B1

Requests for information reveal poor attendance records for trustees, expensive dinners at Sunset Terrace

Today: Partly Cloudy High 41°E Low 24°F

Tomorrow: Rain and Snow High 48°F

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EDGE

· Today is the last day to vote in the **OU** Student Congress Elections! This year's elections for student body president, vice president and OUSC legislators are being held online at www.oakland.edu/vot eou. To vote, students can visit the website and log in with their student ID and SAIL PIN number. Candidates' platforms can be viewed online, and students can write in

panel discussion titled "Beyond the Glass Ceiling" from noon-1 p.m., today, in the Fireside Lounge, OC. The discussion will be host by Doreen Olko, Auburn Hills chief of police.

candidates, as well.

• Family Fun Day at Meadow Brook Hall starts at 10 a.m. this Saturday.

• Don't forget: This Monday is the first day that SAIL registration for spring classes is open. Look in the schedule of classes to find your scheduled day to register.

• The Vagina
Monologues are coming to OU at 7 p.m.,
April 12-13 in 201
Dodge Hall.Tickets
are \$10 at the
Center for Student
Activities office in
the basement of the
OC.

• Latin Rhythms Night starts at 7 p.m., April 13 in the Gold Rooms, OC. Fuerza! is offering free Salsa lessons, latin music and tons of dancing.

IN THIS ISSUE

News Column... A3
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Food service changing

Aramark negotiating new contract; current one

expires

April 30

By Lisa Cali Managing Editor

U is currently in negotiations with Aramark to finalize a new five year food service contract, as the current one expires April 30, according to Eleanor Reynolds, director of university housing and food service.

Reynolds spoke to OU Student Congress at its Monday meeting to give an update on the food service contract for the upcoming year.

Reynolds outlined many changes that range from new meal plans to extended hours in Vandenberg Cafeteria and Pioneer Food Court.

According to Reynolds, the changes are still in negotiation, but things that will most likely or certainly happen with food service on campus in the upcoming year are:

· Extended hours in

Vandenberg Cafeteria. New hours will be 7:15 a.m.-7:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday; 7:15 a.m.-2 p.m. and 4:30-6 p.m., Friday; 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday.

• A new unlimited meal plan for Vandenberg Cafeteria that may include a maximum of \$50 per semester in declining balance allowance. The current five, 10 and 14 meal plans will still be available.

•Student Apartment residents will be offered meal

and declining balance plans. Sul
A meals-to-go program in
Vandenberg Cafeteria that
will allow students to pack a

dining outside the cafeteria.

*Renovations of the Beer
Lake Yacht Club that will
include pizza service and
Java City coffee service, as

meal in a to-go container

once a meal period to allow

well as a seating area.
Opening of Subway in the basement of the Oakland Center that will replace Pretzel Logic.

Subway will have extended hours – 10:30 a.m.-11 p.m., Monday-Friday; 10:30 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday and Sunday.

Opening of Sunset
Strips, a chicken venue, that
will replace Chopsticks.

"I'm very excited about the changes we're making," Reynolds said. "I want to reiterate that we're still negotiating, but I think this is going to be a high-quality

FOOD continues on A4

WOMEN

RULE: Author

Three picked for high honors

By Cara Plowman EDITOR IN CHIEF

The number of distinguished faculty members on campus may reach double-digits soon.

The Board of Trustees will name Professor of Political Science Sheldon Appleton, Professor of Education Ronald Cramer and Professor of English Jane Eberwein as the recipients of the Distinguished Professor award at the April 3 meeting.

If the Board approves the nominations, the professors will join seven past winners and take the title of Distinguished Professor.

Late last week, Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost Virinder Moudgil announced picks for Distinguished Professors. A 10person committee comprised of two past Distinguished Professor award winners and seven other professors from varying fields made the recommendations. Moudgil and President Gary Russi will present the three nominees to the Board.

"It is my great pleasure to reinstitute this tradition that recognizes excellence in our faculty,"

FACULTY continues on A4

OVERCOMING



Naomi Wolf spoke to a filled Meadow Brook Theatre Monday. The lecture focused on concepts from her book "Fire with Fire: The New Female Power."

> Cara Plowman/ The Oakland

Fiery feminist shakes OU

By Heather Clement ASSISTANT TO THE NEWS DEPT.

The Student Lecture Life Board brought author and feminist Naomi Wolf to Meadow Brook Theatre Monday.

Wolf's lecture focused on her second book "Fire with Fire:
The New Female Power," and how the 21st century will affect women's empowerment.

Wolf spoke about the Genderquake, which is when

women use their voting and financial power to change policy. She said 57 percent of the vot-

ers are female.

Wolf asked the audience to close their eyes to envision what they wanted to be when they were 9 years old. Three women spoke out and said they wanted to be doctors and astronauts.

One said she wanted to be president

Wolf pointed out that many women have high expectations

when they are 9 years old but often think they are far-fetched by 19 years old.

"I think the presentation articulated her book 'Fire with Fire," said Sue Rumph, Women's Studies instructor. "I thought she did a very good job addressing both genders."

Wolf's other books include

"The Beauty Myth,"
"Promiscuities: The Secret

WOLF continues on A7



ODDS: Michigan Senator Debbie Stabenow (D) addresses a crowd at the Fireside Lounge in the Oakland Center. Her speech, which was part of Women's History month, focused on women in politics. In 1974. Stabenow beat out a male incumbent during the **Ingham County** Board of Commission elections. In 2000, she was chosen as Michigan's first female Senator.

> Dan McDuffee/ The Oakland Post



Senator Stabenow speaks about women in politics, gender equality

By Dan Agauas
THE OAKLAND POST

U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow (D) spoke about the history of women in politics and of her own ascension in the profession during her visit to OU last Friday.

One aspect of Stabenow's presentation highlighted how women are moving closer to gender

Stabenow remembered when she was in high school how she would wear her boyfriend's varsity jacket. When her daughter went through high school, however, she had her own varsity jacket to wear.

"I think it is great how now my

daughter is playing volleyball, and it is her boyfriend who is watching and supporting from the stands," Stabenow said. "Women athletes go through school not even realizing what it took for them to participate."

Another component of Stabenow's speech was about her own experiences as a woman office-holder.

Her first encounter in politics was when she was elected to the Ingham County Board of Commission in 1974. Though the incumbent she ran against called her a "young broad," the experience inspired Stabenow and helped her on her way.

"My family was not involved in

politics," Stabenow said. "I never connected the dots. I finally began to connect them and realize that politicians are ordinary neonle"

stabenow was elected to the state House of Representatives, where she eventually became the first woman to preside over the House. From there, she served in the State Senate and later as a Michigan Congress member.

She was elected Senator in 2000, becoming the first woman in Michigan to hold that position.

Director of Women's Studies and Associate Professor of Anthropology Suzanne Spencer-

SENATE continues on A7

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WOLF

continued from A1

Struggle for Womanhood," and "Misconceptions: Truth, Lies and the Unexpected on the Journey to Motherhood." She is also a cofounder of the Woodhull Institute, which focuses on the future leadership of women.

Wolf has also worked as a columnist for George magazine, as a consultant for the Al Gore campaign, was named Glamour's Woman of the Year and a notable leader under 40 years old by Time magazine.

Before the lecture Monday, The Post was given an exclusive interview with Wolf.

Post: What was the motivation behind your becoming an

Wolf: I don't think I deserve the title of activist. I've just written books. I guess that is a form of activism. I was looking around college and noticing that of the most brilliant minds of my generation, the women students were suffering from eating disorders, and this affected their ability to change the world. There was something pretty serious going on. That lead me more deeply into beauty, and that lead me to write my first book. I do spend time to activate change, but I sort of fell into it because of the views I hold, which are described as controversial. I basically hold

the view that women should be treated like human beings.

Post: Are all your books as well-researched as

"Promiscuities?"

Wolf: I try to write books that are rigorously academically researched, but the narrative itself is very readable and accessible. My goal is to reach readers who would never otherwise pick up some arcane academic feminist text and to draw them in to have better tools to live better lives with. But at the same time, I really value academic rigor and intellectual rigor. I feel like people who are not necessarily in an ivory tower, who just go about

their lives, deserve the same quality thinking that people who want their lives to be in academic settings.

Post: How has becoming a mother effected your feminist views?

Wolf: In terms of my general commitment to women's equality, I think it has deepened. I've gotten more radical as a mom, because I want the world to be more fair and equitable. Now, I acknowledge that there may be some gender differences that are innate, sure; Do I think we ought to make policy out of them? No.

Post: Has being a mom changed your views on abortion?

Wolf: Being pregnant made me even more committed to abortion rights because having a baby is such a huge responsibility. But it also definitely complicated my understanding of the choice to have an abortion.

Post: Do you think that because of the way we were raised that we are more committed to our own children?

Wolf: My parents were kind of wild living types in a lot of ways but they were actually pretty old fashioned in terms of family values compared to people around us. We were going to synagogue on Friday nights, we were having family dinners, and they are still

married 40 years later. It wasn't the wild, crazy scene that it was up the block. So I don't feel like I am reacting against my parents specifically, but I definitely saw some really selfish choices that grown-ups were making when we were little. I definitely got a sense from the culture that kids were not valued, that being dad or mom was not valued in the '70s. I think that people of my generation are pretty insanely conscience parents.

Wolf lives in Greenwich Village, New York City, with her husband, her daughter Rosa, 7, and her son Joey, 2.

SENATE

continued from A1

Wood was chiefly responsible for coordinating Stabenow's visit.

"She rose like a star from her local position to state politics and then national politics," Spencer-Wood said. "She has been working hard for the people and supporting issues people care about.'

According to Stabenow, her ascension was anything but typical, and she is still in the minority. Of the 100 U.S.

Senators, only 13 are women. In fact, over the history of the U.S., only 33 of 1,864 Senators have been female.

"The statistics blew me away," Jean Anne Miller, director for the Center of Student Activities and Leadership Development, said. "(The most important issue) was how women can get involved, because how we function in the country is what happens in Washington D.C. and state and local government."

Stabenow finds support from the other women in the Senate. Once a month she meets with them for dinner to talk about issues and get support, she said.

"Women are still nowhere near the numbers (needed) to truly represent the nation, but we are moving forward," she

According to Stabenow, one of the main reasons she entered politics was to make a difference in public policy.

Spencer-Wood can attest to how Stabenow made a difference in just one evening at OU.

"Stabenow was a wonderful and inspired speaker," Spencer-Wood said. "I am hoping that she has inspired some students to go into politics. There still is a field there to make a difference."

According to Stabenow, just for women to even have an option to go into Congress is progress. After she graduated from high school, a counselor told her that she had only three career options: a teacher, a social worker or a nurse.

Today, women can be anything they want: a politician, an astronaut or even president, Stabenow said. And they certainly can play high school volleyball and wear their own varsity jackets.

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Other Comments:

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Applications for employment are due in The Post office by April 3 at 5 p.m. Questions? Call Cara at 370.4268. Please attach a current resum and five published articles. Interviews will be set up in April.

CLASSROOMS

continued from A3

tor teaches a class, requiring them to change the method that they deliver the content. He noted that he has seen a change in the way students learn.

"It is more of a discovery method of learning than a method of learning where you are just delivering the content. The students who are the quietest and never say anything in class come out of their shells significantly online," Moore said. "I have no data to back this up but I believe that the students have more time to think about what their response will be, and therefore can come up with a more prepared response online, than they can in the classroom where it has to be instantaneous.'

But Moore warns that not every student is cut out for online

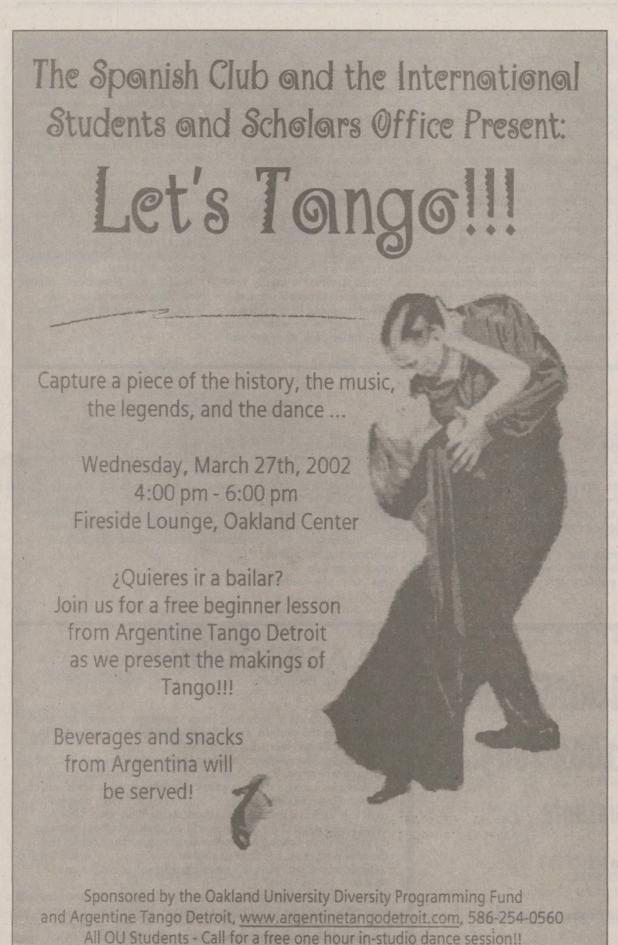
"Students who are not highly structured people who are very self motivated, don't do well in online courses. It requires the person to organize their own time, to answer questions, to participate in discussions. In a more structured environment they are told they have to be in class at 10 on Thursday, their life is structured for them. Online their life is not structured, they have to structure their life around to answer the questions. If you fall behind, you're

Robert Anderson, assistant professor of English, has been teaching at OU for four years. While he likes to use technology like the use of the web as a substitute for books that can't be easily accessible to students, he doesn't want to move into a world where students don't have to take notes.

"Chalk and eraser works fine. I'm old fashioned in terms of preferring classrooms and human interactions, as opposed to virtual, I'm not interested in being online. I really think human contact direct, is an important part of teaching, if only on a psychological level. But as a resource, I'm interested in kinds of technology, especially if it will let me have more Blake images in my classroom,' Anderson said.

According to Preisinger it will ultimately be the students who decide what type of classroom is used on campus.

"The classroom will continue to have enhanced capabilities for instructors that allow them to teach in a more productive style, if they choose to," Preisinger said. "The students are the ones who will drive it. Students expect to use technology.'



CREDIT

continued from A5

"I am still going to be carrying that balance six months after the semester is over," Vassallo said of this semester's tuition.

Student loans can be much better than relying on high interest rate credit cards. Student loans provide the money for college at low interest rates. On average the interest rate is 0.008 percent. If this loan was going to be paid back over 28 years the monthly payments would about \$164.

Now, the loan also took 28 years to pay off, but that was at \$164 a month in payments. On the credit card, the payments can cost as much as \$514.49 per month. The loan can be paid off sooner if higher payments are

With the loan, the student will pay a total of \$10,715.84 in inter-

est. Using the credit card the student will pay \$20,588.47 just in interest. Four years of tuition and fees total \$18,555.56, and the student could end up paying \$39,144.03.

Courtney Swanson, public relations and marketing coordinator of GreenPath Debt Solutions, has advice for students who use credit cards. She says not to use them for the small purchases because they add up quickly. She also suggests budgeting. Writing down what comes in versus what bills need to be paid helps keep spending in check.

Most importantly, Swanson wants students to remember to spend within their means.

"Last year we took on almost 3,000 new clients between the ages of 20-29," Swanson said,

putting into perspective how many young people are having debt problems

She said the most important thing to do if a student is in debt is to change bad habits.

You'll find yourself in a landslide," Swanson said. GreenPath offers free consultations and budget help to people

who find themselves in credit debt. It can be found at www.debthelpnow.org, or 800.550.1961.

Editor's note: These totals are based on tution only and do not include books, housing, meals, travel, course fees or any additional expenses that a student may encounter.

LEX



by phil flickinger (www.l-e-x.com) BLAKE, I WHAT'S THE POINT



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nstead, they were looking for a body, a corpse. The man, Jesus of Nazareth, was publicly beaten, whipped, tortured to death by crucifixion, confirmed dead by a final sword thrust, and securely buried three days earlier. Not only that, but because of his notoriety, an entire guard of Roman soldiers was guarding his what they knew was a lie? tomb. with an official Roman insignia on the twoton boulder which sealed its entrance. This was a special precaution because Jesus stated that after his crucifixion, he would come back to life on the resurrection was true. He was eventually

On that day, the boulder was found up a slope, away from the tomb. The guards had fled. And inside the tomb, Jesus' body was not there. But the cloths which had been mixed with gummy spices and wrapped around his body were still in the tomb, caved in like an empty cocoon. An official report was circulated stating that Jesus' disciples took the body while the guards slept.

The disciples, who had been in hiding fearing for their lives, were now out and about claiming that Jesus had risen from the dead-and had

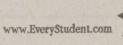
even physically (not spiritually) appeared to them on several occasions. Were the disciples indeed hiding the body of Jesus? If so, then it's hard to explain why each of them independently traveled to other countries, eventually dying a martyr's death. Who would give up their life for

Paul, who had been one of the most vicious persecutors of the disciples and the early Christians, later became convinced that Jesus' beheaded for his faith in Jesus. How important is it if Jesus was raised from the dead or not? Paul put it this way: "If Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith."

During his life, Jesus healed people of diseases and disabilities and performed many miracles to verify his deity. Then he offered the biggest proof of all—he predicted that he would be crucified and come back to life three days later. That's why the Roman soldiers were guarding the tomb. Simple, straightforward. It's like saying, "You'll know if everything I've said to you is true by this: I will come back to life three days after they crucify me."

By the end of the first century, nearly one million Jews were followers of Jesus. What caused such an instant, explosive following? First, Jesus' body was indeed missing. If anyone could have produced the body, that would have put an end to it. Second, Jesus must have lived an amazing life to cause so many, so quickly after his death, to worship him as the Messiah. Third, as with the disciples, Jesus must have physically appeared to many people, confirming to them the reality of his resurrection, because individual after individual willingly endured persecution.

This Easter, investigate the evidence yourself. Read the section called "John" in the Bible. And, for a concise look at what convinced Jesus' disciples and the early Christians, see the feature article BEYOND BLIND FAITH at www.EveryStudent.com. Or get a free copy of the article by calling 1-800-236-9238 or emailing Articles@EveryStudent.com.



ON CAMPUS

- · An informational meeting on the Disney World College Program will be held at noon today in 128, OC.
- ·If you are into Latin dancing make sure to check out the ISSO and SPB-sponsored "Let's Tango" from 4-6 p.m., Wednesday, March 27, in the Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center.
- The Indian Students Association will be hosting a presentation on Indian culture called Rangeela at 6 p.m. on March 30 in the Varner Recital Hall. Tickets are \$8 and are available at the CSA office, the door or through ISA members.
- · Need to get out of that end of the year aggression? Take it out on a member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Wednesday, April 3, during "Throw a Pie at Gamma Phi." All profits will go to the Make a Wish Foundation.
- · Enter your photographs in the 19th annual photo contest sponsored by CSA and SPB. All entries must be submitted no later than April 12. The contest will be held on April 15-17.
- · Be sure to check out "Artisan Painters: American Folk Portraits and Landscapes" running right now at Meadow Brook Art Gallery, 208 Wilson Hall. The exhibit, which features 18th and 19th century American art, runs through April 10.

SHOWS

- · Join seminal 80s hair band Quiet Riot for an evening full of meaty riffs and tight jeans at 8 p.m. on April 6 at Harpo's Concert Theater. Tickets are available at ticketmaster.com or by calling 248.645.6666.
- · George Clinton and Parliament-Funkadelic will play at 8 p.m. on Thursday, April 11 at the Royal Oak Music Theatre. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster.

Enemies,

love affairs, overflowing toilets

Former 'Real World' cast members spill their guts on cleanliness, microphones, dealing with pseudo-celebrity status



ROCKING THE MIC: Melissa fields questions from the



CORAL RELIEF: Coral shares some thoughts at the Food





STORMIN' NORMAN: Norman tells about his experiences on the "Real World.



OH SYRUS: Syrus and Coral ham it up Tuesday in the Food



Photos by Cara Plowman/The Oakland

MOUTH WIDE OPEN: Coral and

Melissa share a moment of insanity

in the Oakland Center Wednesday.

at the Food Court

Coral appeared on

the show's second New York show.

Melissa was a part

New Orleans show.

dirt on what really went on behind the scenes on the "Real

of the cast for the

The members of the cast dished

World" set.

By Rachel Rybicki CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

he Real World: OU. Last week four members from previous casts of the "Real World" came to OU and answered questions from students.

Norm, from the original "Real Worldæ in New York in 1992, Melissa from New Orleans, Coral from the second New York and Syrus from Boston were all in attendence in the Food Court in the Oakland Center Wednesday.

"These guys from MTV came up to us," said Norm. there were seven strangers, and they said you guys want to live in this loft with some crazy people and have cameras follow you around, and we thought, ooh, what a great idea. So we started this trend."

Melissa said that the experience in the house and being on the show changed her

"When I left the house I was overwhelmed, but being off the show for a year I have gained so many experiences," she said. "I had fun, I met cool people and now I am just doing my thing."

The houses however caused some animosity between the casts.

"My house was small, it looked big on TV, but we only had the front half of the house because the back half was under construction," Melissa said. "It was really just like a small three bedroom apartment, but it was wonderful looking but the furniture was kind of uncomfortable, because it was a more of a set, but it was a great house."

Coral agreed with Melissa and said that their house was big however but that it was too much like a stage and a set.

"The worst part about it was the lights" said Coral. "At night you would have to call over to the guys and tell them to turn off the lights because you couldn't turn them off, there were no switches so that we could do it ourselves. We lived on a set."

"But when we would go to bed, and they heard you talking the lights would go back on and it was like that all night long," said

Syrus agreed and also said the another problem for him was the microphones they had to wear all of the time.

"The room is miked," said Syrus. "You get de-miked to go to bed. I would lay down and they would never leave me alone to go to bed As soon as I would hear the door close, I would sprint for the door just trying to get some freedom just for a minute. I would have people come out the house right behind my

Norm felt they really had no other problems accept for the cleanlienss of the house.

"They would have maids come in, because when we wouldn't clean up the executive producers thought 'Oh my god. We can't have this on TV and they would hire maids to clean the house," he said.

Some things never made it on tape, but will remain with the cast members for a life-

"Mine is actually on "The Real World You Never Saw" tape," said Melissa. "It was a very old, very cool old school house and it had really sensitive plumbing. I am sorry but what do you want me to do.'

"I flooded the toilet one time and stopped production for a little bit, so ever since then, I stopped using the bathroom at the house and I started using the bathroom at the pharmacy up the street," she said.

While the other cast members wouldn't reveal their secrets, the general consensus was that many of the little inside jokes were not aired along with some of the before and after effects of the fights.

Thousands of pieces of fan mail came in from viewers to the cast members creating some pretty fond memories for some.

"The first season of the Real World, I think that we took MTV by surprise, and we had all of this fan mail just packed along the walls. They didn't know what to do with it or how to read it, so me and Heather would sneak in there and take it all out," said

Coral however said she felt more overwhelmed than anything.

"Right when I got off of the show, I had 300 fan mail and email messages in my account,"

said Coral. "It was overwhelming, and you read it and some of it is like, 'Coral, oh my god, you changed my life, I think your great' and other ones are like, 'you whore, I hope you die, you are so mean to Mike.' It gets really difficult to read it and pay attention to

As to what are they all up to now, most are enjoying life and the experiences they learned form being on the show.

Presently, Syrus is making video games for Play Station 2 and X-Box.

"My third game is coming out in August, its called 'Street Hoops.' I've hired the top street hoop players in the world for it," he said. "I also have my own razor. It's doing well. Also, I make t-shirts, apparel, socks and

visors. Coral is working with Disney and is going to appears as a cartoon character in a movie and is doing a layout for Maxim.

"I'm still doing the whole post 'Real World,' mini-celebrety thing," Coral said. "I'm hosting and I've moved to Los Angeles.'

"I launched a website and I sell (my art.) You can buy it on my web page," Melissa said. "It's a fun page. Really the artwork took off in a direction that I never felt it would. I have ten prints available now and I am doing something really silly for MTV.

I am sure it will garner lots of hate mail, but MTV is doing a movie, 'Real World: The Lost Season.' So I have a cameo in a movie about the 'Real World' and I play myself with lines, a scripted version of me. I live in LA and I take acting classes and I just chill." Norm, the most seasoned of the "Real

World" veterans has been working on a couple of different projects and like Melissa is

"Right now in San Francisco, I am still painting and I actually grew up here in East Lansing, I was born the upper-peninsula near Lake Superior," said Norm.

"I just completed a series of Michigan paintings," he said. "I am pretty happy to have sold three of the pieces. The last three years I have been working on a film and it is going to open the Honalulu Film Festival

OU student finalist for Irene Ryan award

By Marianne Poulin THE OAKLAND POST

Basketball may have its March Madness, and Sundance has it's film festival, but for OU student actors, it all about the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, and in particular, the Irene Ryan Acting Awards.

Jessica Elwart, senior, theatre arts, was nominated for her performance in last year's production of "Cabaret."

Each year, approximately 385 students compete for one of the two regional finalist positions that will land them center stage at the Kennedy Center in Washington

The Irene Ryan Award is named after the actress best remembered as Granny on the Beverly Hillbillies. The award was created in 1972, and is part of a week long festival held at different universities. This year's

regional competition was held Going to Irene Ryan, you don't go January 9-13 at with the aspiration to go on. It is the University of Southern more of the privilege to just be Indiana, in Evansville. nominated. There are eight different regions

Jessica Elwart Irene Ryan Award Finalist in the country. The January

2002 festival featured 120 colleges and Universities in Region III, which includes Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana. There were 1,551 registrants, with 191 Associate production and 40 participating productions. In addition, the festival included 14 new student-written, produced works, 42

new one act plays and 67 new ten minute

The competition started on the second day of the festi-

"In the preliminary round there were about 385 students competing," Elwart said. "It then dwindled down to 41 and that evening they

performed the same thing again for a different set of judges, then it went down to 16. From there they pick two individuals that go to the Kennedy Center to per-

Elwart made it to the sweet sixteen, but unfortunately wasn't picked to be one of

the two finalists to go to Kennedy Center. "Going to Irene Ryan, you don't go with

the aspiration to go on. It is more of the privilege to just be nominated. It's an honor to be nominated. It's a honor to go, but when you get there. It is so intimidating because when you get there, there are 385 other students who are just as good as you are. Just to be nominated to go.'

She credits much of her success to her acting partner, Joe Baldiga, junior, theatre

"I only got as far as I did because of Joe. He has such great energy. He and I bounce off really well together. We create such a magnetic partnership when we're on stage together.'

The only student from OU to ever win the Kennedy Center competition was Esau Pritchett. He now lives in New

AStudent

Updating OU

CONGRATULATIONS!

2002 Alfred G. and Matilda R. Wilson Award Recipients
Adam Kochenderfer and Lani Morgan
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Graham Health Center
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too late to join if you call ext. 2344 right away! DON'T DELAY,
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Oakland University Alumni Association Scholarships
Applications are now available for \$1000 and \$2000 one-year
scholarships. Contact Jamie E. Ruark, Asst. Director, Alumni
Relations at 370-3700, ext. 1113 or email at ruark@oakland.edu
for an application and/or scholarship criteria. Applications are
also available in the Dean of Students Office, 144 Oakland
Center. Deadline is Monday, April 1, 2002.

Volunteer Service Awards—Last Week To Apply
Applications are still available in the Dean of Students Office,
144 Oakland Center for OU students and student organizations
who have been involved in volunteer services both on and off
campus. Up to 16 awards of \$500 each to individual returning
students and up to 7 student organization awards of \$500 each
are available. Winners will be announced at the Student
Organization Awards Program in April. Call Dean of Students
Office at ext. 3352 for more information. The deadline for both
individual and group applications is Wednesday, March 20,
2002.

Student Leadership Opportunity!

This is your last week to apply for the position of Student Liaison to the OU Board of Trustees. Deadline is Friday, March 29, 2002. The liaisons attend all meetings of the OU Board of Trustees in order to represent student interests on university issues. Applications are available in the Student Affairs Office, 144 Oakland Center.

CAMPUS REC HAPPENINGS

Prepare yourself to enjoy the springtime by attending our fitness classes. You will tone your muscles, get a good cardio workout, and feel healthy!

Fitness Center—Winter 2002

Massage Therapy—Most individuals carry their stress in the upper back and shoulder areas that can cause headaches, muscle cramps and tension. Massage therapy might be just what you need! Hours are Monday and Wednesday, 2-7 PM and Saturdays by appointment. Low prices! Call 370-4910 for more information or to set up an appointment.

All-star basketball season is going on and there are games Monday and Tuesday nights from 7-10 PM downstairs in the Rec Center at court 1 and 2. Bring your friends and watch the

Check our website, <u>www.oakland.edu/unit/campus rec</u>, to see fitness schedules, intramural schedules and stats, information about special events, and more.

This Week

Friday, April 5

all-star basketball league.

Michigan Collegiate Job Fair (update): As of March 22, a total of 95 employers/organizations had registered to participate in the Spring '02 Michigan Collegiate Job Fair (MCJF) on Friday, April 5 at Burton Manor in Livonia. Students will be coming to this event from colleges and universities across the state. Go to the MCJF web site @ www.mcjf.org for the latest update on the employers that will be represented there, as well as information on the majors they are seeking and the positions that are available. Advance registration information is available on campus at Placement & Career Services, 275 Vandenberg Hall West (370-3250). Most majors will be represented at this event, with the exception of Medicine, Law and Education.

Friday. April 5
7 PM, Vandenberg Cafeteria. RHP's Friday Night Live
Winter 2002 Comedy. Series wraps up the winter 2002 term
with Motor City Improv—a comedy troupe with a mission
from...well, um you get the idea. This ensemble of five men and
one woman performs with dialects, costumes and high energy for
your entertainment pleasure. The combined experience of this
cast has worked on the stages of The Second City, Mark Ridley's
Comedy Castle, Meadow Brook Theatre, Gilda's Club of Detroit,
and the Palace of Auburn Hills. Did we mention that this is a
local act of fantastic talent? If you love 'em here, you can see
them at comedy clubs and theaters throughout the greater Detroit
area. Free admission and refreshments.

Monday, April 8
12 noon-1:30 PM, The Fifth Annual Winner's Circle
Reception, Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center. This reception recognizes distinguished OU students and their accomplishments throughout the 2001-2002 academic year. Please join us in congratulating them. Refreshments will be served.

Tuesday, April 9
4-5:30 PM, Senior Send Off, Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center.
Refreshments will be served.

Wednesday, May 1
9 AM-4 PM, Educators Recruiting Day, Gold Rooms and
Heritage Room, Oakland Center. Open to all OU Education seniors and alums. Schedule interviews with several schools and school districts for teaching positions. Student must register with Placement & Career Services' Career Connections to participate. For sign-up instructions and upcoming related events, go to the Placement & Career Services Department web site at http://phoenix.placement.oakland.edu.

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Looking for kind, energetic, kid-loving nanny to watch our 3 outgoing children in our home. Must like playing, activity, exploring, Light driving, picking up, some meals. Start ASAP. Hours: M-Th, 11:30-5 durring school year, Summer: M-Th, 8:30-5. Perfect for students! Please call 248.334.6286

Seeking Childcare Provider in Rochester Hills. Flexible hours: 16-20 hrs per week. Negotiable pay. Previous experience required. Prefer Child Development or Education Major. References required. Please call Jennifer at 248.375.2998

Now Hiring for deck and brick restoration. \$4000 - \$6000 for the summer. Call OPW @ 248.299.2515

OU Student wanted for part-time secretarial work in West Bloomfield law office. Good atmosphere and pay. Please fax resume and days / hours available to Mr. Sherman. 248.539.5360

JOBS

Preschool director opening. An immediate need for part-time director of a new preschool. Must have background in Early Childhood or Elémentary Education. Some experience in writing state licensing

requirements and lesson plans needed.
Completed degree not a requirement at this point. Please call Nanciat 248.814.1193

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Contact Kim at
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Graphics designers with layout production experience preferred. Full-Time / Part-Time avail. at publishing co. Contact April Parr at 248.377.9000 Love Animals? Local boarding kennel is hiring part / full time animal care positions for nights / weekends / holidays. Great experi-

ence for animal care / veterinary field. 248.879.7337. Ask for Mike or Angie.

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Licensed, Christian home-based daycare. Birth - age 5, part-time / full-time. Meals. Pre-School program. Near OU. 7am - 5:30 pm. 248.364.3998 Nice spacious 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath colonial near Oakland University. Hardwood floors, sunroom, library, partly finished basement. \$10,000 decorating allowance! \$250,000 (HIL299). 248.651.8144 x3971

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U.S. AIR FORCE

Student's life has new direction

By Laurie Puscas
The Oakland Post

Bryan Connolly, 35, a local guitar instructor, is focused and determined as he pursues a journalism degree at OU.

Relaxed as he sits in his studio in downtown Rochester, Connolly explains that his life did not always have direction.

To date, Connolly's biggest struggle in life has been fighting addiction. "It is still a daily struggle. I have been off the really bad stuff now for 14 years. I fight not slip-

Everyone is

responsible for

his or her own

ultimately

actions.

ping back. I still hear the voices of the past," he said. Connolly's story is an emotive one.

"I was an awful student in high school. I never did a lick of work," said Connolly. "We moved every five to six years, and that didn't help. I'm lucky I graduated. I look

five to six years, and that didn't help. I'm lucky I graduated. I look back at teachers I tortured and I feel so bad," he said.

During high

school some of
Connolly's friends started to get musical
instruments. So he bought a guitar. He
began taking lessons from a private
instructor when he was 16 and continued

with them for a couple of years.

He and his friends used drugs. "My friends would go out all night hell-raising. I would stay home with my drugs and practice playing my guitar for six hours at a time," said Connolly. Music changed his social life, and so he started spending his time with musicians and music groups.

Music became a passion to him. It took three years for the music to really make sense. Then his skillfulness took off.

After high school he attended Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio but he flunked out. "I didn't really want to be there. I went to college because everyone else was," said Connolly.

While in Dayton he played in the band Shut Down and lived in a house with his band mates. The music group was successful and they performed often. When you are popular and successful, he said that, all kinds of people gravitate toward you.
"We were doing all kinds of drugs and drinking. I was a mess. I wouldn't sleep for days," said Connolly.

Eventually, the band broke up. He knew he had problems he wouldn't be able to avoid if he stayed.

In the meantime, his parents had moved to Michigan. He moved back in with them when he was 22.

"I started getting my act together," he said. He did odd jobs to support himself, and kept practicing the guitar. In 1992 he started working at Annie's Music in Rochester selling pianos and guitars but

that didn't pay very well.

At this point, he was playing in a local rock group called Jacob's

The band was mildly successful according to Connolly. Some of the group's songs played on Wheels 98.7 and a few other radio stations. The group considered itself a studio band and tried sending packages to radio stations to get its music on the air.

Most groups play five nights a week, explained Connolly. "I did that out of high school, and it got me into a lot of trouble and it doesn't pay very well," he said. He did not want to go that route again.

"Stations and listeners liked our material and sound," said Connolly. "We had some response, but it's hard to bust in," he said.

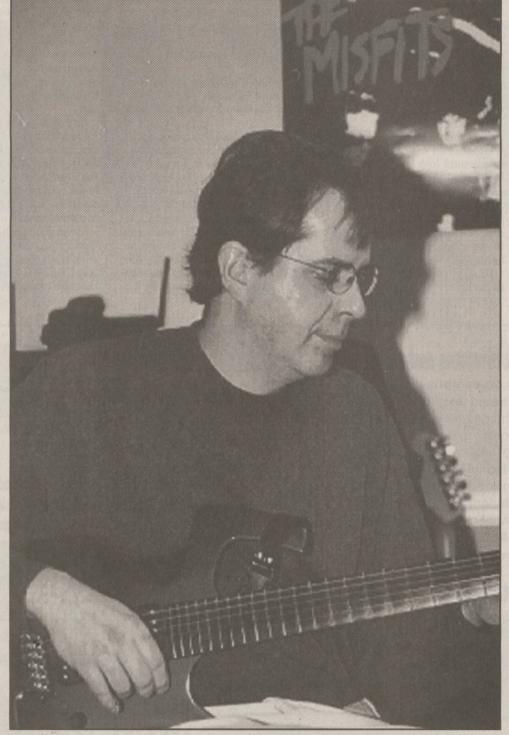
Capital Records took a look at Jacob's Ladder's material. "They said we didn't fit the 14 to 24 year old demographic of young and angry," said Connolly. "Our music was too positive."

Connolly continued to work at Annie's Music for a total of seven years. In 1993 additional teaching rooms were built in the store. At that time he began teaching guitar lessons. As his clientele grew, he began to teach six days a week.

"She took a cut of \$1,000 to \$1,200 a month from me," said Connolly. A friend encouraged him to get his own studio. After a while he did the math and agreed he could do better on his own.

Finding his first studio was a fluke. When he went to his dentist appointment in a building on Rochdale in Rochester, there was a sign for space to lease. He moved in. He has since moved to his current studio located at 134 West University in downtown Rochester.

He teaches about 60 students a week now, spending 30 hours a week teaching



Dan McDuffee/The Oakland Post CONNOLLY'S NEW LEASE ON LIFE: Connolly playing his guitar, a hobby which gave

and practices two hours a night. His students are mostly between 12 and 18 years of age. Eighty five per cent are male.

his life fresh direction.

"I see myself in a lot of my students,"

STUDENT continues on B4

'Lucky Stiff' an all-around success

Sign language makes theater accessible

By Marianne Poulin
THE OAKLAND POST

A musical without sound may seem paradoxical, but for the deaf audiences, that is exactly what they sense. By incorporating American Sign Language, (ASL) into a performance, the deaf and the hearing alike can experience theater in a new dimension

Sunday's performance of Lucky Stiff at the Varner Studio Theatre featured an ASL interpreted performance by Terp Theatre. Lucky Stiff is a musical comedy that can best be described as Weekend at Bernie's goes to Monte Carlo.

Michele Tocco and Dan McDougall take the stage along with the OU student actors and utilize the shadowed style of interpreting.

"We are the interpreters in residence for several theaters. There is a theatre in Royal Oak where we do one show of every production. In Ann Arbor we do every performance of every production. We do all of OU," Tocco said.

McDougall said that, this season they will both do 98 different performances, 25 shows and about 70 per cent are shadowed performances.

Terp theatre interprets theater in the area; community and professional. They do performances at Stage Crafters in Royal Oak, Wayne State University, and Wild Swan productions in Ann Arbor.

This particular performance is shadowed; the signers are actually on stage with the actors. They are incorporated into the show as if they were actors. They even appear in the dance numbers.

actors. They even appear in the dance numbers.

The other type is platform, where they stand on the side and interpret for the audience.

Riedel is affiliated with the Terp Theatre. She and others are at OU helping with ushering, tickets, and programs.

"Besides deaf patrons, we have a lot of interpreter students who come to the show to improve their signing skills or get involved if they have requirements for their deaf culture classes," Riedel said.

For this performance, 12 seats are reserved for patrons of Terp theatre. Some are hard of hearing, some completely deaf, and some are student interpreters who may have a relative who is hard of

There are usually two performers for each show. They typically do one show out of the whole run. Sunday they signed during both.

Karen Sheridan, associate professor of theater, recalls that the first production at OU to utilize signing was the student theater production of "Children of a Lesser God" that she directed. Tocco was the sign language coach for the actors who had



Photo courtesy of Dept. of Music Theater and Dance UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL WITH CAST MEM-BERS: 'Lucky Stiff' stars are ready to entertain.

to sign as part of their roles. They had one performance they interpreted.

Tocco and McDougall came in and did the interpreted performance for the deaf and hard of hear-

ing audiences.

"The whole hallway was filled with deaf and hard of hearing people that were just speaking to each other about the show," Sheridan said. "They waited

around afterwards for the actors, there was this incredible hubbub about this."

Sheridan explained that the theater pays the interpreters and the translating fee from a grant

sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences.

The interpreters start working at the same time the actors do. They get the script and translate it into ASL. They have to learn all the parts, not just one character.

"We start attending rehearsals after they block the show out," Tocco said. "The director directs us and helps us figure out our blocking."

Their timing has to match that of the actors. These interpreters rehearse with the actors. They watch the show several times, figure out where the best placement for them to be, so they can be seen by the deaf audience.

"We rehearse for about four to six weeks," McDougall added. "There's only two of us, so part of it is figuring out the strategy, to be close to the actors, while being more than one actor at a time. It can be a little hairy cause it can be 10 of them (actors) and only two of us," he said.

Play makes for light fun

By Pam Avoledo THE OAKLAND POST

What does the word 'musical' bring to mind? A successful mainstream movie with lazy songwriting? Or a series of already popular songs with a paper-thin plot attached.

"Lucky Stiff," presented by OU's Department of Music, Theatre and Dance, is neither. An offbeat story and wacky characters with personality to spare, make it a joy to watch.

Based on the book, "The Man Who Broke The Bank at Monte Carlo" by Michael Butterworth, it was adapted for stage by Lynn Aherns and Stephen Flaherty in 1988.

Briton Harry Witherspoon (Lee Huff), is a shoe salesman bored with the mundane routine of his life. One night Witherspoon reads a telegram, which tells him that he will inherit \$ 6 million. But there's a catch. Witherspoon has to take his dead Uncle Tony Hendon to Monte Carlo and Atlantic City in order to receive the money.

But Witherspoon is not the only one who wants the money. Rita LaPorta (Cassandra Svacha) is Hendon's ex-girlfriend who had 'accidentally' shot him and wants the \$6 million she embezzled from his casino. LaPorta also brings herbrother, Vinnie, (Jason Beubain) an eye doctor and an unwilling accomplice with her to Monte Carlo.

Annabel Glick (Ann K.

Annabel Glick, (Ann K.
McDonald), a representative
from the Universal Dog Home
of Brooklyn, is also involved.
She has to follow Witherspoon
and make sure Hendon's
demands are met otherwise the
money goes to the Universal

Dog Home.
Huff portrays Witherspoon as vulnerable. He makes it obvious that Witherspoon will do anything to escape his life

through his facial expressions rather than by relying on the music to do the same. As Witherspoon learns how to live with the guidance of his dead uncle, he becomes less cynical. It's a gradual journey made through a blend of impressive acting and writing the audience is allowed to see.

Svacha and Beaubain are a great pair. They played off each other well during their scenes. As a mismatched brother and sister, they display a genuine chemistry.

Another notable performance was by Phill Harmer who managed to steal every scene he was in. Either as a slick solicitor, a greedy nun, or a crazy Texan in a wheelchair, he personalized each character. He is naturally charismatic.

The play is a camp fest that's not afraid to poke fun at itself. In a memorable moment, LaPorta aims the gun at the band shoots the gun and the band is silent. She turns around and gives them a confused look.

Despite the its craziness, the plot has depth. The underlying theme hiding behind the comedy is to live life and not to get bogged down by routine. But it's not coyly done or beaten to death.

The only weak aspect is the romantic sub-plot. One minute, Glick and Witherspoon can't stand one another. The next, they don't know what to do without the other. It's not charming anymore and has been done numerous times.

"It's a very intriguing play that demonstrates the real longing in life; for the love of a soulmate, not money," said Chene Godsey, management information systems, junior.

The remaining dates for "Lucky Stiff" are March 27 at 10 a.m. and March 30 at 2 p.m. at Varner Studio Theatre. Tickets cost \$12 for general admission, \$10 for seniors and OU Employees, and \$5 for the 10 a.m. matinee. For more information call 248.370.3013.

LIFE COLUMN



Patrick Labadie

Thanking the Academy

I don't want to thank the Academy.

Last Sunday, Hollywood's elite gathered in their annual overblown extravaganza known as the Academy Awards. Megastars and studio executives dressed to the nines and walked down the red carpet. The immensely popular event is watched by people all over the world and is second only to the Super Bowl in ratings.

The ceremony represents the largest and most prominent example of Hollywood's self-congratulatory bs.

The evening provided some groundbreaking moments for the history books. Halle Berry became the first African-American woman to earn the Best Actress award. While it was richly deserved for her performance in "Monster's Ball" her mumbling, teary-eyed onstage breakdown seemed over the top for an actress who has everything going for her. She couldn't have been too shocked since she had won the Golden Globe

Denzel Washington made it two in a row as he took home the Best Actor prize. I hope this marks the end of an era when superior performances by black actors were ignored.

There was no clear-cut winner of the evening with "A Beautiful Mind" taking home Best Picture, Best Director (Ron Howard) and Best Supporting Actress (Jennifer Connelly), while "Lord of the Rings" cleaned up in many of the technical categories.

One of the night's main downfalls was Whoopi Goldberg. She is not funny. She never has been. Her Bruce Vilanche-penned monologues fell flat, while most of her jokes were as stale as last week's pumpernickel.

Despite Whoopi's lack of laughs, the best comedy of the evening came from Owen Wilson and Ben Stiller, stars of "The Royal Tenenbaums." They provided more comedy in their three minutes Best Costume introduction than Whoopi did in the entire evening. Seeing Wilson bedecked in full Harry Potter garb and Stiller as Gimli the Dwarf from "Lord of the Rings" was the highlight of the show.

Wilson and Stiller witty and playful banter again prove they are a comic force to be reckoned with.

Another area of note was the Oscars tribute to New York City. Introduced by the incomparable Woody Allen, in a rare Oscar appearance, the montage was a love letter to Allen's hometown and the movies that were filmed there.

The running time of the show clocked in at an epic four hours. With its endless tributes the show was excruciatingly boring, and at times and I found myself flipping to the more lighthearted and informal Independent Spirit Awards. Honestly, how many honorary awards and tributes does one show need? And what was happening with Cirque du Soleil. Dudes doing flips in leotards are not what I'm interested in on Oscar night.

In the fashion faux pas category of the evening, one of "Lord of the Rings" make up guys was wearing a tuxedo with tassels.

And was it me or did Uma Thurman's boobs look abnormally huge? Regardless she gets two thumbs up from me.

gets two thumbs up from me.
Overall, the Oscar ceremony, even with all the hype it brought with it, was ultimately unsatisfying.

Life Editor Patrick Labadie is a sophomore majoring in journalism. E-mail him at life@oakpostonline.com

STUDENT

said Connolly. They will come in and tell him about drinking and getting drunk. He doesn't come down on them like their parents, but explains to them how stupid it is. "Life is cyclical," he said.

After filing his taxes in 2000, he took a hard look at his life. He thought if he ever married and had a family, he wouldn't be able to support it on his income.

That is when he decided to go back to school. He began at Oakland Community College. He looked at school differently this time around. He said that he wanted to better himself.

At first he thought he would pursue a music degree. However, advice from a friend who plays with the Detroit Symphony changed his mind. He explained he would not make any more

money with a music degree unless he taught at a school. And that did not interest him.

Then he had a writing class at OCC with Margo LaGattuta, who was encouraging. "She really liked my writing. I could tell a pretty good story," said Connolly. So he decided to transfer to OU to major in journalism. Connolly wants to become a sports writer.

When he met with an Admissions counselor he was told he needed 24 credit hours before they would look at him. "Now I had a goal. All the negatives of school were gone," he said. He speaks well of his instruc-

tors at OU. Oakland Press reporter, Tracy Ward taught him to get in touch with the feelings behind the words in JRN 200.

Dr. Jude Nixon of the English department is a fantastic eye-

opening teacher. "I learned a lot about British Literature. I learned a lot more about life," he said. According to Connolly school is rounding him as a per-

Connolly currently has a 3.7

He has a different view of himself now and feels a need to set a good example for his students, he

Both of Connolly's parents were alcoholics. They have worked hard to overcome it, he said. "We are Irish on both sides and drinking comes easy," he said.

But, he does not think alcoholism and addiction are genetic. "That is a copout. The seeds can be there for anything. Everyone is ultimately responsible for his or her own actions. You must be accountable for what you do. I

refuse to blame my family for my past," said Connolly.

"There are some horrible things that happen between parents and kids. I have lived through it. You have to turn it around and use it as a positive. When people do things to you or things happen, you can think I have been through worse, I can get through

A good support group is helpful, according to Connolly. His church is his family. He attends Faith Church. "The building isn't the church, it is the people, the heart and feeling of togetherness," he said. He plays his guitar there most Sundays.

"So much of what happens is God's plan.. I am a Christian. I wish it showed more in my outward walk. My faith gets me through a lot of things," he said.

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WITH THE BEST

Many new beginnings are afoot, particularly in areas of self-growth. However, egos are bigger and more sensitive than usual, so the main challenge right now is to remain humble while blazing new trails. This is also an excellent time to redefine long-standing relationships, particularly romantic. People who accept rapid change will benefit the most right now.

Think about new ways you can save and make money. Having a achievable plan is better than an over ambitious one.

This is a good time to change long-standing patterns in your life. A romance may be going through some changes, but it will probably be for the good.

Gemini

Don't be afraid to make a big step, but do look before you leap. Dealing with the past helps you find direction now.

Gancer

Don't underestimate how important it is to enjoy time at home. A challenge at work is a great opportunity in disguise.

Try to keep a balanced schedule this week. Right now you have all the resources you need to change your life into how you want it.

Share your plans with others; they'll probably see things you missed. Letting go of a power struggle makes life a lot easier right now.

Changes are for the better, even if they may be out of your control. Unusual situations are filled with opportunity; it's just a matter of seeing them.

Deorpio

Other people may not be listening that well, but have patience and you'll find other ways to communicate. Don't be too aggressive in a romance.

Dagittarius

Take your time when it comes to deciding on a big commitment. Things go smoother when you share control with other people.

Capricorn

You're a bit more focused than usual, so take care of business this week. Don't let challenges at work affect your home life.

Oquarus m

Find ways to express your more romantic side. Your freedom is important, but make sure you don't miss a good thing.

isces

Look into new and creative ways to make money. Being aggressive will only get you so far right now; being patient and smart will get you farther.

Oakland University alum Damon Brown has studied the occult for ten years. A Chicagobased freelance writer, Damon currently contributes to Playboy.com, MSN.com, and The Source. He can be reached via his website at www.geocities.com/nomadgames/.

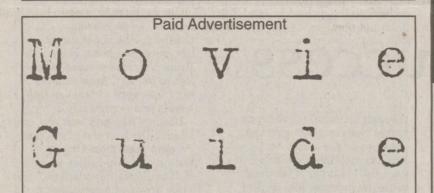
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2002 SIDNEY FINK MEMORIAL AWARDS

These awards are given to OU on-campus student employees who have demonstrated an aptitude and ongoing commitment to improve human/race relations within the work environment. It recognizes and encourages students with a positive work ethic who have contributed to both programmatic and interpersonal levels to the improvement of race relations at the university. Available for both graduate and undergraduate students. Nominees must possess a 2.0 or higher GPA. Applications are available in the Dean of Students Office, 144 Oakland Center, 370-3352. Deadline is Friday, March 29, 2002.

2002-2003 COMMUTER INVOLVEMENT AWARDS

These awards (a total of 20) recognize those commuting students who have made contributions to improve the quality of campus life through their participation in campus activities and student organizations. Students may be nominated to receive the award or they may apply for it. The Commuter Involvement Award, in the amount of \$250 each semester (fall and winter), is awarded for one academic year. Recipients must reapply each year. Qualifications and applications are available in the Dean of Students Office, 144 Oakland Center, 370-3352. Application deadline is Friday, March 29, 2002.



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dnesday and Thursday *Showtimes Starting Friday* A Walk To Remember (PG) 11:40, 2:25, 5:00, 7:25, 9:55

Ali (R) 11:30, 4:20, 8:00 11:30 Black Knight (PG-13) 11:45, 2:10, 4:45, 7:10, 9:30 11:45, 2:10, 4:45, 7:10, 9:30 Harry Potter & The Sorcerer's Stonel (PG) 11:20, 3:15, 7:05, 10:20 11:20, 3:15, 7:05, 10:20

How High (R) 11:55, 2:20, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40 11:55, 2:20, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40 Jimmy Neutron (G) 11:30, 1:45, 4:25, 6:50, 9:15 11:30, 1:45, 4:25, 6:50, 9:15 Kung Pow - Enter The Fist (PG-13)

11:25, 1:55, 4:35, 7:00, 9:20 11:25, 1:55, 4:35, 7:00, 9:20 Mothman Prophecies (PG-13) 11:05, 2:00, 4:50, 7:50, 10:40 11:05, 2:00, 4:50, 7:50, 10:40 Not Another Teen Movie (R)

Training Day (R)

Vanilla Sky (R)

12:00, 2:35, 5:00, 7:25, 9:50 Ocean's 11 (PG-13) 11:00, 1:40, 4:30, 7:30, 10:20 Shallow Hal (PG-13) 11:15, 2:05, 4:55, 7:40, 10:25 Snow Dogs (PG)

Super Troopers (R) 12:00, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00, 10:35 The Others (PG-13) 11:10, 2:15, 5:15, 7:45, 10:30 The Wash (R) 11:50, 2:30, 5:10, 7:55, 10:15 Thirteen Ghosts (R) 11:35, 2:05, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05

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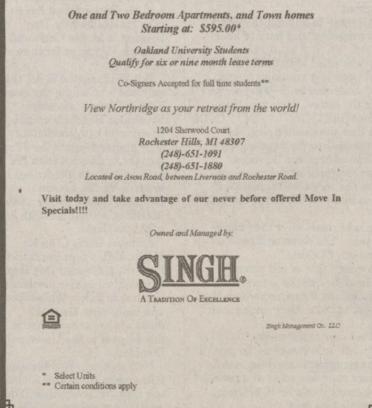


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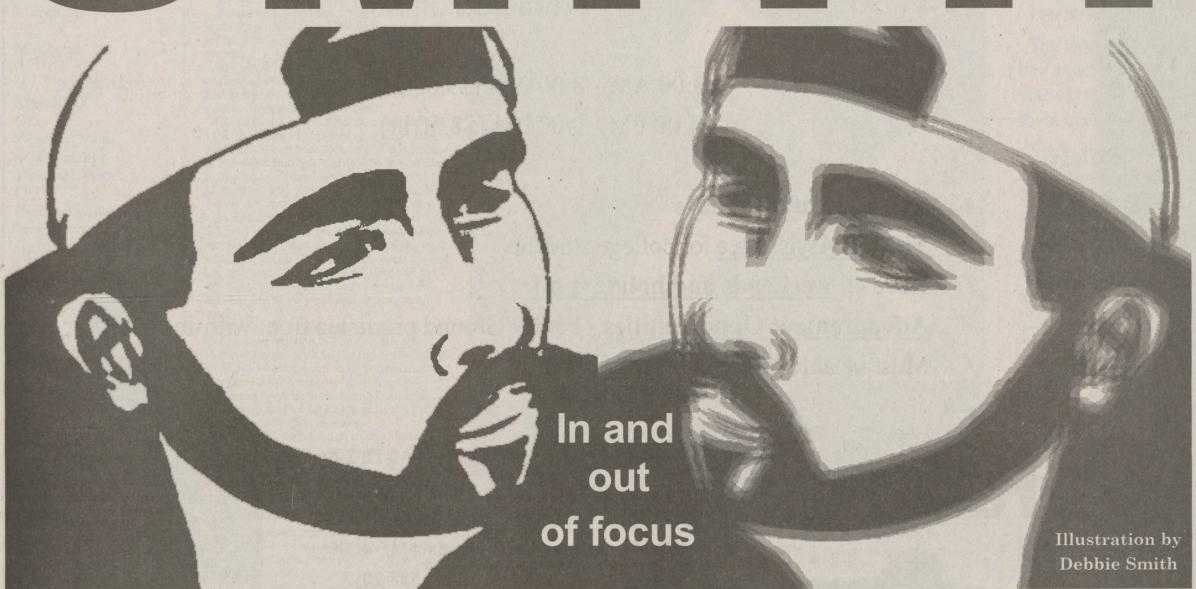
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KEVIN Acclaimed film director reflects on past successes, new DVD release

SMITT



By Brian Urreta
THE OAKLAND POST

Silent Bob are over.

This according to sex-symbol Kevin Smith, Silent Bob himself, writer, director and star of the films "Clerks," "Mallrats," and "Dogma."

"There's nothing sexually attractive about me even though my tits are just as big as Britney Spears," said Smith in a recent interview with The Post.

That's right kids, straight from the creator's mouth.

After the recent release of "Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back," and the upcoming release of the "Clerks" animated film, Jay and Silent Bob will be no more. No more 'snootchie bootchies,' no more 'snoogans,' no more 'fly fatass fly.' So let it

be written, so let it be done.
For the true Smith fans,
there's no need to fret.
According to Smith, his best
work is yet to come. As proven
with 1997's "Chasing Amy,"

Smith is at his best when he steps out of the realm he created with Jay and Silent Bob and into what he does best: thought provoking dialogue delving into the misgivings of human relationships

The project that Smith is currently working on, entitled "Jersey Girl," falls more along the lines of grown up issues in "Chasing Amy" than the juvenile humor of "Mallrats."

"Jersey Girl' is a complete 180 from 'Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back," said Smith. "It is without a doubt the best work I've written so far, I'm more proud of this than anything else." Smith says "Jersey Girl" is loosely based on

parenthood, a far cry from the world of stinkpalms and chocolate pretzels. Both Ben Affleck ("Good Will Hunting") and George Carlin ("Dogma") have committed to the project, both veterans of Smith films.

"Chasing Amy" is regarded by many as Smith's worst picture, straying too far from the pot-smoking, finger-pulling bathroom humor that dominates much of his other work.

Nonetheless, there is no denying that Smith put much of himself into "Chasing Amy," making it his most personal picture to date. And with the recent addition of a wife and child into his life, true Smith fans can only hope that he'll do the same with "Jersey Girl."

Regardless of what his beer-chugging frat fans may think of his abandonment of Jay and Silent Bob, the man who has battled countless protesters, as well as the Motion Picture Association of Association, has no fear of losing his real fans.

"After five movies of dick and fart jokes, I'm not afraid of losing my audience," said Smith.
"I'm aware of the consequences. You can't put a relationship movie in front of people who don't

know about relationships and expect them to understand. Still, we'll get back to the dick and fart jokes as we get older, just not now."

Although it may be a while before Bluntman and Chronic strike again, it's fairly safe to say that Smith will never truly abandon his roots of the New Jersey Trilogy ("Clerks," "Mallrats," and "Chasing Amy"). His convenience store loitering buffoons are part of what his fans have grown to love in Smith's self-dubbed "View

A couple of weeks back, Smith directed a short entitled "Flying Cars" that aired on the "Tonight Show with Jay Leno." Starring "Clerks" veterans Jeff Anderson and Brian O' Halloran, it was a short look into Smith's flirtations with a "Clerks" sequel and can be found of Smith's website www.viewaskew.com.

"I fumbled with the idea of a 'Clerks II,' and this is what I got. In a sense, I look at this as 'Clerks' on acid," said Smith.

Regardless of what happens with Jay and Silent Bob, all of Smith's films have wonderful DVD transfers, packed with extras including in depth commentary, a massive collection of deleted scenes, and hilarious outtakes for any fan of his films.

"I have a lot of fun putting together DVDs," said Smith. "Today in the DVD business, major studios are backing away because actors and directors are charging for what they put in the DVD. I would never charge for a DVD. When you make a film, you grow to hate it because that's all you do for those months. But when I

went through the extras for the DVD of 'Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back,' I grew to love it all over again."

Now that Jay and Silent Bob are on hiatus, one cannot help but wonder what's going to happen to Smith's best friend Jason Mewes.

"Along with the 'Clerks' animated film, I was going to put Mewes in 'Jersey Girl," Smith said snickering. "But now, I don't know," joking of Mewes recent run-in with the law over, surprisingly, narcotics possession.

For almost ten years now, Smith has remained one of America's foremost independent filmmakers by pushing the boundaries and making audiences laugh. Smith's unique vision has developed quite a reputation and a loyal following, making him a thoroughbred Hollywood outsider. Many of his films have even flirted with the dreaded rating of NC-17. Still, Smith offers advice to any aspiring filmmaker to remain honest, despite the backlash

one may come across because of it.

"Write about what you now, maintain who you are from beginning to end," said Smith.

"Discover that of what you need to feel discovered because you don't want to write for the end because You want to write for yourself."

audience. You want to write for yourself."
This coming from the man who told us that
Archie and the Riverdale gang were group of
wholesome, fun-loving, closet homosexuals.

Actually, he does have a point. That at least explains why Archie could never choose between Betty and Veronica.

Meadow Brook brings southern melodrama to stage

By Christine L. Mobley THE OAKLAND POST

Kevin Smith

Filmography

Clerks (1994)

Mallrats (1995)

Dogma (1999)

Chasing Amy (1997)

Jay and Silent Bob

Strike Back (2001)

With a distinct Southern drawl, Tennessee Williams' tale of deceit, family dysfunction and emotional abandonment, "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," is wonderfully brought to the stage at Meadow Brook Theatre.

The entire cast of "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" shines in William's timeless classic. This play is a definite must-see, especially for those who enjoy a good soap opera-type melodrama and endings that allow for the audience to draw its own conclusions.

The obscenities, at times, leaves something to be desired. However it does exemplify the troubled life situations of the characters and makes them seem much more real and intense.

The drama takes place in a plantation home on the Mississippi delta, one heated summer evening. The Pollitt family has gathered to celebrate Big Daddy's 65th birthday only to realize that it may be his last. Vying for a larger piece of the inheritance, attitudes are catty among some of the relatives. Simultaneously, other members of the family are struggling to understand their own relationships with each other.

Dana Green gives a sultry performance as Maggie, the lovelorn and sex-deprived wife of Brick (Ryan Kitley) an emotionally distraught alcoholic. Their respective performances are wrought with nuance

Green and Kitley bring life to these characters who evoke emotions of love one minute and contempt the next. Their personalities are painted so vividly that the audience has no choice but to relate to the characters. Maggie and Brick not only have to deal with living with his family, but also the constant interruptions to their private lives. Eavesdropping and constant intrusions to their bedroom scenes only

magnify their marital problems.

David L. Regal (Big Daddy) draws the audience in with his excellent depiction of the obnoxious, high-handed and tougher than nails, Pollitt family patriarch.

Kimberly Vanbiesbrouck portrays the ever-fertile sister-in-law, Mae. She does a magnificent job as the nosey and unsurprisingly bitchy, foil to Maggie

Gooper (Andrew Huff) is Brick's hen-pecked and conniving brother. Joel Carpenter, Hannah Mathers and Lauracindy Plague play Gooper and Mae's offspring, who are often amusingly referred to as the "noneck monsters."

Carpenter, Mathers, and Plague are adorable in their sailor-type costumes, however they are so obnoxious, that even the most avid child advocate wouldn't have a problem taking a strap to them.

Laurie V. Logan portrays Big Daddy's better half.

Logan's presentation of Big Mama as the underrated matriarch extracts the audience's sympathy when she realizes that the man she has loved for most of her life is dying of cancer. But she has the ability to draw laughter from the audience in better times.

Logan also manages to shock the audience during her first encounter with the childless Maggie. This play successfully highlights the gender boundaries of a bygone era.

Strong supporting work is turned in by Joe Wheeler II as Lacey, the male servant, Cecilia Foreman as Sookey the maid, Paul Riopelle as Reverend Tooker and Joseph Haynes as Doctor Baugh. Diametrically opposed to the traditional sitcom family, the Pollitt clan is nothing, if not, brutally realistic. The play is a masterwork of drama transcending its time and genre limitations and and is still able to ring true for today's audiences.

Overall, "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" is definitely worthy of an audience.

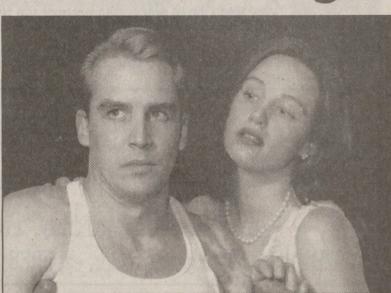


Photo courtesy of Meadow Brook Theatre SOUTHERN DISCOMFORT: Ryan Kitley and Dana Green star in Meadow Brook Theatre's production of the Tennessee Williams' "Cat

William's sympathetic dramatizing of the members of the Pollitt fami-

ly is exceptional, albeit disturbing.

"Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" runs from March 20 to April 14 at Meadow Brook Theatre. To order tickets, visit or call the Meadow Brook Theatre Box Office at 248.377.3300.



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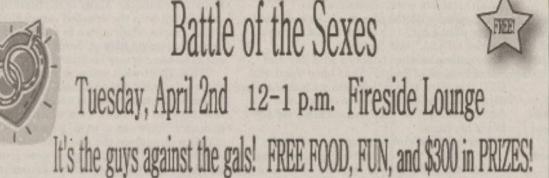
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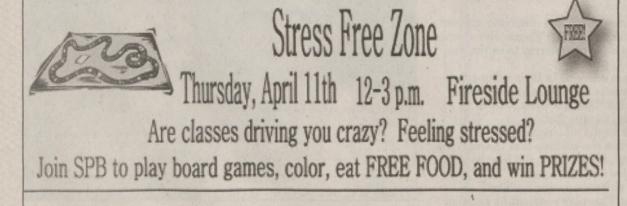
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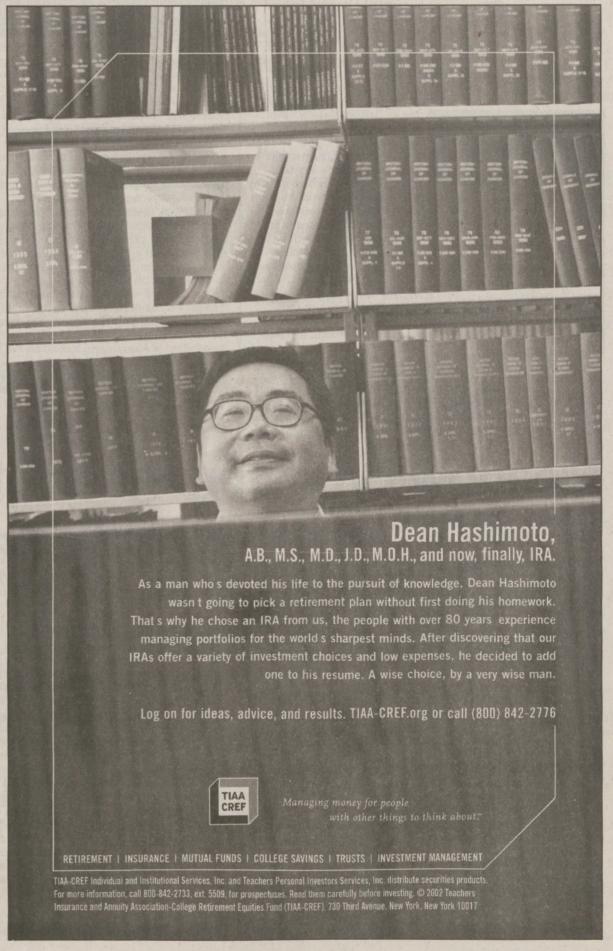


Bob Gerics Quartet

Saturday, April 6th 8:00 p.m. Fireside Lounge Rhythms Den is pleased to present it's final event of the semester! This is sure to get your fingers snapping and your toes tapping!



SPB 64 Oakland Center 248-370-4295



SPORTS

SCORE BOARD

BASEBALL March 20 OU Madonna SOFTBALL March 20 OU Western Mich. (First game) Western Mich. OU (Second game) March 23 Gardner Webb OU (First Game) OU **IPFW** (Second game) March 24 Purdue OU

WOMEN'S CLUB

HOCKEY March 22 Lake Superior OU March 23 MSU OU (First Game) UM OU (Second Game) March 24 OU WMU

WOMEN'S **TENNIS**

March 24 OU Cleveland St.

Men begin winning ways

Canceled game limits action

By Chad Mack THE OAKLAND POST

he OU baseball team hasn't started the season off very well, but it has managed to turn things around the last two games. The Grizzlies are coming off back to back wins for the first time this

"We played in some awful weather (at the beginning of the season)," said head coach Mark Avery. "Those were some really cold games, but we keep improving."

OU pasted Eastern Michigan in Ypsilanti 11-3, then came home and slipped by the Madonna Crusaders, 3-2. Mid-Con pitcher of the week Dominic Carmosino was stellar in Ypsilanti, pitched seven innings only allowed six hits and two runs. Carmosino is 1-3 on the year and has an ERA of 5.06.

At Eastern the Grizzlies stormed out to a 3-1 lead in the first inning. The game was scoreless after that until the top of the sixth when OU broke the game wide open by scoring six runs. The bat of Erik Crossley led the Grizzly attack. He went two for four, knocking in three runs and scoring one

In the game at home against Madonna OU jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the third. Madonna came back in the top of the fourth and fifth scoring a run in each and knotting the game at two apiece. The Grizzlies answered back in the bottom of the fifth, and David Alexander knocked in the gamewinning run with a sacrifice.

"We played well enough to win," said Avery of the victory over Madonna. "Our pitchers threw the ball well."

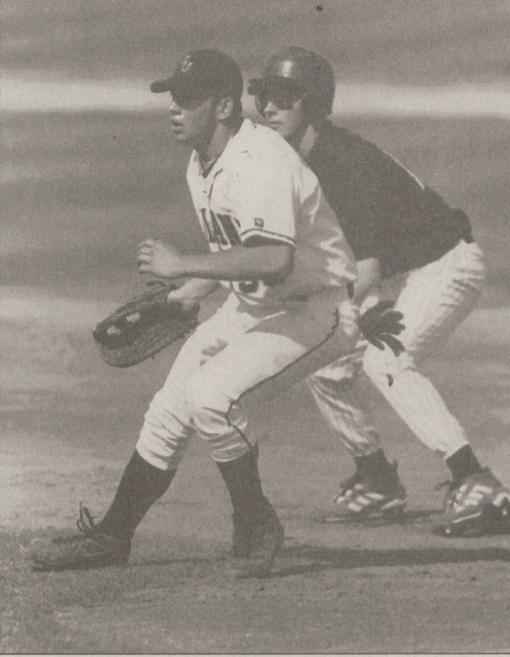
The Grizzlies' pitching has seen its share of catastrophes this season allowing 23 runs in the third game of the season at Alabama-Huntsville and 18 runs at UAB.

In the last two games the team seems to have worked out some of those early season bugs only allowing four runs in those games.

"The top seven (pitchers) have really thrown the ball well," said Avery. "They have an ERA around four the last seven

The bats seem to have been heating up as of late as well. Alexander is now hitting .364 and has knocked in seven RBIs.

Matt Gabrielli has also been hitting well, hitting .366 with seven RBIs. In the victory over EMU he knocked in two runs while going three for four as a DH. Gabrielli also knocked in one of the three runs that OU scored in the home win over Madonna.



HOLDING THE RUNNER: Senior first baseman Peter Varon attempts to keep the runner on base. Varon recorded two RBIs and scored another run in the 11-3 rout over EMU.

Ryan Freiburger is also contributing, hitting .236 and logging 11 RBIs.

"As it warms up, our hitters will pick it up," said Avery. "We have some hitters with

The Grizzlies have played a tough nonconference schedule, with 13 games remaining before the Mid-Con season begins, and hope to rebound from last year's disappointing 11-43 overall record and a 7-19 record in the Mid-Con.

"We'll know more when Mid-Con play

begins," said Avery. "We'll have a pretty good idea what our pitching rotation will be, as well as the defensive rotations.

OU returns to action on the road to take on New Mexico State in a four game set against the Lobos. The series begins with a single game on Friday, followed by a daynight doubleheader on Saturday and finishes with a final game on Sunday.

The Golden Grizzlies' next home game, against Siena Heights on Sunday, April 7.

weather permitting, will be a doubleheader

UPCOMING GAMES

BASEBALL ·6 p.m., March 29 at New Mexico St. •1 p.m., March 30 at New Mexico St. ·6 p.m., March 30 at New Mexico St. ·12 p.m., March 31 at New Mexico St.

SOFTBALL •5 p.m., March 29 at UMKC (DH) •1 p.m., March 30 at UMKC (DH) •3:30 p.m., April 1 at Bowling Green (DH) •2:30 p.m., April 2 -

MEN'S SWIMMING · 12 p.m. prelims,

at Detroit (DH)

7 p.m. finals, March 28-30 - NCAA Championship at Athens, Ga.

MEN'S CLUB LACROSSE ·1 p.m., March 29 vs Marquette at **Detroit Country Day** •1 p.m., March 30 vs MSU at Detroit Country Day





Bob Knoska / File Photo COMING DOWN: Junior Ericka Burns attempts to catch a would-be base stealer. Burns hit the game winning homerun in the Golden Grizzlies' 1-0 extra-inning victory over in state rival WMU Friday.

Freshman lefthander Nicole Marzano pitched arguably the greatest game in school history setting a school record with 12 strikeouts and tossing the first no-hitter in OU softball history. Walks in the fifth and seventh innings were the only things that prevented the win from being a perfect game.

By Randy Dudek

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Western Michigan last

Boilermaker Softball

season road show by splitting a

Wednesday and finishing 1-2

doubleheader with in-state rival

this past weekend in the Purdue

Tournament in West Lafayette,

The highlight of the week's

of two Saturday afternoon

ond tournament game.

games with a 2-0 victory over

the IPFW Mastodons in the sec-

action took place during the first

"I didn't want to jinx Nicole, so I didn't tell anybody (about the no-hitter)," head coach Steve Ogg said.

"My plan was to only pitch her about half of the game, but she was mowing them down so quickly that she didn't really throw a lot of pitches. She was shooting bullets, so I decided to let her go another inning, and the same thing happened again and again."

In the first game at WMU, OU claimed an extra-inning 1-0 victory over the Broncos. Junior Third baseman Ericka Burns ended the game in the eighth inning with a solo home run, her second hit of the game. Sophomore pitcher Jaymie Voss pitched eight shutout innings to pick up her third victory of the season. She also added to the Grizzly offensive attack adding two hits of her own.

The second contest in the

WMU doubleheader ended in the fifth inning with the Broncos leading OU, 9-1. Junior Julie Anderson, who held the previous OU strikeout record with nine, took the loss, giving up three earned runs. Junior Linnea Utecht gave up six earned runs in two-thirds of an inning.

The Golden Grizzlies' first opponent in the Purdue Tournament was the Gardner-Webb Bulldogs on Friday. OU took a 1-0 lead in the third inning as Voss drove in freshman centerfielder Melissa Wilson to score OU's only run of the game. GWU responded by scoring three unearned runs in the fifth inning to take a 3-1 lead, the game's final score. Voss took the loss, her sixth on the year and Anderson pitched a perfect sixth inning in the

"I thought that Voss pitched well," Ogg said. "We had several

delays because of the frost coming out over the field.

In the no-hit game, the Grizzly offense didn't fare all that much better than IPFW's, as Wilson and juniors Megan Piar and Lauren Seffens got all of OU's hits, picking up one hit apiece.

"It really wasn't a good day for hitting, because the wind chill was about 20 degrees," said Ogg. Seffens scored both OU runs, and Wilson picked up the only

official RBI of the game. In the second Saturday game, OU dropped a 9-1 decision to host Purdue Boilermakers. Purdue hopped out to a commanding lead with a four-run third inning and adding another one in the top of the bottom of the fourth.

OU attempted to battle back, scoring one run in the top of the fifth inning, but the Boilermakers came right back scoring four more runs in the

bottom of the fifth to win by the final of 9-1.

"Purdue is a really good team,

a Big Ten team," said Ogg. What's happening right now is we're down to a bad inning every other game. When you first get out there, it starts off that every third inning is a bad

"I think we're getting better. The girls are frustrated that they aren't hitting well, but it's been cold, and nobody hits well in the cold."

With today's scheduled home game against CMU canceled, OU's next games will be on the road with doubleheaders Friday and Saturday against the UMKC Kangaroos to open Mid-Con play.

"We don't have any seniors, so sometimes the players get a little excited when things don't work out right away," said Ogg. "But I think they're on track.

SPORTS COLUMN

Randy Dudek Assistant Sports Editor

Wings, Avalanche renew rivalry

The world of sports has a plethora of popular savings. A few of them even have merit.

"Defense wins championships," 'you've gotta be good to be lucky," "smart managers never spit into the wind," "it aint' over 'til it's over" and "never bet money on the Lions.

Until recently, another popular axiom, especially in the Detroit area, has been, "regular season hockey games are meaningless."

This has made sense with the Wings making a first-round playoff exit in 1996 after setting the NHL record with 62 regular season wins and then winning the Stanley Cup in back-to-back years despite not winning the regular season crown in either of those seasons.

However, last Saturday, a live television audience was reintroduced to the exception to the last rule. It needs to read, "regular season hockey games are meaningless unless they involve the Red Wings and the Colorado Avalanche.

For those of you who weren't paying attention: Detroit forward Kirk Maltby bumped into Colorado goaltender Patrick Roy with about 10:00 minutes left in the final period, and ended up inside the Colorado goal. Roy, always a calm, collected individual, proceeded to hop on Maltby and hit him several times while both of them were still in the

This fight led to the standard hockey version of the square dance, where players from both teams pair up, drop their sticks and gloves and just hold on to each other's jerseys. Detroit's Sean Avery and Colorado's Pascal Trepanier weren't interesting in dancing, as they instead opted to exchange punches rather than pleasantries.

Red Wing goaltender Dominic Hasek attempted to get involved, skating the length of the ice to attempt to duel with Roy, only to slip on a hockey stick and crash into the already over-occupied Colorado goal.

In a match-up unseen since the days of Ali vs Fraiser, the two greatest goaltenders in NHL history stood nose-to-nose, both men being restrained by the refs

"I saw Patrick fighting on the other side," Hasek said to ESPN. "My responsibility is to get there and help my teammates. I am here to help my teammates. I was ready. If something happens, I am ready for him any time."

I find it nice to see that the Wings-Avs rivalry is far from dead, even in the regular season. It doesn't seem to matter how many new players each team brings aboard, they soon learn to hate each other. Avery, playing in only his second Wings-Avs game was quoted between periods as saying "I already hate those guys.'

With Detroit already claiming the best record in the Western Conference, and the Avs about to clinch the second place position, these two teams seem to be destined to meet in the conference

Colorado may hold the advantage in playoff series wins 3-1 over the Wings, but every year when a Wings goalie has squared off with Roy, the Wings have gone on to win the Cup. It is now up to Hasek to follow in the footsteps of Chris Osgood and Mike Vernon, and lead us to Lord Stanley.

Assistant Sports Editor Randy Dudek is a sophomore majoring in music education. Send comments to sports@oakpostonline.com.

Season closes with tournament win

By Randy Dudek ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The OU women's club team, the Polar Bears, finished up their season with a 1-3 run and a fifth place fin-

ish in the Central Collegiate Women's Hockey Association (CCWHA) tournament this past weekend at Western Michigan.

• March 22 In the opening Lake Superior contest of the tournament Friday night, OU fell to the Lake • March 23 Superior State MSU Lady lakers by a OU 3-2 margin. Senior defenseman Christina **UM** Colombe scored OU her first goal of the season, with • March 24 assists going to juniors Laura OU Owczarski and WMU

Kristin Czarnecki. LSSU jumped out to a 3-1 lead,

but sophomore defenseman Krissy Kamin pulled OU within one goal. Owczarski and Czarnecki picked up the assists on Kamin's goal, as well.

OU pulled sophomore goalie Erin Gleason in a late attempt to tie up the score, but LSSU held on for a 3-2 victory. Owczarski was named the game's MVP.

"We just didn't play as a team the way we had been in the past month or so," head coach Shana

CCWHA

tournament

scoreboard

On Saturday morning, OU took on MSU, and played a much better team game. Sophomore Jenny Bernhart scored a powerplay goal, assisted by sophomore forward Lauren Brick

> Czarnecki scored an even strength goal with team captain, junior defenseman Laura Cuniffe and and Owczarski picking up the assists. MSU added an unassisted goal in the second period to extend the lead to MSU picked up

their play in the third period, scoring four more goals, to end the game with OU dropping a 7-2 to the number one seeded Spartans.

The Polar Bear's third tournament game was against the number-two seed U-M club, in a game that would

have no bearing on the tournament standings.

In spite of the game having no real meaning for the team, and also being up against another squad with a full roster, OU put forth their best effort of the tournament and lost the hard hitting

"It was like watching checking hockey," Osler said. "The refs weren't calling anything, at least not until the third period. It was



Bob Knoska / File Photo

BREAK THE DEFENSE: Junior forward Laura Owczarski gathers of the puck in an attempt to elude LSSU defenders earlier this season. Owczarski finished the tournament with a goal and four assists enroute to being named to the CCWHA All-Tournament Second team.

a really exciting game to watch." Host WMU was the opponent in the 5th-6th place consolation game Sunday morning. WMU jumped on the scoreboard first and took the 1-0 lead into the

second period, where Bernhart tied the game up. OU took control of the game for good in the third period with

Czarnecki, Owczarski and

Czarnecki and Bernhart led all

Bernhart scoring goals.

scores with two points apiece.

A few of the Polar Bears scored tournament honors. Czarnecki and Owczarski were named second team All-CCWHA and senior assistant captain Rebecca Kelly was named to the honorable mention team. Osler was named CCWHA coach of the year.

"I'm really proud of what these girls have accomplished this season," Osler said. "They've worked very hard for everything and deserve lots of credit. It's not easy to go out there with only nine skaters. We've earned a lot of respect within the league over this past year, and I look forward to building an even stronger team for next season."

With the Polar Bear's fourth season in the books, there is a tremendous foundation for the club to continue and improve upon its success in the future. However, they are looking to

expand the roster in the future.

"I encourage any women hockey players we have in the student body to come out for the team next year," said Osler. "It's a great experience to play for your school, even at the club level.

"The practice you get, the places that you'll see and the experience of playing on a collegiate team is not something that you should let pass you by."

Strelets breaks oldest record at championship

By Lisa Cali MANAGING EDITOR

Oksana Strelets, the fourth swimmer from OU ever to compete at the NCAA Division I Championship, placed 19th in the 50y freestyle and 32nd in the 100y freestyle this weekend in Austin,

Strelets broke Nancy Schermer's 1988 school record in the 100v free with her time of 50.35. Schermer's time of 50.37 was the oldest record on the boards

"It was an awesome experience to see all the fast people," Strelets said. "Now I'm motivated to do even better next year, to make the top 16 or maybe even the top eight.

"It's so different than the Mid-Con or the NIC. And now next year, I'll know for sure what's going on, and I'll know how fast I'll have to go to get into the finals."

Head coach Pete Hovland said that the coaching staff and team commended Strelets on a job well done.

"We're ecstatic. Jon (Teal) and I are very proud of Oksana and her accomplishments, how composed she was in her performances," Hovland said. "Under that kind of pressure, she did very well. I hope the team uses it as an incentive to think, 'If she can do it, maybe I can do it."

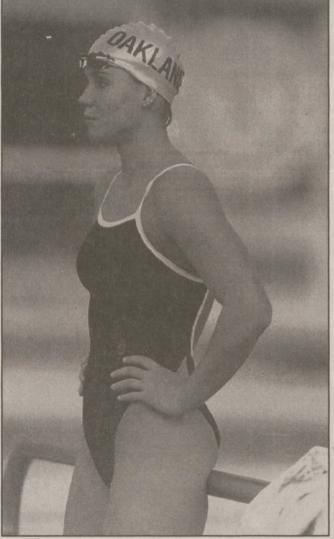
Despite the fact that Strelets' times didn't earn her All-American honors, Hovland and assistant coach Teal said that the experience alone raises Strelets above many collegiate swimmers. "The experience she got

at the meet will just help her in the future," Teal said. "Next year when she's there, she'll realize that she's earned her right to be there, and that she's just as fast as everyone

According to the coaches, the experience was also good publicity for OU.

"For Jon and I, it was very gratifying to be on the pool deck and have all our peers recognize how well our kids performed this year," Hovland said.

Now that Strelets' season is finished, she plans to practice over the summer and prepare for the upcoming year. She doesn't have definite plans now, but said she may return home to Kazakhstan or practice



ANOTHER ONE FOR THE BOOKS: Oksana Strelets broke OU's oldest standing record this weekend at the NCAA Championship. Strelets now holds two individual records and has been on four record breaking relays.

"I'm just definitely going to practice," Strelets said. "I want to go to NCAAs next year, and maybe break 50 seconds in the 100y free. That would be awesome.' OU swimmer Chris Sullivan will join Strelets

as one of this year's NCAA competitors this weekend, as he is competing in the men's Division I Championship March 28-30, in Athens, Ga. Sullivan

will swim the 50y and 100y

freestyle.

prize for club lacrosse By Brendan Stevens SPORTS EDITOR

Coming up on the halfway point of its season, the OU club lacrosse team is taking great strides in becoming part of the elite in the United States Lacrosse Intercollegiate Association (USLIA).

With big games against Central Collegiate Lacrosse Association (CCLA) foes Marquette and MSU this weekend, the team can take the remaining steps to raising OU club lacrosse to the next level.

Currently, the Golden Grizzlies are fourth in the CCLA with a record of 4-2. Both of OU's losses have come against top 15 teams.

The Golden Grizzlies lost to a Texas A&M team that was ranked 11th at the time of the contest, but was able to keep the score close, 19-12. In its other defeat, OU faced off against a number six-ranked U-M squad and lost in an uncharacteristic blowout.

"They were hitting on all cylinders," junior mid-fielder Jeff Serra said. "And we were basically on nothing. They completely shut us down.

In three years, the U-M club lacrosse team has not lost a game against teams within the CCLA.

In its four wins, OU has outscored opponents 73-28 with double-digit victory margins against

Eyes on CCLA playoff

Southwestern, Southwest Texas State and Western Illinois. The Golden Grizzlies' other win came against league foe Washington

16-11. Rising talent levels and a better team atmosphere has led to high expectations for the team. now in its sixth year of

existence.

"This is

University

in St. Louis,

president club lacrosse

the best team cohesiveness we've ever had," said junior attackman John Machak. "This is also the most talented team Oakland has ever had."

By winning the CCLA league championship, the Golden Grizzlies would clinch an automatic berth to 16-team USLIA national tournament. With eight games remaining, the feat is not out of reach for OU.

"We're in good contention," Machak said. "We just need to win out, can't

"We've got to take it game by game," junior forward and club president Towbey Kassa said.

"Go in positive and, hopefully, we can be league

champions and go to the USLIA (tournament)." To qualify for the national tournament. a club lacrosse team must either win its respective league cham-

pionship or

earn one of

the remain-

ing at-large

automatic

bids after the

Tobey Kassa

take it game by

game. Go in

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champions.

invitations have been awarded. Currently, OU is ranked 46th in the USLIA polls, but hopes to climb the ranks by the end of the sea-

"If we can get top 25 this year in the USLIA it will be a good stepping stone for OU lacrosse,"said Kassa. OU will face Marquette

on Friday at Detroit Country Day at 1 p.m. Saturday, the Grizzlies continue league play against MSU at 12 p.m., again at Country Day.

MID-CONTINENT **CONFERENCE STANDINGS**

BASEBALL

Oral Roberts 14-8 0-0 Oakland 3-13 0-0 Valparaiso

1-10-1

0-0

Chicago State 1-8 0-0 Western Illinois 2-17 0-0 Southern Utah 2-21 0-0

SOFTBALL

UMKC Western Illinois 10-15 12-10 0-0 0-0 Oakland Valparaiso 5-17 5-7 0-0 0-0 **IUPUI** Southern Utah 3-15 11-15 0-0 0-0

First stat represents the team's conference rank. The second is the overall rank.

GRIZZLY OF THE WEEK

NICOLE MARZANO

In her first collegiate victory, Marzano pitched a no-hitter in a 2-0 victory over IPFW during a round robin tournament hosted by Purdue. She recorded a school-record 12 strikeouts while only walking two batters. Marzano was named Mid-Con Pitcher of the Week.

-Brendan Stevens

