

# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

December 5, 2007

Volume 33, Number 44

**Ring in the new —**

# 2007 YEAR IN REVIEW

Photo illustration by Dustin Alexander



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# THIS WEEK 12.05.07

THE OAKLAND POST  
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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# Perspectives

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www.oaklandpostonline.com

December 5, 2007

## STAFF EDITORIAL

### YouTube debates don't deliver

It's late 2007, and the presidential campaign is in full swing.

Between the multitude of ads, ad homonyms and candidates, one cannot help but feel inundated.

When involving oneself with the presidential campaigns, it is best to remain aware of the possible fast ones played by the media that appear to build an intimate connection between voter and politician.

This real relationship will never reach the perfect ideal, and it is best to remain cautious about attempts that promise this intimacy.

Amongst inter-candidate brawls and skirmishes, the continuous bombardment of issues, the media-controlled propaganda, and the already premature election coverage the political process becomes tedious.

The obsession over the presidential election coverage, takes away from the individualized experience.

The grandiose reporting frames our democratic interaction as a pseudo theatrical event or sports game.

Election coverage vacillates between sensationalized blood sport and soap opera drama.

These techniques distance us from the interactive nature of democracy. They manifest the political process of modern America.

Many times, appearances promote the idea that there is a closer affinity between politician and voter.

From countless television polls to YouTube CNN debates, we get the feeling that we are closely associated with the campaigns.

On such venues as the recent YouTube debates, it is advertised that the people ask the questions via video recordings which are sent in.

The attractiveness is based in a grass root escape from the commercialized news networks, which dominate the topics and questions of choice.

Television polls promote the idea that the presidential campaigns are a continuous race constantly in the flux.

This immediacy and urgency detaches the public from the candidate and makes the ebb and flow of each candidate's success occur in a world beyond the average viewer.

One feels detached, as their personal selections are not expressed in the continuously shifting polls, which are heavily influenced by

those in the media who have the power.

Most likely, your individual preference has not been taken into account as the supposed aggregate calculations are made when deciphering the current poll numbers.

Also, the YouTube debates give the impression that these elements are bypassed.

In reality, however, the questions are decided in advance as is the subject matter.

This employs a different tactic — the perception that we are, in fact, interacting much more than we are.

The political reporting devices use this perception as a selling point to attract the viewers.

There is never an escape from the hands of those in power. The domination of the media entities still remains.

The similarities between the traditional format of debate and the newer incarnations are difficult to ignore.

We get the same product, merely packaged in a new wrapper.

People had no say in what questions CNN chose to pose to the candidates. This was all determined by those at CNN.

No doubt, there are many venues and occasions to offer our own opinions, which has this specific media type flourishing.

If a voter wishes for a close relationship with a political candidate, these offerings to unite the individual with the candidate are not the routes to take.

In a perfect constitutional republic or democracy, we all could take Mitt Romney out to lunch to talk about the economy or go golfing with Barack Obama to discuss the environment. Obviously, practicality and reality get in the way.

This bridge cannot be constructed by arranged media styles or techniques. Intimacy with a candidate is not achieved through improving one's chosen possible leader-to-be in the polls or concocting a witty and entertaining YouTube debate question. You are then just an unpaid worker of the corporate media.

Understand the political platforms, and follow the campaigns of those you enjoy. Seek out personal appearances or writings of each candidate.

As we approach the politically important primary season, these are the roads to an intimate relationship with a candidate.



RJ MATSON, The St. Louis Post Dispatch/Cagle Cartoons

**"It's my list of toxic chemicals you need to avoid for this year."**

**What do you think? Have a news tip?**

Send your comments to  
The Oakland Post.

By e-mail:

editor@oakpostonline.com

By mail:

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

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

## CORRECTIONS CORNER

In the Nov. 14 edition of The Oakland Post, Samir Hanna's name was incorrectly spelled.

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

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

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



# Four on Four

four panelists share their take on four topics



**Krysta Hand**  
Sophomore  
Anthropology Major



**James Araelstathis**  
Junior  
Political Science Major



**Michelle Yarbrough**  
Freshman  
Accounting Major



**Patrick Samuel**  
Senior  
English Major

A new U.S. intelligence review concluded that Iran stopped developing a nuclear weapons program in 2003. Do you believe the report's findings?

Of course. It's completely valid. I don't think there's any reason not to believe it. I think not believing it would just cause more conflict.

I believe that it's highly unlikely that Iran is not working on nuclear weapons, since they are constantly saying they are. ... I can't believe that they have no interest in building nukes.

Oh, I don't believe that, totally don't believe that.

I don't know. I'm always skeptical because of the whole Iraq war and WMD thing, so I have problems believing some of the things I read. My instincts tell me they're up to something.

Do you think the current state of Michigan's economy will affect holiday spending?

Definitely. I think that it will effect it in a negative way. Maybe not so much on gifts and stuff, but more so on holiday outings.

Possibly. I mean, with Granholm taxing people to death, it is reasonable to assume that the poor won't be able to spend as much on holiday shopping.

Definitely, in a negative way. There's not a lot of good jobs in Michigan at the present time. How can anyone have a good holiday if people don't have the money for presents or food? Our economy is messed up.

I'm a waiter, and it's been kind of slow lately. I don't know; maybe it will pick up.

National Aids Day took place Dec. 1. The U.S. currently spends \$350 million per year on preventing the sexual transmission of HIV, \$200 million of which goes toward encouraging abstinence programs, according to CNN. Do you think this is the best way to address the issue?

I don't agree with that at all. The fact of the matter is people are going to have sex. Trying to encourage people to stop having sex is just going to aggravate the issue. Give them condoms or something.

Yes I do. Abstinence really is the only 100 percent guaranteed way to not get a sexually transmitted disease. ... If you want people to avoid STDs, the best way to do it is to avoid sex.

Yes, I think the program could come in handy and could help. I think it's always smart to choose wisely and make good decisions before you have sex with someone.

No I don't. You'll never be able to stop people from having sex. I think talking about safe sex is more important. ... I think more money should be spent on people with HIV and making their lives more comfortable.

The Lions have lost four straight games and are now 6-6. Do you think they still have a shot at making the playoffs?

I don't care. I don't watch sports.

I don't know, I don't watch much sports. I've caught a few games though. And, no, I don't really think they'll make the playoffs.

Yeah, if they pull it together and don't lose anymore games. I love the Lions.

I don't watch much sports. A guess: they can [do it]. I'm an optimist.

The Oakland Post  
wishes you a safe and  
happy holiday season.



## Research is goal at OU

*Awards give students professional opportunities*

By KELLY KOZLOWSKI  
Editor in Chief

In an era when it is becoming increasingly difficult to carve out a niche, Oakland University has found a way to make a name for itself.

Campus buildings have been updated, academic programs are being added each year, and a medical school is on the way.

Update, grow and expand. Sounds pretty standard.

But according to Provost Virinder Moudgil, the key to OU's success is not to maintain the standard — it is to excel beyond it.

Moudgil said OU's corner of the market encompasses student research opportunities, and the administration aims to make the playing field accessible to all.

Students currently are able to get approval and funding to pursue a variety of research topics through the Provost's Undergraduate and Graduate Student Research Awards.

Proposals are reviewed three times each year — in October, January and April.

Approved proposals then are eligible for up to \$1,500 (undergraduate) or \$2,000 (graduate) to put toward the cost of supplies

and travel to present research at professional conferences.

The awards are not competitive, meaning everyone is eligible and there is no limit to the number of awards that may be given out.

"All students should consider getting some research experience," Moudgil said. "It is a tremendous opportunity for personal growth."



Virinder Moudgil

In addition to expanding individual horizons, students can expect to learn how to identify problems, research solutions and present findings to an audience — skills that not all university graduates can boast.

That, Moudgil said, is what puts OU ahead of otherwise comparable universities.

In fact, Moudgil attributes OU's above-average student acceptance rates into medical school (77 percent compared to the state average of 40 percent) to the undergraduate research that premed students are able to complete during their time at OU.

"This is one of the reasons we have great strength to launch the medical school," Moudgil said.

Promoting research generates dual benefits — students gain experience and the university becomes stronger academically.

see RESEARCH on Page 7

## MEADOW BROOK PUTS ON ITS HOLIDAY BEST

Hall is in full swing hosting various seasonal festivities



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

Meadow Brook Hall is decked out in festive décor for the holiday season. Starting in November, Meadow Brook Hall has hosted various seasonal activities to showcase the traditional grandeur of the mansion's design. The hall plans to host its first-ever Holiday Boutique from 6 to 10 p.m. Dec. 5, which will feature more than 30 local vendors offering unique gifts for the holidays. Holiday Walk tours also are offered this season. The tours, which run through Dec. 21, are available Monday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Tuesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Meadow Brook Hall also is offering Breakfast with Santa Dec. 15-16, as well as a Supper with Santa Dec. 17. On December 18, the hall is offering a special Holiday High Tea. For more information on December activities, see Winter Break Briefs on page 9.



# Dance concert a mix of styles

*Students gain performance, some choreography experience*

By VICKY LEFEBVRE  
Contributing Reporter

The season's first winter storm didn't stop dance enthusiasts from attending the Oakland Dance Theatre and Oakland University Repertory Dance Company's Annual Fall Dance Concert Dec. 1 at Varner Recital Hall.

The recital featured seven modern dance routines and one reconstructed Baroque piece.

Choreography was done by OU staff members Debi Siegel, Laurie Eisenhower, Roberta Lucas, Christine Shawl, Kristen Berger and Gregory Patterson.

There also was some guest choreography done by Michael Foley and Alicia Cutaia.

The two student dance companies have been rehearsing for this show since the beginning of the semester.

Alyssa Smith, an ODT member, said that the fall dance concert is a great opportunity for dancers at OU to gain performance experience that is both challenging and fun.

"It gives you a chance to see how everything is run," Smith said. "It shows you what it's like to be in a professional company. It's very different from studio and high

school dance work."

Shawl, choreographer and director of ODT said that Oakland Dance Theatre gives dancers a chance to learn about different styles within modern dance.

It also allows students to learn about the production aspects of putting on a recital, including lighting and setting up the stage, Shawl said.

Oakland Dance Theatre member Sheri Hayden agreed.

"The cool thing about ODT is we do tech weeks, and we get to learn different aspects of the theatre as well. We have to roll up the floor when we're done and we have to deal with changes in the lights," Hayden said.

"We get to learn all different things, so it's not just dancing, it's also the theatrical elements, too."

Shawl choreographed a piece for the recital titled "Is the Beginning is the Ending is the Beginning is the," a modern piece that contained earthy, almost tribal movements.

The piece featured a lot of group work, which at times made the dancers appear as a ball of arms and feet moving sporadically.

The only non-modern piece in the show was "La Nouvelle Bourgogne/La Petite Bourree," a French ball-

room dance that was popular during the time of King Louis XIV.

Originally choreographed by Monsieur Pécour, the dance was reconstructed for the concert by Siegel.

For this piece, the dancers wore dresses reminiscent of that time period.

"[The Baroque dance] is pretty much what ballet dance really came out of. ... It's part of the history of dance," Shawl said. "It's a nice connection for the students who've learned about history to physically embody it."

"It's a dance that has a lot of footwork and very little upper body movement," said Hayden, who danced the piece for the concert. "It's very different and old-fashioned."

Though the dance concert featured a lot of modern style, Shawl said that each piece is unique in its own way.

"When you come to a concert like this, each piece is its own entity. So you're going to see eight completely different thoughts and ideas and I think that makes it really exciting," Shawl said. "You get a broad spectrum of what modern dance is or what dance in general is in terms of concert dance."

## RESEARCH from Page 6

### GRANTS AID STUDENTS IN STUDIES

"The more [students] engage, the better we become," Moudgil said. It doesn't end there, however.

Moudgil also stressed the importance of connecting with the local community.

Providing OU students with an education and connections to corporations allows for smooth transitions into internships and sponsorships, giving

students experience and companies fresh talent.

"We are one of the universities that is attempting to address current economic problems civically," Moudgil said. "Happy days will be here again."

For information on research awards, go to the grants, contracts and sponsored research Web page on OU's Web site, [www.oakland.edu](http://www.oakland.edu).

### TO APPLY FOR A RESEARCH AWARD

DEADLINES: October 1 / January 15 / April 1

AWARDS: \$1,500 for undergrad (\$1,000 for research, \$500 for travel)  
\$2,000 for grad (\$1,500 for research, \$500 for travel)

#### ELIGIBILITY:

- must be enrolled as a student at OU (undergrad or grad)
- must have a minimum GPA at OU (3.0 for undergrad, 3.2 for grad)
- must have a full-time OU faculty member willing to endorse/mentor your project

Office of Vice Provost of Research: 544 O'Dowd Hall

\*info taken from grants, contracts and sponsored research Web site

### NOMINATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE FOLLOWING STUDENT AWARDS:

#### WILSON AWARDS

Nominees for the 2008 Alfred G. and Matilda R. Wilson Awards must be graduating seniors in Winter 2008 or have graduated in Spring, Summer, or Fall 2007. The awards recognize one female and one male who have contributed as scholars, leaders, and responsible citizens to the Oakland University community. Nominees must have a strong academic record of a 3.5 or higher GPA.

#### HUMAN RELATIONS AWARD

Nominees must be graduating in Winter 2008 or have graduated in Spring, Summer, or Fall 2007. The Human Relations Award recognizes a senior student who has made an outstanding contribution to inter-group understanding and conflict resolution in the Oakland University community. The major consideration of the award is the individual's service to the community.

A minimum GPA of 2.5 is required.

Nomination forms are available online at

[www.oakland.edu/deanofstudents/](http://www.oakland.edu/deanofstudents/)

under "Scholarships and Awards" or at 144 Oakland Center.

Call 370-3352 for more information.

Deadline for both awards is Monday, February 4, 2008.



# Man faces charges in robbery attempt

*Suspect tried to steal bag, laptop from OU student, police say*

By NICK DEGEL  
Senior Reporter

An Oakland University student was the victim of an attempted armed robbery early in the morning on Dec. 3.

Oakland University police gave the following account: A man in a dark hood with a scarf over his face attempted to rob the student of a bag that contained a laptop computer.

Police said the man ran when the student pushed the panic button for his car.

Auburn Hills Police caught the suspect when he left OU's campus.

"[The man] was charged today, and we have a warrant," OU Police Chief Sam Lucido said Dec. 4.

According to the OUPD report: Jay Mohanlal Shah opened his car's driver side door on the south side of the P-1 parking lot at 12:34 a.m. when the suspect attempted to take his bag.

According to Shah, the man was wearing a black coat and appeared to be wet.

He produced what Shah said appeared to be a gun with a short silver barrel.

"It was actually a small cigarette lighter that led the victim to believe it was a firearm," Lucido said.

Despite the suspect's demands, Shah refused to hand over his bag, and the two reportedly began to struggle.

According to the police report, the altercation ended when Shah pushed

his car's panic button and the man ran.

The report said that Shah then called OUPD from the emergency phone outside of South Foundation Hall.

"[Shah] was not hurt, and no property was taken," Lucido said.

OUPD officer Donald Blalock met Shah at the emergency phone to make sure he was not injured.

Blalock and Shah looked for the suspect for about 10 minutes before returning to the OUPD station where Shah gave a statement.

OUPD sent out a call to surrounding police departments advising them of the crime and providing a description of the suspect.

According to Lucido, it took the Auburn Hills Police Department about 20 minutes to catch the suspect in the YMCA parking lot at Walton and Squirrel roads.

"It was great teamwork and good cooperative police work with the Auburn Hills Police Department," Lucido said.

Shah positively identified the suspect. The man was arrested and transported to the OUPD for further processing.

OUPD performed a search for weapons and found the handgun-shaped cigarette lighter.

"It is extremely rare that this type of thing happens," Lucido said of the incident. "I cannot recall anything like this happening on this campus since I've been here."

## POLICEFILES

Two officers walked by six students sitting on a bench in West Vandenberg Hall Nov. 28 and said they noticed a strong odor of marijuana. They confronted the students and noticed that their eyes were red and their speech was slurred. Three of the students admitted to smoking marijuana, and they were cited by the officers.

Police responded to a fight in progress at Vandenberg Circle early Nov. 29. A student reportedly approached another group of students on his bike and became aggressive. Witnesses reported that the student

threw a punch, causing the situation to escalate. All parties involved were separated to give statements. One of the students reportedly had signs of intoxication and registered a .24 blood-alcohol level.

A man on a ladder was injured Nov. 29 while using a large wrench. The wrench slipped and hit his nose, causing him to bleed. The man became dizzy and complained that he was having difficulty seeing. Auburn Hills paramedics treated him.

A student injured her knee while entering a passenger side door Nov. 29, causing her to fall into it. The Rochester Hills Fire Department took her to the hospital.



CELESTE FILIATRAULT/The Oakland Post

# Macomb 2 Oakland is recognized with award

By ADAM ROBERTS  
Staff Intern

Oakland University's partnership with Macomb Community College recently garnered recognition as the best college transfer program in Michigan.

The Michigan Association Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers named the Macomb 2 Oakland partnership the 2007 winner for outstanding transfer program at the organization's conference in Grand Rapids Nov. 8.

The program, launched in the fall of 2006, was Michigan's first dual-enrollment agreement featuring concurrent registration at OU and MCC.

A little more than a year later, the program has grown from about 35 students to more than 200 dual-enrolled students.

"We expect the program to keep growing," said Pam Kellet, director of OU at Macomb. "About a third of Oakland students come from Macomb County, so there is a large base of students who might be interested [in the program]."

The dual-enrollment program, along with OU classes at the University Center on MCC's campus, has provided educational options to students in Macomb County.

According to officials, two benefits of the program are that students save money when taking classes at a community college, and MCC's campuses are close to where many Oakland University students live.

The idea for the program came from a recommendation by the Cherry Commission on Higher Education, a 2004 task force led by Lt. Gov. John D. Cherry.

"Michigan's higher education institutions must ensure that residents in all parts of the state have access to baccalaureate programs. Universities ... must forge new partnerships with community colleges to expand availability," the report said.

According to the report, the program's goal is to give students not living close to a university access to four-year degrees.

The idea of such a partnership was new to Michigan. So Oakland officials looked across the country to see how it could be implemented successfully.

"Oakland based the program on the model implemented by Oregon State," Kellet said.

Students taking classes simultaneously at OU and MCC is nothing new, Kellet said.

Previously, however, students didn't have access to financial aid because their credits were split between the two schools.

Students now have the option of applying for financial aid that applies to all classes at both institutions.

Enrollment in the Macomb 2 Oakland program is limited to transfer students from other schools and freshman, which is defined as students with less than 32 credits.

Eligible students interested in the program only have to fill out one application, which is available at [www.oakland.edu](http://www.oakland.edu).

Acceptance into the joint admission program is not limited by major.

The recent award win came after Oakland Registrar Steve Shablin and MCC Registrar Ron Hughes nominated the program earlier this year.

The success of the program has those involved looking forward to the development of other partnerships.

"We are excited to look at what relationships we can form with other community colleges in the future," Kellet said.



# Holiday fair offers unique gifts

*Vendors sell crafts,  
books in the OC*

By **TRACY WAWRZYNIAK**  
Staff Intern

The Christmas shopping frenzy hit Oakland University Dec. 4 at the annual Art, Book and Gift Fair. Vendors hawked their handbags, sold their scarves and bargained over their books.

Barnes & Noble sold copies of "A Christmas Carol" and "The Complete Works of Shakespeare," and Mary Kay Cosmetics gave away gift baskets.

"We wanted to have something for the students," said Evelyn Myers of Mary Kay.

First-year seller Caroline Roy tempted patrons with candles. Despite slow sales, she enjoyed herself.

"It's a good occasion to meet people," she said.

Jeff Damman of Arcadia Artworks, a second-year seller, offered a Detroit-themed array of art with Detroit Tigers and Pistons.

This year's event was "well received," said Damman, a sentiment shared by vendors and students alike.

"You can shop without leaving campus," said Holly Mick, a freshman at OU.

Praise also was given to the event organizer, Kim Carlsen.

She did a "great job," said Damman.

Carlsen said that despite woes associated with Michigan's economy, she was "pretty pleased. It's a wonderful tradition."



Jill Materna, an employee at the Oakland University Advising Resource Center, sells scented soaps and oils at the annual Art, Book and Gift Fair Dec. 4 in the Oakland Center. The fair gives students an opportunity to get some holiday shopping done between their classes.

## WINTER BREAK BRIEFS Keep up with on-campus events this December

An informational session for the Alternative Spring Break in New York City is to be held Dec. 6 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Oakland Center Room 128. The trip invites OU students to spend Feb. 23 through March 1 doing a week-long service project in the city. For information, contact Cressie Smith, assistant director of student activities and greek life, at [csa@oakland.edu](mailto:csa@oakland.edu).

The Oakland University chapter of Sigma Xi is hosting a live webcast of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute 2007 Holiday Lectures on Science. The event is to take place Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Hannah Hall of Science Room 225. The lecture, "AIDS: Evolution of an Epidemic," is to be presented by AIDS research leaders Bruce Walker and Bisola Ojikutu. Aimed at a general audience, it is free and open to all.

Eric O'Shea is to be the featured comedian at the upcoming Friday Night Live. With his videos getting nearly 1 million hits on YouTube and Break.com, O'Shea was voted Campus Activities Magazine's 2007 National Comedy Performer of the Year. The performance is scheduled to start at 7 p.m. at the cafe in Vandenberg Hall. The event is free.

Wintercon '07, a day devoted to gaming, is scheduled to run from 9 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. at the Oakland Center Dec. 8. Hosted by the Gaming Guild and Metro Detroit Gamers, it is free for all Oakland University students.

Meadow Brook Hall Holiday Walk OU Night is to take place Dec. 10 from 5 to 9 p.m. Hosted by the Oakland University Branch of MSU Federal Credit Union, admission is \$12 per person for OU faculty, staff, students, alumni and their friends and family. Attendees are to be served light refreshments, and Santa Claus is to be available for visits. A valid OU ID is required.

Meadow Brook Hall is to host Breakfast with Santa Dec. 15 from 9 to 11 a.m. Children are encouraged to bring a hearty appetite and their Christmas wish lists. Admission is \$25 for children and \$30 for adults. For information on the event, call (248) 364-6263.

Fall 2007 commencement is to take place Dec. 15 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the O'Rena. Check with the graduating seniors to find out the time slot for their commencement services.

Supper with Santa is to be offered at Meadow Brook Hall Dec. 17 from 5 to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for children and \$50 for adults. The price for admission includes dinner, entertainment and visits with Santa Claus. For information, call (248) 364-6263.

Meadow Brook Hall is to host a Holiday High Tea Dec. 18 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Traditional teas and sweets are to be served in the Christopher Wren Dining Room. Tickets are \$50 per person. An optional tour of Meadow Brook Hall is to be offered at 2 p.m., before the tea begins. For information or to purchase tickets, call (248) 364-6263.

The Oakland University Alumni Association is hosting Grizzly Gathering at the Palace Dec. 22 at 6:30 p.m. at the Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets are \$50, not including the cost of parking. Each ticket includes admission to the Michigan State University game against Texas at 6:30 p.m., a reception at 7:30 p.m. and the Oakland University game against Oregon at 9 p.m. The reception is to feature heavy appetizers and a cash bar. Tickets can be purchased through the OUAA event hotline at (248) 364-6140. OUAA is requesting an RSVP by Dec. 10.



## The Loov gives artists unique workspace

By ERIN SOMMERVILLE  
Contributing Reporter

If you are an aspiring artist with no place to work, local artist Linda Peterson knows how you feel.

"I'm one of the lucky ones," she said. "I do have a place at home that I can paint. But you know, I have three kids.

"One time they all got together and built a fort out of my canvases and punched a hole right in one of my paintings."

So Peterson decided to create a space for local artists to come and do their work away from home.

About a month ago, she opened The Loov, a communal, membership-based art studio in downtown Rochester.

"We like to say that they come and exercise their creativity here at the fitness club for artists," Peterson said.

Peterson's inspiration came when she and her husband were living in the San Francisco Bay area of California and found a similar establishment called "The Art Gym."

It worked just like it sounds. People without studios of their own paid for a membership to come and use the space to make their art.

Unfortunately, the membership was very expensive — around \$150 a month.

Monthly membership at The Loov is \$33. Members have access to easels, a place to store their work and supplies and the opportunity to collaborate with other artists.

"I've taken a lot of classes at Paint Creek (Center for The Arts) — not so much for the direction but because I wanted to be around other artists. I wanted a place to paint away from home," Peterson said, who paints commissioned portraits.

At The Loov, bright red armchairs nestled between a coffee bar and art-book library offer a place to relax and get the creative juices flowing.

"It's a great place to just hang out," Peterson said.

The name is, of course, a clever misspelling of the name of the famous museum in Paris, which Peterson and her husband visited.

"As an artist, it was like the most amazing thing I've ever seen in my life," Peterson said.

"It's about us," she said of the name. "I mean, we're fun people, and we're gonna have fun with it. We're not trying to be too serious."

Members can display their work in The Loov's gallery, which can also be viewed online.

Some of the pieces are for sale, although only one has sold so far — a painting on cardboard, depicting a cheetah eating an ostrich, which was created by her 9-year-old son.

Peterson hopes to have gallery openings four times per year.

The Loov will have a limited selection of art supplies for sale, such as items that are new on the market. Artists needing additional materials can take a short walk to Green's Art Supply only two doors down from the studio.

The Loov offers classes for all skill levels ages 9 and above. Classes will be held every Saturday, until Dec. 22 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. The cost is \$60.

The classes are taught by local artist Geri Boyle, who also teaches at Michael's.

They plan to add more classes for children in the future and offer classes for the local home-school community.

The Loov also welcomes parties and for \$15 per person will provide canvases, paint and paintbrushes, as well as a presentation on an artist of the groups' choosing along with instruction if needed.

The Loov's five employees come from diverse art backgrounds.

"They're very talented, and we're all here to help everybody," Peterson said.

Peterson and her husband, who is originally from Royal Oak, moved to Rochester seven years ago.

"We thought when we moved here that would be a great business to have in Rochester because it's an artsy little town," Peterson said.

"I know that there's a lot of people out there — a lot of artists in this town and the surrounding towns — that don't have a place to paint, and they only paint when they go to a class. And so that's where this fits in."

Peterson hopes to fill the communal art studio void in the surrounding area, as well.

She plans to open stores in the Birmingham and Royal Oak areas within the year, depending on the success of the Rochester store and finding investors.

Although The Loov received a lot of attention from locals when Peterson and her husband were getting things ready in the summer, business has been a little slow since the studio opened.

Still, Peterson is optimistic. "We have a few members that come almost daily, so I think we're doing well," she said.

The Loov is located at 433 Main St. in downtown Rochester. For more information, visit [www.theloov.com](http://www.theloov.com) or call (248) 651-6795.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF LINDA PETERSON

"The Loov" in downtown Rochester offers artists a studio to do their work away from home for a small monthly fee, as well as classes for all skill levels.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF LINDA PETERSON

The interior of the studio is decorated with paintings and other works of art. It also has a limited selection of art supplies for sale.



# 'Peace Nomad' returns home for holidays

*Goricki's route and views evolve as he goes*

By NICK DEGEL  
Senior Reporter

A lot has changed for Matthew Goricki since he left for his peace walk across the United States on Sept. 1.

After walking about 400 of the 5,000-plus planned miles, he decided to make his first major change.

"I just thought it would be more fun on a bike, and I really wanted to get out West faster," Goricki said.

His trek began by meeting peace walkers Ashley Casale and Michael Israel in West Virginia. Together they walked to Washington D.C., then Goricki split off on his own taking a bus to Yorktown, Va. and walking from there to Wilson, N.C.

"The way I was doing it, I would have had to walk from Wilson all the way down through most of South Carolina, then through Georgia," Goricki said.

"My goal was to get to the coast. And walking down south, I was getting no progress at all, and that was really bugging me."

It was there he decided he would make the change from walking to biking across the continental United States.

Goricki took a train the rest of the way to Jacksonville, Fla., where he stayed with his aunt and uncle until the bike he had purchased was ready.

He then rode his bike all the way from Jacksonville to Austin, Texas, where he decided to make his next major change of plans.

Instead of completing his journey all at once, he would come home for the holidays to visit his family at the midpoint of his bike ride.

"The only reason I came back at all was to see my family," he said. "It's not that it's too hard because I have been doing it, it's just that I wanted to see my family."

Home is where you will find Matthew today, and it is where he will be until after New Year's. In the meantime, he continues to cover local high school sports for The Detroit News.

Prior to his journey, Goricki mentioned that his walk to raise awareness against the Iraq War and global warming was something he would be "literally willing to die for," so it is understandable that his recent decisions have been met with some criticism.

With some admitted disillusionment, he also recanted his desire to never use a motor vehicle again after beginning his walk of peace and awareness.

"It's kind of hard to accept but [people] just won't stop driving," he said. "Especially riding a bike and walking so much, I can notice that people just won't stop driving."

"Some places in Florida, there were miles and miles between towns, and people just can't ride their bikes that far and walk that far, so they need to take their cars."

He has since conceded that it is OK to drive when you have to but that people should really consider alternate transportation whenever it's feasible.

To his critics, Goricki is blunt: "They don't know what they're talking about because they've never done anything like this. So they have no room to talk — at all."

"They don't have a clue what it's like," Goricki said. "They don't know what it's like traveling by yourself for that long."

"You get used to having another person with you, but you never get used to being by yourself on the road."

As to whether his trip has been a failure as a result of the changes, Matthew believes that it is in no way a defeat.

Without any kind of sponsorship or corporate affiliation, he calls the shots.

"No one told me to do this," he said. "It was completely set up by me. So I guess if I'm the one that makes the rules, I can be the one that changes them."

Though plans certainly have changed for Goricki, some things still remain.

He continues to travel as "Peace Nomad," hat, sweatshirt and walking stick in tow. He also remains in opposition of the war in Iraq, to which people have remained quite receptive.

As for the book he planned to write about the people who helped him along the way, it already seems to be writing itself.

"What you learn the most is how good people are," Goricki said. "I'm finding out that that's really the main reason I'm doing this."

"I've been helped by Christians, Muslims, Hindus, people that don't care one way or the other, white people, black people, Middle Eastern people."

"I've been helped out by everybody, for no reason."

Matthew will return to Austin in the New Year to finish his bike ride, traveling through Texas, New Mexico and Arizona. He will then travel up the coast of California to San Francisco where his journey will be completed.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

Matthew Goricki smiles upon returning for home the holidays after walking 400 of the 5,000 planned miles. Amidst numerous changes to his plan, Goricki has decided to put his peace walk on hold to come home and be with his family. Next year, Goricki will continue from Austin to San Francisco, Calif. to complete his endeavor.

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# December celebrations Bringing Jewish history to light

By JESSE DUNSMORE  
Senior Reporter

Despite the frostbite, black ice and ever-growing darkness, people still love winter. The reason? It's holiday central. Hannukah, Christmas and Kwanzaa all grace the beginning of the season, and each holiday means something special to the people who celebrate it. Come take a look at what some of these holidays mean to OU students.

**Who:** Jake Isley, VP of the Jewish Student Organization

**Year:** Sophomore

**Major:** Management information systems

**Holiday:** Hannukah — Antiochus IV, who controlled the land of Israel in the second century BCE, severely oppressed the Jewish people, prohibited the practice of the Jewish religion and desecrated the Temple by requiring the sacrifice of a pig upon its altar.

One Jewish family, the Macabbees, led a successful revolt against Antiochus' Seleucid Greek government and subsequently cleansed and rededicated the Temple.

Legend says there was only enough oil for the Temple menorah to stay lit for one night. Miraculously the flame burned for eight days, which was enough time for the priests to prepare a fresh supply of oil.

This year, Hannukah is celebrated from sundown Dec. 4 through sundown Dec. 12.

**Hannukah routine:** Traditionally, it's a family gathering, Isley said. Extended family gets together and celebrates each night by lighting candles on the menorah, or Hannukiah, first blessing the candle-lighting ritual with a Hebrew prayer. As the candles are burning, families will have dinner, play dreidel games or sing songs. Often, the story of Hannukah will be retold.

"It's not a very formal holiday," said Isley, whose family doesn't strictly follow the traditional celebration. However, they still light candles and say the appropriate blessing each night. Some nights during Hannukah, 10 to 12 relatives gather at his aunt's homes for a kosher dinner. A favorite dish is potato latkes, or potato pancakes, which he calls "the Hannukah food."

The family also exchanges gifts, but this isn't necessarily a Jewish tradition. "Every family has their own thing," Isley said. "My personal opinion, and I believe this is also fact, is that the reason they started the presents on Hannukah is because it always falls around Christmas."

"With all the shopping for Christmas, Jews in America and around the world decided, well, we want to be part of that, so they went out and bought presents and just called them Hannukah presents."

He likes the historical emphasis of the Hannukah traditions as opposed to the use of (LITTLE KID SPOILER WARNING) fictional characters like Santa Claus in conventional Christmas celebrations. "We don't have any icons like that that are not factually true."

"That's what's great about it — that all that actually happened. The people existed. The rebels existed. The event existed."

Hannukah isn't a "centerpiece" holiday, but it still signifies something important to him.

"It's just another point in history where we've come across an obstacle, and we overcame it," Isley said. "Just keep remembering: Every time there's a hardship, we've always made it through alright."





# 'Tis the season for giving back



By JESSE DUNSMORE  
Senior Reporter

**Who:** Kevin Hughes

**Year:** Freshman

**Major:** Undecided ("Ideally, I would freeze time. I would major in Spanish, psychology, biology, English. I'd unfreeze time. I'd get my degree in secondary ed. That's my ideal education.")

**Holiday:** Christmas — celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ.

**Christmas routine:** Kevin, his mother, stepfather and four sisters get up at 8 a.m. to open presents. Then his mom makes a "huge" breakfast. Later in the day, they head to his grandma's house, where they meet the extended family. They can bring one new "toy" each, he says. Everyone goes through the yearly tradition of getting family photos taken, then turkey, Pictionary and "A Christmas Story."

His immediate family goes to Kensington Community Church. Sometimes, his two younger sisters do volunteer work with their youth group.

"That's pretty much the extent, usually, of our religious activity on Christmas," Hughes said.

Though it might sound ideal, he isn't satisfied.

"It's crazy," he said. "I've had 19 Christmases, and I don't remember a single good, awesome memory. Maybe that's just me, but it's probably because I've never really done anything meaningful on Christmas."

His family plans to change that this year.

Christmas is nicknamed the "season of giving for a reason," he said. "Even atheists, [or] people who are nonreligious, just apathetic, for one season a year, they sing all sorts of different songs. They give gifts to everyone they know. They give. Christmas is just giving."

"Maybe people are just sick of thinking about themselves," he said.

So, this Christmas, following the lead from Kensington Community Church, where his family attends services, Kevin and his parents will be giving — but not to each other. They're spending 100 percent of their Christmas money on the "Upside-Down Christmas," a project through Kensington benefiting needy people in Detroit, India and Africa.

Kevin said this kind of activity is important to his beliefs. "In Christianity, in order to be the greatest, you must be the least," he said, paraphrasing Jesus in chapter 20 of Matthew. And Kevin is "joyous" to be giving.

That wasn't his initial reaction, though. "I was gonna get shoes. That's the one thing I wanted," he said. "I was going to get Nike Shox."

When he first heard about "Upside-Down Christmas, he said his response was 'not for me.'" But after some prayer (and some Nike shoes at Salvation Army), he decided Christmas presents from his parents weren't essential.

"Absolutely, we're having Christmas presents — we're getting to spread our blessings over the world," he said. "That's a better present, I think."

## Kwanzaa: A celebration of identity

Unlike Hannukah and Christmas, Kwanzaa isn't a religious holiday but a celebration of cultural identity. Created by activist Dr. Maulana Karenga at the height of the Civil Rights Movement in 1966, it is based on African harvest celebrations. The word "Kwanzaa" is based on the Swahili phrase "matunda ya kwanza" or first fruits. It is celebrated from Dec. 26 through Jan. 1.

Traditionally, the holiday celebration is to be independent of any other holiday. The celebration involves placing symbols of Africa pieces of art, colorful cloth, and fresh fruits and vegetables, books and "the Unity cup" on a table draped with African cloth and a mat called a mkeka. Also on the table is a candle holder called a kinara. The seven candles are called the mishumaa saba. They represent seven principles of African culture:

Umoja (unity), Kujichagulia (self-determination), Ujamaa (cooperative economics), Kuumba (creativity), Ujima (collective work and responsibility), Nia (purpose) and Imani (faith). The black, central candle (Umoja) is lit on the first day, with the remaining candles lit left to right on the remaining days.

Gifts are usually only given to children and always include a book and a symbol of Africa.

Source: [www.officialkwanzaawebsite.org](http://www.officialkwanzaawebsite.org)

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# Stay fit over break

By TIM RATH  
Contributing Reporter

All semester, you've been operating on a routine that has been thrown into chaos.

Fridays, which used to be spent studying, are now spent holiday shopping. Subway lunches in the Oakland Center have been replaced by eating Thanksgiving leftovers and Christmas candy. And how can you be expected to exercise in this blasted wind chill?

If that wasn't stressful enough, [www.webmd.com](http://www.webmd.com) reports that most Americans will gain between five and 10 pounds this holiday season — and the effect may lead to obesity later in life.

And to think that winter vacation is supposed to be relaxing.

Rachelle Pascua, coordinator of fitness programs & Services at Oakland University's Rec Center, can give you advice on getting fit.

She knows how you can maintain your weight over the holidays instead of making a tough resolution to lose it.

"You don't need to be outside to burn calories," Pascua said. "Jumping rope is an affordable and easy indoor exercise. All you need is a jump rope."

"Squats, lunges, push-ups and crunches can all be done without leaving the house."

Those brave enough to go outside should stay mobile too.

"The goal is to simply keep moving whenever possible. For example, if you're shopping, use the stairs instead of the escalator," she said.

In addition to staying active, you need to watch what you're eating, said Nancy Jensen, a nurse practitioner at OU's Graham Health Center.

"Look for icons on the menu while you're dining out. These indicate some of the healthier options," Jensen said.

"Subway has a good low-fat menu, as does Applebee's."

For students who plan on baking over the break, there are healthier alternatives to using sugar and vegetable oil.

"Splenda Sugar Blend for Baking really cuts out sugar calories but has no artificial taste," Jensen said. "Enova Oil is a little more expensive than vegetable oil, but your body won't absorb most of the oil as fat."

Most important are the ideas of moderation and balance.

"It takes 20 minutes for your brain to recognize that you're full," Jensen said. "So put your fork down in between bites, eat slower, and don't forget soup and salad. Their lower calorie density can really fill you up."

Pascua agrees. "Basically, don't over-indulge. Sweets here and there are okay, but instead of going for chocolate every time, reach for some strawberries. A balanced meal and exercise are important all year round."

## Calorie-Cutting Recipe

### Apple Torte

Slash the sugar calories by making this tasty dessert with Splenda sugar substitute.


#### INGREDIENTS:

- 2 beaten eggs or Egg beater equivalent
- 1 cup of Splenda Sugar Blend
- 1 teaspoon of vanilla
- 2 cups of sliced apples (about 3 large)
- 1 cup whole wheat flour mixed with 2 teaspoons of baking powder
- 1/2 cup of chopped walnuts or pecans
- 1 cup oatmeal
- 1/2 cup Splenda Brown Sugar Blend
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/3 cup margarine or butter cut into small 1/4-inch pieces

#### PREPARATION:

1. In a large bowl, combine the eggs, the Splenda Sugar Blend and the vanilla.
2. Add sliced apples, the whole wheat flour with baking powder and the chopped walnuts or pecans. Stir together.
3. For an (optional) oatmeal topping, mix together the oatmeal, the Splenda Brown Sugar Blend and the cinnamon.
4. Cut butter into small 1/4-inch pieces. Add the butter pieces and continue to mix, cutting the margarine into small pea-size pieces.
5. Sprinkle over the top of the torte.
6. Bake in a greased 9x9-inch baking pan at 350 degrees for 30-40 minutes.


Recipe courtesy of Nancy Jensen



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## Caught reading The Post



**Name:** Jakob Taube

**Major:** Nursing

**Year:** Junior

**What he's reading:**

"University awards  
honorary doctorate"

**Favorite section in The Post:**

Mouthing Off

The goods:  
a Barnes &  
Noble gift card

**Name:** Caitlyn Bolewitz

**Major:** Engineering

**Year:** Freshman

**What she's reading:**

"Understanding evil"

**Favorite section in The Post:**

Perspectives

The goods:  
a Barnes & Noble  
gift card



The goods:  
a Barnes &  
Noble gift card



**Name:** Tom Stanis

**Major:** Political Science

**Year:** Senior

**What he's reading:**

"The Cold War is over, but  
the arms race isn't"

**Favorite section in The Post:**

Police Files



# Personalize your gifts this holiday

By **TIM RATH**  
Contributing Reporter

Has this season of giving ever given you a headache? The expressions on the faces of friends and family on Christmas morning can be priceless. But sometimes making sure those are happy looks is a tough task.

No matter how well you know a person, it seems that some people are just impossible to shop for.

This isn't just a frustrated, hopeless emotion, however. People's gift-receiving abilities are actually rooted in their DNA.

"Psychologists believe in the Big Five, a group of consistent personality traits that we all have to greater or lesser degrees," said Cynthia Sifonis, a professor of psychology at OU.

"People can be tested on these traits early in childhood, and the same constellation of their answers will follow them throughout their lives," Sifonis said. "Rather than explaining a person's taste in something, like sports for example, the Big Five gives a broader scope into tastes."

While you may not be able to strap in your Great Uncle Joe for an intense psychological exam over the holidays, a brief consideration of the true selves of your families and friends can go a long way in finding something they may not even know they love.

**Neuroticism** is earmarked by "people that feel unpleasant emotions easily," said Sifonis. "If you know someone that is crabby, but outgoing, you might want to consider their outgoing side." However, if you really want to shop for their neurotic side:

- *Seinfeld: the Complete Series Box Set*. \$198 at [www.overstock.com](http://www.overstock.com). They'll definitely get a kick out of the special "coffee table book about coffee tables" that comes with each one.

**The conscientiousness trait**, is what you might find in your favorite bookworm. "These people are self-disciplined, they aim for achievement, and they plan their behavior," Sifonis said. The dutiful among us may like:

- *"The Ultimate Harry Potter Collection,"* by J.K. Rowling; \$117 at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com). All seven books, are hardcover and inside of a cardboard box. A Hogwarts fan couldn't ask for more.
- *"I Am America (And So Can You!),"* by Stephen Colbert; \$16 at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com). The first book from Comedy

Central TV pundit is sure to be the greatest book of all time. At least, that's what he'd probably say.

- *CivilWarLand in Bad Decline*, by George Saunders; \$11 at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com). Getting people amazing books from authors they may not have heard of is a great way to ensure awesome gifts for you next year.

People that score high on **the openness trait** tend to be "curious thrill seekers that are open to new experiences," Sifonis said. "They love adventure, and you usually find a lot of sports fans or players scoring high here."

Daredevil guys and girls that dig sports might go for something like:

- *"Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game,"* by Michael Lewis;

\$17 at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). This #1 bestseller explains the secrets of success for a small-market team in Major League Baseball.

- *L.L. Bean Discovery Binoculars*; \$50 at [www.llbean.com](http://www.llbean.com). These 8x25 advanced optics are perfect for nature watching or sports events.

- *Fathead Wall Graphics*; \$100 at [www.fathead.com](http://www.fathead.com). Good for dorms. However, these images really do jump off the walls and hang out with you while you're trying to study, which can be distracting.

**Agreeable people** are very easy to shop for. In fact, you might want to try dumping fruitcake on them. "These people are passionate and cooperative. They're usually the ones doing volunteer work over the holidays and accepting donations to charity," Sifonis said.

- "Nothing but Nets" is a campaign to save lives by preventing malaria, a leading killer of children in Africa; For only \$10, you can send a net in someone's name and save a life. [www.nothingbutnets.net](http://www.nothingbutnets.net).

- The American Red Cross "helps prepare communities for emergencies and keep people safe every day thanks to caring people who support our work," according to [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org).

- The Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund "provides financial support for the families of United States military personnel who have been lost in the line of fire," according to [www.fallenheroesfund.org](http://www.fallenheroesfund.org).

**Extroversion is a trait** that you might find in your favorite party people. "They like going out with other people, socially interacting and making new friends," Sifonis said. As if being your friend isn't present enough.

- *Nokia 6133*; \$50 at [www.t-mobile.com](http://www.t-mobile.com). Your friends will beg to get in

your Fave 5 with this phone.

- *Apple iPod Nano* \$149 at [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com). Because money can indeed buy happiness.

- Have Borat send your holiday message for you. [www.borat-book.vari-talk.com](http://www.borat-book.vari-talk.com). "Ali G" hero Borat will call whomever you like with a free holiday message; they likely will not understand and hang up.





# YEAR IN REVIEW

The year 2007 is drawing to a close, and we at the Oakland Post are feeling nostalgic. Our issues have seen some interesting stories over the past 12 months, but rather than reprint pages and pages of our favorites, we've decided to highlight some of our most memorable photography and graphic work here. We've flipped through stacks of newspapers, searching for pictures and illustrations that will remind us all of "that time when that happened."



The Starbucks located at University and South Main Street in downtown Rochester took a hit when an 81-year-old man from Oakland Township accidentally accelerated his car in reverse across University and into the popular coffee shop. (January 24th issue)



Journalist and host of the National Geographic Channel's "Explorer" Lisa Ling visited OU for a speaking engagement sponsored by OU's Student Life Lecture Board in March. In a radio interview with WXOU and The Oakland Post, Ling said, "There is an assumption that young people don't care about what is going on in the world, and I categorically disagree with that." (March 14th issue)



OU's Student Video Productions hosted "OU Rising Stars," a university spin-off of the popular reality show, "American Idol." (March 21st issue)



Oakland University President Gary Russi announced plans to add a medical school to OU's list of offerings. The school is scheduled to open in 2010. (April 4th issue)



OU students tackled wakeboarding, trailriding and scuba diving in our "summer" themed issue. (May 16th issue)



The Oakland Post went Greek in a cover story about Greek life on campus. (September 12th issue)



In our welcome back issue we hit the highs and lows of the season with a Mouthing Off column. The iPhone is released, Movie trilogies debut their third installments, and Harry Potter wraps it up with book number seven. (August 31 issue)



Revered by some in her village as the reincarnation of a Hindu goddess, a two-year-old girl born with four arms and four legs was said to be joined to a parasitic twin. (November 7th issue)

Read on for more of the year 2007 in review.



# OAKLAND UNIVERSITY



**JAN. 1** — Oakland University begins its year long 50th Anniversary celebration.



**MARCH 7** —

The Oakland Post gets a new look, switching from a traditional broadsheet-size paper, to the smaller tabloid size. (And yes, we considered putting a "size matters" joke here, but decided against it.)

**APRIL 5** — OU announces partnership with Beaumont Hospital to create the state's first privately funded medical school on campus. OU President Gary Russi estimates the new school, to be ready by 2010, may generate \$1.1 billion in business in its first year.



JAN.	FEB.	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
<p><b>17</b> — The 2007 Detroit Tigers Winter Caravan makes a stop at OU. Magglio Ordonez, Curtis Granderson, Carlos Guillen and newly acquired slugger Gary Sheffield are among the Tigers who were present.</p>	<p><b>22</b> — ESPN personality Steven A. Smith visits OU's campus after having to reschedule several times.</p> <p><b>23</b> — Academy-award nominated-actress and civil rights activist Ruby Dee delivers the keynote address at OU's 15th annual Keeper of the Dream Award Ceremony.</p>	<p><b>4</b> — OU Club Hockey wins the 2007 ACHA Division I National Championship, defeating Penn State University 5-1.</p> <p><b>13</b> — Renowned journalist Lisa Ling visits OU's campus to share her 16 years of experiences traveling the globe to cover world news.</p> <p><b>15</b> — OU's women's basketball team falls to the University of Kentucky Wildcats in the first round of the WNIT — a game played in the O'Rena.</p>	<p><b>4</b> — Neal Shine, former publisher and editor of the Detroit Free Press and OU professor of 24 years, dies at the age of 76.</p> <p><b>17</b> — The country is shocked when 32 people are killed on the campus of Virginia Tech by a lone gunman. A candlelight vigil is held on OU's campus to pay respects to those who lost their lives.</p> <p><b>22</b> — Senior shortstop Ryan Heath has a record day at the plate. Heath belts four homeruns — three of them grand slams — and drives in 14 RBIs in a doubleheader against Western Illinois. Heath's performance is featured in Sports Illustrated.</p>	<p><b>16</b> — The Oakland Post reports that Career Services Director Bob Thomas is no longer in office.</p> <p><b>16</b> — On-campus construction continues around Kresge Library, South Foundation Hall, the Oakland Center and various parking lots.</p>	<p><b>8</b> — OU senior catcher Kevin Carkeek is drafted in the 25th round (771 overall) of the 2007 Major League Baseball draft by the Houston Astros.</p> <p><b>17</b> — A skateboarding accident near Pawley Hall takes the life of Joshua Taylor, a 27-year-old Royal Oak resident.</p>



# 2007 YEAR IN REVIEW

## TUITION

+ 13.9%

**JULY 11** — Oakland University's Board Of Trustees unanimously votes to raise OU's tuition 13.9 percent — equating to a \$971 increase for the average incoming, full-time undergraduate. All of the other public universities around the state also experience tuition hikes.



**SEPT. 7** — The new Golden Grizzlies mascot is officially unveiled during Welcome Week.



**NOV. 24** — The Golden Grizzlies men's soccer team becomes the first OU team to advance past the first round of a National Championship tournament. After defeating the Michigan State Spartans 3-1 in the opening game, the Grizzlies' run ends, falling 2-1 the following week to Notre Dame.

## JULY

**25** — OU associate professor of engineering Darrin Hanna and his sister are indicted for allegedly exporting telecommunications and other equipment to Iraq during an embargo with that country.

## AUG.

**3** — OU alumnus Steve Blackwood, who starred as Bart Beiderbecke on "Days of Our Lives," is killed off, ending his 10-year run on the popular soap opera.

## SEPT.

**14** — Dashboard Confessional front man Chris Carrabba plays a sold-out show at Meadow Brook Music Festival. The concert is put on by OU SPB.

**26** — Cooley Law School holds a press conference to announce its relocation off the campus of OU. However, both parties say they will continue their partnership.

**26** — In conjunction with 13 other public universities in the state, a group of OU students, led by OUSC, rally for state funding for higher education in Lansing.

## OCT.

**4** — Nearly 3,000 people pack the O'Rena to watch the Detroit Pistons hold an open practice.

**9** — Nobel Peace Prize winning author Elie Wiesel is unable to make his scheduled appearance at OU due to mechanical problems with his plane.

**12** — Golden Grizzlies hoops fans pack the O'Rena during Midnite Madnezz. At the event, it is announced that Mario Impemba will broadcast the men's basketball games on 1310 AM radio.

**23** — Pulitzer-prize winning journalist Bob Woodward delivers the annual Distinguished Lecture in the Humanities.

## NOV.

**6** — Bryan Barnett, an OU graduate, is reelected as mayor of Rochester Hills.

**8** — Legendary rap artist Darryl "DMC" McDaniels, of RUN-DMC, talks to students about the history and current state of hip-hop. Following his lecture, McDaniels takes photos with students and signs autographs.

## DEC.

**2** — The Golden Grizzlies women's basketball team defeats the 21st-ranked Florida State Seminoles, 85-75. It is the first time since 2001 that the lady Grizzlies have defeated a top-25 ranked team.



# YEAR IN REVIEW

Oakland University has seen some big headlines this year, but let's not forget the news making front pages off campus. Here are some highlights of big news in politics, global issues, sports, pop culture and more.

**JANUARY** Former U.S. President Gerald Ford's state funeral in Washington, D.C. — Apple Inc. CEO Steve Jobs unveils the iPhone, a sleek multimedia Internet-enabled mobile phone designed and marketed by Apple Inc. — Former first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton announces on her Web site her intention to become a candidate for president in the U.S. presidential election in 2008. shuttle astronaut Lisa Nowak is arrested in Florida for attempted kidnapping — Singer Britney sparking a media frenzy — More official candidacy announcements (Barack Obama / Mitt Romney Cain) — Anna Nicole Smith is found dead in her Hollywood, Fla. hotel room. Autopsy states cause



accidental drug overdose of the sedative chloral hydrate — **MARCH** The Drug Administration identifies the chemical melamine in tainted wheat-gluten used by Menu Foods as what was causing illness and death in family pets David Hicks with aiding the Taliban. — The U.S. military states in a report that some aspects of the situation in Iraq could

be described as a "civil war" — **APRIL** Don Imus, host of MSNBC radio talk show fired after remark about Rutgers University basketball team — The Virginia Tech massacre, noted as the deadliest school shooting in U.S. history — University officials confirm that the students killed during the massacre at Virginia Tech will all be posthumously awarded their degrees



— **FEBRUARY** Space Spears shaves her head, / Al Franken / John Mc-of death was related to United States Food and shipped from China and — The U.S. charges

during commencement ceremonies — **MAY** Two American journalists from ABC news killed in Baghdad, Cameraman Alaa Uldeen Aziz, 33, and soundman Saif Laith Yousuf, 26, bringing the to 104 — The U.S. Department of Defense announces plans to starting August 2007 — DaimlerChrysler announces it sold 80.1 ment. Corporate names will be changed to Daimler AG and Chrysler quarantine a man who may have exposed passengers on two drug resistant tuberculosis — **JUNE** Idaho Senator Larry Craig bathroom — An early fossil is found, proving that the giant panda



total deaths of journalist kills in Iraq deploy 35,000 more troops in Iraq percent to Cerberus Capital Manage-Holding LLC — U.S. health officials trans-Atlantic flights to extensively is arrested in a Minneapolis airport was once a pygmy — Dr. Jack Kevorkian is released from



prison after serving eight years for assisting terminally ill patients with suicide — **JULY** The new Seven Wonders of the World are announced (Great Wall of China / Petra in Jordan / Christ the Redeemer Statue in Brazil / Machu Picchu in Peru / Mexico's Chichen Itza Mayan site / Colosseum in Rome / Taj Mahal in India) — "Live Earth" concerts in Australia, U.S., Germany, South Africa, the U.K., Brazil, Japan and China — U.S. President George W. Bush commutes Scooter Libby's prison sentence with a Grant of Executive Clemency — Barry Bonds hits



career home run number 754. — **AUGUST** Michael Vick agrees to a guilty plea on federal charges of direct involvement with gambling in dog fighting — Mississippi River Bridge over the Mississippi River in Minneapolis collapses. Thirteen people die and approximately 100 more are injured — U.S. Senate votes to extend the powers of intelligence agents to eavesdrop on suspected terrorists — The Governor of California Arnold Schwarzenegger of emergency in Santa Barbara County, California with hundreds of people ordered to wildfire — **SEPTEMBER** Two raging wildfires in San Bernardino and San Diego coun-

2,000 people to evacuate — Burger King announces that it will limit advertising to children younger than nutritional guidelines — Seventy-three thousand United Auto Workers union workers go on strike against the first general strike against the company in 37 years — The U.S. commemorates the anniversary of with ceremonies in New York City, Washington, DC and Shanksville, PA. Osama bin Laden releases a video for of 9/11 — O.J. Simpson is charged with six felonies to

bilia from a Las Vegas hotel room — **OCTOBER** Oil dollar and ongoing tension between Turkey and Iraq and over 500,000 acres of land burned from Santa Bar-Bonds indicted on perjury and obstruction of justice on renewable energy research, including solar thermal Chappelle does a standup marathon of non-stop jokes to Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.), is arrested by the FBI on charges that he arranged to have sex with what he thought was a 13-year-old boy —



prices reach a record price of 90 dollars a barrel due to the low — California wildfires continue, at least 1,500 homes are destroyed bara County to the U.S.-Mexico border — **NOVEMBER** Barry charges — Google announces its plan to invest millions of dollars power, wind power and geothermal power — **DECEMBER** Dave for 6 hours, 12 minutes — Mike McHaney, 28-year-old scheduler



ties force nearly 12 to meet strict General Motors, the 9/11 attacks the anniversary sports memora-



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**We bid you adieu**

To our valued readers,  
Enjoy this week's action-packed issue of  
the Oakland Post - it's the last one of  
the semester. Check out our first issue  
of the winter semester on Jan. 7, 2008.

**CLICK IN THE NEW YEAR**

AS 2008 RINGS IN, WE AT THE OAKLAND POST WILL BE CELEBRATING THE LAUNCH OF OUR NEW WEB SITE ON JAN. 1.  
LAUNCH WEEK EVENTS TO BE ANNOUNCED.



# ONE OF THE BEST THINGS ABOUT COLD PLACES: WINTER FASHION



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

By SHANEIA CALDWELL  
Contributing Reporter

Although grades should probably come first while in college, a sense of style should follow close behind.

Winter fashion is in full swing. The new season's trends have pushed some old fads aside while reinventing others. From wide legs to flats and over-sized totes to arm-length gloves, by following this season's hottest trends you are sure to earn straight A's in fashion.

## THE PANTS: FROM MANNISH TO FEMININE

Wide legs are the new skinny jeans. The jeans are derived from menswear in the mid-1990s and altered to fit a woman's body. Try the pants in denim for class, put on a mid-waist trouser for the workplace and go high waist for nightlife.

"The trend is wide leg trousers instead of the super skinny this season," said Karly Kovacs, associate at H&M.

The silhouettes look best when worn with a slim-fitting top to counteract the volume. To spot the season's hottest bottoms, shop the racks at Old navy, Express, H&M and Target. Among others. They range from \$20-\$80.

Tip: Put on a pair of high-waisted wide-leg jeans with a plaid ruffle button-up tucked inside to get a stylish feminine look.

## THE FOOTWEAR: OPT FOR FLATS

The ballet flat has never left us; flats were in style last season and the season before. They can be found in almost every store that sells shoes. The ever-present shoe is classic and comfortable, they come in a variety of colors, materials and patterns and can be worn to suit your personal style. Depending on the style and store, ballet flats are priced at \$19.99 and up.

With winter here go to higher heights with flat boots. Whether the versatile boot is knee-length, calf-length or lace-up, it works equally well as heeled boots with skirts and slim-fit trousers. Find flat boots at Bakers Shoes, Aldo, or Payless to step out stylishly savvy.

## THE GLOVES: A SHOW OF HANDS

As temperatures drop and snow begins to fall the urge to

pull out a scarf, hat and of course, matching gloves becomes a necessity. This winter there is a new way to keep your hands warm while sauntering through campus. Abandon your mittens from last winter and adopt a pair of arm-length gloves. "It's about longer gloves, all the way up to the arm instead of shorter ones," said Kovacs. They're just like wearing leg warmers on your arms. They work well when worn with a cropped wool peacoat. Long gloves can be purchased at Gap, J.Crew, H&M, Aldo Accessories and Target. They range from \$10-\$35.



CELESTE FILIATRAULT/The Oakland Post



## THE TOTE: CHIC CARRYALL

From giant-sized purses to huge satchels, carrying a structured tote is imperative this season. Whether it's animal print, color block, logo or metallic, it is the perfect bag to haul books and supplies to class in style. "They are something for everyday and for school," said Nina Gojcaj, sales associate at Aldo Accessories and senior at OU.

After school, this bag can be transformed into a purse, gym duffel or an eco-friendly cloth grocery bag. It is the cure to transporting everything essential, such as newspapers, magazines, your wallet, makeup case, iPod, cell phone and running shoes. "A lot of our bags here are considered to be a tote," said Karly Kovacs, associate at H&M. Pick one up at H&M for as low as \$20.

## THE COLORS: NEW NEUTRAL VS. BRIGHTS

Bright shades will be doing all of the talking this season. From a fiery orange to fuchsia pink to forest green and electric blue, vibrant hues are the newest trend. Celebrate the color movement with a colorful top, accessories or simply wear it on your legs with bright tights.

"Lots of bright colors for the season, not much dark," said Shannon Gleson, sales manager at Express. Get a shot of color from J.Crew, Gap or Urban Outfitters.

If you must tone these color blocks down, go for grey. Grey is the season's new neutral. Take your pick from an array of grey shades. Knit cardigans, cable sweaters, turtlenecks and blazers are all modish in the color. Grey can be teamed up with white, black, red and many other hues.

The season has already begun. If your closet is suffering from a lack of key items it might be time to take a trip to the mall and acquire the latest fashions. With the right pieces, you are sure to have the perfect fashion report card.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post  
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CELESTE FILIATRAULT/The Oakland PostDUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post  
CELESTE FILIATRAULT/The Oakland Post

## WORD OF THE WEEK:

# COUTURE

**COUTURE (ADJ):**  
BEING, HAVING OR  
SUGGESTING THE  
STYLE, QUALITY,  
ETC., OF A FASHION  
DESIGNER; VERY  
FASHIONABLE

**KOO-TOOR**

**EXAMPLE:**  
COUTURE  
CELEBRITIES WERE  
PICTURED ON THE  
RED CARPET IN THE  
MAGAZINE.

**SOURCE: WWW.  
DICTIONARY.COM**



## Florida State stomped

*Oakland women's basketball finally lands upset in third attempt against an AP Top-25 team in two weeks*

By SAMANTHA FRANZ  
Sports Editor

ROCHESTER — Perhaps the old cliché, "the third time's a charm" has some merit after all.

After losing first-half leads to two top-25 teams, Oakland University's women's basketball team (4-2) finally overcame a top-ranked adversary in the 21st ranked Florida State University Seminoles (6-2) Sunday with a score of 85-75.

But before the team could celebrate, they first had to travel to Athens, Ga. and take a 69-59 beating from the No. 7 Bulldogs (8-0).

The Golden Grizzlies led by as many as 13 points in the first half before the Bulldogs went on an 11-3 run in the half's final minutes to cut OU's lead. At the break, the Golden Grizzlies were ahead 32-27.

From there, it was near impossible to shut down Georgia's 42 second-half points. Not even a 23-point effort from junior Jessica Pike or sophomore Melissa Jeltema's 12-point tally could pull OU ahead after Georgia took the lead for good with a jump shot by Angela Puleo with 11:19 remaining.

Redemption day arrived for the Golden Grizzlies in a big way Sunday. After holding the lead for almost the entire game, Oakland University knocked off the 21st ranked team in the nation by an 85-75 margin. The victory marked the first time Oakland has defeated a top-25 team since 2001 when they took down Colorado State University.

"I was actually a little concerned because we had such a lead in the first half," head coach Beckie Francis said. "We had the lead against Auburn. We had the lead against Georgia. Everybody was thinking it, and the players knew it. I was really proud we pulled it out."

The first half was basically the Golden Grizzly show, as Oakland stunned the

Seminoles with a 17-point lead going into the half. Jeltema had 13 points and sophomore Hanna Reising tallied 15, including a dramatic 3-pointer at the buzzer, sinking the shot as she fell backward to the floor.

The second half started out as more of the same, with OU maintaining a double-digit lead until the 12-minute mark, when FSU began to show some vigor and began knocking down clutch shots.

Mara Freshour sank a 3-pointer with 6:08 remaining to put the Seminoles within 5, with a score of 73-68.

FSU would come within four points three times in the next two minutes, but Pike's 3-pointer and lay up and senior Charlese Greer's free throw after an aggressive drive to the basket came at the right times to put the Seminoles at bay for good.

Three Oakland starters hit double figures for the game.

Reising led all scorers on the floor with 23 points, two shy of her career-high. Jeltema added 16 points and Pike notched 20, plus three assists and two steals.

Greer also hit double figures with 13 points off the bench, shooting a perfect 5-5 from the field. She also pulled down four rebounds and added two steals.

"She's such a competitor," Francis said of Greer. "She wants it so bad, and she's been a go-to player on every team she's ever played on. She's a great sixth man and gives a punch off the bench."

As the conference season tips off against Southern Utah Dec. 8, Reising believes their victory over Florida State sends a message to their opponents.

"[It says] that we're serious," Reising said. "We always contend in the conference, but we haven't knocked off a top-25 team in a long time. I think coming into the conference this year, we're going to be really confident and ready to win."



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Florida State's Shante Williams (22), Mara Freshour (10) and Brittany Miller (center) were no match for senior Charlese Greer (34) who shot 5 for 5 from the floor, good for 13 points Sunday against the Seminoles.

### OH SO CLOSE...

**#24 AUBURN 71,  
OAKLAND 63  
Nov. 21  
Rochester, MI**

**Oakland led by four  
with 4:43 until Auburn  
went on a 16-4 run to  
close out the Golden  
Grizzlies**

**#7 GEORGIA 69,  
OAKLAND 59  
Nov. 29  
Athens, GA**

**Oakland tied  
Georgia at 55 with  
4:40 left in the game  
until Georgia went  
on a 14-4 run**



# Grizzlies bowl over Falcons

*Golden Grizzlies now 3-4 before conference play*

By SAMANTHA FRANZ  
Sports Editor

ROCHESTER — Non-conference games can sometimes be a momentum booster in college hoops. Once in a while, a little-known team can upset a division big gun or make them fight until the end of the contest.

Oakland University's men's basketball game against No. 23 ranked Xavier Wednesday was not one of those games.

The Musketeers (6-1) had no problem with the Golden Grizzlies (3-4) in a 93-68 routing in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The game marked the return of shooting guard Erik Kangas, who missed four games due to injury, and contributed six points off the bench in 12 minutes of play.

Junior Shane Lawal had a 16-point and six-block effort, and senior Brandon Cassise scored 17 for Oakland.

Things looked up for the Grizzlies in Saturday's matchup, however. Despite the inches of snow falling outside, OU turned up the heat in the O'Rena and defeated Bowling Green State University (4-3) 90-80 Saturday in front of 2,335 Golden Grizzly fans and FSN cameras.

"They played good offense, which was a challenge for us," head coach Greg Kampe said. "I'm pleased with the effort. You've got to win at home."

The first half saw five ties and five lead changes, as neither team held more than an eight-point advantage.

Both teams came out playing a man-to-man defense, and the first half was a low-scoring one, as OU found themselves down by three, 37-34.

Kangas was ineffective in his home court debut. He shot 0-7 from the floor in the first half, including 0-5 from three-point land. He was clearly not running on all cylinders. He held his shoulder in pain after shooting and being bumped into by other players.

He showed signs of life in the second half, however, scoring 11 points, but only one characteristic 3-pointer with 8:36 remaining in the game.

"He's about 70 percent," Kampe said. "But league [play] starts next week, and it's all about the league. So we had to get him in there."

Playing through fits of coughs and sniffles, sophomore Jonathon Jones notched 31 points — a career-high — shattering his previous record of 19, thanks to 10-14 shooting on the floor. Jones was also a flawless 9-9 on the free-throw line. The arena-rocking slam dunk in the first half didn't hurt, either.

"I think I could have gotten higher if I wasn't so sick," Jones said.

Meanwhile, the game would go through six more ties and five more lead changes before the final buzzer rang.

Oakland improved to 67 percent shooting in the second half, a far departure from 35.5 percent in the first half. Much of that had to do with Jones' 23 points in the second half.

There was also mass confusion in the second half, just as OU was starting to pull away with a 59-55 lead with 9:59 remaining.

Falcon forward Chris Knight shoved OU's Dan Waterstradt and was called for the technical foul. In the same break of action, Lawal was also called for a technical for allegedly yelling at Knight.

The two technicals canceled each other out and both players were called for personal fouls. Unfortunately for Lawal, that was his fifth, causing him to foul out of the game.

"Shane went into the game and was yelling to pump up our guys," Kampe said. "The referee thought he was yelling at their [Bowling Green's] player."

Things happen like that; we're all human. I have no problem with the call. I just didn't know what was going on."

After the chaos died down, OU pulled ahead for good, thanks to a layup by freshman Will Hudson with 5:53 to go.

The Golden Grizzlies' lead would reach 13 points as the minutes died down, but a last-ditch effort of some BGSU 3-pointers brought their deficit down to 10, which is how they ended the game.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post  
Dan Waterstradt (45) rises up for the jam against Bowling Green State University Saturday as Brandon Cassise (12) watches him throw it down.

## GRIZZ OF THE WEEK

**Jonathon Jones**  
Men's Basketball

Year: Sophomore  
Major: Undecided

Jones notched a career-high 31 points against Bowling Green Saturday, surpassing his previous record of 19. Twenty-three of those were in the second half.

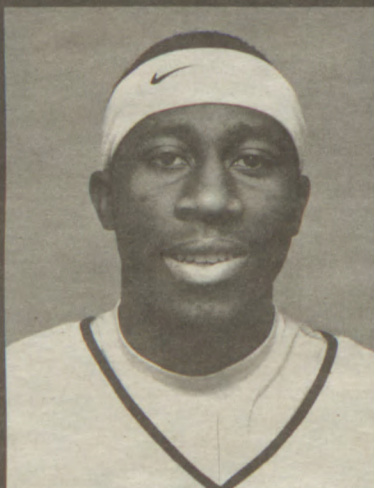


Photo courtesy of Oakland University Athletics

## FAST BREAKS

**BIG SURPRISE** — OU'S BIGS SHOWED A LOT OF PUNCH OFF THE BENCH AGAINST BGSU. THE NORMALLY DEFENSIVE-MINDED SENIOR PATRICK MCCLOSKEY SCORED EIGHT POINTS AND PULLED DOWN SIX REBOUNDS; WATERSTRADT CONTRIBUTED SIX POINTS, FOUR REBOUNDS AND A BLOCK; AND FRESHMAN WILL HUDSON SHOT 3-3 AND HAD FIVE BOARDS AND TWO STEALS.

**FSN'S (AND FORMER PISTON) RICK MAHORN RATES THE NEW UNIS** — "I COULD NEVER WEAR THOSE. YOU'D SEE EVERY POTHOLE IN MY BODY. BUT I'M NOT MAD AT THESE GUYS FOR WEARING THEM BECAUSE THEY MAKE THEIR BODIES LOOK EVEN BETTER. AND IF THE WOMEN ARE LOOKING AT THEM, THEY'RE REALLY GOING TO ENJOY THEM."

**GET YOUR B-BALL FIX OVER BREAK** — THE OAKLAND POST WILL CONTINUE TO COVER BASKETBALL GAMES OVER BREAK. LOOK FOR THE LATEST UPDATES, INCLUDING THE MEN'S BASKETBALL GAMES AGAINST THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN AND OREGON ON OUR SPORTS BLOG: [OAKLANDPOSTSPORTS.BLOGSPOT.COM](http://OAKLANDPOSTSPORTS.BLOGSPOT.COM)



# Time to step up

*Oakland looks to measure their progress against U of M*

## COLUMN

By **ROB TATE**  
Assistant Sports Editor

It isn't the correct holiday season to be putting eggs in a basket, unless the Easter Bunny dressed in red comes crashing down my chimney, that is.

Something you do see a lot of this time of year, however, is decorations.

What would look great underneath Oakland University men's basketball coach Greg Kampe's tree would be a victory over an in-state rival.

The team in question is the University of Michigan Wolverines.

Back around Halloween (OK, I'll stop with all the holiday references) at the Oakland University basketball media day, Kampe talked about how he wants Oakland to be ranked up there with Michigan State University and Michigan when it comes to powerhouse basketball programs in the state.

"We believe, and we have our players believing, that we are playing a big time schedule and they are treated as big time athletes, and we're making strides as a university so that we can be mentioned in the same breathe as Michigan and Michigan State. We know that's a huge statement, but that's our belief," Kampe said Oct. 25.

He might be right.

Kampe has done all the right things. He's brought top recruits from around the state this season, landing Tim Williams who was ranked 11th in the state of Michigan according to recruiting website, [www.rivals.com](http://www.rivals.com). Kampe also landed point guard Peter Bunn, who ranked 17th on the same Web site.

In comparison, Michigan landed two out of the top 20, also on the list.

Kampe is even starting to bring in top recruits from other states like Wisconsin, where he brought in 6-foot-9 Will Hudson, a 2007 first-team all-state player.

Some in the media have even gone as far saying Oakland has surpassed U-M in the state.

"Could they compete in the Big Ten? I think so," Michigan State sophomore guard Raymar Morgan told the Detroit Free Press after the Spartans slim 75-71 victory over the Golden Grizzlies back on Nov. 25.

A nice compliment, but Oakland as a program is not close to being there.

But they can prove they are for real next Wednesday when they travel to Crisler Arena to play the Wolverines, a game which will air on the Big Ten Network.

Although Michigan will play against Duke Saturday, before they meet Oakland next week, the Wolverines just came off an embarrassing loss to former coach Tommy Amaker and his Harvard University squad.

Michigan can't beat a team full of lawyers? Ouch.

Oakland has beaten Michigan before so all things are possible.

The Golden Grizzlies beat the Wolverines Nov. 17, 2000 when the Wolverines touted players like Lavell Blanchard and Bernard Robinson Jr. But this time an Oakland victory might be something of a more permanent feel. Oakland is 1-3 all-time against Michigan and they haven't met since 2004.

Michigan could be on the rise again with the addition of head coach John Beilein from West Virginia. But so far the Wolverines have struggled mightily since he took over, going 4-5 with bad losses against the likes of the aforementioned Harvard Crimson and Western Kentucky.

But come St. Patrick's Day (shucks, I mentioned a holiday again), when March Madness will be in full swing, the Oakland versus Michigan game next Wednesday might not mean anything at all. But down the line, a victory could potentially solidify Oakland's place as second best in the state.

And that classification has to be earned, not just talked about.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post  
Recruiting players like Tim Williams (33) is helping Oakland become more of a legitimate threat in the state of Michigan.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post  
Endre Osnes (18) led the charge for Oakland last week at Notre Dame scoring OU's only goal.

## OU soccer comes up short at Notre Dame in College Cup

By **ROB TATE**  
Assistant Sports Editor

The dream is over, and an exciting win over Michigan State University in the first round of the NCAA College Cup turned into a disappointing, but close loss to Notre Dame last Wednesday in the second round in South Bend, Ind.

The Golden Grizzlies had to match up against one of the top players in the country, Joseph Lapira, a semifinalist for the Hermann Trophy, awarded to the country's best soccer player.

Lapira attacked Oakland for a goal and an assist to help lead the charge of the Fighting Irish.

Notre Dame's first goal came in the 36th minute as Alex Yoshinaga sent a pass from Lapira past Oakland goal-

keeper Steve Clark.

Lapira would then net his eighth goal of the season when he beat Clark early in the second half in the 57th minute.

Oakland tried to fight back late when junior Endre Osnes scored his third goal of the season in the 66th minute.

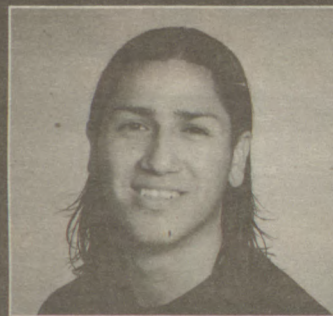
Osnes would then ring a shot off the post late in the game on a great opportunity, but it would be Oakland's last chance at tying the game.

Clark ended the game with four saves on Notre Dame's six shots on goal. The Fighting Irish had 14 shots total on the game to Oakland's 11.

Notre Dame moved on to the Sweet 16 round where they defeated Santa Clara 2-0 Saturday.

Oakland's record will stand at 12-7-3 for the 2007 season.

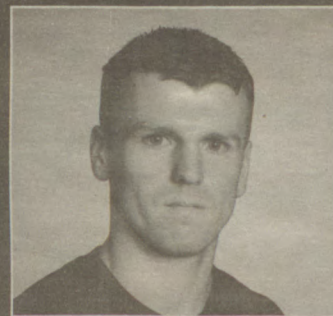
## MEN'S SOCCER FINAL STATS



Michael Reyes

### Goals

1. Michael Reyes (6)
2. Sebby Harris (6)
3. Piotr Nowak (5)
4. Stew Givens (4)
5. Martin Sandell (4)
6. Endre Osnes (3)
7. Stefan St. Louis (3)



Piotr Nowak

### Assists

1. Piotr Nowak (9)
2. Martin Sandell (5)
3. Michael Reyes (3)
4. Sebby Harris (2)
5. Stew Givens (2)
6. Gabe Hernandez (2)
7. Logan Lyon (2)





AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post

Goaltender Andy Hansen dives for a save against Grand Valley State University Sunday.

## Close call

### Club hockey pulls out a 6-5 victory

By **BRITTANY OCHTINSKY**  
Senior Reporter

**LAPEER, Mich.** — Prior to taking the ice Sunday against Grand Valley State University, the Golden Grizzlies club hockey team hadn't played a game in over two weeks. The Lakers, on the other hand, were playing their third game in three nights.

In the end, the rest paid off for Oakland, as they beat GVSU 6-5 at the Polar Palace in Lapeer.

"It kind of evened out. We were rested but a little rusty; they were on it, but a little tired," said Kevin Kranker, who netted a pair of goals in the victory.

The Grizzlies were right on track from the time the puck dropped, and on the second shift of the game, Matthew Burke opened the scoring. John Parrish added another just over a minute later and, while the Lakers struck twice on the power play, Kranker and forward Jesse Worrell gave the team a 4-2 lead going into the second period.

"The first period, we played great," said assistant captain Steve Piccoli. "We came out hustling, I was surprised. Normally we don't do things like that, but I was really proud of our guys."

During the second period, things started to fall apart, or as head coach Sean Hogan put it, "it looked like we had lead in our skates."

The energy Oakland demonstrated the first period fizzled out as Grand Valley inched closer with two more, trailing only 5-4 at the period's end.

Early in the third period, Worrell added his second of the game, but Grand Valley struck a third time on the power play.

Although it was Worrell who had the game-winning goal, Tony Yearego played a big role in preserving the win for the Grizzlies.

Oakland had just finished killing off a penalty in the final minutes of play when the Lakers nearly beat goaltender

Andrew Hansen, who was manning the right side of the net, leaving the left side wide open.

Grand Valley found the opening, but Yearego acted fast and swatted the puck away, avoiding both a goal and a penalty shot.

"I just saw that puck laying there and I didn't want to cover it because it would be a penalty shot, so I just tried to throw it away as far as I could," said Yearego.

"I owe him a Christmas card and a pie, we've already gone over that," Hansen joked. "The puck went through a leg and either off a leg or straight through a skate and I lost it. I thought I hit it with my glove, but obviously I didn't."

Hansen maintained a perfect 3-0 record, stopping 41 shots, while Oakland only countered with 30 against Grand Valley goaltender Kevin Chapman.

OU goalie Collin Chase experienced a rare night off, after bearing most of the load this season.

"The plan for the last three games is to play all three goalies," Hogan said. "It wasn't that Chase was playing badly, but I thought it was time for Hanner to get a look and he did what it took to get the win. I have no complaints."

What is a recurring complaint of Hogan's is his team's inability to play a full 60 minutes and put teams away. As Oakland slipped yet another spot to 11th in last Friday's ranking, Hogan is still looking for answers.

"I can't put my finger on it. Maybe it's because we're a young team, but we need to figure out how to bury a team," Hogan said. "Last year and years past, maybe it was because we had a lot of older guys, but if we were up two or three nothing, there was no way anyone was coming back. This year, all our games are close, they're all a battle."

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## Sorting out sounds

### The Black and White Album - The Hives

By NICK DEGEL  
Senior Reporter

These days, rock music is kind of a drag. If music is a reflection of the times, can you really blame bands for releasing their commentary albums on Iraq, Darfur, global warming and a myriad of other world issues?

While it is true that we are living in a tumultuous era and it is crucial that musicians write about it with a sense of purpose, what happened to all the fun?

Enter Sweden's The Hives.

Very little is serious about The Hives. With mysterious sixth members (the band is a five piece), mod-gangster attire and farcical statements like, "W. Churchill says: Never before have The Hives done so much for so many," their shtick is a breath of fresh air.

The Hives returned with their fourth full-length, "The Black and White Album," on Nov. 13. The album reprises the high energy power pop most will remember from "Veni Vidi Vicious," which sported the surprise hit of 2002 "Hate to Say I Told You So."

However, the new album features a few more coats of polish than past efforts. The band's garage rock sound mixed with flawless production creates an intriguing final product that piques the interest of even the most skeptical



Photo Courtesy Amazon.com

listeners.

If members of the cheerleading squad from your high school formed a rock band and took on the constitution of the droogs in classy, black suits they would sound something like The Hives.

Normally, grown men do not have pom-poms lying around, but "Try It Again" makes one wonder if perhaps they're a pair snuck into the studio.

The first single "Tick Tick Boom," currently featured in commercials and NFL segments, is classic Hives tin can guitars and relentless hooks. The track sets the pace for other songs

like "Square One Here I Come" and "Bigger Hole to Fill," yet the band proves not to fall into the trappings of most one-trick ponies.

Pharrell Williams (The Neptunes, N\*E\*R\*D) guest produces on the genre-bending "Well All Right!" a perfect romp that conjures images of Madness without a saxophone. Williams also handles the boards for the falsetto-filled funk of "T.H.E.H.I.V.E.S."

To add to the surprises, The Hives try on some dancing shoes with "Giddy Up!" and dabble in a hype-man's cabaret on "Puppet On A String". They even go all-out punk on "Return the Favour" and the Dropkick Murphys-inspired "You Dress Up For Armageddon."

With a consistent tempo throughout, it is hard to imagine how the band felt it necessary to include "A Stroll Through Hive Manor Corridors." The manic, organ-driven instrumental drags on like an unnecessary intermission — or a leftover track from the "I Heart Huckabees" soundtrack.

Aside from attempting to set some kind of record for "yeah's" on an album, front man Howlin' Pelle Almqvist accomplishes very little with his lyrics, but to critique with a poet's ear is to miss the point entirely.

The Hives are about maximum fun and maximum volume. Theirs is an attitude of "power chords first, ask questions later." They're crusad-

### Psychédélices - Alizée

By ANDY KOZLOWSKI  
Contributing Reporter

Her story reads like the French-language version of an "American Idol" fairy tale.

In 2000, a teenage girl named Alizée (Ah—lee—zay) left her Corsican home to sing at a talent show in Paris, where she was discovered by the pop diva Mylène Farmer.

Reinvented by Farmer as a Lolita (a seductive young girl; also a reference to a novel of the same name), she became a European pop phenomenon, her first single climbing the charts in 14 countries, her album going double platinum in France.

Alizée went on to win a World Music Award and become an Internet sensation, her smoking hot image spreading like wildfire around the world, arresting the attention of at least one (male) American college student.

Fast-forward to 2007. Alizée is now 23 years\* old. She has married a rock star, had a child and now, after a three-year sabbatical, has returned

with her third studio album, "Psychédélices."

Just as Alizée, a wife and mother, has grown into a mature young woman, so too has her music clearly evolved from the bubbly pop ditties of yesteryear into something more beautiful and sophisticated.

The 11 tracks on "Psychédélices" span an eclectic mix of styles. Among them are the thumping electro-pop of "Mademoiselle Juliette" and "Jamais Plus," the Californian rock of "Fifty Sixty" and "Lilly Town," the percussion-driven hip hop of "Décollage" and the soaring, atmospheric ballad of "Idéaliser."

Halfway through the album is the wholly enchanting "Par Les Paupières," and the album closes with the soft, soulful jazz of "L'Effet," a love letter to Alizée's daughter.

Alizée takes full command of each genre and makes it her own, her impressive vocal range and unfettered emotion shining best on the slow songs. The sound design sparkles as usual, with rich, multilayered mixes that grow on you with time.

You don't need to be fluent in the language of love to appreciate the universal language of music, and "Psychédélices" proves it.

You can sample the album yourself by visiting Alizée's official website at [alizée-officiel.com](http://alizée-officiel.com).



Photo Courtesy Amazon.com

\*The official site's bio says Alizée is 22, but she is NOT. She is 23 — she was born on August 21, 1984. Spellings are as they appear on product. Spelling varies online.



# Music for everybody, every mood

## 'Gospel Hymns for Agnostics and Athiests' Cesar Pink and the Imperial Orgy

By NICK DEGEL  
Contributing Reporter

At face value, Caesar Pink and The Imperial Orgy's "Gospel Hymns For Agnostics and Atheists" EP is retro, flower-power rock n roll with an undercurrent of sexuality.

The songs are simple, unassuming and happy-go-lucky. One might even compare a track like "So It Is" to the Godspell soundtrack.

Dig a bit deeper, however, and what you may find will shock, disgust or

intrigue you.

The Imperial Orgy is more than just a band. It is a network of like-minded individuals who follow the message of front man Caesar Pink.

Is it a cult? Is it the juvenile brainchild of a multimedia artist? Is it the most elaborate joke ever played?

Venturing to the band's Web site leaves more questions than answers.

For the truly inquisitive, the group has designed some sort of online maze where the prize is entry into The Imperial Orgy — whatever that means.

However, if you're perfectly comfortable with the deity you currently worship, the EP is still worth the listen.

"Happy Endings" is an absolute guilty pleasure of Rolling Stones soul.

Pink seems to channel Jerry Garcia on "In Praise of Shadows."

If the whole "greater level of consciousness" thing is a little too much for you, just ignore the message and mellow out to The Imperial Orgy's hippy revival sound.



PHOTO COURTESY AMAZON.COM

## 'Dreaming Out Loud' OneRepublic

By NICK DEGEL  
Contributing Reporter

The piano and electric guitar, a perfect — possibly too perfect — match.

In the ethos of the hair bands of the '80s, alternative rock has witnessed a resurgence of the ballad in recent years. With a strategy of more must be better, OneRepublic released their debut album "Dreaming Out Loud," Nov. 20.

At the very least, OneRepublic's road to the top of the U.S. charts is an interesting one.

Before the band had even finished the album, a version of their song "Apologize" was remixed by Timbaland and placed on his "Timbaland Presents Shock Value" release.

Since then, the song has reached as high as No. 2 on the Billboard Hot

100, and the single has gone double platinum.

The Colorado, by way of Los Angeles, quintet is lead by noted songwriter and producer Ryan Tedder, whose pop credentials include work with Jennifer Lopez, Natasha Bedingfield and Paul Oakenfeld, with whom he shared a Grammy nomination.

Tedder's stunning voice, the breadth of Bono and the range of Savage Garden, is not enough to save the snail's pace by which "Dreaming Out Loud" meanders about for the better part of 52 minutes.

Each song is a carbon copy of the next — piano intros that lead way to sing-song choruses that utilize the same tired hook over and over.

It is difficult to single out particular songs because they truly are all the same.

However, both versions of "Apologize" are a slight departure from the rest of the album. "Someone to Save You" also breaks the monotony but not in a good way — more Wilson Phillips than 21st century hit maker.

With 13 tracks of shallow emotion to choose from, the cast of The Hills will be glad to hear that they won't be running out of montage music any time soon.



PHOTO COURTESY AMAZON.COM

## Feature presentations

*New movies hitting theaters this month*



KOJI SASAHARA/ASSOCIATED PRESS

By TAMEKA CITCHEN  
Contributing Reporter

### "I Am Legend"

Will Smith stars in "I Am Legend" as Robert Neville, a scientist who finds that he is the only human alive in New York. Alone in the city and maybe the last human on Earth, Neville is left to fight against the infected victims of a plague who turned into vicious carnivores that devour anyone in their path.

Neville has to watch his every step to make sure he doesn't become their next — and last victim — before he can find the cure. "I Am Legend" hits theaters Friday, Dec. 14.

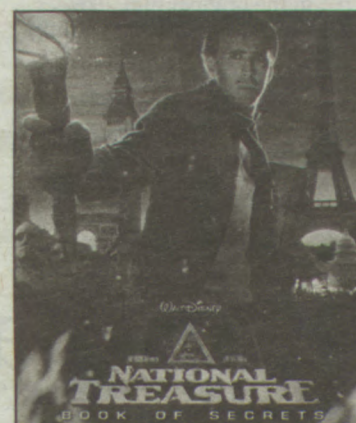


PHOTO COURTESY AMAZON.COM

### "National Treasure: Book of Secrets"

A much anticipated sequel, "National Treasure: Books of Secrets," stars Nicholas Cage as Benjamin Franklin Gates.

This time, Gates is looking for the truth behind the Abraham Lincoln assassination, which leads him to 18 missing pages from Lincoln's killer's diary. While unraveling the clues, Gates discover his great grandfather may have been involved in Lincoln's assassination.

"Book of Secrets" also stars Ed Harris and Diane Kruger. The next edition to "National Treasure" comes out Friday, Dec. 21.



# Just can't wait to be on stage

By Steve Staeger  
Contributing Reporter

The Detroit Opera House is the last place you would expect to find a jungle full of animals.

But that's exactly what you'll find this holiday season as Disney on Broadway's "The Lion King" brings its national tour to Detroit Nov. 26 through Jan. 6.

The musical adaptation of the 1994 animated film brings together a familiar cast of characters with a familiar story, adding new scenes, songs and a stronger taste of African culture.

The story follows the life of Simba, a lion who is destined to become king of the Pride Land.

But Simba's power-hungry uncle Scar stands in the way of Simba's destiny.

Other characters from the movie come to life on stage including Mufasa, Nala, Timon and Pumbaa.

Familiar Lion King songs, written by Tim Rice and Elton John, return including "The Circle of Life," "I Just Can't Wait to Be King," "Hakuna Matata" and "Can You Feel the Love Tonight?"

The musical also introduces several songs not in the original film, like "They Live In You" and "The Morning Report."

Several new scenes also explain things that weren't explained in the movie, like a scene where the evil Scar proposes that Nala be his queen, which leads to Nala's departure from Pride

Rock to seek help in the jungle, where she later finds Simba.

Perhaps the most unique stamp on the musical is its more in-depth use of African culture.

The show is peppered with colorful ethnic costumes and African influence on song and dance.

The second act begins with the chorus coming out in bright and colorful African garb and singing a song called "One by One," which makes you feel like you are witnessing a cultural celebration.

The stage production, now in its tenth year, has been on Broadway since 1997 and had a very successful four year production in Toronto.

It is no wonder that the show won the Tony award for Best Musical in 1998, and five others, including Best Costume Design and Best Scenic Design.

Elaborate set design keeps the audience wondering how it's possible to do that on stage.

Bringing the animals from the movie to life on stage is another seemingly impossible task, but their costumes are handled marvelously, making the audience feel like they are watching the characters from the movie themselves.

"The Lion King" musical is a must-see for all fans of the movie. They will be amazed at how close the musical stays to the film.

For those who haven't seen the movie, the musical is a great opportunity to experience "The Lion King" for the very first time.



Photo Courtesy of Disney on Broadway

## A WORD WITH TIMONE

THE OAKLAND POST SPOKE WITH MARC SHUNOCK, WHO PLAYS TIMONE IN DISNEY ON BROADWAY'S "THE LION KING," BEFORE HIS PERFORMANCE AT THE DETROIT OPERA HOUSE TUESDAY DEC. 5.

HAILING FROM SOUX ST. MARIE, CANADA, SHUNOCK SAID HE ENJOYS PERFORMING IN DETROIT BECAUSE HIS FAMILY WILL COME VISIT WHILE HE IS IN TOWN.

SHUNOCK GRADUATED FROM NYU IN 2000 AND SAYS HE'S BEEN AUDITIONING EVER SINCE.

SHUNOCK SAID HE DIDN'T HIT A BIG BREAK AFTER GRADUATING BUT HE DID APPEAR IN COMMERCIALS FOR IBM AND BLOCKBUSTER.

"I'M JUST ONE OF THOSE GUYS THAT GETS BY AS AN

ACTOR, AND YOU DON'T REALLY KNOW WHO I AM AND THAT'S HOW I LIKE IT."

"I THINK THE BEST PART (OF PERFORMING) IS IT'S SOMEBODY'S FIRST TIME SEEING THE SHOW AND IT'S SOMEBODY'S LAST TIME SEEING THE SHOW. THAT'S MY MOTIVATION. EVERYBODY REMEMBERS THE FIRST TIME THEY SEE A BROADWAY SHOW," SHUNOCK SAID OF THE UPSIDE OF THE HARD KNOCK INDUSTRY.

ON HIS ROLE AS TIMONE, SHUNOCK SAID HE GETS ALONG WELL WITH PUMBAA. "EVERY MINUTE I'M IN THE THEATER, WE'RE IN THE DRESSING ROOM TOGETHER OR ON STAGE TOGETHER," SHUNOCK SAID. "THE FACT THAT I'M PARTNERED UP WITH SOMEONE WHO'S BEEN DOING THE SHOW FOR SUCH A LONG TIME IS A [GREAT ASSET]."

# Reviving an old favorite in time for the new

By ED KOURY  
Contributing Reporter

With fall's release of "The Heroine Diaries," the autobiography of Nicki Sixx, Mötley Crüe basist, it is a good time to look at an old favorite.

Back in 2002 Mötley Crüe fans were hit with an expose of one of the most infamous rock groups of all time. "Dirt" is one of the most exposing multi-person biographies ever written, and it appears to be time to give credence to it once again.

Sex, drugs, and rock 'n' roll — the typical saying that is supposed to describe mainstream rock stars and their lifestyles.

In the case of Mötley Crüe, that points to every part of their illustrious careers.

Crüe members Tommy Lee, Mick Mars, Vince Neil and Nikki Sixx teamed up with New York Times music writer Neil Strauss to tell the story of their band's rise to success.

"The Dirt," dishes out all the secrets and stories your parents wouldn't want you to read or hear about.

Their tours, friendships, alcohol and drug problems and above all, their girls are documented in this tell-all book.

The story is told by the group themselves, and if you're

a fan of Mötley Crüe, music, or interesting stories of how people's lives can fall apart and somehow triumphantly come back together, this is a good book to check out.

This book follows the band on their journey through the rock 'n' roll world and life.

Known to some as the heaviest-drinking, hardest fighting, and most oversexed and egotistical band in the world, that is precisely the life of Mötley Crüe portrayed in the book.

"The Dirt" reveals behind the scenes experiences in the band's greatest successes and their darkest tragedies.

This book spares no expense in telling the stories of every member of the band. Vince Neil killed a man and lost a daughter to cancer. Tommy Lee married two international sex symbols. Nikki Sixx overdosed on heroin and was brought back to life, only to OD again the next day. Mick Mars shot a woman and tried to hang his own brother. The stories just get deeper as the book goes on.

"The Dirt" also contains documents never released before — now provided by the band. Tommy Lee's letters to Pamela Anderson from prison and Mick's confession to having an incurable disease that is slowly killing him. Also find photos, mug shots and copies of handwritten lyrics.



Photo Courtesy Amazon.com



# The Best of holiday films

By **TRACY WAWRZYNIAK**  
Staff Intern

They're perfect for cold winter nights and supplemental holiday cheer. Below is our list of favorite holiday flicks, be sure to catch them all.

## The Nightmare Before Christmas

Tim Burton's 1993 gothic look and semi-animated movie featuring Jack Skellington, the mayor of a Halloween Town where Halloween is year-round and scaring people is part of daily life.

Bored one day and wondering around, Jack stumbles into Christmas Town, where, you guessed it, it's Christmas all year round.

Jack, filled with Santa-envy, believes he could be a better Santa than Santa. The plan goes awry when the gifts and decorations he brings are frightening and grotesque.

The parents think Jack is a monster, and destroy his sleigh, complete with a Coffin-like sled, skeletal reindeer, decapitated heads for decor.

A Santa-napping attempt leaves Easter Bunny in a bad position. Jack, still depressed, realizes he is still ruler of Halloween Town.



## Scrooged

Bill Murray stars in this 1988 comedic rendition of the "Christmas Carol" as Frank Cross (aka Ebenezer Scrooge), a television executive who uses Christmas to boost ratings.

The unappreciative and career-driven Cross plans a live adaptation of Dickens' tale.

As Scrooge, Cross, with the help of some ghosts, realizes he must change and win back his true love and the family he alienated years ago. The ghosts, in a twist from the original story, are

portrayed by a Brooklyn cab driver, Death with a TV screen for a face, and Christmas Present portrayed by a hilarious Carol Kane.

Cross eventually reunites with his lost love and finds there are more important things than ratings. Don't forget Tiny Tim who, in this adaptation, is called Calvin Cooley who is mute in the film, but still delivers the famous line, "God Bless Us Everyone."



## National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation

The Griswolds are back with Chevy Chase and his family, this time taking on an "old-fashioned family Christmas."

Clark, filled with the holiday spirit, invites the whole family to his house for a "perfect" Christmas. Things go off the rails when Clark's family arrives along with some uninvited relatives. Throw in a cat, an over sized RV with an exploding toilet and a malfunctioning 25,000-light extravaganza and you have the makings of a less than jolly Christmas. But Clark shrugs it off in anticipation of the Christmas bonus that will pay for a family surprise.

When the bonus doesn't arrive, Clark's temper flares. When he receives a certificate for the jelly-of-the-month club instead of the anticipated bonus, Clark snaps, giving his cousin Eddie an idea for the perfect Christmas gift for Clark: his boss wrapped in a bow.

## Elf

Will Ferrell plays Buddy who accidentally crawled into Santa's bag as an infant. He is raised by the elves at the North Pole, ultimately discovering that, due to his unelf-like stature and toy-making skills, he is not an elf. Papa Elf tells Buddy about his father, a human. Buddy travels to New York City to find him. Though Buddy is overwhelmed by the Big Apple and his ineptitude being

human, he innocently tries to bring Christmas back into the lives of the city and his new family.

Finally doing something right, Buddy gets the whole city in the Christmas spirit just in time for Santa.

Throw in a wife and baby for Buddy and you have a Christmas miracle.

## Home Alone

The film that made Macaulay Culkin famous, is the story of a kid who is accidentally left home alone at Christmas. In his family's late wake up and subsequent rush to the airport to spend Christmas in Paris.

When Kevin finally awakens, he finds his family missing. He spends his time having fun, sledding indoors and eating whatever he wants.

His fun is short-lived, however, when two small-time crooks plot to rob the house. Kevin jumps into action to defend his home by setting booby traps for the bungling burglars.

Kevin's mother realizes their mistake and spends the majority of the film frantically trying to get home.



## A Christmas Story

Fuuudge! Break out the leg lamp and grab your official Daisy Red Ryder carbine-action, 200-shot, range model Air Rifle with a compass and sundial for this 1983 classic. Enjoy a heavy holiday dose of Ralphie, Randy and Flick as you head back to 1940 for Christmas dinner, if you can get the turkey away from the dogs, that is.

"You'll shoot your eye out" with this hilarious film. So put on your snowsuit — or pink bunny suit, if you prefer — and hide the soap. If you really love this movie you can also get on the memorabilia bandwagon and get your own leg lamp! But keep your tongue off the frozen poles, even if someone "triple dog dare you."

## The Santa Clause

Tim Allen tosses the tool belt aside and dons a red suit for the original "Clause," when he accidentally kills Santa and inherits his place on Christmas Eve. Scott Calvin, Allen's character, flies around town delivering toys to all the good little girls and boys until he is whisked away back to the North Pole and told by the elves he is now permanently Santa.

The contractually-bound Santa still isn't convinced.

The elves tell him he has until Thanksgiving to get his act straight in time for the next Christmas season.

It's all a dream for Calvin, until he changes: weight gain, a sudden sweet tooth and his massive unshavable long beard can't be explained away.

Throw in a confused ex-wife and her new husband and it's time to commit this Santa wannabe to an asylum. Of course, in the end, everyone is somehow convinced Santa Claus is real and the merriment begins.



## Bad Santa (Badder Santa)

If you're in the mood for a raunchy Christmas tale Billy Bob Thornton will please. In "Bad Santa," Thornton plays a drunk department store Santa who with the help of his partner, a little person posing as an elf, plan to rob a mall on Christmas eve. The safe-cracking Santa's plans are upended, however, when he meets a lonely, trusting boy who believes mall santa is the real Santa. As the two conmen case the mall, the little boy teaches Santa the true meaning of Christmas. Warning: the vulgarity in this movie may be too much for some sensitive ears. So if you feel more naughty than nice this movie is for you.



Because . . . say it again, now:  
*Drug War*, what is it good for?  
Absolutely nothing.



# Mr. Boogeyman, scare Mr. Bush

By ALEX CHERUP  
Mouthing Off Editor

Dear Mr. Boogeyman,

I have not written to you since the summer of '99 when I asked you for help on my sister's seventh birthday surprise party.

I was not expecting the worms — nice touch.

I think they amplified the scream.

Anyway, as a longtime fan, I must say I am moderately disappointed with your recent work.

Lately, I've expected to see you on an episode of VH1's "Where Are They Now?"

You once were the star, the big-cheese, the numero uno when it came to nonexistent fears.

You were metaphorically under beds and in closets from Boston to San Francisco.

Incidentally, I hear the closets in San Francisco aren't as cramped as they used to be.

Now, I don't hear about anything under anyone's bed; or in anyone's closet.

est. Where have you gone? Is this some sort of orientation issue?

You owned the franchise of fear, the market of malice, and the hotbed of horror.

When it came to nonexistent, fake fear, you had a monopoly.

Today, however, was the culmination of your failure.

If you don't follow the news (I assume you watch Ann Coulter), it was reported by the intelligence committee that Iran has not had a nuclear weapons program since the fall of 2003. Sixteen United States intelligence agencies have verified these reports.

Of course, in October, President Bush said that Iran could start World War III.

The government has historically made us live in fear of nonexistent enemies.

We even went to war over our fear of nonexistent things.

We were so afraid that we had to show our fear to the entire world.

We ignore the actual pieces of reality that *should* cause trepidation and fear, like rampant government control, the hell of war, growing poverty, and new albums from Fergie.

I blame you, Mr. Boogeyman.

Our President is like a seven-year-old kid, who should be afraid of you, Mr. Boogeyman.

But, due to your lack of effort and initiative, the President has found other fake things to be scared of.

He is obsessed with nonexistent fears, like the weapons of mass destruction.

Please, Mr. Boogeyman, for the love of God and anyone else Bush claims to talk to, please scare the President.

Hang out under the White House bed.

Chill in the White House closet (there is a vacant spot there ever since Karl Rove left).

Just do something to make his fear switch from fake weapons to fake monsters; zombies, vampires, swamp things, and Barbara Streisand.

Because if the President were to come onto national television and say "Ladies and Gentlemen of America, we must go after the Boogeyman. You are either with us, or the Boogeyman," we could finally and definitively claim him insane, once and for all.

I assure you, Boogs (if I may), the country would probably take you over

the current President.

So for your sake and mine, and all other real and fictitious characters, please scare the President.

Do it for your country.

Do it for Thomas Jefferson.

I actually wrote Thomas this morning, asking if his bones were hurting from all the scraping; that is, the scraping from all the turning in his grave he's been doing.

But Mr. Boogeyman, don't worry, I can't imagine it being all that hard.

Just offer a view that is not exactly like his, and BINGO, he's wetting his presidential pants.

Whatever the case may be, you need to pick up your game.

I hate to break it to you, Boogs but the government is beating you at your game.

The current government has become much scarier and creepier than you, Mr. Boogeyman.

After all, they're taking away our rights and hanging out voyeuristically in mens' rooms. Now that's creepy.

Regards,  
A Disappointed Fan

## Classifieds

### Employment

Spring Break 2008. Sell Trips, Earn Cash and Go Free. Call for group discounts. Best Prices Guaranteed! Best Parties! Jamaica, Cancun, Acapulco, Bahamas, S. Padre, Florida. Information/Reservations 1-800-648-4849 or www.ststravel.com.

CHILD CARE: After school child care needed for 2 children, M - Th, from 3:30pm - 6:30pm. Some driving required. Please call 248-363-4414.

BABYSITTER WANTED in my home in Shelby Township for fun 3-year-old girl. Mondays and Tuesdays from approximately 8 am till 7:30 pm. Call Jenn at 586 909-0744.

Babysitter needed for 3 kids ages 4, 6 and 8 in West Bloomfield. Contingent. Excellent pay. Evenings Preferred. Call Becky 248-459-9191

Hiring, no experience needed. \$10 per hour. Must speak English and another language. E-mail resume to heidi@primold.com or for more information call 248-841-4379.

### For Rent/Sale

Room for rent in Rochester—available now!! Private bedroom in a condominium shared with one other person. Peaceful natural wooded setting. 3.5 miles to OU. Parking. Laundry. Nonsmoker only. Price negotiable. Contact Josh: 248-346-6510 or rochester.michigan.rental@gmail.com

HOUSE FOR SALE OR RENT. 4 bedroom/2 full bath in West Bloomfield. New kitchen and bath with granite and oak. Brand new hardwood floors throughout house. New bathroom, kitchen and great room. Carport and garage. Almost 1400 square feet. Square lake and Middlebelt area. Call 734-395-5288.

Charming creek side 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo in Rochester Hills. Heat and water included. Furnished or unfurnished. \$1,000/month. Call Mark 248-760-5555

Auburn Hills, 1 bedroom condominium for rent/option to buy. 700 Sq. Ft. Completely Updated. Second Floor. \$550/month, includes water and car port. (248) 224-9097

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OAKLAND'S

Best OF

METRO  
DETROIT

2008

**The Best of Metro: A cure for apathy?**

When thinking about putting together any of our issues the staff at The Oakland Post wonder and consider how to get students involved. We considered this when putting together our first ever 'best of' ballot and love the response we are getting so far.

The idea of a best of issue has been a year in the making. The advertising and marketing departments, as well as staff, have joined forces to collaborate and promote this endeavor.

We chose to stick to the tri-county area because the majority of our students commute from there. There are plenty of businesses to choose from and we hope to help you discover new ones.

We hope this project will be a success and an annual tradition for the students as well as The Oakland Post. To make that happen, we need your help. Feedback and suggestions of our ballot are most welcome and can be directed to [oaklandpostadvertising@gmail.com](mailto:oaklandpostadvertising@gmail.com).

## Fill Out The Best of Metro Detroit and You Could Win Sweet Prizes!

Include your name, e-mail and phone number with your submission. Friday, January 18 is the last day to enter. Drop your ballot off at The Post (61 Oakland Center) or in the slots under the newsstands.

**Two \$25 gift cards to Barnes  
& Noble**

**Three \$10 gift cards to  
Caribou Coffee**

**Five Oakland Post T-shirts**

**Including an  
iPod Nano!**

**Questions, comments or concerns?**

Please direct them to The Oakland Post's Marketing or Advertising Staff.

[oaklandpostadvertising@gmail.com](mailto:oaklandpostadvertising@gmail.com)  
[oakpostmarketing@gmail.com](mailto:oakpostmarketing@gmail.com)

**Rules of Entry:**

Only Students of Oakland University are eligible to cast their votes on the 2008 'Best of' ballot. Oakland University alumni, staff, faculty as well as members of The Oakland Post are not eligible to cast their votes. Only one ballot entry per student will be accepted. Family members and significant others of The Oakland Post's staff are not eligible for prizes. A minimum of 15 items must be filled out for the ballot to be counted and to be eligible to win a prize. An Oakland University student ID must be presented by the winner at the time of pick up.



# OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S Best of

Think you know the best eats, hangouts and local hot spots in the tri-county area? Then fill in your faves for the area and drop your ballot off at The Post (61 Oakland Center) or in the slots under the newsstands.

< 2008  
BALLOT >

# METRO DETROIT

## < MUSIC & CULTURE >

Downtown Area: \_\_\_\_\_  
Place to Meet New People: \_\_\_\_\_  
Art Gallery: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bowling Alley: \_\_\_\_\_  
Salon: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tanning Salon: \_\_\_\_\_  
Spa: \_\_\_\_\_  
Manicure/Pedicure: \_\_\_\_\_  
Yoga Studio: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fitness Center: \_\_\_\_\_  
Concert Venue: \_\_\_\_\_  
Local Band: \_\_\_\_\_  
Record Store: \_\_\_\_\_

## < DINING >

Coney: \_\_\_\_\_  
Italian: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mexican: \_\_\_\_\_  
Greek: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chinese: \_\_\_\_\_  
Thai: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sushi: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deli: \_\_\_\_\_  
Burgers: \_\_\_\_\_  
Coffee Shop: \_\_\_\_\_  
Vegetarian Menu: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ice Cream: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pizza: \_\_\_\_\_  
Appetizers: \_\_\_\_\_  
Steakhouse: \_\_\_\_\_

## < MEDIA >

Source for Entertainment: \_\_\_\_\_  
Local Magazine / News: \_\_\_\_\_  
Morning Show: \_\_\_\_\_  
Radio Station: \_\_\_\_\_

## < ON CAMPUS >

Best place to eat: \_\_\_\_\_  
Best Bathroom, explain.  
Women's: \_\_\_\_\_  
Men's: \_\_\_\_\_  
Best place to take a nap: \_\_\_\_\_  
Best distraction: \_\_\_\_\_  
Vending Machine: \_\_\_\_\_  
On campus event: \_\_\_\_\_  
Best place to live  
Off-Campus: \_\_\_\_\_  
On-Campus: \_\_\_\_\_

## < SHOPPING >

Best Mall: \_\_\_\_\_  
Retail Store: \_\_\_\_\_  
Place to buy Jeans: \_\_\_\_\_  
Place to buy Shoes: \_\_\_\_\_  
Place to buy Accessories: \_\_\_\_\_  
Vintage Shop: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bang For Your Buck: \_\_\_\_\_  
Used Bookstore: \_\_\_\_\_  
Local music store: \_\_\_\_\_

## < BARS >

Sports Bar: \_\_\_\_\_  
Martini Bar: \_\_\_\_\_  
Micro Brewery: \_\_\_\_\_  
Hookah Bar: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bar with Live Music: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dive Bar: \_\_\_\_\_  
Best Happy Hour: \_\_\_\_\_

## < ATHLETICS >

Best Mascot: \_\_\_\_\_  
Metro Detroit Sports Team: \_\_\_\_\_  
Best Stadium: \_\_\_\_\_

ENTER FOR THE CHANCE TO  
WIN AN I-POD!

For a chance to win a sweet prize, fill in your basic contact info below. Ballots must be in by December 5, 2007.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell: [     ]





ANJA NIEDRINGHAUS/Associated Press

Released Palestinian prisoners wave from atop a bus as they arrive at Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas' headquarters in the West Bank after their release from an Israeli jail.

## Israel frees 429 Palestinian prisoners

By KARIN LAUB  
Associated Press Writer

RAMALLAH, West Bank — Israel released 429 Palestinian prisoners to try to bolster Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and build on momentum from last week's Mideast peace conference in Annapolis, Md., where Abbas and Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said they would aim to reach a peace deal in 2008.

Joy mixed with tears as buses carrying the prisoners, most from Abbas' Fatah movement, rolled into his walled headquarters in the West Bank city of Ramallah. Many had been arrested at the height of the Palestinian uprising several years ago, and were struggling with the transition to a new era of negotiations.

Ex-gunman Tareq Abu Lail, 24, said he hoped for peace, but doubted he would see success. Sentenced to eight years, he got out after three and said he was proud of his role in the uprising.

His father Yousef, 49, disagreed.

"The uprising is dead," he said. "We hope Annapolis will be the start of peace."

The release, the largest in three years, was meant to boost Abbas, who is trying to win over a public skeptical about his peace effort and beat back challenges by Hamas.

Since Hamas' violent takeover of Gaza in June, Abbas has moved systematically against the Islamic militants in the West Bank. His security forces have arrested hundreds of Hamas supporters, and he issued tougher anti-money laundering regulations to cut off Hamas funding from abroad.

As part of the renewed U.S.-led peace efforts, Abbas has been pushing for Israeli confidence-building measures, such as prisoner releases, that would boost support for his policies.

Israel is holding about 9,000 prisoners, and their release is a central Palestinian demand. About 770 have been freed since July, far short of Palestinian expectations.

## Reports say Iran not developing nukes

By WILLIAM J. KOLE  
Associated Press Writer

VIENNA, Austria — A new U.S. intelligence review that concludes Iran stopped developing a nuclear weapons program in 2003 is consistent with the U.N. atomic watchdog agency's own findings and "should help to defuse the current crisis," the organization's chief said Tuesday.

"Although Iran still needs to clarify some important aspects of its past and present nuclear activities, the agency has no concrete evidence of an ongoing nuclear weapons program or undeclared nuclear facilities in Iran," International Atomic Energy Agency director-general Mohamed ElBaradei said in a statement.

ElBaradei said he viewed "with great interest" Monday's release of a U.S. National Intelligence Estimate that said Tehran halted nuclear weapons develop-

ment in late 2003 under international pressure.

The chief U.S. envoy to the IAEA, Gregory L. Schulte, said the U.S. assessment contained "some positive news" and raised hopes of a peaceful and diplomatic end to the standoff.

"It does make us more hopeful that diplomacy can succeed, but for diplomacy to succeed, we still need to keep the pressure on while giving Iran a negotiated way out," Schulte told reporters in Vienna.

But "Iran's nuclear file is not closed," he said, adding that the U.S. report "shows we were right to be concerned."

The U.S. report noted that Iran continues to enrich uranium, and senior officials in Washington said that means it still may be able to develop a weapon between 2010 and 2015.

Monday's finding was a shift from two years ago, when U.S. intelligence agencies

said they believed Tehran was determined to develop a nuclear capability and was continuing its weapons development program. It suggests that Iran is susceptible to diplomatic pressure, the officials said.

ElBaradei, said the new assessment "should help to defuse the current crisis" over Iran's suspect nuclear program and growing fears that Washington may be gearing up for a possible conflict with the Islamic Republic.

"At the same time, it should prompt Iran to work actively with the IAEA to clarify specific aspects of its past and present nuclear program," he said. "This would allow the agency to provide the required assurances regarding the nature of the program."

In his statement, ElBaradei called on Iran to "accelerate" its cooperation with the IAEA and for all parties "to enter without delay into negotiations."

## Festival takes flight



MARIO ARMAS/Associated Press

Hot air balloons rise above the Papalote dam during the International Hot Air Balloon Festival in Leon, Mexico, Sunday, Dec. 2, 2007. First held in 2002 with just 27 balloons, the festival has grown rapidly, this year involving more than 90 balloons and over 150,000 spectators. Other attractions include a parachute display, zoo, rodeo competition and fireworks display.

## Nation | World News Briefs

12-01 | Four men are charged with unpremeditated murder in killing Washington Red Skins' safety Sean Taylor.

12-02 | Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez narrowly loses a constitutional referendum that would have allowed him to remain in power for life and drive changes throughout Venezuelan society.

Russian President Vladimir Putin's United Russia party wins 62.8% of the votes in Russia's parliamentary elections.  
12-04 | A storm that battered the Pacific Northwest for two days moves on Tuesday, leaving behind flooded homes, fallen trees and washed-out roads. The storm, which killed at least five people, lashed the area with high winds and heavy rain. Tens of thousands of people were without power.

## Teacher pardoned in Islam insult case involving teddy bear

By ROB HARRIS  
Associated a Writer

LIVERPOOL, England — A British teacher returned to her northern English hometown Tuesday after being pardoned in Sudan for insulting Islam by allowing her students to name a teddy bear Muhammad.

Gillian Gibbons took refuge from the media in a hotel, issuing a plea for privacy — and time to consider interview requests.

Police sealed off the street in front of her son's Liverpool home as more than 40 reporters waited outside.

After traveling through the night from Sudan, Gibbons told reporters at London's Heathrow Airport that she was stunned by

the swift turn of events and her eight days in jail.

"I'm just an ordinary middle-aged primary school teacher. I went out there to have an adventure, and got a bit more than I bargained for," she said.

At her son's home, British Muslims delivered a message of support and brought a bouquet with the message: "Welcome back, Gillian."

Gibbons' supporters have said the case started when a school secretary with a grudge, Sarah Khawad, complained to the Ministry of Education that Gibbons had insulted Islam's Prophet Muhammad. Gibbons' lawyer, Kamal al-Gizouli, and school officials said Khawad was acting out of revenge after she had an argument with

the school's principal, though they could not say the cause of the argument.

No parents ever complained, school director Robert Boulos said.

However, the case escalated as Muslim clerics in Sudan sought to drum up public outrage, calling the naming of the teddy bear part of a Western plot to insult the prophet and demanding Gibbons be punished. She could have been punished with up to 40 lashes, six months in prison and a fine.

Gibbons, 54, was freed Monday after two Muslim members of Britain's House of Lords met with Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir. The teacher sent the president a statement saying she did not mean any offense.