

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

March 28, 2007

Volume 33, Number 23

Lonesome ballot

Meet your prospective student body president, Rob Meyer*.
Why do we say prospective? He's running unopposed.

story on page 4



* Where's his VP? She's in the story with an explanation of why she didn't want to be on the cover

President Russi heads to Lansing to lobby for Oakland University \$\$\$

Campus, page 6

OU HOUSING PRESENTS EARLY SIGN-UP

The Residence Halls Fall Contract sign-up begins Monday, March 12, 2007

PHASE ONE: SAME HALL/SAME ROOM

Date: March 12-13, 2007

Time: 8:00am - 5:00pm

Location: Housing Office, Hamlin Hall



One lucky student will win
A FREE DOUBLE ROOM
(Fall Semester Only)

PHASE TWO: A). ROOMMATE PICK-UP

B). GROUP HOUSING

Date: March 15 - 16, 2007

Time: 8:00am - 5:00pm

Location: Housing Office

PHASE THREE: A). ANY HALL, ANY PLACE, ANY ROOM

B). USA Apartment Sign-up

Date: March 28 -30*

Time: 7:30am - 5:00pm

Location: March 28, OC Fireside Lounge

March 29-30, Housing Office

*Students can begin picking up their lottery numbers on March 12, 2007 for participation in Phase three. The office is open from 8:00am - 5:00pm.

STUDENTS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN EACH PHASE?

PHASE ONE:

- Hill Residents
- Van Wagoner Residents
- Vandenberg Residents
- Fitzgerald Residents

PHASE TWO:

- Groups of individuals who would like to live together of no fewer than 8 and no more than 12 (doubles only)
- Students chosen to room with residents who reclaimed their same room during Phase One

PHASE THREE:

- All Residents
- Commuter Students

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2007!!!**

THIS WEEK 03.28.07

THE OAKLAND POST
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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Around the tenure track we go—learn all about the process, plus President Russi attempts to bring more state money to OU



Perspectives page 10

It's time to reevaluate our news consumption—and check the out-of-control method in which it's brought home



you page 12

Get blown away by life in the Windy City and learn about the rich history of our university



The Mix page 14

Now that summer vacation is almost here and we'll all have the time, we asked OU's English professors to recommend some must-reads



Local page 16

Oakland County gets ready to go wireless, higher taxes for gasoline and plenty of local news briefs



Sports page 18

We talk with Coach Greg Kampe about the possibility of trading black and gold for maize and blue



the Scene page 22

Two-time Oscar winner Hillary Swank talks to The Post about her new movie, "The Reaping," plus, stare straight into "The Hills Have Eyes 2"



MOUTHING OFF page 27

Spring is here and Post ace Kyle Magin is stoked for sundresses

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The easy road to victory

Rob Meyer and Jameelah Muhammad have been actively involved in many areas of campus life, making them a logical choice for the next student body president and vice president. But was anybody else qualified? We'll never know.

By JEFF KRANITZ
Editor in Chief

When the final votes for the student congress elections are tallied tonight, neither an abundance nor a lack of votes will likely make any difference in the outcome of the contest for president and vice president.

There are many legislative seats up for grabs, but for the first time in recent history there is only one presidential/vice presidential ticket—current Director of Financial Affairs Rob Meyer and his running mate, Jameelah Muhammad, legislative and multicultural affairs director, respectively.

Barring the unprecedented occurrence of a write-in candidate stealing the election, Meyer and Muhammad will begin the 2007-2008 school year occupying the highest levels of student congress.

But why didn't anyone else decide to step into the race? The purpose of a contested ballot is to force candidates to defend their positions and increase their accountability.

The lack of candidates begs many questions. Has the office lost prestige? Were Meyer and Muhammad too strong a ticket to even attempt to contend? Has apathy and complacency finally permeated through all branches of student government?

Turns out the real answers are a combination of several different factors. One potential presidential candidate—current Legislator Danielle Fallis—explained to The Post that she chose not to run after deciding that she wanted to graduate early.

"I know people who were considering running," said Legislator Dmitriy Shapiro. "Before deciding to run, a person first has to consider whether they have the time. It's a huge time commitment."

Shapiro explained that important opportunities can unexpectedly present themselves in the middle of a year—opportunities that would be hard to turn down even for a person who has committed themselves to a position as important as Student Body President.

Former twice-elected President Michael McGuinness chose to step down midway through the fall 2006 semester after securing a job as a legislative assistant for the Michigan House of Representatives.

"Mike had a real important opportunity that he felt he had to take advantage of. People



Meyer interacts with OU students while campaigning Monday outside of the Oakland Center. Meyer actively campaigned, despite being uncontested. AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post

can't make (unexpected) decisions like that a year in advance," Shapiro added.

Fallis said she was quite certain that, collectively, Oakland University's Student Congress overwhelmingly supports the Meyer/Muhammad ticket.

"It shows the students that we, OUSC as a whole, stand behind the candidates that are to become the next president and vice president. I think that Rob will do a lot of the things as president that I would have liked to do, and I have confidence that he and Jameelah will represent the student body to the best of their abilities."

Meet your new president-elect

Although the path to the office of president was free of the usual obstacles, Meyer has certainly paid his dues getting to the point where he was able to be considered.

"I've always been pretty involved with every organization possible since I can remember," Meyer said yesterday on the back patio of the

Oakland Center while enjoying the mid-morning sunshine.

He chose to attend Oakland, he explained, after being awarded a substantial scholarship while attending Lake Orion High School in his senior year.

The inspiration to get involved in campus life came from a simple desire to meet new people.

"I went to Oakland my first year while living at home, and then my parents moved to Indiana, so I decided to stay and moved into an apartment with a few friends. I didn't really know anybody (at Oakland)—most of my friends went away to State (MSU) or U-M."

His first stop was at Oakland's InterVarsity Christian Fellowship group—he explained that his Christian upbringing is very important to him—before getting involved in OU's Greek system.

"I met some girls that were in a sorority and they introduced me to some guys that were in a fraternity, and ended up joining Sigma Alpha Epsilon during my freshman year."

He worked his way up the Inter Fraternity Council, ultimately becoming president of his chapter. Meyer then set his sights on getting back into an arena he was already familiar with.

"I knew I wanted to get involved with student congress because I was in student council in high school."

Current Student Body President Madalyn Miller was a former high school classmate of Meyer's and encouraged him to get involved with OUSC.

"I started going to general meetings, committee meetings—things like that," Meyer said. "I wasn't really sure what exactly I wanted to do. Then I applied for the financial affairs position and got that. Ever since then I've tried to increase my involvement on campus."

Meyer said he looks forward to affecting positive change at OU by attempting to tackle some common concerns including, but not limited to: more student parking, increased library hours, better food options and increasing commuter outreach programs.

Substance before recognition

Your soon-to-be student body vice president isn't interested in being recognized simply for being your soon-to-be student body vice president.

Jameelah Muhammad made a choice to be left out of the photo shoot for this week's cover because, as she said, too much is often focused "the person and not the work."

"I think it's great to commend people when they do a good job, but at the same time it takes really important attention away from what they've actually done and the significance of that. We get lost in these leadership positions and forget about the actual work," she told The Post yesterday in Hannah Hall—where, as a biology major, she spends much of her time doing research in the organic chemistry labs.

An aspiring student leader who doesn't care about the clout and enjoys doing research in the field of organic chemistry?

Seems hard to believe, but Muhammad is very real, indeed.

"If you really think about it, a picture can identify a person...but you're not going to really know who that person is unless you personally meet them, work with them—or at least be familiar with something they did. You can gain more from that than you ever could from looking at their picture somewhere."

Muhammad wants people to have a sense of pride in their student congress, first and foremost. Increasing involvement is where it has to start, she said.

"Where is the connection between the student organizations? There are so many opportunities for co-sponsorship with activities on campus. Where is the connection between the different departments on campus?"

Student congress currently exists in a "bubble," she said, and if there's anything she could do to improve or make better, it would be to expand that bubble and try to include everyone.

"Everyone doesn't have to be a legislator... everyone doesn't have to be on the executive board—but everyone *should* reap the benefits of student congress and what they have to offer."

A personal mission to serve OU

One item on the list of ballot initiatives that Muhammad feels strongly about is looking into greater environmental sustainability and increasing awareness and action regarding other environmental issues.

"It definitely is a personal issue—a passion that I have—but I know that many other students agree that there needs to be better recycling systems and more ways of reducing energy. A lot of students have made numerous complaints over the years...I don't know

if anything has ever been done about the lack of recycling in the residence halls and other housing on campus."

Overcoming apathy at OU

Getting students at OU to care more about getting involved in the campus community has been a problem for a long time, and inspiring change is not going to be an easy task.

Muhammad realizes this and has a clear idea on how to encourage greater involvement.

"People think, as individuals, that they can't affect change, so you have to pretty much show people exactly what you want to do and what the end point is. You know, 'here are steps A, B, C and D—and this is how we get from this point to that, but I need your help.' It's very possible, just a matter of being very determined and overcoming frustration. It can be very hard."

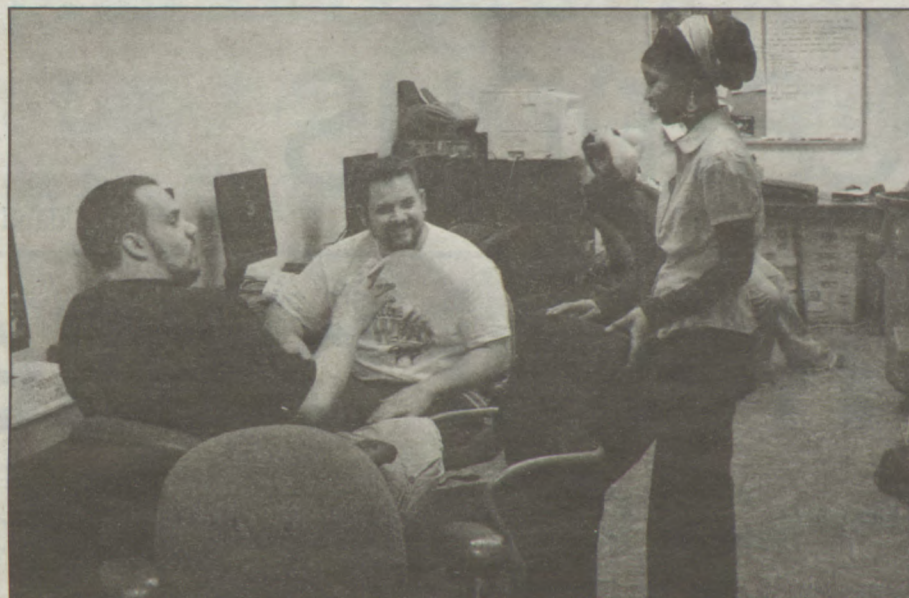
She firmly believes that by exerting a certain amount of drive and determination, one can surely infect others with their sense of passion.

"People will see that, and people will be drawn into that," she said with vigor.

Support from OU's administration

"Just based on what I've heard from some of my colleagues at student congress this year, when they've tried contacting different offices or gone to see different administrators, they were always welcomed and well-received," she explained.

Muhammad also said there has been a great



KEVIN ALFORD/The Oakland Post

Muhammad stops by WXOU's studio to chat it up with Adam Panchenko and Chris Goeth.

deal of positive feedback from the administration this year regarding initiatives that have been proposed.

"For the most part, the faculty and staff have been very cooperative. I don't expect that to be much of a problem at all."

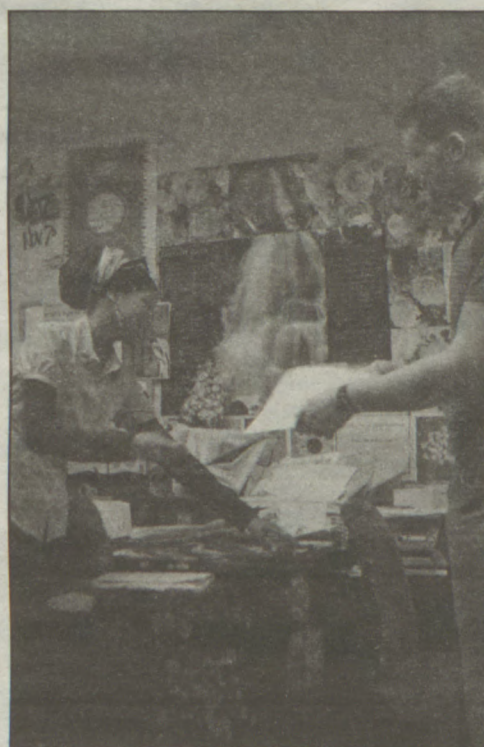
Again, she said, approaching people and asking for their support is so much more effective when there's a constructive plan.

"People are a lot more receptive to

jumping on board when you've already got the wheels in motion, as opposed to saying, 'Oh this is horrible and we should do something about it'—and just leave it there."

"Realistically, if it's something that you care about, you've got to take that extra step—or nothing is going to happen."

—Senior Reporter Jesse Dunsmore contributed to this story



KEVIN ALFORD/The Oakland Post

Legislator Joshua Miller and Muhammad at work.

The Sociology Club Presents

A SOCIOLOGICAL DISCUSSION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Thursday April 5th

12:00-1:00 in the Fireside Lounge

Lunch will be provided

Free and open to all OU students

Russi battles for funds

President Russi joins ranks with eight Michigan universities to take on "the big three" and lobby for fair distribution of state funds

By KYLE MAGIN
Special Projects Reporter

President Gary Russi is in Lansing this week to head up a group of nine universities interested in equalizing funding between all of Michigan's 15 publicly funded institutions.

Wayne State, Michigan State and the University of Michigan represent three of those schools, and when combined they receive 57 percent of the state's available funding for higher education.

The other 12, including Oakland, share the remaining 43 percent, according to a March 20th article in the Detroit News.

Oakland is included in a nine-school lobbying group called The Education Alliance of Michigan (TEAM), which includes Central Michigan, Western Michigan, Eastern Michigan, Grand Valley State, Ferris State, Lake Superior State, Saginaw Valley State and Michigan Tech Universities. According to the alliance, their goal is to "preserve college opportunities for thousands of students who might not otherwise have a chance for a higher education and a better life."

A bill made it's way to the state house that would separate the funding for "The big three," and the rest of the schools. House Bill 4351, introduced by democratic representative Pam Byrnes, would separate the funding for MSU, WSU and U of M from that of the other 12 schools, including

\$Spreading the Wealth



CELESTE FILIATRAULT/The Oakland Post

Oakland.

Critics of the bill, including Russi contend that separating the funding will create an unequal atmosphere that could unfairly benefit the "big three," by leaving the door open for budget increases strictly in their favor.

"The 15 state public universities should stand together as a unifying force for higher education in Michigan, proposal has the very real potential to be divisive and counterproductive, and damaging to Michigan's economy," Russi said in an interview with Crain's Detroit Business.

OU Director of Government relations Rochelle Black thinks the bill has a dangerous potential, "The proposal separates both groups and could put them in greater risk down the line," Black said. "We (the other 12 universities) educate 53 percent of the students and receive 47 percent of

the funding." Black told the Post that together, the universities are stronger than they are apart.

"We and our coalition partners produce two-thirds of the state's undergraduates and students who are more likely to stay in Michigan after they graduate," said Russi.

In a press release last Wednesday, TEAM member and Eastern Michigan president John Fallon said he was "frankly disappointed that U of M, MSU and Wayne State have turned their backs on the real goal- securing more funding for all of Michigan's students."

Lobbyists, working on behalf of TEAM, are currently trying to meet with leadership about the bill. "We're meeting with legislators and staff members on a daily basis to garner support for TEAM," Black said. "Last week the University presidents were

in town to discuss the bill and had some very productive meetings with legislative leadership."

Proponents of the bill say that it judges universities on their merits.

"Our proposal is about recognizing and measuring the distinct contributions of the three research universities. It is not about securing more funding at the expense of the other 12 institutions," U-M spokeswoman Kelly Cunningham said in an interview with the Detroit Free Press.

"It is not about anyone advancing at the expense of anyone else," said MSU

spokesman Terry Denbow. "That is an incorrect conclusion, and it certainly is not reflective of what we've been saying. All education must be at the heart of Michigan's economic future. And of course all education must be funded equitably toward that end."

The Education Alliance of Michigan

Oakland University
Central Michigan University
Western Michigan University
Eastern Michigan University
Grand Valley State University
Ferris State University
Lake Superior State University
Saginaw Valley State University
Michigan Tech University

Do Oakland University professors pass the test?

New series, "Around the Tenure Track," explores the process of seeking tenure and how it affects the student body experience

By **JESSE DUNSMORE**
Senior Reporter

Each year, about 20 Oakland University faculty members go through the bureaucratic hazing procedure known as tenure review and come out the other side as associate professors. Their success is a turning point in their careers as educators—and it can be a turning point in yours as a student, if you're ever in one of their classes.

The Oakland Post presents a new series that will take you "Around the Tenure Track," so that you can better understand how some of your professors got where they are and how it can affect you.

What is it?

In a very simplified definition: academic tenure is a status that offers increased job security to ensure academic freedom for an educator. A tenured professor receives increased pay and

research freedoms like sabbaticals (time off with pay to pursue research).

Why should we care?

Associate professors with tenure can stick around for a long time, affecting students' lives for decades. Maybe you'd like to know what they have to go through to get to that point?

How do they get there?

"It's harder than getting your degree to get tenure," said Jim Cipielewski, President of the OU chapter of the American Association of University Professors.

After being hired as an assistant professor, a faculty member has a couple of years to make a good impression and get a contract extension.

Eventually (after six years, if they make it that far), a professor will collect their complete works and history at OU into a dossier. That dossier is reviewed by a few separate entities who recom-

mend for or against granting tenure, the last one being the Provost.

The Provost's recommendation goes to the Board of Trustees, who make the final decision to grant or deny tenure.

What if tenure is denied?

Gabrielle Stryker was the only person in Cipielewski's 13 years at OU to be approved by the three reviewing committees and still be denied tenure based on the recommendation of the Provost, Virinder Moudgil.

Director of Media Relations Ted Montgomery, speaking on behalf of Moudgil, said the Provost had no comment regarding the decision.

But as recorded in transcripts of the arbitration hearing following Stryker's tenure denial, Moudgil cited inconsistencies between committee members' comments and their votes to help explain why his recommendation ran counter to the committees'. "If you read carefully the dossier, there are strong objections to her record, but people still voted yes," Moudgil said. "One of them actually said that her record doesn't meet the standards of this department for tenure. Yet, he voted 'yes.'"

Stryker said she doesn't believe her tenure denial was the result of shortcomings on her part, but rather retribution for her habit of speaking out and refusing to always go along with her superiors, particularly Moudgil.

Then what?

Since her tenure denial in 2005, Stryker said she has applied for positions at 35 colleges.

She said that when she was expecting tenure, she and her husband, a

Lieutenant Colonel in the Marine Corps, purchased a home, expecting to have two incomes to help with expenses.

"I found out about my tenure when the decision was posted on the internet," she said.

She recently found a position out of state.

Stryker told the Post via email, "...we have put our house on the market for less than we paid for it and with little chance of selling it...My point being that while I have gotten a job, there has been real damage done, and this doesn't even touch the issue of my children. One will stay in Michigan with his job and girlfriend, my little girl will move with me in the middle of middle school leaving all her friends here."

Not all tenure denials are so painful.

Assistant Professor Van Hillard was denied tenure in 1991 after approval by three review committees. "It seemed quite arbitrary," said Hillard. "My record was thought to be equal to or superior than three other faculty who came up for tenure at the same moment."

However, when he applied for positions at three different universities in '92, he was offered jobs at all three. He's now a Professor of the Practice of Rhetoric with an extended contract at Duke University.

"Professional life is filled with various kinds of challenges; this was one of them," he said.

He said he considered his current situation an "ironic benefit" of being denied tenure at OU.

More news to come in future installments of "Around the Tenure Track"

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TENURE VOCABULARY

C.1: A review of the professor, given after two years.

C.2: A second review of the professor two years later.

C.4: A third review, varying slightly from department to department.

DOSSIER: A professor's version of a portfolio. It may include publications, teaching reviews from students, professors and outside evaluators, syllabi, letters from non-university employees and community service.

Raunch culture growing

Author Ariel Levy shares her thoughts on pop culture and women's liberation

By C.M. GRASKI

Senior Reporter/Photographer

What is women's sexual liberation? Is it personified in the gyrating half-nude, drunken bodies as seen in late night infomercials for the "Girls Gone Wild" series?

"I don't think a porn star is what authentic sexuality looks like," said Ariel Levy to a large audience in the Gold Room of the Oakland Center Tuesday.

Levy's lecture and visit were sponsored by the Women's Studies Department, the Office of the Provost, the College of Arts and Sciences and the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. A book-signing session followed the lecture and gave Oakland University students a chance to meet Levy in person.

In the introduction of her book, "Female Chauvinist Pigs: Women and the Rise of Raunch Culture," Levy said of raunch culture:

"I first noticed it several years ago. I would turn on the television and find strippers in pasties explaining how best to lap dance a man to orgasm. I would flip the channel and see babes in tight, tiny uniforms bouncing up and down on trampolines.

"Britney Spears was becoming increasingly popular and increasingly unclothed, and her undulating body ultimately became so familiar I felt like we used to go out."

According to Levy, raunch culture is defined by the popularity of "Girls Gone Wild," the advent and success of magazines such as FHM and Maxim, "The Man Show," toddler underwear with the word "flirt" printed on them, droves of pre-teen Paris Hilton facsimiles and underground sex parties.

"The essence of raunch culture is that it involves women responding to cultural prompts automatically and not from a genuine place," Levy said.

What enables Paris Hilton, sexual exhibitionism, "Girls Gone Wild," cardio-strip tease classes, and porn

stars such as Jenna Jameson and Pamela Anderson to inspire women to equate mimicking such raunchy and public sexuality with liberation is that they appear on the surface to be empowering.

"However, raunch culture has become a litmus test for female sexuality. If a woman doesn't embrace it, she's viewed as not embracing natural sexuality," she added.

Levy used Jameson's book, "How to Have Sex Like a Porn Star," as one of her examples to demonstrate how raunch culture is not real women's liberation.

She quoted Jameson:

"Being in the [sex]industry can be a great experience, because you can actually become a role model for women, but to this day, I still can't watch my own sex scenes."

Somehow, even in an age where women can choose to become professionals, apply for loans without a man, own land, and have the right to vote, some are still alienated from their own desires.

"Jameson should not be who we should learn about sex from. We should learn from people that experience genuine sexual pleasure, not from people that get paid to fake it," said Levy.

So what is women's sexual liberation? "Female Chauvinist Pigs" is not a call to arms, nor does Levy offer a way to achieve genuine liberation in "these 10 easy steps."

"Don't passively accept that what you're told is liberating; listen to yourself," Levy said. "It's as simple and as complicated as women saying to themselves, what do I want and what do I enjoy?"

Levy works as a features writer for New York Magazine, where she has been employed for over 10 years. She said she will travel to Holland next, where her book is being released in Dutch.

For more information about Levy, her book and to read her articles, visit www.arielleavy.net.



Author Ariel Levy recommends a reading list to a women's studies student at a welcome breakfast.

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NEWSBRIEFS

Party multiculturally

OU will host its annual multicultural night Friday in the OC's banquet rooms. The event, which will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., features food, music and displays from various culturally-based student organizations.

Panel hosts global chat

From 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. tonight in the OC's Oakland room, the Political Science department will be hosting a forum discussion entitled "The Dilemmas of Global Citizenship." The panelists, Political Science Professors Peter Trumbore and Dong-Hun Kim, moderator and Volkswagen of America Manager of Customs Operations Martha Brown and Anthropology professor Abdi Kusow, will present their view and research on citizenship, global trade and human rights. The presentations will be followed by a question and answer session.

Calling all photographers

The Center for Student Activities will be hosting a photography contest in the Fireside Lounge April 2 through April 4. Prospective contestants may pick up a

copy of the registration form and rules at the CSA office. Prizes will be given in two categories: best black and white, and best color. First place contestants will receive \$150, second place \$100 and third place \$50.

Festival of Writing

The sixth annual Festival of Writing will be held on April 12 in the Oakland Center banquet rooms. The event, hosted by the department of Rhetoric, will start at 8:30 a.m. and end at 4:30 p.m. The event will feature student writing projects including essays, oral presentations, group presentations, video entries, power points and web pages, amongst others. Cash prizes are available to winners in multiple categories. All applicants are encouraged to submit their entries by today at www2.oakland.edu/rht or to email their submission to Anne Becker by April 2.

Relay for Life

The third annual Relay for Life will be held Friday through Saturday in the Rec Center. Designed to raise money and awareness for cancer research, the event is scheduled to run from 4 p.m. Friday to noon Saturday.

POLICEFILES

■ Even an innocent door isn't safe after a couple breaks up. A male student in the student apartments broke a door on March 18 after breaking up with his girlfriend. The male student admitted to OUPD that he kicked the door while venting his frustrations. The student said that he had never done anything like this before and that he never abused his ex-girlfriend, which was confirmed by her. The student has offered to pay for the door at an estimated cost of \$300, instead of being prosecuted. The responding officer told the student that he would update him on the case.

■ Auburn Hills Fire and Rescue responded to a student who was having a seizure in the upstairs men's bathroom across from the Pioneer Food Court in The Oakland Center March 22. The student had been sleeping in the OC basement. When he awoke, he went upstairs to the restroom where he went into a seizure and two students called for help. When AHFR arrived, the student was conscious and responsive. The student said he had no history of seizures or medical conditions and was not currently on any medications. The student refused transportation to the hospital.

■ The weather was nice enough to go out to the driving range. It's too bad the driving range isn't anywhere near Hamlin Hall. Officers responded to a report of golf balls breaking some windows on Hamlin Hall last Sunday. One window on the south second floor lounge and two windows were smashed on the south sixth floor lounge. Officers observed multiple golf balls on the ground and through the windows at the scene. Officers believe that the golf balls came from the balconies from East Vandenberg Hall, but there was no evidence at the scene. There are no suspects at this time.

■ On March 14 an Oakland University student learned that it probably isn't a good idea to keep your things unlocked at the Rec Center. Between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. a male student put a pair of pants containing a black leather wallet in a locker. When he returned, the pants were still there but the wallet was missing. The student said the wallet contained a driver's license, an OU student I.D. card, an Ortonville library card, a Pine Knob ski pass and less than \$10 cash. There are no suspects.

CENTER FOR STUDENT ACTIVITIES

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Student & Greek Organization

"All That Glitters Is Gold" RECOGNITION NIGHT

Wednesday, April 11th
6:30PM
Banquet Rooms, OC

Awards Nomination Packets are available
in the CSA Office, 49 OC.
Due: Friday, March 30th

CSA SERVICE WINDOW EVENTS

Discount tickets for the following shows and events are available to 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 OC.

- Turnanot
- Sweet Charity
- Camelot
- Abduction From Seraglio
- Romeo and Juliet

Lunch & Learn Series:

Meadow Brook Hall: The History & the Future

TODAY
Lake Superior B, OC
12:00PM – 1:00PM

John Cameron, professor of art history, will discuss the history and the future of Meadow Brook Hall.

Learn 2 Lead: Transitioning Officers for the New Year

Thursday, March 29th
5:00PM – 6:00PM
Rooms 126-127, OC

INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

Friday, March 30
5:30PM – 9:00PM
Banquet Rooms, OC

Experience displays, food, music and entertainment representing countries from around the world!

OU's multicultural student organizations will be highlighted.

Student Program Board Presents

"Denim & Diamonds Affair"

Friday, March 30th
9:00PM – 1:00PM
Gold Rooms, OC

Dancing, Entertainment, Food, Prizes and More! Come dressed to impress in your denim and diamond attire.
Free & Open to All OU students. One guest per OU student is allowed.

OU Annual Photography Contest

Monday, April 2nd – Wednesday, April 4th
Fireside Lounge, OC

Students, Faculty & Staff can enter the contest! 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place Cash Prizes for Best Color and Best Black & White Photograph!
Entry forms and rules are now available in the CSA Office, 49 OC.

OU Spring Blood Drive

Monday, April 2nd –
Wednesday, April 4th
9:00AM – 9:00PM
Gold Rooms, OC

To make an appointment, go to:
www.givelife.org. Fill in the requested information. When the site prompts you for the code word, it is oublood.

CSA Once-a-Month Volunteer Event:

Make Holiday & Easter Baskets for Kids!

Tuesday, April 2nd
12:00PM – 1:00PM
Gold Rooms, OC

Baskets, small toys & candy are also needed. Please drop off items to the CSA Office, 49 OC, or bring to the event.

Perspectives

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www.oaklandpostonline.com

March 28, 2007

EDITORIAL

If it bleeds it leads—straight down a slippery slope that robs us of what makes us American

President Bush is always talking about the “erosion of American values.” It was a huge part of his campaign platform in both the 2000 and 2004 elections, and he continues to advocate for a change back to a time when morality and virtuous behavior were important parts of being an American.

Countless other public figures have sounded off on the same point, but it seems like everyone has a different opinion on exactly where we should start and what we should focus on.

We entirely agree that, collectively, as a society—we’re slipping.

But we suggest starting by re-evaluating the purpose of our national news media and the methods they employ to bring home, to every American household, what is relevant to informing, educating and enlightening the public.

The focus on restoring family values by clearly defining what a family is based on our own religious beliefs—not by what evidence has shown to raise and develop well-adjusted and productive members of society—seems like the wrong idea.

Every day and night the horrors of the world are delivered to us, inescapably, by the front pages of newspapers, cable television news broadcasts and internet reporting.

Full color, above-the-fold images of violence in Iraq, terrorism attacks, natural disasters and countless other terrible realities appear all the time on newspaper front pages—all one has to do is walk past a newstand to be exposed. Children and/or innocent victims have no way of being shielded from such images.

How do we explain to an eight year-old child what happened when they see an image of the twin towers burning, or a person plunging more than 100 stories to their death because they felt that was better than being burned alive.

How is a person dealing with the loss of a loved one—whether it was because of a terrorist attack, car accident, jealous husband or whatever—supposed to learn how to cope when everywhere they look they receive a healthy

dose of the traumatic experience that pushed them to the brink in the first place?

Flat-panel, high resolution monitors hang everywhere from Elliot Hall here at OU to Detroit Metro Airport broadcasting CNN, FoxNews, MSNBC and the like.

Nobody is insulated—unless someone chooses to live their life locked in a room without radio, television and internet.

Bob Shaye, director of “The Last Mimzy,” told The Post in a sit-down interview a couple of weeks ago that while producing “A Nightmare on Elm Street” and its sequels he had his nine year-old daughter take part in the editing process—in fact, her voice is the one you hear singing “One, two, Freddy’s coming for you...”

He explained that while some may perceive him to be a bad father for doing so, he assured us that his daughter had a blast helping because she understood it was fantasy.

What the girl wasn’t cool with was sitting down to watch the evening news with her dad. Shaye said that she couldn’t take more than fifteen minutes of any given nightly report before excusing her disturbed self.

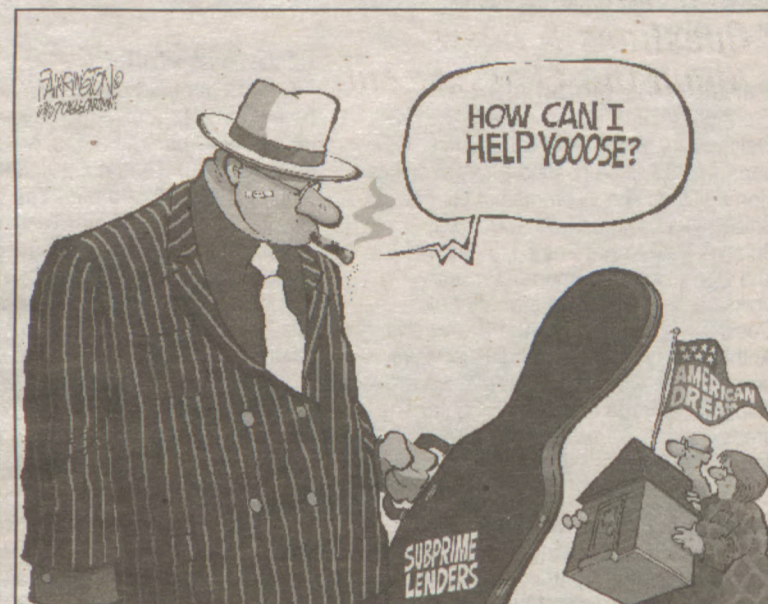
These horrors are thrust upon us in such a powerful and profound way that, often, the only thing we can do is feel bad about them.

A picture is worth a thousand words, and sometimes it is important to be shocked in a way that raises our consciousness and awareness. But it seems like the current state of the media serves to do exactly the opposite; seeing so much of this stuff causes us to become desensitized.

It’s a two-way street though. They only print or broadcast what we consume. The cycle needs to be broken.

We need a fresh approach—a new national leader who can galvanize the masses, get our full support on this issue—and then knock on the doors of these media conglomerates and say, “We’re mad as hell, and we’re not gonna take it anymore!”

Or we can just tune out until they clean up their act.



Time’s are tough and many people are growing desperate—but be wary of those who’ll “make you an offer you can’t refuse”

What do you think? Have a news tip? Send your comments to The Oakland Post.

By e-mail: editor@oakpostonline.com
By mail: Letter to the Editor
The Oakland Post
61 Oakland Center
Rochester, MI 48309

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

CORRECTIONS CORNER

Last week’s cover illustration should have been credited to Dustin Alexander, contributing photographer. In the future all cover art will be credited.

The Oakland Post corrects all errors of fact. If you know of an error, please e-mail editor@oakpostonline.com or call (248) 370-4268. You can also write us at 61 Oakland Center Rochester, MI 48309.

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

— The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States

EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers
About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk: I saw warnings on bags of charcoal that said carcinogens are released when the briquettes are burned. Is it safe to breathe in the smell of a charcoal grill?

—Joe Sliwa, via e-mail

Barbecue grills can be problematic for two reasons. First, both charcoal and wood burn “dirty,” producing not only hydrocarbons but also tiny soot particles that pollute the air and can aggravate heart and lung problems. Secondly, the grilling of meat can form two kinds of potentially carcinogenic compounds: polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and heterocyclic amines (HCAs).

According to the American Cancer Society, PAHs form when fat from meat drips onto the charcoal. They then rise with the smoke and can get deposited on the food. They can also form directly on the food as it is charred. The hotter the temperature and the longer the meat

cooks, the more HCAs are formed.

HCAs can also form on broiled and pan-fried beef, pork, fowl and fish, not just on grilled meats. In fact, National Cancer Institute researchers have identified 17 different HCAs that result from cooking “muscle meats” and that may pose human cancer risks. Studies have also shown increased risk of colorectal, pancreatic and breast cancers associated with high intakes of well done, fried or barbecued meats.

According to the Texas Commission on Environmental Air Quality, Texans who like to say that they “live and breathe barbecue” may be doing just that to the detriment of their health. A 2003 study by scientists from Rice University found that microscopic bits of polyunsaturated fatty acids released into the atmosphere from cooking meat on backyard barbecues were helping to pollute the air in Houston. The city, at times, registers air quality levels that rank it one of the more polluted U.S. urban areas, though emissions from barbecues are certainly dwarfed by those generated by motor vehicles and industry.

Both briquettes and lump charcoal create air pollution. Lump charcoal, made from charred wood to add flavor, also contributes to deforestation and adds to the greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Charcoal briquettes do have the benefit of being made partly from sawdust (a good use of waste wood), but popular brands may also contain coal dust, starch, sodium nitrate, limestone and borax.

We recommend using so-called “natural charcoal” instead.



Illustration courtesy of Getty Images

Charcoal briquettes burn “dirty,” producing tiny soot particles that pollute the air.

Sorry, my browser can't do that

Guest Column

Chuck Kanouse
IT / Web site Director
WXOU Radio



In the mid to late 90s a war was raging in the computer world: the browser war. Netscape Navigator was the premier web browser of the time and had almost the entire share of the browser market. Internet Explorer arrived on the scene in 1995 with its first version for Windows 95. Internet Explorer was, in what some say was an underhanded tactic, bundled with Microsoft Windows. IE and Netscape released many updates during a two year period to try to win more market share. IE started to adopt more Internet standards specified by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C). This gave IE the advantage over Netscape and allowed IE to win the browser war.

Internet Explorer being the dominant, and almost the only browser for years, this allowed IE to slip into disrepair. IE was mostly dormant after this period with only a few bug fixes while security holes remained rampant. In 2004 the newest browser, Mozilla Firefox, was released. Firefox had new features, like tabbed browsing, and it supported more Internet standards than IE 6.

In response to this growing threat to their market share, Microsoft released the new Internet Explorer 7 that has similar features, like tabbed browsing, to Firefox. Some estimates now say that Firefox has 20% of the browser market and is gaining ground everyday.

The problem with another

browser war is that new features and compliance to web standards have a higher priority to companies than security and bug fixes. The only difference is that Firefox is open-source, so anyone can

create code fixes and submit them which could give it an advantage over IE.

The biggest problem

facing browsers in this unsure time is how they comply with the new Internet standards that seem to be released on a daily basis. Firefox again will have an advantage because any user can edit the source code to make their personal version of the browser compliant with the latest standards. Only time will tell which browser will be the dominant one, but with Microsoft backing Internet Explorer it will never go away completely.

Technology Today

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Oakland Post,

In British Parliament, Tony Blair answers questions for one half hour every week, without exception. Mr. Blair takes a seat on the floor of the small chambers of the House of Commons and addresses the status of his present engagements and other matters which may carry with them immediate or impending significance. The PM's doing so provides an unparalleled level of transparency and honesty in the executive branch, the likes of which we rarely see even in the United States. President Russi should consider the same type of openness in his administration. Can the president not spare one half-hour block of time, bi-weekly or even monthly, to meet with OUSC, having media outlets present? This type of proposal should be made to OU administration; students and student groups who care about an open university administration should lobby his office for this type of meeting. Samuel Johnson, the great British poet and essayist, once said, “Where secrecy or mystery begins, vice or roguery is not far off.” What say you, Dr. Russi?

Benjamin Elgren
Sophomore, Political Science

Editor's note: Dr. Russi is not an elected official

Dear Oakland Post,

I was delighted to read your report and editorial about Dr. Russi. Keep investigating and keep being assertive!

Mr. Laren Weiss
Junior, History

you

(your stories
your words
your style
your health)

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www.oaklandpostonline.com

March 28, 2007

The other side of the lake

*You may not
need to move
across the
country to find
a flourishing job
market and hip
urban lifestyle*

By LINDSEY WOJCIK
Contributing Reporter

Just across Lake Michigan is our Midwest neighbor, Chicago, Ill. A mere five hour drive from Michigan, Chicago is known for its jazz and blues music, pizza and a piercing skyline. It's also a great place for Oakland University graduates to make their start. Tarra Andonoff, Douglas Fiore and Elliot Bigelow, all 2005 OU graduates, chose the Windy City as the place to start their post-college lives.

Pay the bills

Michigan's current economy is forcing many to move elsewhere, and since Chicago is just across the lake, it's a great place to start job hunting.

Thy Nguyen, the Assistant Director at Northwestern University's Career Services, said the job market for college graduates is good in Chicago.

Big industries in Chicago are financial services including various forms of banking, consulting in the professional services area, engineering and education non-profit sectors, Nguyen said.

"It's important to have some type of relevant experience, and an internship is important to employers," he said.

Nguyen said networking is the best thing college graduates can start doing if they are looking to move to Chicago.

"If you know someone, your chances of getting a job or position go way up. If you don't have any established net-



Photo courtesy of Lindsey Wojcik

The author stands on the stairs of Chicago's Alder Planetarium and Astronomy Museum. With its close proximity to home and plentiful work opportunities, several OU alumni have decided to make Chicago their new home. A multitude of restaurants, museums and other attractions make home feel like vacation.

works, it's a good time to start establishing those networks."

Come up to my place

Northern neighborhoods, just 10 minutes away from downtown are where 20-somethings and young professionals live.

The northern side of Chicago holds Roscoe Village where Andonoff has been living for six months.

"It's a very small area but there's a lot of things to do," she said. "It is very safe in this area. I feel perfectly fine walking down the street at two in the morning for whatever reason."

Apartmentpeople.com, a Web site for a Chicago apartment rental brokerage, lists price ranges for each neighborhood. According to Apartment People, one bedroom apartments in Roscoe Village start at \$850 and two bedrooms start at \$1,135.

Just minutes away from downtown is Lincoln Park.

"It's a lot of yuppies and younger

people," said Bigelow, who has lived in Lincoln Park for a year. Lincoln Park also holds the Lincoln Park Zoo, a great free attraction.

Studio apartments in Lincoln Park start at \$710, one bedrooms start at \$850 and two bedrooms start at \$1,090, according to Apartment People.

If you prefer the downtown action, move to Streeterville.

"It is right ... in the middle of the city and a very well maintained neighborhood," said Fiore, who has lived in Streeterville for a year.

Streeterville studio apartments start at \$1,040, one bedrooms start at \$1,158 and two bedrooms start at \$1,760.

Think outside the pizza box

While Chicago may be primarily known for serving deep-dish pizzas oozing with cheese and toppings, like the famous Giordano's, the Windy City offers cuisine to match anyone's appetite.

For the best sushi, Fiore suggested

SushiSamba Rio in River North.

"It's very upscale and trendy. The sushi is well presented. It's a little pricey, but well worth it," he said.

If you're looking for get breakfast with a twist, Orange in Lakeview is the place to go, Fiore said.

"This is the best breakfast you will ever eat. Whoever designed the plates was definitely an artist," he said.

The Pasta Bowl in Lincoln Park is great for Italian, said Bigelow. "It's cheap food and it's really good. It's really fresh pasta and the quality is always consistent."

Ed Debevic's in downtown is a fun dining experience and flashback to the past. A 1950's style diner, Andonoff said it's one of her favorites.

"The staff is rude to you and you're rude to them. It's a blast," she said. "If you're looking to go out with friends, it's a really fun place to go."

Continued on next page

Vacation all the time

"It's not hard to find something to do here. Everything is readily available," Andonoff said.

Michigan Avenue, or the "Magnificent Mile," is Chicago's premier place for shopping. Boutiques and department stores line the street.

Museums are another main attraction, and Bigelow said the best place in the city is the Art Institute of Chicago.

"I like it because it has a very good selection of Asian art," he said.

Fiore suggested visiting the Museum of Science and Industry on the south side of Chicago in Hyde Park.

"It is huge, and there are lots of exhibits you can see and interact with," he said.

For Chicago soul sounds of blues and jazz music, check out Buddy Guy's Legends in the South Loop for rock-out sessions and local performers. You can

also get Cajun food from the kitchen. Check out www.buddyguys.com for more information.

Along Lake Michigan is a paved trail that is great for exercising.

"I go up to Lake Shore Drive and run," Andonoff said. "It's great for walking, running, rollerblading, biking or walking with somebody else."

Andonoff said everyone must visit Wrigleyville, home of the Chicago Cubs.

"Wrigley Field is a big field and there are houses right next to it. It's really old time," she said.

Fiore said Wrigleyville is also the place to go for some great bars.

"If you are looking to party, the Wrigleyville strip outside of Wrigley Field is a lot of fun," he said.

"The best part of it all is playing," Fiore said, who after living in Chicago for a year said, "I still feel like I'm on vacation."

Preserving history

By KELLY DURBIN
Contributing Reporter

Through the back entrance of Meadow Brook mansion, up the stairs to the public-forbidden fourth floor, and into the archives walks Laura Riggs. In this room, which overlooks the front courtyard of Meadow Brook Hall, and down the hall from what used to be a bedroom and playroom for a child whose mother was worth \$30 million, Riggs pores through wall-to-wall, ceiling-to-ceiling stacks of newspaper articles that date back to the 1800s.

Yes, even our 50-year-old baby of a school has a history. Most Oakland University students aren't aware that our school's history lives at Meadow Brook Hall and is documented in the archives upstairs. That's because the archives are in the process of being organized.

Laura Riggs, an OU senior history major, is helping. She is also writing a 20-page research paper on OU founder and millionaire, Matilda Dodge Wilson, which will be on display in the archives when it is finished in June. The paper is for History 399, Field Experience, an independent research course. She's conducting her research at Meadow Brook, where Matilda and her children lived, and which is called one of the U.S.'s last remaining castles. She presented her research in the Fireside Lounge last Friday.

Before her internship at Meadow Brook, Riggs worked on the archives at Kresge Library. At Kresge she developed the idea to research Matilda when she began to sort through old newspaper clippings and saw headlines like the Detroit Free Press' "Godmother to a University" and became intrigued with the philanthropist who was a leading woman of her time.

"I just think that what she did was great. I think the people that I've met that knew her think so, too," said Riggs. She pointed out that Matilda was Michigan's first lieutenant governor — and a woman, nonetheless, in whose lifetime women had obtained the right to vote.

Riggs added, "She did those business things and she was a mother to five children. So I'd imagine she had to be somewhat of a strong woman."

Riggs said her research will document Matilda's history, but will focus on her philanthropic roles, including the donation of her estate to Michigan State University for their Oakland campus, which later became OU.

"Andrew Carnegie had an ideology of philosophy, so I'm going to try to relate his idea to her ... and focus on what was the norm in society and the amount that she did," Riggs said.

Her work with the records is important "to preserve them and to keep them, but also to be able to retrieve them. We're getting better at that," Riggs said.

Because the oils on people's hands are damaging the unprotected newspaper clippings, the archivists are "mylenexing," or "mylaring" them — an archival method of preservation similar to laminating.

Riggs said, "Once we get them mylenexed it will be a great research tool."

She said that Meadow Brook's archives will probably not be open to the public, but OU students would likely be able to use the archives for research once the records are preserved.

Now, to answer the students' most-debated question in OU history: Did Matilda really ban football and contact sports from the university?

Riggs laughed. When she worked at Kresge, she said, that was the ever-recurring question.

"No, I don't think it was her. I don't know if she was alive then," Riggs said.

Riggs hopes to continue doing archival work after graduation. For now, she's enjoying her research and the privilege of being able to conduct it where the history took place — on the restricted-access fourth floor of the mansion that was home to an anomalously powerful woman.



CELESTE FILIATRAULT/The Oakland Post
Senior history major Laura Riggs is helping organize Oakland University's archives.

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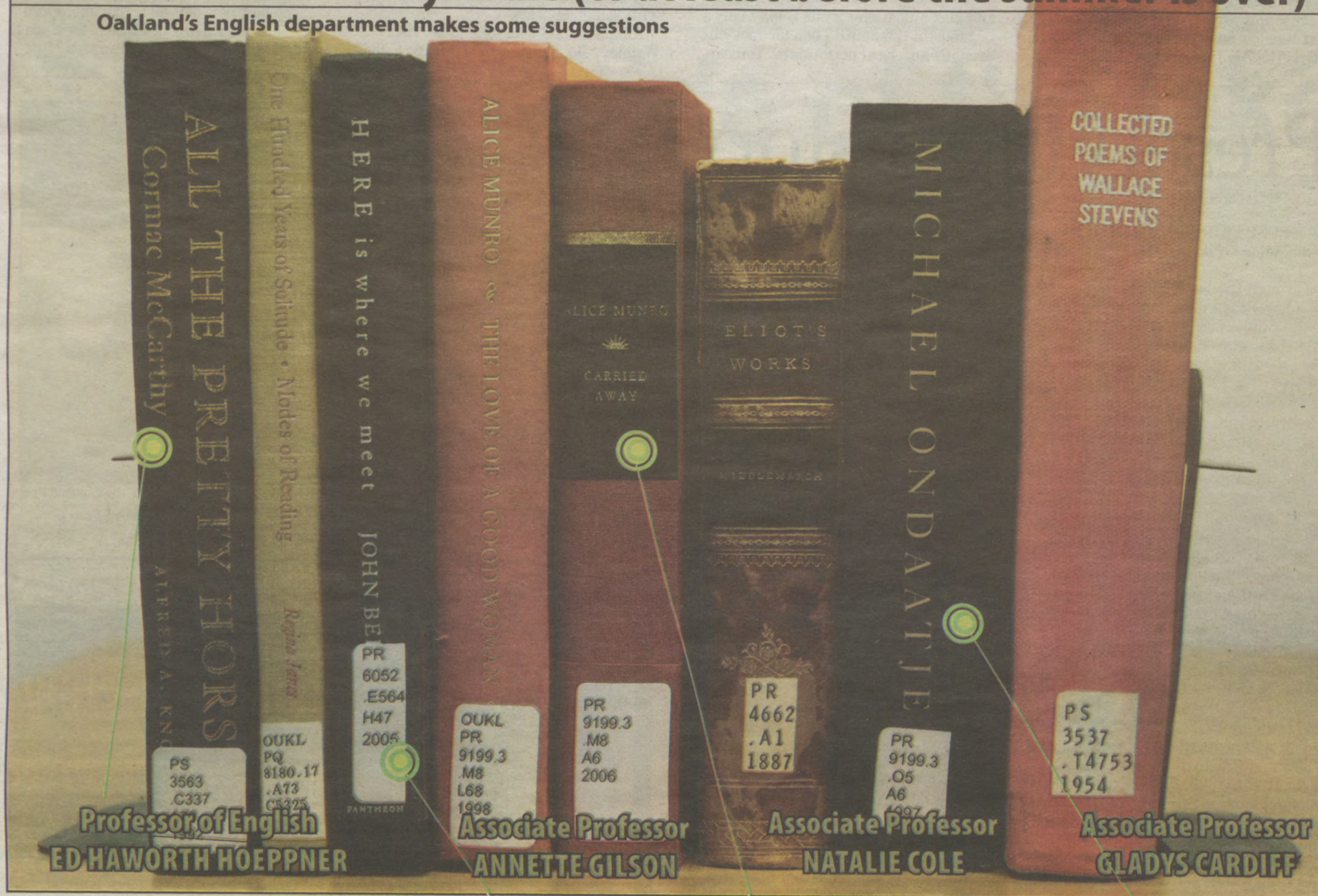
250 Pawley Hall
248-370-2633

www.oakland.edu/counseling/sehs/cc



Books to read before you die (or at least before the summer is over)

Oakland's English department makes some suggestions



Professor of English
ED HAWORTH HOEPPNER

"THE BORDER TRILOGY" by Cormack McCarthy,
"A THOUSAND YEARS OF SOLITUDE"
by Gabriel Garcia Marquez,
"HOUSEKEEPING" by Marilynne Robinson

"The McCarthy trilogy is a feast of cowboy madness and violent history inside of which individuals try to cope with the loss of natural contexts for life and the twistings of love. Marquez writes about a century in the life of a family in Columbia in a novel interlaced with magical effects — assumptions into heaven in clouds of butterflies, the invention of ice — all tricked out in order to serve and a document that traces the rise of the modern world out of a mixture of folklore and fable. Robinson's novel is the most lyrical I've ever read — a careful examination of motherless life and growing up by a young woman being raised by an eccentric aunt who has quit her hobo ways in order to try to raise her sister's children."

Associate Professor
ANNETTE GILSON

"HERE IS WHERE WE
MEET" by John Berger

"Written by a Booker winning British author, who is now in his 80s. A wonderful and mysterious book about memory and identity. In the book, a character named John Berger travels through European cities, and keeps running into the ghosts of people he'd known. They are carrying on with their lives (though dead) and pause to talk with him. So moving and beautiful."

Associate Professor
NATALIE COLE

SELECTED STORIES OF ALICE MUNRO

"This is the one to have on a desert island. Munro is the writer other short story writers want to emulate. When in the waiting room I see a new Munro story in The New Yorker, I pray my doctor will be delayed long enough for me to have time to read it. To read an Alice Munro story is a literary epicurean experience, like eating a four-course gourmet dinner in a fabulous upscale restaurant — every element works together perfectly, the presentation is beautifully wrought and surprising, it is enormously satisfying, and it seems to end too soon. You want to come back again. Also recommended: The Love of a Good Woman, The View from Castle Rock and Middlemarch."

Associate Professor
GLADYS CARDIFF

"ANIL'S GHOST"
by Michael Ondaatje
"KAFKA ON THE SHORE"
by Haruki Murakami
"CEREMONY BY LAGUNA PUEBLO"
by Leslie Marmon Silko

"Anil's Ghost is a novel about a female forensic anthropologist who returns to Sri Lanka during the bloody sectarian violence of 1980s and 90s to investigate a possible war crime. "Ceremony ..." by Silko that takes up the difficult question of how to stop destructive powers. Murakami's "Kafka" is utterly original and smart."

Leavin' on a jet plane

Q: If you could get a stamp in your passport to anywhere in the world, where would it be and why?



Alex Hayden
Mechanical Engineering Junior

A: Madagascar to see all the wildlife.



Brian Avenall
Accounting Junior

A: Italy because I like Rome and I want to see the Romans, especially after reading its history.



Elaina VanBuren
Nursing Freshman

A: France because it seems like a beautiful place and I want to travel a lot. It seems like a good place to start.

photos by C.M. Graski

WHAT NOT TO DO AT CUSTOMS

1. Don't make chit-chat. Customs automatically assumes that you're a terrorist and who wants to have chit-chat with a terrorist?
2. Putting your passport at the bottom of your bag seems like a safe place but makes for an annoying wait time.
3. Don't tell a knock-knock joke. If you hadn't already noticed, Border Patrol folks are serious people.
4. Don't wear a ski mask, no matter how cold it is.
5. Canadian Border Patrol does not want to hear the names of every club you're going to "hit up" while in Windsor.
6. Do not offer anyone fresh mango, no matter how ripe. They're going to think you're smuggling crack.
7. Do not practice an accent.

7
select

Campus Clean Up

Good students who found bad things

By Grace Gahman — Contributing Reporter

WHAT'S THE WEIRDEST THING YOU FOUND?



Krystal Cuciurean
Sociology, Senior
Representing: OU Social Work Club
Found item: 2 unopened birth control packages in Beer Lake



Chris Basnett
Mechanical Engineering, Freshman
Representing: Honors College
Found: unopened Reese's peanut butter cups in Beer Lake



Tawnee Milko
Pre-Med, Freshman
Representing: Honors College
Found item: pair of flip-flops in Beer Lake



Sarah Redlawski
Elementary Education, Senior
Representing: Phi Sigma Sigma
Found item: pair of child's scissors

photos by Grace Gahman

Wireless plan on schedule

By C.M. GRASKI
Senior Reporter/Photographer

Oakland County's 2007 technology plans are well underway and on schedule. These plans consist of the eGovernment program, Wireless Oakland initiative and the Oakland County podcast series, all of which comprise a large portion of the Emerging Sectors strategy to make Oakland County attractive to businesses.

The eGovernment program is intended to implement a series of strategies that would automate the access and transfer of information through computer systems between the government and members of the community.

So far, dozens of transactions are available online such as ordering a birth certificate, paying taxes, ordering a county park permit and ticket payment. A local business search tool is also available. Basically, what once had to be accomplished in person is now possible electronically.

The Wireless Oakland initiative is also underway. Pilot areas in Troy now have access to free wireless Internet provided by Oakland County and owned and operated by MichTel. Neighborhoods north of Big Beaver Road and west of Rochester Road now have unlimited access to a 128 kbps connection.

"Today's announcement signals a positive and very important step forward in Oakland County's aggressive plans to bring free wireless Internet service to our 1.2 million citizens and 300,000 daily visitors," said Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson in a press release.

The remainder of Troy is scheduled to have access to the wireless network by May, and the rest of Oakland County will to be connected to the network in early 2008.

Since the Wireless Oakland initiative is funded and operated by Oakland County's private sector partners, additional services will also be available beyond the free services. MichTel offers connection upgrades ranging from \$19.95 per month for unlimited 512 kbps service, to \$39.95 per month for unlimited three-megabyte downloading and 768 kbps uploading.

"We are very excited to see the vision of Wireless Oakland become reality and look forward to providing free Internet service to all of Oakland County," said David R. Thomas, chief operating officer of MichTel Communications in a press release.

Oakland County is currently working on another program that will provide low-cost or no-cost computers to qualifying residents.

In addition, continuing its efforts to compensate for limited accessibility issues, Oakland County's podcast series was launched in early February. The series provides residents with pertinent information regarding community events and government broadcasts.

Podcasts enable the county government to convey information to the public, and because they are digital recordings, they are available anytime and anywhere there is Internet access.

Since February, podcasts that have been uploaded



C.M. GRASKI/The Oakland Post

Freshman Kara Kren (left) and Karmen Bishop do some work on their laptops and enjoy the benefits of having wireless Internet.

include news on Oakland County's wireless initiative, 2007 State of the County Address and eGovernment program information, in addition to other local information and events.

Oakland County podcasts are free and are distributed on a biweekly basis.

Finally, Oakland County is making steps in its Emerging Sectors strategy. The overall goal of Emerging Sectors is to attract high-technology companies to Oakland County, which would increase tax revenue, create more jobs and increase business.

The county is working with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and university research activities. They present at trade shows as well as technology conferences to try and make the area an appealing opportunity for new and existing business.

Since the program began in 2004, it has generated over \$5 million in property taxes and created over 2,000 new jobs.

The top 10 emerging sectors throughout Oakland County include nanotechnology, biotechnology, robotics and automation, financial services, and alternative energy and power generation.

Get Connected

There is a lot of information that can be accessed to find out more about the Oakland County wireless initiative. They can be found at their wireless informational Web site:

[HTTP://WWW.OAKGOV.COM/WIRELESS/](http://www.oakgov.com/wireless/)

The Oakland County podcasts can be played via Internet browser:

[HTTP://WWW.OAKGOV.COM/PODCAST/](http://www.oakgov.com/podcast/)

For frequently asked questions on the Wireless Oakland Initiative:

[HTTP://WWW.OAKGOV.COM/WIRELESS/FAQ](http://www.oakgov.com/wireless/faq)

Mich. looks to raise state gas tax

By **TIM MARTIN**
Associated Press Writer

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — The customers at George Fenton's Michigan auto repair shop don't like the toll that potholes and bumpy roads take on their vehicles.

But motorists are even more fed up with the high price of gasoline, Fenton said, which means many of the customers visiting his Grayling shop probably wouldn't embrace a higher fuel tax to improve state roads.

"Not a chance," Fenton says. "Gas is already so expensive."

That sums up the problem facing Michigan officials and transportation groups who want to raise money for state roads and bridges. Motorists want better roads, but they aren't jumping to pay more to get them.

Despite motorists' resistance, several groups are ramping up the pressure to get a solution adopted soon, with a higher state gasoline tax among the most often discussed possibilities. Other possible pieces of the puzzle include raising the diesel fuel tax to at least 19 cents per gallon — the same rate as gasoline — and vehicle registration fees dedicated to road programs.

Even the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, which typically is against tax increases, favors bumping up the gasoline tax.

Supporters of higher gasoline taxes have suggested an increase of up to 3 cents per gallon per year over a three-year period, saying the potential 9-cent-per-gallon

increase would boost economic development in the state.

"We don't have enough money to maintain the system that we have, let alone expand it where it needs to be expanded," Carmine Palombo of the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, a regional planning organization, said.

Michigan sends more in federal gasoline taxes to Washington than it gets back. This year, it's getting just 91.5 cents of every dollar it sends to Washington. That factor puts pressure on getting more from the state gasoline tax, which stays within Michigan's borders.

The state expects to spend about \$1.6 billion on its road program this fiscal year. But that could drop closer to about \$1.2 billion within the next few years as revenues decline. The chamber-backed plan could bring in more than \$425 million in additional revenue each year by the end of the three-year phase-in.

Under Gov. Jennifer Granholm, the state has focused on keeping the roads and bridges it already has in decent shape rather than building new ones.

The Michigan Department of Transportation says about 90 percent of its existing road pavement is in good shape, although outside groups have estimated the percentage is lower.

The Road Information Program — a national transportation research group — said in a report last year that 14 percent of Michigan's major roads were in poor condition while 24 percent were in mediocre shape. Congestion also is an issue in many parts of the state.

MDOT projects the share of road pavement in good shape will decline to about 70 percent in 2013 unless more money is found. The department estimates at least \$300 million more would be needed each year just to keep its road preservation program up.

It would be even tougher to pay for widening highways or building new ones.

The House Transportation Committee is holding a series of meetings over the next few weeks to discuss the state's road needs. Rep. Hoon-Yung Hopgood, a Democrat from Taylor and the committee's chairman, said the panel is "doing its due diligence" in researching Michigan transportation needs and possible solutions.

A gas tax increase could have some bipartisan support. House Republican Leader Craig DeRoche of Novi supports the idea because he believes an investment in roads would play a direct role in bringing more investment in jobs to Michigan, spokesman Matt Resch said.

The state's gasoline tax is lower than those of 33 other states, according to information compiled by the Federation of Tax Administrators. Unlike some other states, however, Michigan's 6 percent sales tax is included in the retail pump price.

Mike Nystrom of the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association is hopeful bills addressing the issue will be introduced in the Legislature within the next few weeks.

"We need to have a comprehensive approach to this issue," he said. "There is no one silver bullet."

LOCAL NEWS IN BRIEF

Woman found strangled

DETROIT (AP) — A Kentucky woman who recently moved to the city with her 7-year-old son and boyfriend of four months was found strangled in an apartment, police and family members said. Authorities believe Armenta White, 35, was strangled Friday, The Detroit News reported. Police went to the apartment after receiving a 911 call from a man saying he had strangled his girlfriend. White's son was at the apartment when police arrived, the newspaper said. Darryl Sensely, 43, was arrested Friday and arraigned Sunday on a first-degree murder charge. He was denied bond and held at the Wayne County Jail. If convicted, he faces a mandatory term of life in prison without parole.

Eminem and ex stop criticism

MOUNT CLEMENS, Mich. (AP) — Award-winning rap superstar Eminem and ex-wife Kim Mathers agreed Monday not to criticize each other in public. The decision was made following a court hearing in which the on-again, off-again couple agreed that insulting each other through the media could prove harmful to their 11-year-old daughter, Hailie. The hearing was

held because the Grammy- and Oscar-winning performer filed a motion earlier this month in Macomb County Circuit Court that sought to prevent Kim Mathers from making "derogatory, disparaging, inflammatory and otherwise negative comments" about him. Kim Mathers blasted her ex-husband in recent television and radio interviews, including one on a Detroit radio station in which she said he was unfaithful and uncaring and disparaged his sexual prowess. The two sides agreed to the deal, and it was announced at the court hearing.

More Michiganders get degrees

DETROIT (AP) — An increasing percentage of Michigan residents have earned high school diplomas and college degrees, according to U.S. Census Bureau data. In 2006, nearly 90 percent of Michigan adults age 25 and older had a high school diploma, topping the 2006 national average of 86 percent, The Detroit News reported, citing recent Census data. In 2000, Michigan's percentage with a high school diploma was 86 percent. Also in 2000, 23 percent of Michigan adults age 25 and older had a bachelor's degree or higher, compared with the national average of 26 percent. In 2006, Michigan's percentage grew to about 26, as the national average rose to 28 percent.

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Motown gets spring fever

Opening Day to take Metro Detroit by storm

By **ROB TATE**
Senior Reporter

The most anticipated baseball season in my lifetime as a Detroit Tiger fan will arrive on Monday when the Toronto Blue Jays visit. The only other opening day in my lifetime that I can recall Tigers fans getting excited was the opening of Comerica Park back in 2000.

We all have seen some bad baseball here in Detroit, but that all changed last year when manager Jim Leyland took over and magically transitioned the Tigers into a championship-worthy team.

They may not have won the World Series back in October but baseball was born again in Detroit. The Tigers proved once and for all that Detroit is a baseball town. Not Hockey-town, not Piston-town and for sure this is not a Lions-town. The people of Detroit had Tiger Fever last season.

Thanks to the likes of Pudge, Maggs, Grandy, The Gambler, Poli and Zummy amongst other great players, Tigers fans have been re-energized. And it was great to see in off-season when general manager Dave Dombrowski traded for Gary Sheffield. It showed that Dombrowski isn't screwing around and is striving for another great October.

"Sports Illustrated" recently ranked the Tigers only the eighth best team this season and only second place in the American League Central. We should be okay with this prediction because the "experts" at SI ranked us 18th in 2006 and look what happened with that..

To heck with the so called "experts." I'm going out on the line to say this Tigers team will make this season just a memorable as last season and hopefully bring us that championship that we deserve after so many bad summers.



Photo courtesy of baseballistic.wordpress.com.



GENE J. PUKSAR/The Associated Press
Manager Jim Leyland bats up at spring training.

WILL THEY REPEAT?

Samantha Franz
Sports Editor

"Is the Pope Catholic? Of course the Tigers will repeat their success from last season! All of the pieces of the puzzle remain under the watchful eye of their AL Championship skipper."

Paul Gully
Mouthing Off Editor

"The have lofty expectations to live up to. I see them winning the AL Central, but I'm not sure about another World Series appearance."

Who's your Tiger



GENE J. PUSKAR/The Associated Press



PAUL SANCYA/The Associated Press



GENE J. PUSKAR/The Associated Press



Justin Verlander

"He's got a really good fastball."

Justin Bahoora
Sophomore
Biology



Curtis Granderson

"He's the bomb."

Derek Wrathell
Senior
Electrical
Engineering



Pudge Rodriguez

"He's very good."

Karolina Czarnecka
Freshman
Undecided

Student photos by C.M. Graski. Illustration by Celeste Filiatrault.

2007 TRACK SCHEDULE

April 7 at Central Michigan

May 10-12 Mid-Con Championships

April 14 at Michigan State

May 25 NCAA Midwest Regional

April 21 at Eastern Michigan

June 6 NCAA Championships

April 27-28 at Hillsdale College

FOR MORE GOLDEN GRIZZLY INFO, VISIT www.ougrizzlies.com

May 5 vs. Detroit Mercy

Sophomore slump? Hardly.

Track kicks off second season at OU

By SAMANTHA FRANZ
Sports Editor

In hopes of being able to reach out to more student-athletes, Oakland University expanded their athletic program last year by adding track to their list of Division I sports for both men and women.

Their first season was all about transition, as the Golden Grizzlies eased into the big time by competing in a variety of un-scored meets.

Now with the second season in full swing, Head Coach Paul Rice is ready to make a statement.

This year could be described as MORE," he said. "We have more athletes, we have more people covering events and we are able to compete in more events."

The Golden Grizzlies roster is full of underclassmen and in a few seasons time, they will be able to lead a growing program.

"The team is looking better at this time than they did last year," Rice said. "We are still very young, so it is exciting to see everyone blossom as the season goes on."

As a developing program, there are still some holes to fill. But Rice sees success in the next few years when they can "fill in all of our field events."

Shut down

Baseball season continues to sour

By ROB TATE
Senior Reporter

Frustrating could be a PG-rated term to use when describing the way the season has started for Oakland University baseball.

But if you asked Head Coach Dylan Putnam, he might be able to use other adjectives to describe the nine-game losing streak that has ensued since March 11. The Golden Grizzlies have been outscored 21-87.

Yes, you read that correctly, 21-87.

For those who aren't quick enough to do the math, Oakland's opponents are averaging 9.7 runs per game during the stretch. In baseball terms, averaging 5-6 runs per game would make you a winning team.

The pitching has struggled mightily in the young season and saying mightily is understatement.

The team's combined earned run average on the season is 7.75 and teams are batting .324 against Oakland this season. As of March 22, the team ERA still wasn't the worst in the Mid-Con overall. Southern Utah has the distinct honor of having worse pitching with a team ERA over nine

per game.

Things aren't all bad though. Oakland has gotten some solid pitching from senior Brad Noel who, in three starts this season, has a 2.47 ERA and a 2-1 record. He is holding the opposing batters to only eight hits on the season.

Offensively speaking, OU has gotten solid contribution from sophomore Andrew Stafford who has been ripping the cover off of the ball with a .387 batting average and 14 RBIs while starting every game so far this season.

Justin Wilson hasn't been too shabby either as he is currently the second best hitter on the team with a .349 batting average and 11 RBIs.

Senior Kevin Carkeek leads the team with four homeruns and 25 RBIs while batting .306.

Oakland's upcoming schedule includes traveling to Ypsilanti to take on Eastern Michigan and they will make their home debut Saturday at 3 p.m. at the field next to the Rec Center.

OU will face Rochester College Saturday and Sunday and then travel to Notre Dame Tuesday. Oakland is 6-14 on the season.

OU streak halted

By ROB TATE
Senior Reporter

Spring might have to wait one more day for Oakland University softball. Yesterday's home opener against Cleveland State had to be postponed due to un-playable field conditions on the OU softball field.

It's a shame that Oakland couldn't play yesterday, fresh off a double-header sweep at Southern Utah last Saturday.

Sophomore Sarah Clark came up big for the Golden Grizzlies with a seventh inning sacrifice fly that broke a 2-2 tie. Scoring what would be the eventual game-winning run was sophomore Stephanie Schall.

Sophomore Jessica Granger went the distance on the mound, going seven strong innings with 12 strikeouts on the game.

Granger wasn't done after the first game. She went ahead and pitched seven more in game two of the double and defeated Southern Utah 4-3. Granger added four more strikeouts. With all the playing time and the two

wins, Granger earned herself Mid-Con player of the week accolades for the second time this season.

Overall, Granger is 6-5 on the season with a 3.16 ERA and she has 64 strikeouts.

Third basemen sophomore Caitlin Lynch had a great performance going two for four with two RBIs in the second win against Southern Utah.

Overall, Oakland is off to a decent start with seven wins and 14 losses, but they are starting to heat up. Clark has been the leading hitter on the season with a .356 batting average and a team leading nine RBIs.

Something that will need to improve in order for OU to see more success this season is to raise the team batting average that is currently .194, and hopefully get some more solid pitching beyond Granger.

As of press time, today's game against Western Michigan was still scheduled to be played at OU Softball Field at 3 p.m.

Other upcoming Oakland games include a doubleheader Tuesday in Mt. Pleasant against Central Michigan.

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Who's gonna win?

Senior staff goes head-to-head on Final Four

By **ROB TATE & KYLE MAGIN**
Senior Reporter & Special Projects Reporter

Why Ohio State will win

"Ron Lewis has helped carry the Buckeyes through some tough games during this year's tournament, including a game-tying 3-pointer against Xavier in round two. Lewis will be the X-factor during crunch time for this team. OSU Head Coach Thad Matta has done a stellar job putting this team together and it should pay off Saturday night. The longer Oden stays out of foul trouble, the better things will be for OSU." —RT

Why Ohio State will lose

"The Buckeyes are a great team, don't get me wrong. But, as often happens to freshman-laden teams, Ohio State's inexperience will rear its head at the least opportune time. They are reminiscent of the Fab Five, another Big Ten team with unbelievable talent and very believable youth. Oden will play admirably but Hibbert's experience will win out." —KM

Why Georgetown will win

"The Hoyas will win it all because they have depth in the post. Led by junior Roy Hibbert, and followed by Patrick Ewing Jr., son of Georgetown great Ewing Sr., the Hoya posts will be too much for OSU freshman Greg Oden and company to handle on both ends of the court. Guard Jonathan Wallace provides a steady hand, chipping in 11 points per game." —KM

Why Georgetown will lose

"Although Ohio State took a whooping from Georgetown last season in the second round of the tournament, OSU has improved greatly. OSU has added Oden, Mike Conley Jr., a strong shooting freshman that played with Oden in high school, and guard Daequan Cook. Greg Oden matching up with Georgetown center Roy Hibbert should be one of the best battles of centers since Hakeem Olajuwon battled Patrick Ewing in 1984's championship game. Georgetown shoots 37 percent from 3-point land, which isn't good enough to beat this high powered OSU team." —RT

Why Florida will win

"It's simple, a Florida team that hasn't changed too much since defeating UCLA last season. UCLA will have a tough time again trying to handle Florida's balanced offense with Joakim Noah and Al Horford controlling the inside and Corey Brewer, Taurean Green, Lee Humphrey and sixth man Walter Hodge draining threes." —RT

Why Florida will lose

"Last year's defending champs are hands down the most talented team in basketball. From center Joakim Noah to sophomore guard Taurean Green, this is as polished a team as you'll see in the college game. Their weakness, though, stems from not being able to double team and neutralize multiple threats from opponents. Florida will lose because of their inability to slow down a consistent UCLA attack." —KM

Why UCLA will win

"UCLA tasted the title game last year and are back to play for keeps this year. They made Kansas, supposedly one of the nation's most athletic teams, look like they played in a YMCA 35-and-over league. Bruins' guard Aaron Afflalo is not only talented but he's polished, so look for him to adjust to Florida's weaknesses and exploit them. In a rematch of last year's title game, the hungry man will eat, and UCLA will come out on top by a comfortable margin." —KM

Why UCLA will lose

"You can say anything you want about UCLA, but you cannot deny the defending champs. History will repeat itself and Florida will move on to the championship game. UCLA will have a tough time defending Florida's five starters who average double figures in points. UCLA isn't a very strong rebounding team — their top rebounder, Lorenzo Mata, averages two less per game the Florida's top rebounder, Al Horford. If this game is decided at the free throw line, count UCLA out. They are only shooting 66 percent this season from the line." —RT

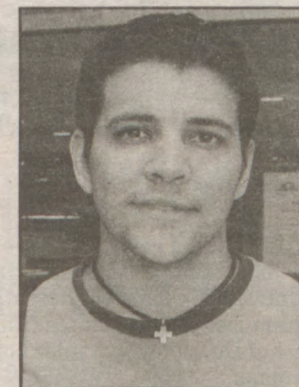
HOW'S YOUR BRACKET?



"(I picked) Ohio State. They're going all the way."
Besa Forani
Junior
Computer Engineering



"I missed four, but other than that, I am doing pretty good."
Nick Pauledes
Senior
Communication



"Out of a pool of 30, I'm in the top five or 10. I'm doing well."
Joe Ehlen
Senior
Communication

Photos by Charles Graski.

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New head coach looks to start over

By **BRITTANY OCHTINSKY**
Contributing Reporter

After finishing last season with a 1-25 record, Oakland University's volleyball team is ready to start fresh, beginning under new Head Coach Rob Beam.

Beam replaces former Head Coach Dave Schmidlin who resigned in November.

A Chicago native, Beam played volleyball for Clarke College in Dubuque, Iowa, where he was named Athlete of the Year in 1996. He coached at Dubuque Senior High School and the Junior Olympics before moving to the collegiate ranks.

Beam served as an assistant coach at Quincy University for both its men's and women's teams, then took an associate head coach position at Wright State. Beam spent the last two years at Illinois State before being hired at Oakland on March 14.

"Oakland University is a great place for me to be

a head coach for the first time," said Beam. "It's a beautiful campus, has beautiful facilities and it's a Midwestern location. For me, it's not too far from home, so it seems like a perfect fit to come in and make something happen."

Beam brings with him enthusiasm to start rebuilding the volleyball program to one day be fierce competitors in the Mid-Continent Conference. He hopes the players will improve individually, as well as a team, every day and looks at the success of the team not only in the short-term, with wins and losses, but also in the long-run.

"I don't think our success will be determined on matches won and lost," said Beam. "I think we're going to have a successful year if we get started on a building process. My hope is that it will lead to wins, which to everyone else, will seem like evidence that we're doing the right things."

To help his players revive their love for the sport,

Beam brings with him an interesting coaching technique. He uses the gym as a classroom and teaches the players how to improve and perform well in something they already love. He says the players are having a great time and are enjoying the feedback, style and philosophy he brings to the program.

"The secret, to me, is helping to unlock their passion and to get them to be able to play and enjoy the game again," said Beam. "I believe that I'm creating a positive atmosphere."

The players are excited for the upcoming turnaround. "We've been holding morning practices, and I know a lot of the girls aren't morning people, but to come in at 6:00 a.m. with that kind of enthusiasm is great," said freshman Nikki Pawson.

"There's a lot more positive energy," agreed sophomore Stephanie Parkin. "We're really looking forward to next season. It's been a really good experience and we're learning a lot."

Thanks, but I'll pass

*Kampe has full intention of
staying with Golden Grizzlies*

By **SAMANTHA FRANZ**
Sports Editor

Anybody who picked up their Detroit Free Press last Saturday may have noticed Drew Sharp's column about the possible candidates for the new University of Michigan basketball coaching job.

One of the names tossed around was none other than Oakland University's very own head coach Greg Kampe.

Sharp labeled Kampe as "the second best coach in the state" (second to MSU's Tom Izzo) and wrote that Kampe's old-school coaching style would be just the thing to breathe life into a dying Wolverine hoops squad.

But in turn, anybody who knows Kampe and his business like demeanor or knows that flattery will only get you so far.

"I have not applied and am not interested (in the U of M job)," Kampe said. "Oakland is where I

coach, and that is where I want to stay."

Kampe has been head coach at Oakland for 23 years and his 360-273 coaching record puts him among the top 50 all-time active Division I coaches.

Kampe did not catch wind of the article, but he certainly did not mind the praise, especially after taking OU to a record-high 19 wins.

"I like Drew Sharp," Kampe said with a laugh. "I'm flattered that he said those nice things, but it means nothing."

Other names being thrown into the mixer for possible head coaches include Chris Lowery of Southern Illinois, Paul Dewitt of Georgia Tech and Lon Kruger of UNLV.

Just don't expect Kampe to be among them much longer.

"I've been at Oakland a long time and I hope to finish my career here," he said, "and hope Oakland wants me to stay."

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The Scene

22

www.oaklandpostonline.com

March 28, 2007



THE FRATELLIS "Costello Music"

By CRYSTAL NELSON
Contributing Reporter

You've seen their music video on TV, you've heard them on the radio, and you may have even bought your iPod because of them. Regardless where you've heard The Fratellis, there is no

doubting that the latest UK invasion has arrived.

The Glasgow trio's single "Flathead" has America talking and their CD "Costello Music" (named for their old rehearsal space) is well worth the hype. The recently named "Artist to Watch" by Rolling Stone Magazine made their American TV debut on "Late Night with Conan O'Brien" last Friday and are already selling out shows.

Blending retro rock n' roll with a pop-punk edge and catchy-creative lyrics, The Fratellis are able to create memorable songs like "Chelsea Dagger" and "Got Ma Nuts From A Hippy."

Creatively infusing polka beats and ska techniques into their songs it becomes obvious that their musical qualities outshine their similarities to cookie-cutter bands Jet and Franz Ferdinand.

Yet like their contemporaries, The Fratellis may be too eager to flaunt their talent, making it hard to secure a signature Fratellis sound. And perhaps a little too quick to jump on the rock n' roll icon bandwagon. Jon, Mince and

Barry take "The Fratellis" as their band name, like punk legends The Ramones.

The future success of "Costello Music" will determine whether they have staying power, and if the Brit Awards are any predictor, The Fratellis have seized their moment as the Best British Breakthrough act.

DOWNLOAD THIS:

"Henrietta,"
"Chelsea Dagger,"
"For the Girl"
and
"Creepin' up the
Backstairs"



MODEST MOUSE "We Were Dead"

By NICK DEGEL
Contributing Reporter

It is a story as old as pop music itself.

A group, known more for their spacey, awkward soundscapes than their hit-making ability, record one unassuming tune that catches the ears of the right people and BAM! Stardom. Fame. Women. A walking rock n' roll cliché is here.

Almost three years removed from reaping the benefits of "Float On," the feel good, summer hit of

2004, Modest Mouse have released "We Were Dead Before the Ship Even Sank." The band clearly faced a dilemma in the studio: either attempt to recreate the magic of "Good News for People Who Love Bad News," or stay true to the band's quirky sound.

As for whether the Washington state natives have done either, the jury is still out. The truth is they have always created radio friendly material here and there, so a song like "Missing the Boat" should appear as no surprise. "Dashboard," the album's first single, sounds more like something you would hear from Hot Hot Heat than Modest Mouse.

On the other hand, tracks like "Fly Trapped in a Jar" and "Little Motel" are perfect examples of what these guys can do; atmospheric and envelope tearing, chock full of Isaac Brock's filtered howls and faux southern drawl.



photo courtesy of Island Empire Touring

"We Were Dead Before the Ship Even Sank" plays rather tame considering the band's past material, but this can hardly be viewed as a bad thing. The album is a perfect mix of off-kilter explorations and toe-tapping gems.

It exudes a certain confidence that speaks volumes about where Modest Mouse

is headed musically, even if we may not understand the language.

DOWNLOAD THIS:

"Little Motel"
and
"Fly Trapped in a
Jar"

Gore Fest

*Hills 2 bleeds its way to number 6
at the box office*

By MIKE CARAVAGGIO
Contributing Reporter

As the box office has been flooded with an array of remakes, "The Hills Have Eyes 2" is the first one this year to serve as a sequel.

Writer and producer Wes Craven directed the original "Hills Have Eyes: Part 2" back in 1985. In spite of the lack of success at the box office, most critics could agree that an axe to the face didn't seem like a bad idea to escape the wretchedness of the appalling film.

This time around, director Martin Weisz was able to try and turn such a horrid mess into a gory masterpiece.



photo courtesy of Fox Atomic

Craven was credited for the screenplay along with his son Jonathan Craven who also co-produced the film.

The story starts with a team of National Guards delivering supplies to scientists who are working in a New Mexico destination where the U.S. Army uses a bomb-testing site. Shortly after arriving, the team suspects that something is out there in the hills messing with them, but soon enough, members are being picked off one by one with executions that only the Cravens could imagine.

As in 2006's first installment of the "The Hills," the cannibalistic mutant clan is back, this time bigger and uglier than ever.

"The Hills 2" serves up just as much gut-wrenching scenes as its first installment. Anything from the most appalling neonatal deliveries to multiple scenes of

Please see HILLS/24

THE REAPING

Hillary Swank sells out to Hollywood and peroxide

By JEFF KRANITZ
Editor in Chief

Even with two Academy Awards for best actress, Hilary Swank knows how remarkably easy it can be to slide back into the dimly lit sinkhole of relative obscurity.

Anybody remember Marlee Matlin? Surely there are those who remember her 1986 film debut and Oscar winning performance in "Children of Lesser God," but for many reading this the film may not even register since it was released before they were born. Matlin has continued to enjoy success with recurring roles on hit shows like "Seinfeld," "Desperate Housewives" and "The West Wing," but she hasn't had top billing in a long time.

So how does Swank, the third youngest double Best Actress Oscar winner ever plan on avoiding the anguish of prime time television?

By carefully choosing her roles, she told The Post via telephone.

"It's all in the script, my reaction to



Please see REAPING/24

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OK, SO MY SUBS REALLY AREN'T GOURMET AND WE'RE NOT FRENCH EITHER. MY SUBS JUST TASTE A LITTLE BETTER, THAT'S ALL! I WANTED TO CALL IT JIMMY JOHN'S TASTY SANDWICHES, BUT MY MOM TOLD ME TO STICK WITH GOURMET. SHE THINKS WHATEVER I DO IS GOURMET, BUT I DON'T THINK EITHER OF US KNOWS WHAT IT MEANS. SO LET'S STICK WITH TASTY!

Jimmy John

8" SUB SANDWICHES

All of my tasty sub sandwiches are a full 8 inches of homemade French bread, fresh veggies and the finest meats & cheese I can buy! And if it matters to you, we slice everything fresh everyday in this store, right here where you can see it. (No mystery meat here!)

#1 PEPE®

Real applewood smoked ham and provolone cheese garnished with lettuce, tomato, and mayo.

#2 BIG JOHN®

Medium rare choice roast beef, topped with yummy mayo, lettuce, and tomato.

#3 TOTALLY TUNA™

Fresh housemade tuna, mixed with celery, onions, and our tasty sauce, then topped with alfalfa sprouts, cucumber, lettuce, and tomato. (My tuna rocks!)

#4 TURKEY TOM®

Fresh sliced turkey breast, topped with lettuce, tomato, alfalfa sprouts, and mayo. (The original)

#5 VITO®

The original Italian sub with genoa salami, provolone, capicola, onion, lettuce, tomato, & a real tasty Italian vinaigrette. (Hot peppers by request)

#6 VEGETARIAN

Layers of provolone cheese separated by real avocado spread, alfalfa sprouts, sliced cucumber, lettuce, tomato, and mayo. (Truly a gourmet sub not for vegetarians only peace dude!)

J.J.B.L.T.™

Bacon, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.
(The only better BLT is mama's BLT)

PLAIN SLIMS™

Any Sub minus the veggies and sauce

SLIM 1 Ham & cheese

SLIM 2 Roast Beef

SLIM 3 Tuna salad

SLIM 4 Turkey breast

SLIM 5 Salami, capicola, cheese

SLIM 6 Double provolone

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THE J.J. GARGANTUAN™

This sandwich was invented by Jimmy John's brother Huey. It's huge enough to feed the hungriest of all humans! Tons of genoa salami, sliced smoked ham, capicola, roast beef, turkey & provolone, jammed into one of our homemade French buns then smothered with onions, mayo, lettuce, tomato, & our homemade Italian dressing.

GIANT CLUB SANDWICHES

My club sandwiches have twice the meat and cheese, try it on my fresh baked thick sliced 7-grain bread or my famous homemade french bread!

#7 GOURMET SMOKED HAM CLUB

A full 1/4 pound of real applewood smoked ham, provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, & real mayo!

#8 BILLY CLUB®

Choice roast beef, smoked ham, provolone cheese, Dijon mustard, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.

#9 ITALIAN NIGHT CLUB®

Real genoa salami, Italian capicola, smoked ham, and provolone cheese all topped with lettuce, tomato, onion, mayo, and our homemade Italian vinaigrette. (You hav'ta order hot peppers, just ask!)

#10 HUNTER'S CLUB®

A full 1/4 pound of fresh sliced medium rare roast beef, provolone, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.

#11 COUNTRY CLUB®

Fresh sliced turkey breast, applewood smoked ham, provolone, and tons of lettuce, tomato, and mayo! (A very traditional, yet always exceptional classic!)

#12 BEACH CLUB®

Fresh baked turkey breast, provolone cheese, avocado spread, sliced cucumber, sprouts, lettuce, tomato, and mayo! (It's the real deal, and it ain't even California.)

#13 GOURMET VEGGIE CLUB®

Double provolone, real avocado spread, sliced cucumber, alfalfa sprouts, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. (Try it on my 7-grain whole wheat bread. This veggie sandwich is world class!)

#14 BOOTLEGGER CLUB®

Roast beef, turkey breast, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. An American classic, certainly not invented by J.J. but definitely tweaked and fine-tuned to perfection!

#15 CLUB TUNA®

The same as our #3 Totally Tuna except this one has a lot more. Fresh housemade tuna salad, provolone, sprouts, cucumber, lettuce, & tomato.

#16 CLUB LULU™

Fresh sliced turkey breast, bacon, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. (JJ's original turkey & bacon club)

★ SIDE ITEMS ★

- ★ Soda Pop
- ★ Giant chocolate chip or oatmeal raisin cookie
- ★ Real potato chips or jumbo kosher dill pickle
- ★ Extra load of meat
- ★ Extra cheese or extra avocado spread
- ★ Hot Peppers

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Onion, lettuce, alfalfa sprouts, tomato, mayo, sliced cucumber, Dijon mustard, oil & vinegar, and oregano.



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REAPING

Cont. from 23

the script, I've gotta love the script," she said, without missing a beat. "It doesn't matter what genre it is. If I laugh, or cry, or get scared or lost in suspense—it's all about what's on the page."

Apparently the script for "The Reaping," Swank's upcoming film about a reoccurrence of the 10 Biblical plagues, got her attention.

Swank plays a former Christian missionary who loses her faith and becomes a university professor and world-renowned expert at debunking religious phenomena, according to the film's production notes.

When she is unable to explain the unbelievable events taking place with science, she realizes that something bigger is happening and the film quickly turns into a sci-fi thriller.

"It was a real page turner," Swank said, referring to her initial read of the script. "There were twists and turns that I didn't see coming — it's hard to trick me, you know, because I read A LOT of scripts. That was definitely a catch for me."

The actress is confident that moviegoers will agree.

"It's good — and scary," she said in an "I-know-and-you're-going-to-find-out" manner of speech. "It's a very smart supernatural thriller."

HILLS

Cont. from 22

bloodshed that can equate to the "Saw" trilogy, there is plenty packed into a decent duration of 89 minute.

The story kept a decent pace throughout and the characters displayed depth in their roles for the most part. Even a bit of comic-relief was thrown in to help ease the tension through even the most grotesque sequences.


If you're a fan of "The Hills Have Eyes" franchise or a die-hard Craven fanatic, "The Hills 2" will be sure to please. Be sure to pay attention to the scene that involves Private "Napoleon" (Michael McMillian) and an outhouse. It may be one of the most unpredictable scenes of the entire film or even the last 30 years of horror history.

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Get a JUMP on fall

Fall 2007 registration opens Monday, April 2, 2007

View the Schedule of Classes online at www.oakland.edu/scheduleofclasses.

Registration will be accessed through OU's new portal.
Visit www.oakland.edu then click the **SAIL** button.

Open registration for undergraduate students is Monday, April 2, through Friday, June 22, 2007. Graduate students may continue to register.
Registration for undergraduates re-opens Thursday, August 23.

New for Fall 2007

- **Fall 2007 classes start at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2007**, the day after Labor Day.
- **OU Payment Plan**, available for Fall 2007 registration, offers easy payment options for students and families. For more information or to enroll, visit www.oakland.edu/paymentplan.
- **OU's de-registration policy**, effective Fall 2007, means students who are not in good financial standing by early August (have not paid all prior semester bills) will be taken out of their Fall classes. Students will be required to re-enroll for classes based on class availability if they correct their financial standing (pay their prior balances in full). To ensure you remain in good financial standing, make sure to pay your OU bills on or before their due dates. For more information visit www.oakland.edu/deregistration.

Questions?

- **About course selection:** Contact your academic adviser at www.oakland.edu/advisingcontact. Graduate students should contact their academic department.
- **About registration:** Contact the Registrar's Office, 100 O'Dowd Hall, (248) 370-3450 or registra@oakland.edu.
- **About delinquent account balances:** Contact the Office of Student Financial Services, 120 North Foundation Hall, (248) 370-2550, mystuact@oakland.edu or finaid@oakland.edu.



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MOUTHING OFF

March 28, 2007

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Survival guide to LaRouche movement

By ALEX CHERUP
Guest Columnist

"Al Gore is an environmental case!" is not the friendliest method to introduce oneself to a complete stranger — unless, of course, you are a member of the Lyndon LaRouche Youth Movement.

This gang of metaphorical political leeches can be found outside of South Foundation Hall a few times a month, preaching Dick Cheney's Satanism, Al Gore's stupidity and Bach's superiority to Bukowski. You are bound to have seen this radical rhetoric placed around campus, or singing their original operatic song "Impeach Cheney." The group is based in the teachings of Lyndon LaRouche, a political extremist, who some believe brainwashes college kids

to join his supposed "cult" composed of 18-25 year olds. It makes Scientology look like a breath of fresh air. The LaRouchites' purpose on campus is to recruit members to their organization.

Although I enjoy the zestful assaults on Vice President Beelzebub, a conversation with a LaRouchite has the potential to fall to the ground quicker than gravity. If you do find yourself in a prolonged discussion with a LaRouchbag, use the following as a survival guide for different predicaments.

IF YOU MUST WALK BY A LAROUCHITE:

Easy — walk by. And beat them at their own game. Tell them their own propaganda before they can. As they approach you, remark "Al Gore is a hemorrhoid on Dick Cheney's ass," and point

to the picture displayed supporting this. When they agree, continue with "LaRouche is just jealous that Cheney's ass turned him down."

IF THEY ASK YOU ABOUT GRAVITY:

LaRouchites believe Newton is a fraud and that Kepler was the true discoverer of gravity. Also, in order to think properly and save the world, we should discover gravity on our own. Apparently, this will help humanity (I am not wise enough to understand this reasoning, I guess). If they ask you to assist in this endeavor, simply say you are too busy trying to find where sunlight comes from. If they still harangue you, offer an empirical experiment to prove gravity. Suggest they "jump off a bridge." Mission accomplished.

IF YOU MENTION ART:

Bach, Shakespeare and Keats are all great, according to LaRouchites. I agree entirely with this. However, the LaRouchites believe that nothing productive has been written in a long, long time. Bukowski and Ginsberg are horrible, even though their members assent to never reading the work. "It is the method," they claim. Yeah, the method of taking plots from old stories makes something artistically great. And they say the 60s counterculture was started by Satan. Since when did Cheney write "Light My Fire"? You mess with Morrison and Garcia, you get on the fighting side of me.

IF THEY GIVE YOU THE "LINE" PROBLEM:

LaRouchites are obsessed with mathematics and the idea that geometry is perfection, somewhat like Plato's theory of forms. The LaRouchites will claim you can't think, and offer a simple geometric test about duplicating the following line:

The following is an actual dialogue between a LaRouchite and me, dealing with the line problem.

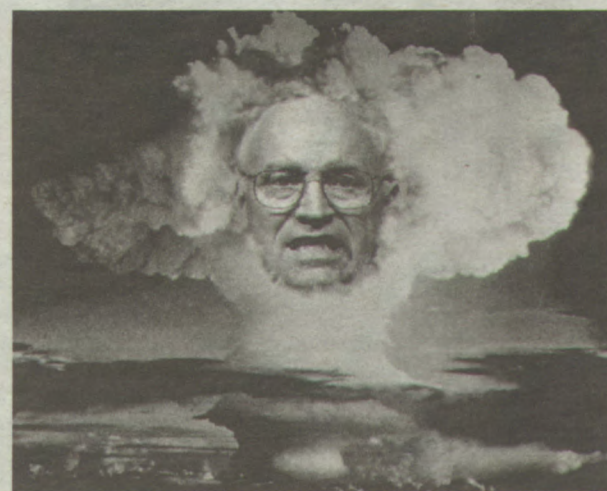


Image courtesy of www.larouche.org
This is an example of the propaganda that LaRouchites distribute.

LAROUCHITE: How do you duplicate this line?

ALEX: I don't know. Xerox it.

LAROUCHITE: No. You cannot think. You are not creating anything.

ALEX: I can think. I can create.

LAROUCHITE: Then I'm waiting. Create something.

ALEX: OK. I'm creating a middle finger.

LAROUCHITE: No! Create something!

ALEX: Okay. I'm creating another middle finger. That's two creations, and you have created nothing.

LAROUCHITE: But you can't solve the line problem. You cannot create. You will have so much trouble in life.

ALEX: I'm glad I'm already flicking you off. I'll have less trouble when this conversation is over.

Much of LaRouche's actual politics is hip — the anti-Iraq war spirit, the criticism of the Bush administration and admiration of Shakespeare are some of certain areas where I agree with LaRouche individuals. Nonetheless, this common ground is used to garner attention and develop support for the organization. Their attitude is at times abrasive, at other times hilarious. All-in-all, the LaRouchites are college dropouts pursuing their dream of blindly following whatever an 84 year-old, once-convicted-felon believes and expecting this to change the world. Overall, don't take these guys as seriously as they take themselves. Laugh, listen and think for yourself.

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MOUTHING OFF

March 28, 2007

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Spring has sprung and sundresses are in bloom

By KYLE MAGIN
Special Projects Reporter

Blooming flowers, baby animals with oversized eyes and baseball all signify spring for the rest of America. However, Michiganders are not so lucky. Due to freezing weather as recently as last week, our only reasonable barometer for spring is attire. And the only spring attire worth shouting over is the elegant

and the timeless, sundress.

A sundress is one of the surest signs of spring because generally girls complain about the cold until the temperature consistently rises to over 70 degrees. Once they deem it warm enough, the sundresses come out and spring is on. Its sighting blows that stupid groundhog out his hole by actually telling you when spring is starting rather than predicting how many more weeks of winter there will be. And

— all apologies to rodent enthusiasts — would you rather watch a glorified rat crawl out of his hole somewhere in Pennsylvania, or see a lady in her late teens or early twenties adorned in a white cotton dress?

A woman capable of pulling off a sundress might as well carry around a bucket to catch all the jaws she'll cause to drop over the course of a day. When accessorized with a pair of sunglasses and a sun hat, she could be downright deadly.

A truly romantic look, it is sexy and tasteful, suitable for a hot date and even a springtime picnic with the family.

The attraction isn't completely pure, I'll admit. The cleavage and vast amounts of leg real estate don't hurt in the least. But, it is the one form of clothing that drops the artificial trappings of beauty and delivers the real goods. There's nothing quite as attractive as bright colors contrasted against a nice bronze tan.

The most appealing facet of the sundress is that it's a look that you can take home to mom. It says: "Yes, your son thinks I'm hot but I'm just as likely to go to Easter Sunday service in my sundress as I am to service him on Sunday."

It will instantly qualify its wearer as hottest girl in Comerica Park at any given Tigers game. This, however, can pose a problem if she is your girlfriend, as every other guy in the park will no doubt recognize the fact that she is wearing a sundress too.

The country boy in me sees taking a girl in a sundress down to a dock on a lake, eating ice cream and watching the sunset — a scene straight out of a Norman Rockwell painting as American as apple pie.

The city boy in me sees accompanying a young lady in a sundress to an open-air bar adorned with strings of lights and dancing the night away.

Both are pleasant thoughts, bringing me back to my original point: When it's spring, a sundress is the thing.



KEVIN ALFORD/The Oakland Post

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Sunday, April 1
**SOPHIE SCHOLL:
THE FINAL DAYS**
(Marc Rothmund,
Germany, 2005)
2:00 PM

Thursday, April 5
**MY COUNTRY,
MY COUNTRY**
(Laura Poitras,
USA, 2006)
7:00 PM

All films shown in 124 Wilson Hall
All films are free and open to the public.
Faculty led discussions will follow each film.