

Is Texas Hold 'Em just a fad?
See A5 for full coverage.

THE POST

Learn more about Detroit's casinos in the guide on page B1.

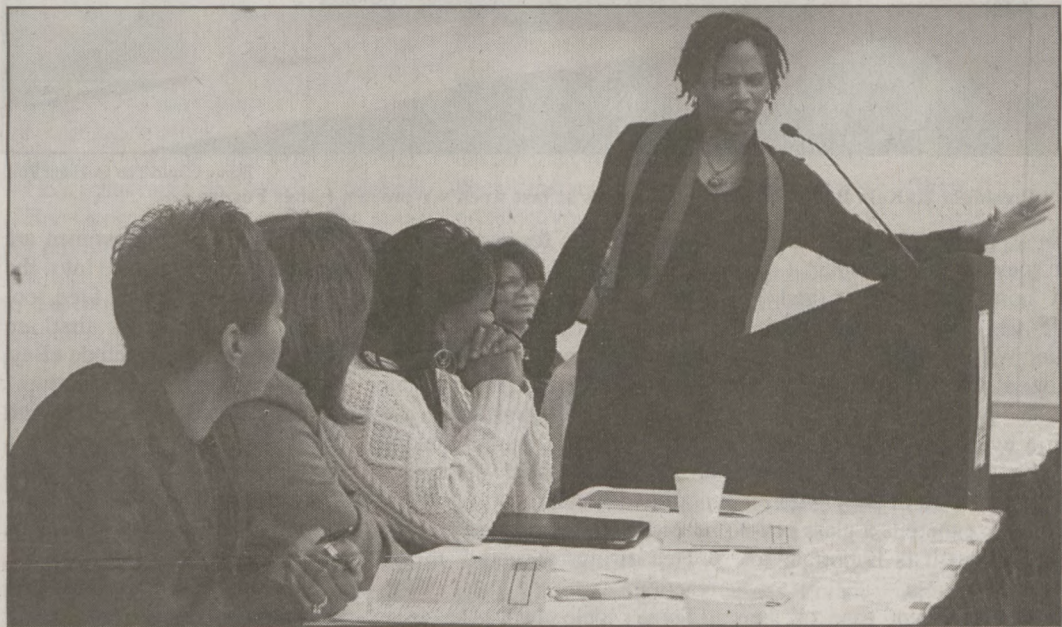


February 23, 2005

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50 cents

Women 'break the ceiling'



Poet Marsha Carter recites "I'm Pregnant" to the crowd at the Women's Issues Forum held last week. Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post

BY NICK COTTA
THE OAKLAND POST

Teresa Moore's father made it a priority for her to go to college.

In high school, Moore and her sister went to an advisor to talk about college plans, only to be told that they weren't college material.

But Moore persevered and graduated with a degree in broadcasting from East Tennessee University.

She then worked as a news producer in Flint, and said she was on the verge of quitting when her father told her, "If you quit, you're throwing out your blessings."

She eventually obtained a graduate degree from the University of Michigan-Dearborn with a 4.0 GPA.

She said it was because of sacrifices she made, not because of smarts.

Moore was one of six panelists at the first annual Women's Forum held by Sisters of Success.

The forum focused on breaking the glass ceiling, which the panelists defined as an unacknowledged discriminatory barrier to advancement, especially for women and minorities, according to the panel.

Most of the speakers agreed that breaking the glass ceiling was done through hard work, focus and education.

Their speeches reflected what the individual could do to succeed in the business and political world, and not much focus was given to barriers in the way.

Please see FORUM on A2

OU teams up with Fortune 500 companies

BY AARON WALKER
THE OAKLAND POST

Amidst the automotive giants in Michigan, OU has taken advantage of its prime location by entering into innovative partnerships with internationally known Fortune 500 companies, as well as local establishments.

Despite a statewide fiscal crisis, OU students still have a means to advance through mutual partnerships with area businesses.

From alliances with DaimlerChrysler to the City of Rochester to Automation Alley to General Motors, OU students and staff are benefiting.

For instance, students in the School of Nursing have access to programs with major hospitals such as St. John, Providence, Beaumont and Crittenton.

These institutions are major benefactors and partners who provide internships for nursing students, who will have the opportunity to work with cutting edge equipment and technology.

OU professors and students are working with equipment valued at millions of dollars at Henry Ford Hospital.

Numerous students do their doctorate dissertations there and have access to contemporary and expensive research.

In some cases, companies will provide financial support to help strengthen programs already in existence at OU, such as the Biomedical Research Lab, where the Pfizer Company provides an undergraduate research grant.

The Biomedical Research Lab doesn't work with students directly, but they support what students are doing.

They give students scholarships and money to purchase research supplies to do projects with faculty.

Even closer to campus, OU's partnerships are evident.

In the fall of 2003, President Gary Russi and Rochester Mayor Karen Lewis signed a resolution sealing their commitment to partnering in a variety of fronts. They include joint educational and cultural programming such as employment, internships, research and development projects, business development assistance, community service projects, and opportunities to showcase the arts, theatre and music.

Because of the partnership, more than 50 merchants in and around downtown Rochester have placed decal stickers in their front windows and on cash registers to offer discounts to OU students, alumni, faculty and staff with the presentation of an OU ID card.

"We direct the thousands of visitors to campus each year to area hotels and restaurants," said Laura J. Mutz, director of the Donor & Executive Committee.

"Also, we produce the human talent and skill set that employers are looking for."

These partnerships aren't one-sided though.

"OU has a \$300 million annual impact on the economy of Oakland County. It's the third largest employer in Oakland County," said Virinder

Please see PARTNERS on A2

Coretta Scott King

Equal rights activist speaks at Keeper of the Dream banquet

BY BRENDAN J. STEVENS
SPORTS EDITOR

The ripples of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy continue to be felt today, as was evident at this year's Keeper of the Dream banquet held on Thursday, with a theme of "Our Vision, Our Promise."

Five students were honored for helping to promote unity and doing their part to keep King's dream alive. Coretta Scott King gave the keynote address.

A human rights activist and leader in her own right, Coretta, the widow of Martin Luther, made the appearance thanks to the contributions of DaimlerChrysler.

The evening's master of ceremonies also had a very direct connection with Martin Luther and his work as a civil rights activist.

Fanchon Stinger, an anchor on FOX 2 Morning News, said she not only had the pleasure of introducing Kings' son and daughter on previous occasions, but her grandfather also shared a close bond with him.

As the founder of the first chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Stinger's grandfather worked closely with Martin Luther.

Sheila L. Brooks, Andrew W. Gaines, Kathryn M. Miller, Jameelah M. Muhammad and Ashley K. Seal were awarded individually sponsored scholarships in recognition of their efforts to grow and advance Martin Luther King

Please see KING on A8



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post

Equal rights activist Coretta Scott King speaks at the Keeper of the Dream awards banquet. Students Sheila L. Brooks, Andrew W. Gaines, Kathryn M. Miller and Jameelah M. Muhammad were awarded scholarships during the event.

Interns are today's new fad

BY NICK COTTA
THE OAKLAND POST

Internships are the buzz of this generation's students.

Most employers expect students to have taken at least one internship, and many majors require students to do so in order to graduate.

Career Services hosted an internship panel discussion last Thursday stressing the importance of internships.

Not only do they help students gain valuable skills, but they increase a graduate's chances of finding a job and

performing well, according to the panelists.

Speaker Brooks Lamb, from Superior Plastics, said his company would rather hire a graduate with a 3.2 GPA and extensive work experience than a candidate with a 4.0 GPA and no work experience.

Critical thinking skills are learned through internships, said speaker Lisa Chlubski, of JD Power and Associates. She added that students should apply what they've learned in the classroom to a variety of situations.

Jennifer Dinsmore, a finance student on the panel, is one such case.

She does accounting at King Pharmaceutical, and this includes checking purchase orders and expense reports.

"It is important for a finance major to have a background in accounting," she said, and this was a good way to do it.

The panel agreed that students should start internships as soon as possible.

Superior Plastics doesn't like near-graduates, Lamb said.

"It benefits us to have someone with time left in college."

"We don't want to invest time and money only to have them leave for another position," he said.

Wayne Thibodeau, assistant director of Career Services, said the department doesn't set up unpaid internships; they prefer that those be set up through the student's academic advisor.

Preparing for an internship takes some work.

Students should make sure

Please see INTERNS on A2



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post

An audience member asks the panel a question.

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WEEKEND OUTLOOK

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HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW
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Snow Showers Partly Cloudy Mostly Cloudy

FORUM**Continued from A1**

Moore advised the audience to never let themselves fail and to learn from those they admire.

Diane Morrison, another panelist, proposed going around the glass ceiling by starting a business; she said she hit the glass ceiling by starting her own leadership training business.

By doing this, there was nobody that could keep her from advancing but herself.

Morrison pointed out that women were a minority in her leadership classes.

She noted that there are 8 million women-owned businesses, and that they employ 25 percent of the work force.

Evidence for the glass ceiling includes the fact that women in Michigan currently make 67 cents on the dollar that men make, which is below the national average of 76 cents.

Only eight of America's Fortune 500 companies are headed by women.

Progress is steady though, as the number of Fortune 500 companies that have women holding a quarter of the corporate officer positions have doubled from five to 10 percent since 1995.

Although it is clear there is not equality in the corporate or political world, the panelists pointed out that it is hard to determine how much is caused by systemic injustices.

There is no way of quantifying the "old boy's network," they said.

OU's Assistant Dean of Students Karen Lloyd, a panelist, said she believes the glass ceiling may never be broken, but it is possible to overcome it.

She was a mother by the age of 19, and she realized that "education was the way out."

Lloyd went to school full time and completed her degree in just three years.

She worked in social work for former Detroit Mayor Coleman Young, and also in the corporate world, before coming to OU.

When she worked for Young, Lloyd said she found that everyone looked like her, but when she worked in the corporate world, no one did.

But neither situation kept her from learning everything she could, she said, adding that college "should be a time where you are building analytical and critical thinking skills."

Panelist Denise Smith Allen, who is a probation officer, spoke about her 16-year career in the political world and her thoughts on the political glass ceiling.

She said she was troubled by the political atmosphere for women.

Having worked on many campaigns in her hometown of Flint, she said that women were marginalized whenever they had political aspirations of their own.

Allen then decided to found Sisters United to help support women who wanted to become involved politically.

Panelist Shanelle Jackson, who recently ran unsuccessfully for Congress in the 10th District, spoke about the importance of women getting politically active.

Breaking the glass ceiling is done through leadership, and women have to be more involved in the political process, she said.

Only 14 percent of those in the U.S. Congress are women, and only 19 women are currently serving in the Michigan state legislature, she said.

Jackson urges women to do more than vote. She advises them to run for office or financially support women candidates because, "money is politics."

KaKela Baker, president of Sisters of Success, said she was pleased with the event and believes the opportunity for education is there for everyone.

Shant'e Walker, vice-president of SOS, said she believes the glass ceiling "makes things really difficult, but someone dedicated can break it."

Gincenta Rush, a senior in SOS, said the main thing she took away from the forum was to "stay positive, stay focused."

She said that the most inspiring speakers were Karen Lloyd and Teresa Moore.

She said she found Moore's account of becoming successful



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post

SOS President KaKela Baker introduces panelists at last week's Women's Issues Forum.

because of determination rather than smarts to be interesting.

A non-SOS member and a male who attended the event, senior Willie Childs said that he realized to "help and uplift women" is important.

The event "opens you up to not be so biased," he said, adding that a lot of people don't even realize there is a glass ceiling, and that it is important to extend awareness.

The most recent case of the glass ceiling was the firing of

Carly Fiorina, former CEO of Hewlett-Packard.

Reasons given included not fostering growth and making poor decisions like acquiring Compaq Computer. But Fortune magazine didn't think so.

She was the highest ranking female CEO, as HP was ranked as the 13th largest company according to the magazine.

Her firing garnered mixed reaction.

Some people saw it as an obstacle to women's success, but others

saw it as a sign that women are becoming assimilated into the workplace; they can get fired, too.

Notable companies that are headed by women include eBay, Sara Lee, Xerox and Citigroup.

The forum started off with Spoken Word poet Marsha Carter reading a poem called, "I'm Pregnant."

Pregnancy was used as a metaphor for having success and positive behaviors within, and all one needed to do was "push" them out.

INTERNS**Continued from A1**

their resumes are "flawless," Chlubiski said, adding that researching the company and knowing about it before an interview is recommended.

Spelling mistakes and gross errors in a resume can lead to disqualification.

It shows carelessness, said speaker Michelle Zellen from Automation Alley, who added that a resume should be reviewed three times before submitting it.

Having done an internship boosts a candidate's resume, the panelists said.

Jamels Ellis, a mechanical engineering student on the panel, suggested that students make their resumes available on the Career Services Web site.

The process of trying to find an internship can be just as valuable as the internship itself, the panelists said.

PARTNERS**Continued from A1**

Moudgil, vice president of Academic Affairs.

"Our people eat, live, and work within the county. Thousands of people visit campus annually for sporting events, concerts, plays, art exhibits, festivals, and many other activities. Area businesses thrive off of OU's many visitors."

According to the School of Business Administration's Web site, the Applied Technology in Business program is a corporate sponsored undergraduate business program that provides education and hands on training in the area of Information Technology for business.

Students learn from both faculty coordinators and mentors and do teamwork at multiple companies.

One of the more critical aspects of these types of programs can be seen when you factor in the current state of the economy.

With unemployment up and opportunities for recent college graduates down, internships that provide real world experience are very valuable.

"Our interest is to provide our students with the best opportunities possible for their education and advancement," Moudgil said.

Through its numerous partnerships, OU is accomplishing just that.

WXOU will be hosting a special Open Mike Nite from 7-10 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge. Poets and singers are invited to come show off their talents.

Oakland University Eye Research Institute SUMMER UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM IN EYE RESEARCH May 9 – July 29, 2005

Ideal S.U.P.E.R. candidates will be Oakland University sophomores or juniors who are pursuing careers in biomedical research or teaching. Up to six students will be assigned to one of six research laboratories, working directly with ERI-faculty. This training program includes: lab safety, sound research design, vision science seminar series, a \$3,000 scholarship, independent research, and audio-visual presentation of work. ERI scientists explore the biochemical, physiological, and molecular aspects of eye function and development. ERI research expands the understanding of ocular diseases such as cataract, retinal degenerations and glaucoma. Application packages may be obtained from Ms. Paulette Realy, 416 Dodge Hall. (248) 370-2390, or online: <http://www2.oakland.edu/eri>



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Applications and Nominations for:

Student Liaison to the Oakland University Board of Trustees

The role of the Student Liaison to the Board of Trustees is to serve as a non-voting resource on all student issues at monthly meetings of the Board.

Term of Office:



- July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006 or 2007
- Must have at least a 2.5 GPA
- Must have earned 56 undergraduate or 18 graduate credit hours (of which 28 are at Oakland University)
- Must not hold any other major elected campus office

Applications are available at:

Student Affairs Office – 144 Oakland Center
Student Congress Office – 62 Oakland Center
Center for Student Activities – 49 Oakland Center

Applications are due in the Student Affairs Office by March 31, 2005



For questions, please call: 248-370-4200

February 23, 2005

The Oakland Post
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A3

A student with ambition

Last year's Keeper of the Dream award recipient still has high aspirations

BY LESLIE SHEPARD-OWSLEY
THE OAKLAND POST

He is a man who does not sit still. He speaks so fast even his words run together.

His mind is stuck in first gear, energized like a Porsche surfing the autobahn.

He's what most people coin "a doer."

But George Davis is more than simply ambitious, he is a dreamer.

It was his dream that compelled him to apply for the Keeper of the Dream scholarship award, but perhaps his belief in himself is what helped him to win it.

That was last year, his junior year, when his engine was running at top speed.

He was twice elected vice president of the Association of Black Students, appointed dorm resident assistant, volunteered as a peer mentor in the Center for Multicultural Initiatives and was acting ambassador for the Office of Admissions.

He penciled all these into his daily planner while dashing off to his full schedule of classes, in tandem with stocking shelves, and ringing up masacara and chewing gum at a part-time job at the local CVS.

Davis applied to several prestigious universities, Michigan State for one, but knew instantly while visiting during prospective student week, that Oakland was the school for him.

He fell in love with the campus, the small town feel and the fair rate of tuition was the cherry on his sundae.

As much of an optimist as he is, Davis doesn't see the same caliber of student as he saw when he first trekked across campus in 2001.

"The students I recently see on campus don't want to work for change," he said.

"That's the first thing I wanted to do when I got here; make changes. I made that choice. I wanted people to take notice that George Davis was here."

George Davis is a common name on campus.

He is the kind of guy who smiles his pearly whites easily and laughs with gusto.

Maybe it's his upbringing in Grand Rapids or his innate personality, but what you hear is what you get with Davis.

He prides himself on being an involved student.

The Keeper of the Dream board obviously agreed.

The board places a heavy emphasis on student involvement when judging the applicants.

The other requirements are a minimum GPA of 3.0, two letters of recommendation from administration and an essay written by the applicant.

The recipients receive a one-time \$5,000 gift credited toward their tuition.

Davis encourages all Oakland students to apply for this opportunity.

"It's not just for minorities," Davis said. "That's a misconception."

The Keeper of the Dream Award, a commemorative tribute to Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy, is a prestigious award that offers special recognition to the recipients at an annual banquet held on campus.

The winners selected prove themselves in the venues of racial understanding, peer and community mentoring, and dedicated service to the well-being of others.

"The Keeper of the Dream banquet has grown over the years into a cherished and anticipated campus event," said OU President Gary Russi.

Each year a renowned speaker opens up the ceremony. This year the legendary Coretta Scott King lent her voice.

"I remember sitting there at the banquet the year before I received it and grasping the concept of what it was like to get that award."

"And I was going to work my butt off to get it in my junior year," Davis said. Davis has now tailored the hem of his schedule.

He's dropped some of his titles, like ambassador and peer mentor, but he recently added fashion designer to his list of credentials.

His previous aspirations as a journalism major have slipped down a notch.

He sees himself moving to Chicago, landing a job as an image consultant and setting up his own label on the fashion design circuit.

Though he has temporarily moved journalism on the back burner, down the line he intends to found a new magazine geared toward African-American males between the ages of 18-35.

Big aspirations for a small town guy?

Sure, but after all is said and done, Davis is an optimist and a dreamer.

He proved dreams come true once, and he's determined to make them into realities again.

Battling the seasonal affective disorder blues

KNIGHT RIDDER TRIBUNE

For many Americans, the winter months bring on a form of depression known as seasonal affective disorder.

More than just the "winter blahs," this illness affects sleep patterns, eating habits and relationships.

Seasonal affective disorder is a form of clinical depression that typically starts in late fall and can last until the early spring.

For SAD sufferers, dark, cold and dreary days can have a chilling effect on their mental health, leading to weight gain, trouble getting out of bed in the morning and low energy.

While scientists do not know what causes SAD, it is believed that lack of sunlight increases the body's levels of melatonin, a hormone that helps regulate sleep.

The presence of excess melatonin could explain some of the symptoms of SAD sufferers.

Researchers also think that the absence of sunlight can have a negative impact on the production of serotonin, a brain chemical that influences mood and personality.

A low serotonin level can lead to depression.

Symptoms

What are some of the signs of SAD?

Well, experiencing some or all of the following symptoms for two consecutive winters, or three winters cumulatively, could mean you are suffering from SAD.

Symptoms include depression, loss of energy, anxiety and irritability.

Sufferers may also oversleep,



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post

Robins swarm OU's campus on Monday, when the university closed due to hazardous weather conditions. Dreary weather can have a negative effect on mental health.

however, when they do, they do not feel refreshed.

Overeating, especially foods high in carbohydrates, can also be a warning sign.

Behavior problems may be apparent as well, especially in children.

Treatments

The most common method of

treatment for SAD is artificial light therapy.

SAD sufferers sit eyes open close to a box of fluorescent bulbs covered with a diffusing screen.

In reaction to the increased light, the pineal gland produces less melatonin, which is also present in higher levels during the sleep cycle.

It is also believed to be necessary for a restful sleep.

Daily treatment sessions typically last 30 to 60 minutes and are most effective in the morning.

The light is 10 to 20 times as bright as indoor light and is set to mimic the levels of sunlight just after dawn.

Most scientists believe that light may limit melatonin production.

Other treatments

Other treatments may include taking antidepressant medication, exercising regularly and eating fewer carbohydrates.

It is also recommended to:

- Take in outdoor sunshine with a walk, even on a cold winter day.
- Travel on vacations to sunny, warm locations.

- Manage stress efficiently.
- Consult a therapist.

Sources:

- Mayo Clinic
- Columbia University Clinical Chronobiology Group
- American Academy of Family Physicians

~ Edited and compiled by Chuck Myers.

China and Russia clash over Mongolia

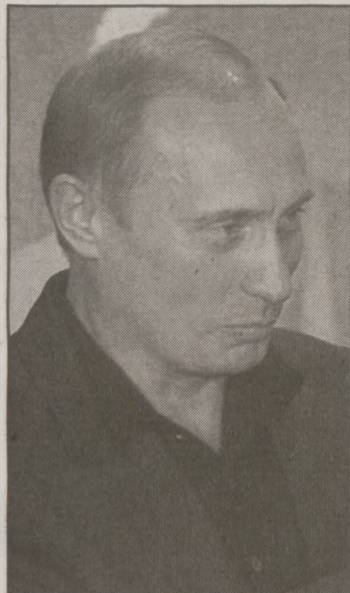


Photo courtesy of Ron T. Ennis/Fort Worth Star-Telegram/Knight Ridder Tribune
Russian President Vladimir Putin

BY LOREEN BAHRI
THE OAKLAND POST

History came alive at OU for the fifth time as OU history professor Linda Benson spoke on "Shades of Genghis Khan: The New 'Great Game' Between China, Mongolia and Russia."

The 19th century Genghis Khan dynasty involved China and Russia, the countries that surround Mongolia.

"Russia's goal is to keep Mongolia a neutral or pro-Russian buffer zone."

"They don't want other countries to have much influence there," Benson said.

But China also wants Mongolia to be a buffer zone.

"They have, in the past, distrusted Russia and are wary of

Russia's intentions," Benson said.

Currently, there is an independent country, Mongolia, as well as a Mongol area, that is under control of the Chinese government.

"This is why China has to be concerned about any changes in Mongolia and how those changes might influence its own Inner Mongolian region," Benson said.

The real challenge Mongolia faces is development, Benson said. "It needs infrastructure."

She described Mongolians as nomadic; they rely on animals in the rural areas.

Only Ulaan Baatar, the capital of Mongolia, is technologically advanced, from Internet to hotels.

Most Mongolians in Ulaan

Baatar live in gers, large white felt tents that can be moved easily, on the outskirts of the city.

Mongolia is one of the poorest countries, producing \$500 per capita per year, Benson said.

One slide from her Power Point presentation pictured a table selling antique items, and Benson joked that she wasn't sure if "old meant 10 years ago or during the last dynasty."

But she said she did see an item in the back that had John Lennon's face on it.

Inner Mongolia is now a part of China. Outer Mongolia was declared independent in 1924, and China has recognized it as an independent country.

The weather in Mongolia changes very quickly, Benson said, and a two-day rainfall

occured during her four-week visit.

Her presentation was based on her trip to Mongolia with the Fulbright project in June of last year.

According to the Fulbright Web site, its mission is aimed at increasing mutual understanding between the United States and other countries, through the exchange of persons, knowledge and skills.

The department of history hosted the lecture, which was the fifth of six featured lectures from the History Comes Alive Series that started this year.

"Who's Buried in Grant's Tomb?" will be the last lecture in the series and is scheduled for Tuesday, March 22, at 7:00 p.m. in the OC's Oakland room.



Photo courtesy of Jim Barcus/Kansas City Star/Knight Ridder Tribune
Chinese Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan

the LOW down

Wednesday, Feb. 23

The National Independent Conference Swimming and Diving Championship preliminaries begin today and run through Saturday. All session passes are \$25 and single session tickets are \$5.

Students can learn about Chinese culture, history and rituals at the Chinese New Year and Lantern Festival from 3-5 p.m. in Fireside Lounge.

Thursday, Feb. 24

Two physicians will provide information for students interested in a medical career at the Medical Career Forum from 4-5:30 p.m. in 112 Vandenberg Hall.

The monthlong African-American Celebration 2005 will officially come to a close with a keynote address from alumnus Robert Thornton.

Poetry contest winners will also be announced. The celebration takes place in the Oakland Room of the OC from 5-7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 25

Comedian Vic Henley is coming to entertain students at Friday Night Live at 7 p.m. in Vandenberg Dining Center. He has been on David Letterman and numerous other TV comedy shows.

Saturday, Feb. 26

The OU Alumni Association is sponsoring a Black Alumni Family Fun Day beginning at 3 p.m. in the Gold Rooms of the Oakland Center. The festivities include watching the men's basketball game in the O'Rena. The cost for the entire event is \$25 for adults and \$15 for children 12 and under.

WXOU is holding an Open Mic Night from 7-10 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge. Poets and singers are invited to come show off their talents. The event may run on air.

Monday, Feb. 28

Candidates running in the Student Congress Elections for legislator, vice president and president will be available for a meet and greet at Fireside Lounge from noon-1 p.m.

OUSC meets at 4 p.m. in the OC's Oakland Room.

~ Compiled by Allison Brunner, Senior News Writer

Series hits Judaism 101

BY CHRISTA ELAINE BADON
THE OAKLAND POST

It is said that Hillel the Elder, a devout Jew, was once asked to teach the Torah while standing on one leg.

"That which is hateful to you, do not do unto others. The rest is commentary. Go and learn," Hillel said.

The values found in the story of Hillel the Elder are the basis and foundation of Judaism.

When people hear the word Judaism, they often think of persecution, kosher meals, the holiday of Chanukah and the Holocaust.

But digging deep into the foundation of the Jewish religion itself is another story.

In the second of the series on "What is Spirituality," OU's Jewish student organization, Hillel, hosted Rabbi Eric Yanoff to speak on Judaism.

The organization was named after Hillel the Elder.

Jews believe in one God, Adonai. Moses, the prophet of Judaism, is believed to have received the Torah, the Jewish holy book, on Mount Sinai.

"Judaism is a bunch of questions. These questions range from what is the law to why do we exist," Yanoff said.

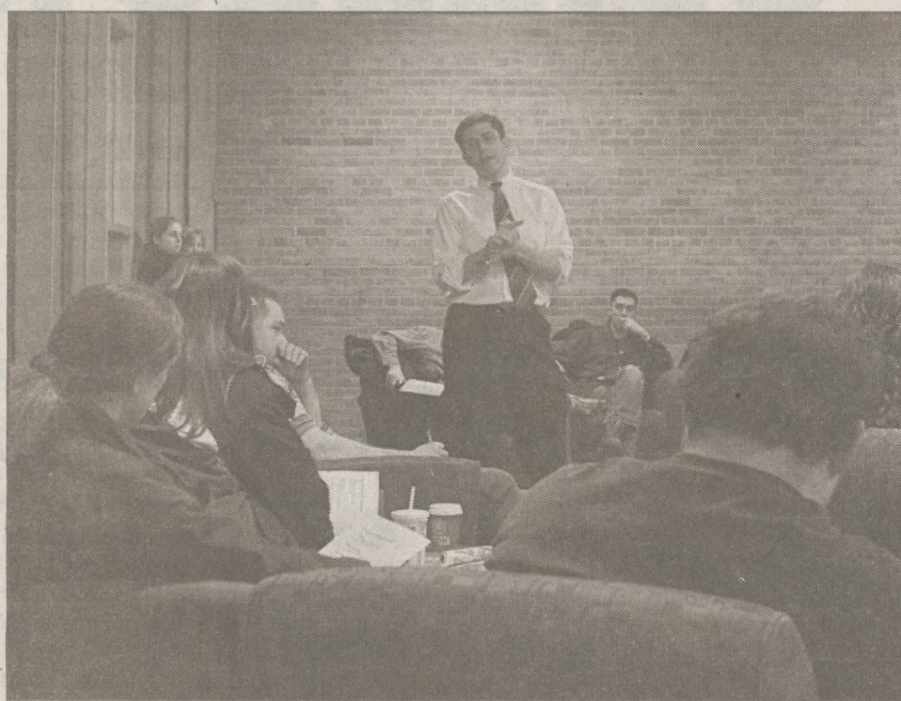
Other books important to Jews are the special writings and the Rabbinic new writings called the Mishnah and Talmud.

Interfaith marriage is marriage between a non-Jew and a Jew.

Forty-eight percent of Jews intermarry and one fourth raise their children under the Jewish religion, Yanoff said.

But the issue is controversial.

"I, being a conservative rabbi, don't perform these marriages.



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post
Rabbi Yanoff answers questions about Judaism from students in the audience.

"Orthodox rabbis don't perform them," Yanoff said.

"That is where I draw the line. That's where it stops and it's painful to me. We should want to keep our traditional ways," he said.

Kabbalah, or Jewish mysticism, was also discussed in detail.

It consists of a large body of speculation on the nature of divinity, the creation, the origin and fate of the soul and the role of human beings.

"Kabbalah is a gritty, hands-on religion, and it's based on how our very existence substantiates the world," Yanoff said.

"I'm not against it. I think it's great. You can't take the Jewish out of it."

With the recent signing of a cease-fire by Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, Yanoff said he remains

optimistic about peace in the Middle East region.

"I hope the countries will eventually begin talking to each other for the hope of peace."

"The last five years for me had me in the uncomfortable role of skeptic," Yanoff said.

Senior Cassandra Davis said she enjoyed the presentation.

"The books they have and all the questions ... they have no real set of answers, and I like that they leave it for interpretation," she said.

Stephanie August, president of Hillel, said she was pleased with the event.

"Every time I hear a rabbi speak, I learn something new. It was awesome," she said.

In March, the final segment of "What is Spirituality" series will focus on the Mormon faith.

'Stump the Christian'

InterVarsity holds a question-answer session on Christianity

BY ALLISON BRUNNER
SENIOR NEWS WRITER

Students and faculty of diverse religions and backgrounds were in attendance to "Stump the Christian" panel with questions about Jesus and Christianity.

The closer your relationship with God, the more Satan will tempt you, a student in the audience commented.

Carole Crum, director of the OU Bachelor Studies program, said that any sin can be forgiven if the individual puts his or her faith in God.

Issues addressed also included why God created people with free will when some would choose not to worship him and how a loving God could keep people out of heaven.

Christians believe that those who have faith in God and what He has done for them will receive salvation.

Michael Dedivonai, another panelist and an ex-Roman Catholic said Christ died on the cross for a reason, adding that the Bible is a book of science.

"It correctly stated 4000 years ago that the earth was round and was not attached to anything else.



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post
Audience members listen to ministers as they answer questions about the Christian faith.

"Everything it says is correct, so put your word in God," Dedivonai said.

Andy Baligian, one of the panelists, is the College and Career Ministries Director for Highland Park Baptist Church of Southfield.

Mickey Badalamenti is a founding member of Alethia International, an organization devoted to demonstrating how skeptics of the faith can be reached with the Gospel

message when it is presented properly.

Audience members asked if animals would also go to heaven. Badalamenti said they probably will.

"I hope to see Muffy in heaven," Badalamenti said.

Crum thought the panel was very well-spoken and educated.

"These are men who have studied and are in active ministry and their answers reflected it," she said.

Junior Heather Sinawi said she felt the panel went well.

Lois Miller, on staff for InterVarsity, said the panel was great, and the audience had good questions that were answered by the panel.

This event was part of Jesus Awareness Week.

Next up is the "Honest Answers to Your Tough Questions" outreach meeting in the Gold Rooms of the OC on Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

Senate rejects Granholm's budget

Michigan's Senate rejected Gov. Jennifer Granholm's proposed budget last Thursday.

The governor proposed a \$80 million cut to operational funding for higher education, which most Republican and some Democrat legislators did not agree with.

She also proposed \$100 million for the current and next fiscal year to be used for university operational funding.

Granholm had promised Michigan's public universities that she would not cut funding if they kept tuition increases below 2.8 percent.

Choreographer prefers teaching

Lisa McCall is a choreographer and dancer for Motown legend Aretha Franklin and has performed at the White House, Kennedy Center and Carnegie Hall.

But McCall receives the most satisfaction from teaching. She feels it is very important for her students to be versatile in their dancing abilities.

McCall has been teaching for two years at OU and also teaches at Consortium Preparatory High School in Detroit.

She has been dancing since the age of 11 and was working with a famous choreographer in New York by the age of 14.

OU professor gives two Kosovo men a chance at education

Irfan and Bafti Baftiu are two young men from Kosovo who have recently been adopted by associate professor of engineering Barbara Oakley.

The Oakley family — a husband, wife and two daughters, — grew to include these two young men after Barbara's sister, Pam Grim, introduced the men to the Oakleys.

Irfan is an electrical engineering major and his brother Bafti is a political science major.

The Oakleys are a second family to the Baftiuses, who fled to refugee camps in 1999.

The Oakleys adopted them to give them a chance at a successful life in America.

OUPD investigates assault incident

OUPD is investigating an assault that occurred last Saturday in the OC.

Officers responded to an altercation in the University Student Apartments later that night that is thought to be related to the earlier incident.

~ Compiled by Allison Brunner, Senior News Writer, and Rogaya Eshmawi, Campus News Editor

Information compiled from various news sources.

Oakland University's

Student Affairs

updating you every week!

144 Oakland Center

Rochester, Michigan

(248) 370-3352

CAMPUS RECREATION

Half Semester Memberships begin March 1st. Non-student affiliates can join the Rec Center for \$85 for March 1-May 5. Get ready for spring!

Correction for Speciality Class Start Date!! Second session speciality classes begin Feb. 28 and not March 7 as previously advertised. There will be no speciality classes the week of March 7th due to winter break.

Wellness Wednesday—Spend the noon hour on March 9th with Dr. Fang and learn what is causing your back pain! Dr. Fang will present "Low Back Pain be Gone" in the Pioneer Room.

Men's Ice Hockey at Oakland University proudly presents Men's Hockey Club National Tournament Schedule...all games are played

GRAHAM HEALTH CENTER

Wishes to remind you to have a safe spring break. Safety does not have to spoil fun! If you are going to include alcohol in your partying, remember the golden rule—"No more than one drink per hour!" This is especially important when on vacation. You will want to be able to control your own behavior. Remember to watch out for date rape drugs by only taking your drink from a waiter/waitress and by keeping an eye on it at all times. If you would like more information on how to party responsibly, please call GHC at ext. 2341 or email health@oakland.edu.

Student Liaison to the OU Board of Trustees 2005-2006

Now accepting applications/nominations. The role of the student liaison is to serve as a source to the Board in decisions regarding student issues.

Term of office is one academic year, beginning July 1. Must be in good academic standing (2.5 GPA or higher), have earned 56 undergraduate credits (28 from OU) or 18 graduate credits (9 from OU). Must not hold any other elected campus office, have a record of service to the campus or community, and no record of disciplinary action.

Applications available at Student Affairs, 144 Oakland Center.

Deadline is March 31, 2005.

Call 248-370-4200 for more information.

CAREER SERVICES

Attention Mechanical Engineering/General Management April 2005 Grads Takata, an automotive manufacturing supplier, is coming to OU on **Monday, February 28, 2005 from 12 noon-1 PM in Gold Room A of the Oakland Center.** Learn about Takata's College Graduate in Training (CGIT) Program and available employment opportunities! Must RSVP to nichols2@oakland.edu On-Campus Recruiting for the CGIT Program will take place in the Career Services Recruiting Suite (Room 156 West Vandenberg) on Wednesday, March 30, 2005. Interested candidates must be registered in Career Services' eRecruiting System in order to apply. Application deadline is Wednesday, March 16, 2005. Contact Estella Nicholson or Carol Davis at 248-370-3250.

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE presents Vic Henley February 25th, 7PM, Vandenberg Dining Center Free admission and refreshments

A true comedy veteran, Henley has done it all. Co-author of "Games Rednecks Play" with fellow comedian Jeff Foxworthy, Vic recently made his first appearance on the Late Show with David Letterman. Nominated for college Comedian of the Year five times, Vic has appeared on Comedy Central's "Tough crowd with collin Quin" in addition to just about every stand up comedy show on television including BBC Stand Up in London. He has appeared at the Montreal comedy festival, HBO's U.S. Comedy Arts festival in Aspen and the Edinburgh comedy Festival in Scotland. A favorite on the nationally syndicated Bob and Tom radio show and the ever popular John Boy & Billy radio show, Vic is looking forward to filming his first half hour comedy special for Comedy Central later this year.

February 23, 2005

The Oakland Post
www.oakpostonline.com

A5

Local soldier killed in Iraq

By ELIZABETH GORECKI
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

Yellow ribbons fluttered in the breeze and flags draped across many porches on a quiet Rochester Hills street this weekend to pay tribute to a hometown hero.

First Lt. Adam Malson, 23, of Rochester Hills stopped to help an injured Iraqi woman at the side of a Baghdad road Saturday when a suicide bomber exploded behind him, killing him and an Iraqi translator, the Department of Defense said.

The woman, reportedly on her way to a Baghdad mosque, survived.

The Malson family said that this act of compassion was typical of the young soldier, and that he died doing what he believed in.

"I think his compassion overcame him," his father Ben Malson told The Detroit Free Press Monday. "He did what he felt was right. I think (the woman) must have felt comfort in knowing there was an American soldier over (her), telling her everything is OK. Is he a hero? I don't know. Did he do the right thing? I think he did."

Debra Malson, the soldier's mother, said that her son had no fear before he left for Iraq. He told her that he had no reason to fear death because he knew where he was going when he died.

His mother, a teacher, also recounted a valentine one of her students wrote for him just last week.

"We hope you come home safe," read the card he never received.

His father also recalled talking to his son Thursday. He was happy, his father said, that he'd been selected to try out for a special operations battalion.

"Thank God I could say 'I love you' two days before he died," his father said. "That's some sort of closure. But I would have given up my life to

have my son continue his life," he told the Press. "It's hard to bury a 23-year-old boy who's got his whole life ahead of him."

Malson graduated from Michigan State University in 2003 where he was enrolled in the university's ROTC program.

Malson had always been interested in joining the military, and was enthusiastic about joining the infantry.

"These are the guys who actually get out and get the job done," Malson told the State News in 2002. He said that the then-possibility of war with Iraq did not worry him.

According to friends, the ROTC is where he found his calling as well as his wife, Lindsey.

In 2002, Lindsey, also enrolled in the ROTC and married to Adam, said that the possibility of war was especially scary when it could affect her directly.

"I think that if we're going to do this, there is obviously a reason," she said. "I trust the decision of the government."

Lindsey, 24, is also a member of the armed forces, serving with the 10th Mountain Division and scheduled to return home in June. The couple's third wedding anniversary would have been this May.

In addition to his parents Ben and Debra Malson and his wife Lindsey, Adam is also survived by a sister Amy, 25, and brother David, 19.

Funeral arrangements have not been made yet, but the Malsons continue to fly his division flag in front of their house, vowing to keep it raised in Adam's memory.

Malson is the 43rd member of the U.S. Armed Forces with known ties to Michigan to have been killed in Iraq since the beginning of the war.

~Wire services contributed to this story



LAURENCE KESTERSON/PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER
Recreation Hall is filled with dancers and supporters as they near their second day of the Penn State "Thon."

University in the news

711 Penn State students, family members and friends packed the Recreation Center for a two day dance-a-thon to raise money for the Four Diamonds Fund which supports families with children being treated for cancer at the Penn State Children's Hospital.

Check out the story on A6.

Global Glance

N. Korea names conditions

North Korea would resume talks on dismantling its nuclear weapons if the conditions were right and the US was sincere, Kim Jong-Il said in a rare public statement yesterday.

The North Korean President emerged from his habitual seclusion to meet Chinese envoy Wang Jiarui in the North Korean capital Pyongyang, in proof that China continues to hold sway over the Stalinist state.

He told Wang the North would "go to the negotiating table any time if there were mature conditions for the six-party talks, thanks to the concerted efforts of the parties concerned in the future."

However, the characteristically vague statement did not specify what kind of "mature conditions" Kim sought before sending his envoys back to the negotiating table in Beijing.

Fire destroys Chilean park

The Chilean authorities are struggling to control a large fire in one of the most famous parks in the southern Patagonia region.

Hundreds of firefighters, troops and forest rangers are trying to put out the blaze in the Torres del Paine park, which has been fanned by strong winds.

It has destroyed more than 14,000 acres of the park since it began last week.

Child soldier turned rapper

One of the lost boys of South Sudan - children stolen from their parents to fight in rebel armies - has released a rap album about his life as a child soldier.

Emmanuel Jal, who learned how to fire an AK-47 when he was seven, has already had a number one hit in Kenya. Now, he has just released his first album - Gua.

"It's a sort of prayer for peace in my motherland," he said. "There has been war so it's talking about if there was peace in my land, it would be good for everyone to come back home."

South African film takes top prize

The South African film, "Carmen in Khayelitsha," which sets Georges Bizet's opera against the hardship of a modern-day township, won the Berlin International Film Festival's top award Saturday.

The Xhosa-language film directed by Mark Dornford-May and starring Pauline Malefane received the Golden Bear for the best film in competition for its classic story of passionate love set amid the struggles of life in a South African township.

Global

goof

Missing: One George W. Bush look-alike

Stolen: A cardboard likeness of President Bush and a bottle of Jack Daniel's whiskey.

Kevin Hair of Cleveland, Tenn. reported to police that he returned to his apartment Sunday and first noticed some furniture had been rearranged. Then he realized his life-size stand-up image of Bush and a bottle of Tennessee whiskey were missing. According to a police report, the burglar entered the apartment through a window.

The value of the items taken: \$50 for the whiskey and \$25 for the likeness of Bush.

~Compiled by Elizabeth Gorecki
Local News Editor

Information taken from various news sources.

Local Trend Hooked on Hold 'Em

By KRISTLE CZAJKOWSKI
THE OAKLAND POST

Whether you're in Las Vegas, online, watching TV or hanging out with friends, Texas Hold 'Em Poker is everywhere. But where did it come from? Will it last, or is it just another fad?

Junior Paul McHugh plays at friends' houses about three times a week with buy-ins of \$5. McHugh said he thinks the game's popularity has gained because it's easy to understand and the odds are better. On the other hand, he thinks the game is just a fad.

"I think the popularity will eventually die down," McHugh said.

Psychology student Katie Lesosky said the largest buy-in she ever played in was \$20, and the most she ever won was \$50.

Lesosky said people like the thrill that you might win. "It's a strategy game," she said. However, she agrees that Hold 'Em is just a fad that will soon pass.

Junior Heidi Roman said the most she's won was \$60 playing with friends.

Roman thinks the game will stand the test of time.

"Poker's been around for so long. The younger generation wants to play a new version of it, and not the same game their parents play," Roman says. "It's what our generation learned and will still play when we're older."

According to historians, this version of poker developed in the late 1800s in a Texas town. When the game was almost banned in the 1920s, players protested until the ban was lifted. Hold 'Em's popularity became substantial after the World Series of Poker made its debut in 1970.

In the last few years, The World Poker tour, airing on The Travel Channel, has become the channel's highest rated program reaching more than 1.1 million viewers in 2003, according to worldpokertour.com

Maybe no one around OU is headed for the World Series of Poker yet, but many people agree this game is popular. Whether it will survive time - we'll just have to wait and see.

Where are metro Detroit's hottest casinos and what do they offer? Check out the guide to gambling on B1.

The issue: Illegal gambling and addiction

By ELIZABETH GORECKI
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

For many people, especially students, a game of Texas Hold 'Em means a few friends sitting around an old card table in the basement with a six-pack of whatever was on sale and the change found between the couch cushions.

But some analysts are betting that the explosion of Texas Hold 'Em among teenagers and young adults may promote a habit that could lead to financial ruin and addiction.

Much of the popularity can be traced to the high-rated World Poker Tour and Celebrity Poker Showdown where the players' cards can be seen on the television screen. Also, feeding the fad is the resurgence of the game in casino's across the state and the nation.

Detroit's Greektown Casino doubled the number of tables in its poker room last May, and Casino Windsor's Poker Place, a 3,000-square-foot room that has 10 poker tables offering a variety of games, debuted Feb. 11.

And while the poker craze sweeps across campus and the country, some people feel that anteing up may not be as harmless as it seems.

"It's going to grow to something more than just kids gambling away their pocket change," said Joyce Ruthers, a certified compulsive gambling counselor. "These poker parties and basement games lead to addiction. Kids who lose their pocket change grow up into adults who lose their savings."

Kevin Harding, a former Sterling Heights police officer, said he deals with illegal gambling a lot, much of it among young adults.

"The gambling that's going on with the youth today isn't the same as it was fifteen, or even five, years ago," Harding said. "Nowadays, younger people have more money, more money readily available to them. They have credit cards, debit cards and are working, making money at younger and younger ages."

Harding said that young adults don't see the danger of the friendly bets or poker parties until it's too late.

"I played a lot in high school and ended up winning a lot from my friends," said junior Keith Richards. "The guys would get together a few times a week, drink a little and play cards; no harm done."

His friend, junior Jim Courtier, disagreed.

"When guys get together, they don't talk about the couple hundred bucks they lost over the course of the week. They talk about the fifty that they won during poker night or the hundred they took in at the casino," Courtier said. "It adds up. No one comes out ahead all of the time."

"If you can't stop when you're ahead, or more importantly when you're behind, you may have a problem," Ruthers said.

For information on gambling addictions, contact the National Problem Gambling Hotline at (800) 522-4700 or at www.ncpgambling.org.

Dance raises \$4.1M

KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — You'll forgive the volunteers if they fumble their words.

Short of the dancers themselves, no one in Rec Hall seemed more tired Saturday than the volunteers, several hundred of them, who are keeping the Penn State Interfraternity Council/Panhellenic Dance Marathon running smoothly.

Unlike the dancers, they're allowed to rest. But they don't get much of it.

And so asking for a deep, thoughtful explanation of their motivation is perhaps better left for another time.

"It's more than I expected. It's amazing," said Ashley Steiner, a freshman who is one of a few hundred "moralers." She's volunteering more than 24 hours this weekend at Thon, she said, and is counting on fruit, granola and Gatorade to help fuel her designated dancers.

Looking at the dance floor, you know who's who from a rainbow of T-shirts. Moralers such as Steiner, charged with keeping dancers upbeat, sport yellow shirts. The communications volunteers, who work at information booths, wear green. The ones who handle physical arrangements, carting tables and cleaning up garbage, are in blue.

And the security people, who make sure dancers, visitors and volunteers are in their specific zones, wear red.

"Everyone's really respectful," said sophomore Tom Otterbine, a security volunteer who was monitoring an entrance to the dance floor.

When he first saw Thon last year, Otterbine said, he was "so blown away, I just had to get involved."

Like so many other volunteers, Otterbine spoke of an electrifying atmosphere, unity to feed a common cause, an image of joy on the faces of young cancer patients. It clearly isn't easy for the volunteers to put into words, especially when they're deprived of rest, but these elements are their motivation, they said.

"It's touching," said junior Nicole Nelson, a communications volunteer who's putting in up to 20 hours this weekend. She's hoping to be a dancer next year, she said.

But for now, simply "looking at the kids and seeing that we're helping them is just amazing," she said.

All the volunteers apply for their gigs. For many, it's a chance to be in the heart of the action, to help manage this exercise in organized chaos, without being a dancer. For others, such as Nelson, it's a stepping stone on the path toward becoming a

dancer.

On the dance floor, it often seems as though the volunteers outnumber the dancers.

"A lot of times, you see them (dancers) get depressed and quiet. They zone off," said sophomore Pat Connolly, a morale volunteer. "You bring them back and remind them why they're here."

The early-morning hours, after visitors go home to sleep, are often the most trying for the dancers, volunteers said. But the "drunk hours" between 12:30 and 4 a.m., when bar-hopping students sometimes make mischievous stops at Rec Hall, have included some exciting moments in years past.

Officials said that didn't really happen Saturday morning.

"There were drunk people here and there," said security volunteer Kevin Henson, who worked from 2:30 to 6:30 a.m. "But they weren't that big of a deal."

Organizers said a total of 711 students and community members participated in the two-day event and thousands more turned out to watch as they raised a record \$4.1 million over the weekend.

Since the first Thon in 1973, the event has raised more than \$30 million for The Four Diamonds.



LAURENCE KESTERSON/PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER
Missy Lau, left, a 21-year-old senior and Lauren Maxham, 14, dance a line dance during the Penn State Thon, a 48-hour dance marathon.

Outlaw author commits suicide

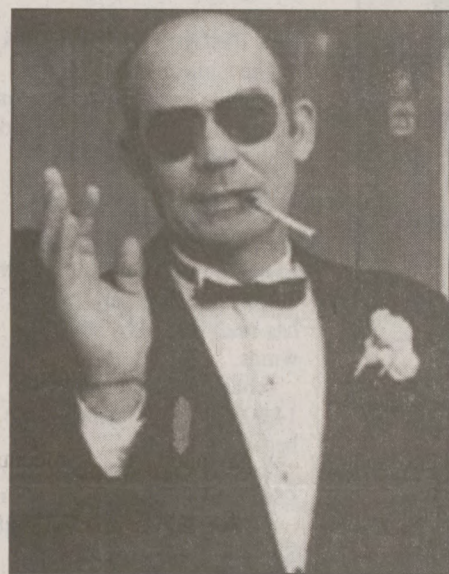


Photo courtesy of KRT Campus

KNIGHT RIDDER

One of the great phenomenons of the 2004 presidential campaign was the rise of "The Daily Show," a cable TV satire that exposes the hypocrisy of American politics with a mix of fact and fiction and steady laughs.

Brilliant, yes. Entirely new, no. Anyone who read the "gonzo" journalism of Hunter S. Thompson from the 1972 presidential campaign could recognize the original.

Thompson, who committed suicide at his Colorado home on Sunday, was his own best character. He thrust himself into events, be it a presidential campaign, a car race or a ride with the

Hell's Angels. Over the years, though, the character dissolved into caricature. Thompson's embrace of gambling, boozing, drugs, firearms and his utterly bizarre personality drew more attention to him than his writing did.

That's apparently the way he wanted it. After all, how many people get to see Johnny Depp play them in a movie? Thompson did.

Thompson was one of the original, brilliant practitioners of New Journalism, that hazy blend of the techniques of the reporter and the novelist that, at its best, found truths that standard journalism couldn't draw out.

Thompson, for a time, had a rightful place alongside Tom Wolfe, Truman Capote, Norman Mailer and other pioneers of the craft.

"In Washington, the truth is never told in daylight hours or across a desk," Thompson once said in an interview with Playboy magazine. "If you catch people when they're very tired or drunk

or weak, you can get some answers. You have to wear the bastards down."

Yes, that was Thompson, profanity and all.

In his work for Rolling Stone magazine and in the subsequent book, "Fear and Loathing: On the Campaign Trail '72," Thompson was extraordinarily insightful. In between some colorful

language, he spelled out all the manipulations and cynicism of a national political campaign.

It was utterly new and immensely entertaining, and it fed confirmation to a readership that

was already growing more disillusioned about American politics.

At his best, Thompson could work a sentence like Jerry Seinfeld working a room: The music business is a cruel and shallow money trench, a long plastic hallway where thieves and pimps run free, and good men die like dogs.

"Too weird to live, too rare to die."

—Hunter S. Thompson

The tragedy for Thompson, though, was that the caricature turned out to be too close to the truth. While Wolfe and some of the other stars of New Journalism continued to be creative, Thompson stopped. You have to go back three decades to find his best work.

In recent years he wrote a column about sports for ESPN.com. On rare occasions the writing was close to a revelation, but mostly it was a ghostly imitation. It was painful to see that Thompson had consumed himself.

Perhaps his last truly great piece of writing ran in Rolling Stone's 10th-anniversary issue in 1977. Titled "The Banshee Screams for Buffalo Meat," it was a tribute to Oscar Acosta, "the Brown Buffalo," whose life had unraveled after the Vegas adventure with Thompson.

Rather than the "old, sick and very troubled man" like those meeting fates similar to his, such as Hemingway, many will remember Thompson with the epitaph he bestowed on Acosta: "Too weird to live, too rare to die."

And always, dancing beneath the diamond sky, with one hand waving free.

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY STUDENT CONGRESS

presents...

A Logo Scholarship Contest

We are currently seeking talented students to help Oakland University Student Congress to design a logo. The winner will receive a \$200.00 cash prize.

To get an application, please visit the Oakland University Student Congress Office, 62 Oakland Center or the website at <http://www2.oakland.edu/ousc>.

Applications are due in the Congress Office and the logo needs to be e-mailed to congres1@oakland.edu in BMP format by: Monday, March 21, 2005 at 5:00 p.m.

WE PAY FOR DIVERSITY!!!

Student Organizations, do you want an extra 500.00 in your flex account?

If the answer is yes, then I have the solution for you.

In conjunction with Student Congress' efforts to improve race relations on campus, SAFB is sponsoring Diversity for Dollars. Each organization is asked to submit a proposal for an event costing up to \$5000.00. The proposal should be detailed and include a budget.

The top three educational, social, or recreational programs that yield a diverse audience will get the event paid for by SAFB and also win \$500.00 upon completion of the event. Proposals will be available in the CSA office Thursday February 10, 2004.

Organizations should submit the proposal by March 4, 2004.

For more information contact Charity Jones at cr2jones@oakland.edu or (248) 370-4294
62 Oakland Center

Positions available on Student Activities Funding Board

Applicants must be OU students in good academic standing.

Meetings are Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m.

Applications are available in the Student Congress office

Contact Charity Jones
SAFB Chair
62 Oakland Center
cr2jones@oakland.edu
(248)370-4294

Be sure WXOU's programming on 88.3 FM or on the Web site, www.wxou.org

WXOU Idol is winding down. Tune at 4:30 p.m. on Thursdays to see how the competition winds down.



The Oakland Post
is a member of
the Associated
Collegiate Press.

Perspectives

Libby Baker
Editor in Chief

editor@oakpostonline.com
(248) 370-4268

February 23, 2005

The Oakland Post

www.oakpostonline.com

A7

EDITORIAL

Internship requirements not always practical for students



DANTE CIULLO

Photo
Editor

Internships can provide valuable experience in the modern business world.

At a recent panel discussion on internships held at OU, this point was tirelessly recanted by all panel members, students and professionals alike.

As many of Oakland's degree programs require students to participate in an internship to finish their degree, this has become somewhat of a point of contention for me.

Valuable experience? When gained through an internship attached to a degree requirement: Yes.

When gained as a "non-traditional student" who has returned to school after working for numerous companies like Ford Motor Company, Delphi Automotive, Prestige Portrait Studios or even the U.S. Army: No.

"Oakland University does not give credit for 'life experience'" is what I was told when I asked.

It seems only short-term internships can give you the valuable "real-world experience" that working 17 years in the "real world" can't.

Does the fact that most university freshmen were about two-years-old when I enlisted in the U.S. Army not indicate that maybe I've had ample opportunity to gain valuable experience beyond any internship? No? Why is this?

The simple argument of "The University wants your money" really doesn't cut it.

I believe the real issue is an outmoded concept that doesn't take into account the "non-traditional student."

This is where OU is failing those of us who return to school to move ourselves ahead.

This needs to change.

I've worked as everything from peon to project manager.

I've been the programmer who just codes someone else's logic, and I've been the guy who's designed the project from the ground up.

I've built systems that managed simple contact data, and I've built systems that managed the complete product line for an entire division of a Fortune 500 company.

I've even built prototype software for the U.S. Military.

Yet, I have no valuable experience and must take an internship.

I am not the only one stuck in this absurdity.

A member of the audience at the panel discussion, a full-time employee at DaimlerChrysler for the past ten years, asked the panel for advice on getting an internship.

He, like myself, has ample "real-world experience." Yet that doesn't matter because his degree program requires him to take an internship.

What are those of us who are already working in a career field supposed to do?

The companies I worked for offered little in the way of flexibility when it came to working around my school schedule.

I had to be at my job at the scheduled time required and then go to school in the evening.

I'm sure this is typical of most "non-traditional students" and even some "traditional students."

The problems with internships become obvious in this scenario. They just can't be fit into the day without sacrificing something.

Should I have to sacrifice my home, vehicle or lifestyle by quitting my job to make time for an internship?

The job was not something to give me a couple bucks spending cash while mommy and daddy footed the rest of my bills.

The job is in the career field I trained for.

Does this job not provide me with valuable experience?

I'm not certain being someone's gopher in an internship would be a more valuable experience.

I think it is time for the University to review its policy on internships, "life credit" and the like, so that students like myself aren't compromising simply to comply with an illogical university policy. It is time for a change.

Changes occur every day.

Nothing is set in stone, and one should not have to beg for a professor to champion his cause, when the cause is just.

Policy should be in place to take into account the life and work experience of "non-traditional" students.

Students shouldn't be pigeon-holed simply because it is easier for the University.

It is time to mend broken policies.

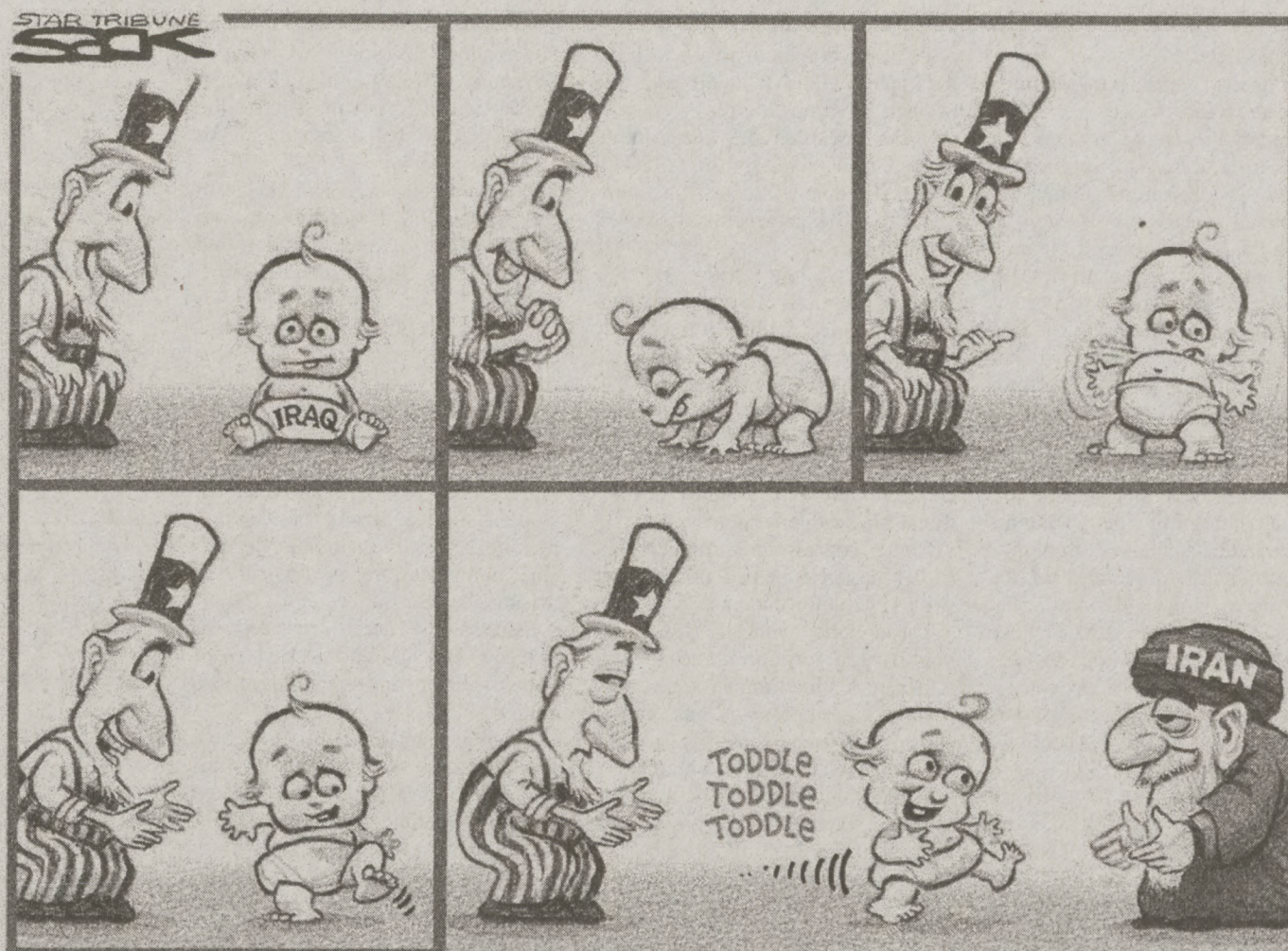
There is no simple solution.

Each department would have to review each student who wanted life/work experience credit on a case-by-case basis.

But, if doing this allowed the students to complete their degree more rapidly, then isn't this optimal?

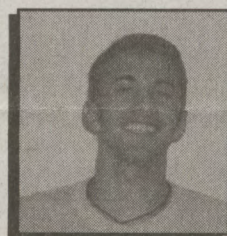
After all, isn't it the student's best interest that needs to be considered? Isn't it time policy on internships and "life credit" be reconsidered?

I believe it is.



GUEST COLUMN

Diverse Student Congress working for all student interests



MICHAEL
MCGUINNESS

OUSC
Vice President

A special interest would be considered a small, similarly-composed group with narrowed motivations and goals that aim to only make gains for themselves.

Your Oakland University Student Congress is not focused on one special interest, nor is it composed of one special interest group.

Take a look at the whole group for yourselves.

Student Body President Jonathan Parks, Vice President Michael McGuinness, Student Program Chair Shay Binion, Student Activities Funding Board Chair Charity Jones, Financial Affairs Director Jim Gammicchia, Student Services Director Sarah Cook, Legislative Affairs Director Jackie Claiborne, Administrative Assistant Krupa Ujla and Public Relations Agent Duane Hurt.

Legislators Kristina Butler, Kori Lynn Cave, Krissy Creech, Allison Cummings-Stuckman, Alicia Feys, Brandon Glatfelter, Ginger Houghton, Jillian Key, Aaron Kochenderfer, Lindsay McCullough, Doug Merriam, Joshua Miller, Katie Miller, Madalyn Miller, William Mullas, George Nahas, Adam Panchenko, Pat Piskulich, Montrell Porter, Demond Pryor, Niki Pszczolkowski, Derrick Putansu, Saman Waquad, Stefan J. Welch, Adam Young and Sumeera Younis.

In addition to all of these capable student leaders, there are numerous members of the Publicity Committee, Student Program Board or other Student Congress entities that would qualify as members of the organization.

If a student doesn't like the way things are going, they themselves have ample opportuni-

ties to step up and help shape their student government.

These individuals are collectively involved in over 45 student organizations on campus.

That is merely counting the group involvement I know of offhand.

There are past and present presidents, vice presidents, secretaries and treasurers from a broad scope of groups that come to the Student Congress table.

There are female and male, black and white, gay and straight, commuter and resident, Democrat and Republican, liberal and conservative, Muslim and Hindu, Atheist and Christian, young and old.

All of this diversity and more is represented in the Student Congress roster, working together to benefit the Oakland University student body.

Beyond the impressive composition of the group, Student Congress has taken stances and provided initiatives that serve the wonderfully diverse students.

Some examples of this are the: fall and winter scholarships, Student of the Month Parking Award, Financial Aid Office improvements, Technology Advancement Program, Campus Race Relations Roundtable, Voter Registration Drive, Book Swap, Diversity For Dollars, student voting improvements and School Spirit Promotion.

All of those are clearly of benefit, or potential benefit, to the vast majority of students.

If the more contentious decisions are the main problem, though, there also is the aim of potentially benefiting the vast majority.

Student Congress took a stand opposing last November's Proposal 2.

As we have seen in its aftermath, the implications of the ballot proposal transcended one "special interest" group.

Heterosexual and homosexual domestic partnership benefits at Oakland and throughout Michigan, along with uncertain student health insurance policies, are now eliminated or strongly threatened.

It was, and still is, inaccurate to label the decision as by gay students and for gay students.

Not only was it to protect the benefits of gay and straight students alike, but it was supported and approved by gay and straight students alike.

The same goes for the Gender and Sexuality Center Resolution.

First, the nascent GSC is aiming to provide resources for gender and sexuality issues such as preventing relationship violence, assisting rape and sexual assault victims, helping those with eating disorders, the coming out process and so much more; every student is of a gender and of a sexuality.

Talk about potentially serving the majority; that is 100 percent of students.

If the naysayers are right, which I contend they are not, and the GSC was ultimately never used or wanted by a single straight male student, the majority would still be potentially served.

After all, OU students are roughly over 65 percent female.

Throw in the gay male students and that is well over two-thirds of students.

Even if it, or the Proposal 2 Resolution as well, were only in support of minority student resources or in defense of minority student rights, it still would be appropriate and necessary for Student Congress to take such action.

The needs and rights of minorities must be addressed and upheld, even by student representatives that are elected and appointed by the majority.

By confronting the concerns of individual students or student organizations, Student Congress has been alerted to and has addressed issues that have broader implications than just one student's experience with the Financial Aid Office or one student organization's idea about the allocations process.

It is basically impossible to assert that Student Congress is by a special interest, for a special interest.

That is, unless the special interest you had in mind was the Oakland student body at large.

Corrections:

Last week's Police Beat on page A3 mistakenly said "female laying on her bed" and should have said "female lying on her bed."

The Idlewild is located on Michigan's mainland. It is not an island as was reported.

If you see mistakes in The Post, please let us know by sending a description of the mistake to editor@oakpostonline.com or call (248) 370-4268.

We appreciate your help.

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Send comments to editor@oakpostonline.com or mail to 61 OC, Rochester, MI 48309. Include name, class rank, phone number and field of study.

Please limit letters to 350 words.

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The Oakland Post

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Editor in Chief (248) 370-4268
Campus News (248) 370-4267
Local News (248) 370-2848
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"We cannot walk alone. And as we walk, we must make the pledge that we shall march ahead. We cannot turn back."

-Martin Luther King Jr.

KING
Continued from A1

Jr's "dream" after the evening's meal was served.

University President Gary D. Russi helped Gloria A. Sosa, director of the Center for Multicultural Initiatives, distribute the awards.

"Each student has helped create a campus climate that personifies Dr. King's dream," Russi said.

Brooks, a sophomore, was the first student recognized, receiving her scholarship from the Ford Motor Company Fund.

She has worked within CMI as a peer mentor, guiding freshmen students through their first year of college and helping get students involved in OU's diverse community.

Brooks is also a member of the Vandenberg House Council, the Honors College Residential College Council, Lighthouse Ministries and the Association of Black Students.

Jude Nixon, director of the Honors College, praised Brooks for her ability to face challenges.

"Sheila is one of the few African-American students who has taken the challenge to be part of the Honors college, not allowing her minority status to impede the strive for excellence but using it to set an example for black and students alike," Nixon said.

Assistant director of CMI Omar Brown-El has been impressed with Brooks' effort early in her college career.

"Sheila has a strong ethic and desire to work with students of various backgrounds," he said. "This is constantly on display with the numerous volunteer and additional work hours that she takes on to work with and talk to students."

Michelle Southward, retention coordinator for CMI, said Gaines, recipient of the DaimlerChrysler Award, is a true leader.

"I see Andrew as a real African-American male role model both in and out of the classroom."

"He is open to others and their views and continues to educate others on dealing with cultural differences," he said.

As a journalism major, Gaines has worked for both The Oakland Post and WXOU, while also working on his minor in theater performance as one of only a handful of African-American males majoring or minoring in the performing arts.

"Andrew works hard to encourage other students to participate in theater because he realizes the benefits of learning and working with a diverse range of people," said Aniesha Mitchell, admissions advisor in the Office of Admissions, where Gaines works as an ambassador and was named its 2003 Employee of the Year.

"He is driven to make things better for the next generation no matter what he has to endure in the present," he said.

Among his many activities, Gaines has also been involved in many religious groups on campus, including One Body, Gospel Choir and

Lighthouse Ministries.

He has also been involved with the Residence Halls Council and the Student Program Board.

Miller, awarded the OU Alumni Association scholarship, is well known for her ability to make students of all backgrounds feel welcome at OU.

Working in the Office of New Student Programs as an Orientation Group Leader, Miller immediately helps students accept each other and respect each other's differences.

Through her work as a Connections peer leader, Miller has also helped students get a hold of important resources, connect with faculty and develop friendships with other students.

An advocate for equal rights, Miller has also helped break down walls separating students.

Through her work in eliminating voluntary segregation in the cafeteria to her efforts in eliminating discriminatory language, she has gained respect and friendships.

"Kathryn is a respected member of our hall community and is someone who the residents have shown comfort in approaching," said Jeff Frankowiak, director of Vandenberg Hall, University Housing.

Still, Miller has focused on her education despite all her extracurricular activities, and also said she takes great pride in having paid for her own schooling.

"Unlike many student leaders who become so focused on their co-curricular activities that their studies become secondary, Kathryn has continued to place her energies where they belong," said Dawn Aubry, associate director for the Office of Admissions.

Muhammad said her goal has been to "inspire other students to make positive contributions to society and to work toward unity and the common good."

Her efforts in that area allowed her to receive the Bank One Keeper of the Dream award.

Muhammad counsels four students every week, meeting one-on-one with them to monitor their academic and social progress, and help build up their leadership skills.

She has worn many hats as an OU student, serving as a Connections peer leader, orientation assistant, secretary of the Muslim Student Association, SPB committee member and Orientation Group Leader.

"In each of her roles, Jameelah has demonstrated a sincere interest in helping people and expressed herself as a positive role model for her fellow students," Kristy Chene, assistant director for the Office of New Student Programs said.

Muhammad found time during her vigorous pursuit of a biology and environmental health major and Honors College student to help recruit Imam W. Deen Mohammed last semester to discuss the significance of African-American Muslims in American history.

In the nomination process, Southward said, "There is an excerpt from the 'I Have A Dream' speech

that I find truly symbolizes the path Jameelah has taken in life.

It states, 'We cannot walk alone. And as we walk, we must make the pledge that we shall march ahead. We cannot turn back.'

"She not only walks in the truth and by the light, she leads others into the directions of understanding and consciousness that all men are created equal."

The final scholarship recipient of the evening was Seal, who was awarded the William Beaumont Hospital's Keeper of the Dream Scholarship.

Seal has met adversity head on as one of only four African-American students in the School of Nursing, making strides in promoting leadership, cultural awareness and success among her peers.

Seal said, "There is a need for someone to stand and be a voice of encouragement and strength for those students."

Practicing what she preaches, Seal works closely with pre-nursing students who find it difficult to keep their grades at the level necessary for admittance into the nursing program.

For her work within the program, Seal was selected as a member of the School of Nursing Dean's Circle, and she also works as a research assistant to the dean, working on ways to decrease obesity among youths in inner cities. Seal is also a member of the OU Student Nurses Association.

"Her efforts in working with others, be it patients or classmates, is exceptional," said Patricia Ketchum, nursing lab manager.

"She is a student who can be counted on to meet her commitments. She goes beyond just meeting the standards."

Beyond the nursing program, Seal also serves as public relations chair for ABS, peer mentor within CMI and a member of the OU Leadership Institute.

"Ashley has a quiet demeanor, yet she is very approachable," Brown-El said. "She works well with all students regardless of nationality or religion."

To wrap up the evening's activities, Coretta Scott King took the podium and shared her belief that "diversity is not an end, but it's merely a means to something greater."

King called for a greater commitment to community service, universal health care and a federal budget that "recognizes the need for a quality, affordable education for every person in America."

She also called for the complete cancellation of Africa's debt to "the west," which would allow the nation to address health care and education needs, she said. Even in the midst of her strong political beliefs, King called for unity as we push forward as a nation.

"Rise up now and come forward from the shadows," King said. "The torch of leadership is being passed onto this generation."

Reflections of past award winner on Page A3.

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African American Celebration 2005

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

Email us at csa@oakland.edu.

"Flicks at Oakland University"

Film Series

Ridicule

Tuesday, March 1

March 22: [The Fog of War](#)
March 29: [Goodbye Lenin](#)
April 5: [All About my Mother](#)

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

Oakland University Student Congress 2005-2006 Elections

Candidate Meet & Greet

Monday, February 28
Noon-1 PM
Fireside Lounge, OC

Meet Potential
PRESIDENT
VICE PRESIDENT
LEGISLATOR
Candidates

CSA SERVICE WINDOW

RESERVATIONS FOR:

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

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- Cirque Dreams (Mar. 29)
- Beauty and the Beast (Apr. 12)
- Tosca (Apr. 13 & 15)
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- Riverdance (May 17)
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The Oakland Post

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B1

Let the games begin in the Detroit casinos

Detroiters find Vegas-style gambling in their own city

BY HEIDI ROMAN
THE OAKLAND POST

OU students need not travel to Las Vegas to satisfy their gambling needs.

Detroit-area casinos offer a wide variety of games and entertainment for all types of gamblers.

For guests preferring low-stakes entertainment, all of the Detroit-area casinos offer various slot machines ranging in price from one penny to \$100.

MGM Grand Detroit houses over 2,100 slot machines — the most popular activity at the casino — and features EZ Pay technology.

“(EZ Pay) provides a higher level of customer convenience in that guests do not have to carry coins to play our machines and can take the tickets from machine to machine to play,” Bob Berg, a consultant for MGM Grand Detroit, said.

Once a guest has finished playing, the ticket can be taken to the cashier to exchange for cash.

Like MotorCity Casino, Greektown Casino offers similar technology, and is where Cherilyn Stevenson of Detroit prefers to play.

“I’ve been to Greektown before, but I like MotorCity because it seems easier to hit here,” Stevenson said, referring to slot machine jackpots. “I come quite a bit just to get out of the house. It’s a great place to meet new people.”

Betty Irish of Flint comes to MotorCity Casino at least once a month to play the slots.

“I can’t afford to play table games because the minimum bets are too high for me. I’ll lose my money too fast,” Irish said.

For those who crave something more than slots,

Greektown

Casino

offers the

largest

poker

room

in town

with 16

tables, multiple

plasma

screen TVs,

bar service

and the

option to

play at a

smoke-free table.

Here, you can try your luck at 7-Card Stud, Texas Hold 'Em or Omaha Hold 'Em.

Greektown Casino, which was voted Best Casino and Best Place to be Seen by a 2004 Detroit Free Press readers poll, offers convenient pick-up and drop-off right inside the lobby by the People Mover, a subway transportation system.

MotorCity Casino also offers a smoke-free poker room with eight tables, including Omaha Hi-Lo.

MGM Grand Detroit does not have a poker room, but attracts many customers because of its affiliation with the MGM Mirage of Las Vegas.

“We provide a Las Vegas gaming experience right here in Detroit,” Berg said.

Guests of the casino can obtain membership in the MGM

Mirage Players Club program, which offers a chance for cash rebates from slot play as well as complimentary goods and services at any MGM property.

Guests of Greektown Casino can join CLUB Greektown for free and earn points simply by playing the slots.

Top-rated players can join Greektown's Pantheon or Torch Club and enjoy an exclusive VIP valet entrance and a 'members only' lounge.

MotorCity's Club Metro has a free membership offering “point play,” which swaps slot earnings into complimentary food and a discount on merchandise.

The three Detroit-area casinos offer various types of table games for those who have not mastered the art of poker, including several versions of black jack, casino war, baccarat, roulette and craps.

Before betting money on these games, MGM Grand Detroit offers free blackjack lessons every Thursday at 11 a.m., roulette at noon and craps at 2 p.m.

Those who enjoy poker but are not yet ready to play at a table against other guests can try

video poker, which is available right at the bar.

Mary Lee Dunlaby of Dexter won \$950 in one day playing video poker at MotorCity Casino.

“MotorCity seems to be the fairest out of all the local casinos,” Dunlaby said.

In addition to gambling, each of the casinos offer a variety of restaurants for guests who work up an appetite playing the games.

For those who have already spent enough money at the tables, MGM Grand Detroit offers a buffet and Java Coast; the Hollywood Brown Derby for a more elegant cuisine; and the

Lion's Roar Sports Bar and Grille, which won three Bronze Medals at culinary food shows.

Greektown is home to the reputable Alley Grille Steakhouse and a 2,700-square-foot banquet room. MotorCity offers a deli, a buffet, the MotorCity Pit Stop for barbecued specialties and Iridescence for a more well-dressed meal.

For entertainment beyond gambling, Greektown's Apollo Lounge presents two musical acts per night, as well as free, open Karaoke every Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Greektown is also home to the dance club Rapture. MGM Grand Detroit offers entertainment every night at the Stage Bar. Performance schedules are on the casino's Web sites.

Those who live in northern Michigan do not have to travel far to gamble.

Kewadin Casino offers five different locations with plenty of tables and slots, including Kewadin Sault, located in the heart of the Upper Peninsula just minutes from the Soo Locks; a St. Ignace location, also known as “The Shores,” situated on the Straits of



Photo courtesy of Greektown Casino

Greektown Casino provides 2,400 slot machines on their two gambling floors and video poker machines. MotorCity offers over 2,500 slot machines to guests, while MGM Grand Detroit, owners of Vegas casinos The Mirage and MGM Grand, has 2,100 slots for guests to enjoy.

Mackinac; a Manistique casino on US-2 west of the Mackinaw Bridge; a Hessel location three miles from the Les Cheneaux Islands; and a Christmas location on M-28 just west of the town of Munising.

Those under the legal age of 21 can gamble across the border at Casino Windsor, home to a four-diamond hotel with room rates starting at \$155 Canadian.

The casino houses five restaurants, over 80 gaming tables and 3,300 slot machines.

Free table-game lessons are available every weekday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Guests can also spend time at Melodies Video Poker Bar or the Showtime Lounge.

Visitors of Casino Windsor should plan on providing two forms of identification at the door, one of which must be a government issued photo ID to prove citizenship. Currency can be exchanged inside the casino at the cashier's window.

More information on the casinos can be obtained at the following Web sites:

Greektown Casino:	www.greektowncasino.net
MotorCity Casino:	www.motorcitycasino.com
MGM Grand Detroit:	www.detroit.mgmgrand.com
Kewadin Casinos:	www.kewadin.com
Windsor Casino:	www.casinowindsor.com

“Private Lives” tells all in a bashful comedy of love

BY CHRISTA ELAINE BADON
THE OAKLAND POST

If you enjoy sarcastic comedy with the ups and down of love, consider seeing the play “Private Lives” at the Meadow Brook Theatre.

This play has an edginess and frankness that makes it appealing to young adults as well as an older crowd.

“Private Lives” was written by Noel Coward and directed by David L. Regal.

“It’s a sitcom of the (19)30s,” said Regal, who is the artistic director of the Meadow Brook Theatre.

The play involves two couples, new-

lyweds Amanda and Victor and Sibyl and Elyot. Sarab Kamoq portrays Amanda with spunk and sassy flavor.

Jerri Doll plays the character of Sibyl with young innocence.

Neil Necastro is funny and blatantly sarcastic Elyot and Matthew Phenix is uppity Victor.

Jodie Kuhn Ellison plays the no-nonsense housekeeper, Louise.

Each character has a dynamic that makes the play interesting as they try to figure out who loves who.

“Everything that happens is chance,” Amanda says.

This chance lead Amanda and Elyot back into each other’s arms.

Amanda and Elyot, who once were married and divorced, happen to meet on a French terrace while on honeymoons with their new spouses.

Sibyl and Victor have no clue that their spouses have reconnected.

In turn, Amanda and Elyot leave their honeymoons to be together in Paris.

Amanda and Elyot’s relationship contains a lot of witty banter, which adds humor to the play.

The play makes the viewer question whether the reunited couple should be together.

“It’s fun because of Noel Coward,” David Regal said. “He is urban, witty and sarcastic. (The play) gives him an

excuse to poke fun at marriage.”

“It was enjoyable. I always enjoy Coward’s work,” said Janet Lovell of Auburn Hills.

Lovell enjoyed the set that consisted of two adjoining outdoor balconies at a hotel in the 1930s.

“The set decoration was wonderful, and it captured the 1930s,” Lovell said.

“Private Lives” runs until March 9 at Meadow Brook Theatre.

Tickets are on sale for all performances.

Photos courtesy of Meadow Brook Theatre

Jerri Doll, Neil Necastro, Matthew Phenix and Jodie Kuhn Ellison all star in “Private Lives” at the Meadow Brook Theatre. The play uses sarcasm to portray marriage.



Coming soon to the Meadow Brook Theatre:

“And Then They Came For Me: Remembering The World Of Anne Frank,” will premiere on March 16 and will continue to run through April 10. The play tells the life of Anne Frank through live performances and videotaped interviews with Holocaust survivors. To preorder tickets, call (248) 377-3300.



Angels and Demons collide in film

Reeves stars in "Constantine" as the keeper of good and evil

By LAUREL DROZ
THE OAKLAND POST

What if I told you that God and the devil made a wager for the souls of all mankind? No direct contact with humans — that would be the rule — just influence, to see who would win.

Well, if I told you that, you probably wouldn't believe it, but when chain-smoking John Constantine (Keanu Reeves) poses the same question in the new movie "Constantine," we are given reason to believe.

Constantine — based on the character from the "Hellblazer" comic books (DC Comics/Vertigo) — is a man with the unfortunate ability to see half-breed angels and demons.

These half-breeds are the ones who influence humans to do good and evil. When they do

more than "influence," Constantine goes to work sending them back to hell.

He doesn't do it out of the kindness of his heart or for the good of all mankind. He does it because he is a man doomed to hell for a sin committed long ago. And if anyone has reason to fear hell, Constantine does.

"What would you do if you were sentenced to a prison where half the inmates were put there by you?" he asks.

He soon finds an unlikely companion in Angela Dodson (Rachel Weisz), a woman whose twin sister whispered Constantine's name immediately before her mysterious death.

Dodson's need to know what happened binds her to Constantine, just as, pardon the pun, all hell breaks loose.

"Constantine" is a gritty-action movie complete with all of the amazing special effects we've come to expect in such a film (complete with some "Matrix"-like sequences that had to make Reeves feel right at home.)

However, if you are experiencing "Matrix" withdrawals

and are drawn to "Constantine" for its stylistic similarities (the dark and dirty atmosphere of both films, for example), you will find no comfort here.

While the movie is fast paced and engaging, it's in no way philosophical.

There is no apparent deeper meaning to the film, no "there is no spoon" moments. In fact, there are several things that are never fully explained at all by the movie; loose ends that are left untied and some "but why did they have to do that?" moments.

One can only hope they'll get answered in the inevitable sequel.

As for the acting, Reeves plays the reluctant hero well, wearing tragedy like a comfortable costume. He invites us into the story and has decent chemistry with co-stars.

He says a few too many predictable "go to hell — literally" quips while battling the baddies, but that's to be expected.

Watch for "Bush" lead-singer Gavin Rossdale in his role as the half-demon Balthazar and notice



Photo courtesy of Warner Bros.

Keanu Reeves stars as John Constantine alongside Rachel Weisz as Angela Dodson in "Constantine."

that neat little trick he does with the coin. That'd come in handy at parties, but then so would being a rock star...

Constantine is ultimately a movie about the search for

redemption and the power of self-sacrifice. It offers a lot of "eww, demons are ugly" moments, and requires only a passing familiarity with the Catholic faith to follow the plot.

It's entertaining and is probably worth checking out for fans of the comic books or of Reeves and anyone who loves a good-old' fashion round of squash-the-demon.

Band rocks with catchy guitar riffs

By DAVE PHILLIPS
THE OAKLAND POST

In the line of contemporary bands that have had a profound effect on music's progression, "And You Will Know Us By The Trail Of Dead" is near the front. "Source Tags and Codes," released in 2002, is considered one of the best albums of the decade thus far, and the "Trail of Dead" had a successful debut LP in "Madonna."

The former Sonic Youth cover band is back in 2005 with their third full-length album, "Worlds Apart."

The album begins with a piano playing, and then is joined by a chorus and a symphony in a dramatic buildup.

The track crescendos and ends with a blood curdling scream and a woman saying in a monotone voice "And you will know us by the trail of dead."

"Will You Smile Again?" proceeds to rip the drama to shreds and creates a level of intensity that would make Ron Artest proud. A shredding guitar and a fast paced, snare and cymbal based drum solo goes on for about a minute and a half before the pace slows, the volume lowers and Conrad Keely sings.

throughout the rest of the track.

The title track begins with a nice mixture of joyous children and an expletive. A catchy guitar riff drives the tune, and the lyrics are about overindulgence in America, including a chorus of "blood and death we will pay back the debt of this candy store of ours."

If there's one thing "Trail of Dead" can do, it's a catchy guitar riff.

That's exactly what the band does in the song "A Classic Arts Showcase." In the middle, it seems to be over before a chorus of female singers begins to hum, going back to a soft

The song continues this way until around the five-minute mark, where the intensity picks back up and continues

tone introduced at the beginning of the song.

The most heartfelt song on "Worlds Apart" is "All White." It's the slowest song on the album, and Keely's vocal along with the female choir makes a beautiful melody.



Photo courtesy of Trail of the Dead

"racing for the sink, I shove my head in, and the world looks like heaven; it's all white," you feel his emotion even more.

Heavy, speedy guitars blast away the pain to begin "The Best."

The lyrics contradict the feelings of the previous song, with Keely singing "things couldn't be better" and "this is one fine life." This track is one of the

more mediocre songs on the album, but it still has its moments.

"The Lost City of Refuge" is a fine way to end an album. Different from anything else on "Worlds Apart," Keely teams with guitarist/vocalist Jason Reece to sing a duet over a nice, calm instrumental.

Then, suddenly a driving guitar enters, and the singers scream the lyrics over it. Just as suddenly, everything reverts to how it was and then fades out, with feedback and flat instruments creating an eerie sound.

The album, "Worlds Apart," plays with tempo in that many songs start out slow, but then speed up, yet end softly.

This makes each song cap to make way for the next song that has a whole new feel, whether the refreshing tempo changes or the usual, yet intriguing sound.

While it may not be their best album, this Texas trio is making their mark on whatever genre you want to classify them into. Better than that, they are making their mark on the ones you don't.

Which reoccurring section do you read more often? (Be honest!)

Global Glance
In Short
Police Beat
Sports Column
Horoscopes
Low Down

E-mail your answer to
editor@oakpostonline.com



Oakland University Presents
The 2004-2005 Student Life Lecture Series

Nancy Cartwright

The Voice of Bart Simpson

People are always shocked when they find out that the voice behind spiky-headed, yellow-skinned, ten year-old boy Bart Simpson is Nancy Cartwright, a petite blonde woman. This Emmy Award-winning actress has voiced hundreds of characters in such favorites as *Rug Rats*, *Richie Rich*, *The Critic*, *The Pink Panther*, *Animaniacs*, *Toonsylvania*, the online cartoon *Timber Wolf*, and many more. Cartwright is the author of "My Life as a 10 Year Old Boy," the ultimate insider's guide to *The Simpsons*.

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

3:00 p.m. in the Banquet Rooms, Oakland Center

This lecture is free to the OU Community and the General Public. Tickets are not required for admission. Seating is on a first come basis.



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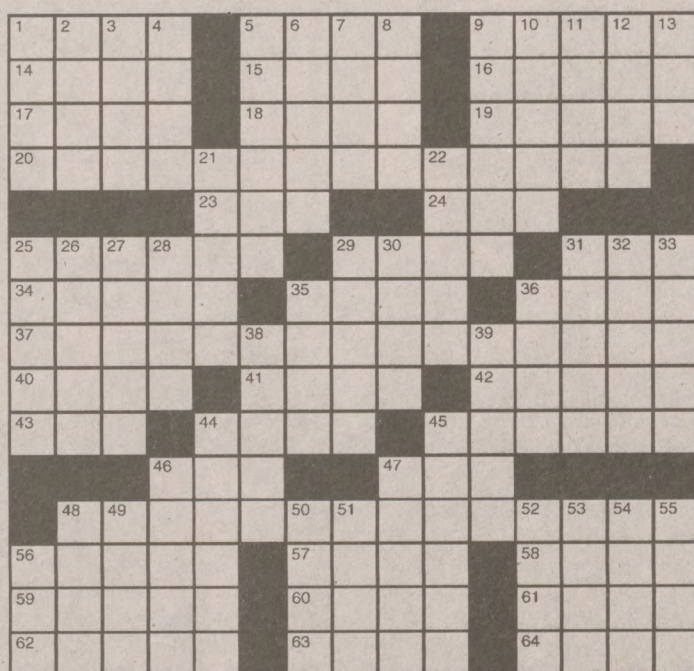
Crossword puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 Increase
- 5 Wound growth
- 9 Primary
- 14 Comic Johnson
- 15 Sea eagle
- 16 Ms. Rogers St. Johns
- 17 Cake finisher
- 18 Top-rated
- 19 Two-legged support
- 20 Stunned in Chicago?
- 23 Do something
- 24 Solidify
- 25 Speak with many digressions
- 29 New York nine
- 31 Glove-box item
- 34 Nymph in Greek myth
- 35 Tex-Mex item
- 36 Medal of Honor recipient
- 37 Stunned at Scrabble?
- 40 ___ qua non
- 41 Follow closely
- 42 Track events
- 43 Author of "The Daughter of Time"
- 44 Poet Teasdale
- 45 Element 53
- 46 Family girl
- 47 Dancer Miller
- 48 Stunned in the NBA?
- 56 Chinese cuisine
- 57 Art Deco artist
- 58 Threesome
- 59 Overhead

DOWN

- 60 Highest cards
- 61 Touched down
- 62 "Luncheon on the Grass" painter
- 63 Trading place
- 64 Stockings
- 1 Gallop or trot
- 2 Keystone site
- 3 Roman way
- 4 Roman tyrant
- 5 Spirit-raising occasion?
- 6 Tenant farm in Scotland
- 7 ___ Domini
- 8 Pilsener or porter
- 9 Moral tales
- 10 Dimwit
- 11 Collection biz
- 12 Sty fare
- 13 Small amount
- 21 Ralph ___ Emerson
- 22 Financier John Jacob
- 25 Cook in an oven
- 26 Bandleader Shaw
- 27 First president of the AFL-CIO
- 28 Make a bundle
- 29 Crime syndicate
- 30 Environmental sci.
- 31 Thanks, Jacques
- 32 Tennyson's "Enoch ___"
- 33 Marshal's band
- 35 Russian ruler
- 36 Lew of tennis
- 38 Secret supply



By Philip J. Anderson

2/23/05

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

GAIN SCAB FIRST
ARTE ERNE ADELA
ICER AONE BIPOD
THROWN FOR A LOOP
ACT SET
RAMBLE METS MAP
OREAD TACO HERO
ATALOSS FORWORDS
SINE TAIL RACES
TEY SARA IODINE
SIS ANN
CAUGHT OFF GUARD
HUNAN ERTE TRIO
ABOVE ACES ALIT
MANET MART HOSE

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2/24/05

Horoscopes

By LINDA C. BLACK
TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES

Today's Birthday (02-23-05)

An unusual assignment pays well, and helps you develop the skills that lead to the perfect career for you. Have faith, and take control.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today is a 6: You'll be on a neatness rampage for the next couple of days. Be careful not to make a bigger mess than you had when you started.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Today is a 7: The main way to get your creative Muse to show up is to tell a joke. Your sense of humor helps you find the answer to a tough question.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Today is a 7: Conditions are not easy for romance, but it does seem to be that you could get a job that pays more. Is a move required? Only go if you must.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Today is a 7: You're about to be held accountable for every little thing you've said or done in the past few weeks. Stand up for the truth, and you're fine.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today is a 6: Indulge in something to help you get more exercise while you're in your own home. You'll get a good deal, or maybe find it in your own attic or garage.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Today is a 7: A brilliant insight propels you and your team in the right direction. You may not have had the original idea, but you're the one who makes it happen.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Today is a 6: Accept the applause for a job well done, and then learn to delegate. A chore you find extremely tedious will be fun for someone else.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Today is a 6: Once you get the deal settled, you'll have more time to relax. Don't do that before the check clears, however. There'll be last-minute complications.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) Today is an 8: While you're in the mood, learn how to be more practical. You can fix up your place yourself, and save a lot of money.

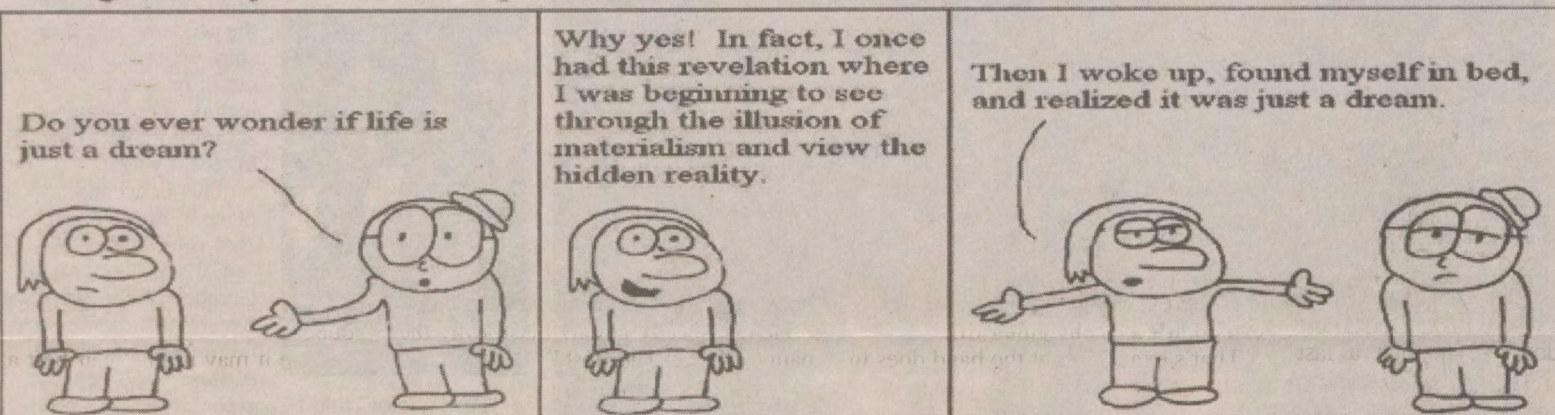
Cancer (June 22-July 22) Today is a 6: It's good to get yourself a treat every once in a while, but don't spend so much that you have to take an extra job to pay for it. Not unless, of course, it's something you really want!

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Today is a 7: You'll have to focus more attention on work for a while. The more you do, the more you make, and that is a good plan.

Comic

Intelligent Idiocy

www.geocities.com/researcher965/home.html



By John Muller

SENIOR DAY AT THE 'O'RENA

FEBRUARY 26TH

WBB vs. IUPUI

3:30PM

ASHLEY HOLENKA

AMANDA BATCHA

LEIGH TULLY

RAWLE MARSHALL

CORTNEY SCOTT

DEMARCUS ISHMEAL

PIERRE DUKES

PETRA MANAKOVA

MBB vs. IUPUI

6PM

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THE CONTENDERS

BY CHRIS HEWITT
Knight Ridder Newspapers

It's going down to the wire.

This year's Oscar races are more wide-open than they've been in recent years, with some big questions affecting the outcomes:

Why did The New York Times decide to attempt to influence Oscar voting by printing an anti-"Sideways," pro-"Million Dollar Baby" screed, and how effective will it be?

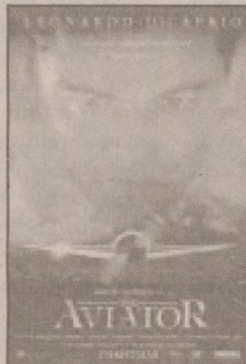
Will it bother Oscar voters that a Controversial Issue in "Baby" has drawn some criticism?

On its way to becoming the highest-grossing best picture contender this year, "The Aviator" — directed by the Susan Lucci of the Oscars, Martin Scorsese — has begun to pick away at the assumption that "Million Dollar Baby" will win. Can it go the distance?

PICTURE

It's a two-movie race between "The Aviator" and "Million Dollar Baby," both of which have points in their favor.

"Aviator" is a long, expensive, well-crafted epic, exactly the kind of movie that usually wins



best picture (it's the anti-"Sideways," which is why that low-key comedy won't fly). But does anyone in Hollywood love it? I'm thinking not, and I know there's not much love for "Finding Neverland" or for "Ray," which is all about Jamie Foxx.

"Million Dollar Baby" on the other hand? People love it, and they love Clint Eastwood, and they feel like they owe him after bypassing "Mystic River" last year, when they had a bad case of troll fever.

WILL WIN: "Million Dollar Baby"
SHOULD WIN: "Sideways"

DIRECTOR

If voters want to give Alexander Payne an award, it'll be for writing "Sideways," not directing it. Same goes for Mike Leigh's "Vera Drake."

The talk is that Taylor Hackford is not well-liked in Hollywood, and, whether or not that's true, his "Ray" has lots of flaws, most of them attributable to him. So, no.

Either Martin Scorsese ("The Aviator") or Clint Eastwood ("Million Dollar Baby") could win, and it would be great if it were Scorsese because then we wouldn't have to listen to any more of the how-could-Scorsese-have-lost-to-Robert-Redford/Kevin-Costner/Fill-in-the-Blank whining that dogs Scorsese. Plus, "The Aviator" is a director's movie, a triumph of flash and craft over a dodgy screenplay. But look at it this way: Scorsese's best movies were 20 years ago. Eastwood is doing his best work right now. How can you not give it to Eastwood?

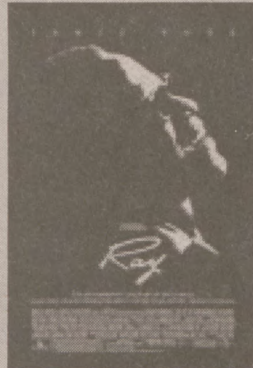
WILL WIN: Clint Eastwood
SHOULD WIN: Martin Scorsese

ACTOR

No one else needs to get sweaty-palmed while waiting for Charlize Theron to read the name on the "Best Actor" envelope. Not Don Cheadle ("Hotel Rwanda"), whose nomination is a "Welcome to the club. We plan to nominate you again in the future, when we're more likely to get serious about letting you win" nomination. Not Leonardo DiCaprio ("The Aviator"), who will be harmed by whispering that he's pretty good in the movie but miscast. And especially not Johnny Depp, who must be incredibly popular with the Academy membership to snag a nomination for his lightweight performance in "Finding Neverland."

Timing is everything in the Oscars, and first-time contender Jamie Foxx ("Ray") has it. If he had been nominated in a year when his competition included a deserving, several-times-nominated veteran who is due an award (like Sean Penn last year), this category would be tough to win. The only veteran among the nominees is Clint Eastwood, who's a virgin in this category and has a better shot at best picture and best director. So feel free to bet the kids' college fund on Foxx.

WILL WIN: Jamie Foxx
SHOULD WIN: Jamie Foxx



ACTRESS

You can eliminate two of the not-really-contenders right off the bat. Kate Winslet's grace and subtlety is beloved by Oscar voters, but the paucity of nominations for her film, "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" (which earned only two), suggests that it isn't. Winslet is only 29, and if she either gains or drops 30 pounds for her next role — whatever it is — she's a lock.

Catalina Sandino Moreno ("Maria Full of Grace") is in a movie nobody saw that would gross out the academy's many older members if they did see it. (Just try to picture Mickey Rooney voting for a pregnant drug-smuggler who swallows heroin and sneaks it into the United States.) The same voters probably also won't dig this year's most dazzling contender, Imelda Staunton in "Vera Drake," because of the film's touchy subject of abortion.

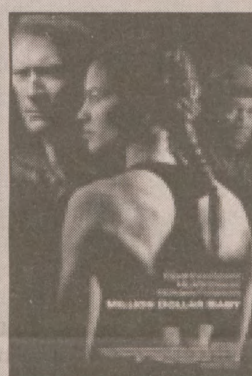
Now to the best bets: Older voters are probably gaga over Annette Bening's big, old-fashioned star performance as an actress in "Being Julia."

But movies as slight as "Being Julia" do not usually win Oscars. That should give the edge to Hilary Swank's attention-getting work in "Million Dollar Baby." Swank will win, unless voters decide it's unseemly to give a second Oscar to a woman who's only 30 and who has made only two decent movies. That's where Bening could come in.

WILL WIN: Hilary Swank
SHOULD WIN: Kate Winslet

SUPPORTING ACTOR

The category that's usually the strongest is surprisingly weak this year. Maybe that's an indication of changes within the academy membership, which has gone out of its way to include more younger actors among its ranks in recent years.



This is usually a place to honor a grizzled veteran, but this year's grizzliest, James Garner in "The Notebook," didn't get nominated, and Alan Alda, is so forgettable

in "The Aviator" that I keep forgetting he's nominated. So, let's look at the youngsters. Clive Owen, whose potty-mouthed lothario character probably had conservative Oscar voters burning their complimentary DVD copies of "Closer," is a long shot. And Jamie Foxx, while terrific in "Collateral," would have to make history to take two acting awards in one year — a "Ray" statuette is much more likely for him.

At one point, Thomas Haden Church was the front-runner for "Sideways," but that movie has lost steam while "Million Dollar Baby" has started cooking with gas. Unfortunately, it's the least interesting performance the great Morgan Freeman has given, but he'll probably win for "Baby," anyway.

WILL WIN: Morgan Freeman
SHOULD WIN: Clive Owen

SUPPORTING ACTRESS

This is the category that could cost you your office pool. It's the toughest one to call this year, with not a loser in the bunch.

Well, actually, there will be four losers, at least one of whom will be Laura Linney in "Kinsey." Oscar voters would love to give her one of the gold guys, but it won't be for a movie that has huge close-ups of private parts in it.

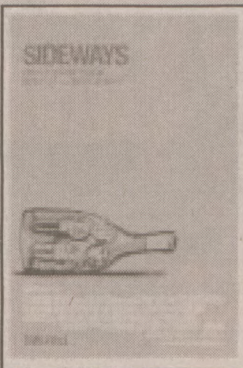
Although she won the Screen Actors Guild award for "The Aviator," Cate Blanchett needn't feel bad if she doesn't win an Oscar; it'll be just her second loss while Katharine Hepburn, whom she plays, lost eight.

Sophie Okonedo, from "Hotel Rwanda," is not considered a front-runner, but I like her chances to sneak up on the leaders.

And Natalie Portman ("Closer") fits the profile that frequently wins this category — like Juliette Binoche and Marisa Tomei, she's an ingénue with a solid resume — but her movie has no support outside the acting branch of the Academy.

That leaves Virginia Madsen, who would have been a shoo-in if voting had occurred two months ago before the "Sideways" backlash hit. I'm still inclined to think it'll be 41-year-old Madsen, whose peers will like the chance to reward her for sticking it out in a business that considers women of her age elderly.

WILL WIN: Virginia Madsen
SHOULD WIN: Virginia Madsen



MAKE YOUR PREDICTIONS

BEST PICTURE: ■ "The Aviator" ■ "Finding Neverland" ■ "Million Dollar Baby" ■ "Ray" ■ "Sideways"

BEST DIRECTOR: ■ Clint Eastwood ■ Taylor Hackford ■ Mike Leigh ■ Alexander Payne ■ Martin Scorsese

BEST LEADING ACTOR: ■ Don Cheadle ■ Johnny Depp ■ Leonardo DiCaprio ■ Clint Eastwood ■ Jamie Foxx

BEST LEADING ACTRESS: ■ Annette Bening ■ Catalina Sandino Moreno ■ Imelda Staunton ■ Hilary Swank ■ Kate Winslet

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR: ■ Alan Alda ■ Thomas Haden Church ■ Jamie Foxx ■ Morgan Freeman ■ Clive Owen

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS: ■ Cate Blanchett ■ Laura Linney ■ Virginia Madsen ■ Sophie Okonedo ■ Natalie Portman

February 23, 2005

Senior leads team

BY DAVE PEMBERTON
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

OU senior forward Cortney Scott has come a long way since he first stepped foot on OU's campus four years ago.

Being a father figure for his teammates and working on his master's degree are things Scott never really envisioned when he first enrolled at OU.

Scott admits he, like most star athletes coming out of high school, thought he would play a couple of years in college and then play professionally.

When Scott realized that might not be the case, he made it a point to change his ways.

Not only did he earn his bachelor's degree early, but he did it as an honor student.

"At first it really didn't hit me until my dad called and told me I was the first male in the family to graduate from college. That really touched me," Scott said.

"When I walked across the stage I was just like, 'Wow, I did it.' That was something I never thought I was going to do. It's a great accomplishment for me and the program. It's good for the younger guys to see."

Scott is always looking to set an example for his younger teammates, and it has earned him the nickname 'Pops.'

Scott doesn't mind the nickname, and said he enjoys his relationships with his teammates more than anything.

"I grew up with four sisters. Three older and one younger, and I didn't have any brothers.

"I never knew what it was like to have a brother in my life, and now these guys are my brothers," Scott said.

There is nothing more important to Scott than family.

Scott credits his father and their relationship for all of his success.

"My dad is everything. I have a tattoo for the man. He's been here through everything. He's my shining star. He motivates me more than anything," Scott said. "My dad has been my inspiration."

Recently, Scott has been reunited with his mother, who left when he was two.

Scott says he was so young when his mother left it was hard for him to understand, and it is still hard for him today.

"I'm still in the recovery stage because for 20 years of my life, she has been gone," Scott said. "I'm glad we have talked because I got that off my chest."

"I forgive her because whatever happened, happened. It's over and done with, and I just want to move on in life."

As the end of Scott's career at OU comes closer, he wants to make sure he has no regrets.

"Everyone that plays basketball always says when it ends it's so hard. When it ends, you always want to go back. I'm just trying to really enjoy it. I can't look ahead. I don't have next year, I have this year. I want to know I left everything out on the court. My heart, body, soul, everything."

His efforts on the court have made OU head coach Greg Kampe label Scott, 'Mr. Consistent.'

"He exemplifies what I want in a basketball player who wears a uniform that says Oakland on it," Kampe said.

After he leaves OU, Scott is not sure what he is going to do. He has talked about playing basketball professionally, and Kampe has even talked about the possibility of Scott playing professionally football as a tight end.

No matter what Scott decides to do, it is clear he made the most of his years at OU. Scott has put himself in a great position to succeed both on and off the court.



Senior forward Cortney Scott fights for a basket in the post during the OU men's basketball team's game against Oral Roberts University last Wednesday night in the Grizzlies' home court, the O'Rena.

Bob Knoska/The Oakland Post

COLUMN

Can't just blame the coach



BRENDAN J. STEVENS

Sports Editor

There is no arguing against the disappointment that has been the OU men's basketball team this season.

But there is reason to believe that head coach Greg Kampe should not take the full brunt of the blame for the team's struggles.

As the coach, there is no doubt that he should absorb the attention for the lackluster record the Grizzlies have put up this year. But with closer examination, the true flaws can be seen.

No center

Both psychologically and physically, the men have struggled to find an identity all year long. Senior swingman Rawle Marshall may be the most athletically-gifted player to ever adorn a Grizzly or Pioneer uniform, but he ranks in the bottom five when it comes to motivation.

When Marshall plays with fire, there is no one in the Mid-Con and few in the country that can shut him down. But, on most nights he looks like a player who hits an off/on switch only when he feels like it.

If Marshall ever found a way to keep his game in high gear, the offense could center on him, and the whole team would benefit as opponents were forced to figure out how to stop him.

Marshall has shown flashes of brilliance but has never maintained it.

Senior forward Cortney Scott is one of the most well-respected players in college basketball. He has the talent, the work ethic and attitude to be a great player.

He is just missing the size.

While Scott has shown he can consistently put up points in the post, and is easily one of the top 10 most talented players in OU history, his presence merely highlights the need for a true power forward or center.

Sophomore David Ritzema is the only true center on the team at 6-foot-10 and is the tallest player on the team by three inches, but he is averaging only 5.3 minutes per game.

That means for 35 minutes of the game, the tallest player on the floor for OU is only 6-foot-7.

Granted, not every team has a 7-footer at its disposal, but the Grizzlies are obviously lacking a true inside presence.

Transferring away

The Grizzlies have reeled in some of the program's most talented players by coaxing them to transfer to OU from bigger schools by giving them the chance to play significant minutes. But the same philosophy has worked against the team.

Courtney Williams, a versatile 6-foot-9 forward, transferred to Schoolcraft Community College, a junior college, after last season with hopes of getting picked up by a major Div. I university without losing a year of playing time by having to sit out one season.

So, while the system works for them, the Grizzlies also suffer from being a stepping stone for some players.

Being in Division I

The transition has yet to pay dividends for OU, financially or otherwise.

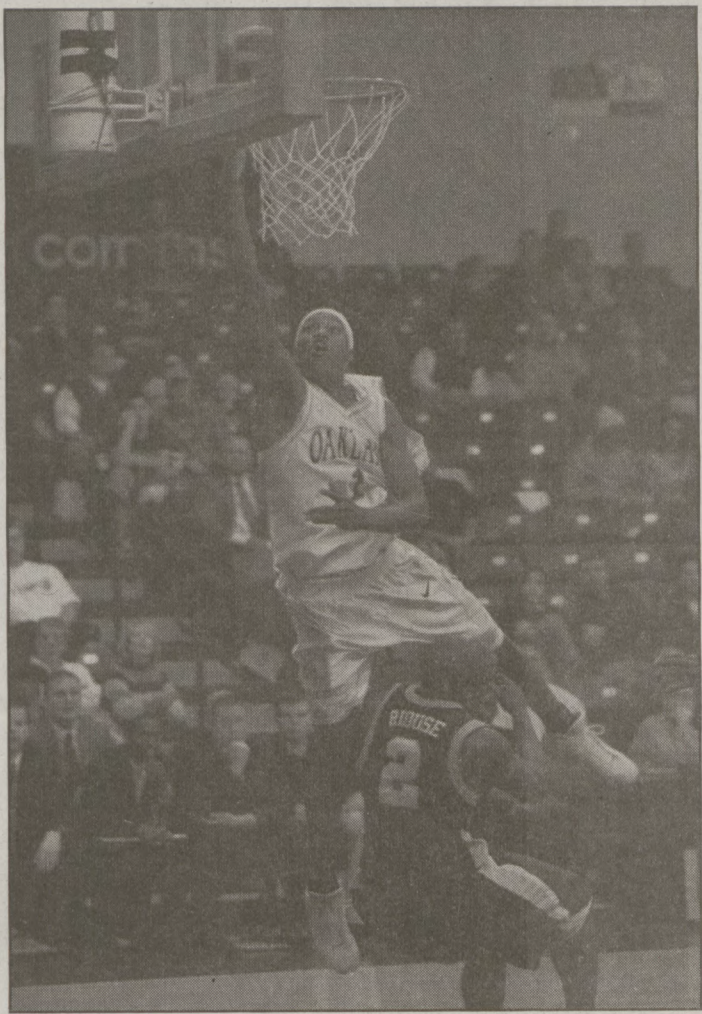
Although it would be tough to take the step backward and return to Div. II, it is necessary for OU to look at some creative ways of making this university a place student-athletes want to attend.

Whether it is a Div. I hockey program, a first-class soccer/baseball stadium or landing a few top-tier recruits, something has to happen.

Until the next step is taken, as a certain Oakland Press columnist said, it will always be about next year.

Mid-Con's best defeat men

Senior forward Rawle Marshall avoids a defender to sink a layup during the OU men's basketball team's loss to Oral Roberts University last Wednesday night in the O'Rena.



Bob Knoska/The Oakland Post

BY DAVE PEMBERTON
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

OU could not pull off back-to-back victories over the Mid-Con's top two teams.

The Golden Grizzlies fell to Oral Roberts University, 72-61, last Thursday at the O'Rena.

"We didn't play like we wanted to. Coming in, we knew the situation. We had a chance to beat back-to-back first place teams," said senior forward Rawle Marshall. "I think we were a little bit too excited. We were looking forward to knocking them off, and it didn't work out like that today."

Marshall led OU with 25 points, but shot 7-16 from the field and 7-12 from the free throw line.

"We didn't shoot the ball well and that was the difference in the game," said OU head coach Greg Kampe. "I told them to beat this team we can't shoot the ball at 34 percent. If we do that there's a chance we aren't going to beat anybody, and we surely are not going to beat the number one team in our league."

The low score is something positive the Grizzlies can take from the loss. Kampe said he thought his team defended well.

"We are trying to position ourselves so we can be competitive in March. We are trying to do some different things, and

we learned some things about ourselves tonight," Kampe said.

"I'm pleased with a lot of things we did. Did we win the basketball game? No. Did we have an opportunity to? I'm not sure at any point we had an opportunity to win."

The Grizzlies were not able to turn things around on Saturday, as they fell to Chicago University 73-62.

Marshall led OU with 23 points and seven rebounds.

Senior forward Cortney Scott added 18 points and seven rebounds.

No other Grizzly scored more than six points.

The Cougars' offense was more balanced, with four players scoring in double figures. They were led by Craig Franklin's 19 points.

Game Preview



Who: OU vs. Western Illinois
When: Feb. 23
Where: O'Rena
What: OU will look to end its two game losing streak against the Leathernecks. OU defeated Western 72-67 earlier this season.

Phoenix rise over Grizzlies

BY ALLISON BRUNNER
SENIOR NEWS WRITER

Wisconsin-Green Bay defeated OU's women's tennis team 5-2 in the Golden Grizzlies' first home match of the spring season Saturday at the Lifetime Fitness Center.

The Phoenix of WGB swept all three doubles matches to earn their first point of the match.

At second singles, freshman Teuta Luljguraj, gave OU one point on the scoreboard with her 6-2, 6-3 win.

Sophomore Jessica Erickson's fourth singles victory, 6-2, 7-5, came down to a 10-8 tiebreaker game.

The Golden Grizzlies do not have another match until March 23 when they take on the Titans of U of D Mercy.

Mid-Con Basketball Standings

MEN

Oral Roberts	11-2	21-5
UMKC	10-2	14-9
Valparaiso	10-4	14-13
IUPUI	8-5	14-10
Chicago State	6-7	7-16
Oakland	5-8	7-17
Southern Utah	5-10	12-14
Western Illinois	4-9	8-16
Centenary	1-13	3-22

WOMEN

Western Illinois	12-2	17-7
Oakland	10-4	18-7
Valparaiso	10-4	16-9
Oral Roberts	9-5	18-7
Chicago State	7-8	12-14
Southern Utah	6-8	10-15
UMKC	5-9	8-17
IUPUI	5-10	7-19
Centenary	0-14	1-23

The first record indicates the team's record in Mid-Con play, while the second shows the team's overall record.

Women looking for NIC four-peat

By DANA UTZ
SENIOR SPORTS WRITER

This week, OU will host eight other teams during the National Independent Championships.

The swimmers have had no dual meets the past few weeks in preparation for the championship, but have been working hard to be ready.

"The practices went well," head coach Pete Hovland said. "Everyone is relatively healthy and in great spirits."

Last year, the women's team three-peated as NIC champions and are hoping for a fourth consecutive victory this year.

"We have more swimmers qualified to go to the NIC this season," Hovland said. "We

have been strong in previous years and are hoping to swim to the best of our abilities and defend the championship title."

Some of the qualifying freshmen on the women's side are breastroker Kim Bacon, sprint freestyler Riley Rigoli and freestyler Carolyn Routh.

"All of these freshmen have played a major role this season with their wins this season," Hovland said. "I have high expectations for them."

Strong experienced swimmers will also be key in the Grizzlies' hopes of four-peating as NIC champions.

Junior Line Jensen is the team's strongest mid-distance freestyler, setting a new Mid-Con record in the 200-yard free style with a 1:52.19 at the con-

ference championships.

Jensen also records the squad's best times in both the 100-yard free and the 200-yard individual medley, as well as being a swimmer on three of the team's five relay events.

Another veteran who will lead OU is sophomore Melissa Jaeger, the team's butterfly swimmer. She has the squad's best times in both the 100- and 200-yard butterfly events.

Senior Karoline Freytag anchors the Grizzlies' distance races, holding OU's best times in the 500-, 1000- and 1650-yard free events.

Seniors Renee Green and Tara Berringer handle the backstroking duties, swimming the best times in the 100- and 200-yard events, respectively.

Junior Maria Musialczyk holds the top time in the 100-yard breaststroke and sophomore Amanda Burwell swam the best time in the 400-yard IM.

Every swimmer will have to put forth their best effort to hold onto the title.

This season the men's team has a small and young squad according to Hovland.

They have come in second place in the NICs for the past five years.

"The men are up against some outstanding competition," Hovland said. "The University of Hawaii is ranked in the top 25 in the nation, and Southern Methodist University is right outside that 25, but are considered just as talented as a ranked team."

"The team does have a ways to

go considering there is only one senior and two juniors, the rest are freshman," Hovland said.

"But they have been improving their swimming and performance up to this point."

Hovland has high expectations for freshman diver Ryan Kish as well as breastroker Zoltan Horvath and flyer and freestyler Chris Tansel who have swam extremely well this season.

OU will also need contributions from its upperclassmen to place well at the NIC.

Junior freestyler Eric Lynn, senior butterfly Blaine Dolcetti and junior backstroke and IMer Nick McCollum will all need to be at their best.

The NICs will be held February 23-26 at the OU Aquatics Center.

2005 NIC Schedule

Feb. 23-26

Wednesday-Saturday

Preliminary competition will begin at **11 a.m.** every day with finals competition taking place at **6 p.m.** each evening.

Club seizes title again

By BRENDAN J. STEVENS
SPORTS EDITOR

Two overtime games may have slowed the OU men's club hockey team, but didn't stop the Grizzlies.

Playing three games in two days, OU captured its second consecutive Great Midwest Hockey League tournament championship over the weekend.

With a first round win over Ferris State University, 11-3, the Grizzlies moved on to defeat Davenport University, 4-3, in the semifinals and Michigan State University, 6-5, in the title game.

Junior forward Ryan Teasdale netted three goals for the hat trick against FSU on Friday, to give him five goals in the team's last two games.

"I'm really happy to see Teasdale get back on track," assistant coach Sean Hogan said. "He will be a key cog if we are to repeat as national champions."

Sophomore forward Will McMahon and senior forward Dan Olesky each recorded three points in the lop-sided victory.

The Grizzlies' grueling Saturday began with a match up against rival Davenport.

Backstopped by the play of freshman goaltender Chris Joswiak, OU fought off the Panthers' offensive onslaught to force the game into overtime.

After watching Davenport control the third period, the Grizzlies found a way to regain the momentum for the overtime victory.

With more than two minutes remaining in the overtime period, a scoring chance by sophomore Tom Schaffler found the back of the net and gave OU the win.

Later that evening, the Grizzlies faced off against the GMHL regular season champions, the Spartans, with the league's tournament title at stake.

MSU jumped out to an early 2-0 lead, but OU fought its way back into the game. Goals from senior forward Ron Teasdale and McMahon knotted the score at two.

Once again trailing, the Grizzlies clawed their way back with two unanswered goals to gain the lead in the second period.

A goal by hot-handed Ryan Teasdale tied the game and junior defenseman



Photo courtesy of Michigan State University Club Hockey
Freshman OU goaltender Chris Joswiak braces for the Michigan State University offense in the Great Midwest Hockey League tournament championship on Saturday.

B.J. Belliotti gave OU the lead going into the second intermission with a power-play tally.

With the championship within sight, the Grizzlies extended their advantage on junior defenseman Mike Ryan's first goal of the tournament.

But OU's offense went cold for the remainder of the third period, and the Spartans took advantage by scoring two unanswered goals to tie the game at five at the end of regulation.

It was the Grizzlies' second overtime contest in as many games, but excuses would not be accepted.

"I think it's rather demanding of the league to schedule two games at this level in the same day, let alone playoff-intensity games," Hogan said.

"However, I do understand that because of travel requirements with Indiana University and (the University of) Miami of Ohio, it's difficult not to have to do so."

OU put any doubts to rest as to which team was the best in the GMHL when senior forward Ron Kolito netted the game-winner to crown the Grizzlies back-to-back GMHL tournament champions.

"I couldn't be any more proud of our

guys. They really dug down deep to win two overtime games in the same day," Hogan said. "This really bodes well to build momentum into the national tournament."

Head coach Craig Furstenu said his team is playing at its highest level.

"I really like the way our team is shaping up here in the weeks prior to Nationals," he said. "From our goaltending to our defense, on up to the forwards, everyone is playing their best hockey right now."

NOTEBOOK:

- With the overtime victory over the Spartans, OU became the first team to repeat as GHML champions. Last season, the Grizzlies earned the distinction of being the first team to win the GHML regular season and tournament titles.

- McMahon finished the season as OU's leading scorer, recording 62 points in 26 games.

- With the national tournament schedule released, the Grizzlies will open at 6 p.m. against Siena College on Wednesday, March 2 at the ONYX in Rochester. Tickets are \$5.

Grizzlies bounce back after difficult loss

Game Preview



Who: OU (18-7, 10-4 Mid-Con) vs. IUPUI (7-19, 5-10) & OU vs. Western Illinois University (17-7, 12-2)
When: Feb. 26 & 28
Where: O'Rena

What: The Golden Grizzlies will look to close out their regular season with games against two Mid-Con teams. Monday's game against WIU could result in a share of the league title.

By BRENDAN J. STEVENS
SPORTS EDITOR

With only two games remaining in the regular season, the OU women's basketball team avoided a letdown.

Chicago State University rallied from a late-game deficit to defeat the Golden Grizzlies, 62-60, on Saturday, but OU rebounded with a 72-50 win over Centenary College on Monday.

The Grizzlies now sit in a tie for second place in the Mid-Con with Valparaiso University with a 10-4 record in the conference.

Saturday afternoon against the Cougars, OU held a five-point lead with more than three minutes remaining in regulation.

After two free throws by senior center Petra Manakova, OU

held a five-point advantage, however, the Grizzly offense went cold.

While CSU scored on back-to-back possessions to pull within one point, OU missed its next three shot attempts.

With a chance to extend the lead to three points, senior forward Amanda Batcha stepped to the free throw line.

Batcha knocked her first shot from the charity stripe, but a mental lapse by Manakova, who was called for a lane violation, nullified Batcha's second free throw attempt.

On the Cougars' next possession, an unlikely hero, junior CSU forward Renada Blackburn, hit just her seventh three-pointer of the season to give her team a one-point lead.

A turnover on the Grizzlies' subsequent possession and a made free throw by Cougar junior guard Tina Hill sealed the 62-60 win for CSU.

Junior guard Jayme Wilson led OU in scoring with 16 points, followed closely by Manakova's 15 points and sophomore forward Nicole Piggott's 12.

Saturday against Centenary, the Grizzlies rediscovered their winning ways in a 22-point route.

OU jumped out to an early lead and never looked back, holding the Ladies to only 17 points in the first half while putting 43 points on the board itself.

Even with the Grizzly reserves playing significant minutes, OU managed to maintain its 20+ point lead in the second half.

Wilson recorded more points

than minutes played while finishing as the game's leading scorer.

In 20 minutes of action, Wilson tallied 21 points, three assists and two rebounds.

Junior guard Anne Hafeli also contributed offensively while playing considerably less than usual. She scored 17 points in 22 minutes of playing time.

Also playing 22 minutes, Piggott scored 10 points as the only other Grizzly in double figures.

Junior transfer forward Lakeshia White put up nine points in a season-high 28 minutes.

Batcha only scored five points, but grabbed a game-high 13 rebounds and dished out a career-high eight assists in the win.

OU now turns its attention to the final regular season contests

before the Mid-Con Conference Tournament, where a bid in the NCAA Tournament will be on the line.

First on the docket is a 3:30 p.m. tip off against IUPUI at the O'Rena.

OU will wrap up its regular season with a game against first-place Western Illinois University at 7 p.m. on Monday, also in the O'Rena.

If the Westerwinds lose to Centenary on Saturday, Monday's game against the Grizzlies will decide whether WIU shares the Mid-Con regular season title or reigns alone.

In the teams' meeting earlier this season, the Westerwinds pulled off a 56-52 win on their home court.