

# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

October 10, 2007

Volume 33, Number 36

## Making headlines

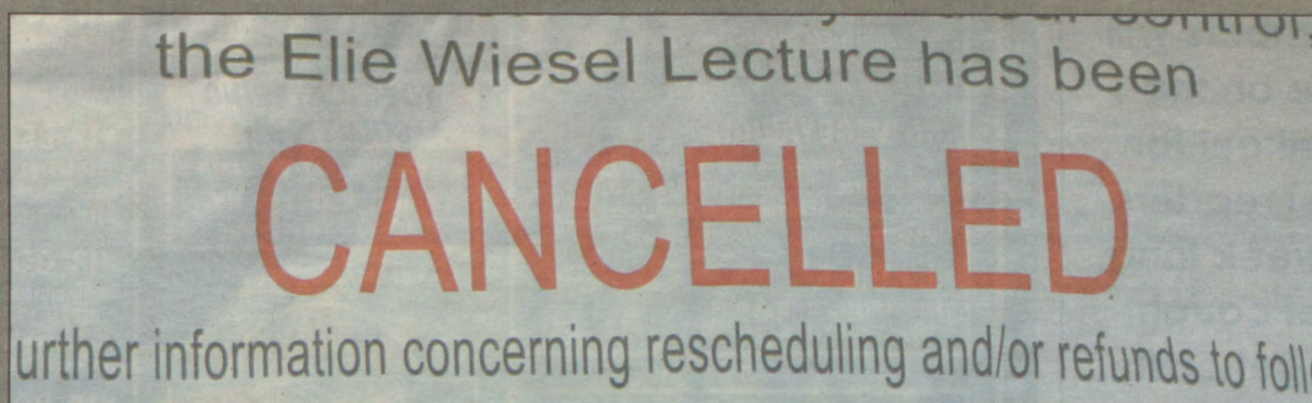
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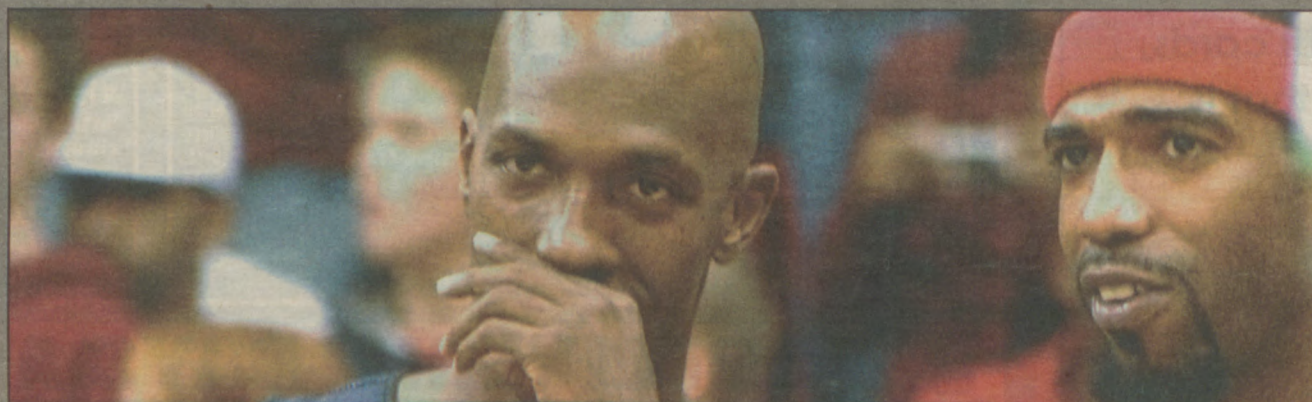
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# THIS WEEK 10.10.07

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OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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## Perspectives page 4

OUSC President Rob Meyer states his case for relocating Career Services.



## Campus page 6

Nobel Peace Prize recipient Elie Wiesel unable to make planned lecture at OU. Plus, check out a preview of Meadow Brook's upcoming theatre productions.



## Local page 10

Republican presidential candidates debate in Dearborn, while five Democratic candidates bow out of Michigan's primary.



## The Mix page 12

Check out what's new with The Mix. Plus, get the scoop on graduate school.



## you page 14

Learn how to prevent online credit card fraud. Plus, an OU student shares her Ramadan experience.



## Sports page 16

The Detroit Pistons hold open practice in the O'rena. Plus, women's soccer wins a pair at home.



## the Scene page 20

Aspiring musician and OU student Courtney Robb shares her story. Check out a review of The Hills bar and grille.



## MOUTHING OFF page 22

An analysis of your classroom-pestering peers. And, find out some things about America they didn't teach in you elementary school.



## Nation | World page 24

Britain's prime minister announces his troops will be cut to 2,500 in Iraq next spring. Plus, track star Marion Jones admits to steroid use.

Check out new  
features in The Mix!

Word of the Week  
increase your vocabulary in minutes

"The buzz on"  
topics you should know about in  
200 words or less



# Perspectives

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www.oaklandpostonline.com

October 10, 2007

## STAFF EDITORIAL

### History can prove to be a valuable guide

As we continue on our collective trek, oftentimes we need some support. What is humanity all about?

A large part of the answer is in the past. We can learn essential truths by understanding history, both the good and bad.

We can understand humanity as a whole.

It has established morals, philosophy, language and advanced technology.

It has achieved incomparable levels of nurturing its kind. It is rational. It is spiritual. It is creative.

It boasts a retinue of amazing names: Bach, Shakespeare, Einstein, Socrates.

This is the same group that is perpetually in a state of war. Through the ages, members of humanity have hated and destroyed.

It is a group that borders on self-destruction.

Unfortunately, those in its membership also include Hitler, Genghis Kahn, Stalin, Attila the Hun. It has produced countless bigots, murderers, and tyrants.

When our group is good, we are really, really good. When our group is bad, we are really, really bad.

We have crucified prophets and lovers and glorified crooks and devils.

Many times it feels as if, like the Rolling Stones say: "Every cop is a criminal, and all the sinners, saints."

Regardless of our record, one thing has remained constant.

Our basic human nature has remained the same. There are timeless qualities that have always been present. With these, we have in some respects improved, and at other times regressed.

On the positive, we can appreciate the emotive words and phrases of those long past who have touched upon these common bonds. True and lost love. A sense of humor. The joy of success.

We can turn to history to provide us with the blueprints to this success.

On the opposite side of the coin, we still fight, hate, and, at times, restrict people from just being as they want. There is still greed, pervers-

sion, and gluttony. With all of our progress, we have not fully understood liberty or equality. We forget that we are all in this together.

Woody Guthrie once sang that some of us are still "blowin' down that old, dusty road."

We still want "to go where the water tastes like wine."

There are some timeless problems that Johnny Cash lamented "need changing everywhere you go."

History is dressed in black as a constant reminder: humanity has always had the blues.

The best we can do is remain in touch with our triumphs and our failures, and dig into history. History is our tour guide to the possibilities of what the options are. We should continue to recognize the sacrifice and strife of those long before us.

We should remain aware of the atrocities of the past. It may not be attractive, but we must keep in mind that humanity is capable of sinisterly stabbing out Gloucester's eyes.

Remember that humanity has a dark underside that is a force to be reckoned with. Also, recall the extraordinary efforts of those who have cared and understood the potential human beings can reach when operating at the highest ability.

Look back to those in history who have stood neck deep in the worst of humanity and have grasped for breath until their end.

And at this point, the cycle shows that others ultimately take the torch and continue onward. The cycle teaches us that their end is not the end.

In this sense, history is our greatest ally — it gives us hope, courage and knowledge.

Understandably, some have given up hope. Misanthropy and nihilism seem like reasonable alternatives. Perhaps the world is evil. Perhaps everything's disintegrating.

But, if history says anything, there is a push-pull, and those with cynical perspectives ignore the bigger picture.

So, let us not forget this bigger picture. Recall, learn and live.



PAT BAGLEY/Cagle Cartoons

### Democrats and Republicans finally unite over something...

**W**hat do you think? Have a news tip?

Send your comments to  
The Oakland Post.

By e-mail:

editor@oakpostonline.com

By mail:

Letter to the Editor  
The Oakland Post  
61 Oakland Center  
Rochester, MI 48309

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

## CORRECTIONS CORNER

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

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

*— The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States*



# Four on Four

four panelists share their take on four topics



**Kendra Marks**  
Senior, Linguistics  
Major



**Faith Richardson**  
Freshman, Undecided  
Major



**Russel Swanson**  
Junior, Secondary  
Education Major



**Camaren Stebila**  
Freshman, Political  
Science Major

Are there any campus improvements that you would like to see done this year?

I hear a lot of people complaining about financial aid, and getting accurate financial information.

I don't have any complaints. I think it's really nice, actually.

The cafeteria serves prison food here. I don't even eat here anymore.

Less political persuasion by professors during lectures.

If you could ask Oakland University President Gary Russi one question, what would it be?

How often is a large tuition increase going to happen? It seems like a lot of students are struggling financially and it's relevant to the OU student body.

I'd like to know what he does, exactly — what all of his duties are.

Politics is politics, and I don't ask questions.

I'd ask why our math teachers don't speak better English; honestly.

The weather this month has been uncharacteristically hot. Do you think it will have any effects on the winter season?

I think it bodes for a more mild winter, but I could be wrong.

Big time! It's going to be either very cold or very warm, but definitely not normal.

Of course it will. I'm from California, and even there it's getting warmer and warmer. Something is happening.

Winter is going to come no matter what. I don't think it will be affected.

Do you think torture of terrorist detainees is permissible?

Most human rights experts would agree that you shouldn't, but there's always the "ticking time bomb" situation, so it's hard to say.

If they are proven to be a terrorist, it's OK. It's needed to protect citizens. We have to be prepared.

Nope. It's inhumane. When we do it, we become one of them.

Yes, if we're going to torture a terrorist in order to save innocent American lives.

## OUSC President: Career Services needs relocation

### Guest Column

**Rob Meyer**  
Student Body  
President



Graduation. I can bet you that a majority of us do not even have a clue as to what will happen in our lives after this event.

Where will I get a job? Will I even get a job? Should I start looking for an internship now?

These are all questions that we ponder

as we progress through our educational career.

Oakland University Student Congress is here to back you up and help prepare you for graduation; but we need your support, first.

Career Services. I bet it sounds familiar, but have you actually used it before?

Career Services, designed to "provide students, alumni and employers comprehensive employment resources including advising, training, employer relations, job development and technology resulting in paid experiential and professional employment opportunities," is not used to its fullest capacity by Oakland students.

Nowadays, many majors require students to complete some type of intern-

ship or co-op before graduating.

Career Services is the place on campus that will aid you in finding these opportunities.

But you're probably thinking, "Where is it?"

It is actually inconveniently located on the other side of Bear Lake, in the West Vandenberg residence hall.

Although it is conducive for students who live in the residence halls to have such a great amenity at home, it is not accommodating for the other 16,000 students who may have never walked to that side of campus before.

Career Services needs to be centrally located on campus, where the highest traffic occurs.

Inside of North Foundation would be

the ideal location.

Being centrally located will allow students to become more aware of Career Services and utilize it to their advantage. After all, aren't we here to eventually get a career?

Student Congress will be working more with Career Services this year to help aid students in preparation for graduation.

We are asking for your support in getting Career Services moved over from the residence halls and into a more practical location.

If you could, please write letters of support and drop them off at the Student Congress office, which is located in the lower level of the Oakland Center.

I can be reached at 248-370-4292, or at [rjmeyer@oakland.edu](mailto:rjmeyer@oakland.edu).



## Wiesel lecture postponed

*Weather prevents travel, but hopes remain high for rescheduling*

By KELLY KOZLOWSKI  
Editor in Chief

The Holocaust broke a great number of people. Many individuals shrank physically, mentally and emotionally. Many lost the battle of perseverance.

But there were those who survived. Men and women whose passion, persistence and heart prevailed in the face of horrible odds.

Elie Wiesel was one of them — one of the survivors, and subsequently one of humanity's teachers.

Author of more than 40 books, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986, honorary knight and political activist, Wiesel has left his imprint in more areas of culture than many people aspire to.

He is perhaps most famously known for composing "Night," the first in a series of three novels that explore the Holocaust and life after it.

Oakland University was scheduled to host Wiesel as a special guest lecturer Tuesday, Oct. 9 at the O'Rena.

But weather conditions prevented Wiesel from making the trip from Boston to Detroit, and the event was postponed.

According to Paul Franklin, campus programs coordinator, Wiesel was en route to Detroit as scheduled when his plane developed mechanical and pressure problems.

Franklin said Wiesel's plane was forced to return to Boston, and Wiesel then boarded a private plane to Detroit. Weather conditions prohibited the second plane from taking off for at least an hour.

According to Provost Virinder Moudgil, trustee Henry Baskin made the decision to reschedule the lecture.

"We are very delighted that Professor Wiesel is healthy and safe," Moudgil said. "[That] is more of our concern than events surrounding his visit."

Moudgil delivered the news of the cancellation to a group of nearly 50 special guests invited to a private dinner at Meadow Brook Hall prior to the lecture.

"I hope that the influence of nature on tonight's event only reinvigorates interest and support of our friends to come



The O'Rena had been prepped to hold more than 1,000 people Oct. 9 for a lecture that was to be given by world renowned humanitarian Elie Wiesel.

back in even larger numbers when we reschedule," Moudgil said.

Many shared Moudgil's concern for Wiesel's safety and voiced high expectations for the rescheduled event.

"I hear that he's a great speaker," said Jereme Goodman, president of Jewish Student Organization at OU. "It would be great to see him. I never thought I would've had the chance to meet him."

Bernard Kent, one of many OU alumni at the dinner, stressed the significance of inviting such a high-caliber guest to OU.

"There is a diminishing number of Holocaust survivors," Kent said. "The students should be able to hear someone as eloquent and accomplished [as Elie

Wiesel] to help them understand the Holocaust and teach them about intolerance."

Although dinner guests did not have the opportunity to dine with Wiesel, they were treated to brief orations from Moudgil, Baskin, Student Program Board Executive Mia Evans and key contributor to Judaic studies, Bob Schostak.

Schostak took the chance to inform listeners of OU's plans to send faculty members to Israel to establish a partnership with a university there, allowing OU students to study in Israel.

While the event rescheduling may be inconvenient for patrons, it presents major obstacles for the Student Life

Lecture Board. The board sponsored the event, and according to Franklin, most of the costs involved, including rentals, advertising and security, will have to be paid in full a second time.

The Center for Student Activities ticket window also may encounter challenges. Patrons can receive a refund or trade in tickets for passes to the rescheduled event. With ticket sales at more than 1,000, the transactions could result in hours of work for the CSA staff.

As of press time, no date had been chosen for the rescheduling.

For more information on tickets and plans for event rescheduling, visit [www.oakland.edu](http://www.oakland.edu) or the CSA ticket window.



## Caught reading The Post



**Name:** Michael Turner  
**Major:** Biology  
**Year:** Freshman  
**What he's reading:**  
 "University amps up its security"  
**Favorite section in The Post:**  
 The Mix

The goods:  
 a Blockbuster  
 gift card

**Name:** Eriola Grabocka  
**Major:** International Relations  
**Year:** Sophomore  
**What she's reading:**  
 "Taliban executes Afghan teenager"  
**Favorite section in The Post:**  
 Nation | World

The goods:  
 a Blockbuster  
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Oakland University

## KEEPER OF THE DREAM AWARD

### NOMINATION OR SELF-NOMINATION FORM

The *Keeper of the Dream Award* was established in January 1993 to recognize Oakland University continuing undergraduate students who have contributed to interracial understanding and good will. Awards ranging from \$2,500 to \$5,000 are available to students who have demonstrated strong citizenship, scholarship and leadership in breaking down cultural stereotypes and in promoting interracial understanding. The awards are presented publicly each year at the annual Keeper of the Dream Celebration. Scholarships will be distributed evenly during the fall and winter terms.

Nominees must possess all of the following: current cumulative grade-point average of 3.0, demonstrated campus involvement, record of responsible citizenship, and be enrolled a minimum of 12 credits each term for fall 2008 and winter 2009 semesters.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grizzly ID # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Current Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Permanent Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Major \_\_\_\_\_ GPA \_\_\_\_\_

1. Please attach a typewritten resume highlighting your involvement and leadership in working to promote racial understanding and in working to break down cultural barriers and stereotypes at Oakland University. Include a brief description of your activities and a reference for each of the major leadership roles in which you have served. If you received academic credit or pay for any of your involvement, indicate this on the resume.
2. In an essay of 500 words or less, please describe how you have made a positive impact to improve interracial understanding within the Oakland University community. Your essay should be clear, concise, double-spaced and typewritten.
3. Attach three (3) verifiable letters of nomination or support from members of the Oakland University community (faculty, staff or student) who can address your work at Oakland University on interracial/multicultural issues.
4. Each qualified applicant will be required to complete a brief interview with the selection committee.

For additional information, please contact the Center for Multicultural Initiatives, 134 North Foundation Hall, (248) 370-4404. All nominations are due by October 12, 2007.  
 Return completed nomination packet to: Michelle Southward, assistant director, 134 North Foundation Hall.

# Talk challenges common beliefs

## Professor argues for euthanasia

By ALEX CHERUP  
 Mouthing Off Editor

A Princeton professor doesn't frequent Oakland University everyday.

But Peter Singer, professor of bioethics at Princeton University spoke Thursday at the third, and largest ever, Burke Lecture.

The discussion, "Changing Attitudes Toward the Sacredness of Human Life," was held in the Oakland Center Banquet Rooms.

Ron Sudol, dean for the College of Arts and Sciences, opened the night with the introduction of Richard Burke, OU professor and founder of the philosophy lecture series.

Burke provided some history on the lectures and tied Singer's talk to "Revolution," this year's annual theme of College of Arts and Sciences.

Singer took the stage and, with the help of PowerPoint, presented his perspective on the sanctity of life.

Singer covered the definition of death and the changing attitudes on the subject.

He talked about the difference between the human body and the so-called person.

"What matters is the death of the person," Singer said. "The person dies when consciousness is irreversibly lost."

Singer referenced recent cases, including the widely-covered Terri Schaivo case and the Nancy Beth Cruzen case, as support.

Cruzen became unconscious at age 26 and remained bodily alive for the following seven years, Singer said.

Singer's definition of death was supported by Cruzen's headstone: "Departed Jan. 11, 1983. At peace Dec. 26, 1990."

Singer also touched on issues of animal rights, stem cell research and abortion.

"Humans are self-aware, and can have plans for the future," Singer said.

Singer said that cognitive abilities are what set most humans apart from other animals.

"A chimpanzee would not be able to understand the lecture," he said.

But, he said, it has little to do with species; all animals that can suffer should have limitations on their suffering.

The personhood question also was applied to stem cells and fetuses.

To Singer, stem cells and fetuses do not feel suffering or have any perception of the future or the past.

Singer's utilitarian stance supports the use of stem cell research, abortion and euthanasia when the pleasure will outweigh the suffering of each act.

After the presentation, the forum opened for questions, and Singer responded with direct answers.

Singer stayed at OU to host a question and answer session with students Friday in the OC Gold Rooms.

Students and professors asked questions ranging from the practical to the profound, including concerns about Singer's assisted suicide beliefs and an explanation of his utilitarian philosophy.

As for Oakland University, Singer said he enjoyed "the large audience, the good questions and the students."

## POLICEFILES

A woman had been walking Oct. 2 down a hallway in Dodge Hall. While walking, she was dragging her foot. The rubber sole of her shoe stuck to the floor and caused her to fall. The woman complained of pain in her hip, back and neck after the incident.

A driver struck a parked car while making a tight turn Oct. 4 on the top level of the P-29 parking structure. The driver was forced to cut the turn close due to a high volume of traffic coming around the corner. The driver scraped along the other car's rear bumper.



# OU to host National Coming Out Day events

By C.M. GRASKI  
Senior Reporter

In today's society, it is not uncommon for people to have someone in their lives who identifies with the gay, lesbian, bisexual and/or transgender community, whether or not they have made the decision to make it publicly known.

But Oct. 11 may be a turning point for some as it is National Coming Out Day.

In 2007, 19 years after the founding of National Coming Out Day, millions of gays still remain silent.

That number is diminishing, however, because awareness and understanding is being facilitated by community organizations.

The Oakland University Gender and Sexuality Center, as well as the Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, are some of those community organizations.

"If living a GLBT lifestyle or even exhibiting signs that you do wasn't such a taboo subject, even today, centers such as ours and days such as National Coming



tance of this single act of bravery and courage of coming out.

"National Coming Out Day events are aimed at raising awareness of the LGBT community among the general populace in an effort to educate and encourage new allies and LGBT persons to take their next steps in living openly," Bautti-Roche said.

National Coming Out Day is to be hosted at OU through a collaboration between GSC, the OU Gay/Straight Alliance and the Detroit chapter of PFLAG.

Out Day wouldn't be necessary," said Joann Bautti-Roche, coordinator of the OU Gender and Sexuality Center.

National Coming Out Day, founded in 1988 by Robert Eichberg and Jean O'Leary, celebrates the anniversary of the 1987 march on Washington D.C. of 500,000 people.

National Coming Out Day is observed Oct. 11 by members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities and their allies.

According to the Come Out Project, National Coming Out Day was established and continues to be observed in order to commemorate the impor-

"The Gender and Sexuality Center didn't really hold any event last year, but now that the center has a part-time manager to help organize them, I think this will become the standard at OU," Bautti-Roche said.

She said that the GSC is dedicated to providing services and education on issues of gender and sexuality for the Oakland University community through resources, referrals, programs and advocacy.

There is to be a buffet, and PFLAG is scheduled to host a panel discussion, "Putting a Face on Homosexuality."

The panel consists of a transgendered woman, two parents and a child.

The panelists are to use their personal experiences to discuss the issues surrounding the coming out process.

They also are to reflect on the commonly-held stance that the coming out process is a personal, family and community affair.

PFLAG said that there is a problem of silence in the United States.

According to the group, millions of parents with gay children who are victims of social, political and economic oppression suffer in silence.

Gay people in many communities still are obstructed by prejudice in their pursuit of happiness and in striving to live their lives with openness and dignity, the group said.

National Coming Out Day events are to be held in Gold Room A of the Oakland Center from noon to 1 p.m. All are encouraged to attend.

## Health center to offer depression screening

By BRITTANY OCHTINSKY  
Senior Reporter

Graham Health Center is offering a free, confidential depression screening today in the Oakland Center between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

The event is part of Mental Illness Awareness Week, and Dr. David Schwartz, outreach coordinator of the Graham Health Center, said he hopes to bring awareness to the student body.

"Awareness is important because depression among college students is very present in the population," Schwartz said.

According to Schwartz, depression affects nearly 20 million adults in the United States every year. A 2004 study by the American College Health Association found that nearly half of all college students have reported trouble functioning because of depression.

Most people recognize symptoms of depression as feeling sad, sleeping too much or having thoughts of suicide,

but symptoms also include sleeping too little, inability to experience pleasure and increased drug/alcohol use.

Major depressive disorder, dysthymic disorder and bipolar disorder are the three most common types of depression.


The screening process takes a few minutes, and students will answer questions relating to depression and anxiety.

The test itself is not a diagnosis for depression, but will give the therapists on hand a good idea as to whether or not a student shows signs of depression.

The Graham Health Center offers therapy, counseling and further evaluation for those who are depressed.

"Not all students know that they get six free therapy sessions, and even after that, it's only \$12 a session," Schwartz said.

Remember, if depression goes untreated it could lead to thoughts of suicide, as well as attempted suicide. And suicide is the second leading cause of death in college students.



Center for Student Activities

49 Oakland Center, Rochester, MI 48309-4401  
(248) 370-2400 • [csa@oakland.edu](mailto:csa@oakland.edu) • [www.oakland.edu/csa](http://www.oakland.edu/csa)

**Midnite Madnezz @ The O'Rena**  
Doors open at 9:45pm!

**SPB Block Party**  
Music ~ Dancing ~ Free Food  
8:30PM - 10PM

**SPB After Glow Party**  
11PM - Midnight  
(Outside O'Rena - P 16 Lot)

**What is LGBTQA?**  
Find out on....

Wednesday, October 17  
12PM - 1PM  
Lake Huron Room, OC

**CSA Annual LEADERSHIP Retreat**

October 19-20  
Echo Grove Camp

Pick up Registration Information  
at the CSA Office, 49 OC.

*This event is free for all OU students!*

**WOCOU - Week of Champions @ OU**

The Golden Years: Celebrating OU through the Decades

**October 8 - 12**

Check out the campus calendar at [www2.oakland.edu/oucal](http://www2.oakland.edu/oucal) for more information!



# OU reaches out to high schoolers

By JESSE DUNSMORE  
Senior Reporter

More than 1,000 high school students and their parents gathered at Oakland University Oct. 6 for "Go for the Gold," a program aimed at familiarizing prospective future students with the campus and with academic settings at OU.

Check-in started at 8:15 a.m., and following a welcome address given by undergraduate admissions employees, one group of students attended an admissions presentation where admissions advisor Meghan Kelly outlined some selling points of OU.

Kelly mentioned the student-to-faculty ratio, national recognition of the school and the shopping-filled area.

A second group, divided based on desired programs of study, was taken to information sessions on the requirements and features of each college or school.

Zach Abramson, a senior at Groves High School in Beverly Hills, Mich., said his favorite feature of the university is the small class size — an average below 35 students per class.

With a GPA high enough to guarantee admission, and two alumni for parents, Abramson is confident he's going to OU.

He's already bought his Halloween costume — a black and gold wizard's robe, he told student tour guide Cory Schmidt.

Anchor Bay High senior Austin Parker came with high hopes for OU. Even though he didn't stay for the whole program, he said he's even more convinced now.

"My mind's set pretty much on Oakland," said Parker, who plans to major in business administration.

But not all students were so sure.

Brian Posten of Carmen Anisworth High School in Flint, is considering OU along with Michigan State University and Georgia State University.

He attended University Housing: Living and Learning at OU, one of six 35-minute resource presentations that started at 11:45 a.m.

Posten, who is seeking a swimming scholarship, said he did not like the way housing is handled for athletes.

He said he prefers a setup that puts teams all in the same living area.

South Hamlin Hall Director Julie Wojciechowski said that the housing department tries to room teammates together, but it is not a guarantee.

Tours and other presentations were given, including ones on FAFSA, campus involvement and the Honors College.

At the Honors College presentation, HC Director Jude Nixon said to students, "It's really to infect the rest of the university...with a kind of brilliance."

He also explained HC requirements



The "Go for the Gold" program allows high school students and their parents to learn more about OU. AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post

and expectations.

Anna Rossi, a Chippewa Valley senior, said she was interested in the program.

"I think it's really personable and close-knit," said Rossi, who wants to major in political science and also is interested in student congress.

"Go for the Gold" gave attendees an

opportunity to ask questions about OU.

Many parents were concerned with tobacco and alcohol policies, as well as campus security.

But the students seemed more relaxed.

During Vandenberg Dining Hall tour, Abramson asked: "Do they have ice cream?"

# New theater season promises something for all

By C.M. GRASKI  
Senior Reporter

Artistic Director David Regal's commitment to pleasing the tastes of a variety of thespians brings mystery, comedy, tragedy and an unforgettable musical to Meadow Brook Theatre this year.

Voted "Best of the Best 2007" by The Oakland Press, the nonprofit theater promises masterful performances of works new and old.

"We're always concerned about having a variety of plays. We always have a large audience, and we realize we can't always please everybody, so we aim to please most," Regal said. "We try to have a comedy, musical, quasi-comedy serious play, serious play."

With three Michigan premieres: "Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure," "Rabbit Hole," and "Moonlight and Magnolias," MBT should appeal to most tastes.

"We've never had three Michigan premieres in one season. We're hoping to change the minds of the people that, say, just like comedies. They might be surprised when they see a well-done serious play," Regal said.

## SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE FINAL ADVENTURE

An adaptation of two 1899 plays, "Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure" by Michigan playwright Steven Dietz earned him the Edgar Allan Poe Award for Best

## Mystery in 2007.

"When he was adapting this for the stage, it caught my interest, as soon as I read it, I knew it was just for us," Regal said. "The play was created using the original dialogue from original works."

The play runs from Oct. 10 to Nov. 4.

## RABBIT HOLE

Written by David Lindsay-Abaire, "Rabbit Hole" was nominated for a Tony Award in 2006 and won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 2007.

The play season takes a turn toward the tragic in this realistic take on the traumatic loss of a child.

"What makes this play unique is that it isn't a soap opera. It's very witty, very passionate, and honest to the feeling of tragedy that the family feels," Regal said.

The play runs from Jan. 9 to Feb. 3.

## BILOXI BLUES

An American classic by playwright Neil Simon, this 1985 Tony Award-winner is a comedic take on Simon's experiences in boot camp.

It is one of three of Simon's autobiographical plays.

"This is absolutely hilarious. Nothing is more comical than the idea of Simon in the army, until we are introduced to his army buddies," Regal said.

The play runs from Feb. 13 to March 9.

## MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS

Written by Ron Hutchinson, "Moonlight and Magnolias" takes his audience to 1939 Hollywood, where the creative minds responsible for "Gone With the Wind" have one week to toil over an unacceptable script.

"This is one of the most hilarious comedies I've read in years," Regal said. "It deals with David Oselsnik one week before shooting of 'Gone With the Wind.'"

The characters are portrayals of real staffers responsible for one of the most revered movie masterpieces of the Twentieth Century.

The play runs from March 19 to April 13.

## MAN OF LA MANCHA

Written by playwright Dale Wasserman, "Man of La Mancha" promises original music and a solid portrayal of Miguel de Cervantes' classic character Don Quixote.

It has an original score by Joe Darion and Mitch Leigh.

"This play was chosen because we've done some new musicals recently, and I thought we should go back to something people know," Regal said. "I think we're going to not only give the audience a great play with fabulous music but allow them to relieve and enjoy a classic musical once again."

The musical runs from April 23 to May 18.



## Republicans debate in Dearborn

By LIZ SIDOTI  
Associated Press Writer

DEARBORN, Mich. — Republican presidential hopefuls Mitt Romney and Rudy Giuliani quarreled over tax and spending cuts Tuesday, each claiming greater commitment than the other in a debate in the nation's struggling manufacturing heartland.

The government "is spending money of future generations and those yet to be born," added Fred Thompson, making his debut on a debate stage after a late entry into the race. He said future retirees should receive smaller Social Security benefits than they have been promised.

After months of polite debate sparring, Giuliani and Romney squared off without hesitation, a reflection of their struggle for primacy in the race for their party's presidential nomination.

"I cut taxes 23 times. I believe in tax cuts," said Giuliani, former mayor of New York and leader in national Republican polls.

Romney initially conceded that, but quickly criticized his rival for once filing a court challenge to a law that gave President Clinton the right to veto spending items line by line. "I'm in favor of the line-item veto," he said, adding he exercised it 844 times while governor of Massachusetts.

Romney also said that while mayor, Giuliani "fought to keep the commuter tax, which is a very substantial tax — on consumers coming into New York."

The former governor leads his rivals in the polls in Iowa, where caucuses will be the first contest of the campaign, and he and Giuliani are in a close race in surveys in New Hampshire, the leadoff primary state.

Giuliani responded that spending fell in New York while he was mayor, and rose in Massachusetts while Romney was governor.

"The point is that you've got to control taxes. I did it, he

didn't. ... I led, he lagged."

"It's baloney," retorted Romney. "I did not increase taxes in Massachusetts. I lowered taxes."

The exchange was among the most heated of the campaign for the Republican presidential nomination, reflecting a quickening pace as the 2008 caucuses and primaries draw close.

It also left Thompson, Sen. John McCain of Arizona and the other contenders as something of bystanders for the several moments that Romney and Giuliani went at one another.

All nine of the men on stage sought to stress their conservative economic credentials throughout the two-hour debate.

While maneuvering against one another at various times during the debate, the Republicans found a minute or two to jab at Democrats.

Giuliani criticized Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, the Democratic presidential front-runner, for a proposal to provide tax cuts of up to \$1,000 to help families open 401(k) retirement accounts.

"Hillary is filled with endless ways to spend. We're going to have to control that," he said.

Romney criticized Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm for raising taxes, and drew laughter when he said he was afraid she "was going to put a tax on this debate."

Eight of the candidates support the continuing U.S. military presence in Iraq, but Rep. Ron Paul of Texas drew



KIICHIRO SATO/AP Photo

Republican presidential hopefuls line up on the stage before the GOP Presidential candidates debate at Ford Community and Performing Arts Center Tuesday, Oct. 9, 2007, in Dearborn, Mich.

applause when he loudly dissented.

By decision of the debate's producers, the first question of the event went to Thompson, making his first appearance with rivals who have been campaigning for months.

Thompson drew a good-humored jab at one point, when Romney likened the ongoing series of Republican debates to "Law & Order," the television program that helped Thompson establish his acting credentials.

"It's got a huge cast, the series goes on forever and Fred Thompson shows up at the end," he said.

"And to think I was going to be the best actor on stage," replied Thompson with a smile.

After fielding the first question, Thompson also drew the last. Asked whether he had waited too long to join the race, he said he had not, then joked he had watched the earlier debates. "It was getting a little boring without me," he said.

## Five Democrats to bypass Michigan primary

By KATHY BARKS HOFFMAN  
Associated Press Writer

LANSING, Mich. — Five Democratic candidates have withdrawn from Michigan's Jan. 15 presidential primary, leaving what amounts to a beauty contest for front-runner Hillary Rodham Clinton and a handful of lesser-knowns.

Barack Obama, John Edwards and Bill Richardson filed paperwork Tuesday, the deadline to withdraw from the ballot, said Kelly Chesney, spokeswoman for the Michigan Secretary of State's office. Two other candidates, Joe Biden and Dennis Kucinich, said in statements that they also were bypassing the primary.

Although Michigan is a critical Midwest state in presidential voting, it violated Democratic National Committee rules by moving its primary earlier in the process. The candidates are honoring the DNC's

wishes in skipping the contest.

Clinton broke with the leading candidates, with her campaign issuing a statement saying the New York senator will remain on the ballot. Chris Dodd also plans to stay on the ballot.

"We're honoring the pledge and we won't campaign or spend money in states that aren't in compliance with the DNC calendar," said Clinton spokesman Jay Carson. "We don't think it's necessary to remove ourselves from the ballot."

All the Democratic candidates already have agreed not to campaign in Michigan because it broke DNC rules when it moved its primary ahead of Feb. 5.

Party rules say states cannot hold their 2008 primary contests before Feb. 5, except for Iowa on Jan. 14, Nevada on Jan. 19, New Hampshire on Jan. 22 and South Carolina on Jan. 29.

The calendar was designed to preserve the traditional role that Iowa and New Hampshire have played in selecting the nominee, while adding two states with more racial and geographic diversity to influential early slots.

"This is an extension of the pledge we made, based on the rules that the DNC laid out," said Obama spokesman Bill Burton. "We still hope that Michigan Democrats can adopt a process that meets DNC rules and, if so, look forward to fighting for the votes of men and women across the state."

Edwards' campaign manager, former Michigan Rep. David Bonior said, "In these early states, issues matter more than money, celebrity and advertisements. Voters want and deserve a candidate who represents real people, not corporate special interests, and this primary process

will help ensure that's exactly what the American people get," he said.

Hari Sevugan, a spokesman for Dodd, said the Connecticut senator would remain on the Michigan ballot.

"It does not benefit any of us if we are the nominee to pull our name off the ballot and slight Michigan voters," Sevugan said.

Clinton advisers acknowledged party leaders in Iowa and New Hampshire might be irked by her refusal to pull out of Michigan. But removing her name from the ballot would be a needless insult to the state's voters — one that could prove damaging in the general election, the advisers said.

The Biden campaign later issued a statement criticizing Clinton and Dodd, and arguing that the two campaigns "have chosen to hedge their bets, thereby throwing this process into further disarray."



# New outdoor mall to open on Hall Road

*Partridge Creek Anchored by Nordstrom, Parisian and MJR Theatre*

By C.L. NELSON  
Lead Ads Manager

The new open-air Mall at Partridge Creek is set to open Thursday, Oct. 18 in Macomb County. Built on 55 acres of what was once The Partridge Creek Golf Course, The Mall at Partridge Creek offers shoppers a unique combination of stores, restaurants, recreation and more.

The mall will offer the usual mall staple-stores like Victoria's Secret, Bath and Body Works and The Gap as well as stores new to Michigan like Shi by Journeys and Sur La Table. The mall's general manager, 41-year-old Robbie Stark of Lake Orion said that 2/3rds of the stores are all new to Macomb County.

In addition to the store line up, the mall will have valet parking, a 30-foot fireplace, a plasma screen court, free WiFi, heated walkways, two Bocce courts and a pop jet fountain. Stark describes the mall as being more like a park on the

outside where there will be a children's play area, a 300-year old Burr Oak Tree and benches to seat 1,000 people. The new mall will also be pet friendly, offering four dog comfort stations that will provide dog owners with water and disposable bags for their pets.

The Taubman Centers, Inc., the company that brought you Great Lakes Crossing and The Somerset Collection is responsible for the development and construction of the mall. The mall has provided workers with 1,500 construction jobs and will provide jobs to about 2,000 workers at 42 companies once the stores are open.

The Taubman Centers, Inc. has been constructing the mall for the past two years. "It takes three to four years to put something together like this," Stark said about the development process. Stark said the particular site was chosen because it was the only venue large enough to support the mall. "It all came together very nicely," he said.



AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post

The Mall at Partridge Creek will offer shoppers an outdoor experience much like the Village of Rochester. The mall is scheduled to open Thursday, Oct. 18.

Stark said that he believes the mall will be terrifically successful. "We're in this for the long haul," he said. "Every indication is that it'll do very, very well."

According to Stark, the finishing touches are being made to the landscaping and lighting and the stores will finish setting up their displays this week.

He said that the feedback he's getting from the community is very positive.

"[People are saying], 'it's about time we finally got something.'"

"Macomb is a very affluent county and there has never been a venue [here] to address that," Stark said, adding that he's looking forward to the mall's opening and believes there is something at the mall for everyone.

For more information visit [www.shoppartridgecreek.com](http://www.shoppartridgecreek.com).

## Cooley Open House, Thursday, October 11 Oakland Campus

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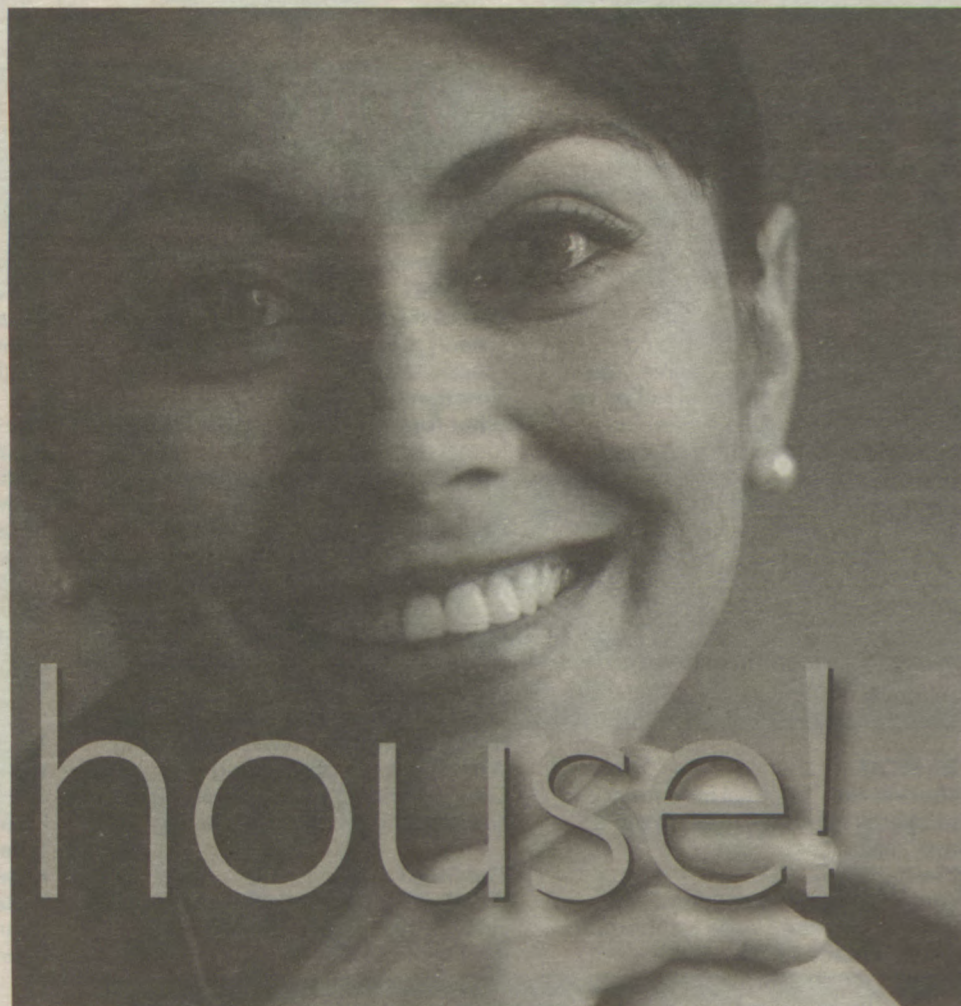
For more information, visit [cooley.edu](http://cooley.edu).  
Take the Cooley Virtual Tour or set up  
a tour with Admissions at 517-371-5140,  
ext.2244, or [admissions@cooley.edu](mailto:admissions@cooley.edu).



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How  
are you preparing  
for grad school?



"FIRST THERE'S THE GRE, AND THE APPLICATION PROCESS, WHICH CONSISTS OF GETTING LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION AND THEN PURCHASING A PREPARATION BOOK WITH PRACTICE TESTS."

YANA FEDOTOVA  
SENIOR, BIOLOGY



"I KNOW THE CLASSES ARE MORE RIGOROUS (IN GRAD SCHOOL), SO I AM TRYING TO DO MY BEST IN MY UNDERGRADUATE CLASSES TO MENTALLY PREPARE."

MYANA JOHNSON  
SOPHOMORE, UNDECIDED



"I AM PLANNING TO GO TO WAYNE, SO I DON'T HAVE TO TAKE THE GRE, BUT I HAVE TO WORK ON LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION AND PREPARING TRANSCRIPTS."

RACHEL HOGAN  
SENIOR, ANTHROPOLOGY



"I'M WORKING ON MY PORTFOLIO WHICH INCLUDES A RESUME AND WORK EXPERIENCE AND RESEARCHING DIFFERENT BUSINESS SCHOOLS."

ROBBIE BLACK  
SENIOR, MANAGEMENT

## And you thought finals were hard...

Everything you need to know about graduate school entrance exams

By MARK MEDAUGH  
Contributing Reporter

You've gone to your advisor, and you're right on track with your degree. You've spent hours in the Financial Aid office and have finally gotten everything straightened out. Midterms: done. Finals: destroyed 'em. You're feeling on top of the world, ready to get this whole graduation thing over with and to move on to bigger and better things.

### HOLD IT!

If graduate school is in your future you've got another step, another exam: your grad school entrance exam.

#### The MCAT

**What's it for?** Essential for entrance to virtually all medical schools in the U.S. and Canada

**How much?** \$210.00

**What format?** Computerized

**How do I register?** www.aamc.org

**What's it made of?** Physical Science, Verbal Reasoning, Biological Science

and a Writing Section.

#### The GRE

**What's it for?** Admission to graduate schools that don't require a more specific test.

**How much?** \$140.00

**What format?** Computerized and paper formats offered

**How do I register?** www.ets.org/gre

**What's it made of?** Verbal and Quantitative Reasoning, Math and Vocabulary.

#### The LSAT

**What's it for?** Essential for entrance to virtually all law schools in the U.S.

**How much?** \$123.00

**What format?** Written ONLY

**How do I register?** www.lsac.org

**What's it made of?** Reading Comprehension, Analytical Reasoning, two sections of Logical Reasoning

#### The GMAT

**What's it for?** Essential for entrance to virtually all MBA programs in the U.S.

**How much?** \$250.00

**What format?** Written only

#### How do I register?

www.gmac.com/gmac.

**What's it made of?** Verbal Reasoning, Quantitative Reasoning, and Analytical Writing Assessment

#### The DAT

**What's it for?** Essential for entrance to virtually all dental schools in the U.S.

**How much?** \$175.00

**What format?** Computerized Only

**How do I register?** www.ada.org/prof/ed/testing/dat/index.asp

**What's it made of?** Natural Science, Quantitative Reasoning, Reading Comprehension and a Perceptual Ability Test

#### The PCAT

**What's it for?** Essential for entrance to virtually all pharmacy schools in the U.S.

**How much?** \$125.00

**What format?** Written ONLY

**How do I register?** www.pcatweb.info

**What's it made of?** Verbal and Quantitative Reasoning, Biology, Chemistry, and Reading Comprehension

#### The OAT

**What's it for?** Essential to entrance to virtually all optometry schools in the U.S. and Canada

**How much?** \$195.00

**What format?** Written

**How do I register?** www.opted.org/info\_oat.cfm

**What's it made of?** Natural Sciences, Reading Comprehension, Physics, and Quantitative Reasoning

#### The VCAT

**What's it for?** Essential to entrance to virtually all veterinary schools in the U.S.

**How much?** \$50.00 - \$65.00

**What format?** Written

**How do I register?** www.vmcas.org

**What's it made of?** Biology, Chemistry, Reading Comprehension, Quantitative and Verbal Reasoning

For more information, stop by the OU advising offices. Also note that in addition to the testing there is usually a fee associated with applying to these graduate schools, as well as a very long application.



## The Buzz on: *NGOs*

By MARK MEDAUGH  
Contributing Reporter

If you're thinking "Oh great...another acronym to remember," take heart. This is one you'll be glad to know.

NGOs are Non-Governmental Organizations. Sounds pretty good already, doesn't it? Anything non-government is alright, right? But seriously, what these NGOs are all about is pretty simple: volunteer work.

Whether you want to spend your time advocating for human rights in Washington D.C., or building houses for the less fortunate in Guatemala, there is an NGO just for you. From health care to women's rights and environmental concerns — all of these causes have NGOs

associated with them.

NGOs range in size from very small to extraordinarily large. It is estimated that as many as 25,000 organizations could qualify under the "NGO" heading, the smallest having only a few committed members with some of the largest, such as Amnesty International, having over a million members in 90 countries around the world. But in the end, all of these groups have their own specific goals, and whether big or small, they try to get the goals accomplished.

Not only do NGOs give students the chance to work on worthwhile projects, but they also offer opportunity to travel and great experiences.

Look up more NGOs and travel opportunities at [www.idealists.org](http://www.idealists.org).

## Word of the Week

**Clout:** To have influence or pull  
(Klout) noun

**Example:** The politician used his clout to get contributions.

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

## What not to do with your degree...

AFTER GRADUATING YOU WILL FEEL A SENSE OF RELIEF. THE WEIGHT OF COLLEGE IS LIFTED AND EUPHORIA WILL SET IN — IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE

1. USE YOUR DEGREE AS A TORCH TO LIGHT FLAMING DR. PEPPER SHOTS
2. AFTER A LONG NIGHT CELEBRATING, MISTAKE THE ROLLED UP PAPER AS A ROLL OF TISSUE PAPER
3. MAKE IT INTO A PAPER AIRPLANE SO IT CAN SOAR AS HIGH AS YOUR SPIRITS
4. TURN IT INTO A FUNNEL TO IMPRESS YOUR FAMILY WITH WHAT YOU REALLY LEARNED IN COLLEGE
5. ROLL IT TIGHTER AND FILL THE MIDDLE WITH HIPPY LETTUCE
6. SHRED IT AND USE IT AS CONFETTI FOR YOUR GRADUATION PARTY
7. WRITE YOUR NUMBER ON IT TO GIVE TO THE HOT GIRL/GUY AT THE BAR

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\$2.00 domestic pints

**3 "You Make The Call" Wednesdays**  
\$3.00 all calls

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your words  
your style  
your health )

# INTERNET IDENTITY THEFT:

## LEARN HOW TO PREVENT IT AND PROTECT YOURSELF

By **MELISSA JONES**  
Contributing Reporter

The new Apple iPhone is finally posted on eBay to bid on. Just when you finally think you are going to purchase the latest piece of technology, you're scammed.

Your anticipation has been replaced with dismay. You have just become a victim of Internet fraud.

Internet fraud is making consumers think twice before shopping online and punching in their credit card numbers. After a simple Internet transaction, your identity and your money could be gone and untraceable.

Last year, the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center had 207,492 submitted complaints that totaled \$198.4 million lost by consumers.

With the explosive growth of the Internet, online criminals have found easy ways to present schemes that look good and attract the public's attention.

Here are some examples of types of Internet fraud to watch out for from [www.safefromscams.co.uk](http://www.safefromscams.co.uk).

If someone is bidding on an item on eBay and they lose the bid, quite often they will get an official-looking e-mail for a 'second chance buy.' When this happens, be sure to always e-mail the seller to double-check that they have another item to sell; usually they are not the ones sending out this e-mail. Another person has tapped into that seller's account to try and get the buyer to unknowingly deal with them.

eBay's second-chance safe from scams Web site [www.safefromscams.co.uk](http://www.safefromscams.co.uk), states that eBay does run a legitimate second-chance service, which sellers can use when the highest bidder drops out.

[Craigslist.com](http://Craigslist.com) is a central network for online communication which offers various types of free classifieds.

Craigslist may differ from eBay in many ways, but users should still be wary of possible scams.

Unlike eBay, Craigslist does not offer a method of payment, allowing transactions to only be done through mail or face-to-face.

While using a site such as this, Craigslist said it is important that people only complete transactions by meeting in person.

On the company's Web site, it states that people can avoid 99 percent of scams by dealing locally with folks you can meet in person.

According to [www.fakechecks.org](http://www.fakechecks.org), if people do not perform transactions in person, the buyer will often send a check that is more than the asking price and ask that they wire them back the rest of the money.

According to Anna Wahler, a sales representative at Chase Bank, "It takes a bank 10 business days to process a check; they will front you the money because they see you as a loyal customer."

Many people do not realize this. By this time, the money has already been wired back to the buyer and the sender is responsible for the missing funds. Banks often fail to inform their customers of this.

Identity theft is a common type of fraud, especially on the Internet. The FBI and FTC (Federal Trade Commission) have issued warnings on the growing ranks of Internet crooks who are using tricks called "phishing" and "spoofing" to steal people's identities online.

Many people do not realize how easily criminals can obtain their personal data without stealing directly from them. Criminals can obtain anything from a password to your bank information using the Web these days.

This includes spam e-mails, such as "Congratulations! You have won a 72-inch TV-prompt response needed."



Graphic by Celeste Filiatrault

Last year, the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center had 207,492 submitted complaints that totaled in \$198.4 million lost by consumers.

In these cases, criminals are trying to obtain personal information by getting people to enter information to win that prize.

According to [safefromscams.co.uk](http://safefromscams.co.uk), other popular forms of Internet fraud are auctions, investment schemes, credit card offers, vacation prize promotions, and sweepstakes.

Lauren Manuszak, a senior education major, said, "I do not shop online because I work at an online company and I see what goes on. I have seen several situations where we will get credit card orders online and the billing information they provide does not match up with the credit card information," she said.

"When we try to contact them, we end up canceling their order because they never respond back to us. I see attempts of Internet fraud every day and I have learned to stay away," Manuszak said.

If a person feels they have been a victim of Internet fraud, they need to file a complaint for the FBI Internet fraud Web site.

Filing a complaint will allow the credit bureau and collectors to flag your account for "Identity Fraud."

Log on to <http://www.ic3.gov> to learn how to keep yourself protected.

### PROTECT YOURSELF FROM ONLINE CREDIT CARD FRAUD

NEVER MAKE ONLINE TRANSACTIONS WHILE WORKING ON AN UNSECURED SERVER.

CHECK MONTHLY BANK STATEMENTS TO LOOK FOR SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY.

PROTECT YOUR ONLINE LOG-INS AND PASSWORDS — DON'T SHARE YOUR PASSWORDS OR LOG-IN NAMES

LIMIT THE USE OF YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

SOURCE: [WWW.LIBERTYMUTUAL.COM](http://WWW.LIBERTYMUTUAL.COM)



# New student organization's goal to help out kids

By ERIN M. SOMMERVILLE  
Contributing Reporter

Around the world, children are suffering without any way to help themselves. While many people find this problem too overwhelming to even attempt to address, Raluca Szabo, founder and president of Oakland University's new student organization, Hand in Hand, believes it's worth tackling.

The goal of Hand in Hand, which currently has about 30 members, is "to help out kids, locally and in the rest of the world," said Szabo, a sophomore nursing student.

Hand in Hand's first event, which aims to provide food for children, began Tuesday, Oct. 9 and will continue through Oct. 16, which is World Food Day.

The group plans to be in the Oakland Center between Fireside Lounge and the Pioneer Food Court from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Students can purchase "meal plans" for \$29.95, enough to feed a child for a month. If the group is successful in collecting 600 of these, the organization coordinating the effort — which asked to remain anonymous — will allow them to choose the country to which the food will be sent.

The donations are tax deductible.

Wednesday, Oct. 10, the group is

encouraging students to join them at the Detroit Institute of Arts for a viewing of the film "God Grew Tired of Us," the story of a Sudanese refugee.

The film was the winner of both the Audience Award and the Grand Jury Prize at the 2006 Sundance Film Festival. Tickets are available at the door. For more information visit [www.dia.org/dft/schedule.asp](http://www.dia.org/dft/schedule.asp).

"It's definitely worth the drive," said Szabo. "It's difficult to see, because it's a hard topic to face...but it will definitely encourage people to help."

Another upcoming event is "Trick or Treat for Tin." Hand in Hand will place collection boxes around campus for canned goods, empty pop bottles and empty cans. The money and food will be donated to a local homeless shelter.

The group will also have several Christmas fundraisers for Grace Centers of Hope in Pontiac. The first planned event is a scavenger hunt Nov. 8.

The money raised will be used to take the children from the shelter shopping for a gift of their choosing.

"They probably don't get a chance to go shopping very often, especially not for whatever it is they want," said Szabo.

Another fundraiser is planned for next semester to raise money for boys who are refugees of Darfur and Sudan. Working



Photo courtesy of Raluca Szabo

Hand in Hand members, from right to left, president Raluca Szabo, secretary Jackie Charzynski, Sarah Tomaka, Melissa Groth, and Leanne Green.

with the Michigan Darfur Coalition, Hand in Hand will hold a silent auction of celebrity autographs, including Manna and Quail and Dashboard Confessional.

They also plan to hold a large garage sale. The event will feature a performance by Mark Stone, special instructor of music at Oakland University, and Akwaaba, OU's African ensemble.

Szabo hopes that Oct. 10th's documentary viewing will encourage students to participate in the event.

Szabo plans to continue her humani-

tarian work after graduation. She'd like to join the Peace Corps and work in an orphanage.

Asked why she wanted to start Hand in Hand, she said, "There's no better feeling than that of having helped a child, especially [children] in need who can't help themselves."

For more information about Hand in Hand, you can contact Szabo at [raszabo@oakland.edu](mailto:raszabo@oakland.edu). Hand in Hand meets Thursdays at noon in the Vandenberg Lounge.

## Faithful fasting: student reflects on Ramadan experience

By LAURA FAWAZ  
Contributing Reporter

For anyone who has ever lived in a Middle Eastern country, the month of Ramadan is celebrated throughout the entire region. The spirit of the month is felt wherever you go, for Muslims and non-Muslims alike. Benjamin Hoffiz III, Ph. D., professor of international studies and Arabic language at Oakland University, said he felt the spirit as a non-Muslim during his travels throughout the Middle Eastern countries of Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Lebanon.

I have been a Muslim living in America my entire life and am fasting for Ramadan. Of all the years

that I have been fasting, I have not felt the same emotion that I saw in the face of Hoffiz while speaking about his "great memories" of Ramadan in the Middle East.

Though I fast all day and go to the mosque after iftar (breakfast), I still long for that spirituality those who travel to the Middle East during Ramadan feel. They all have a special glow in their eyes while speaking about it.

"I learned a lot about Ramadan. That Muslims actually celebrate the revelation of the Qur'an to Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him," Hoffiz said.

Ramadan is a month-long celebration for Muslims, followers of Islam, to abstain from eating and drinking

from sunrise to sundown. The purpose of Ramadan is to show self-control, while at the same time feeling what many poor people around the world are feeling.

There is not one way to really prepare for any entire month, especially when it's a month that has as much meaning and emotion as Ramadan has for many Muslims. Some prepare by making vows to themselves to read at least one chapter from the Qur'an every night, or by reciting supplications specific to Ramadan.

Others may prepare simply by making sure they have certain foods or sweets for iftar dinner, and certain breakfast meals to have before sunrise, when the day of fasting begins.

There are 12 months in the Islamic calendar, and the month Ramadan was the month chosen for the fasting because this was the month that the last Prophet of Islam, the prophet Muhammad, received revelation from God, through the angel Gabrielle. The Qur'an, the Islamic holy book, is believed to be all of the revelations sent to the prophet Muhammad that were recorded by his companions.

Since the Islamic calendar is the lunar calendar, Ramadan is celebrated 10 days earlier each year. This year it ends Friday, Oct. 12.

"It's my favorite time of the year. It's a special occasion every day of the month," said Suhaima Choudhury, OU freshman and practicing Muslim.

### COMMENTARY

Fasting is required for all Muslims at the age of puberty, the age seen as officially becoming an adult, who are physically able to do so. Women who are pregnant and any person who may have an illness that could make fasting harmful, are exempt from fasting.

For these people, it is actually mandatory not to fast, though their requirement for the month would then be to feed at least one poor person for each day they are not fasting, said local Imams, Islamic religious leaders.

A relative of mine has epilepsy and has been able to fast in the past. Now that she has two children, she needs all the energy she can get, so when she tried fasting for this year's Ramadan, she found herself feeling drained and light headed.

Her family was worried that this year, with the new symptoms, her illness may act up and cause a seizure. She spoke to an Imam and was told that if her health was at all threatened, she must not fast.

When asked how she felt about this, she said, "I don't like not being able to officially participate in this month, but I'm still doing all that I can to take part in all of the spirituality advantages daily."

OU Junior Shavonne Moorer said, "I find it [Ramadan] interesting in a way, I love learning about life, cultures and the way people live besides myself."

I personally believe that it's always nice to have an environment where no matter your faith or culture, you can learn about someone else's.



## O'Rena goes to work

*Pistons hold open practice on OUI's campus*

By SAMANTHA FRANZ  
Sports Editor

The 2007-08 season marks the Detroit Pistons' 50th anniversary in the NBA, so what better way to celebrate than by giving back to the fans?

Instead of holding their annual open practice at the Palace of Auburn Hills, the Pistons decided to take I-75 south a few exits and hold the event in the O'Rena on the campus of Oakland University.

Close to 3,000 fans packed the arena for the event and there was plenty to keep them cheering.

Just before 6 p.m., the pre-practice festivities began, starting with a free throw shooting contest to win a \$500 Barnes and Noble gift card for textbooks next semester. One male and one female student took home the prize by sinking all of their shots.

From there, Automotion performed for the first time with a high-energy dance number and the Palace Patrol tossed free T-shirts into the audience for the loudest fans.

Finally, the Flight Crew performed slam dunks and mid-air passes that the Harlem Globe-trotters would be jealous of while Hooper and the Grizz hammed it up for those in attendance.

At 6:45 p.m., the opening bars of "The Final Countdown" blared over the speakers and the fans went berserk. It was time for some "Deeee-troit Basketball!"

Mason, the team's PA announcer, introduced the players and coaching staff.

All four of the rookies—Rodney Stuckey, Arron Afflalo, Cheikh Samb and Sammy Mejia—wore white sweatbands with "Rook" written on them, courtesy of Rasheed Wallace.

After some stretches and warm-ups, during which Wallace plucked two lucky boys from the crowd to join them, the team split up into white and blue jerseys and held a scrimmage.

The blue team, led by center Nazr Mohammed's 14 points, trumped the white team 55-45 during the scrimmage's three quarters, all while the O'Rena crowd kept a consistent cheer echoing off the arena walls.

But how did the Pistons like playing on Oakland's campus? Point guard and team captain Chauncey Billups, for one, enjoyed the new venue of open practice this year.

"It was fun—it was like bringing it back to the college atmosphere," he said. "The fans are great and they have great facilities here. I've been here a few times to watch some games last year and it was fun."



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

TOP: Point guard Chauncey Billups (1) calls for a teammate to cut baseline while shooting guard Richard "Rip" Hamilton (32) defends him at the O'Rena last Thursday night.

BOTTOM: Head coach Flip Saunders shoots a game of "Horse" before the scrimmage.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

JASON MAXIELL (54) ponders his next move while fan favorite Rasheed Wallace (36) puts his hands up on defense.





# Better late than never

## Sandell's goal in the 82nd minute beats ORU

By SAMANTHA FRANZ  
Sports Editor

ROCHESTER — In an uncharacteristic 91-degree October afternoon, Oakland University's men's soccer team (5-3-2) turned up the heat even more with a late second half goal to defeat Oral Roberts University (2-7) in a 1-0 tilt.

The Golden Grizzlies looked to recover from an Oct. 3 loss to Dayton, where they fell by a 2-1 margin.

The first half showcased two evenly matched teams, each firing five shots toward their respective goals.

The Golden Grizzlies began the match with a long-game strategy; that is, sending the ball up-field with long sweeping kicks, rather than short passes.

But it didn't take the Golden Eagles from Tulsa long to figure out OU's plans, adjusting their defense as the half progressed.

"We had some success at the beginning of the game by going long. We had success with it in the first five minutes, so we kept doing it," said head coach Gary Parsons. "It started not working for us and when [that happened], they would counter us and we were just out of shape."

But a halftime talk seemed to set the playbook straight for Oakland and they came out in the second half playing a shorter field game, which according to Parsons, "looked a lot better."

The Golden Grizzlies came close to making a mark on

the scoreboard in the 68th minute when sophomore Sebby Harris charged the net off a throw-in by sophomore Stew Givens, but ORU goalkeeper Andrew Techanchuk deflected the ball as it came toward him, sending the ball floating harmlessly over the net.

OU finally struck gold in the 82nd minute when senior transfer Martin Sandell, a native of Oslo, Norway, took advantage of an ORU turnover at the top of the box and sent the ball sailing past Techanchuk and into the lower left hand corner of the net for an unassisted goal.

"The corner shot [was a nice finish]," said Parsons of Sandell's second goal of the season.

But Oral Roberts did not go down easy in this Summit League match-up. In addition to five corner kick opportunities throughout the game, they also kept OU goalkeeper junior Steve Clark on his toes, forcing him to make three saves to preserve the shutout.

The victory over the Golden Eagles was Clark's league-leading fourth shutout of the season. In addition, this is Oakland's fifth win of the season, already equaling their 2006 win total.

With two consecutive conference victories under their belts, the Golden Grizzlies will next face off against the 25th ranked Ohio State University (5-3-2) Wednesday. The Buckeyes are fresh off of a double-overtime loss to Wisconsin-Green Bay. Then, it's a trip down to Shreveport, La. Saturday to take on Summit League foe Centenary.



SAMANTHA FRANZ/The Oakland Post  
Stew Givens protects the ball from an Oral Roberts defender last Sunday. The victory over the Golden Eagles puts Oakland at 2-0 in The Summit League.

# That's Tom-tastic

## Kristi Tomczyk's two goals knock off ORU

By DAN TALLANT  
Staff Intern

ROCHESTER — The Oakland University Golden Grizzlies came out strong in their first two conference games after a non-conference loss against Illinois State Sept. 30. The Golden Grizzlies won two games on Friday and Sunday against Oral Roberts and Centenary.

In Friday's game, senior Kristi Tomczyk scored two goals including the double-overtime winner as the Golden Grizzlies beat the Golden Eagles, 2-1.

"We played very well offensively and defensively," said head coach Nick O'Shea in a press release. "We were unlucky to not get any more goals than we did and our defense limited them to shots pretty far out, with the exception of the goal."

After receiving a pass from junior Jessica Boyle, Tomczyk beat the goalie one-on-one to put Oakland ahead, 1-0, in the 26th minute.

In the 43rd-minute, Oral Roberts tied the match with a goal from Correne Walker. She received a pass inside the box and put it past freshman goalkeeper Elizabeth Watza.

The match ended in the 103rd minute as Tomczyk struck again with a chip shot from 20 yards out.

Tomczyk's pair of goals extended her team-leading season total to seven.

"It was great to get another three points in conference play and for Kristi to net both goals," O'Shea said.

Coming off a overtime thriller on Friday against Oral Roberts, Oakland took the field against Summit League opponent Centenary College on Sunday.

The Golden Grizzlies scored early and kept Centenary

quiet the whole game to give themselves a 1-0 victory.

"We didn't play very well today," O'Shea said. "It was good though to get another conference win."

Just three minutes into the game Oakland junior Kristi Evans slid a pass across the front of the net which was deflected in by senior Jamie Hulet. The goal was Hulet's first of the season.

The Ladies' goalkeeper, Ali Hilsher, made three excellent saves late in the second half to keep the game within one, including shots from freshman Jackie Hammond and Tomczyk inside the box.

Centenary failed to produce much offense until late in the second half when they were given a free kick, but it was intercepted by Tomczyk in the box and she got the ball out of harm's way.

Junior Kim Herbst notched her second shutout of the season after receiving the start in net.

The two victories move Oakland to a 4-2 record in Summit League play. Winning at least one of the team's last two conference games ensures them a spot in the conference tournament.

"The win puts us in good position for making the conference tournament," O'Shea said. "Splitting our last two conference matches will put us in the tournament."

The Lady Grizzlies travel in-state and take a one-game break from conference play as they play Detroit this Sunday.

Conference play for the Golden Grizzlies picks back up Friday Oct. 19 as Southern Utah makes the trip to Oakland to try and put a stop to the momentum the team has built.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Kristi Evans takes fire against Oral Roberts last Friday. The Golden Grizzlies prevailed with a 2-1 victory over the Golden Eagles. Oakland went 2-0 during this past weekend's home stand.





AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post

Sophomore forward Matt Kowalczyk (55) breaks away from the Washington and Jefferson defender during Oakland's 8-5 rout of the Presidents on Saturday night. Oakland is 3-1 this season with a key meeting at Ohio University this Friday and Saturday.

## Oakland club hockey impeaches the Presidents

By BRITTANY OCHTINSKY  
Senior Reporter

ROCHESTER — Anyone who still thinks Oakland University's hockey team is a one-man show obviously hasn't been to a game this season.

The go-to-man strategy worked in the ACHA's Division II and the Golden Grizzlies skated by in their first season in Division I, but to be a fierce competitor in DI and defend their national championship, head coach Sean Hogan had to make some adjustments.

Hogan knew he could never replace Will McMahon, a 200-plus career goal scorer, with just one player, so he recruited several experienced players to fill that scoring void.

Through the first four games of the season, 12 players have contributed goals and another seven have at least one point.

Oakland had some ground to make up after slipping three spots in the rankings to sixth place and took on visiting Washington & Jefferson College last weekend to catch up.

The Grizzlies kicked off the series with a 5-1 win over the Presidents last Friday night.

For the first time this season, Oakland opened up the scoring with four straight goals.

Kevin Kranker and Brett Haugh netted goals in the first period, while Brent Cooper added a pair in the second, including his second short-handed marker this season.

Goaltender Collin Chase didn't let up a goal until 1:15 into the final period, but that was all he gave to the Presidents.

Garrett Kondratek also found the back of the net for Oakland.

"I wish we could've kept the shutout

and scored a couple more," Hogan said. "We need to crack down on playing hard all 60 minutes. We play hard in spots and it shows when we score two or three goals really quick, but we need to keep that pressure up all game."

Despite giving up the first goal for the third time in four games Saturday night, Oakland managed an 8-5 victory with goals from eight different Grizzlies.

Todd Orlando, Haugh, Jarrett Samp, Tony Yearego, John Parrish, Jesse Worrell, Chris Leja and Matt Kowalczyk each lit the lamp for Oakland.

In the first game of the season, Haugh assisted on one of Oakland's goals, only to be a healthy scratch the next game. Since then, he's had a goal in both games he's played.

"I figured I'd be sitting a few games because I'm new, but I'm just trying to do my thing, help out with points and show them what I've got to stay in the lineup," said Haugh. "Everybody's always guessing 'Am I sitting today?' so whenever I get my chance, I'm going to help out the team as best I can."

Andrew Hansen got his first start in net this season, after an injury sidelined him in January. Hansen stopped 29 shots for the win, yet surrendered two 5-on-3 goals, once when he was caught without a stick.

The Grizzlies are averaging 30 penalty minutes a game, or roughly half a game on the penalty kill.

"A lot of our guys are coming out of the junior leagues where it's kill or be killed hockey and this is a lot different play," Hogan said.

"If we play like this, we're going to get killed against Ohio [next weekend]. As long as we stay out of the box, we'll be a good team, but if we keep taking penalties, we'll be in trouble," Hogan said.

## Beattie steps up, volleyball takes win against IUPUI

By BRITTANY OCHTINSKY  
Senior Reporter

With just over a month left in the season and four playoff positions up for grabs, Oakland University's volleyball team (6-12) is still making strides.

Currently sitting in sixth place, just two out of tournament contention, the Golden Grizzlies won last Friday's home match against IUPUI, but dropped Saturday's against North Dakota State.

Yet head coach Rob Beam thinks the weekend series was the team's two best consecutive matches of the season.

The Grizzlies had to make a quick last-minute adjustment to their starting lineup heading into Friday's match after Katy Wilson suffered a concussion in Tuesday's practice.

Beam inserted Hallie Beattie into Wilson's setting position and she excelled, finishing the night with 28 assists and helping Oakland to a 3-1 victory.

"We ran a drill to see how our players could do in a game situation and Hallie was the most confident," said Beam. "We spent practice time and individual training time the next two days preparing her and she did great. It was beyond what anyone could expect her to do."

Even more impressive was that Beattie hadn't set a ball since she was in seventh grade.

After dropping the first game to IUPUI 30-24, Oakland rallied and went on to win the next three games. Their scores of 30-26, 30-27 and 30-27 were enough to clinch the win.

Friday night's game marked the sixth win of the season for the Grizzlies, tying

the school's record since winning eight in 1998.

Adding to the Grizzlies injury list was Nikki Pawson, who sustained an ankle injury in the middle of the fourth game Friday. She was replaced during the game by Jessica Allera, who also got the start the next night.

Despite three players with double-double performances Saturday against North Dakota State, Oakland was unable to put together a win and dropped the match 3-1.

The Grizzlies lost the first game 30-20, but rallied back in the second with a 30-25 win over the Bison. North Dakota then went on to edge out the Grizzlies 30-24 and 30-27, giving them the win.

Beattie had 23 aces and 15 digs for her first double-double of the season, Amy Golem had 12 kills and 11 digs for her third and Alex Darin had 26 aces and 12 digs for her fourth.

"I think we're doing great, particularly in light of the injuries we've sustained this past week," said Beam. "Truth is, I think we're farther along than we might have thought we would be."

The Grizzlies hit the road this weekend to finish up the first rotation of Summit League play against Western Illinois and UMKC before playing the rest of their league opponents a second time.

"It's always interesting the second time around," said Beam. "I think we'll be able to be a lot more confident going into those matches and knowing the level of volleyball and knowing what we need to do to be successful."



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Junior Leah Dupuie prepares to spike off of a Hallie Beattie (5) set. Beattie hadn't played the setter position since seventh grade until this past weekend against IUPUI and North Dakota State. Oakland defeated IUPUI, 3-1, on Friday. However, the Golden Grizzlies couldn't hang with the Bison on Saturday, losing 3-1.



## In Case You Missed It...

### Cross country finishes first, third at Intercollegiate

The men's and women's cross country teams took full advantage of the one home meet they host this season last Friday and raked in the points for OU. The men's team finished first in the 4K event and the women's team rounded out the top three with a third place finish in the 4K race.

### Swimming and diving compete at South Bend

The men's and women's swimming and diving teams competed at the Dennis Stark Relays at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind., last Friday. The men's squad finished in third place out of five teams and set a pair of meet records in the 200-yard medley and 400-yard medley relays, with times of 1:32.43 and 3:25.07, respectively, thanks to Marcin Unold, Zoltan Horvath, Chris Tansel and Andy Kellog.

On the women's side, the Golden Grizzlies finished in fourth place in a field of six teams.

### Men's golf ties for 20th at MacDonald Cup

The men's golf team tied for 20th place in a field of 26 at the MacDonald Cup in New Haven, Conn., Sunday. Grizzlies participating were Vince Carango, Jacob Crane, Nate Hendricks, Travis Peitz and Frank McAuliffe.

### OU hires pair of new coaches

Last week, Oakland University hired two new coaches for the basketball and baseball teams. Darren Sorenson joined the ranks of the Golden Grizzlies men's basketball program and will assist the team in day-to-day operations. Prior to coming to Oakland, Sorenson served five seasons at the University of Arkansas as Director of Basketball Operations.

As for the baseball program, the team welcomed Alec Moss as an assistant coach last Friday. He worked as an assistant baseball coach at Notre Dame Prep, his alma mater, and was also an assistant coach at Xavier University.

### Swan wins Huskie Classic

Golfer Nikki Swan, a junior, took top honors at the Huskie Classic in Huntley, Ill., finishing with 150 points, and led the Golden Grizzlies to a second-place finish. Also finishing in the top 10 were Jennifer Goulet in eighth place with a score of 157 and Austin McDermaid, whose 158 points earned her a ninth-place finish. OU also had top 30 finishers in Lauren Gardner and Kelly Wilke, completing the event with scores of 166 and 173, respectively.

—Samantha Franz  
Sports Editor

## Come join the Madnezz!

Friday, Oct. 12

### Block Party — 8:30 p.m.

Before the pep rally, the P-16 parking lot, across from the O'Rena, will turn into a free party, complete with food, a DJ and dancing. The new Grizz will be on hand as will performances from the dance and cheer teams.

### Pep Rally — 10 p.m.

Come meet your 2007-08 Golden Grizzlies! Doors open at 9:45 p.m. and the first 1,500 fans will receive an OU drawstring bag. Fans will also be able to sign up to win one of 10 \$300 book awards. Award winners will be able to pick up their prizes after the pep rally.

### Afterglow Event — 11 p.m.

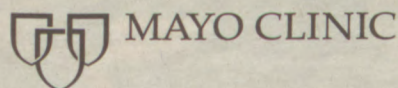
Still not tired? Come back to the P-16 parking lot for an afterglow event, complete with more dancing and music videos.

## Midnite Madnezz to take over OU Friday night

By SAMANTHA FRANZ  
Sports Editor

After months of waiting, the men's and women's basketball teams will finally be allowed to take to the court for official practice Friday, Oct. 12. To celebrate, Oakland University will conclude their WOCOU festivities with the annual Midnite Madnezz.

Above is a schedule of events for the big night, so cut it out and stick it someplace where you won't forget it. Everything is free, so why not come out and get your black and gold on?



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## GRIZZ OF THE WEEK



**Kristi Tomczyk**  
Women's Soccer

**Year: Senior**  
**Major: Wellness, Health Promotion and Injury Prevention**

Tomczyk's two goals proved to be crucial last Friday as Oakland beat ORU 2-1. Tomczyk leads the team with seven goals.

Photo Courtesy of Oakland Athletics



## Stealing the Show

*OU student finding success on stage*

By VICTORIA LEFEBVRE  
Contributing Reporter

Some say she sounds like Jewel. Others say Alanis. But Courtney Robb says that her music sounds like... well, it sounds like her.

The 22-year-old acoustic folk/pop singer from Royal Oak has prided herself in doing her music her way, and in the four short years since she first picked up a guitar, she says her method has proven effective.

Her music aspirations started when she was 17 and discovered the music of Michelle Branch.

"When [Michelle Branch] came out, Christina Aguilera and Britney Spears were really popular, and they didn't write their own music. When I saw that she wrote her own music and taught herself how to play guitar, I just found her really inspiring," Robb said.

It was then that Robb, who could already sing, decided to learn to play the guitar. For her 18th birthday her father bought her an Ibanez Acoustic guitar and she began teaching herself chords and technique.

She would watch Michelle Branch perform on TV and study her finger placement, emulating what she saw.

Her music, which blends the folk sound of mid-90s Jewel and the pop appeal of Michelle Branch, couples light melodies with airy lyrics that touch on things like familial relationships and the ups and downs of young love. Robb played her first show at The Emerald Theatre in Mt. Clemens about a year ago, and since that show has played non-stop around

the Detroit area, gaining new fans with each performance.

Often her set is sandwiched between an emo band and a hardcore metal group, and even then the audience seems to like her.

"I was playing at The Shelter...and there were all these hardcore metal kids standing around the stage nodding their heads and clapping along. Then after the show a couple of them came up to me and said that they really liked my set, which was kind of cool," Robb said.

Her set often includes originals like "Apology" and "Favorite Book," along with covers of pop songs like Avril Lavigne's "Tomorrow" and Anna Nalick's "Breathe," a favorite of Robb's and one that is usually a crowd pleaser.

When she's not singing, she's attending school at Oakland University, majoring in music.

She says that she likes taking classes on music and music theory because it gives her a different perspective on how to create music.

She looks forward to developing her sound further, possibly experimenting with other instruments like the piano, and has recently incorporated drums into her live shows.

Robb dreams to inspire people with her music, but some may say that dream is already coming true. At a recent show, a couple of young girls approached Robb after her set, asking for her autograph and a picture, saying that they loved her music.

"They were like 'I hope you become famous,' and all I could say was 'Me too.'"



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post  
Oakland University Student, Courtney Robb performs live at venues around the Metro Detroit area. Her music has generated a cross genre following over the past year.

## Earle shares New York City love in new album

By OLIVIA OLSON  
Contributing Reporter

On Steve Earle's most recent album, aptly titled "Washington Square Serenade," the alt-country singer/songwriter professes his love for the city that never sleeps, with only a few instances of his characteristic lyrical snarl.

Well, at least for the first half of the album.

Earle blows a kiss to his Southern roots with the opening track, "Tennessee Blues," a relatively sparse arrangement that is reminiscent of Earle's earlier albums.

Then, he veers off into the pop-ish,

NYC-centric second track, "Down Here Below."

This contrast is one of many on the album, setting up a musical portrait of the good ol' Southern boy who is smitten with the big city.

"City of Immigrants" is his love song to her, ingeniously pairing a lyrical celebration of the diversity of the city with an equally diverse instrumentation.

The album drags its heels slightly throughout the middle, but finds renewed energy with "Jericho Road." Here we find Earle's anger on behalf of the downtrodden, a swell of passion that extends through "Oxycotin Blues" and the vituperative "Red is the Color,"

which is the most lyrically poignant song on the album.

The unrivaled highlight is "Steve's Hammer (For Pete)," a rollicking, Seeger-sessionesque sing-along that is optimistic enough to balance out the darker tunes and soulful enough to make you almost forget any instances of sap on the out-and-out love songs.

On an album that attempts to focus on the virtues of New York, it is in fact a down-home, folky CD with a strategically placed "All together!" and a dog howling in the background that shines amid all the rest. And, on an album rich in diversity and contradictions, maybe that is exactly as it should be.



# Opeth fuses a soft sound into death metal

By KRISTEN ANN SZYDLOSK  
Contributing Reporter

Shock and surprise mount while progressive death metal blares from the first few sets of the Opeth album. The sound drains all sensation and disposes of any feelings of skepticism or stereotypes.

The song, "Under the Weeping Moon" among others, shows the experimentation of the band features declares both death metal and soft, clean vocals.

Let Mickael Åkerfeldt, lead singer of Opeth, take you on a journey through chivalry. Allow Per Wiberg, the latest technically progressive installment, to create keyboard slices interchanging between death metal and folk-based Irish sounds of the 60's. Be impressed by the bass work of Martin Mendez.

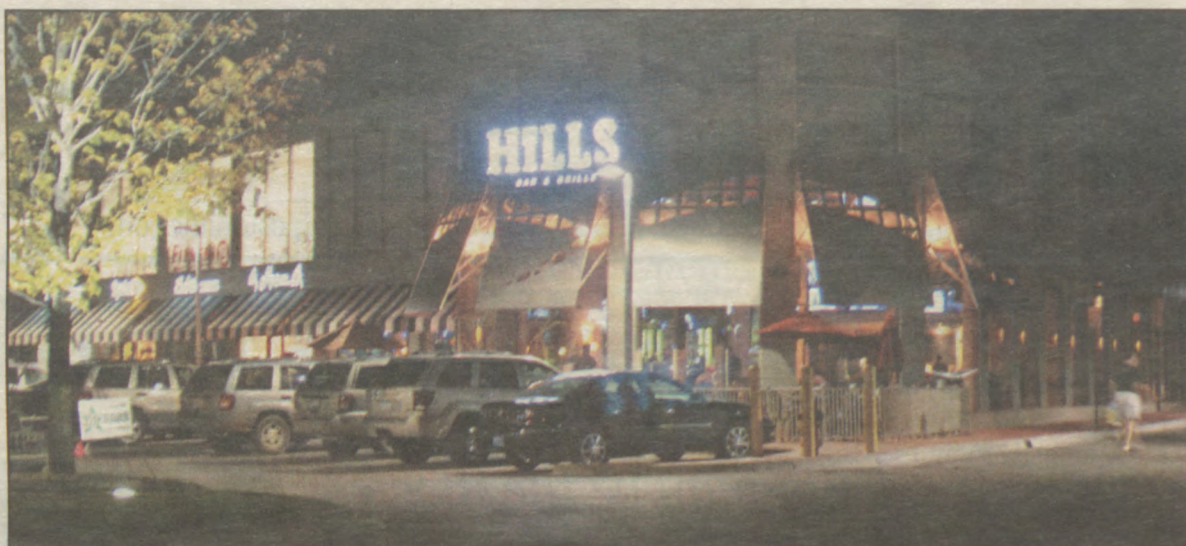
This Swedish band keeps the attention of listeners as they are thrown into an abyss with death metal and soft tones.

Åkerfeldt is a talented singer who can bellow both black death and pretty mellows simultaneously.

Songs like "When" and "Face of Melinda" build anticipation as to what is coming next. The guitarist throughout "Roundhouse Tapes" layers acoustic interludes, that are, at first listen, comparable to Jimmy Page.

Opeth is for diverse listeners who enjoy interchanging melodies of epic ballad slow dances. Prepare for death metal before listening, but remember, take in the beauty and the beast that Opeth has to offer.

For those who can enjoy a hint of chilly darkness in their otherwise light-mid-tempo record collections, the Opeth album is essential.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

Two reasons to check out The Hills: 1. Beer Pong 2. Saki Bombs

## Even better than the reality show

By AGATHA WOLKOWICZ  
Contributing Reporter

Not just an MTV reality drama, The Hills is a new bar and grille in Rochester Hills. Looming high with glass window walls and artfully placed landscaping, it looks like a place worth stepping into — at least to see what all the hype is about.

The idea was to create an alternative to the normal bar scene, something with a variety of live music, affordable drink specials and maybe even beer pong. In June 2007, Jon Robinson, co-owner along with brother-in-law Jason Nies and two friends Steve Stauch and John Pewinski, opened The Hills.

"Our grand opening was a huge success, and now we have regulars that show up three to four times a week," Robinson said.

The Hills has thrived, accommodating 4,000 patrons weekly. Its main attraction, 30 HD plasma screens, has drawn a crowd of sports fanatics.

"I like the way I can turn in any direction and still be able to see what the score is," said patron Ryan Doubleday.

Doubleday's friend, Alex Hendrick, celebrated his 21st birthday at The Hills.

"The hooked me up with birthday drink specials all night; the manager himself even brought me one," Hendrick said.

The Hills is also scoring rave reviews with their food, scoring four out of four stars in the The Oakland Press' anonymous food-tasting contest.

"The Oakland Press got the buffalo shrimp and baby back ribs," said Robinson. "You can't go wrong with those."

Tuesday thru Saturday patrons can hear a variety of live music. The Hills offers music that is scarcely found elsewhere at similar establishments. They even have beat-boxers.

Nick Aragna, bouncer at The Hills, says it is a hang-out spot for many Oakland University students.

The Hills employs approximately 70 people, keeping wait times down. Good food and music, fast drinks and a casual atmosphere add up to potential for a great night out.

The Hills is located at 6810 Rochester Rd. Rochester Hills, MI 48036. Get more information by calling (248)652-4455 or logging on to [www.thehillsbar.com](http://www.thehillsbar.com)

## Will-i-am disappoints in first solo album

By MIA EVANS  
Contributing Reporter

Will-i-am serves a laid-back track list composed of the most basic concepts of "house music" that may leave his fan base feeling abandoned on his first album, "Songs about Girls."

Will-i-am is known for being a lead member and producer of the multi-platinum group, the Black Eyed Peas. On top of his successes as a musician and producer of BEP, he has also experienced successful collaborations with a range of popular artists such as Justin

Timberlake and Sergio Mendes.

Instead of embracing the alliances he has made in the music industry, this album goes out of its way to not feature any big names. This would have been a great tactic if it wasn't for the dead air that covered most of his tracks with less-than-impressive instrumentals.

The industry is still relatively fresh from the Black Eyed Peas' innovation and Fergie's huge pop spin-off. A lot of fans and critics anticipated an equally exciting, if not greater, success in Will-i-am's solo debut.

But unlike the groundbreaking hits that challenge the idea of hip hop music, Will-i-am succumbs to the most

overused subjects of the culture.

"I Got It From My Mama" is a song with repetitive lyrics that glorifies the woman's physique in a comical way while "The Donque Song" blatantly focuses on the woman's backside.

And of course, "Get Your Money" is dedicated to the strippers.

"Songs about Girls" is disappointing because it lacks the energy that audiences have learned to associate with Will-i-am.



# MOUTHING OFF

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October 10, 2007

## Shut up, hang up and learn!

*Other students may be the most challenging elements in class*

By JESSE DUNSMORE  
Senior Reporter

A jarring thing happened to me last week — something that made me question the safe and comfortable assumptions I'd always held about the universe.

Sitting in introduction to Japan (not to be confused with intro to Japanese, particularly when registering), drawing ninjas in the margins of my notebook, I was content with the world.

Then: Bzzzz. Bzzzz. Bzz—

The vibrating stopped. I glanced over, expecting to see that my neighbor in our back corner had silenced her phone. Noticing she was, in fact, opening it, I thought, "Surely, she's shutting it off now."

What happened next shook me to my core.

This girl — this ordinary-looking human being, who appeared to be a rational member of the species — placed her cellular telephone to her ear and began to speak.

Something was fundamentally wrong with this action — it affected me in ways I've never felt.

It was as though she had pulled out a Zip-loc bag of human fingers and began eating them like Cheetos.

Not even the most basic display of shame cracked her soul-consuming smile. I felt ill.

Last semester, I shared an 8 a.m. physics class with the most confused woman in the Northern Hemisphere. Everything that sank into the gelatin-

like brains of the class was received by her like a superball bouncing against concrete at 120 mph.

"Magnetic repulsion has practical applications, too, like mag-lev trains," said the professor.

Bounce.

"What are meg-lab trains?" the student asked.

"Trains that used magnetism to float down the track."

Bounce.

"How does that work?" she questioned.

"Uh, I think magnetic impulses propel it."

Bounce.

"Then how do they stop?"

she pressed on.

"I assume they can reverse polarity to slow it down to a stop."

Bounce.

"But then what keeps them from falling over?"

She sounded very concerned, like she was expecting to have to fill in for an injured bullet-train engineer at any moment.

I need to point out here that this woman didn't actually seem *stupid*. I think she wanted to go into education. She just didn't seem to notice the bleary, tired eyes of twenty other classmates trying to sear a hole in the back of her head as she severely exceeded her word quota for an 8 a.m. class.

It seemed she also failed to realize she was impeding our education with her game of 20 thousand questions.

One friend tells me of a classmate who forcibly transformed an examination of



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

Classrooms have become a haven for annoying and distracting behavior.

Baudolino — a fictional epic set at the turn of the 13th century—into a class-long discussion on abortion.

I heard of another student who brushed out her thick, snarly hair in class, shedding profusely onto her neighbor's notes.

A politically-opinionated undergraduate goes out of his way to refute every point made by his political science professor.

A male, when told to stop talking to a female classmate during the lecture, responds belligerently with "Oh, sure, it's always the man's fault."

It is a women's studies course, and he's been in it for two months. Presumably drawing pictures of boobies in his notebook.

These people exist, and we share classrooms with them. They not only fail to recognize that they are breaking the governing etiquette of classrooms everywhere, but seem oblivious to the presence of such a code.

If we are giant circus balloons inflated

with peaceful acceptance of the social contract, floating in our Big Top of education, then these are the clowns of turmoil, riding unicycles of chaos, clumsily juggling flaming knives of disarray.

The only thing we can do about these closet sociopaths is have NASA launch them into the sun ask them to stop.

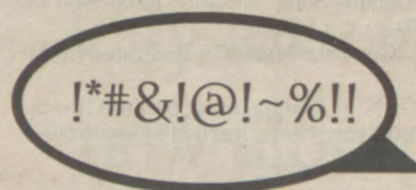
After several minutes listening to Ms. Superball worry about the top-heaviness of Japanese mass-transport systems, a bold classmate had raised his hand and simply said, "Why does this matter?"

Drawing strength from my memory of this paragon of order, I didn't think, even after seeing the revulsion on the face of the male student sitting behind Ms. Cellphone — I just acted.

"Uh, excuse me?" I said, my voice surely betraying my soul-wrenching despair. "Could you maybe hang up?"

"Yeah," she said. "Bye." She shut her phone and directed her attention back to the professor. She again appeared normal.

They are among us.



## GOT A BIG MOUTH?

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# America: made for you and me?

By ADAM ROBERTS  
Staff Intern

When I was a child I saw the world in black and white. Our country was the unquestionably good force in the world. Anything un-American was evil, strange, and contrary to all that was good and right with the world.

The fairy-tale existence of Hulk Hogan and Captain America is now only a fond memory.

This is the America they don't teach you about in elementary school.

America isn't so beautiful anymore. Woody Guthrie famously wrote "this land was made for you and me." That's no longer the case. This land is now made for corporate lobbyists, oil tycoons, and defense contractors. Presidential candidates now raise enough money to bankroll a small country. This isn't a Democrat versus Republican issue. No longer can those in power be trusted to do the right thing.

Minorities are whipped. A recent republican debate about minority issues failed to draw any viable presidential candidates. A panavision debate featuring Hispanic topics was canceled because only John McCain agreed to attend. Our policy on minorities consists of building a wall to keep Mexicans out, securing the library records of Arab-Americans, and letting blacks drown in New Orleans.

Eagles soar low upon the brooks and lakes and high across the sun. In America we pour dough into the crooks and fakes and supply all the guns. Decades of channeling munitions to militants and warlords has come back to haunt us. Born from anti-communist sentiments, the preemptive foreign policy embodied over the past 30 years has finally alienated us globally. In the Middle East, it's been a breeding ground for radical Muslims and military coups.

Republican Fred Thompson will be the next President of the United States. America loves a good ol' southern boy. Thompson's competition consists of an African American who's name is Barrack Hussein Obama, a woman, a Mormon, someone who was divorced twice and married his cousin (Rudy Giuliani), and Mike Huckabee. John Edwards is his only real competition, if we take history into consideration, and Edwards won't be nominated by the Democrats. Unfortunately, we live in a racist, sexist and paranoid world.

Ideas are tempered by advertising money and corporate bias. Media outlets in our generation are big business. Content is generated to attract advertisers and uphold certain political ideals. It's in the better interest of cable news outlets to make viewers more reactionary and suspicious than ever before. Most people have a view of the world that is both jaded and dangerous. The truth is, we live in one of the safest places in the world, and nearly everyone Americans are afraid of in some far off country has a greater chance of dying from war or disease than you, as an American, do.

Children in major U.S. cities don't have books, the teachers would rather let them play than learn, and drugs and violence are an easier path than college and family. Yet many of us are either unaware or don't care about domestic issues. It's fine to worry about the future of Iraqi children, but let's worry about our children first.

America may have its faults, but it's still the best country in the world. Progress has been made, and the civil rights movement was a success. More opportunities exist for the average American than ever before. We've come a long way, baby...but we've still got a long way to go. God bless the U.S.A. Unless you don't believe in god...but that's another issue entirely.

## Classifieds Employment

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MARY ALTAFFER/The Associated Press  
Three-time Olympic gold medalist Marion Jones pauses as she addresses the media outside a federal courthouse Friday, Oct. 5, 2007

## Marion Jones returns her Olympic medals, accepts 2-year ban

By NANCY ARMOUR  
Associated Press National Writer

Little by little, the remnants of Marion Jones' once glorious career are being stripped away.

Jones gave back the five medals she won at the Sydney Olympics on Monday following her admission that she was a drug cheat, and also agreed to forfeit all results, medals and prizes dating back to Sept. 1, 2000.

"I'm pleased that it was resolved efficiently," said Travis Tygart, chief executive officer of the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency. "And at the end of the day, I hope it's a good lesson that will have a dramatic deterrent effect on all athletes who may be tempted to dope."

The U.S. Olympic Committee now will return the medals to the International Olympic Committee, which will decide what to do with them.

Jones' relay teammates also should give back their medals, USOC chairman Peter Ueberroth said. Though there is precedent for not punishing an entire team, Ueberroth contends the race was tainted.

Jones, once one of the most celebrated female athletes in the world, long denied she had ever used performance-enhancing drugs, before admitting Friday that she'd taken the designer steroid "the clear" from September 2000 to July 2001.

"The clear" has been linked to BALCO, the lab at the center of the steroids scandal in professional sports.

Jones' admission came as part of her guilty plea to lying to federal investigators about using steroids. She will be sentenced on Jan. 11, and prosecutors had suggested to Jones the prison term would be a maximum of six months.

Though Jones announced her retirement after Friday's court hearing, she accepted a two-year ban Monday and agreed to forfeit any results dating back to Sept. 1, 2000.

She stands to lose more. Scherr said the USOC plans to go after Jones for prize money it awarded her, about \$100,000.

## Britain to cut Iraq troops to 2,500 by next year

By DAVID STRINGER  
Associated Press Writer

LONDON — Britain will halve its remaining troop contingent in Iraq next spring, Prime Minister Gordon Brown announced Monday. A British official later said they could not guarantee that any troops would remain in Iraq by the end of 2008.

Brown said Britain would lower troop levels to 2,500 by mid-2008 and redeploy logistics staff to neighboring states. The British leader was clearly hoping the announcement would help boost his popularity among a public weary of the war.

Brown told lawmakers Monday his Iraq plan follows the success of the U.S. troop increase this summer and efforts by Iraqis to drive suspected al-Qaida militants from havens in Anbar province, west of Baghdad.

He said decisions on further cuts would be made once the reduction to 2,500 was

complete, rejecting a call from opposition lawmakers to set a timetable to withdraw all British forces.

Officials said the latest troop cut would be complete by April, and that a total withdrawal of forces would be among options considered then.

"At the point where we arrive at that number next year, we shall have a much clearer idea of what our policy is going to be," a British official said, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue. "But certainly at this stage there's no guarantee they're going to be there beyond the end of (2008)."

The British presence in Iraq peaked with 46,000 troops during the March 2003 invasion. It was reduced to 18,000 that May, and 8,600 by the end of May 2004. This past May, there were about 5,500 British troops in Iraq.

Britain is already scaling back forces, and by the year's end will have 4,500 troops based mainly on the fringe of the

southern city of Basra, where a power vacuum has exacerbated discord among rival Shiite groups.

Iraqi forces will take control of security in the southern province of Basra within two months, ending Britain's combat role in the country, Brown said.

Brown, who visited Iraq last week, said Monday that British forces will initially carry out oversight duties including securing key supply and transit routes from Kuwait to Baghdad. By next spring, troops will be focused mainly on training and mentoring.

U.S. military officials are concerned that the reduced British presence in southern Iraq could open security gaps along routes to and from Kuwait.

Britain's participation in the U.S.-led invasion remains deeply unpopular in Britain. On Monday more than 2,000 people marched from London's Trafalgar Square to Parliament to demand a complete withdrawal of British troops.

## Record heat causes death, halt to Chicago Marathon



JOSE M. OSORIO, The Chicago Tribune/AP Photo  
A fellow runner and medical technicians assist Helmut Kehr, 70, center, from Leinfelden-Echterdingen, Germany, after he collapsed during the the 2007 LaSalle Bank Chicago Marathon, Sunday, Oct. 7, 2007. A Michigan police officer died and dozens of others needed medical care while running the marathon, as record heat and smothering humidity forced race organizers to shut down the course midway through the event.

## Wis. attorney general: Deputy killed himself after rampage

By ROBERT IMRIE  
Associated Press Writer

CRANDON, Wis. — An off-duty sheriff's deputy who killed six people apparently shot himself three times, with the last shot hitting him in the right side of the head, the state attorney general said Tuesday.

Tyler Peterson, 20, shot himself twice under the chin, while the third and fatal shot entered the right side of his head, Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen said. Peterson also was shot once in the left bicep from a distance.

The six people who died were either

students or recent graduates of Crandon High School, where Peterson also had graduated.

They were at the house to share pizza and watch movies during the school's homecoming weekend when Peterson attacked early Sunday.

Peterson told a friend he had gone to his ex-girlfriend's house hoping to patch up their relationship, but lost control when they got into an argument and her friends began calling him a "worthless pig," Mike Kegley told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

The lone survivor was scheduled for surgery Tuesday afternoon.

Peterson died near a friend's home in Argonne.

According to Van Hollen, Peterson went to Jordanne Murray's home about 2 a.m. and argued with her after accusing her of dating someone else. Murray demanded Peterson leave, and he did, only to return with an AR-15 rifle.

"He didn't speak, he simply opened fire," Van Hollen said.

The love survivor was Charlie Neitzel, 21, of Pickerel. He pleaded with Peterson after the first shot, only to have him fire again, Van Hollen said. Neitzel fell to the floor, "playing dead until Peterson left, Neitzel survived," Van Hollen said.

### Nation | World News Briefs

10-4 | Idaho Senator Larry Craig announces he will serve out his term in the U.S. Senate despite losing a court bid to rescind a guilty plea for an indecent act at a Minneapolis airport. | A rescue operation begins for 3,200 gold miners trapped in South Africa. All of the miners were eventually rescued.

10-5 | In light of recalling 21.7 million pounds of beef linked to E. coli-related illness, Topps Meat Company announces that it is going out of business.

10-7 | The United Auto Workers sets a Wednesday deadline to reach a new four-year contract with Chrysler. | Vandals punch a four inch tear in the Le Pont d'Argenteuil, a Claude Monet painting during Paris's annual Nuit Blanche all-night cultural festival.