

# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

October 17, 2007

Volume 33, Number 37



## Piecing together the presidency

Dr. Gary Russi talks to the Post about his job, your school and our future

page 4

### SPORTS

**Midnight Madnezz  
a success,  
angers some**

page 17

### YOU

**New fraternity  
on campus?**

page 12

### CAMPUS

**International  
relations major  
has people talking**

page 8



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# THIS WEEK 10.17.07

THE OAKLAND POST  
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

## EDITORIAL

Kelly Kozlowski  
Editor in Chief

oakposteditor@gmail.com  
(248) 370-4268

Paul Gully  
Managing Editor  
oakpostmanaging@gmail.com  
(248) 370-2537

Dustin Alexander  
Photo Editor  
oakpostphoto@gmail.com  
(248) 370-4266

Lindsey Wojcik  
You Editor  
oakpostfeatures@gmail.com  
(248) 370-2848

Liz Perales  
Campus Editor  
oaklandpostcampus@gmail.com  
(248) 370-4267

Celeste Filiatrault  
Graphics/Web master  
oakpostphoto@gmail.com  
(248) 370-4266

Samantha Franz  
Sports Editor  
oakpostsports@gmail.com  
(248) 370-2849

Rob Tate  
Assistant Sports Editor  
oakpostsports@gmail.com  
(248) 370-2849

Sara Kandel  
Mix/Scene Editor  
oakpostfeatures@gmail.com  
(248) 370-2848

SENIOR REPORTERS  
Jesse Dunsmore  
C.M. Graski  
Brittany Ochinsky  
Nick Degel  
oakposteditor@gmail.com  
(248) 370-2849

Tyler Cameron  
Local Editor  
oakpostlocal@gmail.com  
(248) 370-2848

STAFF INTERNS  
Adam Roberts  
Dan Tallant  
Tracy Wawrzyniak

Alex Cherup  
Mouthing Off Editor  
oakposteditor@gmail.com  
(248) 370-4267

ADVISOR  
Holly Gilbert  
Dept. of Journalism  
(248) 370-4268  
shreve@oakland.edu

## ADVERTISING | MARKETING

Crystal Nelson  
Lead Ads Manager  
oaklandpostadvertising@gmail.com  
(248) 370-4269

Owen Sexton  
Marketing Director  
oakpostmarketing@gmail.com  
(248) 370-4266

Celeste Filiatrault  
Asst. Ads Manager  
oaklandpostadvertising@gmail.com  
(248) 370-4269

Maria Vitale  
Asst. Ads Manager  
oaklandpostadvertising@gmail.com  
(248) 370-4269

Heather Holm  
Asst. Ads Manager  
oaklandpostadvertising@gmail.com  
(248) 370-4269



## Perspectives page 6

Label politics a no-label subject. Plus, 4-on-4 featuring 2008 presidential candidate Mitt Romney's son.



## Campus page 8

Foreign leaders visit OU to discuss new international relations major. Plus, high-tech prizes given out at cyber conference.



## you page 12

Student organization aims to bring new fraternity to Oakland. Plus, give DIY a try.



## The Mix page 14

All about Halloween: costumes and haunted houses. Plus, check out the new Word of the Week.



## Sports page 17

Midnight Madnezz: major announcement regarding OU basketball coverage; students angered over prize distribution.



## Local page 22

Detroit close to reaching a decision on Tiger Stadium's future fate. And, new service tax sparks debate in Michigan.



## the Scene page 24

A look at the movie that brings the music of the Beatles to a new generation. And, a break-down of the Michael Myers' flicks.



## MOUTHING OFF page 26

Check out some effective ways of wasting time on the Internet. Plus, the king of homecoming queens.



## Nation | World page 28

Former Vice President Al Gore is awarded a Nobel Peace Prize. And, a mother of a U.S. soldier to send 80,000 cans of Silly String to Iraq for troops.

## Special Feature:

Are OU fraternity members living in a haunted house?

Check out our special feature on page 16.



# Oakland University President Gary Russi talks to the Post

By KELLY KOZLOWSKI AND PAUL GULLY  
Editor in chief and Managing editor

Oakland University is approaching some milestones. Enrollment is up, a medical school is in the works, and degree programs are multiplying. With so much opportunity on the horizon, it is important for students and faculty to get to know those leading the way. The Oakland Post staff plans to schedule regular interview sessions with some of OU's most high-profile administrators to help you piece together who they are, what they do and why it matters. Check out the first installment with President Gary Russi.

## A capital idea

**Post:** Tell us about OU's capital campaign.

**Russi:** This is Oakland's very first comprehensive campaign, and what that means is it's a campus-wide campaign. In our history, we've had little mini-campaigns that are focused on units. This campaign is for the entire campus. The target is \$110 million, and we are now halfway into the public phase, that's a 5-year deal, so we're at two and a half years. As of this morning (Monday, Oct. 15), we're at \$81 million toward this campaign, and I will tell you that it's remarkable the amount of men and women who are supporting this. Most of the money that's coming to us is not corporate money. It's private, individual money, and that says a lot about the nature of the university and what they believe is really the future of the university.

**Post:** How do you go about raising the funds?

**Russi:** A lot of dinners. (laughs) Actually, it's relationship building. Men and women will not invest their life savings in anything unless they have a strong relationship with the men and women who are there and they trust you. The trust factor is really important. Also, enormous amounts of meetings, dinners, conversations, cultivations. ... In the last 20 days, I've not been home once at night, just to give you a sense of what it takes. It takes time.

**Post:** Are there any plans for allocation?

**Russi:** The gifts typically come as designated gifts. Most of the money is designated for a



Photo courtesy of Ted Montgomery  
President Gary Russi offers ice cream to students during Welcome Week festivities at OU.

## Musical Chairs

"President" isn't the only title Russi holds. Here are a few others he is also known by:

Co-chair, Oakland County Business Roundtable

Vice chair, Oakland County Automation Alley

Member, Board of Trustees of Crittenton Hospital and the Citizens Research Council of Michigan

Chair, Presidents Council of State Universities of Michigan

Member, Detroit Renaissance Board of Directors

certain purpose or function or activity within the university. There are a few donors who will just hand the money to me and say, 'go do as you wish,' which is an unrestricted gift. Typically what I do with that is to support the campaign functions to help us raise money. The unrestricted piece is pretty small.

**Post:** Is OU in good shape financially?

**Russi:** At this point, we (the state of Michigan) don't have a budget bill, and it's a tragedy. We were supposed to get it at the end of last month, and as you know they gave themselves another 30 days. To answer your question, it

all depends on what they do. It's so unknown right now. We did do our best to be as conservative in our budgeting as possible, so whatever would come we would be in good shape. I can tell you, if they leave us alone or they give us a little increase, we'll be just fine. But I cannot tell you what they're going to do.

## Students on the move

**Post:** Given your involvement with the budget crisis in Michigan right now, what are your thoughts on the student involvement and OUSC going to protest in Lansing recently?

**Russi:** It's one of the best things I've seen. I

think the student leaders this year have done an incredible job on behalf of higher education in general but Oakland in particular. Our group has been there more than once, and we are so delighted because I can tell you when I do my rounds with legislators, senators and representatives, they will comment about the Oakland students. They're perceived as being very professional. They raise the points, they make their points, and they do not offend anybody. Our students have done a great job. They maintain that high standard of communicating the point and showing the impact of what it would mean to them if tuition were to increase again. I hope they continue. We need more advocacy in the city.

## Looking ahead

**Post:** What are your plans and goals for the current academic year?

**Russi:** Here are some things I think about. Number one: state appropriations. Number two: fundraising. Number three: the quality of the academic programs and offering the courses for students. That means adequate staffing, facilities, support, and all the things that go into providing quality organization. Four would be continuing to reposition Oakland as one of the top institutions in the state of Michigan. That means leveraging our strengths with partners. One of the most important partnerships that we just announced was the medical school. I believe that there's been no other announcement that has greater impact in the community right now than that announcement. There is more buzz about that in the community than I can explain to you today. Everywhere I go, people are talking about it. Maybe it's one of the best pieces of news that we've heard in this region in a long time. We've become a very different university.

**Post:** How is the medical school progressing?

**Russi:** It's great. You know, we've got a great partner with Beaumont. We hired a consultant who has been engaged in start-ups of other medical schools, and he reports we are ahead of schedule. Fundraising looks good right now. This is a privately-funded school, and we have a very active donor list. I can tell you that parents have talked to me, and students are already here wanting to get into the medical school.





Photo courtesy of Ted Montgomery  
Dr. Gary Russi

**Post:** What are the plans for medical school facilities?

**Russi:** Maybe by 2010 we'll do a new facility, but if not, we're not going to be impeded. We will start. Both Beaumont and Oakland have the facilities and laboratories. We have some of the finest in the state. At some point we'll need a new building. The place on campus is yet to be determined, but let me describe what may happen. It needs to be highly visible so when people drive through campus, they

see it. One thought, and it's only a thought because we're not there yet, is the corner of Squirrel and Walton.

### On the scoreboard

**Post:** What are your expectations for the upcoming basketball season?

**Russi:** That is a volatile question. I think we've got a chance of being very good this year – both teams. Coach Kampe has his core back from last year. He's recruited some really powerful athletes and their conditioning through the summer has been exceptional. We saw a little bit of that at Midnight Madnezz. They are as fit and as strong as any team I've seen since I've been here. They've got a pretty good chance of doing well this year. On the women's side, they had one of the best recruiting classes they've had in a long time. They're young, but coach Francis has a core of starters. We'll see if they can bring the freshmen along. They've got a chance at being pretty successful too. I think at the end of the day, we certainly will be doing well in the Summit League Tournament. If I had a dream, it would be to leave Tulsa with two wins.

**Post:** Are there any other sports teams that you follow?

**Russi:** I watch them all. The teams that have really distinguished Oakland over the years

have really been men's and women's basketball, men's and women's soccer – remarkable teams this year, and men's and women's swimming and diving. Remarkable efforts. I think some of the other teams are coming along. I think baseball's got a chance to be pretty big this year. Softball team looks to be good. Some of the other teams are moving. I know the new athletic director is trying to upgrade those.

### Spare time

**Post:** Rumor has it, you're a runner. Is that a hobby you've been able to maintain during your presidency?

**Russi:** Yeah, I do it really early. Most people are still sleeping. I try to maintain a fitness routine every day. It's a huge stress relief, and it's quiet time. I get a chance to put together what I think about the day. It's just a special time for me. Sometimes, when the weather is good, I run around campus. If it's not good, I'll be primarily in the athletic center; sometimes I'll show up at the Rec Center because I like to rub elbows with the students. It's pretty cool.

**Post:** Any other hobbies?

**Russi:** I play golf, but don't get to do as much as I'd like. Most of the golf is related to building relationships. I love to read. My favorite author is James McGregor Burns. He's a historian, and I really like the stuff he's done.

## President Russi on paper

What's on his resume?

### Education

Southwestern Oklahoma  
State University  
-BA in pharmacology

University of Kansas  
-Ph.D. in pharmacology and  
toxicology

### Work Experience

Kansas University  
-teaching/research assistant

Drake University  
-tenured professor of  
pharmacology and toxicology

### Written work

-17 articles and abstracts published in professional journals  
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# Perspectives

6

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October 17, 2007

## STAFF EDITORIAL

# Lose the political labels and find yourself

Liberalism. Conservatism. Right-wing. Left-wing. Moderate. Democrat. Republican. Libertarian. Socialist. Green. Independent. Apathetic.

We love labels, especially in politics.

The urge to group poses several hindrances in modern politics, much of which goes overlooked. It is helpful to understand the categories that we create and the effects they have on us all.

More and more, the media has become obsessed with such brandings. Dichotomies are easy and theatrical.

They make the blood boil, and make rallying trouble-free. Everything is much simpler when painted as either/or.

Blame is basic — the common foe provides a scapegoat for problems. It compartmentalizes our thinking and takes us hostage.

Before we know it, we forget it is all theatrics — and are victims of deceptive disunion.

Instead of actually focusing on issues, we oftentimes play the partisan game.

We label, libel, name-call and condemn, many times prior to, or in lieu of, actually discussing the issue.

We forget that all sides are victim of certain flaws by merely being involved in politics.

Partisan politics does not have to translate into full-blown polarizing politics.

Naturally, we will share beliefs with others. This political unity strengthens the power for each individual to get his or her version of the world through power in numbers.

This can be taken too far, when the labels dehumanize and do no more than attack the opponent for existing as a certain title.

Rather than placing the person first and the ideology second, we make the ideology paramount.

In our passion, we forget we are all human beings. The labels take away the humanness.

Another challenge is the notion of individuality. Political dichotomy, at times, harms free thought.

We pigeonhole ourselves to think a certain

way just because our label states we should think that certain way.

A brief talk with most on political issues will demonstrate this phenomena. In fact, most encounters with mainstream media provide immaculate examples.

We eventually forget the main purpose for political activity — achieving specific results for what we individually want in the world.

We have these ideas, wants and beliefs independent of political labels or -isms.

Before we enter any ideology, we should not forget our foundation and understand the theatrics before entering the game.

These -isms and labels also face the difficulties found in ideology. Ideologies can blind and detach. They can remove the reality of the situation.

We happily throw the words around, pejoratively and positively, as absolute. There are no absolutes, especially in politics.

There are so many versions of what each word or -ism means that the definitions can be nothing more than cloudy and opaque.

The absolutist mentality, coupled with the ambiguous definition of terms and labels poses a major challenge.

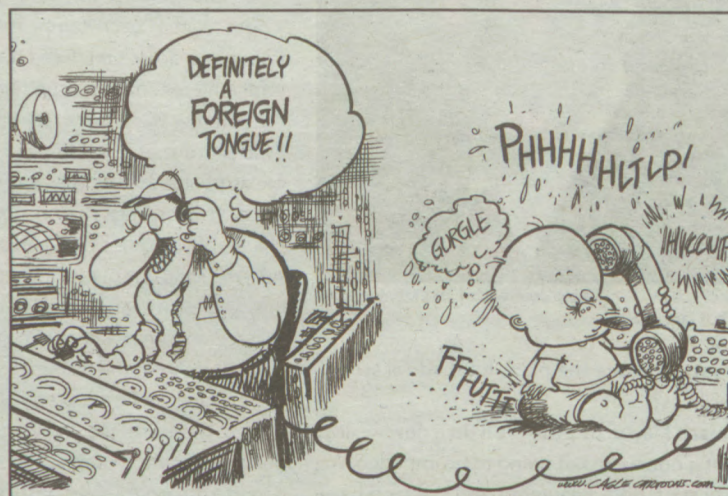
There is no true Republican, Democrat, liberal, or conservative. Just watch political debates between parties or ideologies or chats between groups of similarly-minded individuals. There is no exact agreement, and any who proclaim there is are hiding an important element of their individuality.

In this sense, these words and labels have their place, however, end up causing more harm than good.

The challenging nature of the words confounds when used over-excessively or inaccurately. Any attempt at a holistic perception is greatly stunted by such terms.

As a substitute, focus on what you personally believe. Put the issues of humanity first, and political theatrics second.

Do not allow your political efforts to be marginalized by such terms.



MIKE LANE, Cagle Cartoons

### “When warrantless wiretaps go bad.”

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# Four on Four

four panelists share their take on four topics



**Abraham Lipman,**  
Junior, East Asian Culture  
Studies (Japan) Major



**Josh Romney,** Son of  
presidential candidate  
Mitt Romney



**Lesley Moore,**  
Senior,  
General Studies Major



**Alan Epstein,** Special  
Instructor — Political  
Science

**In light of the recent Blackwater scandals, do you think the U.S. should use privately contracted security firms?**

I don't think we have a choice...It does present risks for abuse and I do think it needs better monitoring. However, I do think we should continue using them.

I think, for the most part, as long as these security firms are held to the standard of the law, like they should be, it's a good practice. They should obey the law in the country that they're serving in.

Yes, it takes some of the pressure off of our troops and allows some to come home.

No, I don't like the idea. There's a serious question of accountability — that's the major issue. ... Privately contracted firms are, essentially, immune from Iraqi law.

**Do you think former Vice President Al Gore was deserving of a Nobel Peace Prize?**

I don't think I'm the most qualified to answer this. But, his movement certainly deserves a Nobel Prize.

I would say that he's definitely brought global warming to the forefront. I don't necessarily agree with all his methods, but it created debate and discussion — which is good.

Yes, I thought he did a great job. He opened the eyes of people who just weren't aware. I think he was very deserving of it.

Many people object to his selection because it was politicized, and I think they're right. Is he the most deserving for promoting peace? — I think there are others who are more deserving. But I'm not terribly upset.

**Do you think Iran's potential for nuclear capabilities could pose a threat to the U.S.?**

Even if Iran does not develop a nuclear weapon, they are kind of cavalier with things [the U.S.] would regard as 'nuclear secrets.' ... They might help other countries develop nuclear weapons.

I think it could pose a huge threat for Middle East security and we'd have to worry about who they'd be able to sell that technology to. It's something we've got to use all of our resources to try and stop.

Yes, I am biased on this, but I believe the next war is going to be against Iran. I believe they want to build up their weaponry for future attacks. ... They're just preparing for war.

Not at the moment. It's a complicated question though. ... I don't feel immediately threatened.

**Do you think that New York Yankees manager Joe Torre should be fired?**

I hate the Yankees ... But I have to admit, they've been doing well the last couple years. Torre is an icon of the Yankees and they probably should give him another year.

I think it would be a huge mistake for the Yankees to get rid of Joe Torre, so I'm really hoping they do — I'm a huge Red Sox fan. He's a classy guy and a great manager, but I would love to see him canned.

Maybe they should get someone newer or younger. Coaches' ideas can get old, and they need something new.

I'm not sure that their failure in the post-season can be attributed to him. They've had trouble with their pitching staff. ... And who are they going to replace him with? ... But he seems like a pretty good guy.

## 'All work and no play' can lead to an unhealthy life

By **VALARIE COHEN**  
Guest Columnist

"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy."

Who remembers this famous line delivered by Jack Nicholson in "The Shining"?

This line, taken from a pivotal scene where Jack's onscreen wife finally realizes that her husband has lost all of his marbles, actually holds a lot of truth.

We, as humans, have an inner drive to succeed, whether it be to earn more money or get a good grade.

However, in order to achieve success we are sometimes required to stay late at the office to finish up some work, work a second job or stay up all hours of the night studying for an exam, while we neglect ourselves with poor nutrition or poor sleep habits.

Though all of our efforts of sleepless nights, sweat, and determination will hopefully pay off in the long run, we sometimes forget that if we don't reward ourselves from time to time, at least in some small way, we can experience "burn-out."

This could eventually lead to over-stressing our bodies past what they can normally handle.

Studies have shown that stress wreaks major havoc on our bodies. Hypertension, high cholesterol and heart disease are some of the many illnesses that can arise from stress or "burning ourselves out."

So, what can we do about it?

Take time to eat the right kind of foods. That means no more Dorito dinners or pizza breakfasts.

Eating well-balanced meals that have some type of nutritional value not only

help us put vitamins back into our system, but can also help to keep us awake and give us more energy during the day.

Get help from teachers or tutors when you don't understand something right away.

Don't wait until the last minute and think that you'll just ask for help the day before, and expect to get a decent grade.

Plan ahead. Ask questions. Get help. Try to exercise every day. Exercising increases endorphins — the feel-good chemicals in our bodies.

You'll be amazed at how good you feel once you get in the habit of exercising your muscles every day.

Be sure to get plenty of sleep. Sleep deprivation can be very damaging to your health, and over time can cause illnesses too.

In fact, a study of over 100 students at

St. Lawrence University in Canton, N.Y., showed that when college students didn't get enough sleep or had restless or poor sleep habits, it resulted in them getting lower GPAs.

Lastly, make sure that you take time for yourself. Reward yourself for achievements you make along the way to your goal.

Go to a movie, treat yourself to dinner, buy a CD, or get a massage. The list is endless.

Let's learn from what Jack said.

Sometimes it takes an insignificant scene in a movie to help us see what significant changes we can make in our lives to avoid "burning" or stressing ourselves out.

It's also much easier (and cheaper) to prevent a stress-related illness than to treat one that has already developed.



## Talking about trading

*North American panel discusses politics, international relations*

By ADAM ROBERTS  
Staff Intern

All of North America was accounted for at a panel discussion Oct. 11, which spread the word about the new international relations major at Oakland University.

The panel was composed of Mexican Consul General Vicente Sanchez of the Detroit Consulate, Public Affairs Officer for the Canadian Consulate Dennis Moore and state Sen. John Pappageorge.

All of the speakers shared a common message: the importance of learning a second language and being a global citizen.

"It's necessary to study the world," Sanchez said.

Pappageorge started the discussion with a personal story about his years in the U.S. Army where he helped broker peace between Greece and Turkey.

Pappageorge said that it sometimes is unpredictable when having a background in international relations can help you with your job.

He said he never thought he would end up in the position that he's in.

Pappageorge also spoke on the state's place in the global economy.

"We need to change laws to make Michigan friendlier to business," Pappageorge said.

Many foreign companies go to other states because the process is quicker and easier elsewhere, he said.

Continuing the discussion on trade, Moore pointed out the partnership between Michigan and Canada.

He said Michigan is Canada's top trading partner, and Canada is the top energy provider for the state.

Sanchez also spoke of trading, mentioning how Michigan is the third largest state trading partner with Mexico, behind only California and Texas.

But the discussion was not without some disagreement.

When asked about local jobs being

moved to Mexico, Sanchez said it was due to "shifting unemployment."

Moore and Sanchez also criticized America's efforts to tighten border security.

Moore was unhappy about the upcoming requirement of a passport when traveling to Canada.

Sanchez also said efforts such as building fences along the U.S.-Mexico border were counterproductive.

But the discussion also focused on the importance of an international relations major at OU.

Sanchez said everyone will come in contact with people from different cultures who speak different languages.

"In every field, from biology to engineering, it's important to study cultures from around the world," Sanchez said.

Moore added, "It's an imperative to learn other people's cultures, just to survive in the future. You can become more competitive professionally by having something other job seekers don't."

The OU international relations major has 24 declared students in its first year — more than double the goal amount, according to political science professor Paul Kubicek, who heads the program.

"It's a cross-curricular program with students taking classes in a variety of fields," Kubicek said. "Students also have to become proficient in a foreign language."

In addition to these requirements, students must complete an internship. The program encourages travel.

For example, one student accepted an internship with the CIA.

And Sanchez said students were welcome to apply for an internship with the Mexican Consulate.

Provost Virinder Moudgil started the evening with a goal: to make every OU student a global citizen.

Kubicek and others invested in the new program said they hope the panel discussion goes a long way toward making that goal a reality.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post  
Michigan Sen. John Pappageorge, left, and Mexican Consul General Vicente Sanchez listen at the panel talk.



# Time capsule, photo contest wrap-up WOCOU

By JESSE DUNSMORE  
Senior Reporter

A handful of students, staff and faculty watched the presentation of Oakland University's Digital Student Time Capsule Oct. 12 in the Fireside Lounge, which coincided with the final day of voting for the 50th Anniversary Digital Photography Contest.

The time capsule presentation, less than five minutes long, was shown twice.

The presentation was a slideshow of images related to various student organizations on campus, including scenes from last year's Greek Week and last month's student rally in Lansing for increased higher education funding.

According to Coordinator of Student Leadership Development Jean Szura, only 10 student organizations submitted photos.

But the Center for Student Activities staff found other photos on organization Web sites.

Copies of the slideshow are to be given to student organizations on DVD, Szura said.

On the opposite side of the lounge, students helped themselves to coffee and flavored syrups while examining copies of digital photo contest entries hung nearby.

According to CSA Director Jean Ann Miller, the photo contest was open to all students, faculty and staff.

Only students entered the contest, Miller said.

The photos, taken between Sept. 1 and Oct. 3, featured scenes on OU's campus as well as other images related to OU.

The photos entered were allowed to be digitally enhanced using whatever techniques were available to the photographer.

Student attendees then were able to vote for their favorite photographs via secret ballot.

Another vote was taken throughout the week with ballots from CSA staff.

Each round of voting was to generate first- and second-place winners.

The same two students — Eric Zaleski and Barbara Klocko — won the top two awards from both the student vote and the CSA vote.

As a result, they will receive the combined prizes from each round of voting: \$200 in Spiritcash for Zaleski in first place, and \$100 in Spiritcash for Klocko in second place.

Zaleski, a senior majoring in management information systems, said he enjoys photography as a hobby.

"I knew about the contest, so I was kind of going around seeing what I



The flower photo, by student Eric Zaleski, won first place in the digital photo contest. The photo of the statue, by student Barbara Klocko, won second place.

could do," he said.

Zaleski's winning entry was a color-edited photograph of flowers shot behind the Meadow Brook Mansion.

Zaleski said that he also entered last winter semester's photography contest — a separate event from the digital photography contest — but didn't win anything.

The time capsule and digital photo contest were part of the 13th annual Week Of Champions (aka WOCOU) at Oakland University, which lasted from Monday, Oct. 8, through Friday, Oct. 12.

"The [time capsule presentation] wasn't as grandly attended as I had hoped," Miller said.

Otherwise, she said, participation throughout the week was great.

More than 700 T-shirts were given away during the WOCOU kickoff Monday, cosponsored by the Future Alumni Network and MUSTANG.

Miller said she felt like a rock band promoter due to the number of CDs sold by Just Off Turner, a band featuring OU alumnus Phil Metzler that performed Thursday.

And ice cream actually ran out at Thursday night's root beer float event by Beer Lake, sponsored by the Residence Hall Council.

Miller said she thinks the free giveaways, along with student talent in events like the Star Search talent show on Wednesday, contributed to this year's high level of WOCOU participation.

## DESCRIBING DAD

### Mitt Romney's son visits OU

By ALEX CHERUP  
Mouthing Off Editor

Josh Romney, one of the five sons of presidential hopeful Mitt Romney, stopped by Oakland University Tuesday, Oct. 15.

Arriving around 3:30 p.m., Josh Romney joined a small group outside of the Oakland Center before walking around the area.

Campaigners offered free pizza to students, as well as Mitt Romney pamphlets.

The Pontiac-born Josh Romney was in Michigan for a couple of days.

He stopped at Oakland University to raise awareness of his father's presidential campaign.

Josh Romney, who has campaigned mostly in schools in Iowa, supports his father as the presidential candidate for college students.

"We face challenges, such as attacks from jihadists, competition from Asia and taxes that are too high," Josh Romney said. "The future is on us. He



Josh Romney

[Mitt Romney] faces the problems head on."

These visits are not the first time Josh Romney has worked to spread the campaign messages of his father.

Josh Romney has been working since 1994 to help his father meet his political

career goals.

OU students took the opportunity of his visit to try to better understand Mitt Romney's stances.

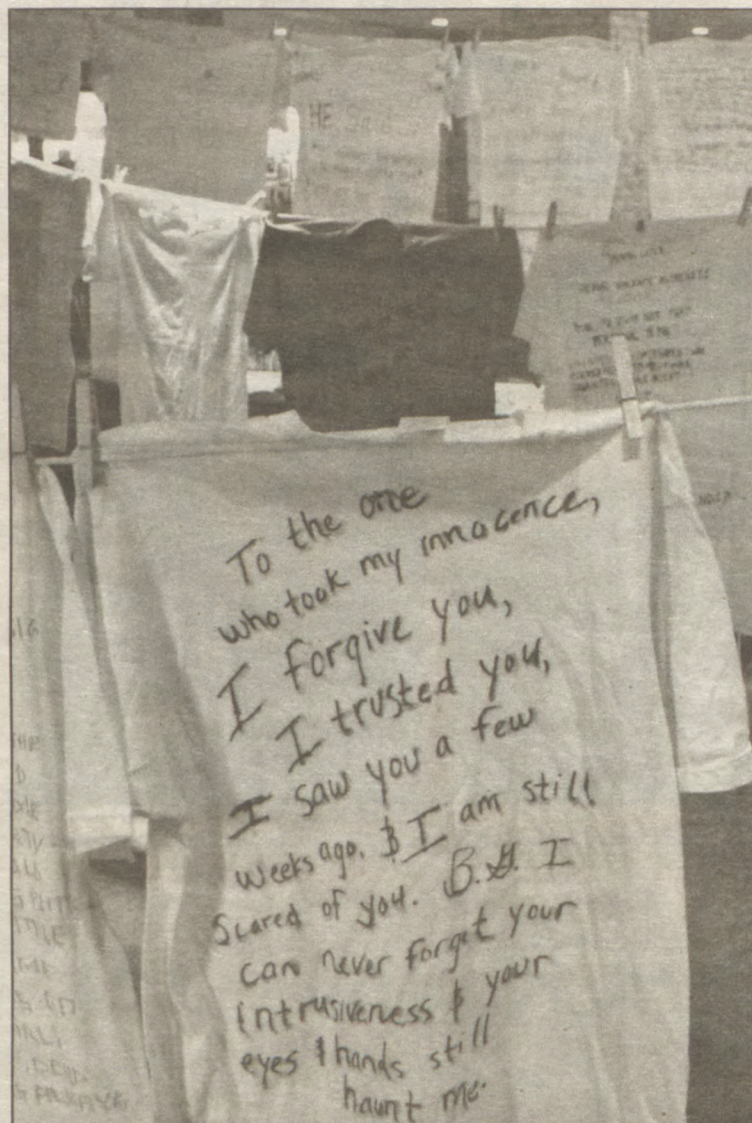
OU student Tom Cruz, a political science and business marketing major, said that he hoped to "learn more about Romney's views" from his son's visit.

Josh Romney said that he found Michigan to be supportive of his father's campaign, as many remember the Romney name.

Josh Romney's grandfather, George W. Romney, was the 43rd governor of Michigan.



## TEACHING THROUGH T-SHIRTS



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post  
The Fireside Lounge in the Oakland Center was filled with T-shirts Oct. 15 decorated with messages aimed at raising campus awareness of domestic violence against women.

## Refunds to be given for Wiesel tickets

Elie Wiesel, the Nobel Prize winning author, was unable to present the lecture scheduled for Oct. 9 at Oakland University.

To obtain a refund:

- Tickets bought with a credit card will be credited directly to the cardholder's account beginning Oct. 15 and continuing until all refunds are complete.
- Those who paid in cash should return their green or blue tickets to the Center for Student Activities Service Window from Oct. 15, through Nov. 15, for a cash refund.
- Mail requests will be accepted from those who cannot get to the CSA Service Window. Green or blue tickets must include a written refund request and a self-addressed

stamped envelope. Mail to: Elie Wiesel Refund Request, 49 Oakland Center, Oakland University, Rochester, MI 48309-4401. The CSA Service Window, Center for Student Activities and Oakland University are not responsible for refunds once they are mailed.

- No refunds for red or gold tickets.

The CSA Service Window in the Oakland Center basement, is open 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. There are no refunds after Nov. 15.

In the event that the lecture is rescheduled, everyone will need to obtain new tickets.

Paul Franklin, coordinator of campus programs, said Wiesel's agent ruled out any time in 2007; he still is awaiting a response for 2008.

## POLICEFILES

The staff of the OU Bookstore reported Oct. 8 that an expensive sign located on the north end of the store had been stolen. There were two black patio chairs pushed up against the exterior of the building where the sign was located. The sign reportedly cost \$300 and another \$1,020 to install.

Blizzard Entertainment notified the Troy Police Department Oct. 8 of suicidal messages being posted in a World of Warcraft chat room. OUPD then were contacted when the

person writing the messages was identified as an OU student living off-campus. A friend notified police of a noticed change in the student's behavior since she began playing World of Warcraft. OUPD notified the Dean's Office of the incident.

OUPD was called to North Hamlin Hall Oct. 11 to investigate the strong smell of marijuana coming from a dorm room. Police found no marijuana upon searching the room. They did find two stems and a seed. One of the two students present admitted to smoking the drug and was issued a citation for use of marijuana.

# Awareness conferences to promote cyber safety

## High-tech prizes to be raffled

By C.M. GRASKI  
Senior Reporter

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, more than 200 million people owned at least one personal computer or laptop.

The National Cyber Security Alliance predicts that number now has increased by at least 100 million, which makes for an even larger pool of targets for possible attacks in cyber space.

NCSA is the go-to resource for cyber security awareness, and October is National Cyber Security Awareness Month.

"Each year, the National Cyber Security Division of the Department of Homeland Security joins with the National Cyber Security Alliance, the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center and other partners to support National Cyber Security Awareness Month, a national campaign focused on educating the American public, businesses, schools and government agencies about ways to secure their part of cyber space, computers and our nation's critical infrastructure," said Melissa Smolensky, press secretary for NCSA.

Throughout the month, several universities across the nation are to hold cyber security conferences.

The free conferences at OU are to be held in the Fireside Lounge.

They will focus on the effectiveness and necessity of antivirus software, copyright infringement and how to keep your Grizzly ID account secure.

The event is being sponsored by the Secure Client Services Department and cosponsored by OU Student Congress and the Center for Student Activities.

The Cyber Security Awareness Week is

scheduled to begin Oct. 29.

Fourier Ross, the acting director of SCS, said that the issues that are to be covered at the conferences are not rampant problems at the university.

He said, however, that securing your system and protecting your identity will help keep the numbers low.

"These issues could be a large problem though, because, take antivirus software for instance: A lot of people just don't purchase this software and think they're saving money they don't need to spend," Ross said. "The truth is that this is the most basic level of system protection you can get."

One of the conferences is to discuss this topic. Demonstrations of freeware antivirus software, such as AVG and Avira, and proper usage are to be featured.

Another tutorial session aims to demonstrate how to use Ruckus, a media downloading service.

It also is to discuss the severity of copyright infringement cases.

Used at more than 1,000 colleges nationwide, Ruckus offers free and legal music and movie downloads to students.

"The service is factored into the cost of tuition, and we decided to subscribe to this service to keep people at our university away from illegal peer-to-peer services like Limewire, Kazaa, Morpheus and Soulseek," Ross said.

An iPod nano, an Xbox 360 Platinum bundle and a \$50 gift certificate to iTunes are to be raffled off at each conference. All students are eligible to enter.

"We'll also be giving away CD-ROMs with a cyber security utility package to all who attend," Ross said.

The conferences are scheduled for Oct. 29 through Oct. 31 in the Fireside Lounge.



# OU's Ph.D. program in counseling accredited

## University, students to benefit

By TRACY WAWRZYNAK  
Staff Intern

Oakland University's doctoral program in counselor education and supervision has been awarded accreditation by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs, the accrediting division of the American Counseling Association.

According to CACREP's Web site, OU's program is one of only three accredited doctoral counseling programs in Michigan.

The other programs can be found at Western Michigan University and at Wayne State University.

OU graduates have earned doctorates in counselor education and supervision since the program started in 1998, according to the university.

"Students who graduated from the program prior to accreditation with no changes in the curriculum, however, can claim accreditation," associate professor of counseling Lisa Hawley said on CACREP's Web site.

According to the site, Hawley said that graduates of OU's program now can reap the benefits with "the skills and education necessary for entry into professional practice."

"Students can focus on their studies on leadership and counseling and train for faculty and counseling program positions while faculty gain ongoing evaluation and program improvement," Hawley said on the CACREP Web site.

"Accreditation gives OU much more power in attracting students, especially international students," Hawley said.

Susan Scott, Ph.D. and author, compared graduates of CACREP and non-CACREP accredited programs in dissertation research at the University of North Texas.

The results of her study suggested that accredited program graduates scored significantly higher than non-CACREP accredited programs on the National Counselor Examination, the National Board for Certified Counselors certification test.

In order to obtain accreditation, the university had to go through a verification process.

"OU's year-long accreditation process involved several criteria, including the application and a self study," Hawley said.

The self study involved verification of the university's curriculum and of faculty, which includes a part-time and full-time faculty of 12 licensed professional counselors and six associates.

The study also was composed of confirmation of licensed practicing clinical skills, currently enrolled students and established semester hours.

In a letter to Oakland University President Dr. Gary Russi, CACREP waived the typically-required campus visit because Oakland already holds accreditation for its master's program in community and school counseling.

CACREP's letter also said, under council policy, the doctoral program will expire in 2010 placing all of OU's counseling programs on the same accreditation cycle.

According to CACREP regulations, accreditation is valid for eight years.

Luellen Ramey, chair of the counseling program, said on OU's Web site that "accreditation by CACREP not only makes our doctoral program more attractive to national and international students who look for nationally accredited programs, it also makes our graduates more marketable as future professors."

According to OU's counseling department's Web site, the doctoral degree prepares students to "lead in the areas of advanced clinical practice, advanced school counseling practice, administration, research and supervision."

In the 2000 research dissertation at the University of North Texas, Scott said, "Students in non-accredited programs may not benefit from the depth or quality of curricula expected and provided in an accredited program."

According to the School of Education and Human Services, the application process for the doctoral program is to include a graduate coursework evaluation, professional experience, written recommendations, an examination and an interview.

Only eight students are admitted each year.

"Graduates achieve higher visibility and credibility in the field" and the "highest standard in counseling," Hawley said.

For more information, contact the School of Education and Human Services in Pawley Hall at 248-370-3050, or go to [www.oakland.edu](http://www.oakland.edu).

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# OU's next Greek organization?

## *MUSTANG on the quest to become Oakland's Sigma Lambda Beta chapter*

By JESSE DUNSMORE  
Senior Reporter

Darius Gary and Matt Thomas are hoping to make Oakland University's Greek community a little bit bigger.

Gary and Thomas, both seniors, are president and vice president of MUSTANG, a student organization that serves as an interest group at OU for Sigma Lambda Beta Fraternity, Inc.

Named for SLB's muscle-bound horse mascot, the group's name also stands for "Men Uniting Strength, Talent and Awareness for Noble Goals."

Gary, a human resource development major, has known Thomas, an elementary education major, since they lived next door to each other in the residence halls in 2003. They are now roommates in the student apartments.

Both have been actively involved on campus in a variety of ways.

Gary works for housing maintenance, and was the men's basketball team manager and an athletics event staff supervisor last year.

Thomas is an Oakland University Student Congress legislator, secretary for the Student Michigan Education Association, and supervisor for the athletics event staff.

Gary said they first decided to start MUSTANG over the break before winter semester of 2006.

"I'm like, 'Alright, what can I do to help OU's community continue in their diversity?'" said Gary. "After just spending hours and hours looking through search engines and clicking on different fraternities' Web pages, I came across this one."

Gary brought SLB to Thomas' attention, and the two liked what they saw.

According to the fraternity's Web site, [www.sigmalambdabeta.com](http://www.sigmalambdabeta.com), SLB was originally founded in 1986 by a University of Iowa student "to solidify

and unify the Latino community" on campus.

The 18 founding members based SLB on the four core principles of brotherhood, scholarship, cultural awareness and community service. Since then, 83 chapters of the multicultural fraternity have been founded in 21 states as well as Puerto Rico, seven of them in Michigan.

"Looking at [the core principles], and looking at how they are as a fraternity, as a brotherhood and everything, that's really what appealed to both of us," Gary said.

They contacted the fraternity, and after receiving an information packet, had to begin collecting information for SLB.

The fraternity wanted information about OU Greek life, as well as campus demographics and other data.

SLB declared them an official interest group that semester.

Since then, Gary and Thomas have had their initial good impression of the fraternity reinforced by offers of help from chapters nationwide.

"There's been a lot of different phone calls that we've received," said Gary, "just giving us support, advice, saying that if there's anything that we need, just don't hesitate, just give us a call, shoot us an e-mail and we'll be glad to help."

Thomas said Michigan chapters have been supportive, especially the University of Michigan chapter, which has invited the group to multiple events.

"Basically, every chapter that's close, they've been wanting to help us out."

Fraternities and sororities at OU have also been enthusiastic, Gary said, adding that he regularly receives requests from Greek organizations on campus for updates about how their quest for chapter status is coming along.

"Basically, every Greek organization on campus has been in 100 percent support behind us since day one," Thomas said.



Photo courtesy of MUSTANG

MUSTANG president Darius Gary, vice president Matt Thomas and treasurer Tom Cruz man their table at Greek Carnival this September. MUSTANG seeks to get OU students interested in Sigma Lambda Beta Fraternity. "I think it's going to bring...a new feeling to campus," Gary said.

According to Thomas, MUSTANG's purpose is to generate as much interest as possible in the form of membership, with the goal of eventually becoming a chapter of SLB.

They've tried to attract attention using fliers and Facebook. They also set up booths at information fairs, participate in events like the Greek Carnival and Greek Week, and host events of their own, according to Gary.

Their self-described "big event" is the Bumpers Bash, tentatively set for Nov. 5, when they plan on renting out the Bumpers game room in the Oakland Center and set up activities for students.

Last year, MUSTANG's Bumpers Bash included a DJ, free food and free games. This year they're considering including a Madden NFL 2008 tournament with prizes.

MUSTANG needs at least seven members in order to be interviewed by an official from the SLB. If the group is found to represent the core principles of the fraternity, they can begin membership education, a process that takes a minimum of eight weeks to teach members about the history and customs of SLB.

Following that, the group will be dubbed a "colony," and with at least 10

members, can officially become a chapter.

Although they already have seven members and several prospects, Thomas said they're still planning to participate in a few more events focused on community service and cultural awareness before pursuing the interview process.

Thomas believes SLB's presence would make students more aware of the cultural diversity on campus, especially the relatively small Latino population.

According to information MUSTANG obtained from the Center for Student Activities, as of last school year, only 262 OU students were Latino — less than two percent of the student body.

"I think it's going to bring...a new feeling to the campus," Gary said. "I think it's going to end up helping everybody recognize our Greek community a little bit more."

MUSTANG meets in the Lake Superior B room in the OC, Sundays at 7 p.m.

There are two informational meetings planned Oct. 30, at noon and at 8 p.m. in the OC. Gary and Thomas said the evening meeting will hopefully feature SLB district governor Jaden Felix. Updates are available on their Facebook page, <http://oakland.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2204546790>.



# Why buy when you can DIY?

By C.L. NELSON  
Lead Ads Manager

Gum-wrapper chains, Duct tape wallets and bedroom boredom re-vamps might seem like your run-of-the mill craft project.

However, it could be your first run in with Do-It-Yourself culture, or DIY as it is more commonly known.

The idea DIY can encompass many things and include a variety of techniques. Independent record labels and magazines have played a part in developing DIY culture.

While DIY may be associated with alternative culture, it's ideology stems from original thought and creativity.

The projects that most associate with DIY culture today are graphic and stenciled T-shirts, deconstructed clothing and re-upholstery/home improvement.

Heather Grady, an Oakland University senior, started DIYing when she was 18 years old. She still remembers her first project, where she "took a sweatshirt and turned it into an urban deconstruction piece."

Grady described her urban deconstruction piece as "an urban, slightly futuristic piece, although it's not quite in style anymore."

Since then Grady has started and completed many projects, "I always have several projects waiting in the wings," she said.

"Occasionally I'll take stuff from thrift stores and garage sales and try to make them some kind of art," she said.

Junior Nicole Wright considers herself

somewhat of a DIYer. "I'm not hard core," she said, "but I do [DIY]."

Wright said she mostly does crafts or more mechanical things and that it makes her feel independent.

"I like to fix things. I like knowing that I could fix things if I needed to," she said.

Both Grady and Wright have noticed interest in Metro Detroit's DIY scene is expanding.

"I know that it's growing," Wright said. "It saves a lot of money."

There are many outlets and opportunities for local DIYers in the Metro Detroit community.

"I think [Metro Detroit] provides an amazing venue. There are a lot of independently owned galleries, not to mention the different craft festivals," Grady said.

On [www.handmadedetroit.com](http://www.handmadedetroit.com), Handmade Detroit describes itself as "a loose collective for people who like to make stuff."

Handmade Detroit is responsible for the Detroit Urban Craft Fair, the Handmade Detroit Holiday market and their midday Sunday "Crafternoons."

According to Grady, DIY lifestyle is nothing new. "Although it was underground for a while, people are still doing it, but it's kind of lost its wow factor."

Grady said that mainstream culture has affected the DIY lifestyle.

"There are still people out there making amazing creations — it was always taking something old and making something new again."

"You just have to be confident that you can create something," Grady said.

## DIY RECORD BOWL

Recycle your dusty old records by making a funky bowl.

Materials: Oven, baking sheet, steel bowl, old record and oven mitts

1. Preheat oven to 200-250 degrees Fahrenheit. Flip bowl upside down on baking sheet. Put record on top of bowl.

2. Place record, bowl and baking sheet in the oven for five minutes and pull out.

3. Quickly and carefully flip bowl over and mold record inside to your desired shape. You will have a few seconds before vinyl starts to harden, so work quickly.

\*Record will not be hot, but metal bowl will be.

4. Pull record out of bowl and let harden. Use it for knick-knacks, a fruit bowl or change.



Other possible things to do with your parents' vinyl: make coasters, bracelets, shelving and more.

Source: <http://www.metacafe.com/watch/317156/>

All photos by C.L. NELSON/The Oakland Post

## Caught reading The Post



The goods:  
a Caribou  
Coffee gift card

**Name:** Christina Linguini  
**Major:** Communication  
**Year:** Senior  
**What she's reading:**  
"Wiesel lecture postponed"  
**Favorite section in The Post:**  
The Scene

**Name:** Justin Chipman  
**Major:** Communication  
**Year:** Senior  
**What he's reading:**  
"New theater season promises  
something for all"  
**Favorite section in The Post:**  
You



The goods:  
a Blockbuster  
gift card



The goods:  
a Barnes &  
Noble gift  
card

**Name:** Laura Dyszynski  
**Major:** Anthropology  
**Year:** Senior  
**What she's reading:**  
"New outdoor mall to open on  
Hall Road"  
**Favorite section in The Post:**  
Local



## What is your favorite thing to do around Halloween?



"PUMPKIN PICKING. IT IS SOMETHING I HAVE ALWAYS DONE WITH MY FAMILY."  
ASHLEY MARTHEN  
FRESHMEN, HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT



"GO TOWARDS TILSON STREET BACK IN ROMEO."  
EMILY SCHROEDER  
SOPHOMORE, HISTORY



"PREPARING FOR HALLOWEEN AND PUTTING UP DECORATIONS. I JUST LIKE THE FALL ATMOSPHERE."  
COSTA BOULOS  
FRESHMAN, ACCOUNTING



"GO TO COSTUME PARTIES. IT IS A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO DRESS UP AND IT'S FUN."  
MARY CHISENWA  
JUNIOR, NURSING

### Haunted Houses

**SLAUGHTER AT SUNDOWN**  
LOCATION: 71800 ROMEO PLANK,  
ROMEO  
PRICE: \$12  
WEBSITE: [WWW.SLAUGHTERATSUNDOWN.NET](http://WWW.SLAUGHTERATSUNDOWN.NET)

**SCAREGROUNDS AT THE FAIR GROUNDS**  
LOCATION: MICHIGAN STATE FAIR  
GROUNDS, 8 MILE AND WOODWARD,  
DETROIT  
PRICE: \$13  
WEBSITE: [WWW.SCAREGROUNDS.ORG](http://WWW.SCAREGROUNDS.ORG)

**EREBUS**  
LOCATION: 18 WATER ST., PONTIAC  
PRICE: \$20  
WEBSITE: [WWW.HAUNTEDPONTIAC.COM](http://WWW.HAUNTEDPONTIAC.COM)

**DEADLY INTENTIONS**  
LOCATION: 20900 DEQUINDER,  
WARREN  
PRICE: \$13 ADULTS  
WEBSITE: [WWW.DEADLYINTENTIONSHAUNT.COM](http://WWW.DEADLYINTENTIONSHAUNT.COM)

### POP CULTURE COUPLE COSTUMES

1. SEXY SPOCK AND CAPTAIN KIRK DERIVED FROM "STAR TREK"
2. LEELA AND FRY FROM "FUTURAMA"
3. BRITNEY SPEARS AND K-FED PRE OR POST SHAVED HEAD
4. NANCY KERRIGAN AND TONYA HARDING OR CHAZZ MICHAEL MICHAELS AND JIMMY MACELROY
5. KELLY AND ZACK FROM "SAVED BY THE BELL"
6. MS. SOUTH CAROLINA AND A MAP OR MS. SOUTH CAROLINA AND A BEWILDERED PERSON
7. YOUR FAVORITE YOU TUBE VIDEO

7  
Select

### WORD OF THE WEEK:

# Superfluous

**Superfluous:** being more than is sufficient

soo-pur-floo-uhs

**Example:** The superfluous coverage of celebrities' private lives in the news detracts from important issues.

**Source:** [www.merriam-webster.com](http://www.merriam-webster.com)



# The Buzz On: Last minute, cheap and easy costume ideas

By LAURYN TORINA  
Contributing Reporter

## 1. Chick Magnet (Men only)

If you have a younger sister who was interested in Barbie, she probably has a million of them. Here's a costume to put those old dolls to good use.

### Supplies Needed

- An old pair of pants
- Old shirt (a sweat suit could work great)
- A bunch of Barbie dolls. (If you have none you can go to the dollar store and pick up a bunch of cheap ones for next to nothing. Or you can use peeps (the spring time treat).
- Hot glue gun or some form of strong adhesive

### Step 1

Take your dolls or peeps and glue them all over your clothes.

## 2. Smartie Pants

Not for those with a sweet tooth.

### Supplies Needed

- An old pair of pants
- Lots of smarties- go to Costco or a bulk candy store to get the most for your money
- Hot glue gun or strong adhesive

### Step 1

Glue smarties all over your pants.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/ The Oakland Post  
Smarties help make a great costume and offer a cure for the late night munchies after the night the costume is worn.

### Step 2

For added fun dress like a geek on top. Glasses, pocket protectors etc.

This costume is easy and sure to receive some laughs.

## 3. Statue of Liberty

Be patriotic and festive

### Supplies Needed

- White or grey sheet
- Flash light
- A book
- Aluminum foil
- Batteries

### Step 1

Drap the sheet over one shoulder and under the other armpit.

### Step 2

Fashion a crown made of aluminum foil.

### Step 3

Double check your flash light has batteries and grab a book

### Step 4

For added effect buy gray body paint for your arms, face and hair.

## What is your favorite Halloween costume?



"MY FAVORITE WAS WHEN I WAS A DEVIL IN 6TH GRADE."  
ANDREW KUHS  
GRAD SCHOOL, EDUCATION



"I ALWAYS LIKE GETTING OLD WEDDING DRESSES AND MAKING MYSELF 'MS. HALLOWEEN'"  
DEANNA WALLER  
JUNIOR, COOLEY LAW



"A SCHOOL GIRL. I THINK IT IS FUN TO BE A SCHOOL GIRL."  
BRITANY COLONNA  
JUNIOR, PHYSICAL THERAPY



"MY FAVORITE WAS BEING A NINJA. I WAS A NINJA THREE YERS IN A ROW."  
WILLIAM HAWKINS  
SOPHOMORE, BUSINESS/ ACCOUNTING



"SUPERWOMAN. I'VE NEVER BEEN SUPERWOMAN BUT I'M LOOKING FOR A GOOD COSTUME THIS HALLOWEEN."  
SAMANTHA BINGHAM  
JUNIOR, DANCE



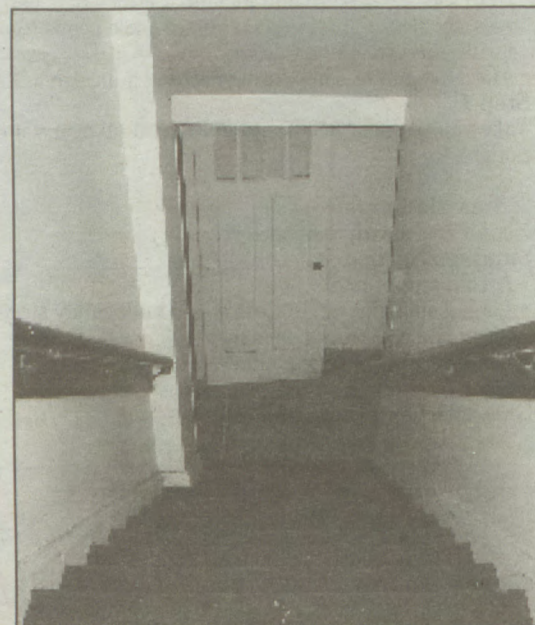
## Special Feature

## FRAT HOUSE HAUNTINGS



NICK DEGEL/ The Oakland Post

O. J. Beaudette's wife committed suicide on the third floor of this mansion, now an Oakland University's frat houses.



NICK DEGEL/ The Oakland Post

The stairwell to the basement where many of the brothers have reported eerie happenings and odd experiences.

By NICK DEGEL  
Senior Reporter

Aside from its location well off of campus, the Theta Chi fraternity house operates like any other.

Just a couple blocks west of downtown Pontiac, the house exists as a living space for some of the brothers and a hangout for the rest.

The rooms are more inviting than the usual dorm while still maintaining that quintessential college clutter. On some walls you see pictures of past chapters; on others, the fraternity letters are painted in bold colors.

The atmosphere is also what you would expect from a house full of guys. The mild ribbing that follows a strange comment, the common disputes over the laundry and kitchen schedule.

But something is different about the house itself.

Built around the turn of the century and located in a historic portion of Pontiac, it shows many symptoms of an old period home. "Because the house is so old, there are things we're not even allowed to replace, so things go wrong frequently," said former president and OU alum Justin Howland.

It was the residence of Oliver Joseph Beaudette, founder of the O. J. Beaudette

carriage company, in 1913. Beaudette's plant, formerly located in what is now Rotary Park, inked one of the earliest contracts with the Ford Motor Company to make bodies for their famous Model T, according to coachbuilt.com.

Inside Beaudette's old house something splits the brothers into two factions: the believers and the nonbelievers.

"It'd say it's about 50/50 with people who actually think they've legitimately seen and heard stuff in the house, and other people like me who don't believe anything close to it," Howland said. "I've lived here for three years and I've never had a problem with it."

After Beaudette's death in 1944, his widow Louise continued to live in the house. In 1954, for reasons unknown, she took her own life in the master bathroom on the second floor of the house. It is believed that her ghost haunts what is now the Theta Chi fraternity house.

Those who claim to have seen or heard strange things usually sight two areas: the third floor and the basement.

The third floor is an attic converted into living space, and is considered by some to be a hotspot for supernatural activity. Since the fraternity bought the house in 1986, people have held séances and brought Ouija boards up to the attic.

"Mostly people see stuff on the third

floor," Howland said. "One of our new members last year was up there when people were doing a Ouija board and came down crying because he saw things."

Paul Vance also recalls stories from past brothers living on the third floor. "Someone living up there opened his door and saw balloons suspended in mid air," Vance said. "Supposedly they weren't helium filled or anything, they were just hovering about head level."

The laundry room in the basement is where Vance personally experienced something he cannot explain completely. At around three in the morning, Vance was doing some laundry with no one else in the house when he began to hear noises.

"We have a motion sensor that turns on the hallway light down there," Vance said. "I saw something move in my peripheral vision and the light turned on, then, as soon as I went over there, the light turned off."

At that point, Vance felt it was best to finish his laundry later.

"I've gone down there to check out the boiler," said current president Jack Arens. "As soon as I get back there, the lights will shut off and I'll yell out and sometimes they'll just switch back on. You just can't explain some of the things

that happen in this house."

There is also some speculation as to who exactly haunts the house. An entity affectionately referred to as Walter has been blamed for many peculiar happenings.

"We're not sure if it's the ghost of the widow like the story says, but (the name) is sort of an inside joke since the new guys got here," Howland said. "Stuff has a tendency to disappear around here and never be found."

According to Howland, the house has been on the list of Michigan hauntings since the 1980s.

Shadowlands Haunted Places Index includes the house, though with a drastically different version of the haunting.

Shadowlands cites a construction fire on the third floor that claimed the lives of some workers as the central cause of the ghost sightings. It includes eye witness accounts that are far more extreme than anything the current brothers have experienced or even heard.

Still, Howland has an explanation for the stories that seem to never go away. "Basically it's for people who let their own imagination run wild," said the OU graduate. "When you're alone in the house it will make noises, but it's an old house."



# Sports

October 17, 2007

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17

## OU struck by Madnezz

*Basketball teams make 2007-08 debut at the O'Rena*

By SAMANTHA FRANZ  
Sports Editor

Oakland University basketball fans were treated to a variety of new things at the 2007 edition of Midnite Madnezz: new logo T-shirts, a new and improved Grizz mascot and, get this, a new radio deal.

Mario Impemba, best known for his call of Detroit Tigers baseball on Fox Sports Detroit, was introduced as the voice of the Golden Grizzlies to thousands of excited Golden Grizzly fans to kick off the pep rally last Friday, Oct. 12.

Impemba announced to the roaring crowd that a minimum of three games will be televised on FSN Detroit this season and 15 home games will be broadcast on 1310 AM radio.

From there, the "madnezz" continued, with performances from OU's dance groups, FYI and Intrigue, as well as high-energy numbers from OU's cheer team and Images dance team.

Oakland's other Division I athletic teams were given props as well, with each team running out to the court upon introduction and tossing OU apparel into the crowd.

After some words from student congress president Rob Meyer, the lights dimmed and it was time to meet the new Grizz mascot.

A video was shown of the men's basketball head coach Greg Kampe getting the new mascot fired up and when the video ended, the Grizz walked out onto the court along with members of the Grizz Gang, OU's student section.

Then, finally, the the 2007-08 Golden Grizzly

basketball teams were introduced. After a high-light video, the men's and women's players were introduced together, each one throwing OU gear into the audience when their name was called.

After Kampe and head women's coach Beckie Francis said a few words, both teams held a five-minute demonstration, complete with drills and high-flying slam dunks, a delight for the excited crowd.

"The atmosphere was just like a game," Francis said. "I'm very excited and very appreciative of the whole university for putting this event together."

Kampe echoed Francis' sentiments, calling the atmosphere, "phenomenal."

"It was pretty fun," he said, referring to his performance in the Grizz video. "But it's time to get to work now."

Throughout the pep rally, prizes of Golden Grizzly basketball tickets, Barnes and Noble awards, restaurant gift certificates and even a 23-inch flat screen TV were given away in frequent drawings.

The giveaways aroused some displeasure in the crowd after seven of the 10 book prizes went to students involved in athletics.

Prior to the pep rally, a block party at the P-16 parking lot got fans ready for action, complete with a DJ, free food and gifts. An after-glow event, with more music and dancing, kept pumped up OU fans busy after the events in the O'Rena.

See more photos and  
information on page 21



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

The Grizz waves to cheering fans at the Midnite Madnezz pep rally after being introduced by a video last Friday night.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

Keith Benson throws down a dunk during a five-minute demonstration at the O'Rena.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

Mario Impemba, the new voice of the Golden Grizzlies, acts as the master of ceremonies for the pep rally.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

The FYI dance group was part of the entertainment to get the crowd pumped up at Midnite Madnezz.



# Making the late jump

*2003 high school graduate Jamie Hulet is making an impact as a walk-on*

By DAN TALLANT  
Staff Intern

A two-goal performance Sunday from senior Jamie Hulet helped lift Oakland past the University of Detroit-Mercy and moved her into second-place on the team in goals, assists and points this season.

Hulet, a four-year varsity soccer player from L'Anse Creuse High School, has aided Oakland by notching three goals, two assists, and seven points thus far.

Although Hulet is a senior on the team, this is her first year playing soccer for the Golden Grizzlies.

Hulet was scouted by Oakland and other colleges out of high school but decided to opt out of playing soccer at the collegiate level.

"I loved playing soccer, but I didn't feel as though I cared about it enough at the time to be much of an asset to a college team," Hulet said.

Signs pointed to Hulet's competitive soccer career ending after graduating high school, but she didn't give up the game entirely. She continued playing indoor soccer in a coed league and was getting some attention from her opponents.

"Some of the people I was playing with were wondering why I wasn't playing at a higher level," Hulet said. "It was in that league where I started to realize that I could do it."

Hulet's regained interest in continuing her career can be credited to the talk from her coed teammates and opponents.

Fortunately for Oakland head coach Nick O'Shea was contacted by Hulet, seeking a tryout to hopefully gain

a spot on the roster. She was then instructed by an excited O'Shea to a make-shift tryout.

"We had her start practicing with us," O'Shea said. "We just worked her in to the rotation and she seemed to mesh well."

It is a big jump from playing in an indoor coed league to playing in NCAA Division I, said Hulet. Skill, however, was not the problem that Hulet was faced with.

"Getting into shape was the hardest part," Hulet said. "Even now, I think my stamina is the weakest part of my game."

After Hulet practiced with the team and got her fitness level back to where it needed to be, she was offered a spot on the team as a forward.

Having Hulet on the field, according to O'Shea, gives Oakland more speed up top.

"She is a very active player," he said. "She does an excellent job of holding the ball."

Having played in all 13 games this season and the fact that Hulet hadn't played competitive soccer in three years was starting catching up to her. "I was definitely feeling my lower endurance level in these last few games," Hulet said.

Hulet is quickly becoming one of the Golden Grizzlies top threats. With Hulet being a senior walk-on, she unfortunately has only one year of eligibility for Oakland.

Hulet looks to help Oakland continue its quest at making the Summit League tournament at the end of the season by playing Southern Utah Friday at 4 p.m. at home.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post  
Senior Jamie Hulet (13) battles against Detroit-Mercy this past weekend. Hulet walked on to the team this season and is currently second in points on the team.

## Women's soccer trounces the Titans

By ROB TATE  
Assistant Sports Editor

The Oakland University women's soccer team continued its hot streak Sunday afternoon, beating the University of Detroit-Mercy, 3-1.

The win extends their unbeaten streak, which dates back to Sept. 28 when Oakland defeated IUPUI. During the stretch, the Golden Grizzlies are 4-0-1, and out-scored their opponents 9-4.

Senior Jamie Hulet got things going early taking a pass from freshman Meghan Hartwig in the seventh minute for the first goal of the game.

Detroit would respond 21 minutes later when Titan Emily Kiely beat freshman goalkeeper Elizabeth Watza.

Hulet would help Oakland regain the lead for good early in the second half as she scored with the assist going to sophomore Jennifer Curtis. It was Curtis' first point of the season. Hulet has three goals on the season.

Sophomore Lindsey Blair sealed the deal for the Golden Grizzlies with her first career collegiate goal. Sophomore Courtney McCracken was credited with the assist on the play, her first of the season as well.

Watza and junior goalkeeper Kim Herbst split duties in net; Herbst got the win for entering the game in the second half when the game was tied. Herbst wasn't challenged at all, facing zero shots in the half.

Watza had one save in the first half.

Oakland only allowed three shots the entire game. Oakland had 18 shots on the game, 14 in which were fired in the second half.

The win bumps Oakland's record up to 6-6-1 overall this season, 4-2 in Summit League action. The Golden Grizzlies look to continue the hot streak against Southern Utah Friday at 4 p.m. at OU's Soccer Field. OU then travels to face the Big Ten's Indiana University, Sunday.

### THE GRIZZ FILES



JAMIE HULET

2003 graduate of L'Anse Creuse High School in Mt. Clemens

Four-time all-conference selection

Conference and team MVP as a senior

All-district and all-county selection

Lettered in volleyball and tennis

Information and Photo courtesy of OU Athletics



# Offensive outburst

*Oakland nets four goals in Summit League win at Centenary*

By **ROB TATE**

Assistant Sports Editor

Playing without your leading scorer is usually a daunting task for any soccer team.

The men's soccer team took to the road last week with a non-conference game at Ohio State and then a Summit League game at Centenary College in Shreveport, LA last Saturday afternoon.

Oakland (6-4-2, 3-0) fell to the Buckeyes last Wednesday, but more importantly won the conference game at Centenary, as of Tuesday, Oakland was in first place in the Summit League.

Oakland had to travel without their top goal-scorer, sophomore Sebbby Harris who stayed home due to an illness.

The Golden Grizzlies, with a patch work lineup, came up just short at Ohio State by a score of 2-1.

"Our lineup wasn't quite what it is normally," Oakland head coach Gary Parsons said.

On top of Harris missing, Parsons also benched senior defender Adam Brent who has four yellow cards on the season. A fifth yellow card would automatically suspend Brent for the next game. Parsons didn't want to risk the fifth coming against the Buckeyes to be sure that Brent could play in the more meaningful Centenary game Saturday.

Also missing was junior midfielder Piotr Nowak who received his fifth yellow card on Oct. 6 against Oral Roberts.

"I give the kids a lot of credit. They came out and played quiet hard. The first half was very even. It ended up 1-1," Parsons said. "I felt the

officiating on the night was very poor."

Parsons referred to a play in which one of his players was slide tackled from behind and the Buckeye player was not given a red card on the play. Parsons was also unhappy with the 15 fouls called on Oakland to Ohio State's seven in the second half.

Scoring for Oakland was sophomore Stew Givens for his third goal of the season off a pass from junior defender Logan Lyon.

Junior goalkeeper Steve Clark had five saves in defeat.

There was an explosion of offense on Saturday at Centenary. Four goals were scored, the most in any game this season for the Golden Grizzlies.

"Leading into the game against Centenary, we had had not scored hardly any goals in the flow of play. All of our goals had come from set pieces. We got three out of the four goals in the flow of play. So that was nice to see," Parsons said.

Senior Michael Reyes scored his first two goals of the season, the first and the last (with one second left in the game) of the game to lead the way.

Givens added another goal for his fourth of the season and Nowak earned his first goal of the season in his return to the team from the one game suspension.

Reyes added an assist on the Nowak goal for his fifth point of the game. Brent assisted on Givens' goal.

Clark made two saves against the Gentlemen.

Oakland travels to East Lansing on Wednesday to play Michigan State and then they host Summit League newcomer IPFW Saturday at 1 p.m. at the OU Soccer Field.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post  
Michael Reyes (seen here last month against Michigan) is fourth on the team in points with six this season.

## GRIZZ OF THE WEEK

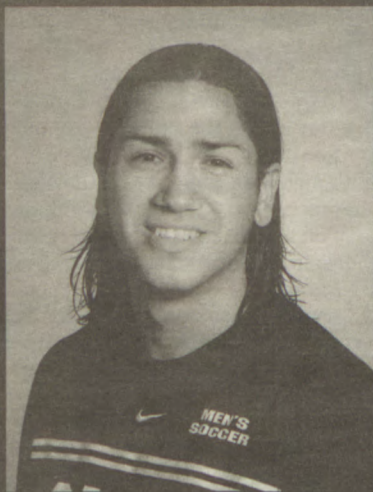


Photo Courtesy of Oakland Athletics

**Michael Reyes**  
Men's Soccer

**Year: Senior**  
**Major: Communication**

Reyes led the Golden Grizzlies attack against Centenary College last Saturday with two goals, including the game winner in the fifth minute

## MEN'S SOCCER NEWS AND NOTES

Senior forward Michael Reyes was named Summit League Offensive Player of the Week. Reyes had two goals and one assist in two games this week. He is the second Golden Grizzly in the last three weeks to win the honor. Sebbby Harris earned the honor the week of Oct. 1.

Sebbby Harris is tied for second in the Summit League in goals scored with five. Stew Givens is tied for fourth with four goals scored.

Oakland is 6-3 all-time against Michigan State since the Golden Grizzlies joined NCAA Division I in 1998. Oakland defeated the Spartans last season, 2-1. Michigan State is coming off an impressive victory over University of Michigan last Sunday, beating the Wolverines 5-0.

The Golden Grizzlies have faced IPFW only once, coming away with a 1-0 victory over the Mastodons in 2001.

— Rob Tate, Assistant Sports Editor



# Downward spiral

*Volleyball continues to drop league matches*

By **BRITTANY OCHTINSKY**  
Senior Reporter

After being swept by both Western Illinois and UMKC on the road last weekend, Oakland University's volleyball team found out the hard way that the motto, "you only play as well as you practice," really is true.

With three of the team's four middle hitters and a setter missing from practice all week, due to injury and personal reasons, the Golden Grizzlies weren't as prepared for the weekend's match ups as they would have liked.

Aside from the injured Katy Wilson and Nikki Pawson, Jessica Allera and Monica Frechen were absent for practice, but both rejoined the team for the matches.

"They didn't have the opportunity to watch the film and go over the scouting reports and execute the things we like to do in a typical week," said head coach Rob Beam. "When you have three players in a position out of four that are all absent for an entire week of practice, you're going to have challenges getting ready to play."

Friday night, the Western Illinois Westwinds defeated Oakland by scores of 30-22, 30-18 and 30-18. The Grizzlies tried to

bounce back the next night against UMKC and came close, but were unable to win a game in the series. The closest the Grizzlies would come was in the second game, where they were edged out by the slightest margin, 32-30. The Kangaroos also came up with 30-27 and 30-24 wins.

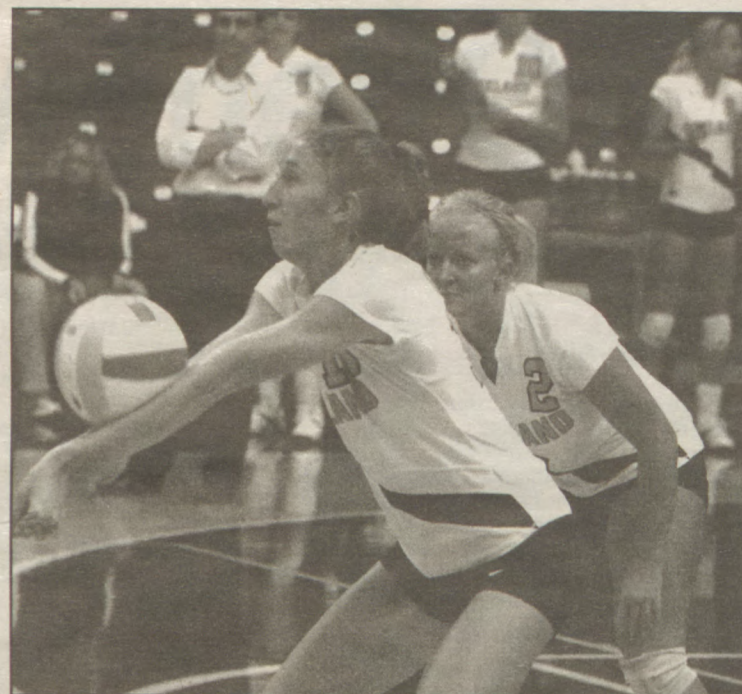
Coming off the previous weekend's split with IUPUI and North Dakota State, in what Beam considered to be the best two consecutive matches of the season, it really became clear what the team needs to address in the coming weeks.

"Our team has played very consistently at home and we've struggled to play with that same consistency on the road," said Beam.

"That's something we need to work on for the three matches we have left on the road in the regular season."

And despite the team's struggles, Lauren Duquette still manages to shine.

"In each match, she's the most consistent and stable player that we have and probably the most consistent libero in the conference," said Beam. "That's something we need to be able to rally around and use her energy and consistency to play better on the road."



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post  
Junior outside hitter Amy Golem sets up a play while freshman Brittany Dunn (2) stands by. Golem leads the team with 187 kills on the season.

Friday night's match-up against Centenary will be Parent's Night at the O'Rena. The pep band and cheer team will be present to cheer the Golden Grizzlies on.

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Chuck & Larry"  
Outside the OC (across from Bear Lake) 9PM

## Give and take

*Club hockey pulls even over weekend*

By **BRITTANY OCHTINSKY**  
Senior Reporter

As a perennial powerhouse that packs the Bird Arena in Athens, the Ohio Bobcats created a unique playing experience, but the Golden Grizzlies stood up to the challenge.

Both Friday and Saturday's games were decided by a single goal, 3-2 both nights, and each "OU," Oakland and Ohio, emerged with a victory.

Friday night's game was determined in the final 18 seconds of play after Ohio scored the go-ahead goal. With just over a minute to play, Oakland took two penalties, including a bench minor, to give the Bobcats a 5-on-3 advantage, which they capitalized on. Kevin Kranker and Brent Cooper had goals for Oakland and Collin Chase made 29 saves in net.

"Friday night, that was on the coaching staff," said head coach Sean Hogan. "But the guys ruled right back the next night and we won 3-2, so that puts us back into the thick of things."

Down 1-0 in the second period of Saturday's game, Jarrett Samp and Tony Yearego scored two minutes apart to put the Grizzlies in the lead.

Ohio responded, but Garrett

Kondratek finished off the Bobcats with his goal in the third. Chase turned aside 33 shots for his third win of the season.

"We played our best two games of the year, everybody was giving it 100 percent," Hogan said. "Collin Chase did great. We had goals from five different guys. Our penalty kill was phenomenal, (Derek) Baker and Kyle (McMahon) are doing really well killing penalties and finishing their checks."

As one of the up-and-coming teams in the ACHA's Division I, Oakland hopes to one day create the same environment that Ohio offers.

With a rink on campus and the ability to practice every day, that's already one up on the Grizzlies who play a short distance from Oakland and practice only twice a week.

"Everything they do is first-class; from the rink on campus to the way they handle themselves off the ice," said Hogan. "We want to get our program to that level, to earn the same kind of respect they have in their community. Like I tell our guys, we have to work five times as hard as the next team because we don't have what they do."



From page 17

## Students displeased with prize distribution

By PAUL GULLY  
Managing Editor

While the majority of Friday night's Midnight Madnezz was considered a success by the over 1,500 in attendance, a number of students were both disgruntled and disappointed by the distribution of prizes that were given away at the event.

While no official count was completed as of Tuesday, according to numerous sources, of the 10 \$300 Barnes and Noble gift cards that were awarded, as many as six or seven went to students who had athletic ties, including cheerleaders and dance-team members.

"It was definitely surprising in terms of how it panned out," said Jean Ann Miller, Oakland University's director of the Center for Student Activities. "We were all surprised by the outcome."

Miller and several administration members pointed out that they did not believe the results were, in any, way deliberate.

"It was just the luck of the draw," said Tracy Huth, OU's athletic director. "Student athletes were eligible just like any other students," he added.

During the awarding of the Barnes and Noble prizes, attendees began to voice their

displeasure.

When the night's final prize, a plasma-screen television, was awarded to someone who has been described by those in attendance as an "older gentleman," a chorus of boos ensued. The recipient has yet to be verified as an OU student.

Following the event, Student Body President Rob Meyer received several complaints from students who were angry about the prize distribution.

Dance-team member Cristina Malizia, who took part in the events, said, "I did think it was kind of unfair. ... From the feedback from the crowd, I knew they were pretty upset. I wish [the prizes] would have went out to more students."

OUTV Video Resource Coordinator and Producer Scott Burke did point out that "a good number of people who weren't there were called upon," so they had to draw another name.

"[OU President] Gary Russi actually reached in and picked the names, so I don't see how it could have been rigged," Burke added.

A review of the event, which is done every year, is to be completed later this week by Midnight Madnezz planners and coordinators.

## More Madnezz



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

Fans watch the highlight video of the players before they are introduced to the crowd.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

The pep band gets the crowd in the mood to cheer with favorites such as "Hey Baby" and the OU fight song.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

DJ Dan Levin spins some tunes at the tailgate party before the pep rally last Friday night.

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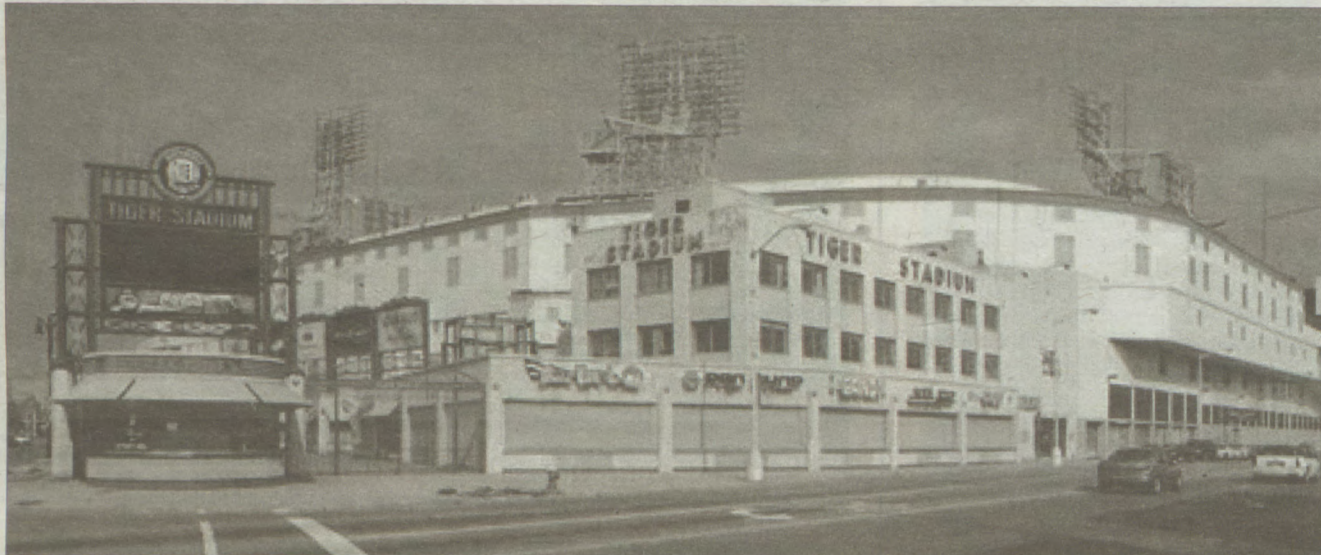
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CARLOS OSORIO/The Associated Press

Tiger Stadium has sat as an abandoned landmark since the Tigers left it eight years ago. City officials continue to debate what to do with the building, though it seems that at least part of it will be torn down. The question is, what will be preserved? What will take the old stadium's place?

## Tiger Stadium's fate becomes clearer

By COREY WILLIAMS  
Associated Press Writer

The Detroit Tigers abandoned the 95-year-old ballpark at the corner of Michigan and Trumbull eight years ago. Ever since, city leaders have debated the fate of the previous home of Hall of Famers such as Ty Cobb, Hank Greenberg and Al Kaline — and the site of several World Series and All-Star games.

The city of Detroit, which owns Tiger Stadium, agreed in July to hand authority of the stadium's future to the city's Economic Development Corp.

Some, though, still are fighting to make use of the historic venue.

A nonprofit group has until Monday Oct. 22 to submit plans on saving part of the stadium. In the meantime, preparations to tear down at least some of the crumbling ballpark have started.

A demolition contract could be awarded this month with actual dismantling beginning as early as mid-November. Piece-by-piece, fans have bid on items from the stadium in a monthlong online auction. The city will use proceeds from the auction to defray the costs of demolition.

Detroit has spent \$2.5 million in maintenance to Olympia Entertainment, owned by Tigers owner Mike Ilitch, on the stadium since Ilitch moved his Tigers across downtown in 2000 to Comerica Park. For many, it is a brooding symbol of blight that several cities with similarly obsolete ballparks have avoided.

Fabled Boston Garden closed to basketball and hockey in 1995 after nearly 70 years as a sports arena. It was torn down two years later. Proposals have surfaced for offices and condos on the site.

Chicago's old Comiskey Park was closed and replaced a year later with a massive parking lot. Baltimore's Memorial Stadium stood empty only three years before it was razed to make way for new homes.

"No good is served by having to put up with an empty, shuttered building," Maryland Stadium Authority spokeswoman Jill Hardesty said. "But you don't demolish until you have plans."

"You really have to know what's going in there. You want to have something that's vibrant there. You want something attractive."

Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick has said he wants a mix of retail shops and new homes at Michigan and Trumbull, the site for professional baseball in Detroit beginning in 1896. Navin Field, which later became Briggs Stadium and then finally Tiger Stadium, was built there in 1912.

"We don't know what percentage of the structure will be saved," Detroit Economic Development Corp. authorizing agent Art Papapanos said. "The question here will be how people will review what is retained and what the future development on the rest of the site will be."

Those decisions will be watched closely by Timothy McKay. The executive director of the Greater Corktown Development Corp. has been fighting for years to give

people living near the stadium a voice in what replaces it.

Corktown is a 173-year-old neighborhood founded by Irish immigrants. Home to a mix of incomes, races and ethnicities, it sits in the shadow of Tiger Stadium.

The Corktown development group's vision for the site includes a sports museum — which has been proposed by the Old Tiger Stadium Conservancy and Hall of Fame broadcaster and Detroit icon Ernie Harwell — along with a mix of retail shops and new homes.

The nonprofit Conservancy wants to keep the playing field, dugouts, locker rooms and about 3,000 seats. The group hopes its plan is enough to save part of the ballpark.

"Maybe this will be a centerpiece for other developments around it that will revive the neighborhood and help Corktown too," Harwell told The Associated Press last week. "No matter what happens, it will be a memorial to the great place there at The Corner that meant so much to everybody for so long."

But if the plan is rejected or the Conservancy can't convince the Economic Development Corp. by next July 1 that it can get funding, Papapanos said the go-ahead for full demolition could be given to clear at least part of the land to make it attractive to potential developers.

McKay holds out hope that won't happen.

"We'd like to see the site honored ... not by some plaque buried beneath the floor of a shopping mall."

## Tax increase sparks debate

### Few solutions remain to fix state deficit

By KATEY MEISNER  
Contributing Reporter

In the wake of recent decisions made by the Michigan government to reduce the \$1.75 billion deficit, an alternative to the extensive list of newly taxable items is already being sought out.

House Speaker, Andy Dillon, D-Redford Twp., says that a proposal may be placed on the January 2008 ballot that would involve increasing the state's sales tax from six percent to seven percent in exchange for the removal of some of the recently approved taxable services.

In order to offer voters the opportunity to vote on the alternative, approval by two-thirds of the House and Senate or a petition drive by voters would need to be organized in order for this to occur.

Earlier this month, in an effort to offset the deficit, the Legislature settled on a state income tax increase from 3.9 percent to 4.35 percent. This increase and took effect on Oct. 1.

Additionally, a list of services ranging from interior design to services such as landscaping will now carry a sales tax effective Dec. 1.

The decision came in just under the wire, narrowly avoiding a disruptive government shutdown.

The public produced conflicting opinions on the topic. Jim Butler, a 43-year-old unemployed citizen said, "A one percent increase to the sales tax would be much more of a burden on me personally because I just don't use many services on the list they came up with."

Barbara Neumann, 35-year-old physical therapist said, "I can see how the approach taken would be a big blow to Michigan businesses."

Neumann went on to say, "I have to admit that I think a one percent increase would make a bigger dent in the problem with the least amount of damage to our economy."

For an official list of additional services subject to the tax increase, visit: [www.michigan.gov/taxes](http://www.michigan.gov/taxes).



## MSU to expand its operations to the Middle East

*Plans to set up programs in Dubai will allow students to get degrees without setting foot on campus*

By **MATTHEW MILLER**  
Associated Press Writer

The next time Michigan State University expands its operations, it will be going a bit farther afield than Grand Rapids.

About 7,000 miles farther.

The university is moving forward with plans to set up degree and research programs in Dubai, United Arab Emirates — programs that would allow students to earn MSU degrees without ever setting foot in East Lansing or, for that matter, on the North American continent.

"For at least the last decade, MSU been looking for an opportunity to expand and enhance its presence in the Middle East," said John Hudzik, MSU vice president of global engagement and strategic projects.

"It's a world region that is so incredibly important for all of us, and we thought it would be our job as an institution to try to be a positive influence in a region so important."

A year ago, Hudzik said, he was approached by representatives from TECOM Investments, which owns Dubai International Academic City, a development that houses a cluster of international universities only a few minutes from Dubai's business district.

Setting up operations there came to seem like the right opportunity, he said, in part because of Dubai's relatively open cultural climate and flourishing economy.

"It's already well on its way to becoming the next Singapore or the next Hong Kong," he said.

"That gives us access to the banking industry, to construction, to telecommunications, to transportation, to everything."

MSU President Lou Anna Simon said the deal with TECOM was built on a "genuine sense of commonality of values."

"They may be expressed differently, but still the same fundamental values, as we look at the world in the 21st century, what

we want to do to contribute to a better global society."

Ayoub Kazim, executive director of Dubai International Academic City, said he and his colleagues were "proud to partner with Michigan State University on a project that offers a new educational and cultural dimension to students in our region."

Such connections, he said, "can significantly contribute to boosting larger social attraction between the regions and promote great understanding of each other's cultures."

Hudzik said startup costs for the Dubai operations will be covered by a \$2.5 million line of credit extended to MSU by TECOM and the programs there will be self-sustaining.

"There's no drain on main campus resources," he said.

And, though there are still some details to be worked out, MSU could begin teaching classes in Dubai by fall 2008.

Plans call for about 650 students by the fourth year of operations, though MSU officials are still determining which degree programs will be offered.

Hudzik emphasized that "the degree we offer in Dubai will be the same as the degree here."

The Dubai programs will be taught by regular MSU faculty — the university will have to make some new hires, but officials haven't determined how many — and will have the same curricula and degree requirements as other MSU degrees.

"This is really our first effort to establish a broad presence abroad that is MSU," Hudzik said. "It's not somebody else that we're affiliated with."

As for whether Sparty will make his way overseas as well, that's perhaps less certain.

"When you think about intercultural relations, some of the symbols may not exactly play right," Hudzik said, "but green and white are good colors."

### Michigan's backup water system

By Kristin Simovski  
Contributing Reporter

The Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) is proposing a backup solution for communities in Oakland, Genesee and northern Macomb Counties by extending two new water pipelines.

The first is a 35-mile line extending along I-75 from Lake Orion to Flint in Oakland County, the cost of which was not revealed.

The 25-mile line from Lake Orion to Romeo in northern Macomb County would cost \$85 million.

If approved by Detroit City Council and Board of Water Commissioners, work on the pipelines could start as soon as 2009 and take up to two years to complete.

If another emergency were to affect Southeast Michigan's ability to provide water service, consumers far north of Detroit would no longer have to depend on the Motor City for its water supply having a source of water closer to home.

— Information taken from a report by the Detroit News

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# The Scene

24

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October 17, 2007

## Like a long music video

*"Across the Universe" is a love story written in Beatles' lyrics.*

By NICK DEGEL  
Senior Reporter

"Across the Universe" is a critically acclaimed musical written around the music and lyrics of the Beatles.

The story follows the lives of six young men and women coming of age in the tumultuous years around the Vietnam War. More specifically, it is a love story between Jude (Jim Sturgess) and Lucy (Evan Rachel Wood).

While the stunning visuals and camera work alone are worth the price of admission, the predictable plot and over the top acting are hard to ignore.

Songs are taken from the Beatles' catalog and applied in such a linear fashion that one almost feels embarrassed for the writers upon hearing the opening bars of "Dear Prudence" and "With a Little Help from My Friends."

The hodge-podge of humorless humor eventually settles in around the peak of the Vietnam conflict.

Some much needed depth is finally added to

the characters and the music becomes more of a soundtrack than a fragile narrative before the films end.

"Across the Universe" includes cameo performances from Joe Cocker, Bono, Eddie Izzard and Salma Hayek.

Even if the main vocal performances are as much American Idol as they are theatrical, nothing can stop the awesome power of the music and lyrics of John, Paul, George and Ringo. Coupled with breathtaking cinematography, "Across the Universe" is the kind of 135-minute music video worth watching.

To refer to the relationship between the Beatles and their fans as sacred is no exaggeration. Perhaps that is why it will be disappointing to see "Across the Universe" attempted by high school musical programs across the country.

Without the aid of computer imagery and a major studio budget, "Across the Universe" is little more than a glorified version of the Broadway musical "Movin' Out."



SARA KANDEL/The Oakland Post  
The "Across the Universe" movie poster hangs in front of the AMC Forum 30.

## No band needed

By ALEX CHERUP  
Mouthing Off Editor

A guitar, a piano, a microphone, a chair and a couple of gargantuan disco balls are all that is needed for an impeccable one man music show.

Well, one woman show.

On Wednesday, Oct. 12, the Fillmore Theatre welcomed singer-songwriter Regina Spektor to its stage.

Spektor, who has met success in the past years with albums "Soviet Kitsch" from 2005 and the year-old "Begin to Hope," performed nearly an hour and a half of music for a decently-sized, yet not sold-out audience.

Spektor commenced the show a cappella, but transferred to the grand piano placed center stage for most of the night. She moved to a guitar for a few songs, such as the humorous and reflective "That Time."

Songs from "Begin to Hope" received the best response out of the 27 tunes of the evening.

At one point, during "Poor Little Rich Boy," Spektor used a chair as the percussion tapping it with her right hand, while her left-hand continued to tickle the ivories. The multi-tasking demonstrated the talent of the Russian born, and classically trained Spektor.

Spektor remained solo for the most of the evening until she was joined by Only Son, the opening act, who provided the background beat for a performance of "Hotel Song," during a gratifying encore.

## Blue grass fury

By OLIVIA OLSON  
Contributing Reporter

The Avett Brothers performed at Eagle Theater, an offshoot of the newly built Crofoot Ballroom in Pontiac, Mich on Tuesday Oct. 9.

In a swirl of strumming, stomping and snapping strings, the not-so-traditional bluegrass quartet played like a band possessed.

Scott and Seth Avett wailed and pounded on their banjo and guitar, respectively, hypnotizing the audience with their contagious vigor.

Their punk rock history was evident in the occasional death metal yells and explosive gathering of electric guitars for the instrumental finale. The band showed a careful mastery over their bluegrass instruments and vocal harmonies that kept the show tight from start to finish.

The band fearlessly led the audience to the precipice of wild and uninhibited rock fury, and then returned to the calm perfection of a three-part a cappella harmony.

Some of the highlights included the bucolically sweet and harmonica-laced "Backwards With Time," and "Sixteen in July," in which Joe Kwon's masterful cello embodied the whimsical ache of youth.

Blurred by the rapid movement of strumming hands and cascading heads of hair, the Avett Brothers don't just perform, they transform into a visual manifestation of their boundless zeal.

## Unworthy venue

By ALEX CHERUP  
Mouthing Off Editor

Bob Dylan's never-ending tour stopped in Ypsilanti, Mich., Friday Oct. 12, at the Eastern Michigan Convocation Center.

It was the third time Dylan has been in South East Michigan in a year.

For this installment of his tour, Dylan brought Elvis Costello and Amos Lee. It was Costello's first solo acoustic performance in 12 years.

As for Dylan, the American music legend riffled through songs from his past and present. Nearly half of the songs performed were off his latest release, the critically acclaimed and Grammy-winning "Modern Times."

Throughout his 16 song presentation, the wiry 66-year-old's energy was admirable.

The main portion of his set concluded with the anti-military piece from 1963, "Masters of War."

Dylan returned for a two-song encore, concluding with a crowd pleasing "All Along the Watchtower."

It was non-stop blues, folk and rock for over an hour and forty minutes in which the only words spoken during Dylan's set were band introductions.

Aside from the musical content, the show was plagued with irritations. The venue was cramped and claustrophobic. Also, the concessions ran out of beer. It appeared as if the entire venue had not prepared adequately for the concert.



# 29 years of 'Halloween'

By MIKE CARAVAGGIO  
Contributing Reporter

What better time than October to dedicate weekend nights to watching one of the most notorious horror movie franchises?

The "Halloween" series was originally supposed to be comprised of only two films (hard to believe, but true) yet it ended up being followed by a plethora of sequels — seven so far, including a recent breakthrough remake by Rob Zombie.

Here's a little information on the series that turned fictional serial killer Michael Myers into a household name.

**Halloween (1978)** John Carpenter's masterpiece possesses the eeriest music and one of the most infamous serial killers in horror history. The film kicks off with a first-person view of a young Michael Myers pursuing and killing his older sister Judith. Jump ahead 15 years and find that Michael has escaped from the mental asylum where he's been in captivity ever since his murderous night. Roaming the streets of Haddonfield, New Jersey, Michael is in pursuit of his other sibling, Laurie, played by Jamie Lee Curtis. Only Michael's psychiatrist, Dr. Loomis, played by Donald Pleasance, can help take him down.

**Halloween II (1981)** This first sequel begins where its predecessor left off. Again, Michael Myers continues stalking through the small town of Haddonfield in pursuit of his sister Laurie. Dr.

Loomis and the entire sheriff's department's main priority is to gun him down.

**Halloween III: Season of the Witch (1982)** From the infinite number of sequels, this is the only one that doesn't involve the infamous, pale-faced psychopath we all expected to see. Instead, the plot focuses on an evil toymaker at large, running the Silver Shamrock Novelties Company, who is responsible for fabricating Halloween masks that murder those who view the company's commercial while wearing them. Sounds completely ridiculous, but that's the gist of the story. The film was generally regarded as the worst of the "Halloween" movies and was the least grossing of the series.

**Halloween 4: The Return of Michael Myers (1988)** Its subtitle tells all as Michael Myers returns 10 years later to his native town of Haddonfield, this time stalking his niece Jamie Lloyd, played by Danielle Harris. Jamie is thought to be the daughter of Laurie Strode and Dr. Loomis. A moderate box office success, it was a vast improvement over the unrelated previous installment.

**Halloween 5: The Revenge of Michael Myers (1989)** — Much like part four, the paranoid Jamie Lloyd finds herself running for her life from her psychopathic uncle. The plot is seemingly related to the previous installment as a continuation of the Jamie/Michael pursuit. Producers felt that this entry seemed inevitable after the reasonable

success from the fourth, but this film didn't do as well at the box offices.

**Halloween 6: The Curse of Michael Myers (1995)** The massacre continues six years later as Jamie Lloyd, this time portrayed by J.C. Brandy, has given birth. After Michael finally brings Jamie to her death, his motivation shifts to the newborn and it's up to Dr. Loomis, yet again, to take him down. This was Pleasance's final appearance in the "Halloween" series, as well as his final major film, as he passed away shortly after the film was completed.

**Halloween H20 (1998)** Twenty years after the initial nightmare in Haddonfield, this seventh installment features the return of Laurie now living under the name Keri Tate (Jamie Lee Curtis). For 20 years, she had been plagued by the horrid tragedies instigated by her maniac brother. But as Michael returns, killing off everyone within Tate's surroundings, instead of rebelling, she attempts to restore her life and give Michael a taste of his own medicine. In terms of total gross, "H20" is the most successful film in the series, despite the Rob Zombie remake, making over \$73 million in worldwide box office receipts.

**Halloween: Resurrection (2002)** The series continues where "H20" left off and jumps ahead three years and shows Laurie confined to a mental institution on the counts of a wrongful murder. But the main plot focuses on a group of six



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/ The Oakland Post  
The 2007 Rob Zombie remake of "Halloween" was released in ten countries.

college students who win a competition to appear on a reality TV show, in which they are to spend Halloween night in the rundown home of Michael Myers. What seems to be a fun, thrilling experience turns into a deadly nightmare when Myers crashes the party. This was the last sequel before the remake.

**Rob Zombie's Halloween (2007)** Rocker turned director Rob Zombie attempts to recreate a classic that has deemed itself one of the most prolific films in the annals of horror history. In the beginning, Zombie takes a unique approach as he dissects the horrid life and mind of a young Michael Myers. The remainder of the film reenacts many memorable scenes from the original, but Zombie tweaks the ending with a similar, but stylish, version of his own.

## Like the B-52s... only good

By DUSTIN ALEXANDER  
Photo Editor



Photo Courtesy Interscope Records  
The Pipettes' new album, is available in stores now.

As soon as the opening track is finished from "We Are The Pipettes" it becomes obvious what The Pipettes are all about — 50s and 60s melodies with a modern twist both in the music and lyrics.

There's a certain expectation of lyrical content when you hear high treble guitar chords, electric organs and orchestra hits, but what you expect isn't what you get. With songs like "One Night Stand," "Dirty Mind," and "Sex," the Pipettes add a risqué, but not raunchy, tinge to the album.

Intermittently however, they throw in some amazing emotion-evoking tracks, giving you a connection and insight into the band members, painting a picture of the group people can relate to.

Though slow at times with ballad-like tracks, "We Are The Pipettes," is flat out everything a great album should be. It's emotional, but edgy. A good combination of old and new — it makes up a great style all its own that is easy to listen to. A great album from beginning to end, well mixed, well-produced and well-written. The Shangri La's would be proud.



CELESTE FILIATRAULT / The Oakland Post

## Mute Math rocks St. Andrews Hall

In an unusual change in set up, Mute Math's famous drummer, Darren King, played at stage front during their Saturday, Oct. 13, show in Pontiac, Mich.



# MOUTHING OFF

26

www.oaklandpostonline.com

October 17, 2007

## Productive time wasting

By JESSE DUNSMORE  
Senior Reporter

I have a big problem. U see, I iz havin' trublz returning to nrml speech patternz after viewing lolcats for several hourz.

If ur not familiar wit de "lolcat," just imagine teh way I iz typin right now, only superimposed over a picshure of a cat.

That's the whole joke.

Yet I managed to waste several hours over the past week — hours I'm retroactively justifying by writing this column — just staring at these marvels of feline illiteracy.

As far as I can tell, the craze started with a photograph of a somewhat chubby cat with a hungry "smile" on its face, captioned: "I can has cheezburger?"

Happycat, as he's called, has been put to stud, breeding hundreds, maybe thousands, of these things.

They litter all of cyberspace, violently assaulting the English language with their klauz — I mean claws. The treasure trove can be found at [www.icanhascheezburger.com](http://www.icanhascheezburger.com).

Go ahead: check it out. You'll either turn out to be immune, shake your head, and wonder how I could have spent so long on this site, or you'll join the ranks of the other people to whom I've spread this disease — Tyler, our Local editor, needed some company anyway.

He actually made Endcat his desktop wallpaper.

When I wasn't "busy" with the cats, I was getting my daily dose of the news on Fark.com.

Fark is a site that collects links to news articles, sticks labels on them like "Cool," "Asinine," or "Florida" (reserved for invariably bizarre

news from the geriatric utopia), and gives them witty headlines.

I don't think the majority of my free time would be spent on this site if it weren't for the user comments.

Expect, in a single thread, to see at least one comparison to Hitler, two Internet tough guys, two tirades against organized religion, several Bush jokes, and several entire messages reposted with credit given and the word "This" typed under them to express agreement.

And that's if the story is about a new flavor of Gatorade.

Some sites ban trolls, or posters who desire only to piss people off. "Farkers" critique them and give feedback explaining

Failing at that, I decided that since I was already in a burning building, I might as well kick out a few windows.

"Well," I asked, "did she try putting the batteries in?"

Then there's the old time-wasting standby: Facebook.

I bet I know more about friends, former friends and people I met once, in elementary school, than I do about my own mother at this point.

But simply stalking people isn't enough to consume the portion of my time otherwise dedicated to homework or going to the bathroom.

That's why we have applications.

When checking my friend's poorly-typed status ("Gary is party 2nite wootbqr0x0rz!!1")

grows old, I can ask him a question, compare movie and music tastes, put a sticky-note on his page, send him a free gift, buy him a drink, play him at scrabble, rock

paper scissors or beer pong, buy him a fish, rate his attributes like a pokemon, poke, hug, tickle, lick, grope or karate kick him, declare him my mortal enemy, graffiti his page, send him encoded messages, give him a tattoo, throw food or feces at him, fight him, bite him as a zombie, confound him with a Jedi mind trick, and make a baby with him all before he even has a chance to change his status ("Gary is calling the police").

By the way, Facebook also features an application that gives you a daily lolcat.

If the internet had a final boss, it would be an lolcat.

K thx bai.



Lolcats provide much entertainment and humor for Internet users. Art by Jesse Dunsmore

... simply stalking people  
isn't enough to consume the  
portion of my time otherwise  
dedicated to homework ...

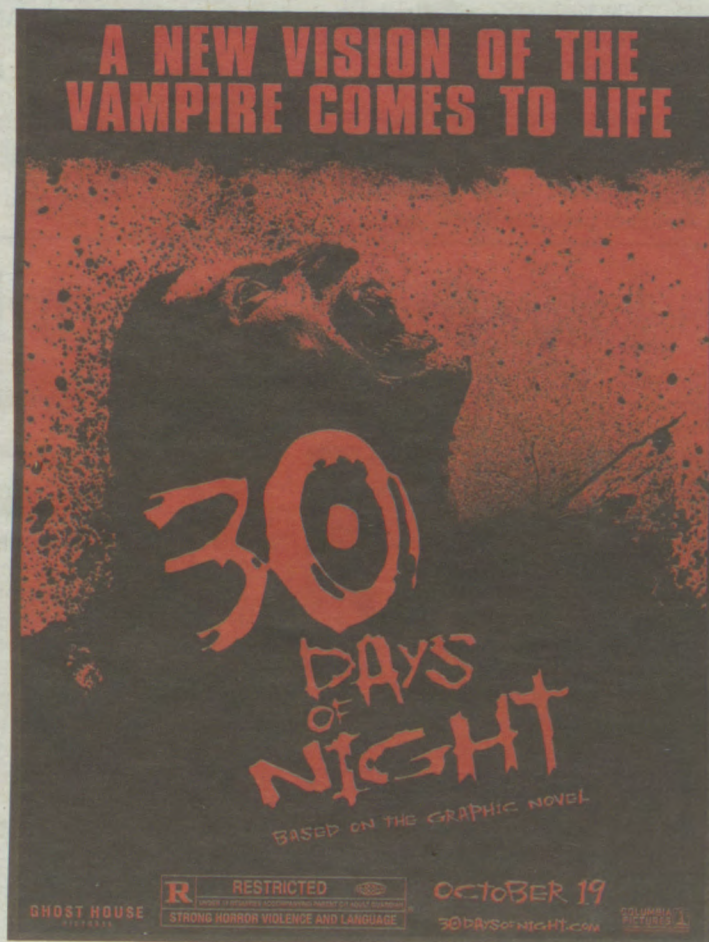
how to better troll (verb) next time.

The practical upshot: any opinion expressed on Fark.com has a 20 percent chance of being totally moronic, a 50 percent chance of being fake, and a 10 percent chance of being expressed in the form of an lolcat.

And I feel compelled to get involved. Sometimes I try to put the fires out.

For example, one story was about a girl who received a Valentine's Day gift box containing batteries and her missing dog's head.

At first I tried to convince people that no, the death penalty is not appropriate for killing a dog.





# Mr. Homecoming Queen

*A high school in St. Louis, Mo. elects a male homecoming queen, parents and other nominees distressed*

By ALEX CHERUP  
Mouthing Off Editor

If you are man, you can become homecoming queen.

The University City High School in St. Louis, MO., voted Mr. Aaron Zaggy its 2007 Homecoming Queen.

Zaggy's slogan was "I am the King of the Queens!"

It's 2007; we want a woman president and a male homecoming queen.

The world is getting better.

Zaggy was apparently egged on by a friend as a prank, and received approval from the district school board and officially ran.

Zaggy won by 21 votes.

Some complain about the absurdity of a Y-chromosome elected into the position.

Other parents viewed this as an issue of homosexuality, although it isn't.

The school board responded abruptly: "This situation also presents a life lesson of sorts by demonstrating the importance of voting and knowing that one's actions at the ballot box can have a lasting impact."

Although I agree with this philosophy, there is one observable flaw.

If you recall, we did elect a simpleton tyrannical Texan, who views linguistic tact as something that's as useless as your rights, a second time.

We seem not to have learned.

Ironically enough, the only election Bush is worthy of winning is homecoming queen.

Remember, he was on the cheer-leading team.

But the issue at hand is not about sexual orientation. Zaggy has a

steady girlfriend.

For Zaggy, it is about fun and having a good time, and not about an intimate dance with the homecoming king.

The whole event is like a contemporary Shakespeare play that was never written, perhaps "The Merry Queen of St. Louis."

Cross-dressing humor is a mainstay in theatrical history.

We even teach this sort of satire to the kids in school — one could argue that Zaggy is just applying his English class to reality.

This is something that has been around much longer than homecoming.

The issue is more like "Twelfth Night" than "The Birdcage."

Zaggy is a prankster that follows the comedy folk tradition of donning an evening gown for a laugh. This is still a mainstay modern comedy.

And, even though this is not an issue of sexual orientation, I would have hoped for a different reaction.

If someone wishes to be the mancoming queen or a womancoming king, because of sexual orientation, wherein lays the problem?

Is there certain a "sanctity of homecoming" we must preserve?

I'm sure many would claim that it may lead to other non-one-man-one-woman homecoming alternatives. Once the line is crossed, all hell will break loose.

Before you know it, those upset will say it'll likely lead to polygamy in homecoming — multiple homecoming queens for one despot king.

Some might even claim this homosexuality may spread to other dances during the year. The *Sadie Hawkins Dance* may become the *Ellen DeGeneres Dance*, where the

girl must ask another girl, and a boy another boy.

And of course, there is the Biblical passage "And a man shalt not slow dance with another man."

These arguments appear absurd in this context.

Naturally, if we did have a male homecoming king and queen, due to sexual orientation, there would not be a comedic tone, but a groundbreaking tone.

I do think, in this case, it makes more sense to have two homecoming kings, rather than a homecoming queen and king both with Adam's apples.

But that is an issue for future homecomings.

Either way, Zaggy's prank has unintentionally sparked some rethinking in yet another questionable tradition with questionable foundations.

The debate is far from over. Brittany McNairy, a student at the University City High School who also ran for queen proclaimed "a queen should be a girl and a king should be a dude."

Obviously, she was just upset that she did not run for king.

The whole escapade is an overreaction to a "popularity contest" that is not serious in the first place.

Kudos to Zaggy for making fun of a ridiculous promotion of the popular.

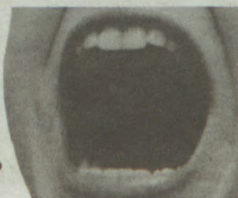
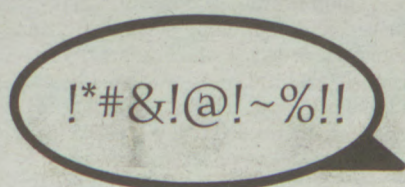
Imagine the anger of the popular girls: "I lost to a boy!"

The whines from Zaggy's competition and critics fail to realize the fanciful folly of Zaggy's comedic act, as well as ignoring another non-novelty issue.

So, long live Mr. Homecoming Queen!



CELESTE FILIATRAULT/The Oakland Post  
Male homecoming queens may become more common.



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PETRUS PAPANews WEBSITE/AP Photo  
This image released by Petrus Papanews Web site shows a prelate identified by the online paper as Mons. Tommaso Stenico.

## Suspended Vatican official insists he was pretending to be gay

By NICOLE WINFIELD  
Associated Press Writer

VATICAN CITY — A Vatican official suspended after being caught on hidden camera making advances to a young man says he is not gay and was only pretending to be gay as part of his work.

In an interview published Sunday, Monsignor Tommaso Stenico told La Repubblica daily he frequented online gay chat rooms and met with gay men as part of his work as a psychoanalyst. He said that he pretended to be gay in order to gather information about "those who damage the image of the Church with homosexual activity."

The Vatican said Saturday it was suspending Stenico after he was secretly filmed making advances to a young man and asserting that gay sex was not sinful during a television program on gay priests broadcast Oct. 1 on La7, a private Italian television network.

In the Repubblica interview, Stenico said he had never been gay and was heterosexual, but remained faithful to his vow of celibacy. He said he expected to be fully exonerated after a review.

Stenico said he had met with the young man and pretended to talk about homosexuality "to better understand this mysterious and faraway world which, by the fault of a few people — among them some priests — is doing so much harm to the church," La Repubblica quoted him as saying.

Stenico's case is unusual because he is a relatively high-ranking Vatican official. He heads an office in the Vatican's Congregation for Clergy — the main office overseeing all the world's priests.

The case comes at a particularly sensitive time, just two years after the Vatican issued tough new guidelines effectively barring gays from the priesthood — seen in large part as a response to complaints about a "gay subculture" in U.S. seminaries.

Vatican teaching holds that gays and lesbians should be treated with compassion and dignity but that homosexual acts are "intrinsically disordered."

## Gore awarded Nobel Peace Prize

By SETH BORENSTEIN and LISA LEFF  
Associated Press Writers

PALO ALTO, Calif. — For years, former Vice President Al Gore and a host of climate scientists were belittled and ignored for their message about how dire global warming is.

On Friday, Oct. 12, they were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for their warnings about, what Gore calls, "a planetary emergency."

Gore shared the prize with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, a United Nations network of scientists. This scientific panel has explained the details of global warming in thousands of pages of footnoted reports every six years or so since 1990.

Gore's documentary "An Inconvenient Truth" won two Academy Awards and has been credited with changing the debate in America about global warming.

"This is a chance to elevate global con-

sciousness about the challenges that we face now," he said Friday at the offices of the Alliance For Climate Protection, a nonprofit organization he founded.

"Despite a live global stage, Gore did not take questions from reporters, avoiding the issue of a potential 2008 presidential run. His aides repeatedly say he won't enter the race.

From the late 1980s with his book "Earth in the Balance," Gore championed the issue of global warming. He had monthly science seminars on it while vice president and helped negotiate the 1997 Kyoto Protocol that called for cuts in greenhouse gases.

"When he first started really working on the climate change issue, I remember he was ridiculed in the press and certainly by political opponents as some kind of kook out there in la-la land," said federal climate scientist Tom Peterson, an IPCC co-author. "It's delightful that he's sharing this and he deserves it well. And it's nice

to have his work being vindicated."

More than 20 top climate scientists told The Associated Press last year that Gore's documentary was generally accurate in its presentation of the science, although some were bothered by what they thought were a couple of exaggerations.

Scientists and Nobel committee members said it was not a stretch to award the Peace Prize to Gore and the scientists. Studies by national security experts say a hotter world with changes in water and food supply can lead to wars and terrorism.

Some in the shrinking community of global warming skeptics and those downplaying the issue, were dubious, however.

"I think it cheapens the Nobel Prize," said William O'Keefe, chief executive officer of the conservative science-oriented think tank the Marshall Institute. O'Keefe, a former oil industry executive and current consultant to fossil fuel firms, called Gore's work "rife with errors."



ANUPAM NATH/AP File Photo  
A herd of wild elephants play in the Deeparbil wetland, a wildlife sanctuary, in Deeparbil, about 30 kilometers (19 miles) west of Gauhati, India, in this April 9, 2007 file photo. Nearly 100 wild Asiatic Elephants have thronged the world's largest freshwater island in India's remote northeast, demolishing homes, feasting on sugarcane and creating panic among residents, authorities said Saturday.

## Nation | World News Briefs

10-13 | Rapper T.I. is charged with two felonies — possession of three unregistered machine guns and two silencers, and possession of firearms by a convicted felon.

10-15 | Two co-defendants in the O.J. Simpson armed robbery case, agree to plead guilty to reduced charges and testify against the former football star. | The skeleton of what is believed to be a new dinosaur species — a 105-foot plant-eater that is among the largest dinosaurs ever found — has been uncovered in Argentina.

10-16 | Eighteen people, including 10 airline workers at John F. Kennedy International Airport, are charged with international drug smuggling and distribution.

## Mother of soldier to send 80,000 cans of Silly String to Iraq

By REBECCA SANTANA  
Associated Press Writer

DEPTFORD TOWNSHIP, N.J. — After months of frustration, a mother of a soldier in Iraq has found someone to ship about 80,000 cans of Silly String to the troops, who use the foamy substance to detect trip wires on bombs.

"I am so happy right now, I am shaking. I just think it's awesome that it's finally going," Marcelle Shriver said as boxes were loaded into a truck Monday afternoon.

The thousands of cans of Silly String are boxed and addressed to individual servicemen and servicewomen in Iraq. But

since the string comes in an aerosol can, it is considered a hazardous material, and only certain companies can ship it.

Thom Campbell, one of the founders of Capacity LLC, a New Jersey-based shipping company experienced in hazardous materials, heard about Shriver's problem and decided to help out.

Each praised the other for making the shipment a reality when meeting for the first time, Monday.

The boxes will be inspected by the company and then delivered to the United States Postal Service for transport with other letters and packages bound for Iraq.

Shriver's Silly String campaign began late last year after her son, Todd, a sol-

dier in Ramadi slated to leave Iraq in November, asked his parents to send cans of the product.

Soldiers can shoot the substance, which travels about 10-12 feet, across a room before entering. If it hangs in the air, that indicates a possible trip wire.

Lt. Col. Christopher Garver, a military spokesman in Iraq, said recently that Shriver's efforts are appreciated, but that commanders decide which items troops need. He said the spray was used heavily in the early stages of the conflict but is not as widely needed today.

"If commanders on the ground are screaming that we need this stuff, we'll get it to them," Garver said.