling school and social lives, but Jack Huczek has one other thing to keep in the air, a racquetball.

Huczek is a professional member of the International Racquetball Tour (IRT), where he competes in 18 tour events throughout the course of the year.

A sophomore at OU, Huczek has been playing racquetball since he was two years old. He's now fifth ranked in the world, but wants to be number one.

"I remember being very young, like seven or eight years old, knowing that my ultimate goal was to be number one in the world," Huczek said. "I've always been motivated to constantly improve and minimize my weaknesses."

"I've beaten everyone that's ranked ahead of me, so there's no reason I can't finish number one. It's just a matter of being mentally tough and playing consistent."

Huczek is the only member of the IRT to attend school full-time. He still lives at home and is taking 12 credits at OU while majoring in business management.

A normal week usually consists of taking classes Monday through Thursday, then jumping on a plane Thursday evening to compete in that week's tournament.

Huczek has learned to carefully balance the IRT and other racquetball requirements with his academic responsibilities.

"I am fortunate that OU and the professors are very understanding," said Huczek. "It's good that (tournaments) just fall on the weekends. Typically, I just have to study a lot on

the road."

In addition to his participation on the IRT, Huczek is also a member of the USA racquetball squad where he helped the team recapture the World Championship title from Canada this past August by winning the individual crown. His responsibilities with the U.S. team usually take a month of his time throughout the year.

Along with the prestige, professional racquetball also offers financial rewards, although on a smaller scale than other professional sports, he said.

"It's not like baseball or basketball or anything," said Huczek. "Playing a sport, you can make a good living. Being in the top 10 in the world, you can make a very comfortable living. It's really a perfect set up for me."

Huczek is no stranger to success, having won the high school level nationals as both a junior and senior. At age 8, he was competing in adult competition, and by the age of 13 he was one step away from the professional level playing in the adult open division.

Along with a full-time academic schedule that any college student would consider difficult, Huczek maintains a rigorous training schedule.

On any given day, he usually spends one to two hours on the court refining his skills, two hours lifting weights and two hours in cardiovascular workouts.

As the youngest competitor on tour, Huczek has a very strict attitude about his behavior on tour. Although he is approachable, Huczek maintains that he is on the IRT to win tournaments, not make friends.

"I'm not interested in making friends with all the players," Huczek said.



Business management major Jack Huczek competes at the racquetball US Open in 2001. Huczek, a sophomore, manages to successfully balance his academic, athletic and social schedules.

"That's not my goal."

"When I'm at tournaments, I am very personable. I like to talk to people. I like to help people with their games, but I'm not interested in being 'tight' with my competitors."

Usually, tour events force Huczek to compete two week-ends each month. There are stretches, however, that have kept him on the road for three consecutive weeks.

Last year, Huczek felt the pressure of the IRT in a season that only had him competing in 12 events. Shortly past the mid-way point of the season, he started to burn out.

His first year of college only added to the mental and physical drain of the

season.

To combat the fatigue, Huczek cut back on his heavy practice and training regiment.

Unlike the pick-up game of racquetball where only

two games to 15 points are played, professional racquetball is more strenuous.

On the IRT, the competitors play a best of five series with each game being played to 11 points, where the victor must win by two. As

opposed to friendly racquetball, the pros only get one serve rather than two.

Huczek is considered a counter-puncher on tour, which means he is able to capitalize on his opponents' mistakes, rather than creating his own opportunities.

"Instead of always initiating the offense and being aggressive, I try to maximize my opportunities off of my opponents' mistakes," Huczek said.

With his strenuous workout schedule, he is confident that he will not be fatigued through the course of a match. Due to his nearly 20 years of experience, Huczek considers his court-sense an additional asset in his game.

Huczek coaches himself throughout the IRT season, as do most of the other players on tour.

In place of coaching, Huczek has been influenced by many people throughout the course of his career, including his mother who has played the game for 30 years. She won her age group at nationals last year, too.

Although he has obviously become most successful with racquetball, Huczek played a wide variety of sports, including hockey, baseball and soc-

Vicki Hughes/Racquetball Magazine

Huczek, a sophomore, manages to successfully balance his academic, athletic and social schedules.

cer, before focusing on racquetball around the age of seven years old.

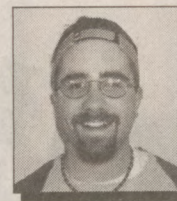
"Growing up, (my mom's) philosophy was to get me involved in all the sports and let me choose the one that I liked the best and wanted to pursue," said Huczek.

"I chose racquetball. That's the sport I started out with first. It's always been my first love. I've always had fun with it, even though it might not be the most lucrative of sports. It makes me happy."

Nowadays, he trains in the OU Rec. Center and will also start training at Lifetime Fitness, in Rochester, once it opens.

His goals for this year include winning four tournaments, while finishing strong in all of them.

Huczek is yet to find anyone interested in playing doubles with him, but believes he could be successful with just about any partner due to his versatile style.



BRENDAN STEVENS

Sports Editor

Lions continue to disappoint weary fans

Lions' fans, have no fear: The Red Wings begin regular season play in 16 days.

This is my first chance to complain or at least spout my opinion, and what better focus than the beloved Honolulu Blue and Silver warriors.

Sunday's game was the epitome of the Lions' existence since the NFL merger. It used to be that they just couldn't win championships, now it's getting more difficult to win games.

I can't say that I am versed in Lions' history, because that would be a lie. I have only been alive a paltry 19 years and have really only been a football fan for the last eight or so.

I do know one thing, however: The Lions just aren't that good.

The Carolina Panthers, the solitary team that managed a worse record than the Leos last season, are undefeated this year.

Former Lion Rodney Peete beat us and almost set his career highs in the process. Wouldn't that prove something is wrong?

I guess it hasn't, because nothing much has changed. Instead of working to fix the trouble areas, the Lions just kind of sat on their collective paws and hoped for the best.

Yes, the Kitty Cats did make a few off-season signings, including a dismal attempt to upgrade the receiving corps.

Unfortunately, that upgrade meant getting rid of the team's most consistent receiver from past seasons, Johnnie Morton. Good move.

Then the one area that was truly a glaring weakness, the defensive secondary, was passed over for improvement in last year's draft.

Instead of drafting cornerback Quentin Jammer, who could have easily stepped in and started, the Lions drafted quarterback Joey Harrington to compete with last year's fifth round draft pick Mike McMahon for the title of "Future of the Franchise."

I wouldn't question the draft choice if McMahon had already proven that he couldn't start, or if management had upgraded the secondary through free agency, but neither happened.

Not only is the defense still susceptible to the pass, but the quarterback controversy is holding back the team.

McMahon's only fault is that he likes to run. But who can blame him for wanting to get away from an offensive line that allowed a monstrous amount of sacks last season.

Run, Mike. Run.

And I don't fault M&M (Marty Mornhenweg and Matt Millen), for the catastrophes of the last two seasons. It's not their fault they were never qualified for their positions and that at least one of them was never even that good of a broadcaster.

William Clay Ford Jr. didn't realize that broadcasters only think they know everything.

I say let M&M finish out the season and completely tarnish their management and coaching careers. As long as the Lions continue to prove that neither of these guys ever knew what they were doing, no other team in the NFL will face the torment of M&M's presence.

Firing Millen and Mornhinweg won't solve any problems this season, due to the lack of trading possibilities in the NFL because of salary cap restrictions.

However, next season could be a different story. But only through a whirlwind effect in the off-season, in which personnel changes are abundant in the front office and on the field, can this team show any signs of promise for the coming years.

Then again, promise for the coming years is all Lions fans have ever had.

Brendan Stevens is a sophomore majoring in journalism. Contact him at sports@oakpostonline.com.

Volleyball sets loss record

BY MIKE LARSON & BRENDAN STEVENS
THE OAKLAND POST

With five losses in the last week, the OU volleyball squad has set a school record for consecutive losses in a single season with 14.

The previous record of 13 straight defeats was shared by the 1987 and 2001 baseball teams, and the 1974-75 men's basketball team. The previous volleyball record was set by the 1998 team at nine.

The OU volleyball team continued its march towards history last Tuesday, when Cleveland State defeated the team at the O'rena. The match lasted barely an hour and a half with the Golden Grizzlies dropping three straight games.

The loss brought their record to a 0-10, eclipsing the previous volleyball record.

"It was a rough match for us," said head coach Mark Ridley. "Cleveland State kept us off balance all night."

A very intense OU squad hit the hardwood in the first game. After an early lead, the team found themselves in an early hole. The players never fully recovered and dropped the first game by a score of 30-17.

The second game was a different story, as the Grizzlies remained determined throughout the entire contest. They capitalized on the Vikings' miscues and stayed right in the game.

"We hit .310 in game two, which was awesome," Ridley explained. "But there were too many little mistakes that hurt us."

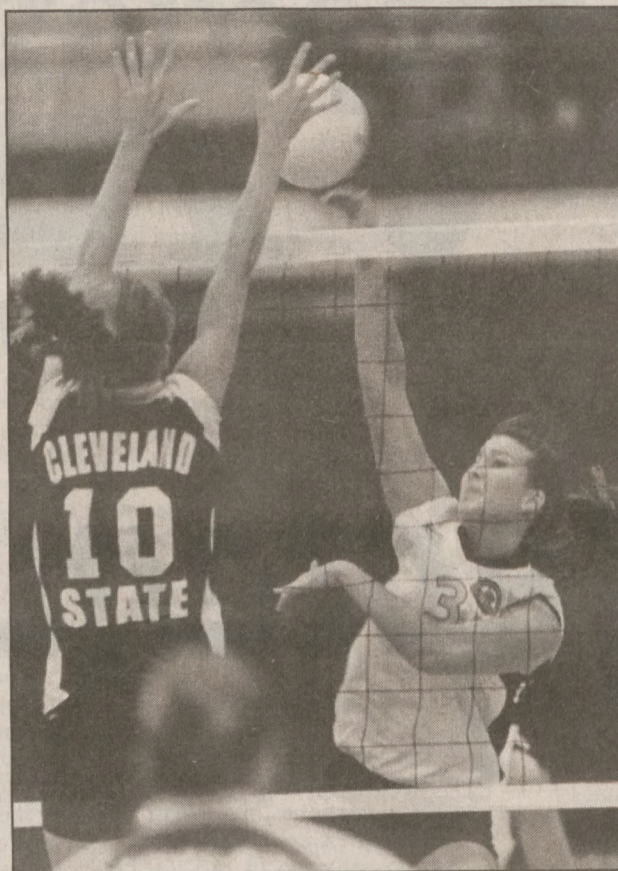
After a hard fought battle from both teams, Cleveland State emerged as the victor of game two, winning by a score of 30-26.

Game three was the same story. The Grizzlies came out and showed signs of potential but could not overcome the hard-hitting front line of Cleveland State.

The Vikings took game three and the match with a 30-19 victory.

Tuesday night's game wasn't all bad, as many of the players stepped up to contribute to their team's effort.

Freshman hitter Whitney Lane, the team's only lefty, came in off the bench and had four kills. Junior Beth Ann Rourk led the team with 11 kills. Freshman Amanda Fowler hit .429 and had four kills. Senior Becca Saldana had 21 assists and nine digs. Junior Sara Miller also chipped in with four kills.



Bob Knoes/The Oakland Post
Junior Beth Ann Rourk goes up for a kill in last Tuesday's matchup against Cleveland State.

OU fared only slightly better at the Maine Invitational over the weekend. In four games, the Grizzlies managed to win only one of their 13 games played.

The Georgia State University Panthers pounced on OU in Saturday's early morning match, winning all three games to win the match.

Sophomore Katie Lozier and Rourk recorded double-digits in defensive digs while Saldana contributed 22 assists.

The Golden Grizzlies contest Saturday afternoon yielded the same result with the Black Bears of host

University of Maine winning the matchup of ursine mascots in three straight games.

Only Rourk (digs) and Saldana (assists) recorded double digits in any of the statistical categories.

Sunday, OU continued its season-long slump, losing to the Lehigh Mountain Hawks by a shutout 3-0 score.

In two of the three games, the Grizzlies pushed the score within six points, but still could not pull out the victory.

Defensively, OU stood tall with four Grizzlies recording double-digit numbers in digs. Lozier led the way with 16 digs, while Rourk had 15 and Saldana added 14 to the cause.

Junior Lauren Bramos dug out 10 saves in the team's 72 defensive dig effort.

In its closest match of the tournament, OU pulled out its third game win of the season against the University of Portland Pilots, but lost the match 3-1.

Saldana recorded a personal tournament-high of 37 assists and a team-high 20 digs.

As a team, the Grizzlies combined for a tournament-high 79 digs, with contributions from Lozier (17), Bramos (13) and junior Courtney Varterasian (10).

For the first time in the tournament, the Grizzlies had individuals recording double-digits in kills, including Miller who had 12 and Rourk who contributed 11.

Sophomore Karen Conger pitched in with 10 kills in the losing effort.

For the tournament, the Grizzlies had a .062 attack percentage, including three games in the four matches where the team had a negative percentage.

The Grizzlies hope to stop the record at 7 p.m. on Friday in a road contest against the Mastodons of IPFW.

OU's other chance to halt the streak at a possible 15 will come at 7 p.m. on Saturday when the Grizzlies take off to Toledo to face the Rockets.

The 0-14 start doesn't seem to faze Ridley, the first year head coach. He says the players must keep in perspective that they have the toughest preseason schedule since becoming a Division I sport.

He also added that once conference play starts, they won't be facing powerhouse teams like Michigan State or South Carolina.

"They just have to believe in themselves," Ridley said of his winless team.

"We'll get some wins this year."

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OU keeps record at .500 with draw

By ZVONKO BLAZEWSKI
SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

The OU men's soccer team struck in the middle of the second half to give the Golden Grizzlies a 1-1 draw at the University of Akron on Sunday.

The tie improves the Golden Grizzlies' record to 2-2-2, heading into Thursday's match-up against in-state rivals, the UD-M Titans.

OU was outshot 3-2 in the first half and was unable to muster any solid scoring chances. The Golden Grizzlies' defense, normally playing solid this season, gave up several dangerous opportunities to the Zips.

Akron made the Golden Grizzlies pay on the counter-attack in the 24th minute on a goal from forward Ross McKenzie.

An Akron midfielder won a header off a goalkick by OU freshman goalkeeper Jeff Wiese in the midfield. The ball got past the Golden Grizzlies' defense and the onrushing McKenzie was in on a breakaway that Wiese was unable to save.

Akron outshot OU 7-3 in the second half, but it was the

Golden Grizzlies who tied the game in the 63rd minute.

Freshman forward Mike Matalavy played a one-two combination with sophomore forward Philip Braathen. Matalavy got the ball back and found junior midfielder Anders Vollen in the box.

Vollen chested the ball to a streaking Doug Rice running toward the far post. Vollen passed to Rice, a sophomore midfielder, who then slotted the ball past the Akron goalkeeper, Justin Christafaris, from eight yards out to tie the game.

The Golden Grizzlies out-shot the Zips in the overtime, 4-2, but neither team was able to score a golden goal.

"We dominated them for most of the first half," said OU head coach Gary Parsons. "But we gave away a few counterattacks, and it cost us."

"At halftime, we made some adjustments and did a better job in the second half."

Sophomore defender Matt Conner agreed with his coach's assessment of the game.

"In the first half, we didn't play well," Connor said. "We made a few mental mistakes and it cost us. We made a few

adjustments at the half. We stepped up mentally and started to play like our game."

"We started playing better and playing as a team and started to put more pressure on them. It is kind of disappointing because I thought for sure we would win."

Wiese made two saves for the Golden Grizzlies in the effort.

"The Akron game was unlucky for us," said Rice. "It should have been a victory. I think we were the better team, and we just didn't play as well as we could have."

"We gave up a lot of counter attacks. We lost the game in a way. We did it ourselves. We just didn't capitalize on all of our opportunities."

OU traveled to Ann Arbor to play the U-M last Friday but the game was cancelled due to inclement weather. The field was flooded after a day of rain, and a lightning storm quelled any hopes of playing.

The game has been rescheduled for Saturday, Nov. 10. The game time and location have yet to be announced.

OU will host UD-M at 4 p.m. on Thursday, as well as the Raiders of Wright State

University at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday.

"All in-state games are important to us," said Parsons. "You want to win the in-state games because it is for bragging rights."

The Titans' record is currently 7-0-1 and they are ranked 6th in the Great Lakes region, according to the most recent NSCAA poll.

"U of D is on quite a winning streak," said Rice. "They are going to be pumped and ready to play. It is going to be a tough game, and we definitely have to be ready for it."

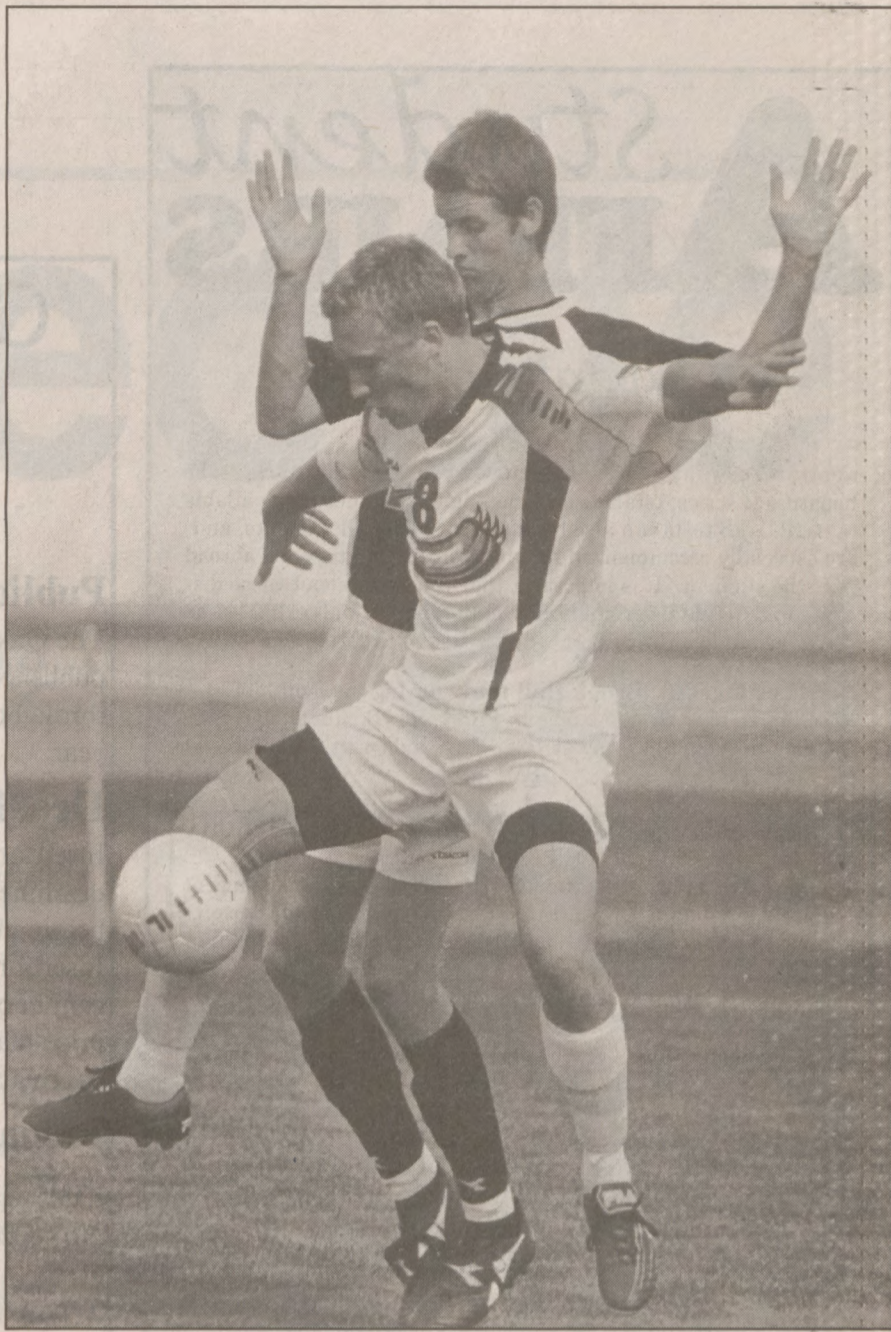
The Grizzlies have outscored opponents 9-7 on their way to a .500 record.

Braathen and Connor lead the team in goals scored with two each. Braathen's two assists also lead the team.

The sophomore duo also leads the team in total points with Braathen recording a total of six and Connor contributing five.

In six games, Wiese has made 28 saves and allowed only seven goals for a 1.07 goals against average.

He has backstopped OU to shutouts in the team's wins over Marquette and Bowling Green.



Sopomore midfielder Marcus Halland pilfers the ball from an unsuspecting Bowling Green attacker earlier in the year. After tying the Akron Zips on the road this past Sunday, the Grizzlies' record is even at 2-2-2.



Golden Grizzly forward, junior Beth Howsen maneuvers through the Purdue Boilermakers' defense in an matchup earlier in the season. In tournament competition over the weekend, OU dropped two games, bringing their losing streak to six games, a women's soccer record.

Grizzlies slide hits six games

By SUSIE MARKEE & RANDY DUDEK
THE OAKLAND POST

This past week at the ProRehab Aces Soccer Classic, in Evansville, Ind., the OU women's soccer team dropped a 1-0 decision to the University of New Mexico Lobos and then fell to the Kansas University Jayhawks by the same score in the second game.

"It obviously didn't go so well for us, dropping both games," said head coach Nick O'Shea.

The only goal in Thursday's game against UNM came in the final two minutes of the first half. Lobo junior midfielder Erchen Theys fired the ball into the OU cage from the left corner, 20 yards out from the net.

The Grizzlies' defense held tough in the second half, but the Lobos were able to contain OU defensively, keeping them off the scoreboard for only the second time this season.

The Grizzlies were outshot in the contest 10-7. Junior goalkeeper Sarah Burkland made two saves in the loss.

UNM improved to 4-3 with the victory, while the Golden Grizzlies dropped their fifth consecutive decision.

The Evansville tournament continued on Saturday as OU squared off against the Jayhawks from Kansas University.

In the first half the Golden Grizzlies' game plan was on target, keeping the Jayhawks off the scoreboard while outshooting them by an 11-8 margin.

Kansas picked up the intensity in the second half, edging ahead in the first minute as sophomore Rachel Gilfillan fought her way past the OU defense and blasted the ball past Burkand, who made eight saves in the contest.

Junior Carmel Kaplinger and freshman Caroline Smith notched assists on the game-win-

ning tally.

The Jayhawks outshot OU 12-4 in the second half and edged the Grizzlies 20-15 overall in the game. KU's record improved to 6-1-1, including five consecutive wins on the road.

The Golden Grizzlies' record dropped to 2-6 after the disappointing tournament finish. OU is in the middle of a six-game losing streak, the worst slump in team history.

Their six losses also represent the highest loss total since the 1994 season.

O'Shea feels that the women are playing much better than their record indicates, and that they possess the talent necessary to be successful. But he also feels that his players need to step up.

"Soccer is a game where the players have control on the field," said O'Shea. "It's not like in basketball where a coach has timeouts to settle the team down."

"The players have to rally together to take charge of the game. Right now we need to find players who can do that for us."

"Whether it's forwards scoring big goals for us, midfielders controlling the time of possession or anybody stepping up to organize the team."

The Grizzlies look to shake themselves from their current skid at 4 p.m. Friday afternoon as they return to the friendly confines of the Upper Fields for a non-conference tilt against the Youngstown State University Penguins.

"Our expectations are still to keep getting better as a team," said O'Shea. "We scheduled a lot of tough opponents in an attempt to get ready for the conference games."

"We aren't far away from being ready. Even though we've lost six straight games, we aren't getting blown out. Every loss has been a one-goal loss. Most one-goal games could go either way."

"We are definitely going to be ready for Mid-Con competition."

Grizzlies name SID

Former NASA engineer returns home to Michigan

By RANDY DUDEK
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

A former NASA employee has been chosen to take OU's sports information to new heights.

On Sept. 19, the OU Athletics Department announced that Philip Hess was going to be the university's new Sports Information Director.

The position became vacant when the former director Amy Hirschman, took the position of Assistant to the Athletic Director.

"Phil's excellence in sports information and his technical background are a great fit for our vision," said Jack Mehl, Athletics Director.

"Phil is the person who is going to continue that advancement."

Hess graduated from U-M in 1982 with a bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering. After graduation, he spent 10 years with NASA in Huntsville, Ala.

Following his decade long career with the space agency, Hess decided to make a career change and went on to graduate school at the University of Richmond for a master's degree in sports management in 1993.

"I knew that I wanted to change careers," said Hess. "I looked around and decided to get out of aerospace engineering. I got my master's degree in sports management and did my internship as an assistant to the SID at

Wofford College in South Carolina, and the SID position just came out of it."

Hess, a native of Kalamazoo, will officially join the Grizzlies' staff on Oct. 21, after a one-year stint at East Tennessee State University. He is involved in developing television and radio opportunities for the Buccaneers, and also serves as the team's webmaster and athletic department spokesperson.

Other stops on his sports information career have been at The College of William and Mary, West Virginia University and Utah State University.

"It's exciting to be able to come back to Michigan," said Hess.

"I decided that I wanted to be back in the Midwest. When this opportunity came up, I decided to take it."

"The biggest change (between OU and ETSU) is going to be not having to do the print media guides. Media guides take up 60-75 percent of my time."

"There's the design work, the chasing down pictures and all the rest. (Online guides are) going to be new for me. I'm planning on putting the time that I'll save into the athletics website."

Once Hess makes the move northward, he plans to meet with Athletics faculty, athletes and the student body at large to see what direction he wants to see the Grizzlies take.



Photo courtesy of Phil Hess
Phil Hess will be joining the Grizzly pack on Oct. 21.

"Once I get up there, I'm going to use the rest of the school year to learn more about OU, then I'll go from there," he said.






"It's too early to state any definite plans," said Hess. "Some possibilities are a list service or an electronic newsletter to keep people informed on the Athletics Department," said Hess. "I'd like to see a committee to gauge interest from fans and students."

"OU is in a major metropolitan area, and the web content could be our way of making a statement in the community."

"We'll never be able to compete against a U-M or an MSU who print 600 page media guides, but I think that we will be able to compete against them in athletics website content."

GRIZZLY SPORTS CALENDAR

Records in bold type denote Mid-Con standings. Games shaded in gray denote home games

	WED 25	THU 26	FRI 27	SAT 28	SUN 29	MON 30	TUE 1
1-0-0, 0-0-0 No Games 							
				TBD Central Collegiates			
2-2-2, 0-0-0 No Mid-Con 		4 p.m. Detroit			3:30 p.m. Wright State		
2-6-0, 0-0-0 No Mid-Con 			4 p.m. Youngst'n State		1 p.m. Dayton		
0-14, 0-0 No Mid-Con 			7 p.m. IPFW	7 p.m. Toldeo			

Student Affairs

Updating OU

Graham Health Center

wants to know if you are up-to-date on your immunizations? The hepatitis B series, tetanus, and meningitis vaccines are available at GHC. TB tests can also be administered to all students, and are especially recommended for any student who traveled abroad over the summer. It is important that you learn about these diseases and decide if vaccination is right for you. Call ext. 2341 or email health@oakland.edu for further information.

Free Meadow Brook Hall tours during the month of September only for OU students with valid ID. Tours are held Monday through Saturday at 1:30 PM, Sundays at 1:30 and 3:30 PM.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING OFFICE OF EQUITY 2002-2003 PEER MENTORS

Jolanda Bean, Ashli Bobo, Amanda Ogg, Wesley Cleland, Vincent Stevens, KeJuanna Culler, Erica Terrell, Ozgur Dogan, Steven Townsend, Joi Durant, Cynde Wines, Shelby Jones, Josephine Njoh, Lisa Newport
Our Future Community Leaders!

The Academic Skills Center announces Study Skills Seminars
Time Management—Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28
Studying and Test Taking—Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29
Research Paper Development—Sept. 25, Oct. 9, 16, 23, 30
Listening and Note Taking—Sept. 26, Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31
All seminars are held in 103 North Foundation Hall from 6-7 PM

CAMPUS REC HAPPENINGS

Intramural Soccer, Flag Football and All-Star Basketball
The intramural sports season is currently going on with soccer on Wednesdays and Thursdays, flag football on Mondays and Tuesdays, and all-star basketball on Wednesday and Thursday nights. Soccer and flag football takes place on the Pioneer upper fields while all-star basketball is played on the basketball courts downstairs in the Rec Center. For a detailed schedule check out the Rec Center web page at http://www.oakland.edu/unit/campus_rec/intramurals.html or contact Jeremy at 248-370-4913 for questions.

Fitness Assessment

The Fitness Assessment program is designed to evaluate your current fitness level and health risk. Knowing your fitness level will help us develop a specific exercise program that will allow you to achieve your health and fitness goals. This program will benefit anyone interested in improving or maintaining their current fitness status. To set up an appointment call Sarah at 248-370-2526. Cost for students is \$15.

Would you like to make a difference in a child's life and the Pontiac community? Then AmeriCorps Oakland wants YOU! AmeriCorps members serve children in the Pontiac community through tutoring, after-school and summer programs. AmeriCorps members also participate in numerous community service projects throughout their term of service. AmeriCorps Oakland University is now accepting applications for the September 2002 term.

What's in it for you? Well, besides that warm fuzzy feeling, members receive a living wage stipend of \$4,950 (paid bi-weekly), and an educational award at the completion of service in the amount of \$2,363—which you can use towards tuition, books, and room and board, not to mention networking contacts, leadership and teamwork training. **Orientation sessions and interviews** will be conducted on October 1 from 12-2 PM in Lake Michigan Room and from 3-5 PM in Lake Superior A, and on October 2 from 6-8 PM in the Lake Huron Room, all in the lower level of the Oakland Center. **For consideration, candidates must attend one session for the entire two hours.** For more information, call 370-3213 or stop by and see us at 159 W. Vandenberg Hall.

Career Services presents **Career Prep Month** now through October 5. Workshops, informational panels, career and graduate school fairs are among the many programs featured. Visit <http://www.oakland.edu/career> services for detailed calendar of events or call 370-3250.

This Week

Annual O.U. Fall Career Fair. More than 60 employers will be taking part in this year's event. Sponsored by **Career Services**, the **Career Fair** will take place on **Thursday, September 26**, from 11 a.m. 3 p.m. in the **O.Rena** at the **Student Recreation & Athletics Center**. Visit our web site at www.oakland.edu/careerservices for the most up-to-date list of employers scheduled to participate. Students who are actively job hunting this fall (whether for full-time positions or for internships, co-op or other career-related positions) should dress in **appropriate interview attire** and bring copies of a **resume** to share w/ employers. Students who are not presently job hunting, but who would like to interact w/ employers to learn more about prospects for **future** job opportunities, as well as to pick up information that may be helpful in general for career planning, have the option of wearing everyday campus attire instead. **For questions regarding the Career Fair, call our department at 248-370-3250. See you there!**

Friday, September 27, OU Beach Bash 2002. Come to the Rec Center and participate in the OU Beach Bash 2002. There will be over \$3000 in prizes including DVD players, gift certificates, TVs, palm pilots, portable CD players and much more! The event starts at 9 PM and goes until midnight. Don't miss out on the bash of the year!

Upcoming Events

Fall On-Campus Recruiting. On-campus recruiting for this fall begins **Monday, October 7**. All students planning to interview with recruiters must be registered with the **Career Services Department's** new **eRecruiting@OU** online resume and job search system (available free to students, effective July 1 of this year). The sign-up process is managed entirely through the **eRecruiting@OU** system. **Students planning to interview with employers on campus but who have not yet registered with our department need to do so as quickly as possible.** Many schedules (including those upcoming during the month of October for **DaimlerChrysler**) are already available for eligible students to either submit resumes (when they are **preselect** schedules) or sign up (when they are **open** schedules) online. Visit our web site at www.oakland.edu/careerservices for additional information.

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- All ads subject to standard abbreviations.
- The Oakland Post reserves the right to edit, categorize, or refuse classified ads as they see fit.

JOBS

Golden Grizzly mascots needed. Looking for athletic, rambunctious, and cheerful individuals to perform at OU Basketball games and other events. Call Mark at 248.370.4034 or email Doman@oakland.edu

Student Work \$14.05 base-appt. Scholarships avail. Co-op & internships. Flexible hours. Resume enhancement. Contact Terra Rivard at 586.615.8749 for an interview today!

Part-time sales clerk with retail store experience needed at Dixie Hwy. GNC in Clarkston. Pays \$7.50 per hour. 248.620.2297

Bartender Trainees Needed \$250 a day potential. Local positions. 800.293.3985 x198

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JOBS

SUMMER INTERNSHIP, College Pro Painters looking for top students to "run their own business" next summer. Excellent income - great experience. Information/apply www.collegepro.com

Wanted - Exuberant, spirit-filled, exciting and energetic students to be on the Oakland U Yell Team. The Yell Team will lead cheers and fire up the crowd at men's and women's basketball games this season. No stunts or flips, just pure lung power and unabashed enthusiasm. Tryouts - Tuesday, October 8 at Noon in the Arena. For more info, call Denise at 248.370.4050 or email dmcgee@oakland.edu

2003 Summer Management Jobs. Student painters are looking for individuals who want to gain management experience. Earn between \$8,000 - \$10,000. Positions available across Michigan.

Part-Time Child Care

Child Care Giver sought for adorable 4-yr. old girl in Bloomfield Twp. After school and after noons.
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Local restaurant is looking for energetic, friendly, service oriented waitstaff for part-time and full-time positions. Excellent pay, great atmosphere. Please call Amit at 248.202.6343

Troy Continuing Education has immediate openings for afterschool childcare assistants. Ideal for students pursuing coursework in education, social work or related fields. Flexible schedules are available. Starting pay: \$8.96/hr. For information call 248.823.5155

Call Center Assistant Supervisor. Must be organized, a team player with excellent communication skills. Sundays: 3:30 - 8:30pm, Monday - Wednesday: 4:30 - 9:00pm. 586.677.7545



J. Hill, a premiere women's retailer, is seeking talented individuals to work in a one-of-a-kind environment at the Village at Rochester Hills. Part-time sales positions available. 60% discount. Competitive wages. Flexible Schedules. Please contact Jenny Fisher 248-373-1174 or apply in person at our Somerset store.

Jumbotron operator needed for OU Basketball games. Daktronics experience preferred but will train computer savvy individual. Call Mark at 248.370.4034 or email doman@oakland.edu



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Currently seeking individuals interested in Temporary or permanent medical positions Computer experience and/or knowledge of medical terms a plus. Great opportunity for Health Science majors. Call MedMatch! 248-651-0652 FAX: 248-651-2748

As of September 5, there is an AA/Alanon meeting every Thursday in the Graham Health Center Conference Room at noon. This meeting replaces the Wednesday noon meeting from last year.

www.thestatsman.com
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Cooker Restaurant of Troy is looking for servers & hosts for high volume lunch times M-F. Good money, flexible schedules, professional environment. Other shifts also available. Full or part time. Easy access from I-75. Apply in person. 5460 Corporate Dr. 248.952.5801

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Village people

Meadowbrook Mall replaced by new shopping center, will be completed this November

BY LAURIE PUSCAS
THE OAKLAND POST

Though contractors are still swarming on site, The Village of Rochester Hills formally opened with a ribbon cutting ceremony by Rochester Hills Mayor Pat Somerville and developer Bruce Aikens Thursday.

"It has been a long and challenging journey," said Aikens. "This is the dawn of a new era." With giant golden scissors, the mayor, members of the Aikens' family, Parisian CEO Rob Brown and others cut a wide red ribbon to officially open the new mall.

Not all the stores were finished and ready for business because of scheduling delays.

"This is nicely laid out though," said Judy Miles of Macomb Township. "It is fun just to come out and walk the streets."

Mark Winter of Identity Marketing and Public Relations said the remainder of the stores will open in November in time for the holiday shopping season.

"Hopefully the stores will be open when I need to go Christmas shopping," said Jennifer Berkley, sophomore. "That would be a waste of space if it wasn't open for the holidays."

Located on the northeast corner of Walton Boulevard and Adams Road, the Village is anchored by the 120,000 square foot Parisian department store and the Farmer Jack Food Emporium. Other stores include Abercrombie and Fitch, J. Crew, Chico's, Pottery Barn, Williams Sonoma, Ann Taylor, Orvis and Eddie Bauer.

Students and Rochester Hills residents said they enjoyed the new mall being so close to OU.

"This is great," said Nancy Townsend of Rochester Hills. "This is going to save me so many trips to Somerset."

Throughout the opening weekend a festive atmosphere pre-

vailed with on-going entertainment.

Children attending the opening could enjoy a clown making balloon animals, a moonwalk, sand art and a temporary tattoo parlor.

In no time, the bottom of a fountain was shimmering with coins, while children were discovering the play area where "The Yo-yo Dude" Dennis Grzesiak, was performing.

"It was a fad in the 1950s, and I picked up on it. I thought entertaining with a yo-yo was fun," he said. Grzesiak has been yo-yoing for 45 years. "It's always great to see the children's faces while performing and the grandparents, too, who remember what it was like to yo-yo. (It) was unique because of the outdoor atmosphere and the indoor stores."

Hot dog vendors with silver carts and colorful umbrellas dotted the sidewalks, making the area resemble a scene out of old Coney Island in New York. The fresh food, homemade lemonade and Good Humor Ice Cream truck added to this trip back to childhood.

"It really provided a family-like atmosphere," said Grzesiak. "It was a great opportunity to meet people from all walks of life."

The village concept was something that evolved over time and was built on the location of the former Meadowbrook Mall.

Sophomore Rebecca Tomczak said Meadowbrook Mall held many memories for her but she was looking forward to seeing the new stores.

"I was sad to hear it was being torn down. I shopped there when I was a little kid. I remember my father taking me

to see the puppet shows," she said. "It had a lot of sentimental value to me."

She also said she thinks the new development is going to turn out well.

"I like the stores that are going in," she said.

Aikens and Associates has owned and operated the site for more than 30 years.

The new Village has some similarities to the former mall. Both malls were designed with a quaint atmosphere. The individual storefronts were built with unique style and texture.

"We didn't want it to look like a strip mall," said Aikens. "It was meant to be an open-air lifestyle concept."

Winter said they met with neighbors individually and in groups.

The new development was not always met with enthusiasm however.

There was some opposition

"This is great. This is going to save me so many trips to Somerset."

Nancy Townsend
Rochester Hills resident



Above: Dale Anderson, bass player for the Rochester Symphony Orchestra, played during the pre-opening party at the Parisian. Proceeds from the show went to the RSO. Far left: Hot dog, homemade lemonade and fresh pretzel vendors tempt the taste buds of shoppers. Left: Dennis Grzesiak, professional yo-yoer performs for onlooking children. He has been yo-yoing for 45 years.

Laurie Pucas/
The Oakland Post



Above: The downtown area of The Village of Rochester now takes on the look of Times Square, with its own Rochester style.

Right: Developer Bruce Aikens cuts the red ribbon during the dedication ceremony alongside his family and Rochester Hills Mayor Pat Somerville. The ceremony ended with the release of bundles of red, white and blue balloons.



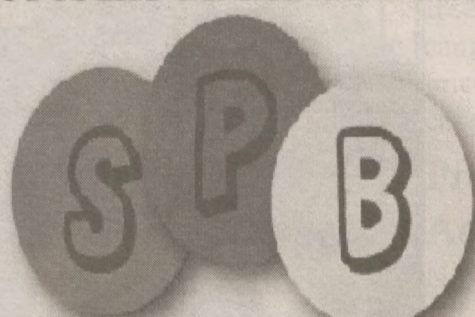
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STUDENT PROGRAM BOARD



OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

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Topic: How does my Heritage contribute to Strength in
Diversity?

This contest is open to all enrolled Oakland University
students. You must limit your entries to 500 words or less. All
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Please submit your typed, double-spaced entry to:

Jean Ann Miller, Director
Center for Student Activities
49 OC

All entries must be submitted by 5pm on
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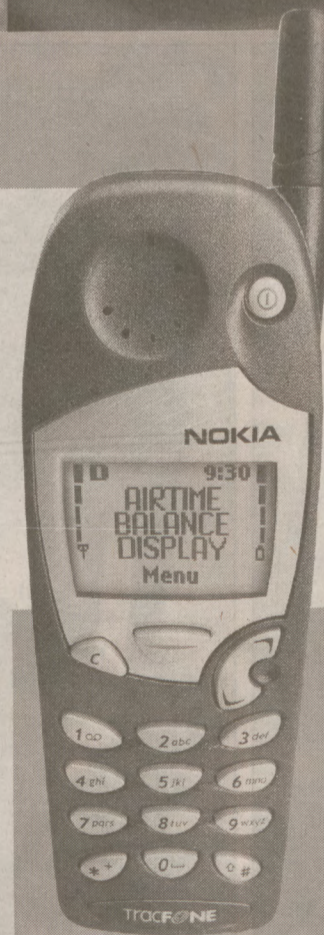
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Cinema

A spanking good time

Spader shows Gyllenhaal who's boss in dark, erotic 'Secretary'

By BRIAN URRETA
THE OAKLAND POST

At the Law Office of Attorney E. Edward Grey, failure is not an option. Any individual whose performance is less than perfect within this office shall be personally met with a harsh delivery of severe punishment from the hands of Mr. Grey himself. In the deliciously erotic dark comedy "Secretary," director Steven Shainberg serves up a strikingly fresh twist upon the average tale of the office romance.

In a nutshell, "Secretary" is a story about a girl who gets what she wants in the end ... literally. It's a tale of lust, pain, fear and love all hanging within the blinding red-circled imperfections of a hand-typed document.

At the center of "Secretary," lies Lee Holloway (Maggie Gyllenhaal, "Donnie Darko"), a repressed, depressed masochist readjusting in the normal world after leaving a mental institution. Marked with deep scars from wounds of her past, Holloway is a woman searching to release her demons by any means necessary, even if that means self mutilation with the contents of her precious sewing bag.

Hoping to get on the right track, Holloway finds herself a boyfriend and enrolls in a business school where she finds her niche in typewriting. Using her newfound craft, she ultimately lands herself a job as secretary to Attorney E. Edward Grey (James Spader, "Pretty In Pink"), a compulsively stern individual with his own person-

al demons.

The relationship between Holloway and Grey is anything but ordinary right from the beginning. Despite her homely appearance and inferior nature, Holloway entices her superior into a sweat as she types his documents and serves his coffee. Still, she only seems to find true happiness while delivering pain upon herself. Grey discovers Holloway's weakness and it draws him closer to her, as he takes her under his wing. Eventually, the dominating Grey shows his true colors after finding misspellings in a business letter prepared by his secretary. The punishment for the costly mistake involves the cautious Holloway placing her hands upon the desk where the document lies before her, while her boss spansks her rear end until it's red.

While most women would call the police, Holloway does not. More than anything, she is fascinated and turned on by being punished for her mistakes in a subservient manner. Inevitably, the two begin a relationship, set within the

loose boundaries of domination that alters both individuals' lives in and out of the office. In some of the film's most powerful scenes, Holloway finds herself yearning for her boss' attention purposely leaving mistakes on important documents, while

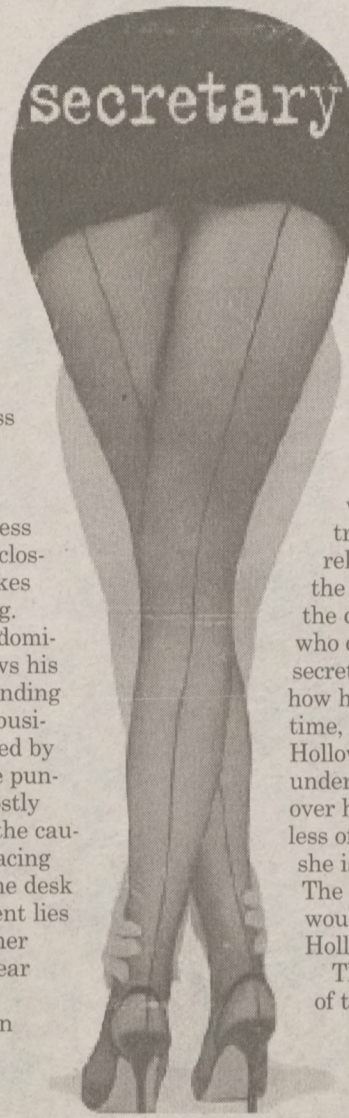
Grey struggles to control his urges to mark red both her errors and her buttocks.

The tension is thick as Holloway and Grey exchange power between one another. The true question is, who has the control within the relationship? On the outside, Grey is the dominating one who controls when his secretary jumps and how high. At the same time, the blossoming Holloway has an underlying strength over her boss, regardless of whether or not she is aware of it.

The question is: what would happen if Holloway said no.

That is in fact one of the delightful queries that the film forces audiences to examine. Also,

there are some sequences of the film that leave questions to the audience as to whether or not the surreal moment actually took place. Was what they saw a dream sequence? And, if so,



Secretary

Rated R
Running Time: 104 minutes

whose fantasy was it?

Without question, the star of "Secretary" is the splendid Gyllenhaal who gives an impressive performance as the troubled Holloway. Gyllenhaal, brother of actor Jake Gyllenhaal ("The Good Girl"), has a tremendous screen presence that pulls the audience right into her arms. She does a splendid job at giving Holloway a subdued sex appeal. She is funny, cute, troubling and sexy all rolled into one with this role that is guaranteed to bring her success in the future.

Gyllenhaal's costar Spader has a knack for playing these sleazy kinds of roles.

Throughout his career, Spader has always seemed to play the yuppie jerk who got good drugs and was never up to any good. This role is basically the same character all grown up with some underlying issues.

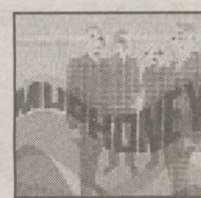
The onscreen chemistry between Gyllenhaal and Spader is right on point leaving the audience with a pleasurable uncomfortable feeling throughout the film.

Despite a plot that would work in a porn flick, "Secretary" is a quality picture that tastefully pushes the envelope of what is accepted in today's society. Many individuals will surely detest "Secretary" for its risqué subject matter.

Nonetheless, those who are willing to look beyond their preconceived beliefs will find a solid film sure to raise eyebrows and drop jaws.

"Secretary" opens this Friday exclusively at the Birmingham 8. Call (248) 644-3456 for ticket information.

Music

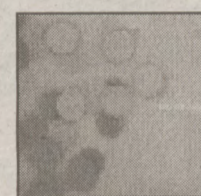


Mudhoney
"Since We've Become Translucent"
Sub Pop

Never has a band's name so closely approximated its sound as in the case of alt-rock pioneers

Mudhoney, whose calculated sonic mess has been described as everything from "sludge-jazz" to "garage punk" to plain old grunge. On its 7th album "Since We've Become Translucent," Mudhoney remains an acquired taste accessible only to die-hard fans.

Frontman Mark Arm's limited vocal range handicaps many of the songs, a weakness often compensated for with a shrewd sense of humor that can be both endearing and alienating. When it works, as on the delightful romp "Take It Like A Man," Arm is like the comical but wise uncle you can't wait to see at the next family gathering. When it doesn't, he's the cryptic, odd older cousin you try to avoid but feel obliged to humor. Unfortunately, he comes off as the latter more than the former. Mudhoney gets credit for laying much of the groundwork for its Seattle peers, but "Translucent" sounds like a band struggling in vain to regain its former relevance. —Adam Spindler



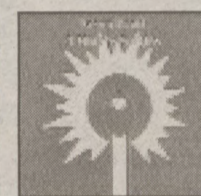
Aloha
"Sugar"
Polyvinyl

Aloha is a five piece post-rock band from Ohio. The

ten songs on "Sugar" are objects in a work of audible abstract art, painted with brushstrokes of drum,

bass, vocal, piano, guitar and vibraphone. You bring it home, you hang it up; you are confused. The vibraphone seems strange, its dissonance abrasive — and what exactly does that guy mean by "see me welling in your eyes, a field of fireflies?" You go to bed hoping you kept the receipt.

But the next morning a closer look provides a pleasant surprise. You're digging that bass groove you couldn't quite follow yesterday. Soon, previously puzzling phrases like "too young to slumber, blood marauding as it flows" make perfect sense, and damn if that vibraphone ain't pretty cool. You're now transfixed, spurred on by the anticipation of your next discovery. You feel a sense of ownership over this art, as if you were present at its conception, but you don't want to gaze upon it too long for fear of exhausting its possibilities. You fall asleep, scarcely believing this masterpiece only set you back 15 bucks. —Adam Spindler



Jason Croff
"3 Minute Singles"
Unsigned

Not since Morris Day and the Time has there been

a greater conglomeration of funk and soul as in the new album by Warren-based talent Jason Croff, "3 Minute Singles." The record combines the power of soul with somber, melodic vocals that are common among those who learned music from the angst-laden artists of early-'90s rock. These subtly raw undertones are apparent on every track. The nuances are clearly based on early funk, but the vocal tracks are lazy and at the same time conscientious.

Croff's influences range from George Benson and Stevie Wonder to Steely Dan. In his former group "Nowhere Fast," he proved that pop music could capture the ears of hardcore and punk listeners. He still manages to impress crowds that generally have different musical taste, but now he offers them something that most other groups fail to provide: an opportunity to get down. For more information visit www.jasoncroff.com. —Nicholas McIntyre

Painterly touch not enough to save 'Lady'

By PATRICK LABADIE
ASSISTANT LIFE EDITOR

Much has been made of the so-called technical achievement of Eric Rohmer's latest film "Lady and the Duke." Critics are quick to use words like painterly and ingenious when describing the look of the film. They describe the acting as subtle and restrained. They are wrong.

This film represents everything that Americans hate about watching French movies. It's slow, it's pretentious, it's long.

Just because the now 82-year-old Rohmer used to write for the esteemed French film journal Cahiers du cinema alongside fellow French New Wavers Francois Truffaut and Jean-Luc Godard doesn't mean one automatically has to gush over every piece of uncompelling drudgery he puts his name on.

He's still living on the reputation he built in the 60s and 70s with his revered talky romantic pictures like "Claire's Knee" and "Chloe in the Afternoon."

To achieve the desired look, Rohmer digitally inserted paintings of 18th century Paris into the film.

The results look like a horrible public access production staged by regional theater performers.



Jean-Claude Dreyfus and Lucy Russell star in Eric Rohmer's French revolution costume drama "Lady and the Duke."

Lady and the Duke

Rated R
Running Time: 129 minutes

The narrative is boring, hard to follow and goes nowhere.

The story is based on "The Journal of My Life During the French Revolution" by Scottish aristocrat Grace Elliott.

The prologue introduces Elliott (Lucy Russell, "Following"), who divorced an English nobleman and had a son by the future King

George IV before moving to France to knock boots with the Duke of Orleans (Jean Claude Dreyfus, "Delicatessen," "City of Lost Children").

Chronicling her struggles from 1790-1793, the story covers many historical events including the fall of Louis XVI, the fall of the Orleans family and the 1792 massacre of aristocrats.

The plot is really insignificant in a review like this because by about minute 20, the film is almost unbearable. It is a true struggle to

sit through its 129-minute running time.

The digital gimmickry can do little to hide the shortcomings in the storytelling and acting departments.

The action of the film, if it can be called action at all, consists of stuffy people with wigs having verbose conversations about politics in antique-filled rooms. Elliott, a devout Royalist, and the duke, an unflagging revolutionary, talk way too much.

The performances are severely lacking. Allen, who appears in every scene, seems incapable of expressing any real emotion leaving her more of a caricature.

Rohmer's lazy direction is not much better.

At one point during one of the conversations between the lady and the duke, he plops the camera down for a good five minutes without a cut or a movement. This makes for unimpeccable cinema.

Rohmer's talky melodrama is an all out cinematic root canal. Honestly, an afternoon would be better spent cleaning your room or leafing through old baseball cards. In other words: avoid at all costs.

"Lady and the Duke" is showing exclusively at the Detroit Film Theatre Sept. 27-29. Call (313) 833-3237 for ticket information.

Retrospective



Toshiro Mifune stars in Akira Kurosawa's "Sanjuro."

Kurosawa at DFT

Check out the classic films of legendary Japanese auteur Akira Kurosawa every Monday at 7:30 p.m. the Detroit Film Theatre. This Monday Sept. 30, the DFT will screen his 1954 film "Rashomon." The film tells the story of a rape in the Japanese countryside from three different perspectives. The film stars Kurosawa's favorite leading man, Toshiro Mifune.

Other upcoming Kurosawa screenings

include: "I Live in Fear" on Monday, Oct. 7, "High and Low" on Monday, Oct. 14, "Yojimbo" on Monday, Oct. 21, "Sanjuro" on Monday, Oct. 28, "The Bad Sleep Well" on Monday, Nov. 4 and "Red Beard" on Monday, Nov. 11. The Kurosawa series will come to a close with "Seven Samurai," generally regarded to be the greatest of Kurosawa's works, which will be screening Nov. 15-17. Call (248) 833-3237 for ticket information.

Dawson goes to college in Avary's 'Rules'

By JIM KAISER
THE OAKLAND POST

Passions rage as its people explore the boundaries of sex and relationships while experimenting with drugs in "Rules of Attraction." The film is extremely dark and may shock unseasoned audiences.

Directed by Roger Avary ("Killing Zoe"), the film uses stunning visual effects to help reveal the feelings of its characters. The story twists down a bumpy road through the dark closets of the characters' minds.

Sean Bateman (James Van Der Beek), is the ladies man on campus. The only thing he seems to enjoy as much as bedding women is doing drugs, which he also sells.

All seems to be going well for him until he meets Lauren (Shannyn Sossamon).

Suspecting that she has a crush on him, he puts the moves on her. Next, he meets Paul Owen (Ian Somerhalder), who develops a gay crush on Bateman. As the love triangle begins to unfold, the consequences loom large.

The main theme of the film is attraction, and how people deal with it. It has every type of crush imaginable, from promiscuous boy likes innocent virgin girl, to girl is in love with someone far away, to homosexual person likes straight person, and even to the obsessive stalker lurking in the shadows. The outcomes of these crushes are displayed in a very real way, with every character being smacked in the face by the cold hard hand of reality.

The movie is set mostly in dark, smoky dorm rooms cluttered with beer cans, clothes

Rules of Attraction

Rated R
Running Time: 93 minutes

and garbage. When the characters aren't in their dorm rooms, they occupy various house parties crammed wall to wall with people who are either drinking, yelling, vomiting, hooking up, or any of the combinations previously listed. This cramped setting helps to build the confusing and claustrophobic mood, which is only made more desperate and impulsive by the excessive drug use of the characters.

The film also uses a clever rewind effect that only takes place in certain parts of the movie to help demonstrate the repetitiveness of college dorm life, as well as, that of the college party scene.

"Rules of Attraction" is not all dark and serious. Some of the

scenes in the movie are so hilarious and outrageous that it almost seems impossible that they are part of the same film. They truly provide shock value, while still supporting its dark and desperate mood.

The film starts off slowly, but the sly Van Der Beek is humorous enough to help viewers along. It's full of shocking and interesting material that will catch audiences' attention and keep it. Van Der Beek's performance was exceptional.

The intricate meshing of scenery and effects conveys the mood of the film in a way that allows one to experience the feelings expressed by the characters and plot. The themes in the film were interesting and displayed accurately from beginning to end. This movie is not for everyone, however, there are no fairy tale endings.

Editor's Pick

Vinyl

Living in the digital age, most are not familiar with the many splendors of vinyl. Yes, vinyl is outdated and technologically inferior to CDs, but records have a certain intrinsic charm to them. Yes, they pop and crackle and occasionally skip, but the imperfections are part of their beauty.

Some bands just sound better on wax (mainly old 60s rock records like The Who's "Who's Next," The Beach Boys' "Pet Sounds" and all Beatles albums).

While CDs have become the dominant format of this generation, vinyl is still widely available. Record stores like Lake Orion's Broadway Records (248) 693-7803, Clawson's Flipside Records (248) 585-4090 and Ferndale's Record Collector (248) 548-9888 offer extensive selections of new and used vinyl at reasonable prices. Only two more words: vinyl rocks.

—Patrick Labadie

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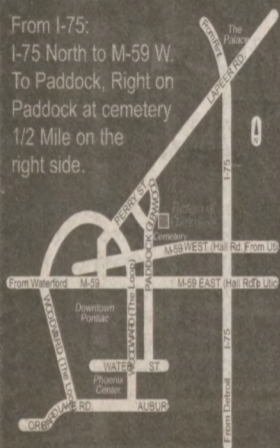
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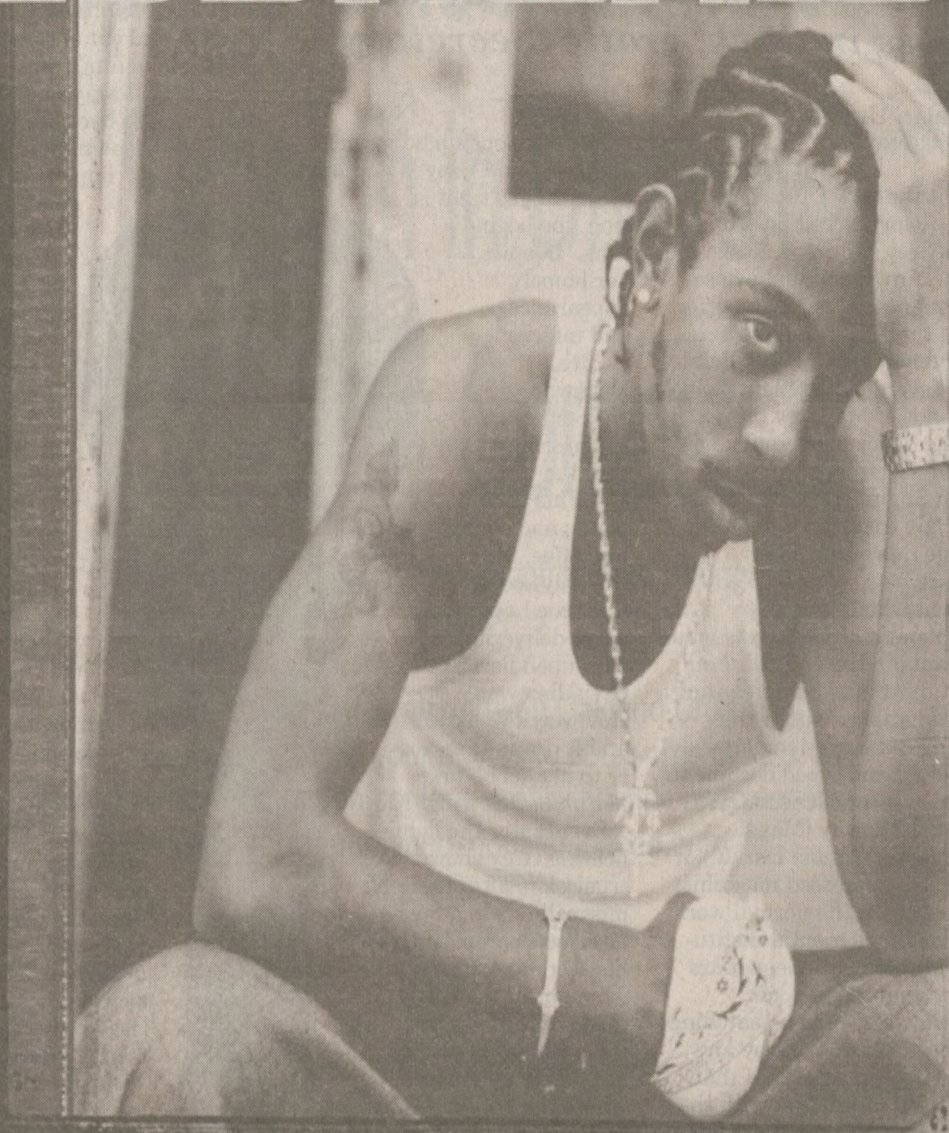
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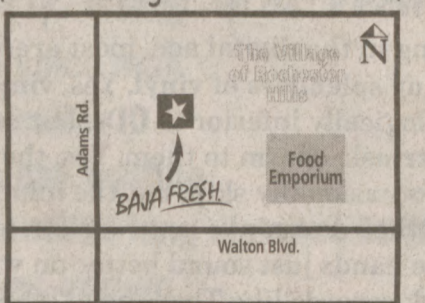


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