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THE POST

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March 23, 2005

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50 cents

Complete OUSC election guide



Bryan Austin



Charity Jones



Michael McGuinness

The Post covers the OUSC presidential and vice presidential debates. Turn to A2 for the full story.

Find out about the issues students raised and how candidates responded to them at Monday's Open Forum on A6.

Campus News Editor Roqaya Eshmawi gets answers from the presidential and vice presidential candidates concerning their opinions and platforms on A3.

Vote online at www.oakland.edu/voteou
Voting begins at 12 a.m. Monday, March 28 and ends at 10 p.m. Wednesday, March 30.

Dancing woes continue on campus

By ALLISON BRUNNER
SENIOR NEWS WRITER

Former NFL coach Vince Lombardi once said "football isn't a contact sport; it's a collision sport. Dancing is a contact sport."

If Lombardi came to OU's campus, however, he would not find those sports, because there is no football team at OU and dances are still banned until the end of the winter semester.

A month after the dance ban was put into effect, members, leaders and advisors of student

organizations have the opportunity to voice their opinions on the dance ban and the closing of events to the external community.

Their concerns will be addressed in a formal meeting by Jean Ann Miller, director of the Center for Student Activities, Glenn McIntosh, dean of students, and other campus administrators.

McIntosh said the primary goal of the "Town Hall Meeting" is to see what students think is the best way to ensure the safety of people who come to campus events.

Cressie Smith, coordinator of

student organizations and Greek life at OU, sent an e-mail Monday to student organizations informing them of the meeting during which they can discuss current and proposed policies for dances and major social events.

They are also encouraged to recommend strategies to "curtail the inappropriate behavior experienced at the dances this semester," Smith said in her email to student organizations.

She said they also hope to create positive change to "improve the social climate on OU's campus and eliminate the violent

behavior exhibited at and after the dances."

In regards to the closing of events to the general public, McIntosh said the primary purpose of student organization programming is to meet the needs of current students.

"If a student organization feels they need to open their event up to the external community, then it is a sign they are not meeting the needs of the current students," McIntosh said.

Facilities on campus are being paid for in part by current students' dollars.

For this reason, McIntosh said, when there is an event in a facility with a capacity of 600 that is open to the external community, OU's 16,000-plus student body cannot be served.

To gain maximum attendance and participation, two meeting times have been set.

Both are Wednesday, March 23. The first is from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. in Lake Superior Room A of the OC and the second will be in the Oakland Room of the OC from 5 - 6 p.m.

Students make long trek to Charlotte

By LIBBY BAKER
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Tamara Kukuk, a freshman communications major, said she's never seen OU have so much school spirit.

Kukuk was one of more than 100 students who traveled to Charlotte, N. C. by bus last Friday to cheer on the OU men's basketball team in their first appearance in the NCAA Tournament.

Two buses, paid for by the Student Activities Funding Board, left OU's campus around 11 p.m. Thursday evening and arrived in Charlotte over 12 hours later.

Elissa Tamm, a freshman pre-nursing student, said the ride was long, but worth it.

She missed three classes to attend Friday's game against the University of North Carolina.

Student Body President, Jonathan Parks, helped arrange the transportation to Charlotte for students and said some waited in line for more than two hours to reserve their spots on the bus.

"I called a bunch of times and they said they couldn't hold tickets ... so I left work early," said Luke Williams, a fifth year mechanical engineering and Spanish major.

Williams enjoyed the ride down and met lots of new people.

"We tried to sing the fight song, but it didn't work out so well, because we didn't know the words," he said.

Instead they watched movies including "Enemy of the State," "Training Day" and "Above the Rim."

The Student Program Board and the Dean of Students Office paid for half of each \$50 student ticket.

The Grizzlies finished the first half down 59-33, but OU students weren't disappointed.

"I'd like to see them in it more, but it's just cool to be here," Williams said.

"They've got to be really nervous out there, but they're doing the best they can," Tamm said. "It's a great opportunity for us overall."

Despite Oakland's 96-68 loss to the Tar Heels, students were already hopeful for what this season will mean for both the men's team and the university in the future.

"(This showed) this is a goal they can reach and they can accomplish," Kukuk said. "I think it will get students more involved (and get) more student pride."

Please see OUSC on A8



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post
Senior forward Cortney Scott goes up for two in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. Turn to B8 for more information on the game.

Ticket expense causes fuss

By ROQAYA ESHMAWI
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

A suggested change to the OUSC bylaws prompted a lengthy debate at Monday's OUSC meeting.

Legislators Katie Miller and Saman Waquad were concerned with President Jonathan Park's discretionary expenditure of \$500 for a plane ticket to North Carolina to attend the men's basketball game.

They proposed amending the

bylaws to read that the president's discretionary funds may not be used for personal expenses.

Parks' original plans to attend the game fell through at the last minute; by then the OUSC-sponsored buses were full, and as a last minute decision, he booked a flight.

Jackie Claiborne, legislative affairs director, said she doesn't believe the funds were utilized in a personal manner and doesn't see a reason to amend the bylaw.

Legislator Kori Lynn Caver

agreed. "It was not personal use, it was last minute," Caver said.

"We're spending too much time on a small issue," Legislator George Nahas said, adding that the student body president should arrive at the game with pride, not "bushed out of his brains" by a 12-hour bus ride.

"Let's give our president the leeway," he said.

Legislator Stefen Welch said the issue was "minute" and that the meeting should move on.

Sometimes OUSC engages in

behavior that makes the members look "stupid," he said, "especially when there's press in the room."

Parks was concerned that no one had brought their concerns to his attention.

"Everyone's talking about it, no one's talking to me," he said. "There's a lack of trust."

"If you don't want the power and authority and scrutiny," he added, "don't elect me into office, and don't elect the next person

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CANDIDATES DEBATE

Presidential candidates

BY NICK COTTA
THE OAKLAND POST

Three Student Congress presidential candidates made their cases to the student body as they debated in the Fireside Lounge last Thursday.

This year's Student Congress has not been doing a good job representing students, said Bryan Austin and Charity Jones.

"A lot of students felt that Congress has not represented them," Jones said.

Austin said he believes OUSC needs to "just help students" rather than focus on politics.

Michael McGuinness, the current vice president, disagreed.

Austin, Jones and McGuinness defined their platforms as they made cases for why they should be the next student body president.

It's not possible to make everyone happy, McGuinness said, adding that leaders sometimes have to make decisions and take stands that not everyone will agree with.

He emphasized his prior experience, and said his platform is a "positive platform for progress."

Austin finds that Congress is too political and bureaucratic.

"I'd love to make it more volunteer-based," he said, referring to a letter to the editor which stated that \$85,000 of the \$225,000 Student Congress budget goes to paying Student Congress position salaries.

Jones is a commuter student, and she said she feels that commuters are underrepresented in OUSC.

If elected, she wants to bring back the commuter council, similar to the current residence council.

One of McGuinness' main goals is to set up a Gender and Sexuality Center at OU.

He also advocates a strong Student Congress with a hard-working and experienced staff that can continue the work OUSC has been doing.

Jones said she believes that character and integrity are the most important qualities of a staffer.

And Austin said that he is "looking for non-political members that care about students and not agendas."

Jones said her main motivation for running was that she felt she and so many other students have been ignored, and she wanted to "give every student a

sense of ownership."

McGuinness pointed out that he has gone outside his box to become a member of the Women's Issues Forum as well as the Association of Black Students.

He also noted his lengthy resume of Congress experience. Austin used a hockey analogy to tout his skills as a leader.

As a goalie, his job on the team was to sacrifice his body for the team, and that is what he is about, a candidate "willing to sacrifice."

Jones expressed more fiscal responsibility.

She said she feels that an examination of the PrintWise system is in order, because it might overstep its grounds as students already pay a technology fee as part of their tuition.

The debate consisted of opening statements, then four questions where each student has three minutes to respond, and an open session at the end to respond to other candidates' statements.

More information on each set of candidates and the referendums can be found at <http://www.oakland.edu/voteou>.

Vice presidential candidates

BY CHRISTA ELAINE
BADON
THE OAKLAND POST

Three students vying for the position of OUSC vice president duked it out in an open debate held Friday in the Fireside Lounge.

Juniors Kori Lynn Caver and Danny Johnston, and senior Brendan Stevens stated their cases of how they would assist their presidential-hopeful counterparts junior Michael McGuinness, graduate student Bryan Austin and senior Charity Jones, respectively, in making OU a better school for students.

Throughout the debate, the word passion was used as each candidate stated their position.

"Passion is key," Johnston said, adding that with an Austin/Johnston ticket, the goal would be "representing all students, all the time."

"We want what the students want," he said. "Helping students is all I know how to do. It's all about the right student leadership."

"Representing students is what's most important," Stevens said in his opening statement, adding that he has passion for OU and its students.

"Charity and I want every student's voice to be heard. We want to have a greater focus on academics and hope to bring a new style to OUSC," he said, adding that Jones and he "want to make things happen."

Stevens advocated a commuter council, similar to the residence hall council, that would address the needs of commuter students.

Caver credited her qualifications for vice president on her experience as an OUSC legislator this year.

"Mike McGuinness and I want to provide, for all students, a greater focus on academic success, Gender and Sexuality Center advocacy, financial aid improvements, engaging uninvolved students to feel a part of the university and having a more distinct campus flavor," she said.

"With your vote, we can make that happen," she added.

When asked if executive board members should be paid for their positions, Johnston said he believed volunteering would be more beneficial, adding that the excess funding should go toward scholarships for students.

Both Caver and Stevens said they believed executive board members should be paid.

"Some positions can be rid of and even cut down," Stevens said.

"We should also look at the spring and summer budgets and cut there, too."

Stevens expressed that it was vital to receive some type of compensation, relaying his experiences as former editor in chief of The Oakland Post.

By receiving some type of compensation, staff members are shown that the work they do is important.

The candidates were asked to provide details of experience heading meetings, since the vice president oversees and leads the OUSC meetings.

Johnston said he wants to learn how to master chairing a meeting and values that his residence advisor and Connections peer leadership

gave him the experience.

Stevens said he has had experience heading meetings at The Oakland Post.

Caver said her experience involves being a Student Congress legislator.

Candidates were asked how they would resolve an issue in Congress if there was an even or split decision of support.

"I would resolve the issue by listening to what everybody has to say," Johnston said.

"We have to work with the e-board. Students voice their opinions at OUSC meetings and we have to take into account that Student Congress influences the students," Stevens said.

"I would encourage legislators to listen. It is very important to not shun or turn away a student who has something to say," Caver said.

At the end of debate, candidates were asked what the priority for their ticket was.

"Equal representation for the student body is most important. We need some form of change, and this is a huge issue," Johnston said.

Stevens said complete student representation is tangible.

"The formation of the commuter council needs to be led by someone who cares and believes in it," he said.

"Financial aid is the biggest issue," Caver said. "There must be a training process for employees (in the Financial Aid Office)."

The candidates agreed that students should make their voices heard by voting at the election.

Jean Ann Miller, director of the Center for Student Activities, was the moderator.

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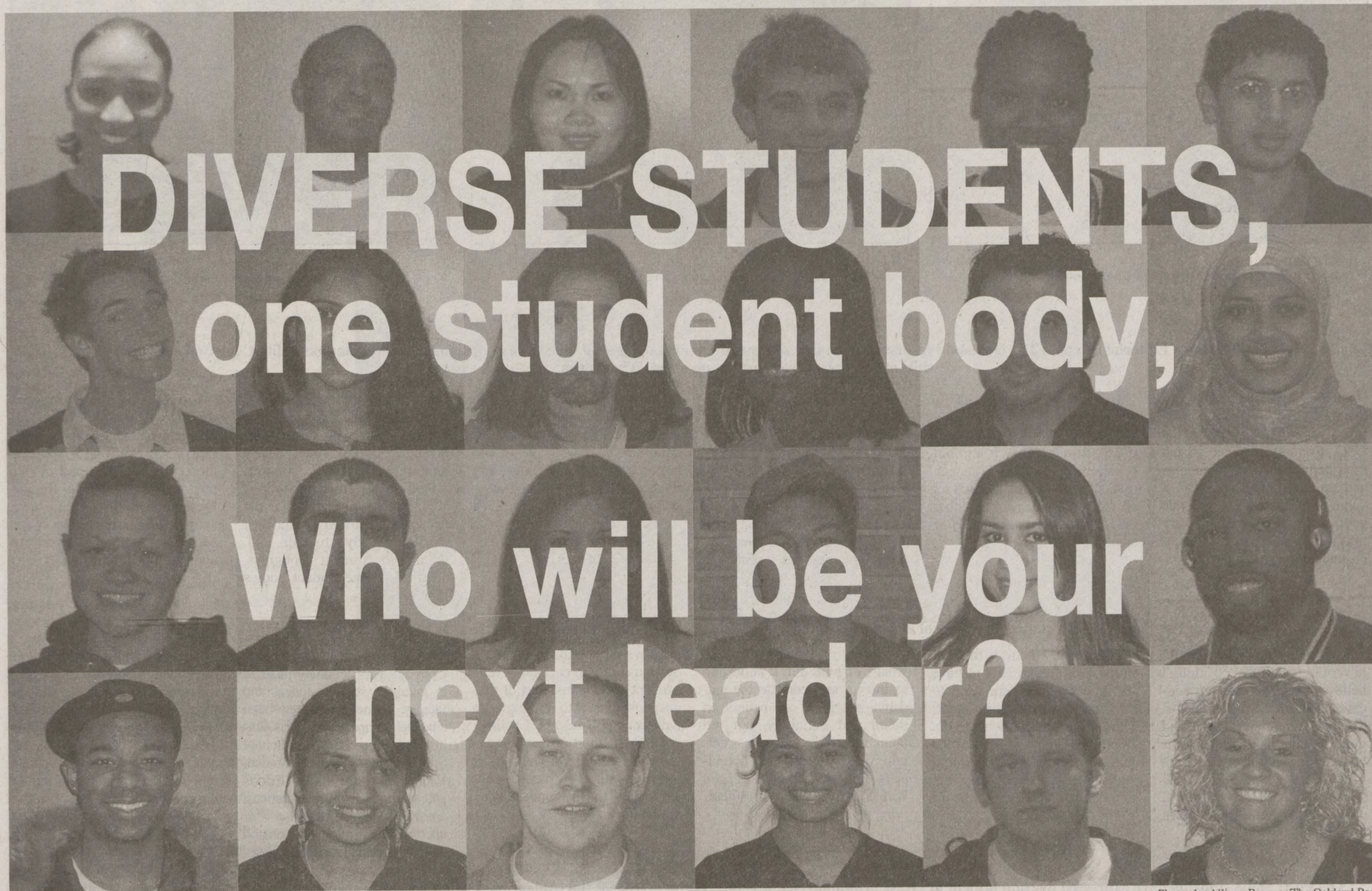
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March 23, 2005

The Oakland Post
www.oakpostonline.com

A3



Photos by Allison Brunner/The Oakland Post

The Oakland Post asked the presidential and vice presidential candidates a series of questions about their platforms. The candidates were asked to respond to each question within a 50-word limit, and were informed that in order to be fair to all candidates, any answer that ran over 50 words would be cut at the fiftieth word. The Oakland Post did not share the answers of any candidate with other candidates. The candidates' responses were not edited for content.

Photos by Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post



Presidential Candidate:
Bryan Austin



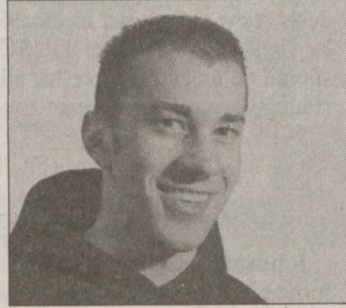
Vice Presidential
Candidate:
Danny Johnston



Presidential Candidate:
Charity Jones



Vice Presidential
Candidate:
Brendan Stevens



Presidential Candidate:
Michael McGuinness



Vice Presidential
Candidate:
Kori Lynn Caver

The Post: What will your mission be as student body president or vice president?

Austin: Our mission will be to serve all the students. If a student comes to us with a concern, we're going to make sure that concern is heard. Personal agendas and politics will not play a role in our administration. Students are our concern. Fairness and equality is our mission.

Johnston: My mission as the student body vice president will be to help and represent the students. My biggest passion is helping students, and I have a lot of experience doing just that.

Jones: My mission as president is to represent students at every level. I want every student to know that Student Congress works hard for them. I want all students to feel welcome in the Congress office, knowing that Student Congress is doing everything to meet every need and concern.

Stevens: My mission as vice president would be to bring issues that affect all students to the forefront of campus discussion. By facilitating dialogue with administrators and being active, I believe it's possible to help more students on much broader issues.

McGuinness: My mission as student body president shall be to utilize my experience and energy for progress on behalf of Oakland students. With my outstanding partner Kori Lynn Caver and I providing positive leadership for Student Congress and the students as a whole, the Oakland experience will be more fulfilling.

Caver: My mission as student body vice president is to unite, defend and serve the student body in a greater capacity. I will help place the focus back on academic success. I will work with administrators and students alike to see better retention and graduation rates amongst our student body.

The Post: What specific plan do you have in mind to defend students against tuition and fee increases?

Austin: To defend students against tuition and fee increases, we plan to work closely and establish a good relationship with the administration. Fees naturally go up with time, but we will strive to keep them under control and try to give students a break whenever possible. Especially important are scholarship opportunities.

Johnston: Bryan and I have great connection with the administration here at Oakland, so we will be able to help point students in the right direction. One plan is to help provide more scholarship opportunities. Congress has a big budget, and a lot of money does not get used.

Jones: Administration is the key. We will work with them to ensure tuition stays fair, and we will also hold them accountable to ensure that it is being used properly. We will work hard to improve the PrintWise situation and to guarantee that students aren't paying twice for printing.

Stevens: I think the best course of action is to actively lobby against budget cuts to higher education and partner with the university to let students' voices be heard at the highest levels. Together, tuition and fee increases can be combated.

McGuinness: President Jonathan Parks and I meet with University President Gary Russi regularly and lobby to ease the students' financial burden. Strong, unified student lobbying for state appropriations that ensure Oakland's success is necessary. Coordination amongst the Association of Michigan Universities, our Legislative Affairs Director and Committee can provide just that.

Caver: As vice president, I plan on working with the OUSC legislators and the legislative affairs director to encourage more letter writing campaigns. I have co-sponsored five pieces of legislation concerning state appropriations and am ready and willing to lobby state government on behalf of the students.

The Post: What specific plan do you have to enhance the environment OU offers students, be it academic, social, etc?

Austin: Our plan is to enhance OU's student life. The biggest problem OU has is students not feeling connected. We would strive to reach out to students and help them find their place at OU. We would also make Congress a friendly place for all students, political leanings aside.

Johnston: I think the key would be making Congress a very friendly and welcoming place for students. It would be great if students could just drop by the office, have their questions answered and be given assistance, whatever it may be.

Jones: We want to enhance campus life by continuing initiatives for students and promoting the resources available on campus. We plan on redirecting funds that have been wasted toward innovative programs and services for students to guarantee a successful tenure at Oakland.

Stevens: Diverting funds to organizations that coordinate and facilitate special events that entertain and educate students is one goal. Also, by working with the university to better understand the changing face of education, it is possible to better prepare students for their careers through coursework and special events.

McGuinness: We have an extensive answer to this, which we've elaborated upon in our thorough platform. The six key tenets of our vision for progress are focus on academic success, Gender and Sexuality Center advocacy, financial aid improvements, supporting student organizations, engaging uninvolved students and providing a more distinct campus flavor.

Caver: My specific plan for enhancing the OU environment is outlined in the platform. I'd like to see more student involvement at Student Program Board and student organization events. I'll also continue to encourage support of our athletic teams and media outlets as I have been doing since my first year.

The Post: What specific actions will you take to ensure that financial aid is available to students?

Austin: Misinformation seems to be the greatest problem with financial aid. To combat this problem, Danny and I would proactively speak with financial aid and do our best to let students know what needs to be turned in and when. Most important is connecting students with people who can help them.

Johnston: It is very important to connect the students with the people who can help them. Sometimes students miss deadlines, and problems arise simply because people just do not know. Financial aid is a huge problem students face, and I will do my best to serve the students.

Jones: Throughout the year, we will do a publicity drive to educate students on the financial aid process. We also want to continue the productive relationship with OUSC and the Financial Aid Office so that students know their financial concerns are being met.

Stevens: Steps have been taken to improve the financial aid process, but it must be an ongoing process. Continually surveying students and working with the Financial Aid Office to ensure that financial concerns don't keep any student from getting an education or from the dorms is vital.

McGuinness: Your Student Congress has had great success this year on this vital issue, conducting surveys and meeting with administrators to express concerns. We've worked to secure additional Financial Aid Office employees, called for improved customer service and training. During our tenure in office, this vigilance will not let up.

Caver: Realizing the importance of financial assistance, I feel more training should be available on financial aid matters during orientation. I feel that this will cut down on unfortunate situations that arise. I am willing to work with the administration and staff to implement programs that affect incoming students.



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post

From left to right: Bryan Austin and Danny Johnston



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post

From left to right: Charity Jones and Brendan Stevens



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post

From left to right: Kori Lynn Caver and Michael McGuinness

The Post: Editorial letters to The Oakland Post have shown that some students are outraged at OUSC for supporting a Gender and Sexuality Center on campus, while other students support the prospect. What is your view on the issue?

Austin: Instead of asking students how they feel and preparing the groundwork for the GSC, Congress decided to put their beliefs above the students and go ahead with the GSC. I value the GSC for the possible good it could do, but am very troubled about the many alienated students.

Johnston: I feel the GSC is something that could possibly do great things for the university. Students were crying out because it appeared the agenda of Congress was not focused on all student concerns, but rather only those of certain groups of students.

Jones: I have many concerns with the GSC. My main question is, "Will all students of all backgrounds and beliefs be adequately served?" This question remains unanswered. I also have major issues with possible partnerships of the center. Until my questions are answered, I cannot support such a center.

Stevens: Done correctly, a center on campus that deals with gender and sexuality issues would be an asset to OU. There are many roadblocks, including funding, the possibility of other campus concerns (such as a worship center) calling for a center and others. This has to be done the right way.

McGuinness: It was certainly the right thing to do; there are good reasons why the diverse legislative body voted nearly unanimously in support, although misconceptions abound. The movement for the center was initiated by students, carried out by students and, thanks to Student Congress, affirmed by the student body's representatives.

Caver: These are essential resources that must be provided, and many students stand to benefit. I am in strong support of the center and it is part of our platform. The Students for the Development of a GSC have shown their strong support for McGuinness and Caver by endorsing our campaign.

The Post: OUSC's stance on Proposal 2 garnered both support and outrage from students. Do you feel OUSC was justified in taking a stance?

Austin: Congress should never take a political position. I believe Congress should educate and support all students. Though Congress may have had good intentions, their actions were wrong and alienated a lot of students. I would never tell students what to believe. I would only help them learn about the issues.

Johnston: I believe that the purpose of Congress is to have the students tell them what to do. In this situation, Congress was telling students what to do. I feel that Congress crossed the line when instead of educating students on the issues, they told them how to vote.

Jones: I strongly oppose what Congress did. It is our job to inform and educate the students, not push our beliefs on them, and definitely, not tell them how to vote. Congress definitely overstepped their boundaries, and that will NOT happen with Charity Jones as president.

Stevens: OUSC has a responsibility to each and every student on campus. Part of that responsibility is to represent the voices of all students. I believe OUSC fell short of that responsibility by taking a stand on a divisive state political issue, choosing to influence rather than inform.

McGuinness: Student Congress was definitely justified in taking a stance; student and faculty benefits have been adversely impacted. It was also justified in passing the School Spirit, Campus Safety, Student Voting, Tsunami Relief Efforts and Campus Unity Resolutions, among others; likewise for upcoming Affirmative Action and State Appropriations Resolutions.

Caver: I feel that it's the job of Student Congress to support the rights of students, as well as faculty and staff when necessary. I am in favor of the stance that OUSC took. It is unfortunate that Oakland University will lose faculty members due to the passing of Proposal 2.

The Post: Some students have expressed discontentment at OUSC, claiming that it is not representative of the student body and focuses on special interests, while others commend it for its diversity and for being representative of the student body. How do you feel?

Austin: OUSC's diversity is coming at the price of alienating students. Such diversity is not the kind we want. I believe we can act as a bridge by valuing all sides. By allowing each an equal voice, I believe I can create an atmosphere where everyone wins.

Johnston: Diversity is something great about Oakland University. Although, it has appeared that not everyone's voice was heard. Every student deserves a voice, and it should be heard. I believe OUSC should be a neutral place for all students' voices to be heard.

Jones: Looking at the two issues that students flooded the papers about, I can understand how students felt as though Congress is about special interests. I also work with a diverse group of very devoted individuals that care about the students. I guess I can empathize with both groups.

Stevens: I join in commending OUSC for its diverse representation of the student body. I do believe, however, that the reforming of a commuter council, which would have an appointed representative on OUSC, and active faculty representation would help OUSC more completely represent the OU community.

McGuinness: Student Congress is more active and energized now, compared to past years. As one who has worked on behalf of students on a variety of issues with fellow leaders, I would be doing a disservice to that work and those who've served by misrepresenting them and saying we weren't representative.

Caver: Although I disagree with the premise of the question, I will answer accordingly. OUSC has represented the student body well. Their special interests happen to consist of the majority of the student body, if not all students at Oakland University. OUSC should be commended, not criticized, for their efforts.

The Post: What are the strengths of the current Student Congress? What accomplishments do you feel OUSC has made?

Austin: The strength of Congress is in its activity. Congress has enacted many policies, many of which have been extremely beneficial for students. The bookswap was a great idea, scholarships have been provided, the parking spot was great, and the members of Congress are passionate about what they believe in.

Johnston: Congress has had some great ideas this year. They made some great attempts to help students such as the student of the month parking spot and the bookswap. They have tried to help the students and succeeded in many cases.

Jones: Besides having a nearly full legislature, some the accomplishments include the first online bookswap, technology advancement program, Diversity for Dollars, scholarship opportunities, improved relationship with SPB and the hugely increased publicity of OUSC. A diverse legislative body and a hard-working e-board is part of the strength of OUSC.

Stevens: Student Congress has done a great job giving the minority groups a voice on OU's campus, which is commendable. By improving the Student Activities Funding Board process, OUSC has kept SAFB from overspending and created incentives to promote diverse involvement. All that has translated into a more open campus.

McGuinness: OUSC has made progress this year. They have displayed good leadership and have made excellent choices that are long term beneficial. They have worked together to create a diverse and welcoming climate on OU's campus. OUSC has implemented programs, helped to improve financial aid situations and cleared up many misconceptions.

Caver: Due to space constraints, I'll list some of many: Technology Advancement Program, fall and winter scholarships, sports events promotions, Financial Aid Office improvements, Campus Race Relations Roundtable, online bookswap, enhanced publicity, Student of the Month Parking Award, Grizz statue support, Constitution and Bylaws revisions, Diversity for Dollars, fight song promotion.

The Post: What are the weaknesses of the current student congress? What mistakes do you feel OUSC has made?

Austin: The weakness of Congress is its outspoken members. Congress should be a bipartisan organization, not a means for special interest groups. Congress has made mistakes when they took action without consulting the student body. These actions have included: Proposal 2, condom dispensers in the residence halls, the GSC, etc.

Johnston: A weakness of Congress is that they have lost a strong connection with the students. A few months ago, they did the student of the month drawing, and there were only two students who entered. Another weakness is Congress appears to be one-sided and close-minded on many issues.

Jones: The biggest mistake OUSC made was telling people how to vote on Proposal 2. There were MANY students who were ignored during that process, including myself. I think the weakness of OUSC this year is, somehow, we forgot to represent all students.

Stevens: While OUSC has taken strides in fostering diversity, it has, at times, ignored dissenting voices, even those shared at their own meetings. I feel there is much untapped potential within OUSC to be voiced, both on campus and on a statewide level, for the OU community.

McGuinness: There is room to improve in regard to effectively communicating the actions and motivations of Student Congress. When pockets of students either wittingly or unwittingly are under the wrong impression about what has been done and why we've done it, we must be proactive in providing rationale and background information.

Caver: As a legislator I had the opportunity to attend the Association of Michigan Universities Conference, which OU hasn't been dedicated to in the past, something I feel is detrimental. I feel that stronger ties with AMU could greatly increase our ability to lobby effectively on behalf of the student body.

The Post: Why should students vote for you?

Austin: Students should vote Austin/Johnston because we value students more than any political agenda. Austin/Johnston are for a simpler form of government, a government run by the people. We are not smooth-talking politicians with pricey signs, but regular guys who just want to make a difference.

Johnston: Students should vote Austin and Johnston because we are the most experienced ticket when it comes to student leadership. We know a lot about student concerns, and we feel that we have what it takes to serve the students in these positions.

Jones: As a member of OUSC, I have the experience it takes and a strong passion for change. It's time for OUSC to be a voice for all students. It's time for new leadership. Brendan and I have the experience, dedication and integrity for the job. It's that simple.

Stevens: Ms. Jones and I are focused on giving every student a voice and being active within the university community and on the state level, especially with the continuing debate about higher education. Besides, "if you vote for me, all your wildest dreams will come true."

McGuinness: When students are voting for me, they are also voting for my excellent running mate Kori Lynn Caver. We've got the unparalleled experience, positive energy and student-focused dedication that will pay dividends. We encourage potential voters to explore our platform and to cast a vote for progress: McGuinness/Caver.

Caver: I respectfully ask students for their vote because I have experience on OUSC. I've been serving students non-stop since my incoming semester. I hear the voices of students, and I respond accordingly. I have the skills and communication abilities necessary to chair meetings. I'm prepared to serve the student body.

The Post: How much are you spending on campaigning? Where specifically are your campaigning funds coming from? (Please note: These are two combined questions, and candidates are allowed 100 word answers.)

Austin: So far Danny and I have spent about \$60. Most of our expenses have come from printing costs and paper supplies. All of our signs and campaign materials are made by volunteers. We have also had offers by people to donate, but we've only accepted help and no cash. To catch up with Mike and Kori though, we will probably have to spend \$100 more ... We're up for it though. We believe in our cause.

Candidate Johnston did not respond.

Jones: I don't know the total, but I have spent over \$100. The costs include, but aren't limited to, our banner in the OC, paper for flyers, poster boards, our homemade stickers, candy and materials for campaign tables. With one more week to go, I project to spend about \$20 more. All of this money came from my own income.

Stevens: Myself, I've spent less than 20 dollars on campaign materials. Luckily, I had extra paint lying around the house and some other necessary materials to make the signs. Ms. Jones has fronted the cost for a lot of the other campaign materials. Ms. Jones and I have been spending the money out of our own pockets for this campaign. Other than my roommates, who let me use their paint, and a friend who donated the materials for the lawn signs, it's been entirely out-of-pocket.

Candidate McGuinness did not respond.

Candidate Caver did not respond.

\$12M Palace plan approved

BY LIZABETH DUEWEKE
THE OAKLAND POST

Ben Wallace's famous 'fro has more room to grow after the Auburn Hills Planning Commission approved an expansion of The Palace Thursday.

The three-story, 60,000 square-foot addition will come with a hefty price tag of about \$12 million to stay current with other competing arenas in the nation, according to the proposal.

Architect David Richards presented the plans to expand the northwest corner of The Palace to board members. Richards said the section will have three floors: two above ground and one below and "an exterior like a glass curtain."

The grade level, or the main floor, will include more food courts and more exits to accommodate the flow of people.

The upper level of the expansion will be a club restaurant and will seat about 600 during games and events, but will not be expected to open on non-event days.

The lower level will include eight private suites, which will be available for purchase like the suites held by season ticket holders. With suites almost completely underground, ticket holders and their guests will not actually be able to watch the game courtside.

Instead, suites will be decked out with dining room tables, a bar and lounge area and plasma screen televisions to watch the game. Each suite will also be assigned 12 seats in the arena.

Richards said that although the underground suites may seem like an odd concept at first, they are becoming an expensive amenity at arenas around the country, with each suite going for about \$250,000 each season.

The new plans, however, do not include any pathways for fans to walk to The Palace because police were concerned with pedestrians crossing Lapeer Road safely. The addition will not add seats to the arena or extra parking.

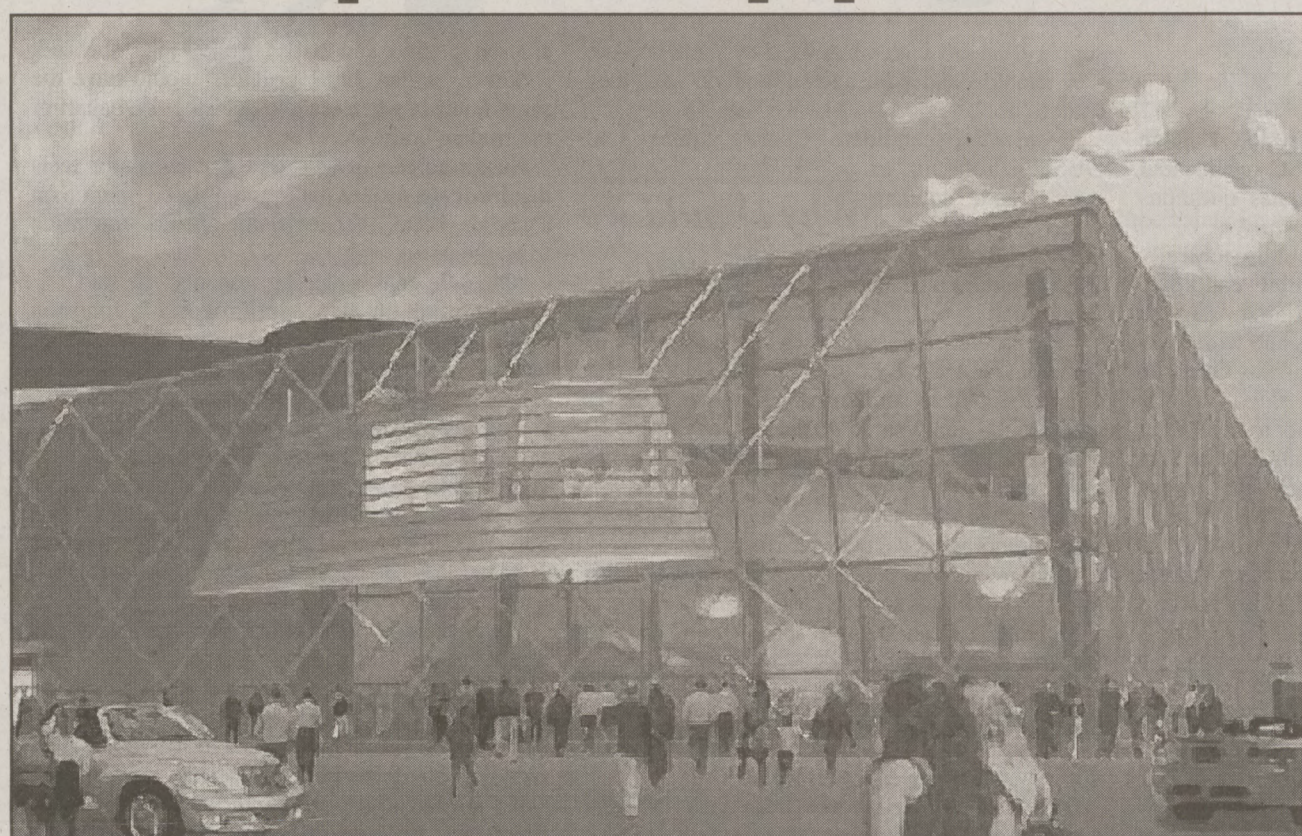
In a memo to the Planning Commission, City Planner Steven J. Cohen pointed out neither parking nor pedestrian crossing would suffer from the expansion.

The memo states, "Based upon the arena's seating, 8,000 total parking spots are required and 9,096 parking spots are depicted. The new addition will have a nominal effect on parking due to the fact that patrons need a ticket to enter the facility."

And The Palace has already exceeded the number of required handicapped spots for the venue. For an arena its size, the palace is required to provide 101 handicapped spaces, 17 of those being van accessible. It currently has 129 reserved handicapped spaces, 59 of those van accessible.

The \$12 million, one-year renovation seems expensive, but according to Richards, the fans won't be footing the bill.

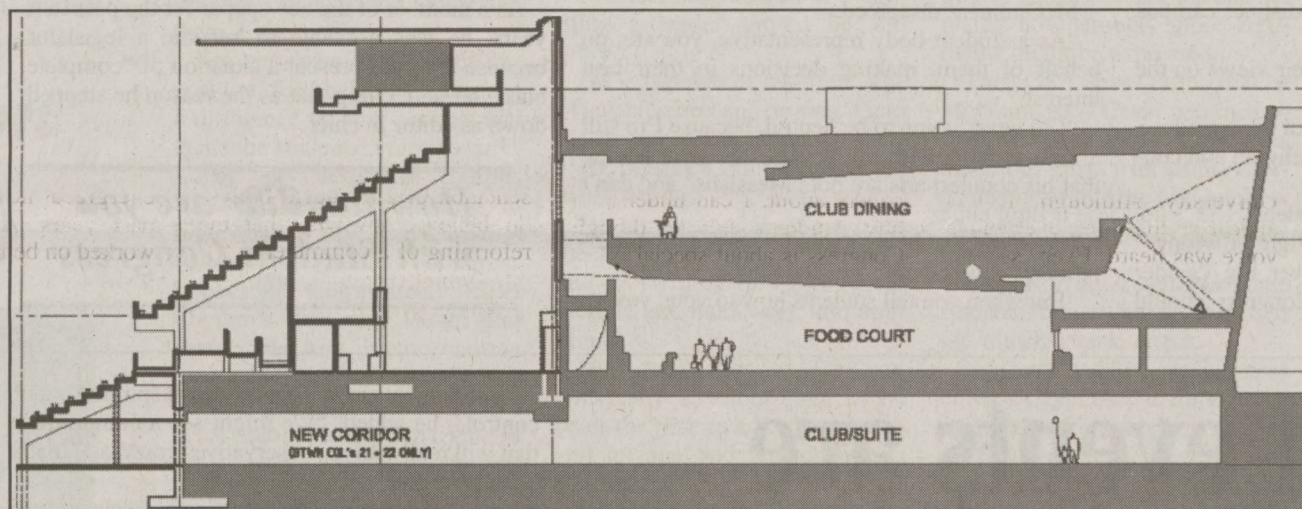
"We've got private development paying, so there will be no direct cost to the customers," he said.



The renovation also isn't expected to effect traffic around Auburn Hills, or events at The Palace because the addition is not around the entire arena, but one small section of it.

The Palace has been named "Arena of the Year" eight times by Performance Magazine, but Richards said that since it opened in 1988, it is due for renovations.

"We want to stay the 'Arena of the Year,'" he said. "To be competitive, we've got to provide better amenities for patrons."



Photos from the Auburn Hills Planning Commission Agenda
Top: An artist's sketch shows what the expansion, complete with glass exterior, would look like from outside the Palace.
Middle: The approved expansion will add 59,905 square-feet to the northwest corner of the arena.
Above: The three-level addition will include a club restaurant for VIP ticket holders to relax and dine before and after events, an expanded food court and pedestrian ingress into the arena, as well as eight private suites beneath court level.

Coming up:
Winter can take a toll on your car. Check back for tips on spring car care and repair.

Global Glance

Appeal in Schiavo case denied

The Terri Schiavo case landed at a federal appeals court Tuesday after a lower court rejected her parents' plea to keep the brain-damaged woman alive.

Schiavo has been without food or water since a Florida state judge ordered her feeding tube removed Friday at her husband's request.

A three-judge panel at the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta received the case hours after U.S. District Judge James Whittemore in Tampa, Florida, refused the request of parents Bob and Mary Schindler to reinsert the tube.

North Korea builds more nuclear weapons

North Korea is claiming to have boosted its nuclear weapons arsenal to counter what it says is the threat of imminent invasion by the United States and South Korea.

The secretive communist state's official Korean Central News Agency reports on its Web site that current U.S.-South Korea military exercises, which began Saturday, are escalating tensions on the peninsula and are ultimately aimed at launching a pre-emptive strike on the North.

Egyptian candidate charged with fraud

Egyptian opposition presidential candidate Ayman Nour was charged Tuesday with forging signatures to win approval for his political party, his wife told the media.

Gamila Nour said prosecutors announced the charges at a news conference but neither her husband nor his lawyers had been served with any papers. Nour was arrested six weeks ago on fraud charges and recently released on bond.

He has accused the government of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak of trying to eliminate him as a candidate. The U.S. government had called for his release.

Global

goof

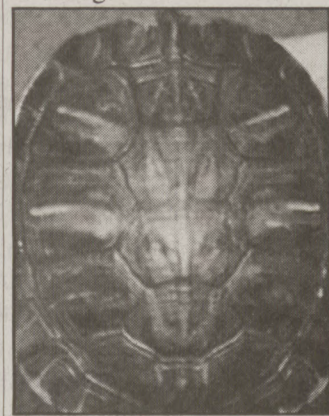
Sole survivor branded with satanic scar?

A turtle, ironically named Lucky, was the only survivor of a pet shop fire, but he has been left with what shop owner Bryan Dora calls a "hellish" scar.

Dora now says he sees an image of Satan's face on the critter's shell. He can spot lips, eyes, a goatee, shoulders and a pair of pointy horns on Lucky's back.

"The marking on the shell was like the devil wanted us to know he was down there," Bryan Dora said. "To me, it's too coincidental that the only thing to come out unscathed would have this image on it."

The image was not visible before the fire and Dora speculates the intense heat might have caused the shell's color to change.



-Compiled by Elizabeth Gorecki
Local News Editor
Information taken from various news sources.

Iraq: Two years after the invasion

Two years after President George W. Bush led the country into war with Iraq, Americans are left in a dichotomous mindset.

A Washington Post-ABC News Poll shows a majority of Americans believe Iraqis are better off today than they were before the U.S. occupation began, but they also say the war was not worth fighting in the first place.

The poll also shows more Americans believe the war helped bring democracy to the Middle East than believe it has had a negative effect.

The January elections have helped shift public opinion toward the positive side, with more than 50 percent of Americans saying they believe Iraqi leaders will create a stable government.

And while the public seems optimistic about the future of Iraq, the majority still has a negative opinion about the decision to go to war.

"People just think this is not our mission, that we should not be the democracy policemen," said James B. Steinberg, vice president and director of foreign policy studies at the Brookings Institution. "Even though they think they [the Iraqis] are better off, they're leery about the U.S. going out and doing these things."

-Elizabeth Gorecki

Wire Service and the Washington Post-ABC News Poll contributed to this story

Iraq war two years later

A statistical look at Iraq and the war two years after the U.S. and coalition forces invaded on March 19, 2003.

WAR-RELATED

U.S. troop casualties

Killed in action, accidents

First year* 603

Second year** 907

Wounded in action

First year* 3,065

Second year** 8,220

Coalition troops killed

Through March 13, 2005

U.K. 98

Italy 21

Ukraine 18

Poland 17

Spain 11

Bulgaria 8

Others 14***

Insurgent attacks

On coalition forces

Nov. 2003 735

Nov. 2004 3,000

Feb. 2005 2,100

Mass casualty bombings

Includes suicide bombings

On Iraqis and coalition forces

First year* 63

Second year* 156

Total killed 2,280

Total wounded 5,040

*First year: March 2003 to March 2004; second year: April 2004 to March 13, 2005

**Second year: April 2004 to March 13, 2005

***Slovakia 3, Estonia 2, Netherlands 2, Thailand 2, Denmark 1, El Salvador 1, Hungary 1, Latvia 1, Kazakhstan 1

QUALITY OF LIFE, ECONOMY

Iraqi civilians killed

Estimated, March 2003-

Feb. 28, 2005

Not including crime

12,700-13,900

Including crime

27,500-46,700

Oil Millions of barrels per day

Production Export

Pre-war 2.8-3.0 1.7-2.5

March 2005 2.1 1.5

Electricity

Megawatts generated

Nationwide Baghdad

Pre-war 4,400 2,500

March 2005 3,400 990

Telephone subscribers

Pre-war 833,000

March 2005 2.6 million

Internet subscribers

Pre-war 11,000

March 2005 140,000

Primary school enrollment

2000 3.6 million

2003-2004 4.3 million

© 2005 KRT

Source: Brookings Institution Iraq Index

Graphics: Judy Treble

Iraq war: Two years of violence

While some Iraqis say their lives are getting better two years after the U.S.-led invasion, the country is faced with the continued presence of foreign troops, violent insurgency and a tattered economy.

2003

March 19, 20: U.S., U.K. launch air, ground attacks

April 6: U.K. troops control Basra, key southern city

April 9: U.S. troops take Baghdad, topple Saddam Hussein's regime

May 1: President Bush declares end of major combat

May 6: Paul Bremer made top U.S. civil administrator of Iraq

July 22: U.S. forces kill Saddam's sons Uday, Qusay

Aug. 19: Truck bomb at U.N. Baghdad office kills 22

Aug. 29: Bombing in Najaf kills at least 85, including Shiite leader Mohammad Bakir al-Hakim

Nov. 2: Insurgents down U.S. helicopter, killing 15

Dec. 13: Saddam captured near Tikrit

2004

Feb. 1: Bombings at Kurdish political party offices kill 100

March 2: More than 180 killed in blasts targeting Iraqi Shiites. U.S. blames Abu Musab al-Zarqawi

April 4: More than 40 followers of radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr and some soldiers killed in clashes

April 6: U.S. missile hits Fallujah mosque, killing 40

April 29: Photos released showing U.S. soldiers abusing Iraqis at Abu Ghraib prison

April 30: U.S. Marines begin pull back from Fallujah after month of clashes with rebels

May 11: Video on militant Islamic Web site shows beheading of U.S. hostage

June 28: U.S. hands over power to interim government; Prime Minister Iyad Allawi sworn in

July 9: U.S. Senate report says claims about Iraq's weapons of mass destruction (WMD) based on unreliable intelligence

Aug. 27: Forces loyal to Sadr surrender Najaf mosque after three weeks of fighting

Oct. 6: CIA's chief advisor on Iraq's WMD says weapons essentially destroyed in 1991

Nov. 16: U.S. forces retake Fallujah after week-long assault

Dec. 22: 19 U.S. soldiers killed in explosion at base near Mosul

2005

Jan. 30: Iraqis vote in national election

Feb. 28: Suicide bomber in Hitah kills 125, wounds more than 140 in deadliest single strike since Saddam's fall

March 16: Iraq's first freely elected parliament in 50 years begins opening session

U.S. attitude toward war

Worth fighting

April 9, 2003 70%

March 13, 2005 45%

Made U.S. stronger

April 9, 2003 52%

March 13, 2005 28%

Troops in Iraq

As of March 15

U.S. 150,000

U.K. 8,000

Other nations 14,800

Troops deaths (As of March 16)

Before May 1, 2003 1,517

Since May 1, 2003 1,379

U.S. 85

U.K. 88

Other nations 1,691

Total deaths

Insurgents

20,000

Estimated number in Iraq

60 to 80

Estimated attacks per day

33

Killed

33

Hostages

As of March 4

Estimated total: 200

Killed

33

GDP per person

Early 1980s

\$3,000

2005 (Projected)

\$928

Graphics courtesy of KRT Campus

How do you feel about the progress in Iraq?

1. Do you approve of the way George W. Bush is handling the presidency?
☐ Approve ☐ Disapprove ☐ No opinion

2. Do you approve of the way the president is handling the situation in Iraq?
☐ Approve ☐ Disapprove ☐ No opinion

3. Has there been an acceptable or unacceptable number of U.S. military casualties in Iraq?
☐ Acceptable ☐ Unacceptable ☐ No opinion

4. Has the war left the U.S. in a different position of world power?
☐ Stronger ☐ Weaker ☐ No difference

5. Do you think the Iraqi people support or oppose the U.S. operation?
☐ Support ☐ Oppose ☐ No opinion

6. Are the Iraqi people better or worse off now than before the war?
☐ Better off ☐ Worse off ☐ No opinion

7. In presenting its case for the war, did the government tell the people what it believed true or intentionally mislead them?
☐ What they believed true ☐ Intentionally misleading ☐ No opinion

8. Did the U.S. do the right thing in going to war with Iraq?
☐ Right thing ☐ Mistake ☐ No opinion

Drop off your responses to The Post, located at 61 OC, or e-mail local@oakpostonline.com

Students question Congress hopefuls

By ROQAYA ESHMAWI
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Students gathered at the Fireside Lounge Monday to ask the six OUSC presidential and vice presidential candidates questions about their platforms.

When asked about what they would specifically do for students, vice presidential candidate Brendan Stevens, who answered first, said he wanted to promote student services and work with financial aid to make sure all students continue attending OU.

"There's no reason for students not to succeed at the university level," he said, adding that he also wants to involve commuter students with campus activities.

Presidential candidate Bryan Austin said his platform consists of five pillars; increasing student representation, offering more scholarship opportunities, providing more for students, promoting a better campus atmosphere and making sure everyone's voice is heard.

His running mate, Danny Johnston, added that their platform is simple in the sense that they want to hear from the students. "That's what we're here for," he said.

Vice presidential candidate Kori Lynn Caver outlined three aspects of her platform; focusing on academic success, advocacy and support of the Gender and Sexuality Center and improving financial aid.

Her running mate, Michael McGuinness, outlined the remaining three aspects; supporting student organizations by offering more publicity outlets and by helping facilitate coordination rather than competition, engaging uninvolved commuter students and giving OU a more distinct campus flavor.

The candidates next outlined their views on the role of student government.

"Student government is not about taking sides," Austin said, adding that politics, religion and controversy should be left on the side.

OUSC should benefit all students, he said. "We're not here to decide what's right or wrong."

Concerning the controversy over the Gender and Sexuality Center, Student Congress should

support students with whatever they want, he said. "We should stand aside and let them do what they want to do."

Presidential candidate Charity Jones said OUSC's role is to inform and educate students, adding that OUSC should not have taken a stance on Proposal 2.

"The problem comes in when we take the role of parent and tell you how to vote," she said. "We're going to educate and inform, but we're never going to tell you what to do."

Stevens added that they have the ability to put aside their personal beliefs.

"We will make a decision based on what we hear and not what we believe," he said.

Listening to what people say and having an open mind is important, he said.

McGuinness said being responsive and open to students is important.

"You have to be receptive and try to respond accordingly with action," he said.

"All students all the time is a very noble goal, but very implausible," he added.

Caver and himself come from very different backgrounds, but they share similar goals, he said.

It's important to keep focus on serving students well, and when needs arise, address them, he said.

Concerning the "vote yes on Proposal 2" signs that had been put up in the Student Congress office by Jones after OUSC took a stance encouraging students to vote no, she said she put them up after numerous students came in to the office and said Congress should represent all students.

"Student Congress needs to be a neutral ground where all students are welcome," she said, adding that "if there's a vote no, there should be a vote yes."

McGuinness disagreed.

"As a student body representative, you are, on behalf of them, making decisions in their best interest."

"I'm never going to be neutral, because I'm still a human being with my beliefs," he said, adding that his counterparts are not "Messiahs" and can't be neutral either.

Jones said that being neutral does not necessarily mean voting the way every student wants.

"But when you tell students how to vote, you've

crossed the line, and that's not your job," she said.

Stevens added that legislators should have the same mindset when making decisions on behalf of the student body.

Austin agreed, saying that if a legislator feels that he or she cannot make an unbiased opinion on a certain issue, that legislator should step aside from the issue.

"Our sole goal is helping students," he said.

Concerning the stance on Proposal 2, Johnston said Student Congress could have remained neutral by informing students what a "yes vote" would mean and what a "no vote" would mean.

"Simply educating students was a very easy way to remain neutral," he said.

Concerning a question about why the candidates were not as visible at events as McGuinness was, Stevens said that as a former editor in chief of The Oakland Post, he has in fact attended and covered many events.

"I'm not as tall as Mike, maybe that's why you didn't see me," he said jokingly.

Jones said that as Student Activities Funding Board chair, she knows what's going on around campus, and she attends events to see what SAFB money is being used for.

It's not fair to say the candidates are not at the events just because they weren't visible, Austin said.

"People are always helping out, sometimes behind the scenes, helping and not campaigning," he said.

Concerning previous experience with Student Congress, Austin said Johnston and himself have the least experience, which means the least amount of bias and frustration.

"Voting for us would be a fresh start," he said.

Stevens said since he became editor in chief in the spring, he has observed every Congress meeting, without the intention of running for office.

As a member of the newspaper for the past four years, he was not able to become a legislator because it would present a situation of "complete bias," he said, citing that as the reason he stepped down as editor in chief.

How familiar are you with Student Congress

"Entitlements in this country have spiraled out of control," he added. "We might see a compromise that will really drive conservatives crazy, and that's a tax increase."

Senior Doug Merriam said Social Security was

originally intended to simply provide a little extra help for the people who needed it, and today has become the sole retirement plan for many Americans.

"The public should take more personal responsibility," Merriam said, adding Social Security should be restored to its original intent, which was simply a little extra help.

Merriam also pointed out that the retirement age, 62, was originally chosen because it was the average person's life expectancy when the Social Security policy was first adopted.

Since life expectancy is a bit higher today, Merriam concluded it might be a good idea to raise the retirement age.

"I am willing to do what is required of me," he said, adding that if he were elected, he would ask McGuinness to sit with him and outline the vice president's duties.

Concerning a question about their weaknesses, McGuinness said he would like to become a stronger communicator.

"My weakness is that I like people a whole lot," Caver said, adding that it's hard to vote sometimes when a controversial issue is at stake.

Jones said her weakness was not being vocal enough and not saying too much in order to avoid confrontation.

Stevens said

he continuously works to improve himself as a person, and he would like to improve his communication skills.

"I'm an educator, I'm not going into politics," Austin said, adding that it's hard to do politics, "doing deals, shaking hands and smiling ... it's hard to play the game."

He's seen students "grilled and raked over coals" for expressing their views at Congress meetings, and he wants to make sure it doesn't happen again, he said.

Johnston said his weakness is having the least Congress experience, but Austin and himself are "bringing one of the highest student leaderships."

Concerning a question about how the Gender and Sexuality Center is in the student body's interest, McGuinness said it is a "student initiated, led and supported movement."

It is seen as a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Center, he said, and it would impact those individuals, but it is specific to OU and the concerns of students.

Caver said she has been approached by students who have been sexually assaulted and didn't want to utilize OUPD or the Graham Health Center resources.

Austin said he was concerned the people behind the Gender and Sexuality Center were legislators promoting their own agenda, and that makes for a conflict of interest.

Stevens said Jones and himself are not against the center, but they have questions about it and want to make sure that it's done in a way that will serve students.

Dulio disagreed. "People work long enough as it is. You want people to work till they're 70?" he asked.

The panel also discussed if Max Fisher's death will impact U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East.

Trumbore said there is no reason to believe Fisher's death will have any effect on U.S. foreign policy, adding that "there are many voices."

The panel was hosted by the Center for Student Activities and was moderated by Paul Franklin, coordinator of campus programs.

About ten students attended the panel.

"(There was) good information on international issues," Merriam said. "Very distinctive viewpoints came across that were important for students to hear."

After discussing politics, the panel concluded with a discussion of OU's men's basketball team.

"I'd put ten bucks on the Grizzlies," said Dulio. The next panel is scheduled for April 13.

Current events are the topic of discussion

By KARL BUCHMAN
THE OAKLAND POST

There is not a great deal of pressure in Taiwan for a state of independence, said Peter Trumbore, professor of political science, at a current events panel held last Wednesday.

The panel, consisting of Trumbore, Don Matthews, professor of history, and Dave Dulio, professor of political science, meets once a month to discuss current events concerning the country as well as OU's campus.

"We have a long-standing defense obligation to Taiwan," Trumbore said, noting the Chinese government considers Taiwan to be in a state of rebellion.

"If China moves on Taiwan, we will flex back,"

Trumbore said, adding China has more to lose than to gain from conflict with Taiwan.

"Taiwan has been careful about provoking China," Trumbore said.

The panel also discussed whether President Bush would make any Supreme Court appointments.

"(William) Rehnquist has one foot in the grave," Dulio said, adding he believes Bush will appoint a new justice.

Social Security prompted lengthy debate. Dulio predicted nothing would happen with Social Security until midterms.

While the majority of people support private accounts, senior citizens are against it.

"Old people are deadset against it, and old people vote, especially in midterms," Dulio said.

Old people are dead set against it, and old people vote...

-David Dulio, assistant professor of political science, about Social Security reform.

Oakland University's

Student Affairs

updating you every week!

144 Oakland Center

Rochester, Michigan

(248) 370-3352

OU TECHNOLOGY JOB!

Student Affairs Helpdesk Technician
Are you interested in technology? Are you looking to gain technology experience? Are you looking for a great place to work on campus? If so then the Division of Students Affairs is the right place for you. This position will be responsible for setup, configuration, and maintenance of student affairs technology. This position requires customer service and computer skills. Please submit your resume to 144 OC by 5 PM March 28, 2005. For more information contact Brandon Bernier at 370-2997 or at bernier@oakland.edu.

GRAHAM HEALTH CENTER

We hope you had a happy and safe winter break. Hopefully you had good weather, were with friends and have come back feeling rested and healthy! If you came back with a bug that hitchhiked its way back with you, we hope you'll keep Graham health Center in mind. We're here to treat your coughs and sniffles, aches and pains, and get you back on track for a healthy spring. Call today for an appointment and let us help you to better health.
GHC...The Place to be for a Healthy Me!
370-2341
www2.oakland.edu/GHC/

MICHIGAN COLLEGIATE VIRTUAL JOB FAIR

April 4-15, 2005
Website hours: 24/7

The Michigan Collegiate Virtual Job Fair may be just the place to find that job you are looking for! Search for a full-time, part-time, internship/co-op or career-related jobs without leaving the comfort of your home! Visit <http://www.mcvjf.org> and submit your name. What is a Virtual Job Fair? You can view an employer's "virtual" booth that includes job postings, company information and contact data 24/7. You can interface with employers through group and private chat rooms. How do I participate? It's free and it's easy. Visit <http://www.mcvjf.org> April 4-10, 2005 and submit your resume to any of the job postings. Visit chat rooms during the week of April 11, 2005.

The MCVJF is sponsored by the Michigan Association of Collegiate Career & Employment Services, the Michigan Collegiate Job Fair, and the Michigan Council for Cooperative Education.

STUDENT LIAISON TO THE OU BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2005-2006

Applications/Nominations available only one more week
at Student Affairs, 144 Oakland Center.
Deadline is March 31, 2005.
Call 248-370-4200 for more information.

LOOKING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS?

Commuter Involvement Award, Volunteer Service Award, and Sidney Fink Memorial Award Applications Now Available
Nominations forms available in CSA (49 OC), CMI (121 NFH), Dean of Students (144 OC), Service Desk, Campus Recreation, and Student Congress (62 OC) offices.
Questions? Call Jean Ann Miller at 370-4332 or email her at jam@oakland.edu.
Deadline for all three awards is Friday, April 1, 2005 to the Center for Student Activities Office, 49 Oakland Center.



The Oakland Post
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March 23, 2005

The Oakland Post

www.oakpostonline.com

A7

EDITORIAL

Let your voice be heard

A newspaper is one of the many news venues available for the public. It should present the public with an objective and unbiased source of information.

But every newspaper usually houses an opinions or perspectives section, where the newspaper staff has the complete right to voice its opinions on any matter it feels important.

And every newspaper usually endorses a candidate come election time.

The public is waiting to hear who The Post will endorse in the upcoming Student Congress elections.

The majority of the staff has decided that, due to obvious reasons, The Oakland Post will not endorse a candidate.

It would be absurd to believe that any endorsement would be appropriate. Because of the conflict of interest of having a candidate on staff at The Post, we have chosen to maintain high ethical standards and refrain from endorsing a candidate.

So this year, The Post is going to endorse a what rather than a who. The what: voting.

The Oakland Post urges all students to vote and voice their opinions.

We'll see you at the polls next week.

**GO
VOTE
@**

www.oakland.edu/voteou

GUEST COLUMN

New credit union contract has benefits for all

RICHARD FEKEL

Director
Oakland Center



As state appropriations continue to dwindle, universities across the country seek entrepreneurial partnerships to establish campus-wide services and economic benefits.

Oakland's board of trustees recently approved an innovative joint venture with Credit Union ONE that will benefit students and the university in numerous ways.

Credit Union ONE of Ferndale, the largest cooperative credit union in Michigan, has been serving its members with financial services throughout the state for more than 65 years.

The newly created partnership will bring to the Oakland Center a Credit Union ONE branch offering a full array of financial services.

Credit Union ONE will operate campus ATMs located in the Oakland Center, Vandenberg Hall, the Rec Center and Kresge Library.

For the first time, the ATM located in the Oakland Center will accept deposits as well as dispense cash.

Another program component will enable the university to direct deposit financial aid, refunds and payroll.

Starting this spring, the ID Card Office will begin issuing a redesigned SpiritCard, the SpiritCard PLUS.

The SpiritCard, Oakland's official picture identification card, provides access to on-campus board meal plans, library materials, the Rec Center, the 24-hour computer lab, campus photocopy machines, computer lab printing and is an alternative cash payment method at campus food service outlets and select vending machines.

If you choose to open an account at Credit Union ONE, your SpiritCard PLUS can be linked to your account enabling ATM transactions and debit purchases wherever MasterCard is accepted.

The ATM and debit card functionalities are completely optional.

Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to exchange their current SpiritCard at the ID Card Office for the redesigned card free of charge.

In the meantime, your existing card will continue to work with all its current functionality.

During the next seven years Credit Union ONE will provide more than \$973,000 in revenue to the university.

A scholarship fund financed by Credit Union ONE will provide Oakland students \$444,000 in new scholarship resources.

Educational opportunities exist as well; Credit Union ONE internships will provide Oakland students with income and valuable on-the-job training.

Credit Union ONE has a strong history of serving college students and campus communities.

Their presence is not new to Oakland University; they have sponsored and supported numerous athletic events and worked closely with academic units over the past 17 years.

For more information about Credit Union ONE, visit <http://www.cuone.org>.

We're excited about this new partnership, and we know that it will benefit the entire campus community.

The Oakland Post

61 Oakland Center Rochester, MI 48309

Students speak out in support of McGuinness – Caver

Dear Editor,

Mike McGuinness is a great person who has done a lot for the students of Oakland. I wouldn't have ever attended an event on campus or come to a student organization meeting if he didn't take the time to encourage me. Kori Caver is really nice, too. She's been in the Student Congress office a lot and is a very friendly face. You can tell that they really work hard when you see their campaign advertisements all around campus. I'm voting for Mike McGuinness and Kori Caver for student body president and vice president.

Sincerely,

Steve C. Johnson
Secondary education
Sophomore

Dear Editor,

On March 28-30, my name (Meghan Redmond) will be on the ballot for Student Congress legislator.

I'm aware of the roles and responsibilities of legislators and have seen them in action by attending every Student Congress meeting, going to campus-wide activities where they're representing students and observing them in their office.

I'm very passionate about this position; for I believe I can make a difference on this campus and make the students' voices heard.

I'm very active in campus organizations, participating in InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Student Congress Publicity Committee, SPB Rhythm's Den and Visual and Performing Arts, just to name a few.

When I am not in meetings or at basketball games, I'm trying to solve people's problems by listening or directing them to Student Congress.

I'd also like to inform you that I'm a firm supporter of the McGuinness – Caver campaign for president and vice president.

All of the bad things you may have heard about them, disregard them.

They're very good people who listen to your issues and do the best they can to help.

I know this personally, for they have helped me. One of the things I would like to address is the rumor that's going around that Student Congress does not listen and shuns people.

Student Congress listens to everything students have to say, and takes it into consideration whether they agree with it.

They only have the students' best interests in mind. If something a student suggested didn't happen, it wasn't because they didn't listen or disregarded the idea.

Michael McGuinness and Kori Lynn Caver are very dedicated, spirited leaders who take the time to answer students' questions and ask, "What can we do to make it a better school for you?"

They truly care about what you have to say, and truly have your (the students) best interests at heart.

They are both very experienced, McGuinness being the student body vice president, and Caver a Student Congress legislator.

We believe in diversity, acceptance and equality.

I hope you vote for McGuinness – Caver and Redmond on March 28-30.

A vote for us is a vote for progress!

Sincerely,

Meghan Redmond
Sociology/social work
Freshman

Dear Editor,

From the perspective of a student of the music, theatre and dance department, there is no more dedicated candidate for stu-

dent body president than Michael McGuinness.

Throughout my time at Oakland, he has consistently been a supporter of the department.

Not only has he attended many performances himself, he also makes it a point to promote the upcoming performances.

McGuinness is a familiar face on campus for a reason, he attends an outstanding amount of campus events and is constantly working to make Oakland University an exciting place for the students.

McGuinness is an asset to the current Student Congress and to Oakland University.

When voting, remember a vote for Michael McGuinness and Kori Lynn Caver is not a vote for a sign or a face. It is a vote for the ticket that TRULY represents the students.

Sincerely,

Elise Castle
Musical theatre
Sophomore

Dear Editor,

I'd like to address my fellow students about the upcoming Student Congress presidential election.

I not only want to encourage everyone to vote, I want to encourage everyone to vote for the right ticket for the job, the ticket of Michael McGuinness and Kori Lynn Caver.

Michael McGuinness is everything a leader should be and more.

He is capable of taking charge of any situation and turning it into the smoothest operation possible.

His presence calls attention and is reassuring.

He remains unbiased on even the most personal of situations and is willing to give great thought and hard work into anything.

His dedication to Oakland University is astonishing, as he takes the time to talk to everyone and anyone and attends events across campus.

McGuinness' finest attribute is his big heart and open mind.

He puts everyone else first, making sure that students' wants and needs are met with open arms.

He is a man of his word and never settles for anything short of perfection.

I have witnessed McGuinness' work as the vice president of OUSC, and I admire him for all that he has done.

His experience and dedication make him the best candidate.

Kori Lynn Caver is a strong woman with strong ideas.

She is ready and willing to accept any challenge. Her patience is incredible.

Her ability to listen to every side of a story, ask questions and make well thought-out decisions is one of her strongest points and certainly a wonderful asset to have as a vice president.

She is not afraid to share her opinion, but also does not shut out those of others.

Her work ethic and dedication are admirable to say the least. Her involvement on campus through various organizations proves she is willing to represent and serve all students.

She is a born leader and is capable of creating many great opportunities for students.

Leadership, open minds, kind hearts, dedication and experience, all qualities you want in a leader.

Michael McGuinness and Kori Lynn Caver are all of the above and more.

When you vote in this election, make the right choice. Vote McGuinness – Caver.

Sincerely,

Bre M. Kopson
Journalism
Freshman

Dear Editor,

As President of the Gay-Straight Alliance at Oakland University, I would like it to be known that our organization has voted to join a broad coalition of

organizations, including Alpha Sigma Tau Sorority, Diverse Voices, German Club, Women's Issues Forum and the Students for the Development of a Gender and Sexuality Center, to endorse Michael McGuinness and Kori Lynn Caver for student body president and vice president.

I know that the other presidential tickets will immediately jump up and cry foul.

After all, both Mr. McGuinness and Miss Caver are and have been members of our group. Though I do believe that this exhibits a willingness on their part to engage us outside of this election, I would like it to be noted that this is not why we decided to endorse them.

Until Mr. McGuinness and Miss Caver approached us, we were not even considering pledging our support to any candidate.

Mr. McGuinness and Miss Caver approached us of their own free will and asked for our support, something that neither of the other presidential tickets did.

It is the belief of the GSA that the election of Mr. McGuinness and Miss Caver offer the best view for the future of Oakland University's student body.

While not everyone will agree with their policies, we recognize that they will always listen to what their constituents have to say.

Yet, they also have the moral fiber, character and integrity to stand up for their own beliefs and not allow themselves to fall victim to fallacious arguments, no matter how strongly those arguments might be expressed.

The GSA has faith that a McGuinness – Caver administration would strive to achieve its ambitious goals with all the energy and heart that the McGuinness – Caver campaign has conducted itself with.

It has actively sought to engage students, rather than sit back and just attack, attack, attack.

Not once has Mr. McGuinness or Miss Caver tried to impugn the character of their opponents.

They are here to fight for everyone and to bear the banner of progress that Oakland University so richly deserves.

For these reasons, the GSA is proud to endorse Michael McGuinness and Kori Lynn Caver for 2005-2006 student body president and vice president.

Sincerely,

Joshua J. Miller
President, GSA
History
Sophomore

Dear Editor,

Oakland University students would benefit with Michael McGuinness as our student body president and Kori Lynn Caver as our student body vice president.

This isn't a stretch because we've already benefited with Mr. McGuinness as our current vice president and Ms. Caver as one of our Student Congress legislators.

Our student government is active, visible, provides many student-focused incentives and addresses a wide variety of student concerns.

In order to make further progress as a student body, let's elect McGuinness and Caver.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey Hampson
Secondary education
U.S. Army veteran
Freshman

Dear Editor,

This election is very exciting. A lot of students have gotten involved in the process and are paying attention to the platforms and backgrounds of the candidates.

The strength of Michael McGuinness and Kori Lynn Caver's platform and background has earned my vote and the vote of many of my fellow students.

McGuinness even took the time to come speak to my sorority, Phi Sigma Sigma (the only candidate to come speak to us).

He spoke about all that he and

Student Congress have accomplished this year and all of the innovative plans that he and Caver want to accomplish in the coming year.

Their more distinct campus flavor ideas are very promising.

Displaying more student artwork, creating dynamic campus landmarks and exploring more student organization visual outlets are all exciting possibilities.

I hope that many, many students take advantage of their opportunity to vote in the elections, even if you support a different candidate.

Michael McGuinness and Kori Lynn Caver have my vote and they have worked hard for yours, too.

In part due to their encouragement, I myself am a write-in candidate for Student Congress legislator.

As an involved student interested in improving Oakland's campus life, I hope that you will write me, Cathy DiPonio, in for legislator.

Thank you for your time!

Sincerely,

Cathy DiPonio
Communications
Junior

Dear Editor,

As we all know, the Student Congress elections are quickly approaching, and we as students are faced with a difficult task.

We have the opportunity to vote on March 28, 2005 for the candidate that we best see fit for the position.

I'm aware of the complexity of this decision, but am thankful that the decision is not complicated for me.

As a student that is not only a freshman but also a commuter, I have become very involved on Oakland University's campus.

Due to my involvement on the Student Activities Funding Board (SAFB), I've become very aware of the needs and desires of student organizations.

I feel that Michael McGuinness and Kori Lynn Caver truly have the student body's best interest at hand.

They have committed themselves to enhancing programming on campus by promising to provide fair and effective funding for ALL student organizations.

As a member of SAFB, I feel confident in the positive changes that McGuinness and Caver will provide to SAFB.

Michael McGuinness and Kori Lynn Caver will work hard and do all that they can to promote the growth and escalation of life on Oakland University's campus for ALL STUDENTS!

Sincerely,

Tamara Kukuk
Communications
Freshman

What do you
think?

Send comments to
editor@oakpostonline.com or
mail to 61 OC,
Rochester, MI
48309.

Include name,
class rank, phone
number and field
of study.

Please limit
letters to 350
words. Letters
may be edited for
content and
length. The
Oakland Post uses
discretion and
may reject any
letter for any
reason.

Interested in writing for the Post?

Do you like to copy edit or take photos?

Join us at noon every Monday at 61 OC or stop by anytime to see how you can get involved with your student newspaper.

OUSC Continued from A1 into office.

Waquad said the proposal to amend was not meant to point fingers at Parks.

It was meant to prevent certain things from happening in the future.

Legislator Madalyn Miller said it should be left to the legislature to decide what is personal and what is not.

Sophomore Mark Ewing approached Congress with a concern over how OU reacted to the recent alterations on campus.

There are negative consequences to the dance ban and not allowing guests to attend campus activities.

"It's a direct slap in the face to anyone who would want to support the community," he said.

He also voiced concern over a double standard.

In an unsigned e-mail from the Dean of Students office, which Ewing labeled as "rude," he was told the ban policy was uniform.

However, last week, he said, students were invited to bring family and friends to watch the Tibetan monk ceremony.

"We're being duped here," he said.

Nahas said it was "painfully obvious" that there is a double standard, and Waquad said all student organizations should be treated the same.

Parks said students need to realize that Dean of Students Glenn McIntosh is responsible for over 16,000 students on campus, and that the policies are supported by President Gary Russi and Vice President of Student Affairs Mary Beth Snyder.

Another concern voiced by legislators was that half of the executive board did not attend the meeting.

The four who did attend, Parks, Vice President Michael McGuinness, Claiborne and Administrative Assistant Krupa Ujla, were late.

"We had to take care of issues within the executive board," Parks said regard-

ing his late arrival. "We're working as a team."

The meeting, which is scheduled to start at 4 p.m. did not start until approximately 4:07 p.m. when McGuinness appeared.

E-board members often meet before the 4 p.m. OUSC meeting.

Some legislators and some gallery members were singing the fight song for approximately seven minutes.

Legislators are expected to attend every meeting, and are considered absent if they do not arrive by 4:15 p.m.

Legislator Bill Mullas said e-board members are paid and its part of their job to attend meetings.

"Granted there could be personal issues," he said, but "that's not an excuse."

McGuinness pointed out that e-board members cannot be billed for attending meetings.

Welch said he was upset when the e-board members arrived late, but when told why, he did not find it to be

a problem.

But Nahas said otherwise. "Congress starts at 4," he said. "That's the final word, other meetings have to cease, you have to be here."

In other business:

* Next week's discussion topic will concern the university's current dance and guest ban policies.

* Adam Young was removed as a legislator for having missed nine meetings and not responding to e-mails concerning his absence.

* The Residence Hall Council is holding a Carnival for Change on April 12. Student organizations interested in participating should contact Legislator Katie Miller.

* Jitesh Shing, a management and information systems major, was approved as a member to the Student Activities Funding Board.

* OUSC's next meeting will be Monday, March 28 at 4 p.m. in the Oakland Room of the OC.

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Need secret shoppers for Macomb, Lake Orion, Mt. Clemens, Northville, Southgate, Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, Muskegon, Holland, Mt. Pleasant, and Lansing area restaurants, must be 21-25. No Fees required. Contact Allan Coyle adcoyle@gmail.com

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EMPLOYMENT: Students needed to work with our autistic son. Great experience for social work, education, psychology and related majors. Flexible hours and training provided. Sterling Heights, 17 and Dequindre. 586-795-9344.

Seeking a very responsible, caring and gentle woman to look after baby in our home. Position is full-time, 5 days a week, must have a reliable vehicle, like dogs, salary negotiable. Royal Oak, Starting ASAP. Please respond via email at
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Dependable babysitter needed to watch 1 year old in Rochester Hills home. Approximate hours 2-5 Monday thru Friday. If interested, call Cathy at (248)340-6037

Lake Orion Family looking for a full time Nanny for Summer and beyond. We are looking for an active, reliable person to watch our 3 kids ages 3,5 & 7. Responsibilities include: meal preparation, driving to and from activities, light laundry and engaging in fun activities from 8-6 in our home. Reliable transportation a must. No smokers. Interested parties please contact: Danielle Morris (248) 988-7940

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"Flicks at Oakland University" Film Series

March 29: Goodbye, Lenin
April 5: All About My Mother

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

2005 Spring Blood Drive

March 28-30
9 AM - 9 PM
Gold Rooms, OC

Sign-up in advance to give blood!
www.givelife.org
(sponsor code: oublood)
OR 248-370-2400

Student & Greek Organization Recognition Night

Sunday, April 17

Awards Nomination Packet available in the CSA Office, 49 OC

International Night

Friday, April 8
7 - 10 PM
Banquet Rooms, OC

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

Sponsored by
OU's Multicultural Student Organizations, The Center for Student Activities, and The International Students and Scholars Office

Looking for Scholarships

Commuter Involvement Award
Volunteer Service Award
Sidney Fink Memorial Award

Nomination forms are available in the CSA Office- 49 OC, CMI Office- 121 NFH, Dean of Students Office- 144 OC; & OUSC Office- 62 OC

CSA SERVICE WINDOW

RESERVATIONS FOR:

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

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

Oakland University Student Congress Elections

Monday, March 28 - Wednesday, March 30
12:01 AM - 10 PM
On Campus (polling stations) & Online

All currently registered students are invited to cast their ballot for the next president and vice president of the student body, as well as student-elected legislature positions.

"Good Morning Commuters"!

Friday, March 25
9 - 11 AM

Fishbowl, South Foundation Hall

Before or after class, enjoy free beverages and snacks to help get your day off to a fantastic start.

Lunch and Learn About: Environmentally Friendly Gardening

Wednesday, March 30
12 - 1 PM
Rooms 128 - 130, OC

Presented by:
Tracie Beasley, Stewardship Director of the Clinton River Watershed Council

Gender & Sexuality Center Forum/LGBTQ Resource Fair

Tuesday, March 29
11:30 AM - 1 PM
Fireside Lounge, OC

Come see how a Gender & Sexuality Center could benefit the LGBTQ population at Oakland University.

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

Email us at csa@oakland.edu

MANDALAS, monks MEDITATION

The mystical arts of Tibet come to OU

BY BLYTHE A. SIMMONS
ASSISTANT LIFE EDITOR

Eight Tibetan monks dressed in gold ceremonial robes were the last thing students expected to see during lunch in the OC yesterday.

"It's definitely hard to walk by all these monks and not wonder what's going on," said Madalyn Miller, chairperson of the Student Program Board's Visual and Performing Arts committee.

In deep guttural voices, the eight Buddhist Tibetan monks meditated and chanted to cleanse and bless the OC's Fireside Lounge, preparing the space for the construction of an intricate sand painting.

And we don't mean the sand-in-a-bottle you made as a kid.

In the internationally

acclaimed "Mystical Arts of Tibet: Mandala Sand Painting" event at OU, these monks slowly pour millions of grains of sand into a mystical cosmogram called a mandala.

The mandala is a symbol of a harmonious universe consisting of a deity, its home and the environment that can be constructed out of sand, herbs or tiny stones.

In Tibetan, this art is called dul-tson-kyil-khor, which means "mandala of colored powders." Each mandala has a specific central focus such as compassion, wisdom or courage.

The mandala that the monks are giving to OU represents an unshakable, indestructible strength and energy. And the monks definitely have to have unshakable hands to create such an elaborate piece of art.

Grain by grain and inch-by-

inch, the mandala will come to life, slowly taking shape atop a sturdy wooden table in the Fireside Lounge.

The 4 feet by 4 feet sand painting, which falls in a category somewhere between the rituals of art and religion, will take only three days of steady, painstaking labor.

The Buddhist monks from the Drepung Loseling Monastery began their careful work using short copper tubes, tiny brushes and colored sand to create the intricate design.

The primary purpose of creating this ritual art is to introduce trainees to meditation on a single deity.

Tenzin Phentok, the monk spokesman for "The Mystical Arts of Tibet," said that the monks who study mandala creation could spend five to 70 years being trained in the ancient art of sand painting.

It takes a long time to memorize the root text of the mandala, to receive the approval of one's guru and to learn control over the sand, he said.

Outside of this initiation rite, the monks have created sand mandalas around the world for museums, universities and places of worship as a symbol of healing and peace.

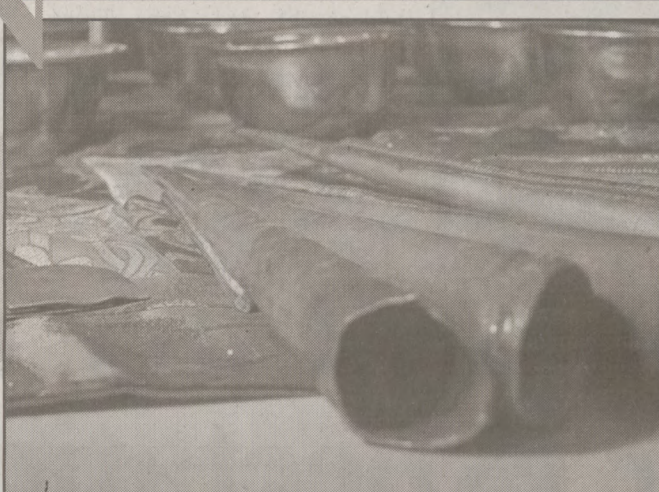
One of the largest sand paintings ever created was a 8 feet by 8 feet mandala constructed in New York City to bring healing and protection to America after September 11, 2001.

The monks hope that each mandala they construct will bless the space where it was created.

The awareness of Tibetan spirituality has increased in recent years, as it has become more a part of American culture.

Movies such as "Kundun," "Seven Years in Tibet" and more recently, "Bulletproof Monk," have grabbed audiences' attention with the fascinating religious rituals and mysticism of Buddhism.

But it's one thing to catch a glimpse of it on the big screen, and quite another to see the process up close and personal.



Top: A monk performs the "Dance of the Black Hat Masters" in the opening ceremony in the Fireside Lounge.

Center: Bowls of colored sand and chak-purs are essential tools for making the intricate mandala design.

Bottom: Two monks work on the sand painting using chak-purs, a metal funnel that releases sand.

"It's so beautiful, I can't believe that they're going to just sweep it up on Thursday," said Lori Alderman, a freshman elementary major, referring to the Closing Ceremony rites at noon on March 24.

In the closing ceremony, the monks will sweep up their masterpiece as a symbol of the impermanence of life.

After the ceremony, there will be a procession to Beer Lake where the sand will be poured into the water so the healing powers generated by the mandala can spread all over campus.

Senior Anthony Cilli, linguistics and art major, thinks the visit by the monks is a positive event for OU.

"I think that it brings a little more culture to the campus and will hopefully

heighten students' sense of spirituality," he said. "As Americans, we tend to be very materialistic, but the monks remind us that what really matters in life is the simpler things."

Miller said the SPB is trying to bring nationally known events to OU to help build up the campus' reputation.

"OU is hot right now after the basketball team's success," she said, "and we'd like to build on that energy by bringing interesting events to the school."

Students were definitely interested in the intricate art of creating the sand mandala.

But others were wondering what happens if one of the monks accidentally bumps the table, or Buddha forbid, sneezes.

"Sneezing is not allowed," Phentok said. "We don't sneeze ... ever."



Eight monks play instruments, their way of blessing the space to create their mandala sand painting.

ATiB offers work study

BY LIBBY BAKER
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The Applied Technology in Business Program, better known as ATiB, provides OU students with an interactive work setting to improve skills for future employment.

ATiB was established in 1997 and is offered to all majors in the School of Business.

The program is offered as a business minor and provides students with the unique opportunity to work on real world projects at multiple companies.

These internships not only provide useful career experience, but also allow students to establish important networking contacts for future job searches.

"We would like to consider the program an uncommon opportunity for outstanding students," said Amber Hof, administrative assistant for ATiB.

ATiB is a unique, corporate sponsored undergraduate business program and the first of its kind in Michigan, Hof said.

Companies agree to sponsor the program for two years and contribute \$12,000 per year.

Current sponsors include companies such as Takata, Comerica and Eaton Corporation.

The program admits 14 students, preferably in their junior year, once a year. Admitted students receive a two-year, full-tuition scholarship for up to 16 credit hours of coursework.

Students take one ATiB class during each semester of their junior and senior years, in addition to their other courses.

The first semester is spent in the lab with program director, Dr. Mohammad Dadashzadeh. Students learn programming fundamentals, business process modeling, conceptual data modeling, Excel VBA, VBScript and SQL, Hof said.

In addition to continued lab time, students work on real world projects for one of the sponsoring companies during the second and third semesters.

During the final semester, students do an unpaid internship at a sponsoring company and complete an Innovation Project, which is judged at the end of the semester for cash prizes, Hof said.

Senior Jennifer Brzezinski, a human resources major, is completing an internship at Johnson Controls. She spends 20 hours a week there working on a job progression matrix project.

"(It's a) good program. I've learned a lot that I wouldn't have learned in just one class," she said.

The ATiB program is hosting an open house from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, March 29 in 327 Elliott Hall. Pizza and pop will be served and the director along with current students will answer questions.

Applications for the fall class are due May 16, 2005.

For additional information
on ATiB, visit,
<http://atib.sba.oakland.edu> or
call (248) 370-3284.

Lengthy album is worth time

BY DAVE PHILLIPS
THE OAKLAND POST

Seventy-five minutes of some of the strangest, most excessive music anyone ever thought to actually record sums up Mars Volta's album "Frances The Mute."

The album has only five songs within its 75 minutes.

From their beginnings as half of the critically acclaimed "At The Drive In" through "Deloused in the Comatorium," Mars Volta is back doing what it does best with "Frances The Mute," which came out in stores in the beginning of March this year.

The first track "Cygnus.... Vismund Cygnus" will

prepare listeners for the rest of the album. It clocks in at 13 minutes, and the entire song changes multiple times. Lyrics switch between English and Spanish, much like the rest of the album.

The vocals can be a bit annoying at times, yet the instrumental breakdown saves the song.

This transitions nicely into the radio single, "The Widow." This is not just the most radio-friendly track on the album; it's the only one.

It's just over five minutes long, and is just barely normal enough for a mainstream radio station to play.

"L'Via L'Viaquez" follows and is the only other track to not have any subcategories. Still, it's a lengthy 12 and a half minutes.

It makes you feel like you are sitting in a Spanish

lounge, listening to a piano and guitar, while people talk in the background. Distorted vocals with no accompanying instruments end the song, which finally wraps up with about 30 seconds of birds chirping.

The epic "Miranda That Ghost Just Isn't Holy Anymore" is just under 30 minutes long. Ambient noise leads to an interesting acoustic guitar and trumpet mixture just before the vocals come in, some five minutes into the song. By the nine-minute mark, the vocals are gone.

The pace picks up with cymbal crashes and tempo change that give a sense of intensity throughout the rest of the song.

The closer to the album is "Cassandra Gemini" at a brief 18 minutes. Like everything else on the

album, it picks up where the previous track left off. It transitions into a lounge-type instrumental jam.

Saxophones and trumpets blend in with guitars and drums. The relaxed pace picks up one more time for a grand ending to the album.

"The Mars Volta" is all about flow. It's pointless to listen to just a few songs on their albums; you must hear the whole thing in order to get it.

If you put on "Frances The Mute" and go off to do something else while listening, you'll think that it's one continuous song. It's impossible to tell where the breaks are.

The songs don't end; the new ones just begin.

Like it or not, the album is different. That's something that mainstream music could use a lot more of today.

Holocaust survivors interact with stage



Photo courtesy of Meadow Brook Theatre

Right: Paul Riopelle plays Ed Silberberg, a Holocaust survivor and friend of Anne Frank.

Top: Michelle Held plays Holocaust survivor Eva Schloss as a young girl, and Rachel Kaiman plays mother of Ed Silberberg.



BY ANDREA KRUGER
THE OAKLAND POST

A curtain, table, two chairs and a small circular movie screen sit on the stage along with a collage of portraits.

Each face has a story. They are the faces of the Holocaust.

The play "And Then They Came For Me: Remembering the World of Anne Frank" is playing at the Meadow Brook Theatre.

Six actors represent nine of the most prominent people, or characters, from the Holocaust.

The characters include a Nazi soldier (Dennis North), Ed Silberberg (Paul Riopelle) and both of his parents (John Beidenbach and Rachel Kaiman), Eva Schloss (Michelle Held), both of her parents (Dennis North and Milica Govich), brother Heinz (John Beidenbach) and Anne Frank (Rachel Kaiman).

The play follows the rise of Nazi anti-Semitism in Europe and shows the transition in Jews' lives from free people to downtrodden wearers of the yellow Star of David.

The Star of David marked them

"And Then They Came For Me: Remembering the World of Anne Frank"

Playing at the Meadow Brook Theatre through April 10

Box office
(248) 377-3300
<http://www.mbttheatre.com>

as Jews, the ones who could not use public transportation, go to movie theaters or shop in the same places as Germans.

Silberberg, Schloss and Frank were forced to go into hiding. Within months of each other, they were discovered, arrested and sent to concentration camps.

Silberberg himself recalls what it was like to know Frank, and recounts his own story of survival.

While Schloss tells of being captured by the SS, an elite guard of the Nazi state which controlled the concentration camp system. She was captured on her birthday and lived at the Birkenau (Auschwitz) concentration camp.

Silberberg and Schloss were friends with Anne Frank, whose diary was discovered after her death at Bergen-Belsen concentration camp.

"It's not the story of Anne Frank, it's remembering the time that Anne Frank lived in and the era," said John Manfredi, managing director of the Meadow Brook Theatre.

The play differs from a purely dramatic rendering of the Holocaust.

"It has interaction between the live performances and videotaped interviews," Manfredi said. "The actors actually talk to the video and the video answers them back. It's a multimedia piece."

"You have the actual people, how old they are now, being interviewed up on the screen, but (the actors are) playing them as their younger selves," said Karen Sheridan, the director of the play.

Videos of elderly Silberberg and Schloss appear frequently throughout the drama.

The play ends in an unusual way, in that there is no curtain call or bow at its close.

"We decided to go with something that's called a tableau, which is just the lights coming up on a picture of people," Sheridan said. "Many times, when you have a very serious play... you have to defer to the story, which is more important than the actors."

"It's about real events, real people. It's also a play about family, a play about parenting, a play about childhood and what it's supposed to be."

"I think we find ourselves in this story. It's something that happened 60 years ago, but is still happening today," she said.

Sequel doesn't live up to horror expectations

BY ZENNA SYEDA
THE OAKLAND POST

Horror: noun, adj. Painful and intense fears, dread or dismay; calculated to inspire feelings of fright or terror.

"The Ring Two" missed the Merriam-Webster Dictionary definition by a whole yard.

The storyline continues, as the evil tape makes its second round carrying on the spirit of the little girl Samara Morgan, whose hobbies include killing people and leaving the victim's face disfigured.

Rachel Keller (Naomi Watts) and her son Aidan (David Dorfman) move to the country, while Keller is still on edge from recording and passing on the tape in order to save her son's life in the ending of "The Ring."

Working as a journalist at a local

paper, she realizes Samara Morgan, a murderous evil spirit, is still haunting her. Keller discovers this after a boy dies mysteriously and is found with a distorted face.

The disfigurement does inspire a flinch and hands over faces from the audience.

But as the story moves along, realization dawns that it is the only eye-popping scene, which lasted for about 2.5 seconds.

Keller, distraught and stricken with dread over the appearance of the tape back into their lives, sneaks into the victim's house and recaptures the video.

In a fit of rage, she burns the tape, motivating Samara to wreck havoc in their lives.

The dead girl develops a disquieting attachment to Keller, believing that

she must love her since she mistakenly let her out of the well, her chamber of captivity.

Samara tries to accomplish this by overtaking Aidan's body.

Now, who wouldn't jump at the chance of taking care of a mother deprived, murdering ghost child whose previous guardian drowned her in a well?

The whole storyline gave it a sense of ridiculousness and disbelief that severely wrecked the horror genre.

All the ghost wants is a "mommy." Sends a chill down the spine, doesn't it?

"The Ring" dished up more chills and shrieks, while "The Ring Two" keeps you wondering when the scary part is finally going to arrive.

Actually, parts of it forced a laugh, especially when the freak attack on Keller's car by reindeer takes place. Of



Photo courtesy of DreamWorks Pictures

Naomi Watts stars in "The Ring Two" as a journalist who is haunted by an evil spirit. The film received bad reviews, but still succeeded in the box office.

all the vicious animals in the forest, the director just had to choose reindeer.

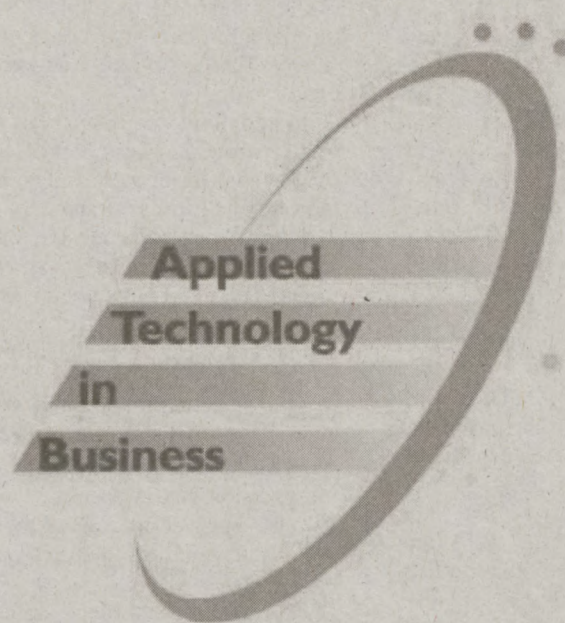
Even though the story lacked much, actors Naomi Watts and rising star David Dorfman gave exceptional performances.

Their superior acting is what gave the movie a touch of realism in a num-

ber of scenes. It is what keeps the viewer from walking out of the theatre.

Do not expect to be scared out of your mind when viewing "The Ring Two."

It can be guaranteed that it will not conjure any unforgettable nightmares or sleepless nights.



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11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
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**Applications for the Fall 2005 class are
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Questions?

atib@oakland.edu

<http://atib.sba.oakland.edu>

248.370.3284

Libby Baker
Editor In Chief

editor@oakpostonline.com
(248)370-4268

The Post mix

DID YOU KNOW?
In the state of Michigan, it is legal for a robber to file a law suit if injured while committing a crime.

B3

www.oakpostonline.com

March 23, 2005

Two Minutes With

Elizabeth Atkins



By Nicole Beattie
The Oakland Post

Local author and OU guest instructor Elizabeth Atkins gets a thrill just talking about writing. If you've seen her around campus, her bubbly personality and enthusiastic spirit reveals the love she has for her career. What may not be as easily seen at first glance is that this woman has overcome prejudice and biracial stereotypes to get where she is today.

"It's my purpose and my passion to get people thinking and talking about race and other issues through my writing," Atkins said. She has written several novels, including "White Chocolate," "Dark Secret" and "Twilight," all of which share her family story through the eyes of characters that hide, embrace and even question their own mixed heritage.

"I decided to bring a voice to myself and the millions of others like me, who are confident and purposefully living lives outside of the gray area between black, white, Asian, Native American or other," she said. "We're celebrating the spectacular spectrum, this awesome kaleidoscope where we don't have to fit in."

The former Detroit News reporter and Fox 2 news writer has written for The New York Times, BET.com and magazines like Essence, Ms. and HOUR and has even been featured on Oprah.

"Writing is paradise for me. My brain is constantly whirling with ideas and insights, so the physical act of writing is my way of getting them out and sharing them," she said.

Every Monday night, Atkins shares those ideas with OU students in her magazine and freelance writing class. She also teaches media writing, honors English and women in literature at the downtown campus of Wayne County Community College.

"I love teaching. It's magic to look out and see captivated eyes and hear students say things that reveal that they're learning from me," she said. "It's such a rush."

Atkins is currently writing the first in a two-book series of urban romances set in Detroit and plans to write about how her father left the Catholic priesthood to marry her mother, a black woman, during the Civil Rights movement.

Atkins will be teaching students "How to Write a Book and Get it Published" in room 236 of Wayne County Community College's downtown Detroit campus on Wednesday, March 23 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. For more information, call (313) 496-2600.

With so much taking place on campus, the Arts at Oakland committee wants you to know about all of the unique arts and entertainment options at Meadow Brook Hall, Meadow Brook Art Gallery, Meadow Brook Theatre and the department of music, theatre and dance.

Did you know, for example, that

Out and About

Music, Theater, Dance

there are students presenting their musical compositions on campus next Wednesday? Michigan composer Dr. Lettie Alston will present her class of OU composers featuring 13 original works with titles

such as "Lady Lavender" by Susan M. Anderson, "Let's Take the Bus" by Oliver Thompson and the possibly Street Fighter inspired "Mr. Haduken" by Russell Gillespie. Come and listen on March 30 at 8 p.m. in Varner Recital Hall. This event is free to students and faculty.

Meadow Brook Art Gallery is keeping their promise of diverse

offerings with their latest exhibition, "Communicable Consumption," by Phaedra Robinson from March 18 to April 17. It will be open Tuesday through Sunday, noon - 5 p.m. There is no admission charge.

If you'd like free electronic announcements of even more arts events, e-mail the Arts at Oakland committee at Arts@oakland.edu.

DANTE'S ENIGMA

By Dante Ciullo



Tibetan monks prepared an altar honoring Buddha and the Dalai Lama in the Fireside Lounge on Tuesday. The picture below has been altered, and The Post challenges you to find all five changes.



ANSWER

A2 (painting changed), B2 (glare removed), C1 (decoration added), C2 (orange added), C5 (cymbals added)

Clean Up Your Act

ENVIRONMENT

We throw away thousands of pounds of garbage every day that can be recycled and made into new stuff. About 30 to 40 percent of trash thrown away can be recycled.

Here is a list of recyclable items and what they can be made into:

Plastics marked #1 or #2, like milk jugs, pop bottles or water bottles can be recycled into things like

park benches or carpet.

Metal cans, pie tins, aluminum, pots and pans, clothes hangers, toasters, faucets and silverware can all be recycled and made into car parts.

Automotive batteries can be remade into new ones!

Any kind of paper or cardboard can be recycled into new sheets of paper.

Brown and clear glass bottles can be melted down and recycled into new glass.

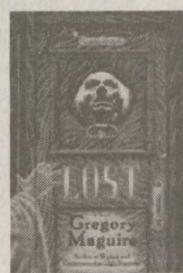
Courtesy SPIN (Students Participating In Natural Preservation)
<http://www.oakland.edu/org/spin/>

Recommended

READING

In celebration of Women's History Month, here are a few books that feature strong female authors or characters.

After notable success with interpretations of classics such as Cinderella ("Confessions of an Ugly Stepsister") and the Wizard of Oz



("Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West"), author Gregory Maguire wanders outside of the box and gets "Lost." Toto, I've a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore.

"Lost" is the story of Winifred Ridge, a writer desperate to pen a novel after the unexpected success of her mass-market astrology book. While researching a link between Jack the Ripper and the London home of her great-great-grandfather, Winifred's cousin (the latest resident of the house) mysteriously disappears and a ghost takes up residence.

"At first I thought this was a kid's book," Trisha Ellis said, an avid reader and a freshman in studio art. "But I discovered it is very mature, it really kept my interest."

At a mere 368 pages and reasonably priced at under \$11, "Lost" nestles itself nicely into the fantasy/mystery genre.

— Dante Ciullo

Laura Mikulski, a 23-year-old transfer student at OU, recently rediscovered her love for reading after a close friend recommended that she pick up "Running in Heels" by Anna Maxted.

"I have been on a reading binge since I finished," Mikulski said. "I had forgotten how lovely it is to get lost in a good piece of literature."

"Running in Heels" tells the story of a woman named Natalie who deals with issues that many women face in their lives. The author wittily involves the character with things like dysfunctional family members, drugs and an eating disorder. Maxted has created a character with so many flaws, every woman is sure to find a bit of herself in Natalie.

"Although the novel was fiction, the characters presented in the book are so very real," Mikulski said. "I laughed and I cried, and then I laughed some more."

— Lina Putrus

Sophomore radiation therapy major Bethany Kolaczinski loves to read. Finding the time to read between 16 credit hours, student organizations and a part-time job is another story.



"I enjoy reading before bed, it relieves my tension and stress," she said.

Kolaczinski's latest read was "He's Just Not That Into You" by Greg Behrendt and Liz Tuccillo, a book that gives a no nonsense explanation of the "cryptic behavior" of the male species. Buyers beware: This book is not for the tenderhearted. Behrendt and Tuccillo tell it like it is and spare no woman's feelings.

While most women will enjoy this book, many men may undoubtedly find it to be offensive and an attack on their behavior, Kolaczinski said. The book is an easy read and targets women aged 18 and up.

—Katherine Gardocki

4

good reasons to hit the door during the coming week

WEDNESDAY 23

Stop in and groove to the smooth lyrics of R&B singer Penny Wells at 8 p.m. in the OC Expansion Food Court.



Penny Wells



Tibetan monk

THURSDAY 24

Watch as the Tibetan monks destroy their sand painting at a closing ceremony in the OC's Fireside Lounge at noon.

FRIDAY 25

"Good morning, commuters!" Score free snacks and juice from 9-11 a.m. in the SFH Fishbowl courtesy of the CSA.



Commuters are cool



OUSC Elections 2005

MONDAY 28

Make your vote count! Cast your ballot today in the Student Congress elections (online and at campus polling stations).

Crossword puzzle

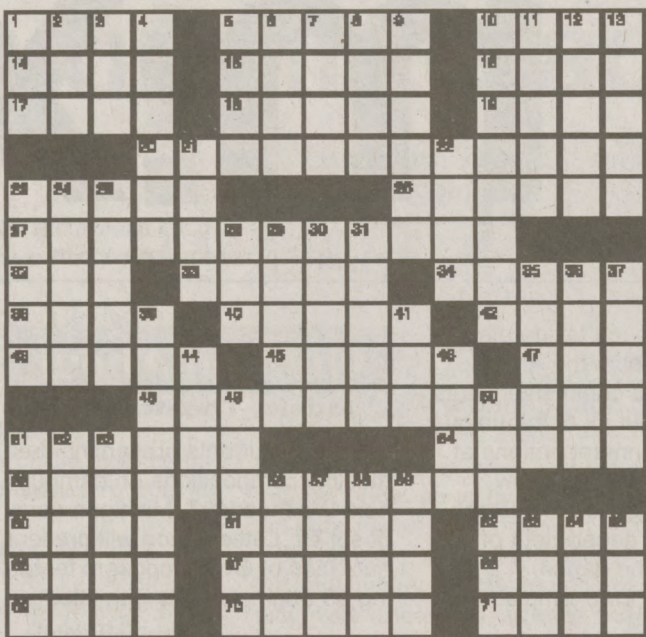
ACROSS

- 1 Boxer Willard
- 5 Spanish hero
- 10 Some old Fords
- 14 Homely citrus?
- 15 ___ Alegre, Brazil
- 16 Monopoly token
- 17 Thug
- 18 More chilly
- 19 Anna Sten title role
- 20 Tiring to the max
- 23 Ryan of "Love Story"
- 26 Mazda models
- 27 Enigmatic to the max
- 32 Compass pt.
- 33 Extra
- 34 Test the will
- 38 DEA worker
- 40 Buddhist shrine
- 42 Missile housing
- 43 Schnoz
- 45 Arm of the White Sea
- 47 Bobbsey twin
- 48 Agonizing to the max
- 51 Simple sweepers
- 54 Tosses out
- 55 Noisy to the max
- 60 Med. school subj.
- 61 Misprint
- 62 ___ for business
- 66 Nerve network
- 67 Wax theatrical
- 68 Infamous Roman tyrant
- 69 Legal title

- 70 Window parts
- 71 Biting insect

DOWN

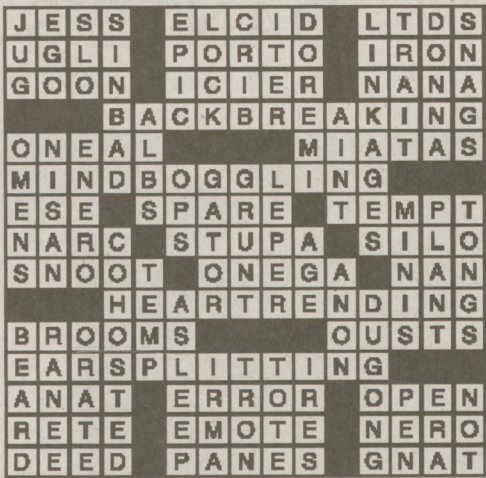
- 1 Moonshine container
- 2 Big-headedness
- 3 ___-mo
- 4 One-name comic
- 5 Saga on a grand scale
- 6 Security device
- 7 Baby bed
- 8 Cato's way
- 9 Scale notes
- 10 Connections
- 11 Characteristic
- 12 Reed or Fargo
- 13 Hosiery mishaps
- 21 Clerical vestments
- 22 Isn't incorrect?
- 23 Portents
- 24 Hebrew month
- 25 January in Oaxaca
- 28 Saturn's wife
- 29 Croc's cousin
- 30 Struggler's sound
- 31 Pariah
- 35 Smaller versions
- 36 Factory
- 37 Barbecue tool
- 39 Emceed jointly
- 41 Bring to maturity
- 44 Fill-in worker
- 46 Pretty soon
- 49 In dreamland



By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR

3/23/05

- 50 Manatee's cousin
- 51 Facial growth
- 52 Indian princess
- 53 Sermonize
- 56 Cookbook author Rombauer
- 57 Disney sci-fi movie
- 58 Lug along
- 59 Angers
- 63 Corral
- 64 Memorable period
- 65 "To be or ___ to be..."



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Horoscopes

By LINDA C. BLACK
TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES

Today's Birthday (03-23-05). Focus on providing the best service you can this year. It'll be fun, and even the competition will respect you. That's worth a lot.

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

Aries (March 21-April 19) Today is a 7: For the next several weeks, you'll be more compassionate, less adversarial. This is good, because there's a huge job to be done. You need all the help you can get.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Today is a 6: It might be hard to find the time for romance, but it's worth the effort. When you get the chance, dance.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) Today is a 7: Having people over to your house isn't a bad idea, but cleaning it up before they get there could be a daunting prospect. Get a Virgo to help.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) Today is a 6: You may have to scramble to keep a promise. If you don't really know how to do it, find an author who does. Staying up all night reading will be well worth the effort.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Today is an 8: It would be pretty easy to spend more money now than you've got. Don't create a conflict with a loved one by doing that. Leave the credit cards at home.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today is a 6: You're particularly good with details for the next couple of days. Take on a chore that requires concentration and accuracy. It'll be fun, almost.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Today is a 7: You may feel under a bit of pressure to be as perfect as you can. Take extra time with the details and nobody will be disappointed.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Today is a 7: The odds are good that you're doing too many things at the same time. Others may counsel you to slow down, but you don't have to listen. You work well under pressure.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Today is an 8: Although you'd rather run and play, responsibilities call. Don't simply ignore them, at least take a number and promise to call back.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today is a 6: Travel beckons, but it's not a great idea to go. Complications are predicted. Wait 'til next week if you can. That goes for mailing things, too.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Today is a 7: It's not a good time to take risks with money, yours or anyone else's. Even a great offer from a friend is liable to backfire. Wait.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Today is a 6: You're glad to be available during working hours, but it's up to you to set limits. Protect your own private time.

Comic

2 Dudes



By Aaron Warner



Now Accepting.....

Applications and Nominations for:

Student Liaison to the Oakland University Board of Trustees

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

Term of Office:



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

Applications are available at:

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

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



For questions, please call: 248-370-4200

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Living

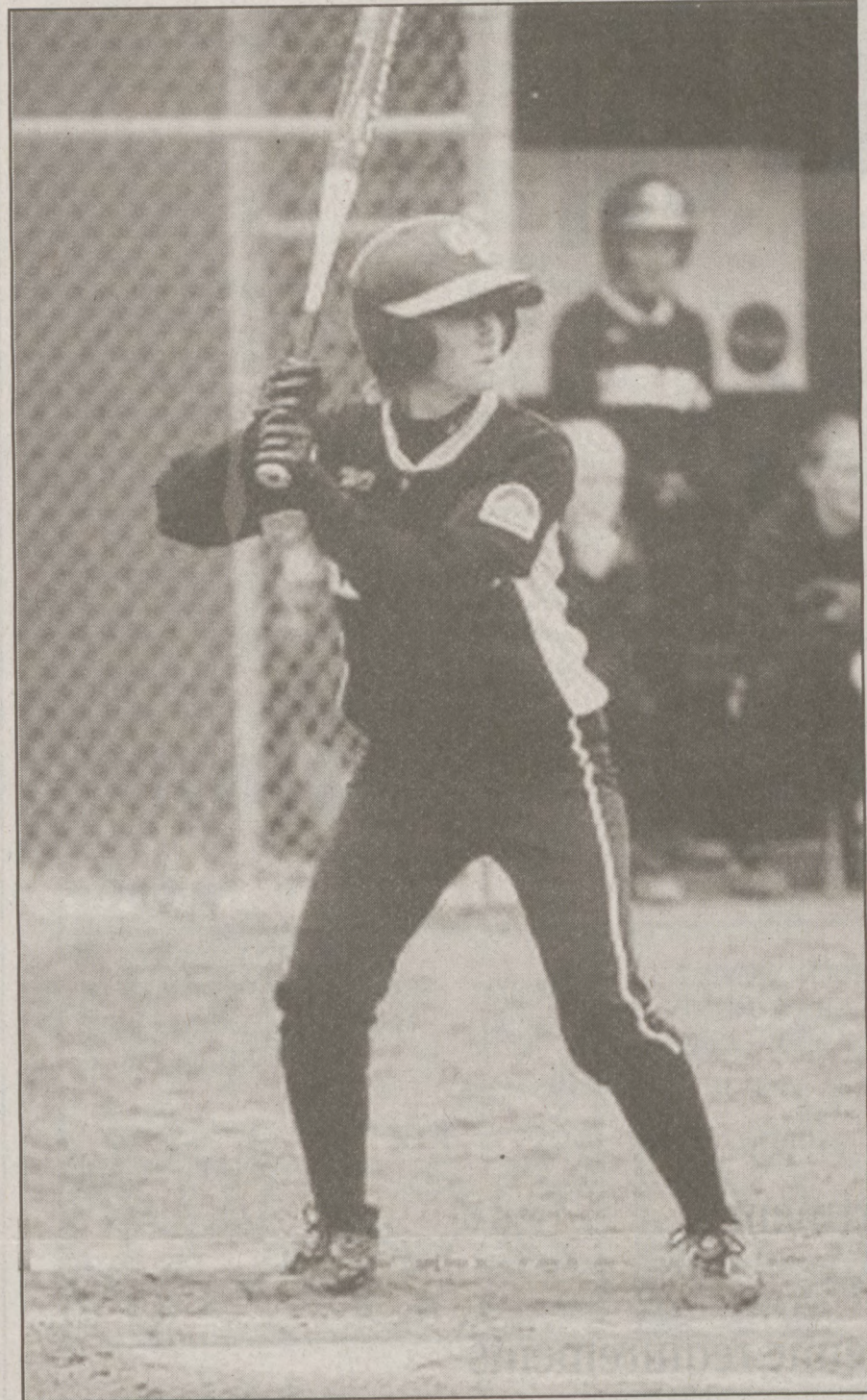
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Early Sign-up
Wednesday, March 30, 2005
7:30 am - 5:00 pm
Fireside Lounge
Oakland Center

We have a place reserved just for you!

Residence Halls Contracts and Applications for University Student
Apartments will be available.

Grizzlies struggle as Mid-Con begins



Bob Knoska/File Photo
Junior utility player Camie Knorr steps up to the plate in a game last season. Knorr was one of the Grizzlies' best offensive players, leading the team in home runs.

By BRENDAN J. STEVENS
SPORTS EDITOR

With conference play looming, the OU softball team is continuing to play tough competition in preparation for Mid-Con action.

The Golden Grizzlies started the season with eight straight losses at the Georgia Red & Black Challenge and Yellow Jacket Invitational before getting their first win against Georgia State University.

OU then moved on to the Winthrop Tournament, going 2-3 and improving their record to 3-13.

Facing top-tier competition at the Buckeye Invitational, hosted by The Ohio State University, the Grizzlies dropped all three of their games, falling to 3-16 on the season.

The women opened the Invitational with a 13-5 loss to Marshall University, with the Thundering Herd's offensive powered by freshman designated hitter Rachel Folden's four RBIs. Freshman second baseman Deanna Tourville added three RBIs in Marshall's win.

Marshall's offense slowly built a lead in the first two innings, scoring one run in each, but exploded in the third inning with four runs to take a commanding lead. But the Grizzlies did not back down.

In the top of the fourth inning, junior OU second baseman Camie Knorr blasted a home run to left field that pulled the Grizzlies within three runs.

Junior outfielders Lyndsey Schaller and Missy Pitera both drew walks, and senior center fielder Christina Schulte loaded the bases for OU with a single.

Junior shortstop Lisa Colores beat a fielder's choice play scoring. Schaller and junior first basemen Stephanie Zellner hit a sacrifice fly that allowed Pitera to cross home plate and brought the Grizzlies within one run.

Marshall responded with one run in the bottom of the fourth inning, then shut down OU's offense in the top of the fifth before exploding for six runs in the bottom of the inning.

Junior Laura Chokomos (1-2) was

given the loss for the Grizzlies, going 4½ innings, allowing 10 earned runs on 11 hits while recording one strikeout.

The Grizzlies' contest against Eastern Michigan University on Saturday was cancelled due to steady rain and will not be made up.

To wrap up the tournament, OU dropped two games Sunday, falling to Ball State University, 6-4, and the University of Notre Dame, 8-0.

The Grizzlies fell behind Ball State early on a pair of three-run innings by the Cardinals in the third and fourth, but was close to rallying back.

All of Ball State's six runs came with two outs as they capitalized on OU's miscues.

Trailing by six, the Grizzlies narrowed the margin with two runs in the bottom of the fourth on a double by junior catcher Danielle Nutter that scored junior infielder Kate Jones and sophomore outfielder Cheron Guyton.

In both the fifth and sixth innings, the Grizzlies picked up one run, with Knorr scoring on a Cardinal error in the fifth, and sophomore infielder Natalie Webb drove in Chokomos with a single to pull OU within two.

The Cardinals withstood the Grizzlies' rally in the seventh inning, forcing OU to groundout with runners on the corners and two outs.

In the final game of the tournament, senior Notre Dame pitcher Steffany Stenglein threw a complete game shutout, allowing three hits and striking out ten batters in five innings to blank the Grizzlies.

OU kept the Irish in check, as well, until the bottom of the fourth inning when Notre Dame broke a scoreless game with a five-run explosion. Notre Dame added three more runs in the bottom of the fifth inning before the game was called due to the eight-run rule.

The Grizzlies' doubleheader against Central Michigan University was postponed because snow was still on the field with no make up date scheduled.

OU opens up Mid-Con play with back-to-back home doubleheaders against the University of Missouri-Kansas City at 3 p.m. Friday and noon Saturday.

COLUMN

Where do we go from here?



BRENDAN J. STEVENS

Sports Editor

While March Madness continues on, the journey is over for the OU men's basketball team.

It will be months before the high, that was going to the Big Dance, subsides.

But even in the wake of this great triumph, it's important for the team, the university and its students to look forward and prepare for the future.

Contentment is not a word that can enter into the vocabulary of the Grizzly athletes or the university community.

It is time to build on this success, athletically, academically and in every other area of OU.

Although it can't be considered free advertisement because the many ways people contributed and participated in the Tournament run both financially and with their time, OU has gained national exposure.

One of the worst overall records to ever qualify for the NCAA Tournament isn't necessarily something to brag about, but it did get the team some coveted airtime on ESPN.

And the sheer unexpectedness of the Grizzlies' winning the Mid-Con Tournament, upsetting the highly-favored Oral Roberts University Golden Eagles in the conference championship game, created a prominent storyline.

Not to mention this Sports Editor's 15 minutes of fame on ESPN, which aired WXOU's radio call of the Mid-Con championship game.

Everyone reaped the benefits from the team's run to the NCAA Tournament.

But it isn't done. This is the type of event that can springboard OU to the next level.

Gonzaga University was a fairly invisible mid-major school not that long ago.

Now the Bulldogs, despite a second round exit from the NCAA Tournament, are one of the more well-known basketball programs in the country.

Getting to the NCAA Tournament motivates players, fans and administrators. All look forward to seeing their university on the bracket, on CBS or even on ESPN.

Recruits are drawn to schools that present them with an opportunity to put on their "dancin' shoes." Students who are interested in sports look forward to supporting a successful team.

Even more beneficial is the ability for unexpected success, like that of the men's basketball team, to bring people together.

Stefen Welch said it very well at this week's student congress meeting, pointing out how the trip to the NCAA Tournament helped students of every background put their differences aside and join together to support the Grizzlies.

It was truly a magnificent sight. And one we can all learn from and build on.

Next season, when people reminisce about these past few weeks, all the good feelings will come back to the forefront and once again bring people back together.

But there will be speed bumps and struggles.

It's important that those who came out to support the Grizzlies prove they weren't just fairweather or bandwagon fans.

In order to really propel this university to another level, both athletically and academically, OU has to repeat its success.

Rather than taking a step backward or being content with one shining moment, this university should prepare for a giant leap forward.

But it takes more than just showing up to the games.

We have to change our whole mindset. It's not just about the team, it's about all of us.

We all have to do our part, so that when people think about Oakland University, they really do think success.

Brendan Stevens is a senior journalism major. Send comments to oakpostonline.com

Baseball wins first of season

By DANA UTZ
SENIOR SPORTS WRITER

The OU baseball team, despite a three-game losing streak, was able to earn its first victory of the season last weekend in a four-game series against Ball State University.

In the first game of the series, the Golden Grizzlies started off the first inning strong with a 2-0 lead after senior starting pitcher Ty Herriott hit a two-run home run to right field.

OU was unable to hold the lead, however, and lost to Ball State, 9-6.

After losing the first game of a double-header on Saturday, OU was able to gain its first win of the season by defeating the Cardinals 9-1 in the second game.

The Grizzlies made the most of Ball State's three errors in the first inning and scored three unearned runs.

OU added solo home runs in the second, fifth and seventh innings, as well as a two-run shot in the third inning for an 8-0 lead.

The Grizzlies' final run of the game came in the top of the ninth after a leadoff single by junior Tim Doig and a fly from sophomore Ryan Heath.

Senior pitcher Aaron Hines shut out the Cardinals in the first five innings and after a 37-minute rain delay, junior pitcher Bryan Bishop closed the game for OU.

Sunday was the last day of the series and OU was not able to get a second victory as it was defeated again by Ball State, 11-6.

The Grizzlies were able to gain a 6-4 lead but let it slip away in the bottom of the eighth inning as the Cardinals scored seven runs in the frame to come from behind and take the win.

Doig led OU with two RBIs in the two-run loss.

In the first inning, freshman Nate Recknagel doubled to center field to bring senior Will Tollison home and start off the game with a 1-0 lead.

The Cardinals did not stay behind long as they scored two runs in the bottom of the half of the frame.

OU reclaimed the lead in the top of the third, scoring four runs on three hits.

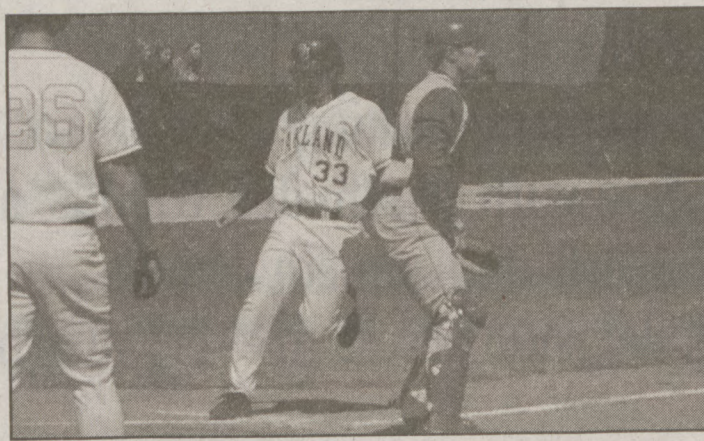
With the bases loaded and two outs, Ball States' starting pitcher, Ryan DeGeeter, hit freshman Ryan Joffrion with a pitch and walked sophomore Chad Winkler.

In the sixth inning the Cardinals scored single runs to close the gap to 6-5.

OU regained a two-run advantage in the top of the eighth.

The two-run lead was brief as Ball State scored seven runs in the bottom of the eighth.

By the end of the game, the



Bob Knoska/File Photo
Sophomore outfielder/pitcher Brad Noel scores a run in a game last season. Noel hit .237 and led the team with 11 stolen bases, starting 43 of the 44 games he made an appearance in for the Grizzlies.

Cardinals had 11 runs, seven earned, on thirteen hits with one error.

The Grizzlies had six runs, five earned, on eight hits with three runs in the third loss in four games.

With three losses this week-

end, the Grizzlies now have a record of 1-9.

The next game for OU starts at 2 p.m. March 23 at Bowling Green, Ohio.

There is a four-game series in Ann Arbor, Mich. starting at 3 p.m. Friday through Sunday.

Golfers' spring in full swing

By BRENDAN J. STEVENS
SPORTS EDITOR

Both the men's and women's golf squads have resumed competition for their spring seasons.

Although the men's team competed in early March, the women didn't hit the course until Monday and Tuesday.

The Golden Grizzly men competed in the Treasure Coast WTC Hero's Classic, finishing fourth with a score of 327.

Bethune-Cookman College captured the top spot in the tournament, shooting 307 as a team.

The University of Evansville and Gonzaga University fought a close battle with Evansville beating the bulldogs by a

mere four points, 321-317, in the one-day, rain-shortened competition.

Senior Brian Stuard was the top OU finisher, placing in a tie for second with a score of 76 (+4).

Sophomore Chad Elliott was placed in the top 20 with an 82, while junior Jonathon Pauli, 84, and senior Matt Pullen, 85, fought closely, finishing tied for 24th and 28th, respectively.

Sophomore Rob Reynolds rounded out the Grizzly scores, posting an 87 to finish in a tie for 32nd place.

Playing as an individual, meaning his score was not counted toward the team score, sophomore Charlie Kluesner tied for seventh overall with a score of 79 in the rough weather conditions.

Also playing as individuals, redshirt freshman Jack Nacy, junior Rob Tate and junior Ryan Schultheiss finished with scores of 88, 92 and 97, respectively.

Both squads lead after first day

Results for the second day of the Butler Invitational were unavailable at this issue's deadline, but both the men's and women's teams led after the first day.

Posting a score of 299, the men's team led an eight-team field that included Mid-Con foes IUPUI and Chicago State.

Pauli once again led the Grizzlies, finishing the day in a tie for first place with a two-under 70.

Two other OU golfers placed in the top

10 after day one, with Stuard and Elliott shooting 75s to put them in a tie for sixth.

After the first day of competition, the women's golf squad held a four-stroke lead over nine other teams at the Butler Invitational.

Junior Patricia Ellsworth shot a first-round 79 to put her in a tie with Ball State University's Julie Harder for the first-day lead.

The women also placed three golfers in the top 10, with sophomore Christina Cibrario, 80, and senior Leigh Gulbrandsen, 84, tying for third and ninth, respectively.

Sophomore Stacey Goins finished the first day just out of the top 10, shooting an 85 and placing 12th.

2005 OUSC Elections are coming...

Polls Open: 12am Monday March 28th
Polls Close: 10pm Wednesday March 30th

ALL voting is done online at:
www.oakland.edu/voteou

Candidates' platforms are also available for viewing, so that you can educate yourself before casting your ballot!

6 Steps to vote online:

1. Enter your Grizz ID and PIN, click "SUBMIT"
2. Click on candidates' names to access their platforms
3. Choose **ONE** President/Vice President team
4. Choose up to **15** legislators
5. Write in candidates in the Write in area of the ballot
6. Click "SUBMIT VOTE"

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OU Men's Basketball Team,
Thanks for the dance!
SAFB wishes you the best of luck in the future!

~ Charity Jones, SAFB Chair
LaQuala Coleman, SAFB Associate Chair
Tamara Kukuk, SAFB member
Mike Lerchenfeldt, SAFB member
Bryan Austin, SAFB member
Linday McCullough, SAFB member
Bryan Austin, SAFB member
Jitesh Singh, SAFB member
Cressie Smith, SAFB advisor



Join us for a meeting on:

Monday March 28, 2005

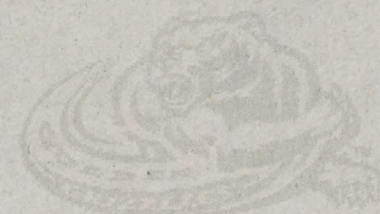
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Grizzlies' dream ended

Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post
OU's men's basketball team huddles during a timeout in its game against the University of North Carolina in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.



BY DAVE PEMBERTON
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

North Carolina displayed why it was a number one seed and put an end to OU's tournament run, with a 96-68 drubbing on Friday afternoon at the Charlotte Coliseum in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

The Tar Heels shot over 73 percent in the first half on 22-30 shooting. Add in the fact that OU's leading scorer Rawle Marshall was held to two points so it was no surprise OU was down 59-33.

"That was an unbelievable first half. I said the other day I'm really happy to be here, but I wasn't too happy to be involved in that first half. They scored 59 points on 32 possessions," OU head coach Greg Kampe said. "That half of basketball was a clinic. That is as good as it gets."

"They had missed eight shots and had seven offensive rebounds. I think you can put your finger right there and say that's the problem. I just have to credit them, that was unbelievable. They are an outstanding basketball team."

Marshall was able to turn things around some in the second half and finished with 14 points, but also finished with only one rebound. Marshall had been averaging 23.3 points and 9.2 rebounds over the last 13 games.

"You have to give a lot of credit to North Carolina. They played outstanding. I'm definitely not happy with the way we played, but I have to give credit to them," Marshall said. "They could-

n't miss a shot in the first half. We tried to battle back, but they are an outstanding team."

Carolina never trailed in the game. They were up by as many as 37 in the second half, and OU was not able to get closer than 25 points.

The Tar Heels had four players in double digit scoring led by freshman forward Marvin Williams, who had 20 points and eight rebounds off the bench. Junior center Sean May added 19 points and eight rebounds and junior Rashad McCants finished with 16 points.

Senior forward Cortney Scott's 21 points and six rebounds led OU. After the game Scott wanted to thank all the fans, who made the 12-hour drive from Rochester to Charlotte.

"I personally would like to say thank you from the bottom of my heart," Scott said. "Without them we wouldn't be here. I'm sorry we lost the way we lost, but that is a great team."

Carolina fans only had to drive about two hours from Chapel Hill to Charlotte, so the crowd was largely Carolina blue.

However, Marshall said the fans did not have much effect on OU.

"I think this team is used to playing in that type of environment. I think it might have had a little bit to do with the game, but overall not really," Marshall said.



Freshman guard Brandon Cassise hustles after a loose ball.

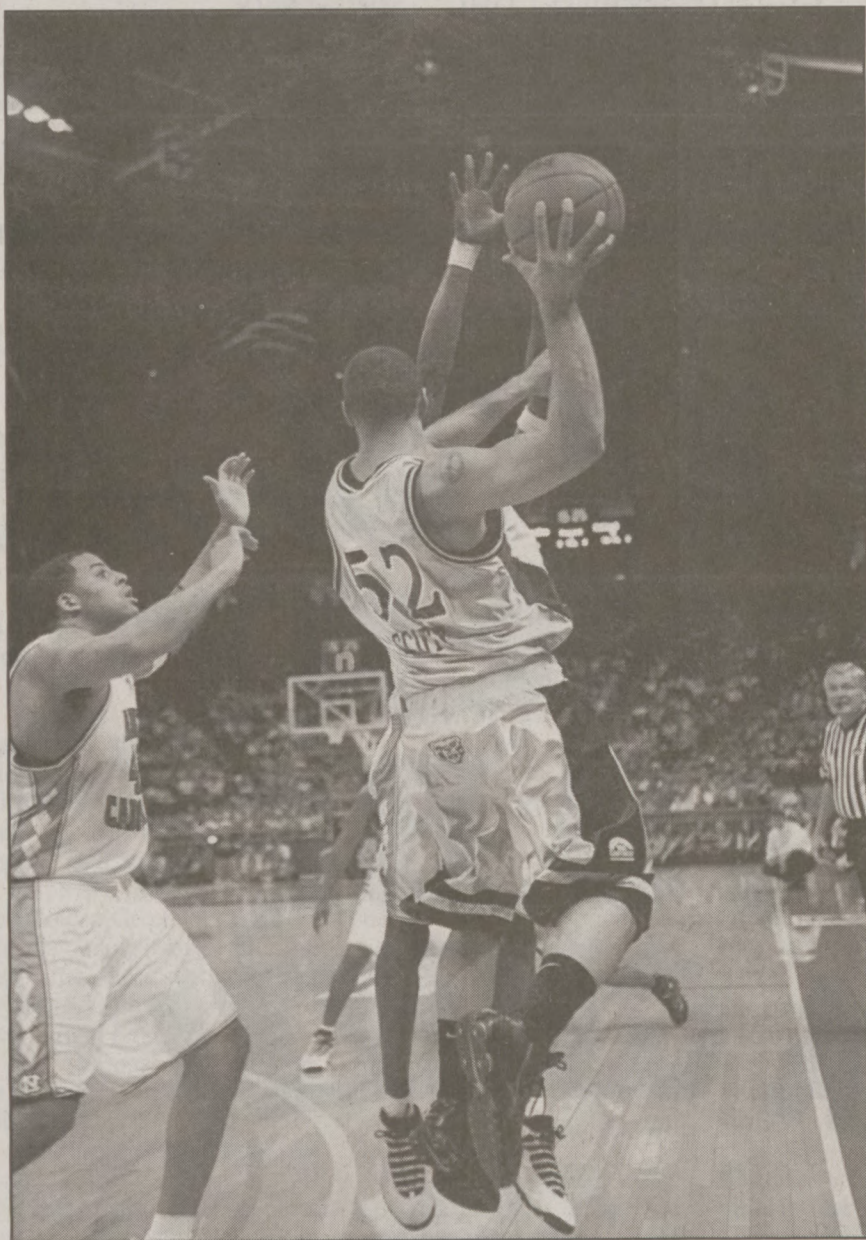
Dante Ciullo/
The Oakland Post

Tournament appearance.

OU had never won a Mid-Con Tournament game before this season, but rallied to win three straight in Tulsa, Okla. to take the Mid-Con crown.

The Grizzlies earned the right to play North Carolina by defeating Alabama A&M in the NCAA opening round game.

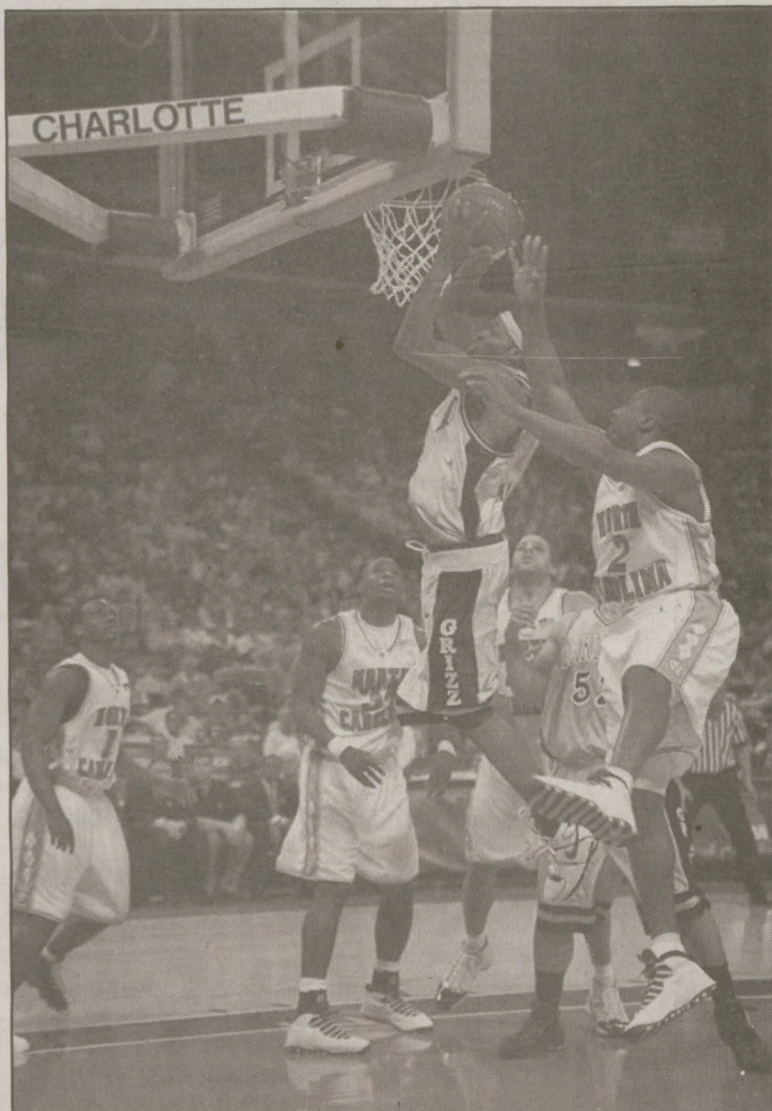
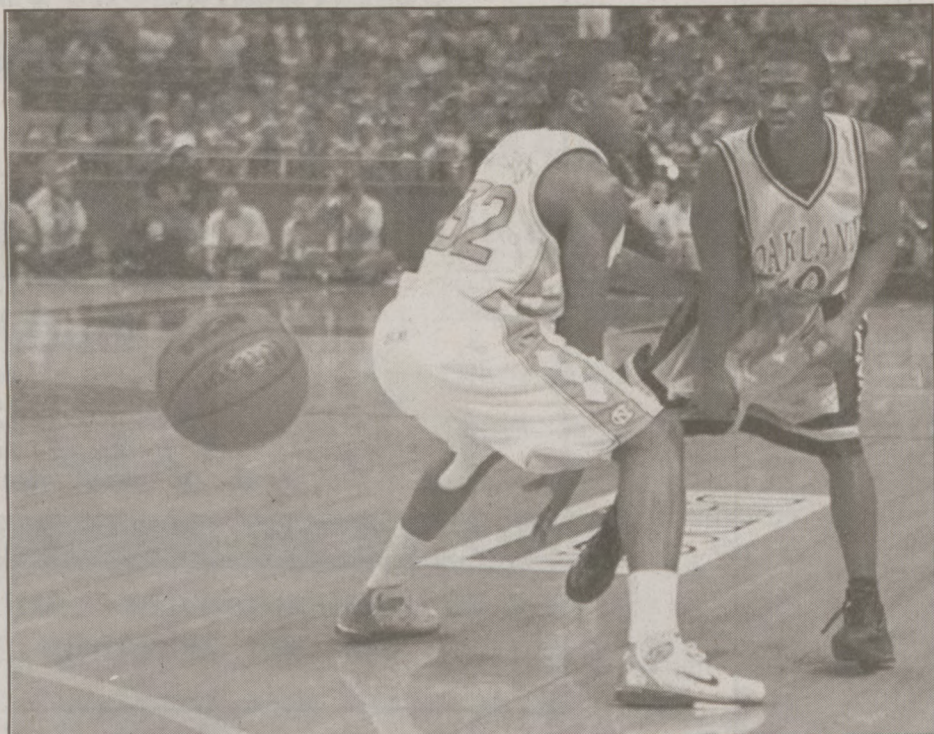
"You have to feel good for Oakland and the run they made at the end of the year. That's college basketball. That's the NCAA Tournament and that's what thrills everybody," Williams said. "I was pleased they were able to get Scott and Marshall out at the end and everyone clapped for them. Those two kids are a load and really had a fantastic finish to the year."



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post
Senior forward Cortney Scott tries to break the Tar Heels' full court press.

Senior guard DeMarcus Ishmeal passes the ball into the post.

Dante Ciullo/
The Oakland Post



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post
Senior forward Rawle Marshall fights for a layup.