



Check out how the OU women's basketball team narrowly escaped with a 58-56 win over Valparaiso University on Monday.

- B6



Sheila Kosztowny tells how to have fun in spite of the wintry weather.

- B1



February 2, 2005

www.oakpostonline.com

50 cents

OUSC sings for support

BY ALLISON BRUNNER
SENIOR NEWS WRITER

Perish the thought that no one on campus knows the words to the OU fight song, "OU Fight."

Legislators, executive board and audience members joined together in the chant, complete with clapping, at Monday's OUSC meeting.

The refrain was a response to a resolution, presented by Legislator Katie Miller, to promote Golden Grizzly Pride and to support OU athletic events.

Miller said a majority of the OU population does not know the fight song.

The resolution that passed unanimously resolved to increase knowledge of the fight song, including distributing copies of the song.

The legislators also resolved to give out game tickets and Golden Grizzly gear to students who are willing to learn and sing the song.

"OU Fight" was written by Michael Mitchell, a doctor of musical arts and an associate professor of music at OU.

"Fight, fight, fight for Oakland; Fight the whole game long; Fight, fight, fight for Oakland; Keep the Grizzlies strong" is the first stanza.

The song can be viewed in its entirety on the school Web site, or at www.ougrizzlies.com.

This resolution was proposed by congress in response to athletic staff members asking for more support and presence at games.

In other business:

- The student of the month parking spot drawing was made. Mike Lerchenfeldt will have a reserved parking spot for the entire month of February, just outside of the OC.

- Applications can be picked up in the OUSC office or online at their Web site.

- The discussion topic of the week was race relations, and the legislators discussed the outcome of the Race Relations Roundtable held last Wednesday to frankly assess the status of race relations on campus and how to improve things.

- Monday, Feb. 7 is National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness and Information Day and was selected to be the next discussion topic of the week.

- The following day there will be a panel discussion titled "Are Gay Rights Civil Rights?" from 6-8 p.m. in Banquet Room B of the OC.

- March 18-19 is a CSA leadership retreat. Interested students can sign up at the CSA window.

- Seventy students were removed from the residence halls over break due to financial aid problems. OUSC is looking into this problem.

- Public Relations Agent, Duane Hurt gave an update on the Gender and Sexuality Center. OUSC will be meeting with Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Student Life Glenn McIntosh to have it up and running out of his office by September of 2005. One graduate student and two undergraduate interns will be assisting in the center.

- Thursday, Feb. 17 is presenting the movie "Troy" at 8 p.m. in Banquet Room B of the OC.



Students participate in last year's trip to China. OU has been running a Chinese Language and Culture Spring Immersion Program with FAC over the last few years.

Photo courtesy of Michelle Tang

Trip to Beijing offers retreat

BY ALLISON BRUNNER
SENIOR NEWS WRITER

Students wishing to escape mundane Michigan summers and humid classrooms can travel to the other side of the world for six weeks.

Partnered with the Foreign Affairs College in Beijing, China, OU has been running a Chinese Language and Culture Spring Immersion Program for the past few years.

"I am very excited for our students and community members to have such a great intensive culture and language study opportunity at this very prestigious institution in China," said Richard Stamps, professor of anthropology and sociology at OU and China program coordinator.

The FAC was founded in 1955 as an institution of higher learning. It trains personnel for professional careers in for-

Please see BEIJING on A2

Market calls for variety

BY BLYTHE SIMMONS
NEWS WRITER

A panel of local company representatives spoke on minority applicant hiring practices Wednesday.

This diverse panel of representatives, both in ethnicity and gender, likewise held diverse opinions and policies on the matter.

GM Metal Fabricating Division Senior Project Manager James Ankton said his company has a straightforward approach to hiring.

"We simply hire the right person for the right job. We make no special effort other than that," he said. "We find that we still end up with diversity at all levels, in all areas."

But Chris Emmons, adjunct faculty at Lawrence Technological University and founder of HRPros, a human resource consulting company, feels that the current policies are not enough to ensure diversity in the workplace.

"Think about all the Arab-

Americans who lost their jobs after 9/11 or couldn't find work purely because of their race.

"We still have some work to do as a society," Emmons said.

"We consciously seek a good pool of candidates and then we hire the one who is most qualified," said Pamela Mitchell, director of human resources development for Federal Mogul, a global supplier of original and aftermarket automotive parts.

"We frequently evaluate our diversity mission to make sure that it is applicable to our global employees," she said.

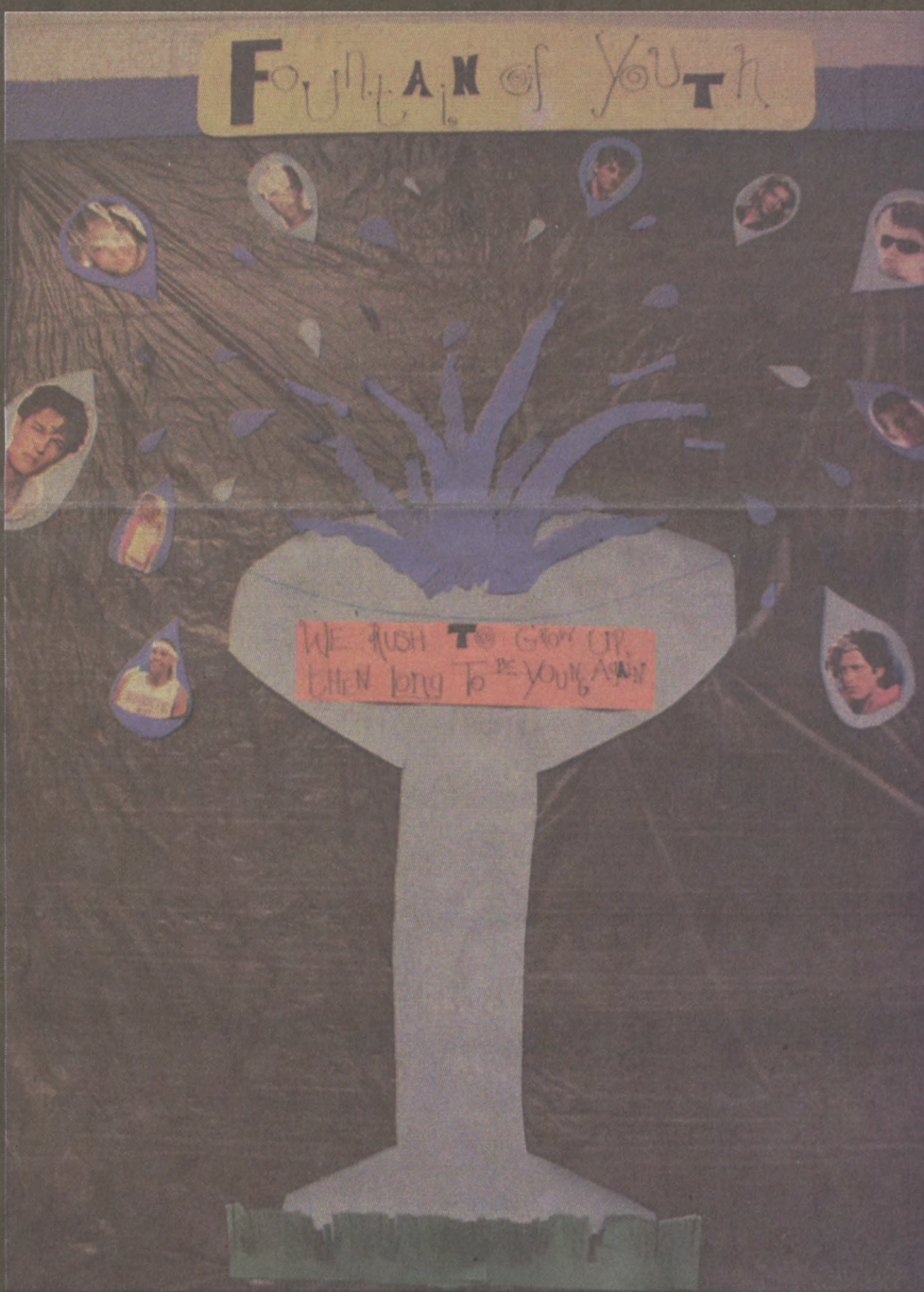
According to all of the panelists, these hiring practices also extend to applicants with disabilities.

Each of these employers must hold itself compliant to the Americans with Disabilities Act.

"During the hiring process, we actively assess if reasonable accommodations can be made for disabled applicants," said Darryl B. Hill, safety and health officer at ABB, an automation firm that specializes in lowering

Please see VARIETY on A2

Dorms explore oppression



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post

Students in the Vandenberg Hall dorm rooms participated in the Hall of Oppression, with each floor helping to educate students on a variety of issues involving oppression in its various forms.

Fair draws diverse group

BY KAKELA BAKER
THE OAKLAND POST

More than 70 potential employers converged in the Oakland Center Banquet Rooms on Thursday in search of full-time employees and interns at OU's Diversity Career Fair.

Students expressed mixed reactions to the fair, but most employers said it was a success.

The goal of the Diversity



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post
A student talks to one of the many representatives at the Diversity Career Fair.

Career Fair, which was open to all students, was to get as many diverse students from the campus population as possible to attend, said Robert Thomas, director of Career Services.

For more information, please visit <http://www2.oakland.edu> or e-mail careers@oakland.edu.

Speaker shares dual perspective

BY ANTHONY MARTINEZ BEVEN
THE OAKLAND POST

Planned for noon on Tuesday, Jan. 25, the presentation on HIV/AIDS in the black community started behind schedule due to an almost absent audience that slowly straggled into Gold Room A of the OC about 10 minutes late.

But once he started, speaker Leon Golson, program coordinator for the Midwest AIDS Prevention Projection, enlightened and fascinated a group of nearly 20 people from a dual perspective — an educator's stance and as a black man living with the disease himself.

Golson introduced his presentation with a warning. Because of "psycho-social issues," he

said, talking about safer sexual practices can sometimes be challenging. He jokingly granted any conventionalists freedom to flee at any time.

"If you can't personally use this information, pass it on to someone who can," Golson robustly urged.

Engaging the audience in an interactive exercise, Golson asked people to stand up.

"For those of you that don't go to the doctor for a yearly checkup, sit down," he said. A few people took their seats. "Now, who goes to the dentist every six months?" More sat down. "How many of you buckle up every time you get in the car?" Most were seated by this point. "And how many of you floss at least once a day?" By the

Please see MAPP on A8

Award-winning, independent student newspaper serving the Oakland University community • The Oakland Sail Inc.

INDEX

Volume 31
Number 18

Campus News ... A3
Classifieds A8
Crossword B3
Horoscopes B3
Letters A7
Life B1
Local News A5
Perspectives A6
Sports B6

WEEKEND OUTLOOK

Friday		Saturday		Sunday	
HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW
33	19	34	27	35	28

Mostly Cloudy
Mostly Cloudy
Cloudy

SPECIAL REPORT: PREVENTING CRIME ON CAMPUS



Low crime rate remains steady

Liquor law violations increase

By ROQAYA ESHMAWI
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Oakland University's crime rate has remained steadily low over the past few years, according to statistics released by the FBI.

"Traditionally, Oakland University has been an extremely safe environment.

"It has a very low crime rate and a very safe geographical setting in Oakland County," said Chief Samuel Lucido of the OU Police Department.

Larcenies are the largest single category of criminal offenses reported at OU.

Statistically, they pose "the greatest number of crimes that occur on campus and on most campuses," said Lt. Mel Gilroy of the OUPD.

The crime rate has remained low, but the number of arrests made on campus for liquor law violations in 2003 has nearly quadrupled since 2001.

Liquor law violations are also the most cited reason for arrest, according to statistics released by the Department of Education and posted on the OUPD Web site.

Most arrests were made at the residence halls.

"It's simply the nature of the environment," Gilroy said. "The residence halls are a unique and special aspect of any campus, because it is a 24/7 operation."

The police department does not find the residence halls to be a problem, he said, adding that this type of behavior is predictable where there is a concentration of people.

"That's why we try to put

more officers in halls on routine patrol," he said.

Lucido attributes the increase to several factors, some of which include more officers on site and the university's "zero tolerance approach to alcohol violations."

Statistics for 2004 have not yet been released, but Lucido said that "arrest rates for alcohol violations were very high this past September.

"But then it seemed to level off," he said, adding that the increase may be attributed partly to the new freshman class.

"Anecdotally, our officers tell us that most of the citations were written to freshman," Gilroy said.

"There is a drinking culture in high school," he added, and students arrive at college with a "drinking culture already part of them."

A recent investigative piece published by The Daily Oakland Press cited university officials commenting that OU's "largely non-residential campus" is "safe, quiet and relatively free of student-organized bashes bubbling with alcohol."

Associate professor of psychology Mary Eberly, who specializes in adolescent behavior and moral development, stresses it's important to not pigeonhole this type of behavior.

Binge drinking has become a social standard that works as a reward-based system — when a student is loud and obnoxious while drinking, they receive positive, reinforcing attention, Eberly pointed out.

"It inhibits our rational thinking," she said, adding that binge

drinkers are looked at as different, more fun individuals. "They want to fit in, they want that friendship."

"We have our share of parties at Oakland University, and we are aware of the fact that there are underage drinkers here," said Mary Beth Snyder, vice president of Student Affairs, according to The Daily Oakland Press article.

When asked to comment on the issue of liquor law violations, Snyder referred The Post to Glenn McIntosh, assistant vice president of Student Affairs and dean of students.

"It's always a challenge, because a number of students come here with a drinking experience," McIntosh said.

They may have been exposed to alcohol in high school or from their households, he added.

"The issue of binge drinking is pretty serious, because people don't realize the degree to which the alcohol has an effect on your central nervous system," Eberly said.

"It has what you call an inhibitory effect, which means it inhibits the functioning of your brain, even though people say they get more energy or become more social when they drink."

But Snyder finds that "OU students don't engage in binge drinking to the extent that it happens at other schools," according to the article. "You see a lot more of that when you have a large resident population on campus."

Legal drinkers are only permitted to consume alcohol in their rooms, and they are not allowed to provide alcohol to minors.

The university's policy is

structured to "respect the rights of students and be consistent with the law," McIntosh said.

Respecting a student's right to drink may conflict with another student's right to not be exposed to the drinker's possible inappropriate behavior.

"It's really hard to manage that, just like in larger society," McIntosh said.

"It's always an uphill battle, because our society is inundated by a multi-million dollar campaign by liquor distributors," he added.

Behind OU's low crime rate are several possible reasons, Lucido said.

"I think our community here is a lot more aware and a lot more educated about safety issues than perhaps they were in the past," he said.

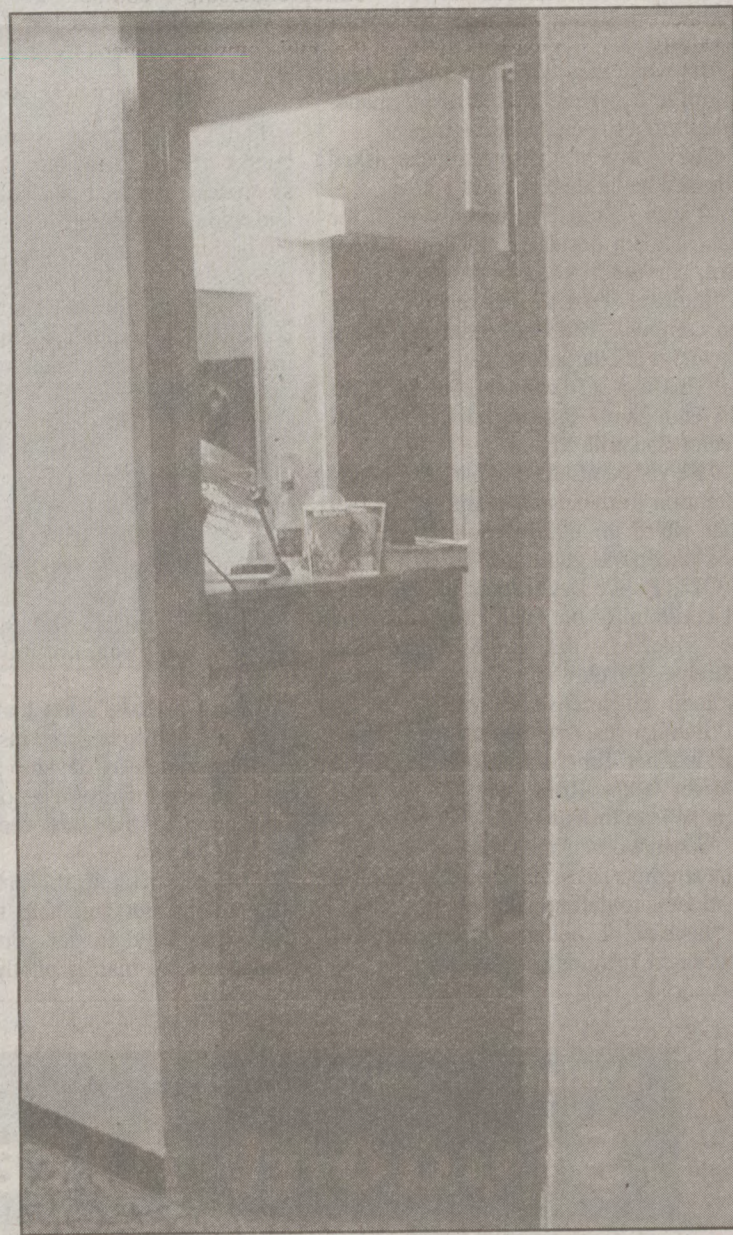
Community policing is also a factor.

"In its most basic sense, community policing means everyone takes responsibility for safety and for protecting themselves, good communication between the police and the community for reporting offenses, and their willingness to assist us in the criminal investigation process," Lucido said.

"We have more visibility out there," he said, adding that having more uniformed officers allows OUPD to be more proactive in its community outreach programs.

These programs include the Rape Aggression Defense System, alcohol awareness programs and presentations on substance abuse.

"We want to prevent and deter crimes," Gilroy said.



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post

Top: OUPD officers patrol on campus to increase safety and deter crime. Above: Students who are legal drinkers are only allowed to drink in their residences if they wish to consume alcohol on campus.

"We can't necessarily keep someone from committing a crime generally, but we might be able to prevent them from doing it here."

Lucido finds the safety record of the university pleasing, but said it "doesn't mean we're relaxed about it. We must

remain persistent in our efforts."

The goal of community outreach, Gilroy said, "is to build a relationship between the police department and the community we serve."

~ Oakland Post reporter Anthony Martinez. Beven contributed to this report.

police

files

- An OUPD officer found a man with blood on his forehead laying on the road on the east side of Sunset Dr., just north of Sunset Terrace.

He notified dispatch, who requested an ambulance and rescue.

The ambulance arrived with the man's daughter, who said that her father has Alzheimer's and had walked away from their residence between 3 and 3:45 a.m.

- An OUPD officer responded to a fire alarm call at 116 Pawley Hall, where he found that an unknown individual had activated the pull station.

The Auburn Hills Fire Department arrived at the

scene, and the pull station was reset. It is believed one of the children at the Childcare Center, located in Pawley Hall, activated the alarm.

- A female called OUPD and said that she had received two calls to her cell phone from an unidentified female.

She could not understand what the unidentified caller was saying the first time, so she hung up.

The caller called right back and said, "I know where you are, you live at ... you know what this is about. I am a killer and I will kill you."

The female told OUPD that she does not have any enemies or boyfriend problems.

She was advised to call OUPD if she received any further calls, and to not open the door if she did not recognize the individual.

- A female with a Jeep Cherokee parked her car and opened her door at the same time that a male in a Dodge Stratus was pulling into a parking spot.

- A male said he slipped and fell on the right side of the stairs as he was leaving the OC through the north doors.

An OUPD officer found that the surface at the scene was wet.

PREVENTION TIPS

crime

- To report a crime in progress, or in the case of a police, fire or medical emergency, dial 911 from any campus telephone.
- Individuals who will be on campus during the evening hours are asked to walk along lit pathways and to walk with other individuals.
- A Student Cadet escort may be requested by calling OUPD at (248) 370-3331.
- Individuals are encouraged to participate in "Operation Identification," a program that discourages theft by allowing individuals to mark

- valuable items with an electric engraver, thus making items easily identifiable.
- Individuals who live in University Housing are asked to not bring valuable jewelry to campus. OUPD recommends that individuals bring inexpensive costume jewelry to wear, instead of the expensive kind.
- Individuals who live in University Housing are also asked to lock their doors whenever they leave their rooms.
- OUPD asks individuals to alarm their vehi-

- cles in order to discourage potential thieves from breaking into their cars.
- OUPD encourages faculty and staff members to keep their purses or wallets out of sight, preferably locked in a desk drawer.
- Individuals are asked to inform University Police if they see something suspicious.

The OUPD Web site states, "Let us know what you saw or heard."

If possible, be able to describe the person that is suspicious and what activity they are

doing which caused you to become concerned."

- Be aware of your surroundings. An unaware individual makes for an easy victim.
- If you use pepper spray on a perpetrator, do not stand in the same place after you spray.

Even if the perpetrator cannot see you, he or she can still charge forward and knock you down.

~ Compiled by Roqaya Eshmaui, Campus News Editor
Information compiled from various sources.

OUPD teaches women the art of self defense

By ROQAYA ESHMAUI
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Senior Star LaSchaniece was walking home from a corner store with her best friend, when a man walked up behind her, pointed a gun to her back, and told her to give him her jewelry, coat and shoes.

He told her best friend to leave, but her friend refused. He then told them both to run.

"We ran three blocks away from her house so he wouldn't know where she lived," LaSchaniece said.

"I was scared that I wasn't going to make it home."

When senior Christina Brown was in 11th grade, she used to take a bus home from work.

But on a particular day, the bus was taking too long, so she decided to take a cab.

In the middle of a conversation with the cab driver, he turned around and snapped a photo of her.

"I grabbed his neck and cussed him out," she said. "I was afraid, I didn't know what was going to happen to me."

The driver finally stopped the cab, gave her the photo, let her out and drove off without asking for fare.

In ninth grade, Brown was held at gunpoint while walking home from a high school basketball game with her best friend.

As they passed through a gas station, she saw a man eyeing them. "I made eye contact with him, and he shied away," she said.

But when they turned around, he held a gun to her friend's back and demanded all of her friend's belongings.

They gave him everything he asked for, and he let them go.

"I was scared, but more so with the cab incident because I felt less in control," she said.

Students seem to feel relatively safe on campus. "But I never let my guard down," LaSchaniece said.

"This is a safe campus, but we don't do enough to protect ourselves," said senior Shaquila Myers.

"We're carefree. People don't pay attention to their surroundings; we feel that we're on a safe campus and we don't keep our guard up."

OU's Police Department offers several community outreach programs, one of which is the Rape Aggression Defense System, a program to teach women self-defense.

"It enhances a woman's already natural instinct for survival," said OUPD Officer Terry Ross, who is the program's lead instructor.

"When women are assaulted or someone attempts to assault them, the natural instinct is to defend yourself.

"Instead of being unprepared, and untrained, it trains you," he said.



Elizabeth Gorecki/The Oakland Post
The program is only open to women.

The program is a comprehensive course for women that begins with awareness, prevention, risk reduction and avoidance, while progressing onto the basics of hands-on defense training, according to a RAD pamphlet.

The first program is 18 hours long and is available to students, faculty and staff, free of charge, and available to non-students for a fee of \$20.

It may be followed by an advanced program, which is 20 hours long.

The course is taught by certified RAD instructors.

"I'm the only paid personnel at Oakland University who teaches RAD," Ross said.

"Many women who have come through the program have become instructors."

Several of Ross's assistants are currently training to become instructors.

"The idea is to develop the people who have the interest to become instructors, because they are the best role model," he said.

"I'm there to help the program, I'm there to instruct and help the women when they need it, but your best role model as a woman is another woman,

and so my goal is to create as many instructors as possible."

To become an instructor, a woman can sign up for an instructor's program, a three day program, 12 hours a day.

After completion, the woman is nationally certified to teach RAD.

But the criteria is different for males.

"You have to be in law enforcement, or you have to have letters of recommendation and pass a background check to make sure that you don't have any background that would make you undesirable to teach," Ross said.

RAD has enjoyed success stories.

Women who have taken the course later contacted Ross and told him they were in situations where they used physical techniques and survived an attempted assault.

"I have not had anybody come to me that's taken the class and said 'I was assaulted and was unable to defend myself,'" Ross said.

Most women say they use what they learn in RAD every day.

"It changes the way you interact with people," he said.

"You may change things that may put you at higher risk, it changes the way

you talk to people, it changes the way you carry yourself."

Ross said it is important to recognize the difference between a victim and a survivor.

"If a woman is talking to me, we would say it's successful, because if you live, then you're a survivor."

"If a woman has been assaulted, she's on her way to becoming a survivor; a victim is someone who has been assaulted and doesn't get past that point.

"If you're healing, you're a survivor, you're not a victim," he said.

Ross has had many survivors take the course.

There are usually two courses offered in each fall and winter semester, and an advanced course is offered in the winter.

Ross also offers courses by special request.

"I'm willing to teach them if they're willing to come. If I can teach one person to be safe, it's worth it," he said.

What makes it worth it, Ross added, is "when you have somebody come up to you and say 'someone tried to hurt me and I stopped them.'"

Most individuals who sign up for the course do so through personal referral.

"That's the most flattering customer, because women are bringing them in saying, 'I took this class, it's a good class, you need it,'" Ross said.

RAD started in 1998, and since then, over 1,000 individuals have been trained at OU.

It was created by a male police officer and a female with a counseling background.

The physical techniques came from the police officer and his background, and the psychology that describes women's feelings came from the counselor, Ross said.

RAD is designed to be supportive, he added. "It is a very safe environment."

Apart from Ross, who is the lead instructor, only women are allowed in the classroom.

Ross finds that RAD works at OU because of the women who donate their time to the program. "The key is the partnerships RAD creates with the community," he said.

Individuals interested in learning more about the program can contact Officer Ross at (248) 370-3331 or at ross@oakland.edu.

Oakland University's

Student Affairs

Weekly
column

updating you every week!

144 Oakland Center

Rochester, Michigan

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STUDENTS FIRST STUDY JAM!

Come out and study with other OU students! Receive subject-specific tutoring! Get helpful study tips from successful upperclassmen! Open to all registered OU students every Wednesday evening from 10 PM-midnight in 112 East Vandenberg Hall (Honor College) on the following dates: 2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 2/23, 3/16, 3/23, 3/30, 4/6, 4/13. Subjects tutored include AH 104, ENG 105 and 181, HST 115, JPN 114, LIT 181, MTH 011, 012, 118, 122, 141, AND 154, PSY 100, 225, and 250, RHT 150 and 160, SPN 114, 115, 214, 215, 314, and 316. 103 North Foundation Hall

ACADEMIC SKILLS CENTER

New ASC Learning Strategy Workshops featuring the series "Where There's A Will There's An A" have begun.

Studying and Note Taking-This session will discuss how to make note taking useful and explore a variety of study techniques. Mon., Feb. 7th and Tue., Feb. 8th at noon - 1 PM and 6 - 7 PM.

Testing Techniques-Students will learn how to take multiple choice, short answer and essay exams. Wed., Feb 9th and Thurs., Feb. 10th at noon - 1 PM and 6 - 7 PM.

CHINESE LANTERN FESTIVAL

Come experience the world of China with Oakland's International Students & Scholars Wednesday, February 23, 2005 in celebration of the Chinese New Year/ Lantern Festival. Join in the festivities from 3 - 5 PM in Oakland's Fireside Lounge and enjoy live Chinese entertainment, food sampling, and also calligraphy.

CAMPUS RECREATION

www.oakland.edu/unit/campus_rec/

Intramural Sports Activities

-IM Racquetball sign up deadline is February 4
-Volleyball Skills Challenge is February 8 at 6 PM
- Volleyball Jamboree is February 8 at 6 PM

Aquatic News

Adult and child Learn to swim Classes begin Saturday, February 5. Saturday classes run February 5 - April 9; Monday classes run February 7 - April 11; Wednesday classes run February 9 - April 13. The cost for student and

LEARNING RESOURCES

Rec Center members is \$45 and for non-members is \$70. Call 370-4532 to sign up for additional information.

Attention Sophomore and Juniors we are looking for student mentors for the Martin Luther King Jr./ Cesar Chavez/ Rosa Parks College Day Program. Are you looking for a great leadership opportunity? Are you interested in making money? Do you like working with middle and high school students? If your answer is YES to the above questions, contact Learning Resources, 103 A North Foundation Hall, (248) 370-4455.

CAREER SERVICES WINTER CAREER PREP MONTH 2005

Mock Behavioral Interviews

Wednesday, Feb. 9th & Thursday, Feb. 10th, 2005, 9 AM - 12 noon
156 West Vandenberg Hall
Limited interview slots available! YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 7th. Directions on how to register are available on our website at www.oakland.edu/careerservices

Internship Panel

Thursday, Feb. 17th, 2005 from 12 noon - 1 PM, OC Gold Rooms A & B
Learn from student interns and local employers about the value of internships in today's competitive market.

Walt Disney World Presentations/Interviews

Tuesday, Feb. 22nd, 2005, 12 noon - 1 PM, Oakland Room, OC
Attendance at presentation is required to interview! All majors and college levels invited.

February 2, 2005

The Oakland Post
www.oakpostonline.com

A5

Celebrate the end of late fees ...well, sort of

By KRISTIN SOMMER
THE OAKLAND POST

The signs boldly state: "The end of late fees. The start of more." But some are wondering if Blockbuster's new program is the beginning of more problems.

"I think the television ad campaign is misleading," OU student Paul Kampe said. "They're trying to disguise late fees by calling them something else."

Blockbuster started the program Jan. 1, 2005 and stopped charging daily late fees.

"Doing away with late fees is the biggest and most important customer benefit we've ever offered in our company's history," John Antioco, Blockbuster Chairman and CEO said in a press release.

"So, as of the first of the year, if our customers need an extra day or two with their movies and games, they can take it. Late fees are a thing of the past at Blockbuster."

Members now have an extra week after the stated due date to keep the movie or game without penalty.

According to Blockbuster's Web site, blockbuster.com, eight days after a rental is due, it will be converted to a sale, and the retail price will be charged

to the member's account or credit card.

If the movie or game is available to buy at the previously-rented price at that time, the member will be charged that price instead.

The original rental fee will be deducted from the sale price if the rental is converted into a sale.

However, movies and games can still be returned up to 30 days after the original due date. At that time, the selling price will be refunded to the member, minus a \$1.25 restocking fee, Clinton Township Store Manager Lisa Fowler said.

OU student Montrell Porter thinks the program is more confusing than deceptive to most people.

"They need to publicize it more," Porter said. "Very few people know about it."

For example, if a member was to rent the DVD of "Anchorman" for \$3.49 and keep it more than a week after it was due, the member would be charged for buying the movie.

If the movie is only available new, the member's account would be charged \$18.50 (Retail price \$21.99 less rental fee \$3.49).

If the member brings the movie back before a month

has passed, \$17.25 would be refunded (\$18.50 minus \$1.25 restocking fee).

Fowler said most members seem to understand the rules at her store on Gratiot Avenue at Metro Parkway.

Customers are only keeping their rental two to four days after the due date, Fowler said.

People seem to like it, Fowler said. "They're just getting adjusted to the fact they own the movie."

With many members keeping movies and games longer, the issue of keeping the titles in stock has been addressed.

More copies of each title are being sent to every store, according to blockbuster.com.

These copies are not coming fast enough for Porter, who has been looking for the same movie for two weeks at the store at Squirrel Road and Walton Boulevard.

"Since the (end of) late fees, I feel like it's very hard to find a movie" in stock, Porter said.

Aside from that, he is happy with the program. He thinks people just need to look over the rules before keeping their movies or games too long.

"Anything that sounds too good to be true, you have to read the fine print," Porter said.

Global Glance

King disregards government

Nepal's leader, King Gyanendra, says he has dissolved the government of Nepal and has declared a state of emergency as he takes control of the Himalayan kingdom.

Speaking on state-run television, the king accused Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba and other government leaders of failing to conduct parliamentary elections and restoring peace in the country.

Club owner charged in fire

Involuntary manslaughter charges have been filed against Omar Chaban, a Buenos Aires nightclub owner, after a fire killed 192 people on Dec. 30, 2004.

The indictment came after investigative reports found that emergency and fire exits were locked to prevent people from entering a rock concert without paying.

If convicted, Chaban could face a prison sentence of eight to 25 years.

Ecuador shakes at idea of bigger quake

Hundreds of tremors off the coast of Ecuador in the past two weeks have sparked concern that a bigger quake could strike soon.

"This isn't normal," the director of the Geophysics Institute at the National Polytechnic School, Hugo Yopez, told Reuters on Monday. "This area is capable of producing big earthquakes. Very big earthquakes."

Experts say, though, that the shape of Ecuador's coastline would prevent an event as large as the tsunami that hit Southeast Asia in December.

Iraq demands answers

U.S. guards who shot and killed four inmates should be tried if they are found to have used excessive force in stopping a riot at Camp Bucca, a military detention camp near the Kuwaiti border, Iraq's human rights minister said yesterday.

Prisoners began throwing rocks and making weapons after a routine search of one of the camp's 10 compounds, said statements by the U.S. military. The violence then spread to three other compounds.

Camp Bucca houses nearly 5,000 suspected insurgents, and in the riot involving hundreds of the detainees, four were killed and six people were injured, five by camp guards.

Global goof

Subscriptions hit new high

Editors of a Dutch magazine are hoping to plant the seeds of higher circulation - with free pot seeds. Each copy of the weekly has a baggie with two seeds inside.

Editor in Chief Mark Koster says the stunt is to draw attention to the latest issue, which advocates legalizing pot and other drugs.

While Holland is famous for tolerating pot smoking, possession is still technically illegal.

Koster says prosecutors haven't been on the magazine's case about the pot seed giveaway. But several major supermarket chains have either removed the seeds or kept the issue off shelves.

-Compiled by Elizabeth Gorecki,
Local News Editor

Information taken from
various news sources.

First fan honors champs

"So, nobody expected you to win. I know how you feel," President Bush joked as the 2004 NBA champions lined up behind him Monday.

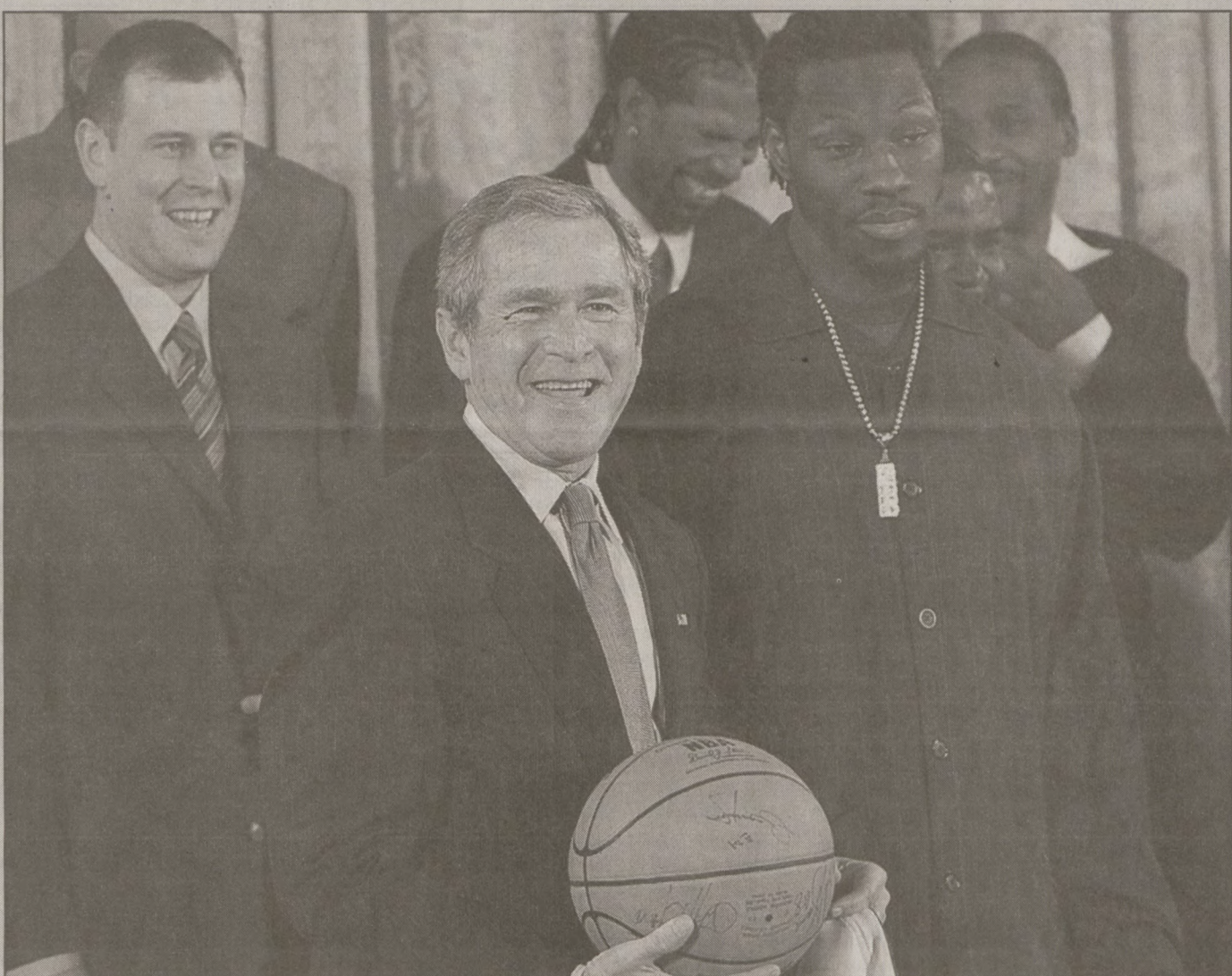
"You won because you put a team together," Bush said. "I guess you kind of just played it the right way. I think that's what the coach says, play it the right way. That's how we should live life. That's what champs do. They set an example."

The president also praised the team for their work in the community with the "Read to Achieve" program as well as assisting in the tsunami relief effort.

Source: The White House

Olivier Douliery/Abaca Press

President George W. Bush receives a jersey and game ball in a photo opportunity with the Detroit Pistons, 2004 National Basketball Association champions, at the White House Monday, Jan. 31, 2005, in Washington, D.C.



Dante Ciullo/Oakland Post

Auburn Hills currently has a community center located in the Auburn Hills Civic Campus located off of Squirrel Road. The Civic Campus is also home to the senior center and parks and rec center.

Community corner

Community center in the works

An all-new community center in Auburn Hills will give residents a place to hang out and meet new people.

The city has plans to build a new, \$5 million community center, Senior Services Director Karen Adeock said. She also explained that the money to build the community center will be coming from the Tax Increment Finance Authority.

Construction is scheduled to begin this spring and will hopefully be completed by May 2006.

This new center will include a multipurpose room where community meetings and informational classes will take place.

The new community center will boast a dance studio for those who want to learn a few moves as well as a fitness center, a gym and a game room.

The city already has a small community center across from OU's campus on Squirrel Road, but is looking forward to expanding to meet the needs of the ever-growing community.

-By ANN PETROUS
THE OAKLAND POST

Dispute over pool rules

The Older Persons Commission, serving senior citizens in the Rochester area, is proposing a new policy to change the age requirements at their pool and workout center.

Presently, it is required that one must be 50 years of age to use the facilities, however, the new proposal wants the minimum age requirement to be raised to 60.

For some, this is not good news because they use the facilities' fitness area and pool but are not over 60.

The current age requirement was voted on a few years ago by a board made up of some representatives of the community involved with the facility along with the seniors.

{Local Authors} Uncovered

By ERIN MALLARD
THE OAKLAND POST

The Southfield Public Library's Local Author Book Fair provides an opportunity for area authors to display their work, and to meet and share ideas with other authors. The fair also serves as an inspiration for the aspiring authors of the community.

The fair took place in the meeting room of the Southfield Public Library this past Wednesday, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., and exhibited the works of several local authors including David Collins, author of "My Louise: A Memoir," Chandra

Renee Oden, author of "Spiritual Vibrations: Expressions of Faith, Hope and Love;" and Raynetta Manees, author of "Wishing on a Star."

The authors were more than willing to chat with the fair's visitors, many of them aspiring writers themselves, about their work and the publishing process. Manees was even distributing a helpful list, "Tips for the 'I Get Published!' Writer," to help other writers in their quest for publication.

"It was positive to hear how local writers got their start and it's encouraging to people striving to get published. Please see AUTHOR on A8

Karen Lewis, the mayor of Rochester, was on the board at the time of the vote for the current age limit and was opposed to it. She said they should not have the power to make that kind of decision at the time that they did.

Many of the people that are involved with the center are in their 50s. They participate in the center's activities and also help out by teaching the seniors skills such as Internet use and technology.

Arguments may arise if this new policy goes into effect, as groups like the American Association of Retired Persons recognize seniors as 50 and up.

-By ROXANNA RIVES
THE OAKLAND POST

EDITORIAL

Iraq's elections: A step toward dictatorship

We heard about it for months. Jan. 30, 2005, the day Iraqi citizens would freely vote for the first time.

Citizens, voted in 5,300 polling sites across Iraq, as well as additional sites outside the country, including one in Metro-Detroit.

But did they really vote freely? Is this election any different than the mock elections Iraq has had in the past?

Despite our media's praising of the election, the fact of the matter is that the situation in Iraq remains the same.

Sure, Saddam Hussein has been ousted. But did we forget that our government supplied Saddam with the weapons he used against his people, the same people we claim to "free?"

Our government didn't turn against Saddam because he had weapons of mass destruction; it turned against him because he upset it.

In fact, most, if not all, governments in the Middle East pay their allegiance to the U.S. government.

And if they dare upset those in high office, they know they will end up like Saddam did.

Our government had no intention of freeing Iraq from a brutal dictatorship.

Since when does freeing a country involve invading it, occupying it and killing civilians?

And since when are terrorists those who fight against foreign invasion, like the Iraqis are doing in their country?

Last Sunday, Iraqi citizens

voted for members of the National Assembly, who will then choose a president and two deputies to replace the interim government appointed by the U.S.

That all sounds great, but like Iraq's previous government, this one will also be a puppet government, the strings of which are controlled by the White House.

When we set foot on foreign soil, we seldom leave.

We still have military bases in Kuwait and Saudi.

We claim we do it to "protect" and "free" others.

We claim that they ask for our help. But if they resist foreign U.S. military presence, they become "terrorists" and "haters of freedom."

Would we accept foreign militaries on our soil?

Having military bases on foreign soil is a convenient way for our government to keep check on the rest of the world, and make sure that what it wants goes.

By "freeing" other countries and nations, our government has instead created a self-proclaimed world dictatorship.

Innocent civilians and American soldiers are dying so that our government can have complete dictatorship over the rest of the world.

And our forefathers fought and died for the sole cause of freeing humanity from dictatorships, not to create another one out of this homeland.

~ Campus News Editor,
Roqaya Eshimawi

How will you be spending Super Bowl Sunday?

"Unfortunately, I have to work, so I won't be able to watch it, but it's usually a pretty boring game, so I don't mind. And I'm sure the Patriots will win."



Eugene Zglimbea
Junior
Computer Science



Rachel Willobee
Freshman
Theater

"My dad is having people over for the game, so we will be eating and playing games. I don't care who will win, but the commercials are usually pretty good, so I will watch."

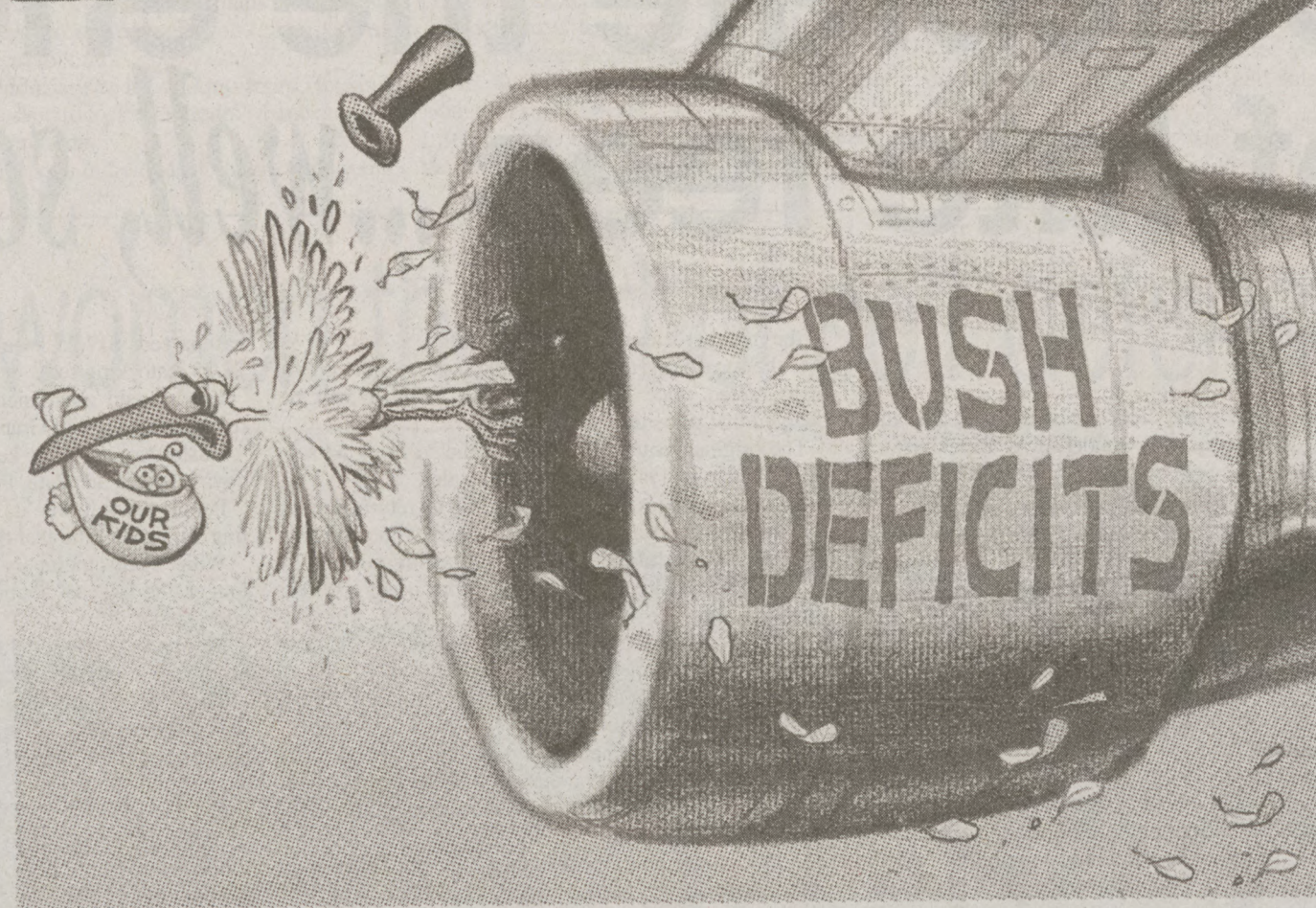
"I will probably be playing games on the computer, but the Super Bowl will be on in the background. And if I had to pick who would win, it would be the Patriots."



Steve Latawiec
Junior
Sociology

Letters to the editor should be sent to editor@oakpostonline.com or mailed to 61 OC, Rochester, MI 48309. All letters to the editor must include a name, class rank and field of study or OU affiliation. Please limit letters to 350 words. Letters may be edited for content and length. The Oakland Post uses discretion and may reject any letter for any reason. Letters become property of The Oakland Post. Please include your phone number so we can confirm authorship.

STAR TRIBUNE
SAC



GUEST COLUMN

Besides brew, what's on draft? Maybe you . . .



ANTHONY
MARTINEZ BEVEN

OU Student

Some have called it an urban legend — like President "take-him-for-his-word" Bush, who vehemently shot down the possibility during the long, drawn-out battle for a second stay in the White House.

Others say it's already a dealt fate for young Americans, regardless of race, gender or social class.

Everyone and anyone between the ages of 18 to 25 could be called...

Yep, the reinstatement of a military draft — a word most college students probably haven't heard or even used in a context outside of an overcrowded bar on dollar beer night — is possible.

But the fact of the matter is that a draft could be about as real as those thousands of dollars we are funneling into our college educations, which critics say won't brick wall a call-to-duty request by the U.S. armed services.

USA Today recently reported that because the army has overextended troops — primarily in Afghanistan and multiple regions of Iraq —

retirees still receiving military pension will soon be called back to active duty status.

About 320 of the retirees, who expressed the desire to rejoin army ranks after the Sept. 11 attacks, will have their requests granted, but more than 500 retirees need to answer call backs as well, said Lt. Col. Karla Brischke: "It doesn't mean we are scraping the bottom of the barrel."

Yeah, right. Most retirees are well over 40 and even as old as 60, with some even older! Are you kidding me?

Of course they're exhausting resources, and to be fair, scraping the bottom of the barrel would mean putting me and my college peers through a crash-course boot-camp regiment; then shipping us off to a government-mandated, all likely, death sentence.

I don't think so.

At least there's Canada, Oh Canada.

Well, that option held true for those who ducked out for the Vietnam War, but if there is, in fact, a draft for the battle for oil and a U.S. presence in the Middle East, ahem ... excuse me ... I mean the War on "Terror" in Iraq, then the United States already has its bases covered.

In Dec. 2001, Canada and the United States signed a "smart border declaration," which highlights a 30-point plan that includes a "pre-clearance agreement" of people entering and exiting both countries, according to snopes.com.

The site further details that twin bills (S 89 and HR 163) are still lingering in both the House and Senate, after being voted down, and \$28 million has been added to the 2004 Selective Service System (SSS) budget.

They predict a draft could begin as early as June 2005.

Well, I guess if a draft does happen, I can do one of two things until the end of the blood soaking — aim for the sunny and warm, south of the border country of Mexico, or stand proud and strong in one of America's fine prisons, while the U.S. Army and allied forces (which are dwindling) fight a war that we have no chance of ever winning.

Why you ask?

Iran, along with most Middle-Eastern countries, is ruled by autocracies, that means one, true ruler.

Do you honestly think that the leaders of those countries would allow Iraq to become a democracy, where citizens are allowed to have a voice in the political system?

Get real.

They would never allow for a prototype of freedom over there, because that would mean jeopardizing their wealth, power and prestige.

—Anthony Martinez Beven is a senior majoring in sociology and anthropology. Contact him at ambeven@oakland.edu.

Corrections:

Last week's "Series hits Islam 101"

story should have

said there are 1.2

billion Muslims in

the world, not 1.2

million.

Sumeera Younis is

the president of the

Muslim Student

Association.

Send corrections to

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Column had no hard evidence

Dear Editor,

While reading Mr. Koss's editorial on the War on Terror, I could not help but think that his viewpoint is the epitome of the short-sidedness that the current Bush administration and the millions of Americans who support his foreign policies share.

Also, the way he presents and supports his arguments is the same technique used by top government officials, which is to support their side with emotive language and sweeping generalizations rather than using reason and logic.

Mr. Koss and the hawks in the White House assume the role of magicians, putting up a smoke-screen, trying to make us see something that is not there.

The main illusion Mr. Koss sells to us is that the terrorists hate the U.S. because of our liberty, and the "negative effects" of our liberty, such as "drugs, prostitution, pornography and homosexuality."

If this were true, than why does al-Qaeda not go after the Netherlands, which is a liberal democracy, where drug use, prostitution, pornography and gay marriage are all legal?

Or what about Belgium, Norway, Sweden?

All of those countries have protected civil rights and rights to private property, but are not targeted by al-Qaeda.

However, Mr. Koss does correctly touch on one of the reasons why terrorists want to attack the U.S.; because of its heavy handed economic policies in the Middle East, but he fails to mention the extent of these policies.

Since the Eisenhower administration of the 1950s, it has been documented that Washington has had its hand in most of the region's major political and economic events since then, such as helping overthrow democratically elected governments (Iran 1953), supply dictators with weapons and money (Iraq 1980s) and economic warfare (sanctions on Iraq 1991-2004).

Also, Mr. Koss seems to have blatantly forgot or ignored the main reasons why Osama bin Laden, and his group, al-Qaeda, are waging war against the U.S.

He has repeatedly told reporters that the main reasons are:

1) Perpetual support for the nation of Israel, and of its occupation of Palestinian territories.

Even after being condemned for numerous human rights violations by the World Court and U.N., and having a formally recognized war criminal as its prime minister, the U.S. continues to give \$3 billion a year in aid to Israel.

2) The current war in Iraq. The regime of Saddam Hussein did not pose a threat to the United States and did not ally itself with groups that did, allowed weapons inspectors in and was still attacked without provocation by the U.S. and a "Coalition of the Willing".

Bin Laden declared this as yet another attack on Islam, and he now has another cause to unite extremists.

Being that it is a Muslim country, it is now another training ground supplying al-Qaeda with new recruits.

Also, after the first Gulf War, sanctions were imposed on the civilian population, which is believed to have caused some 500,000 to 1,000,000 deaths.

3) Operations of the U.S. military on Saudi soil, which is near the two most sacred cities of all Islam, Mecca and Medina.

Bin Laden believes that this is a major affront to Islam, to have non-Muslim warriors operating on holy land, therefore the main reason for his jihad against the U.S.

Living in a country where the rights to free speech are the best in the world, it is our job as citizens to question the rhetoric of our elected officials and the people who have vast influence over the public forum.

In these times, we have to think with our minds, not our

emotions, and not get tricked by magicians like Mr. Koss.

Aleksandar Nikolic
Senior
Music Composition and
Political Science

Letter lacked "real dialogue"

Dear Editor,

I would like to draw attention to a hostile letter to the editor in last week's edition (Jan. 26) of The Post, directed at Duane Hurt.

The author, Garrett Garcia, complains about the lack of "real dialogue" on our campus concerning racism. This statement has some merit.

However, the issue seems to be causing Mr. Garcia enough frustration to cause him to misdirect his hostilities at "the white guy" on the panel he's discussing, instead of adding helpful suggestions.

Directly after he says that white students need to get more involved in the minority student movements, he openly criticizes Duane Hurt and his fellow "quasi-intellectual, left leaning" students' participation in campus issues.

For the benefit of the readership, I suppose, Garcia informs us that Duane Hurt is not only gay, but, by the gracious provision of a modifier, "VERY" gay, as well as a feminist.

Apparently, Duane missed the sign on the door that specified which non-African-American student's opinion was valuable, and which one should turn away and seek other modes of political outreach.

He goes on to complain that Duane's visions of tolerance and the pointing out of similarities between other oppressed groups and the African-American struggle for equality are tired "clichés."

I hope that other students noted that Garrett Garcia is a SOCIOLOGY major and an assistant for the CENTER of MULTICULTURAL INITIATIVES who is blatantly disregarding the importance of awareness-raising, as well as trivializing Duane's efforts as a white student to participate in "dialogue" on racism because of his sexual orientation and political alignment. I find this rather embarrassing, as well as insulting.

Duane Hurt is a caring activist who puts forth ungodly amounts of energy to promote tolerance and raise awareness for multiple minority groups, on and off campus.

I think it is significant that Mr. Garcia's post was shockingly devoid of "real dialogue" and contained, for the most part, criticism that lacked both insight and tact.

He obviously declines to harken to his own call for constructive discourse.

Emily Eisele, WIF member
Junior
Eng SED & Women's Studies

Time is now for GSC

Dear Editor,

If not us, then who? If not now, then when?

My friend posed those two questions to me years ago as we were embarking on a project so huge that we thought we could never take it on ourselves.

In my life, I've asked myself that question several times, after that incident as well, and I found myself asking it the first day Suzanne Spencer-Wood mentioned the need for a Gender and Sexuality Center on campus.

The necessity for a Gender and Sexuality Center on campus is critical in ensuring that OU is going to be a competitor for recruiting top students in the years to come.

The data unequivocally shows the immense support of the student body to establish a Gender and Sexuality Center.

Several years ago, when the

idea for a Gender and Sexuality Center first germinated, our women's studies class conducted a university wide survey to gauge interest and concerns regarding such a center.

Over 70 percent of men and women either strongly or somewhat agreed that the center should focus on education.

Also, almost half the men strongly agreed with the notion that the center should focus on education.

One 47-year-old female commented, "health issues get overlooked, women make most of the nutrition choices in their home, they need to know what to do when they are pregnant and for their children. As you get older, there is osteoporosis, cancer, heart problems and even menopause - nobody talks about it."

This woman's comment sheds light on many issues pertaining to women and also highlights in how many ways the educational facets of the program will assist our older population on campus, including faculty and administration.

I think at this point it is important to note that educational resources and services provided by the Gender and Sexuality Center are two extremely interconnected aspects of the center; to make available educational resources in itself is a service to the student body and the community and many, if not all of the services that would be provided, are educational in one way or another to the recipient.

That may also explain the relatively close percentages of people supporting the educational aspects and the service aspects of the center.

Although some may argue that resources that the center will provide currently exist, they have surely failed to take a close look at what is a complex problem.

For instance, the most common refutation against the center's development is that the Graham Health Center provides many of the services that the center intends to provide.

However, one must also note that the waiting list for counseling at the GHC is often three weeks to a month.

For a student that is facing sexual harassment, or in more extreme cases, has just been raped, this is not only inadequate, but atrocious.

Issues such as rape, lack of access to proper contraceptives and counseling concern me and affirm more so in my mind that we need a resource on campus that can reach out to the campus community at large and help break such misconceptions as they are detrimental to the overall advancement of our university and our society.

Indeed, the time to act is now, and we, all of us, the students and administration at this university, we are just the people to do it.

Sumeera Younis
Senior
Women's Studies/Sociology
Student congress legislator
Muslim Student's Association,
president

Tuition money should not be used for GSC

Dear Editor,

I have recently read in The Oakland Post of the plans to organize a Gender and Sexuality Center here at Oakland University.

I understand the importance for some people to have access to a center that addresses the concerns of "...lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning students, faculty, staff and alumni" on campus.

However, knowing that this building is coming directly from the student's tuition, I don't find this idea at all appealing.

The construction of such a building contributes nothing to my educational experience here at Oakland.

The proposed programs do not apply to me, being a male student, and I do not feel they represent the majority of the students on campus.

This is observed by the fact

that of all the people I have met on campus over the last five years, I don't personally know more than a half dozen who would ever advocate spending their tuition on such a program.

Something that concerns me more is that we no longer have free printing services on campus, and yet we're thinking of building additional services and buildings.

It's understandable that we can no longer support free printing, and I realize that we are one of the last universities to offer this service, but that was something that was used by every student here on campus.

Even now at the (SECS) lab in Dodge Hall, there is generally only one printer and it is usually not working correctly.

I have read that we are one of the last universities to have such a center, but I do not believe that having this center would increase the chances of getting a job after graduation.

In addition, I don't believe that this center would help me to study for my classes or assist me in enjoying campus activities.

Being a commuter school, a good number of students I have talked to like to go to their classes and then leave campus.

Oakland University is not a college town; the amount of people who live on campus is relatively low compared to the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, making it more difficult to have access to such a building.

If I have a medical problem, I go to Graham Health Center.

If I am in need of counseling on campus, I could always go to Graham Health Center.

I can't say that this new center would benefit me in any way.

It doesn't seem that it is geared to benefit everyone, though everyone is going to pay for it.

If this idea was being brought about by people donating their time and energy, and the center itself was not coming from university funds, I don't think I would have a problem with it.

However, I have talked to members of student congress and I have been informed that this would indeed come from the tuition, which I would never support.

Jason Hansen
Senior
Electrical Engineering

Dear Editor,

Last week's edition of The Oakland Post featured many voices of support for the Gender and Sexuality Center. As the paper proclaimed, "Students continue call for GSC."

I feel that more dialogue and opinions need to be expressed about this topic, and with that being said, I cannot support the addition of this center to our campus.

At its present state, Oakland University is definitely in financial trouble.

We have seen our student numbers fluctuate over the years and watched state funding decrease. In response, tuition and fees have increased.

With that being said, I do not believe that it would be worth using student money to establish and run this center.

Yes, it would satisfy the few people who would use it, but would it really be worth the funding? The answer to this question is no, and I will tell you why.

We currently have the Graham Health and Counseling Centers, which are both incredible facilities and house many resources for students' yet both go under-used every semester.

The Graham Counseling Center alone has three Ph.D. certified psychologists/counselors and many graduate students.

Additionally, in 1997-1998 our students voiced their need for a recreation center, which is currently an incredible 37 million dollar facility that everyone pays a fee to use, but is never crowded.

It seems to be tradition for students on this campus to put up a united front and fight for "resources" that we feel we need.

With time, those resources go unused.

Lastly, it seems to me that this

establishment is not a center that would service the entire campus community.

The center is called a Gender and Sexuality Center, which is a title that is "conveniently" inclusive of all students on campus, but who is this center really going to serve?

Is it men? Women? Those students who are heterosexual?

Or is it actually a center simply for students who are homosexual?

Many students have written in praising this idea, referring to the center as a "women's center."

If that were in fact what it would be, why aren't those words included in the name?

I cannot recall any other group on our campus that has a center to serve their needs.

The Center for Multicultural Initiatives is an office whose goal is to serve all students, regardless of their "label."

The Association of Black Students is exactly that, an association/student group.

Why should the students proposing this establishment have a center when they can easily form a student group and invite faculty and staff members to mentor and advise them?

Our campus would be a better place if we simply took advantages of the underused resources that we already have.

This campus has plenty of resources for any student who actively seeks them.

Steven D. Townsend
Senior
Chemistry

Dear Editor,

As much as I would love to have a center on campus for activities such as women's leadership conferences and RAD, I do not feel that I should have to pay for it out of my own tuition.

I know for a fact that if I asked my other female friends about this, they would say "this is a great idea," but as soon as you tell them they will be paying for this center out of their tuition, they would say "NO THANK YOU."

If it would be possible to find another avenue of funds for this center, I would be all for it.

There are many companies around this area that, if asked, they possibly put up the funds for this kind of center, if you just name it after them.

Think about that, so my fellow students and I do not have to pay for this out of our pockets, when most of us are paying for our tuition by ourselves.

Holly Signor
Sophomore
CPH delegate for
Alpha Sigma Tau
Medical Laboratory Sciences

Roe v. Wade events were informative

Dear Editor,

Last week was the anniversary of the famous Roe v. Wade court trial, which made abortion legal in our country.

Decades later, there is still controversy surrounding the issue. Both positions on the issue ("Pro-Choice" and "Pro-Life") were represented over the past week and a half in the form of "Fireside Lounge" presentations. I was surprised to open last week's edition of The Oakland Post, and not even find a mention of these events that took place on our campus.

I understand that these can be volatile issues, but it seems like they should at least make it on to the radar screen of what's happening on our campus.

So, since The Post didn't have anything to say about these events, I thought I would write and give you my biased perspective on these events.

Yes, I did say biased. I am "Pro-Life," so obviously that will affect the way I see things.

First of all, I am glad that both sides decided to organize an event.

Both presentations were interesting and informative.

One thing I would have liked to see more of at both presenta-

tions would have been discussion. There was hardly any time given to questions or discussion.

Information is valuable, but dialogue is critical to understanding each other and making progress.

Maybe they were worried we would riot or something.

At O.U.? Come on now.

Protesting did happen at both events ... although I was the only protester at the Pro-Choice event, standing there in my homemade T-shirt which read "Life-Prevention is Murder!"

As important as we Pro-Lifers say that the lives of the unborn are, you would think more of us would show up!

I would like to thank the Pro-Choicers for their politeness both in their respectful protesting of the Pro-Life event, as well as their politeness to me when I was protesting their event.

I'm not into idiot-protesting, and I'm glad we didn't see any of that from either side.

Actually, I had a couple good conversations with some Pro-Choicers, and I think I even made a couple friends.

A university should be a place where we can honestly discuss issues and respectfully disagree with each other when we need to.

I hope Oakland University continues to be a place where this can happen.

Lastly, I would like to take a few lines to react to the Pro-Choice position.

My Pro-Choice friends made it very clear that their objective was to discuss not only abortion, but also women's rights in general. Women's rights is an important issue, and this event actually made me want to learn more about them.

My purpose in protesting their event was not to protest women's rights (although I know they would disagree with me here.)

I had multiple women tell me that they don't understand how I can have anything to say about this issue because I am a man ... apparently it is only a women's issue ... and abortion is something that is up to them alone based on their situation.

My problem with that view can be summed up in two words: life-prevention.

Those two words explain why I was there protesting.

Regardless of one's religious beliefs, the scientific stance on when life begins, or a women's "right" to make decisions about her body, no one can deny that if nobody messed with that fetus, a life would result.

Abortion is stopping a life from happening, and nobody should have that right.

There is no other situation in life, no matter how bad it is, where we would condone ending one human's life because it is convenient for another human.

Life is a "bitter-sweet symphony," and we all have our own baggage to deal with, but life is still worth living.

So why do we (our country) condone the ending of babies' lives before they even begin?

Like many groups who have been oppressed throughout history, including women, these potential babies have no voice and their humanity is being denied them.

They have no say in whether they get a life. That call is made for them. Women have a right to life! Men have a right to life!

And I hope I live to see the day when fetuses' (future men and women) rights are acknowledged and protected.

I will end with a plea to my Pro-Choice friends: Under our current law you have the right to choose an abortion.

I am not asking you to embrace a political or religious ideology that you do not agree with.

I am simply asking that if you find yourself in the position where you get to exercise your freedom to choose, that you will look beyond your situation and the inconveniences a baby may cause you.

Be Pro-Choice and choose life!

Daniel R. Wilkinson
Junior
English

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

- FIRST AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

AUTHOR**Continued from A5**

lished," said Juanita Banks of Southfield, who attended the fair.

Some of the authors, like Manees, have written several books and have writing careers with newspapers and magazines. Others, like Oden, have simply kept journals or written letters throughout their lives that they felt

could be helpful to readers, or have been encouraged by friends and relatives to publish their work.

The Local Author Book Fair grew out of a large interest from local authors who wanted to display their works in the new library, built in 2003. In the beginning, authors would come and display their work one at a time, but so many authors

were interested that library employees had the idea of bringing them together in one place.

The next fair will take place on Wednesday, Apr. 13, from 6-7:30 p.m.

There is also a Books and Beyond Festival planned for Sept. 17-18, 2005, on the front lawn of the Southfield Public Library.

MAPP**Continued from A1**

end of his statement, everyone had been benched, so to speak.

"What did that demonstration do right off the bat?" Golson questioned. Answers from the audience were conclusive: "We don't always take care of ourselves," one person said. Another pointed out we don't always "follow the rules."

"That's right," Golson responded, who subsequently addressed the "barriers" blacks face when it comes to sexual behavior.

"What's making it different for our people?" Golson asked, assumingly.

He took a blue marker and began listing the reasons on a white piece of large newsprint paper strategically taped to the wall behind him.

The first was laziness, followed by lack of knowledge.

Embarrassment was next.

"It can be intimidating going to Wal-Green's and getting your condoms," Golson said.

After that, he scribbled a dollar sign on the paper, symbolizing economics.

"Some people exchange sex for money — they are hard-pressed to put condoms on their grocery lists," he said.

Low self-esteem, which he listed after, was an issue he personally grappled with.

"I imitated what I saw," Golson said. "What I saw was give your part-

ner what he wants."

DL, or down-low — a term referring to a married man who sleeps with other men on the side — fell sixth, while fear was the last on the list.

"All these things," Golson said, pointing to the list, "get internalized." Communication needs to be an integral part of the sexual behavior discussion, Golson said.

"He didn't say anything, so I'm not going to bring it up. She didn't say anything, so I'm not going to bring it up," is no longer a realistic approach, he said, toting up sexism to the now growing list.

Religion is another factor.

"It feeds into a lot of guilt — especially doctrine from the Catholic and Baptist Churches" Golson said, appendaging religious affiliation to the now completed list.

A Closer Look

It's been ordained a crisis by many in the medical profession. In 2002, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention gauged over 162,000 African-Americans were living with AIDS in the U.S. They account for 42 percent of this afflicted population.

Sophomore Marcella May of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, which co-sponsored the event with S.A.F.E. (Students, Administrators and Faculty for Equality) On Campus organization, said a lot of young

adults are not sensitive to the ravages of this epidemic.

"We've got to put the bug in their ears," May said. "So they know about it, and maybe one day they'll listen."

There is a lack of effort to nationalize the message of safe sexual behavior, and while network media advertising is one way to achieve that, it will never come to pass, Golson said.

"They are afraid of losing sponsorship," he said. "But how do we fix some of this? A lot has to do with self — hold a mirror up to yourself."

"You will see and hear less about HIV and more about sexually transmitted diseases," Golson said of the campaign. "What they've found is people are lacking information on STD's."

Areas like your mouth, where a large amount of pink is exposed, are considered disease-receptive areas, and by keeping them healthy, it "will reduce the chance of HIV infection taking hold."

"How do you know if (you're) healthy?" Golson asked. "By getting tested. You want to keep up a high resistance."

He recapped by outlining MAPP's three angles of prevention—abstain or postpone sexual contact, safer sexual behavior and outercourse where "you don't exchange bodily fluids."

For more information on AIDS, visit <http://aidsprevention.org>.

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AT THE POST

Interested in writing for The Post? Weekly meetings are Monday at noon in 61 Oakland Center. (Basement of the OC, next to the radio station)

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WXOU will be hosting a special OU Idol competition on Thursdays from 4:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Stop by the radio station office in the basement of the Oakland Center or call 248-370-4274 for more information. Be sure to tune in daily for a variety of programming.

CENTER FOR STUDENT ACTIVITIES

49 Oakland Center, Rochester, MI 48309-4401
(248) 370-2400 csa@oakland.edu www3.oakland.edu/oakland/currentstudents/csa

Meadow Brook Winter Ball**"Celestial Magic"**

Saturday, February 5
8 PM — 1 AM
Meadow Brook Hall

Tickets are available at the CSA Service Window, 49 Oakland Center, for \$25 per couple or \$12.50 per individual.

Tickets have never been this cheap! Take part in this OU tradition!

It's Coming!

Random Acts of Kindness Week

February 14-20, 2005

"Flicks at Oakland University" Film Series

February 15: King of Hearts
February 22: Shall We Dance?
March 1: Ridicule
March 22: The Fog of War
March 29: Goodbye, Lenin
April 5: All About my Mother

All films can be viewed at 7:30 PM in Meadow Brook Theatre. Cost: \$4.00

12th Annual Student Leadership Retreat

March 18-19
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Sign-up at the CSA Service Window, 49 OC. Limited to 60 participants!

CSA SERVICE WINDOW**RESERVATIONS FOR:**

Discount tickets for the following shows and events are available to members of the Oakland University community. You can purchase tickets or pick up a detailed schedule of dates, times and prices at the CSA Service Window, 49 Oakland Center.

- Phantom of the Opera (Mar. 13 & 23)
- Cirque Dreams (Mar. 29)
- Beauty and the Beast (Apr. 12)
- Tosca (Apr. 13 & 15)
- Hairspray (May 1, 5 & 15)
- Margaret Garner (May 6)
- Riverdance (May 17)
- Little Shop of Horrors (May 19, 22 & June 5)
- The Daughter of the Regiment (June 8 & 10)

TICKETS AND SIGN-UPS:

- Meadow Brook Winter Ball (Feb. 5)
- CSA Student Leadership Retreat (Mar. 18-19)

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Marissa Penrod
Independent Arbonne Consultant

Have a question, comment, or concern for the CSA Office?

Email us at csa@oakland.edu

African American Celebration 2005
January 17 — February 24

Thursday, February 3
"An African-American President of United States..."
5 PM; Room 128-130, OC

Friday, February 4
"Taste of Africa Gala 2005"
5-8 PM; Banquet Rooms, OC

Tuesday, February 8
"Are Gay Rights Civil Rights?"
6-8 PM; Banquet Rooms, OC

February 2, 2005

The Oakland Post
www.oakpostonline.com

B1

Winter Wonderland



BY SHEILA KOSZTOWNY
ASSISTANT LIFE EDITOR

We look out the window and see the snow. Then we think how nice it would be to go sledding or ice skating than to study.

But where do we go?

Put your book down and check out the variety of winter activities offered at locations near OU.

So, you get in your car and head west to Michigan's first refrigerated toboggan run in Waterford. The Fridge is an outdoor 1,000 feet long track with a 55-foot drop, located in Waterford Oaks Park.

"It's like an outdoor roller coaster," Bob Gordon of Livonia said, while chaperoning 21 Boy Scouts on Saturday. It was the troops' fourth visit to The Fridge.

"It is enjoyable for them," Gordon, 47, said.

Refrigerated lines run under the two parallel tracks to maintain the ice, and are chilled using the same machine used in an indoor ice rink, said Fridge supervisor Chris Rodriguez, who has been working there for 11 years.

Up to four people can ride on the padded toboggan, which includes straps to hold riders in.

"You have to wait in long lines and you have to carry your own toboggan up there," Ryan Castiglione, 13, of Livonia said.

But he said it was worth the wait.

His younger brother Tim, 11, said, "With regular sledding, you don't get as much speed."

The toboggan can exceed speeds of 30 mph. But because of the speed, the ride lasts only 30 seconds.

"It should have been longer," OU student Sara O'Neill, 18, said. "It's too straight, (but) we'll stay till we get our money's worth."

The ride costs \$9 for a daily pass and \$7 for residents, whereas a single ride costs \$2.50.

The Fridge is open Wednesday through Friday from 4-9:30 p.m. and has lights for the evening hours. On Saturday, The Fridge is open from 10 a.m.-10 p.m. and Sunday from noon-6 p.m.

After you turn into an ice cube at The Fridge, Independence Oaks of Independence Township offers ice-skating, ice fishing and cross-country skiing within 1,088 acres.

The ice rink is suitable for ice-skaters and hockey players and is about the size of a hockey rink. The

Waterford: The Fridge (248) 975-4440, located at 1702 Scott Lake Road between Watkins Lake Road and Dixie Highway.

Independence Township (Clarkston): Independence Oaks (248) 625-0877, located at 9501 Sashabaw Road north of I-75.

Lake Orion: Bald Mountain Recreation Area (248) 693-6767, located at 1330 E. Greenshield Road on Lapeer Road.

Shelby Township: Stony Creek Metropark (586) 781-4242, located at 4300 Main Park Road.

Madison Heights: Located off 13 Mile and west of John R. at 360 W. 13 Mile Road. Contact City Hall (248) 583-0828

Rochester Hills: Spencer Park (248) 656-4657, located off John R. and south of Auburn at 3701 John R. Road.

Bloomer Park (248) 656-4753, located at 375 John R. Road. At the north end of John R. north of Avon Road.

park takes ice measurements daily on the 68-acre Crooked Lake and requires more than four inches to open.

Those of you wishing to go cross-country skiing can slide on nine miles of groomed trails all marked with the level of difficulty. The park offers rental cross-country skis for \$10.

Independence Oaks is open from 8 a.m.-dusk, and costs \$10 for a daily pass.

Travel east to Bald Mountain Recreation Area of Lake Orion, where snowmobiles can drive on seven miles of trails.

In the 4,637 acres, there are eight miles of groomed trails suitable for cross-country skiers in the north part of the park. But watch out for hunters who frequent the park.

Although Trout Lake is in the middle of the park, ice fishing and ice-skating are not recommended due to unsafe conditions. The park

is open from dawn until dusk.

After snowmobiling, stop by Stony Creek Metropark in Shelby Township for a few hours. Stony Creek Metropark has 4,461 acres with a 500-acre Stony Creek Lake in the center of the park.

The park offers numerous sledding hills, but the only one worthwhile is in the West Branch section.

At West Branch, there is a toboggan run (bring your own), a bumpy sledding hill and trails for cross-country skiers.

"We're regulars," Paul Pebbles of New Haven said, while sledding with his two daughters, Kylee, 8, and Lynzee, 4. "We're here anytime the snow is good."

Kylee mounted her inner tub and sled down the bumpy hill. She reached the bottom laughing and said, "It makes me want to fly."

The other sledding hills are for younger kids and even the snowboarding hill is for beginners to practice.

Ice-skaters have an ice rink near the boat launch and have late-skate with lights.

"You can skate anywhere on the lake," Metroparks Police Corporal Paul Laube said, explaining it is a public access lake. "We can't stop them from going out there."

However, Laube recommends skating on the ice arena that is shaved for a smooth surface and is safer.

The Park takes only a few ice measurements during the winter season; therefore to go on the lake is at your own risk.

Caution is advised for fishermen since the ice thickness varies around the lake. Laube said the same fish in the St. Clair Lake inhabit Stony Creek Lake such as pike, walleye, largemouth bass, perch, bluegill and crappies.

And of course, there are 13 miles of trails for cross-country skiers near the golf course, which provides rental skis.

The park is open from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. with a daily fee of \$4. Make sure you buy a pass at the booth or the park office because those without a pass will be ticketed.

Get back in your car and take your sled to Civic Center Park in Madison Heights. The hill is a favorite among residents because of its deep drop, and sits behind the city hall. There is no charge to enter the park, and refreshments are sold on the weekends.

Heading closer to OU, Rochester Hills offers ice-skating, ice hockey and ice fishing at Spencer Park. Spencer Park has a 38 acre-lake with a surrounding one-mile walking path.



The Rochester Hills Fire Department demonstrates an ice rescue at the North Ridge District Fish-O-Ree. Firefighters used a chainsaw to cut through 10 inches of ice.

Two hockey rinks and a skating rink are maintained with several machines to keep it smooth for skaters, said Park Ranger Bob Lawson. First, they snow blow the arenas, then use a walk-behind broom to clear it more. The final step is making the ice smooth using the hand-held Zamboni, Lawson, 35, said, who has worked with the parks since 1994.

"We put a layer of water on top of our skating area," he said. "It is similar to the ice you are going to find in an indoor arena."

Spencer Park held its annual North Ridge District Fish-O-Ree Saturday, an event conducted by local Cub Scouts. This year had more than 700 Cub Scouts, said Bob Armbruster, a round table commissioner who planned the event.

The event has drawn as many as 1,000 people.

"It's nice to get all of these people out to enjoy the park," Park Ranger

Chris Parsell, 29, said. "It's good to see this many people out in the middle of the winter."

"People come from all over the place because they catch a lot of largemouth bass," Lawson said, adding that there are also northern pike, walleye, crappies, bluegill and perch in the lake.

"I go fishing usually almost every time I go to my uncle's house," Andrew Lambiris, 11, of Madison Heights said.

During the Fish-O-Ree, he caught a 30-inch northern pike, only seven inches short of the largest fish record.

Spencer Park is open from 10 a.m.-dusk and has a \$10 vehicle entry fee, but only when staffing is available.

Two miles north on John R. Road is Bloomer Park, where sledders and cross-country skiers enjoy the miles of woods off the Clinton River.

In the back of the park, there are

three sledding hills named Powderhorn Ridge, Avalanche Drive and Snowmass Lane.

"They're really fast," Stefanie Bozinoski, 20, said. "I wiped out."

Bozinoski is a park attendant for the City of Rochester Hills and has worked there for two years. On the weekends, the sledding hill can have more than 100 people a day, she said.

"Our sled hill is very safe because we designate walkways and sledding hills,"

Lawson said, adding that no tricycle sleds, snowboards or inner tubes with stems are allowed.

Bloomer Park is open from 8 a.m.-dusk, but the sled hill is open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. There is a daily permit fee of \$5.

Okay, so you still don't want to drive the fifteen minutes to Bloomer Park, so go to the skating rink in downtown Rochester. Off of Pine Street,

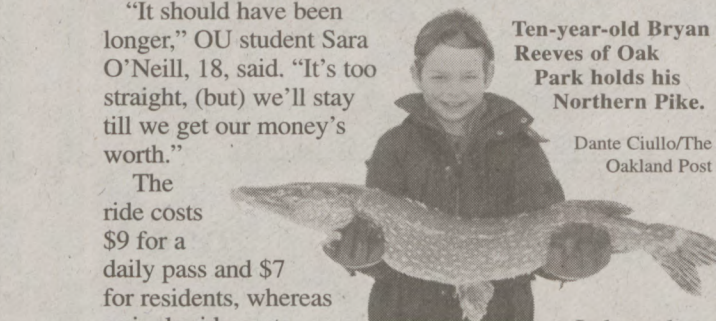
across from the police station, there is a small pond to skate on at no charge.

Bring your skates, as the pond is lit at night. The park ranger tests the ice every day for safety.

What was that? You don't have a car? Well grab a sled and walk east on Meadow Brook Road to the John Dodge House on campus. A sledding hill is located on the golf course at no charge.

So bundle up and enjoy the snow.

Interested in snowboarding or skiing? Check out the nearest ski resorts: Pine Knob Ski Resort, (248) 625-0800; Mt. Holly Ski Area, (248) 634-8260; and Alpine Valley Ski Area, (248) 253-2928.



Ten-year-old Bryan Reeves of Oak Park holds his Northern Pike. Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post



Toboggans race down a 55-foot drop on an ice luge at The Fridge in Waterford Oaks Park in Waterford. Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post

Toboggans race down a 55-foot drop on an ice luge at The Fridge in Waterford Oaks Park in Waterford.

Young indie rocker continues success

Oberst releases albums

By Dave Phillips
The Oakland Post

Conor Oberst has been an indie rock hero since he was 14 years old. He's been on the cover of every music magazine known to man.

He's done more in his teens and early twenties than most musicians do in a lifetime.

At the ripe age of 24, Oberst has released two new albums simultaneously, one of which is titled "Digital Ash in a Digital Urn," marking it as his fifth album.

In this album, Oberst ventures from the style that made his solo project "Bright Eyes" so popular in favor of electronic instruments and ambient noise.

Before the album is even a minute old, two things stick out.

The case is all black, very ominous looking, with a picture of a person vomiting into a toilet, visible if held in the right light.

Also, the first track, "Time Code" has an eerie beginning that's later joined by synthesized drums.

These things set the tone for the rest of the album.

Opinion

Combined with the dark mood are some catchy hooks.

"Light Pollution" is a crafty song that will stay in your head all day long.

"Arc of Time" is reminiscent of a Wilco song, and it begs to be sung along to.

"Take It Easy" gives a bit of insight into one of Oberst's favorite song topics — relationships. He sings, "If you stay too long inside my memory, I will trap you in a song tied to a melody."

The second half of the album begins with the exceptional "I Believe In Symmetry."

The song starts off simple and straightforward, but everything changes midway through. Orchestral instruments join in, and the entire structure of the song is changed.

The most interesting part is that it's not even noticeable with the first listen. The change is so gradual that it seems as though nothing has changed at all.

"Gold Mine Gutted" is another song that will stick in your head.

The keyboard, drums and gentle backing vocals mesh well with the lead vocal, creating a very melodic song with passionate lyrics.

"Easy/Lucky/Free" ends the album. It's a perfect closing song. The pace is relaxed. The mood is somber, the music laid back.

The lyrics show Oberst's disgust with modern America, especially the war in

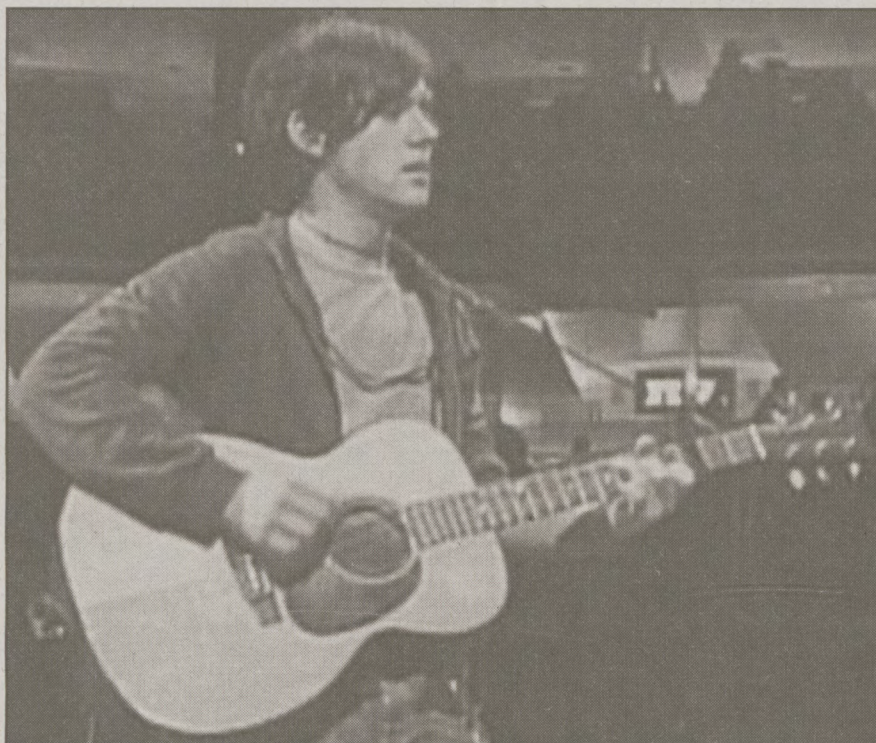


Photo courtesy of Bright Eyes
Conor Oberst has released two albums at once, entitled "Digital Ash in a Digital Urn" and "I'm Wide Awake, It's Morning," within his solo project "Bright Eyes."

Iraq.

At the end of the song, rather than the typical fade out or the basic end of a song, the song cuts out, almost as if the disc is skipping.

This makes for an abrupt ending to an excellent album.

Oberst is already considerably successful. Releasing two albums on the same day is a major step forward.

Along with his fifth album, Oberst released "I'm Wide Awake, It's Morning." This album is more of an

earthly, country-style as opposed to his fifth album. Both are part of his solo project, "Bright Eyes."

His best work may still be years ahead of him. "Digital Ash in a Digital Urn" is an album that needs a few listens.

It's an acquired taste. But, like good music always does, it grows on you.

Before you know it, you can't stop listening.

"Bright Eyes" has that effect. That's why Conor Oberst will be around for a long time.



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Crossword puzzle

- ACROSS
- 1 Sunscreen ingredient

5 Guitar adjuncts, briefly

9 Norwegian dramatist

14 Vivacity

15 Fall guy

16 Drain cover

17 Dictator Idi

18 Nagy of Hungary

19 Cranny

20 Broadcast journalist made dinner?

23 Actress Ward

24 Belgrade man

25 Wind dir.

26 PFC's entertainment

28 Bonus NFL periods

30 Slurred

32 Literary lion roared?

36 Pot sweetener

37 Big letters in Detroit

38 Tours to be

42 Pop singer bragged?

47 Share billing

50 Sellout letters

51 Make a choice

52 False front

53 Drill parts

56 Smart one

58 Musician wanted to know?

62 Fortune's deck

63 Carrier to Israel

64 Disagreeable responsibility

66 First name of a plane
- 67 Major ending?

68 Dele opposite

69 Fill an empty flat

70 Conks out

71 Italian noble family
- DOWN
- 1 Green shade

2 ___ mater

3 Parachutes

4 Astronomer Cannon

5 Stir up

6 NYC cultural attraction

7 City on the Seine

8 One cubic meter

9 Dishonorable

10 Vivacity

11 Taken down like a QB

12 Sweet-smelling gas

13 Lacked

21 Untidy person

22 Ship's company

26 NATO member

27 ___ Jose, CA

29 Disparaging remark

31 Logical starter?

33 For fear that

34 Place

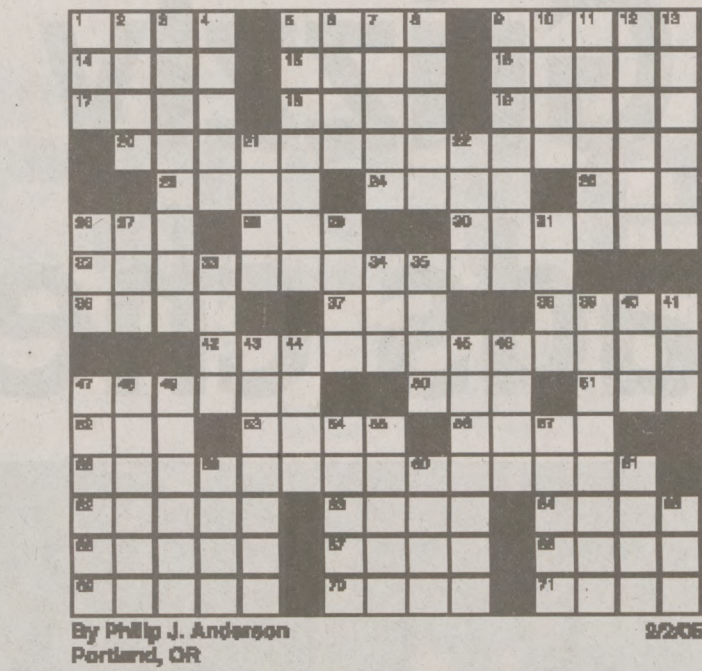
35 Wise birds?

39 Opinion value?

40 Elected off.

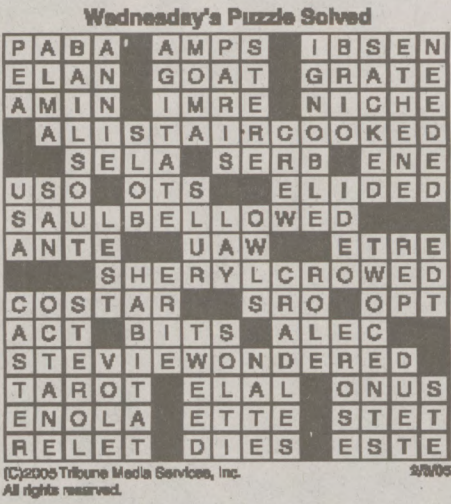
41 NYC summer hrs.

43 Environment



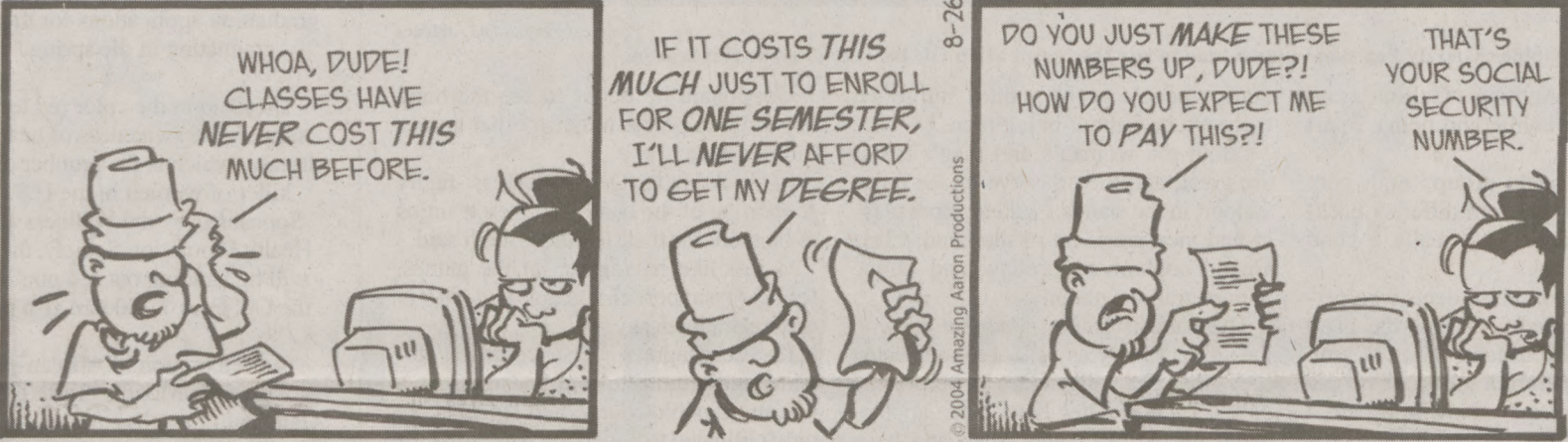
By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR

- 44 Border lake
- 45 Baby beds
- 46 Kind of model
- 47 Net flinger
- 48 Gasoline rating
- 49 Unsaturated alcohol
- 54 Coarse wool
- 55 Conductor Sir
Georg
- 57 Uneven
- 59 Small rodent
- 60 "Six Feet Under"
character
- 61 Twosome
- 65 Fr. holy woman



Comic

2 Dudes



Golden Grizzly pep band leads cheers

By NATALIE FISHER
THE OAKLAND POST

Drummers of Oakland University's Golden Grizzly Pep Band tap out the familiar riff, "Back in Black," as members of OU's basketball teams are announced.

As players warm up on the court, the band gets the crowd going in the stands blasting out popular songs like Guns 'n' Roses' "Welcome to the Jungle" and, of course, the "OU Fight" song.

The Golden Grizzly Pep Band should not be confused with a high school pep band or even a symphonic band. The Golden Grizzly Pep Band is all about playing songs that the fans can really get into and have fun while supporting their teams, said Kenneth Kroesche, associate professor of music and associate director of the band.

The band may not be the size they hope to be, but as Kroesche said, "What people see at the games is an excellent product with Big Ten sound."

Kroesche is encouraged by the number of fans who continually show up to support OU teams, yet discouraged by how few know the words to the fight song. His hope, along with the rest of the members of the band, is that by playing the song at all the games, students will want to learn the words and join in.

"Once the other students see that product, our hope is that they will want to be a part of that," Kroesche said.

About six years ago, the group disbanded for lack of interest. When Kroesche was asked to rebuild the program in 2003, there was one student enrolled for the fall semester.

Today, the band is at its largest enrollment, with almost 60 members.

While some may credit his skills as a director, Kroesche said that the credit needs to go to the students.

"They are one of the greatest spirit groups on campus," Kroesche said.

The band consists of current OU students as well as alumni, both music and non-music majors. The class meets twice a week during fall semester and attends basketball games during the winter season.

Trumpet player and sophomore mar-



Members of the Golden Grizzly Pep Band play a tune to stir the crowd at an OU basketball game this season.

Photo courtesy of OU Athletics

keting major, Anthony Gallina, said that he enjoys playing and being a part of the band.

"It's a laid-back group, and very diverse with people from different backgrounds and majors. It's really a good time," Gallina said.

Gallina is one of the students who persuaded the university to give the band student organization status. Just last year, the band was merely a group of people meeting on their own. Now, they are a student-run organization with four officers: president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

Gallina, president of the band, said that while there were many hoops to jump through to get to where they are now, their biggest challenge has been

getting people to the games, and to get them excited about being there.

"Both the women's and men's teams are great, and they deserve to see equal support in the stands," said trumpet player and vice president of the band, Chris Goeth, sophomore pre-law and public administrations major.

The band is gaining recognition with the student body as well. Last semester, they hosted a tailgate party before the Nov. 27 game. They have made appearances during Welcome Week and have been asked to do some community outreach events.

In March, some members of the band will be traveling to Tulsa, Okla. to the Mid-Con basketball tournament to show their support for OU's team.

Goeth said he hopes to see the band expand into performing for other games in the future.

"The Athletic Department is really supportive of the band, and they want us to be there for their teams," Goeth said.

"I just like having fun at the games, trying to support the teams and OU in general," Goeth says.

Kroesche agrees and encourages students and alumni to join because it is a fun and flexible course, and students are only obligated to attend the games that fit their schedule.

Students interested in joining the Golden Grizzly Pep Band should contact Professor Kenneth Kroesche at (248) 370-4303 or e-mail him at kroesche@oakland.edu.

Charlie unlike the others

'Hide and Seek' a bit scary, but still only worth renting

By SHEILA KOSZTOWNY
ASSISTANT LIFE EDITOR

Who is Charlie?

Is this the Charlie who has three angels who fight crime without messing up their hair?

Or is it the Charlie who has a factory with Oompa Loompas that produce chocolate and candies?

This Charlie is far from these, indeed. Charlie is a jealous, devious and murderous imaginary friend in the movie "Hide and Seek" that opened in theaters on Jan. 28.

David Callaway (Robert De Niro) and his 9-year-old daughter Emily (Dakota Fanning) move to upstate New York after his wife commits suicide by slitting her wrists while taking a bath (very Britney Spears).

David and Emily head to Woodland, a quiet community with a population of 2,206, where David wants to focus on being a full-time dad and help his daughter cope with the loss of her mother.

Even with the new surroundings, Emily has a hard time starting over and is deathly pale throughout the movie.

After only a few days in the machine-like country-style home, Emily introduces her new friend: Charlie, her imaginary friend who likes to play hide and seek.

David thinks that Emily is trying to express her thoughts through the imaginary friend, a

good analysis since David is a psychologist.

Nevertheless, when Charlie comes into the picture, things start to get strange.

Emily starts drawing gruesome pictures, getting rid of her dolls and even mutilates a doll by stabbing the face.

She warns the girl, "you shouldn't be here, you could get hurt."

At the same time, things with David become odd when he has a repetitive dream of his wife at an upscale New York party, a key to understanding the story.

He consistently wakes up at 2:06 every morning, which was the same time he woke up the night he found his wife dead in the bathtub.

And sometimes he even wakes up to presents from Charlie like the slaughtered cat clogging the tub full of dirt or crayon-written words in red on the bath tiles like "You let her die" or "You're next."

The townspeople have their quirks, too.

Sheriff Hafferty breaks into a pedophile's smile when he sees Emily and calls her "beautiful" in every encounter; the real estate agent who shows up at the house at odd hours; and the neighbors suffering with the loss of their own daughter and are envious of David. All of these actions make it easy to suspect any of them and make you think twice about who the culprit could be.

No matter who or what it is, the unsolved mystery is actually quite simple and logical when it comes down to the end of the movie.

Much like "Secret Window" starring Johnny Depp, the movie has a psychological twist and the plot comes together at the very end.

De Niro puts on a spectacular performance and has proven himself before with playing challenging roles such as in "Taxi Driver" (1976), "Raging Bull" (1980) and "Goodfellas" (1990).

He is always able to switch from one character to another.

Although De Niro is a great actor, he should have picked a part that left an impression.

The person who really brings the movie together is Fanning.

She has charmed us with movies such as "I am Sam" (2001), "The Cat in the Hat" (2003) and "Man on Fire" (2004). This role, however, is not charming at all.

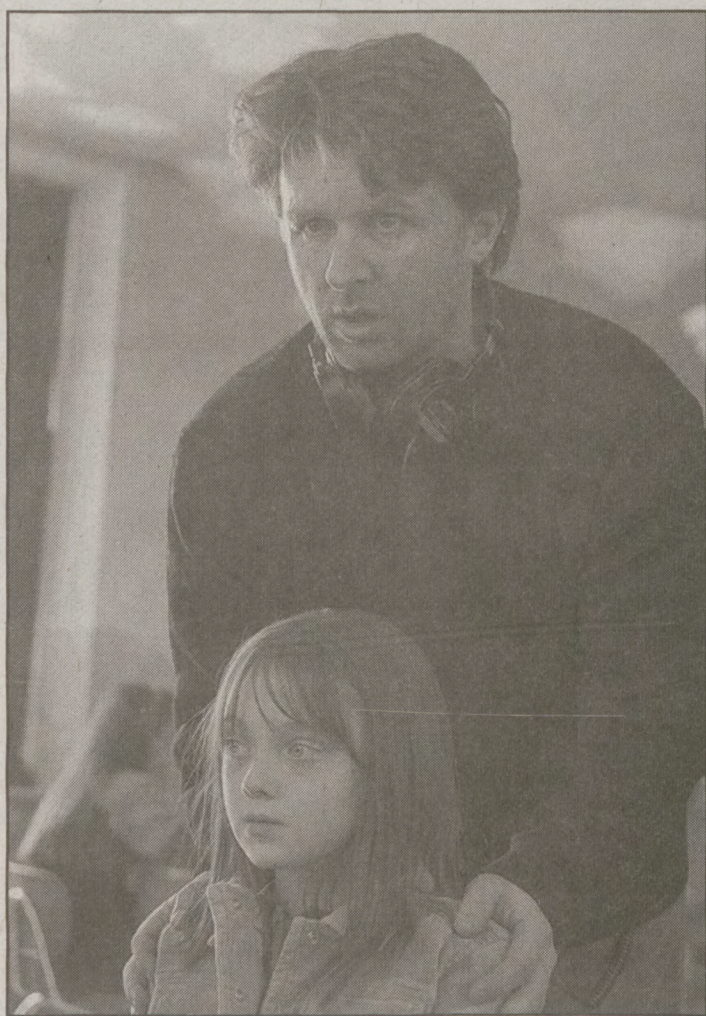
And that's exactly what it's supposed to do.

Fanning is the character, Emily, right down to every look of madness and depression.

The best part is when she screams "Charlie," in De Niro's face multiple times with her head oddly slanted.

One thing is for sure, Fanning is on the right path in the acting business.

Even with the few murderous scenes, the movie is more of a



Dakota Fanning (lower) and director John Polson prepare for the next scene of "Hide and Seek," a mind-bending thriller also starring Robert DeNiro that opened in theatres over the weekend.

Photo courtesy of MovieWeb

suspense than a thriller.

It doesn't make you grip your chair or even leave you with haunting thoughts like "The Ring" did for many.

"Hide and Seek" was advertised much like "The Village," which was not a thriller movie despite its deceptive advertising.

The only uneasy aspect of the movie was the twist on the children's song "mocking bird,"

which played in an eerie tone at suspenseful scenes.

The innocent game of hide and seek turns into a deathly game, though it is more likely to bore to death than scare to death.

Do yourself a favor, and save some money.

Pay the rental fee.

THE LOW DOWN

Wednesday, Feb. 2

Relax and break the stress of studying with the Anxiety Screening Day, sponsored by the university Counseling Center, and become aware of anxiety disorders from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the OC.

Learn to enhance your writing skills by critiquing yourself and other writers in a Student Writers Workshop from 3-5 p.m. in room 433 in Kresge Library.

Thursday, Feb. 3

College Republicans and Democrats put their thoughts together in the panel discussion entitled, "An African-American President of the United States," and discuss the probability of a black president in the United States at 5 p.m. in rooms 128-130 of the OC.

Men's basketball will play against UMKC at 6 p.m. in the O'rena. Call (248) 370-4000 for ticket information.

AA/Alanon will meet weekly at noon in the Counseling Center's conference room in the Graham Health Center.

Friday, Feb. 4

Today is the deadline for graduation applications for those graduating in the spring.

Dress up in the color red to support the awareness of heart disease, which is the number one killer of women in the U.S. Sponsored by the Wellness & Health Promotion Society, they will be handing out red pins in the OC from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

In celebration of African-American Month, "Taste of Gala" will have live music and a variety of Creole foods as well as recipes from West Africa and the Caribbean. The event is free, but tickets are required, and will be from 5-8 p.m. in the Banquet rooms of the OC.

Saturday, Feb. 5

The department of music, theatre and dance invites Lettie Alston and friends to present Michigan composers at 8 p.m. in Varner Recital Hall. General tickets are \$12 and \$8 for students.

Dance and enjoy the fun at the Winter Ball, an OU tradition, beginning at 8 p.m. in Meadow Brook Hall. This year's theme is "Celestial Magic," and tickets are \$25 per couple.

Monday, Feb. 7

Skin care products by Arbonne, developed by the Swiss, will be offered from noon-1 p.m. in Gold Room C of the OC. Arbonne representative Marissa Penrod will host a series "Tips for basic Skin and Anti-Aging" to inform students about skin care products.

OUSC will meet at 4 p.m. in the Oakland Room.

Tuesday, Feb. 8

Do civil rights include gay rights? The Black LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) members will touch on the question "Are Gay Rights Civil Rights?" from 6-8 p.m. in the Banquet rooms of the OC.

Come participate in the hands-on WebCT training called "WebCT File Management and the Content Module," where students will learn how to file and link through WebCT from 3-4 p.m. in 207 Varner Hall.

Planning a trip to China? Learn the essentials in the "China: Language and Culture Workshop" every Tuesday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in 350 Pawley Hall of the Educational Resources Lab.

Compiled by Sheila Kosztowny, Assistant Life Editor

Interested in working at The Post?

Dance moves
Dance and comedy will be part of the EDE Dance program Saturday.

Football reigns
The Oakland Post

Tattoo tips
What you need to know before getting a tattoo

Voice falls short
Opinion

Dip into Detroit's salsa scene
Latino rhythms are the center of Detroit's dancing scene

Horrible fun
Between humor and gore, 'The Grudge' seems to suffer from an identity crisis

Opinion

Latino Fiesta Hangouts

If you'd like to be on staff in Fall 2005 now is the time to get

[illegible]

Grizzlies outlast Valpo on the road

By BRENDAN STEVENS
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Crucial late-game free throws by Petra Mankova propelled the Grizzlies over Valparaiso University Monday night.

The 58-56 win not only allowed the OU women's basketball team to split its season series with Valpo, but also moved the Golden Grizzlies ahead of the Crusaders in the Mid-Con standings.

Manakova, a senior center, is a 64 percent free throw shooter this season, but she only needed to hit two of four to seal the game for OU.

With 1:30 left in the game and the Grizzlies leading 56-54, Valpo's senior guard Katie Boone fouled Manakova.

She missed the first free throw, but knocked down the second to give OU a three-point lead.

On the other end, senior Crusader forward Jenna Stangler missed a jumper and Mankova grabbed her lone rebound for the game.

After an unsuccessful Grizzly possession, Valpo had a few chances to close the gap on OU.

Sophomore Crusader center Tamra Braun missed a jumper but grabbed her own rebound, giving junior guard Jayme Gutowski a chance at a three-pointer.

Senior OU forward Amanda Batcha hauled in the rebound after Gutowski missed. The ball once again ended up in Manakova's hands when she was fouled.

With 13 seconds remaining, Manakova calmly hit the first shot from the charity stripe but missed the second, giving the Grizzlies a four-point advantage.

Another missed three-pointer by Gutowski and a meaningless jumper by Stangler gave OU the conference win.

The Mid-Con win was truly a balanced effort for the Grizzlies, with no players reaching double

figures in scoring.

Sophomore forward Nicole Piggott and junior guards Anne Hafeli and Jayme Wilson led the Grizzlies with nine points each.

Hafeli (17.5), Wilson (15.3) and Piggott (14.5) rank second, third and fifth in scoring averages among Mid-Con players.

Senior guard Leigh Tully tallied a season-high eight points in the victory.

Batcha also recorded eight points for OU to go along with a game-high 13 rebounds. She

now ranks third in the conference, averaging 9.6 boards per game.

Sophomore guard Joya Puryear was one short of her season-high with seven points.

Stangler led the Crusaders with 13 points and Braun contributed 11.

Junior Valpo forward Mayella Kuikhoven was the only other player in double figures with 10 points.

Having displaced the previously second-placed Crusaders, OU sets its sights on Western Illinois University, which sits atop the Mid-Con with an undefeated conference record.

The Grizzlies face the Westerwinds at 2 p.m. on Saturday in Macomb, Ill.

OU brings the action back home with a 7 p.m. tipoff against Centenary College on Monday in the O'rena.

Oakland 58

Valparaiso 56

Game Preview

Who:

OU (6-2, 14-5) at Western Illinois (9-0, 14-5)

When: Feb. 5

Where: Macomb, Ill.

What: Having moved into second place in the Mid-Con after beating Valparaiso, OU will look to hand Western Illinois its first loss in conference action.



Sophomore forward Nicole Piggott fights for an inside bucket during a game earlier this season.

Bob Knoska/The Oakland Post

Hockey splits against Miami

OU club hockey, ONYX set to host ACHA Div. II National Tournament

By BRENDAN STEVENS
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Competition in the Greater Midwest Hockey League has grown more stiff each year.

Currently, all seven teams in the league are competing for spots in the national tournament March 2-5.

Two GHML opponents squared off this weekend in a pair of home games at the ONYX in Rochester.

The OU men's club hockey team hosted the University of Miami-Ohio Friday and Saturday night for a pair of crucial American Collegiate Hockey Association games.

OU currently ranks second in the Central region of the ACHA, while Miami-Ohio is fifth in the Southeast region. The top four teams from the four regions qualify for the national tournament.

The Grizzlies took a three-game winning streak into Friday's contest, extending the success with a 5-1 victory over the ClubHawks.

Sophomore goaltender Chris Joswiak set the tone with key saves early in the contest, leading to a scoreless first period.

Just 38 seconds into the second period, Miami-Ohio tallied the first goal, breaking the shutout tie.

OU responded with three unanswered goals in the second stanza.

Joswiak and the Grizzly defense shut the ClubHawks down for the remainder of the second period and all of the third period for the four-goal victory.

Freshman forward Vincent Jalaba notched two goals and an assist in the win.

Sophomore forward Will McMahon also contributed two points to the victory.

"We played an all-around solid game, from the goaltending on up to the forward," assistant

coach Sean Hogan said. "The coaching staff is very pleased with the effort (Friday)."

Sophomore forward Ryan Peters tallied his first goal of the season in the win.

Miami-Ohio rebounded from the defeat Saturday evening, ending the Grizzlies four-game win streak.

The ClubHawks scored two goals early in the first period and never gave up the lead enroute to a 3-2 victory.

McMahon tallied one of the Grizzlies' goals, with senior forward Dan Olesky chipping in OU's other goal, assisted by sophomore forward Jordan Ingram.

Despite the loss, head coach Craig Furstenau was pleased with his team's performance and is conscience of the upcoming national tournament.

"I am still with our effort," he said. "We outshot and out-chanced Miami. We just need to work on finishing the opportunities we get."



OU fights for the puck in a game against the University of Michigan last season. The Grizzlies will look to get revenge for a 5-3 loss to the Wolverines earlier this season.

Bob Knoska/File Photo

But for Furstenau the big prize is a few weeks away.

"I just hope we can start to peak at the right time come the National Tournament," Furstenau said.

The Grizzlies continue with GMHL competition at 8:30 p.m. Friday night at the ONYX against the University of Michigan.

Last time the two squads met, U-M handed OU a 5-3 loss at Yost Ice Arena.

With U-M this weekend and a two-game road trip against Oklahoma University the following weekend, Furstenau knows his team needs to stay focused.

"The potential for four straight losses is looking dead at us," he said. "It is important that we have a good start versus Michigan."

Game Preview

Who:

OU vs. University of Michigan

When: Feb. 4

Where: Rochester, Mich.

What: With only four games remaining, every contest is crucial as the Grizzlies prepare for the ACHA national tournament March 2-5. U-M handed OU a 5-3 loss last time the two teams met in a rough battle.



COLUMN

Let's just play the game



BRENDAN J. STEVENS

Editor in Chief

It's almost here. The mecca of sporting events is just around the corner.

Can you tell I'm excited?

The problem: the Super Bowl is set for Sunday but my plans aren't.

After last year's disastrous wardrobe malfunction, expectations and fears are high for this year's contest.

And what did the Super Bowl do to avoid another controversial halftime display?

It booked Paul McCartney.

And that is just one part of the mix of legendary and current recording stars that will be entertaining the millions who tune in for the Super Bowl.

But what about the game?

There seem to be more distractions than storylines for this year's championship contest.

Philadelphia Eagles' wide receiver Terrell Owens' ongoing injury confusion has all but completely stolen the headlines.

In one of its few non-T.O. stories, ESPN covered last year's controversy and the expectations for this year's entertainment.

This is where the two week's between the AFC and NFC Championship games doesn't just deprive fans of football for one Sunday, but it also leaves the media clawing for coverage.

Rather than discuss the matchups and strategies for two consecutive weeks, the media has turned to the subplots that coincide with large-scale events.

But rather than one-up Dave Pemberton, the sports editor, by explaining why the New England Patriots are going to lose Sunday, I'd rather discuss the merits of this year's contest.

It seems as though the Super Bowl uses a pattern of one close game followed by one less than competitive game.

Therefore, after last year's nailbiter that came down to a Adam Vinatieri field goal in the final seconds to give New England the win, this year's game should be a blowout.

But I don't think that's the case.

Neither team has skated through the year without facing injuries. Both the Eagles and Patriots have had to overcome obstacles to make it to the championship game.

Philadelphia's Donovan McNabb and New England's Tom Brady, the quarterbacks for Sunday's games, have continually proven doubters wrong.

The two coaches, Andy Reid, Eagles, and Bill Belichick, Patriots, are among the best when it comes to preparing a game plan and executing on game day.

The fans aren't slacking in their roles, either.

The state of Massachusetts, fresh off an improbable World Series run by the Boston Red Sox, are hungry for more claims to fame.

Eagles fans have dealt with the disappointment of losing in the NFC Championship game for three consecutive years.

Now, with that monkey off the team's back, it's time for a Super Bowl title.

With or without the spectacle that is Terrell Owens, this Super Bowl is geared to be a hard, closely-fought contest with the winner claiming the victory late in the game.

And even if, by some force of nature, one team does dominate, there are always the commercials, the entertainment and the company to enjoy the joy that is the Super Bowl.

Now I just need to figure out what my plans are.

Brendan Stevens is a senior majoring in journalism. Send comments to editor@oakpostonline.com

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OU women swimmers top MSU; men defeated

By DANA UTZ
SENIOR SPORTS WRITER

The men's and women's swimming and diving teams went up against one of their biggest rivals, Michigan State University (MSU), last weekend.

The women's team was able to come away victorious with a final score of 159-141. This victory continues their winning streak this season.

The men's side was not as successful, as the Spartans took the victory with a score of 179-116.

"Going against Michigan State University was good competition, especially when getting ready to prepare for the National Independent Championships at the end of the month," said head coach Pete Hovland.

Junior breaststroker Maria Musialczyk, sophomore individual medleyer (IMer) and flyer Melissa Jaeger and sophomore IMer, freestyler and breaststroker Amanda Burwell each had two first place finishes.

Musialczyk and Jaeger also helped lead the 400-yard medley relay team to a win with a time of 3:54.10.

After the first relay, the Golden Grizzlies were leading 13-4.

The Spartans started to catch up in the second event, the 1000-yard freestyle, when they took first and third place.

Junior IMer, flyer and freestyler Line Jensen and freshman freestyler Elaine Shalla finished first and second in the 200-yard freestyle.

The 100-yard backstroke was a successful event for OU as they went 1-2-3 with Musialczyk claiming the victory with her time of 1:06.03.

In the 200-yard butterfly, Jaeger had a first place finish with Burwell finishing right behind her for second place.

MSU was able to tie up the score at 75 as they took 1-2-3-4

in the 50-yard freestyle and also dominated on the one-meter diving board.

The 100-yard freestyle was a close event as freshman freestyler Riley Rigoli touched the wall at 53.17, just three tenths ahead of MSU's junior freestyler Katrina Kniff, who had a time of 53.20.

OU then managed to take a strong lead after the 200-yard backstroke as they took 1-2-3-4 followed by a 1-2-3 finish in the 200-yard breaststroke.

The win gave OU a 119-88 advantage.

Jaeger took first in the 100-yard butterfly with her time of 57.25.

Burwell had the last individual win for the women when she took the top spot in the 200-yard individual medley with a time of 2:08.12. The race secured a win for OU.

"The women swam extremely well this weekend," Hovland said. "Gaining a victory over a rival and a Big 10 team will hopefully give the team the excitement going into the NIC's."

On the men's side, freshman breaststroker Zoltan Horvath had two individual wins and helped lead the team to a victory in the 200-yard medley relay.

OU did have an early 15-0 lead when both of the Spartan's 200-yard medley teams were disqualified.

MSU was not giving up as they came back two events later, and they were only down by one point.

In the 100-yard backstroke the Spartans had three of their swimmers place; this gave them a lead with a score of 40-32.

Horvath took a first place finish in the 100-yard breaststroke and senior IMer, breaststroker and flyer Blaine Dolcetti, with a time of 1:54.88, also claimed a top spot, this time in the 200-yard butterfly.

Junior freestyler and IMer Nick McCollum won the 200-yard



Above: Junior Maria Musialczyk swims the breaststroke.
Right: Junior Eric Lynn swims in the backstroke event.

backstroke with a time of 1:55.09 to bring the gap between the two teams down to only 25 points.

But that was the closest that OU would get to the Spartans.

"The men's team has low demand this season, but they are progressing and swam well this weekend despite the loss," Hovland said.

The Grizzlies did take 1-2-3-4 in the 200-yard individual medley, but it was not enough to catch up.

OU will be home for the fourth straight week.

The Grizzlies will host the University of Notre Dame on Feb. 5 at 2 p.m. in the OU Aquatics Center.

"Going against Notre Dame will be a good way to end our dual meets before heading into the NIC's," Hovland said.

"Both their men's and women's teams are ranked in the top 25 in the country, so we will have a huge challenge ahead of us."

This will be the last meet before a three week break as they will be heading into the NIC's.



Spartans top Grizzlies at Breslin



Above: Senior Cortney Scott works in the post in a game earlier this season.

By DAVE PEMBERTON
SPORTS EDITOR

OU looked like it was going to take Michigan State University (MSU) to the limit in the first half, but fell down big in the second half and could not recover at the Breslin Center on Saturday night.

The Golden Grizzlies were down by six with three seconds to go in the first half when senior guard Kelvin Torbert hit a 3-pointer to give the Spartans a 45-36 lead at halftime.

MSU turned things up to start the second half when they went on a 21-7 run to give them a 66-43 lead with 11:16 left to play.

OU was not able to overcome the spurt by MSU.

"We played really well, we just couldn't make free throws," OU head coach Greg Kampe said. "If we would have made our free throws, we would have been up at halftime and only down seven or eight down the stretch."

OU shot 2-7 in the first half and 10-19 in the second half for 50 percent for the game.

"We seem to have bad starts in the second half on the road," Kampe said. "But we played well. We were never intimidated. We have played some of the best and stood toe to toe."

Kampe also said at this point in the season they are just trying to win some games.

Mid-Con Basketball Standings

	Mid-Con	Overall
UMKC	8-0	10-7
Oral Roberts	7-2	16-5
Valparaiso	5-3	9-11
IUPUI	4-4	10-9
Oakland	3-4	5-13
Chicago State	3-4	4-13
Western Illinois	3-5	7-12
Southern Utah	3-6	10-10
Centenary	0-8	2-17

"The days of learning and gaining experience for a young team are over. Right now the bottom line is winning some games," Kampe said.

The Grizzlies will have a tough test on Thursday night when they host the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

The Kangaroos are 8-0 so far this season in the Mid-Con.

UMKC has five players averaging in double figure scoring.

They are led by senior forward Mike English's 16.1 points per game and senior center Carlton Aaron's 14.3 points and 9.2 rebounds per game.

Kampe said Thursday's game is a big game for the Grizzlies.

"We are approaching the game like it's an undefeated team coming in on Thursday," Kampe said. "It's a very important game because it could decide if we are

in the upper half of the seeding in the conference tournament. We already have one loss at home in the conference. We don't want another one."

Thursday's game will be the first of the "Take a kid to the Game" program. Any OU staff or faculty member can bring in a child (12 and under) for free with the purchase of an adult ticket.

Game Preview



Who: OU vs. UMKC
When: Feb. 3
Where: O'Rena
What: The Golden Grizzlies will look to hand UMKC its first conference loss of the season. OU is currently 5th in the Mid-Con standings.