

# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

January 6, 2010

Volume 36, Number 18



## YOU

Odd Jobs Series:  
Professor goes  
fishing at bio  
preserve.

page 11



## LOCAL

No smoking.  
Michigan OKs  
ban in bars and  
restaurants.

page 17



## SPORTS

Basketball twin wins.  
Men in first place;  
women with three-  
game streak.

pages 19-20



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# THIS WEEK

January 6-12, 2010

## Perspectives

**4** Editorial: What defines us as students? Is it a formal admission or is it BEING a student?

**5** Column: Learning to put away the planner, and plan to be surprised.

## Campus

**6-7** Cover Story: Micah Fialka-Feldman moves into the dorms after a long court battle with OU.



**8** Safety first! What OUPD offers and how to utilize them. Plus, judge these books by their covers and more.

**9** Police Files: Suicide attempt, B&E.

**10** Welcome Week kicks off the winter semester with free campus events.

## You

**11** OU biology professor conducts award-winning ecological research.

**14** Sophomore's band performs in shows sponsored by local radio station.

## Mix

**12** 2010 is going to need a soundtrack: What you're listening to and a couple suggestions.

**13** Get fit? Get rich? Nope, this year students share their out-of-the-ordinary resolutions.

## Scene

**15** Music genres collide at the DIA with free Friday night events.

**16** A house that's been copyrighted is a canvas for one Detroit artist.



## Local

**17** Bar and restaurants go smoke free in Michigan come May.

**18** Local news briefs.

## Sports

**19** Women's basketball team wins its third straight game.

**20** Game of the week: Men's basketball team victorious over IUPUI.



**21** Column: What we learned about the Detroit Lions in 2009. Plus, Coming Attractions.

**22** The Sporting Blitz.

## Nation|World

**23** Airline and White House security; a double agent and a natural disaster.

## Mouthing Off

**24** Our Mouthing Off editor is lazy. Can you do any better than he can?

## MICAH MOVES IN

Watch an exclusive video of Micah moving into his dorm, only on [oaklandpostonline.com](http://oaklandpostonline.com)

Cover photos and illustration by JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

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# Perspectives

4

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January 6, 2010

## STAFF EDITORIAL

### Case closed, student moves in

What does it mean to be a student at Oakland University?

As it is becoming evident in the case of Micah Fialka-Feldman — OU's own nationally-known poster boy for equality — it's a lot more technical than one would imagine.

Fialka-Feldman recently won his long, drawn-out court battle against OU in his plea to live on campus (see cover story on page 6). He finally won that battle last month after a judge said that OU discriminated against him solely because of his disability.

OU did not make a fuss when Fialka-Feldman moved into Vandenberg Hall Monday, surrounded by his friends, his supporters and the media. However, OU is planning on appealing the court decision, saying that he was not discriminated against because of his disability.

The argument goes like this: Fialka-Feldman, despite his enrollment in an official OU program, is not a student because he is not seeking a degree and never went through the formal admissions process.

Does OU's position hold water?

Of course he didn't go through the normal admissions process. He was admitted into a program that was created partly because the normal admissions process is extremely difficult for those with cognitive disabilities to com-

plete. The program, OPTIONS, caters to those students who want a higher education but cannot complete the requirements for a degree.

Fialka-Feldman is one of the first two students to be graduating from this program in May 2010. The program only serves eight students, and isn't accepting any more.

It is a shame, because the program enables equal opportunity for learning without compromising the requirements for an OU degree.

Equal opportunity is the essence of equality. Anything greater than opportunity may shift the weight on the scales. It is a delicate balancing act and there is seldom a clear choice on how to ensure fairness. Perhaps the choice should be to consider compassion and reason and each circumstance.

Fialka-Feldman used to have to take two buses to campus, and that took him about two hours each way.

The university has a reasonable fear of opening up floodgates for more "non students" to live on campus, when housing is already overcrowded. The OPTIONS program is small in number. But the fundamental question seems to be, should those enrolled in this program be acknowledged as students?

Let's consider: They pay for their program just the same as "normal stu-

dents" pay for their tuition, they buy their books, they make sacrifices to be here, and they are involved on campus.

Arguably, Fialka-Feldman is more involved on campus than most students. The fear of setting a bad precedent is unfounded, if we consider the above.

Yes, there needs to be criteria for living in campus residencies. Dorms and student apartments shouldn't be shared with TGIFriday's employees who aren't students, faculty members, or people who want an apartment close to the freeway. That would unreasonably take away from what student housing is.

But do we need to have a requirement that somebody must be seeking a degree when there are programs in place for people who cannot reasonably achieve that? Is that fair?

Does housing go through their records and ask for something back if a student who lived on campus doesn't eventually complete their degree? It's discrimination when requirements inherently exclude non traditional students — whether that is by age, disability, personal goals, or simply chance.

Aren't we all seeking a degree of self-improvement at OU? Using a definition or stringent requirements for what a student is to exclude those who are different doesn't make OU a better university. Frankly, it just looks bad.

**What do you think?**  
Send your comments to The Oakland Post or stop in the office, 61 Oakland Center or by any of the methods below.

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



# Planning on letting go of planning in the new year



**Katie Wolf**  
managing editor

There are a certain type of people who live life with a laissez-faire attitude. These are the kind of people who don't like (or need) to make plans. They're able to live on a day-to-day basis, without worrying what comes next.

When asked how they want to spend their vacations, they say "Let's play it by

ear." Next Saturday's dinner date? They don't stress about reservations; if the restaurant is crowded, there's always another one. These people let the wind carry them where it may.

I'm not one of those people.

I am, self-admittedly, a compulsive planner. Almost to the point of obnoxious, or maybe definitely obnoxious if you talk to my friends and family.

There's an old adage that sums up the philosophy of how I live my life: "If you fail to plan you plan to fail." I can't remember a day in my life that I didn't try to plan or schedule.

Embarrassing fact: I even schedule my "relaxation" time. I plan on arriving anywhere I need to go 15-20 minutes early just in case something comes up. I plan for the expected, the unexpected and everything in

between. I've been planning my future — a career in journalism — since I was in the fourth grade.

Most of my plans change on a regular basis, but as long as they're set, I can sleep at night.

I don't know why I am this way, or why I get so frustrated with those laissez-faire people around me who simply refuse to help ease my anxiety and just set a gosh darn plan.

I do know I can't possibly be the only person in the world who is obsessed with knowing what I'm going to be doing every day for the rest of my life.

It's 2010 and with the new year I decided to start making more plans. I'm not a resolution kind of person, but I was prepared to bust out my calendar and start penning important dates.

In the midst of my planning, and looking at the extremely hectic schedule I have in my last semester at Oakland University, and the world I have to dive into after graduation, I started to realize something: My planning ways are going to drive me insane.

As stressed as I get if there isn't a plan, sometimes it's the planning itself that makes me nauseous. And after taking stock of my life, I also realized that some of the best things that have happened to me have come from snap decisions, things that involved zero planning, or sometimes drastic changes to the original plans.

When I applied to The Oakland Post, I planned to be a reporter. Then someone suggested I also apply for managing editor. I laughed, because I knew what a huge difference in job descriptions there were between the two positions. I had heard of the level of stress that

came with being an editor, and it wasn't something I was sure I could handle. But I applied anyway, and I landed the job. A semester in, I can say it's the best job I've ever had, and I've found my calling in journalism.

The day I turned 21, I ran into two male friends from high school who I hadn't seen since graduation. Instead of just saying hello like I normally would have, I invited them to celebrate with me and my female friends (a night that was planned to be "ladies only"). Over the next year and a half, one of the men has become my closest friend, with whom I share holidays and vacations. The other man connected with one of the women that night, and they were married last Friday. My anti-planning worked for a lot of people that time.

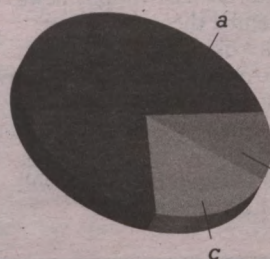
I planned on remaining romantically unattached for my last semester at school, so I could focus on classes and The Post. Well, after spending Christmas with a new boyfriend and both of our families, I guess the single plan is what's getting carried away with the wind. And I couldn't be happier.

A friend and fellow editor also planned to stay single like I had, and she's currently in a wonderful relationship (which stemmed from the Mouthing Off column they wrote last September). Maybe there's something in the water here, or maybe it really is true that good things happen when you least expect them.

My new "plan" from now on is to stop stressing about my plans. I have tangible proof that my world will not collapse around me if I don't know exactly what I'll be doing tomorrow at 3 p.m. I can still plan the big stuff, sure, but if those plans change? I'll be OK.

## poll of the week

**last issue's results** Total Votes: 17 | Poll conducted at oaklandpostonline.com



**What do you think of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force's new recommendations that mammograms should start at the age of 50 instead of 40, and that breast self-examinations have no benefit?**

- a) It's infuriating, especially because cancer can be detected between the ages of 40 and 50. 12 votes | 71%
- b) It will save a lot of health care costs and time. 2 votes | 12%
- c) It's not something I need to worry about right now, so I don't care. 3 votes | 17%
- d) Other. 0 votes | 0%

### current poll

Vote now @ oaklandpostonline.com

**At what moment did you feel like you were considered a student at Oakland University?**



- a) When I got my letter of acceptance.
- b) The first day of class.
- c) When I paid my first tuition bill.
- d) When I took my first college exam.

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## Courtroom to dorm room

By MASUDUR RAHMAN  
Staff Reporter

On Monday, a day before winter semester started, many students moved into Oakland University campus housing.

Micah Fialka-Feldman, 25, was one of them, but his situation was different from the other students.

Whereas others simply had to fill out an application and pay to be able to move into the dorms or student apartments, Fialka-Feldman also had to plead to the university administration and board of trustees and finally sue the university before he was allowed to live on campus.

"I thought it was going to be so easy," he said after he moved in on Monday. "I didn't know it was going to take two years."

### Why he wasn't allowed

The administration tried to block Fialka-Feldman from living on campus because he is not a typical student. In fact, the university doesn't even consider him a student.

He was not admitted through the normal enrollment program and is not a fully-matriculated student; he said he cannot pass OU's acceptance criteria due to a mild cognitive disability that makes it hard for him to do certain things. He said he did not submit an enrollment application because he did not think he would be admitted.

Instead, he is a participant in the Oakland University Post-Secondary Transitions program, or OPTIONS.

The three-year program admits a maximum of 10 eligible high-school gradu-

ates to audit classes at OU. Participants of the program pay a fee equal to tuition, but do not receive a grade point and can not earn a degree.

Fialka-Feldman was one of the four charter participants in the program in fall 2007 and is one of the first two participants who are scheduled to complete the program and earn a certificate this semester.

That fall, he applied for housing for winter 2008. He was at first admitted to live on campus, but then the administration denied him, saying that he was not eligible because housing is reserved for only degree-seeking students and he was not in a degree-seeking program.

He has been trying to change the rule since then, and was denied by the administration and the board of trustees repeatedly.

In November 2008, Fialka-Feldman sued the OU administration, including President Gary Russi and Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Mary Beth Snyder, OU board of trustees, and the then-housing director Lionel Maten, and the litigation has been ongoing since.

In November 2009, Fialka-Feldman sought a summary judgement and also filed a permanent injunction to be allowed to live in a dorm this semester, and a hearing was held on Dec. 17.

On Dec. 23, 2009, U.S. District Court Judge Patrick Duggan dismissed the claim that OU was providing disparate treatment, but ruled that OU must provide campus housing for Fialka-Feldman for this semester.

Fialka-Feldman's victory is still not complete, because the university administration is planning to appeal the decision and continue to not allow other



JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

Fialka-Feldman moves into his dorm with help from his parents Janice Fialka and Richard Feldman.

participants of OPTIONS or similar programs live on campus.

OU spokesperson Ted Montgomery said that OU "will not seek a stay of the permanent injunction that permits Mr. (Fialka-Feldman) to live in the University's on-campus housing during the upcoming semester."

Fialka-Feldman said although he got part of what he wanted, it's not enough.

"I feel happy, excited ... but I wanted it for other students too," he said. "I think they're afraid of a flow of students coming after me. But there's only eight students."

### Move-in day

Friends and family members helped Fialka-Feldman move his belongings into a double-sized dorm room in the fourth floor of East Vandenberg Hall on Monday afternoon as various news media documented the process.

He said he's looking forward to not having to take a two-hour bus ride to and from his Huntington Woods home every day as well as going to OU home basketball games and the Recreation Center more. He said living in the dorms will also increase his social life.

## Micah Fialka-Feldman's Journey to Campus Living

2007

### FALL 2007

- OPTIONS program begins, with Fialka-Feldman as one of the first batch of participants
- Fialka-Feldman applies for winter 2008 housing
- Fialka-Feldman's campus residence application initially approved
- Fialka-Feldman is told he can't live on campus

2008

**APRIL 2008** - Fialka-Feldman meets with Snyder, Maten, to try to change housing eligibility policy

**MAY 2008** - Fialka-Feldman is told the policy will not be changed

**SUMMER 2008** - Fialka-Feldman waits until fall for campaigning because campus will be more active then

**SEPTEMBER 17, 2008** - Fialka-Feldman ad-

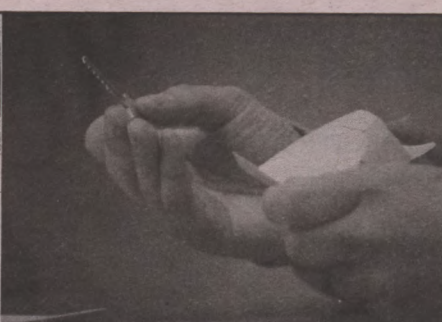
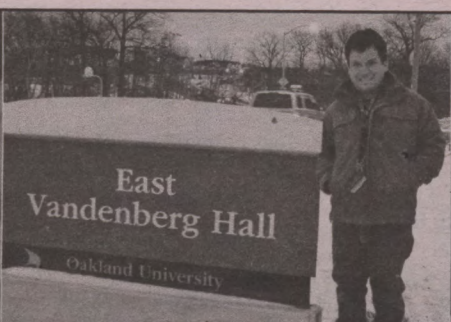
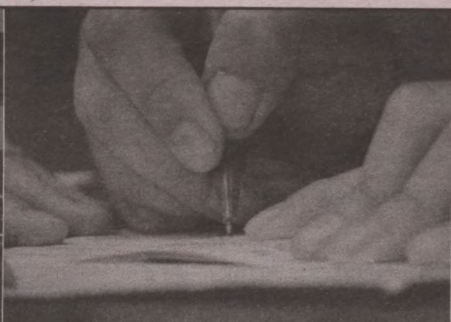
dressed BOT for the first time; BOT asks OU to review its policy

**SEPTEMBER 24, 2008** - Fialka-Feldman told policy will not be changed

**SEPTEMBER 2008** - OUSC unofficially extends support, with various members collecting signatures for a petition in his support

**NOVEMBER 5** - Fialka-Feldman and many supporters - family, students, faculty,





"I think it will help me be independent," he said.

Snyder said in an interview with The Oakland Post in fall 2008 that the OPTIONS students' "presence in a group living environment imposes added oversight and responsibility on the staff, most of whom are students themselves." But this reason was not cited in OU's legal defense.

Fialka-Feldman said that despite his mental impairment, he doesn't need any special care or attention in the dorms, nor is any being provided to him by OU's housing.

He doesn't have a roommate, and his roommate is the resident assistant of the floor.

Fialka-Feldman's lengthy battle took some toll, although he usually appears cheerful.

"I wasn't sad, but frustrated and mad," he said.

Throughout the process, he received help from his family, OU friends and some OU faculty, and garnered over a thousand student signatures in his support, and was supported by OU Student Congress members, including two sets of student body presidents and vice presidents. He cited these supports in his appeals to the board of trustees in many board meetings, but the board did not discuss the matter publicly and the administration repeatedly turned him down.

Janice Fialka, his mother, said she was humbled by how many students supported her son, and how this tribulation strengthened his sense of advocacy.

"He knew what his dream was and he followed it," she said.

"When we see Micah in pain, or struggling, or upset, as a mother, you ache for your child," she said. "At times we

felt frustrated, in particular how much money has been spent to keep Micah out of the dorms."

How much this case is costing OU in legal fees is not known by The Post at the current time.

## More press for OU

Fialka-Feldman's case is similar to the faculty strike in September in the aspect that it brought OU to the national forefront, and not necessarily in a positive light.

His case has been covered by local news media such as the Oakland Press and Channel 2, as well as national news media such as NPR and CNN.

There has already been one documentary film made about him titled "Through the Same Doors," and another is being filmed currently.

He has also given speeches in disability conferences all over the United States, and said he spoke at one as recently as this November.

His classes at OU help in these speeches, as they are concentrated on political science and public speaking. After he leaves OU, he wants to get a job as a disability activist.

In these conferences, he talks about his experiences in grade school, and his positive experiences at OU through the OPTIONS program, as well as his struggle to live on campus.

The OPTIONS program may soon end, because the program is not accepting any more participants.

It is unclear whether this is related to Fialka-Feldman's case.

Robert Wiggins, associate dean of SEHS and founder of OPTIONS, said last semester that the program will continue as planned for the remaining eight

students in the program, but resources were beginning to be stretched too thin.

He said the departure of student consultant Lea VanAmberg, who left her part-time position in OPTIONS to take a full-time job elsewhere, played a role in the decision.

"We did not admit any new students this year because we are not sure we can handle that many students," Wiggins said. "Until we can determine what we will be doing in terms of how we will replace Lea or how well we can handle the students in the program, we simply can not admit any new members."

There is a program similar to OPTIONS in Edgewood College in Wisconsin, called Cutting Edge, which also allows cognitively-impaired students to audit classes. However, unlike OU, Edgewood allows its Cutting Edge students to live on campus with help from staff and other students.

Chris Davis from Michigan Protection and Advocacy Services, who has been Fialka-Feldman's lawyer since fall 2008, said that if OU had chosen to put campus residence as part of the OPTIONS program, it would have been eligible for more federal funds.

## Is he a student?

The OU administration said that Fialka-Feldman is not a student, and current rules don't require OU to provide him or similar students with campus residence. OU disagrees with the judge's decision because he provided Fialka-Feldman with "preference beyond that required by the law," Montgomery said.

"Micah is a student, and has a right to live on campus," Davis said.

Some supporters, like student body president Kristin Dayag, agree with

Davis. Other supporters, like OU 2009 graduate Andrew Bashi have said in the past that Fialka-Feldman may not fit the current definition of a student and current rules may not allow him to live on campus, but progress must be made and OU should broaden its definition of a student and change its rules.

Matthew Kamara, a sophomore biology major, is one of Fialka-Feldman's next-door neighbors.

He said before they were neighbors, he knew about Fialka-Feldman through reading the Oakland Post.

"I didn't understand why he couldn't live on campus," Kamara said.

Montgomery said this case is about the university's right to determine the nature and content of its academic and other programs and to establish the requirements to participate in those programs.

"The purpose of university housing on most college campuses is to provide degree-seeking students with the opportunity to live alongside other students who share similar academic interests and goals in a setting with programs and services that help them complete their degrees," he said. "The judge acknowledged in his ruling that Micah has never been admitted to the university nor is he seeking a degree of any kind."

Dayag said letting Fialka-Feldman live on campus is the right thing for OU to do and didn't agree with OU's decision to appeal the ruling.

"It's wrong because Micah did not do this selfishly," she said. "He did it for all the students after him — that's what the fight was for."

The appeal has not been filed as of Tuesday evening, and Montgomery said it is unlikely that the appeal will be heard before the end of the semester.

## Fall 2007 to Winter 2010

activists, friends, including OU student body president and vice president — address BOT again, speaking in support of changing the policy; BOT does not discuss the topic

**NOVEMBER 2008** — Fialka-Feldman files lawsuit to change policy

**DECEMBER 2008** — Fialka-Feldman files preliminary injunction to allow Fialka-Feldman to live on campus while the other case goes on

2009

**FEBRUARY 2009** — judge denies preliminary injunction, other case goes on

**NOVEMBER 2009** — Fialka-Feldman seeks summary judgment, and files permanent injunction to live on campus in winter 2010

**DECEMBER 17, 2009** — hearing is held in front of US District Court Judge Patrick Duggan

**DECEMBER 23, 2009** — judge grants permanent injunction, ordering to provide Fialka-

Feldman with campus residence for winter 2010

**DECEMBER 2009** — OU announces it will not try to remove Fialka-Feldman from his dorm, but will appeal part of the decision to try to make sure OU will not be required to provide housing to future students like Fialka-Feldman

**JANUARY 4, 2010** — Fialka-Feldman moves into his dorm room

2010



# OUPD strives to create a safe campus community

By JENNIFER WOOD  
Senior Reporter

On a campus of over 18,000 students, it can be hard to imagine ensuring safety to every individual.

Over the past decade, threats at universities have made headlines, and while Oakland University has been fortunate to keep most dangers at bay, it does not come without great effort and personal responsibility.

OUPD Lieutenant Mel Gilroy believes that concentrating on preclusion is key to keeping it that way.

"We're always focusing on prevention and deterrence," said Gilroy. "... We're never going to tell you that nothing can happen to you, but we can demonstrate this is a safe community."

According to the Oakland University Police Department's website, Oakland has one of the lowest crime rates in Oakland County.

Many students agree that Oakland's campus is safe and at most times feel secure when attending classes.

"I do feel safe on campus, but it's mostly because I'm not here during the night," said freshman Nasihah Barlaskar. "All of my classes are in the daytime, and Auburn Hills is in general a safe city."

In 2008, OU became one of 13 universities nationwide to receive a federal grant called the Emergency Management for Higher Education, which was established to fund development and implementation of new programs for preventing and combating on-campus violence and other disasters.

Although guaranteed safety is unattainable, there are still numerous resources available for students to better protect themselves and their property while on campus.

## Text Message Alert System

Introduced in the fall of 2008, the text message alert system allows students and faculty to register their phone number with OUPD to receive alerts about on-campus emergencies.

"The text message system is designed to quickly alert community members who are not sitting in front of a computer or desk phone," said Oakland University Police Chief Samuel Lucido in a press release in August 2008, when the system was first implemented.

Sophomore Angelica Barich-Kwolek remembers the

text messaging system being very convenient during prior emergency incidents.

"It was nice to be aware of what was going on instead of being clueless like most students. I was able to continue my normal routine because I had confidence it was being dealt with ... it's very helpful, so I really like it," said Barich-Kwolek.

Senior Jim Sardelli II agreed.

"When there was a threat last year and everyone in the room got them (the text messages), we told the teacher even before she knew," said Sardelli II.

To register, students should visit the Emergency Notification website at <https://www2.oakland.edu/secure/grizzid/oualert/>.

## Reverse Text Messaging System

In addition to students being able to receive text alerts from OUPD it is now possible for them to send them as well.

By texting 911@oakland.edu, students can send a text to OUPD dispatch if they are involved in, or are witnessing something that they are unable to or uncomfortable with discussing over the phone.

## Emergency Loudspeaker System

Said to be the "latest in OU's arsenal of mass communication to the community," by OUPD Captain Mark Gordon, the Emergency Outdoor Loudspeaker system allows OUPD to activate one or many of the loudspeakers on the blue light emergency phones to alert the campus community.

"We can give out emergency information, guidance, or instructions, what we want people to do during the emergency, where we want them to go, or where we want them to avoid," said Gordon.

## Rape Aggression Defense Classes

Offered at OU since December 1998, RAD classes have now succeeded in teaching self-defense to roughly 2,000 women. The key to these classes, "simply put: empowerment," said OUPD Sergeant Terry Ross. "RAD offers a toolbox of options for women to use should they find themselves in an abductive or assault situation."

A combination of lecture and simulation, RAD is an international organization and the only course of its type endorsed by the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators.

Basic RAD openings are available for January and February. Students can register or get more information at <http://www.police.oakland.edu/rad>.

"Women leave the class with a new sense of awareness and confidence about their personal safety. We have heard from numerous past students' success stories," said Ross.

## OUPD Escort Service

For students who stay late on campus, OUPD offers an escort service where an OUPD cadet or officer supervises a student walking to their car, dorm or apartment when they may feel less than comfortable.

"It comes back to crime prevention and deterrence," said Gilroy. "You're vulnerable when you are isolated and alone. We have always talked about safety in numbers."

Students can call OUPD at 248-370-3331 and request an escort any time during fall and winter semesters.

## Blue Light Phones

Prevalent around campus, OUPD's blue light emergency phones first began to be installed in October 1994.

With a total of 13 phones now installed across campus, OUPD can field a call from a phone, gather information and respond to an emergency in as little as 90 seconds.

Placed in both high-traffic and dimly lit areas of campus the phones are easily accessible to students.

"The blue light poles are efficiently placed close by everywhere on campus," said freshman Roberto Morales, who said he generally feels safe on campus.

In addition to the outlined programs, OUPD encourages students to report anything suspicious.

"Everyone has instincts to know what 'normal' looks like ... we rely on the community to let us know what sticks out to them," said Gordon.

For more tips on how to stay safe on campus, please visit <http://www.police.oakland.edu/safety>.

# New exhibit unveiled at OU art gallery features artists' books

By MIKE SANDULA  
Senior Reporter

Ledger paper hand cut with a single-edged razor blade, brick-shaped books compiled of magnetically bound pages and a checkbook with all of the pages painted over.

These are just some of the works in the Oakland University Art Gallery's new exhibit, "The Art of the Artist's Book."

Director Dick Goody said artists' books have become prevalent only recently, but have been around since the 19th century when William Blake, the English poet, bound his books together.

"The artist's book has really come of age in the last 20 years," Goody said.

The OUAG exhibit is a survey of more than 20 artists.

"We wanted to include as many book forms as possible," Goody said.

The works are meant for "one pair of eyes at a time," but Goody said there's something for everyone.

Most of the installations, such as the figure 8 of shoes by Canadian artist IAIN BAXTER&, are one of a kind. Each shoe in this work is stuffed with a book.

Others, like "Root Words: An Alphabetic Exploration" by Lynne Avadenka and Mohamed Zakariya, are mass-produced. Using seven similar Hebrew and Arabic words, it tries to find a link between Judaism and Islam.

"The idea was to look for commonalities of language, not divisive elements," Avadenka said. The Huntington Woods artist is showing three other works.

Some of the works are interactive. One

installation includes a bookshelf that holds hundreds of drawings by Dennis Michael Jones, an artist from Plymouth complete with a chair and coffee maker.

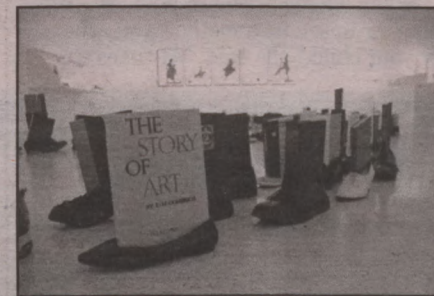
"I wanted to create an environment that would be conducive to someone sitting down and reading," Jones said.

There's also a collaborative work called "Let's talk about love baby" by Chido Johnson. The work is made up of 40 books by as many artists, each a pastiche of romance novels.

"Art tends to be serious, but some of it is quite accessible," Goody said.

On Feb. 14, Skype will be projected on the wall and the artists involved in Johnson's project will be on to discuss their work.

The opening reception is Friday, Jan. 8 from 5 to 8 p.m. The exhibit will run



JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

An installation created by IAIN BAXTER&.

from then until April 4. There will also be a panel discussion, but there is no set date as of yet.

"If you're interested in books and you're interested in art, or if you're just interested in one of those things, this exhibition will speak to you," Goody said.



# POLICE FILES

**Suicide attempt:** On Dec. 5 around 6:56 p.m., two officers were dispatched to the University Student Apartments. The officers were advised that a student's suitemate found a note from the other saying they were planning to kill themselves. The student informed their suitemate that she would kill herself in an auto accident. Officers arrived at the scene and found her car, unoccupied. When officers talked to the student, they were informed that she was suffering relationship problems with her fiancé. She informed officers that she did not want to hurt herself but was scared. The night before, her suitemate witnessed the student locking herself in the bathroom with a knife. On Dec. 5, the suitemate noticed a bathtub full of water and an extension cord with an iron attached to it. She also found a shrine of the student's boyfriend. The student was then taken by ambulance to Common Grounds Hospital in Pontiac. Housing was notified soon after.

**Gun threat:** On Dec. 7 an officer was dispatched to the lobby of the Oakland University Police department for a threats complaint. A student was working at the mail desk at Vandenberg Hall on Nov. 23 when a man approached the student and was acting "odd." He talked about going into a dance class across the hall and scaring the students with a gun. He then changed tone and talked about tying the students' shoelaces together. According to the student, the man didn't have a hostile tone, but the student was concerned.

**Potential break-in:** On Dec. 10 an officer was dispatched to 329 Varner Hall for a possible breaking and entering. The occupant did not notice damage to his office door until he tried opening it. There was damage to the door, lock and the latch plate in the door frame.

Nothing was taken and there only appeared to be damage to the door. Fingerprints were not able to be taken. Work control was contacted about the door.

**Domestic Disturbance:** A student and her boyfriend got into an argument on campus Dec. 11. The boyfriend would not give a bag of food back to the student. The student ran after her boyfriend to get the bag but he grabbed her by the arms and threw her on the floor of Vanwagoner House. She ran back to her room, locked the door and wouldn't open it, while he continued to pound on the door. She yelled to the Residence Advisor to call the police. After the police came, the student discovered her boyfriend stole her phone.

**Unknown Warrant:** On Dec. 8, an officer observed a car making a left turn on campus without stopping. When the officer pulled the person over, they noticed he had a warrant out. Novi Police Department was willing to pick the man up. The officer then checked the man for weapons and handcuffed him. He was transported to the OUPD station where he was fingerprinted and photographed. The man could not provide the money for bond and Novi PD was notified to pick him up.

**Smoke Inhalation:** On Dec. 21, two officers were dispatched to Graham Health Center for a medical call. A woman suffered from smoke inhalation from the fire earlier at Hill House. The woman was having pains in her throat and lost her voice. She was transported to Crittenton for a proper evaluation.

— Compiled by assistant campus editor Gabi Jaye from OUPD's media logs

Check out our web site for web exclusives like Russi Watch as well as previous coverage of Micah Fialka-Feldman.

Interested in writing or working for The Oakland Post? Have a news tip? Contact editors on [oaklandpostonline.com](http://oaklandpostonline.com)



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

### WILSON AWARDS

Nominees for the 2010 Alfred G. and Matilda R. Wilson Awards must be graduating seniors in winter 2010 or have graduated in summer or fall 2009. 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.



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 (248) 370-3352 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

**DEADLINE FOR BOTH AWARDS IS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2010**

### HUMAN RELATIONS AWARD

Nominees must be graduating in winter 2010 or have graduated in summer or fall 2009. 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.





# Annual events kicked up another notch

By GABI JAYE  
Assistant Campus Editor

Jan. 5 marked the jump-start of a new semester and a week filled with events at Oakland University. Much like fall of 2009, the winter semester offered current and new students the chance to become better acquainted with the university through Welcome Week.

Tuesday began with events at the Oakland Center that gave students the chance to get to know their men's and women's basketball teams. At noon players from both teams lined up along a table and signed autographs for two hours.

"It's always cool to see our fans up close," said senior forward Hanna Reising.

Not only were there autographs to give out, but the Grizz Gang provided food, giveaways and games for the students who were there.

"OU Spirit Day" was organized by Grizz Gang president Anthony Lewis and advisor Kate Burke. Grizz Gang is responsible for organizing athletic events, making posters and doing anything that would promote OU athletics.

The main intention of Welcome Week is to educate students about athletic events on campus which are free to anyone registered for classes at OU.

"Sometimes it's hard to decide what students will respond to," said Burke. "But we like to educate students about the opportunities on campus."

Along with the two-hour event, another part of

Welcome Week was taking place just one floor below. Located in the Bumpers Game Room, gamers had the opportunity to play free games. Free games will be offered on Friday as well.

## Wednesday

In the spirit of the winter season, the Pioneer Food Court will host the XXI Olympic Winter Games "sneak" preview, "Cool Runnings" starring John Candy at 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The movie will then be repeated at the Vandenberg Dining Center at 5 p.m.

## Thursday

The Center for Student Activities will present "Get Involved Day" for students, both old and new. The event will feature a Student Greek and Organizations Fair which will allow students to explore different groups in which they may want to participate.

The fair will take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday in the Fireside Lounge and the main hallway of the Oakland Center.

## Friday

Starting at 7 p.m., Residence Hall Programming will host Friday Night Live featuring comedian Johnny Cardinale. Students can see Cardinale in the Banquet Rooms of the Oakland Center.

Following the comedian, nationally-acclaimed hypnotist Tom DeLuca will be performing "The Hippest

Hypnosis Show" at 9 p.m. Shortly after, "The Electric Glow Dance Party" will begin at 11 p.m. and wrap up around 2 a.m. in the Gold Rooms.

Saturday, Welcome Week goes out on a high note. From 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., students can come to the Oakland Center to enjoy many free events. At the beginning of the night, students can partake in the OC Mini-Club located in the Gold Rooms. Participants can dance to music, do karaoke or share talents during open mike.

If students like a movie-watching scene, three movies will be shown at 9 p.m., throughout the Oakland Center, "The Hangover," "The Ugly Truth" and "Paranormal Activity. In addition to the movies, dance lessons will be given at the same time.

## Saturday

Unlike previous Welcome Weeks, Saturday will offer an event unlike any other: Speed Dating-OU Style.

This event-filled Saturday was made possible because the OU basketball teams do not have a double-header as they normally would this weekend.

Students can gather at the Pioneer Food Court at 9:45 p.m. to meet other OU students. There will also be a psychic that will do activities like palm reading and tarot cards.

"We want to enforce the fact that all of the activities we have are free to the students" said CSA Director Jean Ann Miller. "We also would like to show students that there are things to do at Oakland on the weekends."

csa@oakland.edu  
248-370-2400  
Center for Student Activities

# CSA

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

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

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AT OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

Welcome Week  
January 5-9th

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**Got an event?**

Submit it to the CSA Events Calendar @  
[www.oakland.edu/csa/events](http://www.oakland.edu/csa/events)

## Campus Briefs

### InterVarsity group makes plans for new semester

By GABI JAYE  
Assistant Campus Editor

On Jan. 4 the Oakland University InterVarsity Christian Fellowship congregated at Five Points Community Church hosting an event to welcome old members back; The InterVarsity CoffeeHouse. OUIV discussed the club's plans for the new decade and semester.

At 7 p.m. members went to the church to enjoy an evening of preparation and refreshments. Current members and friends were encouraged to bring food to share.

Although the meeting gave the group a chance to reconnect after a long holiday break, the ultimate intention was to discuss upcoming events during the winter semester.

### Coaches to grill at Mongo's

By DAN FENNER  
Sports Editor

The fourth annual Coaches vs. Cancer event will take place next Wednesday, Jan. 13 at BD's Mongolian Barbeque in Auburn Hills. The fund-raising effort will feature several of Oakland University's basketball coaches, including Greg Kampe and Beckie Francis, working as guest grillers, preparing the food for customers.

All tips will go toward Coaches vs. Cancer, a program founded by the National Association of Basketball Coaches and the American Cancer Society, which works to promote cancer awareness, prevention and healthy living.

If you're interested in attending, the Athletics department is encouraging people to register for the event by calling Kate Boylan at 248-370-3161.



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January 6, 2010

www.oaklandpostonline.com

11

## Odd Jobs of OU

# Delving into river research

By RYAN HEGEDUS  
Staff Reporter

Professors regularly work in lecture halls, laboratories, and offices.

But for Dr. Scott Tiegs, a biology professor at Oakland University, the places where he conducts his research are a little more out of the ordinary.

Although he's traveled across the globe for his research, Tiegs makes good use of a closer research location too.

The 110-acre biological preserve located on the southern end of OU's campus has proven invaluable to his research efforts, giving him a diverse and complex ecosystem with which to study.

"It's just wonderful to have that resource so close by that we can just walk or bike there, especially for our labs," said Tiegs. "We were electrofishing in my ecology class and there was a young woman that was trembling — those fish were the first living creatures she had ever held in her hands. It was almost like a religious experience for her, and I love that the Preserve is so close that we can do stuff like that."

After graduating from the University of Colorado at Boulder with his B.A. in environmental biology, Tiegs attended the University of Oregon where he got his B.S. in geography, with honors.

While those credentials alone are impressive, Tiegs wasn't done with his schooling. He then did his thesis and dissertation work at universities in San Diego, Switzerland, and Indiana.

"It definitely gave me a greater appreciation of the diversity of ecosystems in these places that I wouldn't have had otherwise," said Tiegs of his state- and world-wide educational background. "It helped that scientists at those schools had overlapping interests of mine. Where the locations were became sort of an afterthought — my advisor once joked that I specialize in the 'ecology of pretty places' and that's true to some degree."

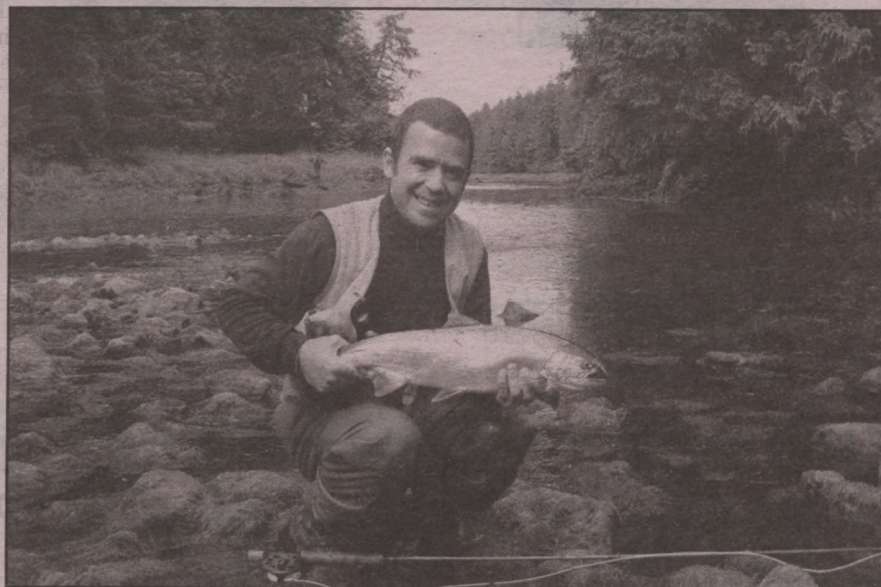


Photo Courtesy of Scott Tiegs  
Professor Tiegs from the biology department at OU conducted ecological research on Prince of Wales Island in Southeast Alaska. Tiegs has also worked in San Diego, Indiana, and Switzerland.

Tiegs has also been able to do his research with scientists from across the world, which has allowed him to gain perspectives that he normally wouldn't have gotten.

"You can only do so much on your own and having colleagues to share your opinions with is really how you learn," Tiegs said. "When you do field work in unpleasant conditions for weeks, you get to be pretty good friends with someone and you learn even more."

All of his research may not have even begun had it not been for a professor he had as a student at Colorado.

The professor saw potential in Tiegs, and encouraged him to do an independent field research project in Mexico.

After receiving the necessary funding, he was off to the intertidal zone in the Sea of Cortez. He said his career choice was easy after this experience.

Being able to do work that he enjoyed

in places that most people consider vacation locales was just one advantage of Tiegs's research. His love for ecology, as well as the positive results of doing the research, made him strive even harder.

It is this hard-working and dedicated attitude that accelerated Tiegs's career in the field of ecology.

Over the past two years, he has been a keynote speaker at 10 different conferences across the state of Michigan, as well as Alaska, Washington and New York.

The conferences have ranged from reviews of local rivers and their quality levels to discussions about geography.

Tiegs has also showcased numerous research-intensive presentations that dealt with topics like how nutrient levels in southeast Alaskan rivers are affected by the spawning of salmon, organic matter decomposition in rivers and streams, and species of earthworms and their

impact on the stream ecosystem.

His efforts have not gone unnoticed. Tiegs has received numerous awards, honors, and grants, with some of the grants ranging from \$500 to \$19,200. There is one in particular, however, that stood out for him.

"I won an award as a graduate student for giving a good presentation at a conference, and that one was good for me because I really didn't like to talk in front of people," Tiegs said. "I had always gotten nervous in front of people, and that award reassured me that I could do this type of work. It meant a lot to me."

Tiegs has not been the only person involved in his research to receive praise. In 2009, three of the students he advised earned research awards from OU for their involvement.

One of the award-winning graduate students, Holly Greiner, said she knows the reason why Tiegs has been able to have continued success in his field, as well as such an effect on his students.

"I think the reason he has been successful thus far is because he is extremely proactive," Grenier said. "While others want good fortune to just 'happen to them,' Scott makes the appropriate steps to ensure success. I would say the most important thing I've learned from Scott is that you really have to work for what you want, and if you really enjoy it, it doesn't seem like such hard work after all."

With rivers and streams being a main source of fresh water and biodiversity for the surrounding ecosystem, Tiegs sees more than just an opportunity for scientific research in the water.

"Rivers and streams do things for us 24/7, 365 (days a year) — they purify water, get rid of contaminants, fundamental things like that," said Tiegs. "We also try to raise awareness of issues like conservation and sustainability to protect these resources."



# What's your soundtrack to 2010?



**"Local bands such as Strollercoaster and Hornet Gun. They're OU bands."**

Shaun Moore  
Senior, English



**"I plan on listening to Gucci Mane and Lady Gaga."**

Benjamin Lemon  
Sophomore, women and gender studies



**"I will be listening to Tech N9ne this year."**

Billy Jacobs  
Senior, biochemistry



**"I'll be listening to Scissors for Lefty. They're a friend's band in CA."**

Sophia Leskie  
Senior, marketing



## Music recommendations for 2010: New sounds for a new decade



Album art courtesy of Amazon.com

### Thao with the Get Down Stay Down:

Thao Nguyen started playing music in her mother's laundromat years ago.

Fast forward some years and the San Francisco based singer/guitarist is playing big shows with backing band "The Get Down Stay Down," managed under the Kill Rock Stars label.

The band, which considers their genre "alternative folk," has a mid-90s feel with blues and Motown influence, rooted in independent DIY ethics.

Despite all their critical hype and flowering success, Thao and Co. are most comfortable playing live, entertaining friendly drunks and making bad jokes.

[thaomusic.com](http://thaomusic.com)

—Alexis Tomrell

### The Smith Westerns:

This Chicago-based band's members are all under the age of 21. And it shows. In a good way.

They are a straight out garage-rock bar band, even if no member is legal to drink. The Western's sound amplifies psychedelic and punk influences at their riotous shows.

Recently, they've become close friends of Detroit, playing multiple shows in the area with bands like NOBUNNY and Jay Reatard.

Their songs are catchy odes to girls and aggravation; lo-fi love letters about being young in the heart of the city.

[myspace.com/smithwesterns](http://myspace.com/smithwesterns)

—Alexis Tomrell



# Getting creative with resolutions: Unique plans for 2010



**"I'd like to visit a continent that I've never been to before."**

**Liliana Barska**  
Senior, linguistics



**"I want to help a child in need and become a ladies man."**

**Niklas Rippon**  
Sophomore, secondary education and history



**"To become the world champion in powerlifting."**

**Jon Smith**  
Junior, history



**"I want to get an A in math because I hate the subject."**

**Kelly Shaw**  
Junior, psychology

—compiled by Brad Slazinski

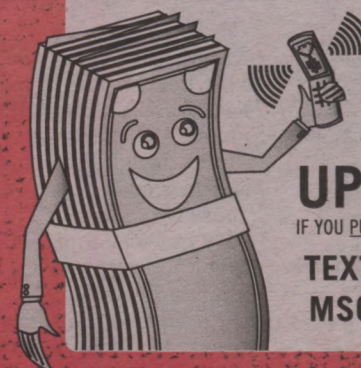
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MONICA DRAKE/The Oakland Post

Breach performs at the Presents for Pints event at the Sherwood Brewery sponsored by WCSX 94.7. The Sherwood Brewery chose the band out of several local bands to perform at the charity event. From left to right, Mike Parit plays bass, Dominic Tironi plays drums, and Mike McDonnell, an OU sophomore, plays guitar.

# Breach plays Presents for Pints

By MONICA DRAKE  
Contributing Reporter

When Jimi Hendrix was 15 years old, he received his first acoustic guitar, developing a love of music that would last the rest of his life.

Hendrix is one of Mike McDonnell's musical influences, along with the Beatles.

McDonnell, a sophomore psychology major at Oakland University, has something else in common with Hendrix besides his love for music.

Like Hendrix, McDonnell also started playing the guitar at age 15.

"I had just moved to a new neighborhood," he said. "I didn't have any friends, so I rented a guitar and the rest is history."

McDonnell is the guitarist in the band Breach. Breach's other members are Mike Parit and Dominic Tironi. The band formed in 2007.

McDonnell met Tironi in middle school but the pair didn't develop a friendship until high school.

"I haven't played with a better drummer since," McDonnell said.

At the time, Parit was in a band with Tironi, which was in the midst of breaking up. Parit and Tironi weren't ready to give up music, though, so they joined with McDonnell to create Breach.

"We were all just in the right place at the right time I guess," McDonnell said. "I had a lot of people telling me what a great singer and bass player Mike (Parit) was. Once I heard it for myself, I knew it would be perfect if he joined the band too."

McDonnell said that Parit came up with the name Breach. When they were trying to come up with names, Parit mentioned he was born breech — with his bottom out first.

"I thought that it would be funny if we named the band after doing things 'ass first,'" McDonnell said. "But, I wanted to spell it with an 'ea' like the Beatles."

Breach plays original songs as well as



MONICA DRAKE/The Oakland Post

Mike McDonnell plays with his band, Breach, at the Sherwood Brewery, sponsored by WCSX 94.7.

cover songs by bands and singers such as the Beatles, Led Zeppelin, CCR, Pink Floyd, Dave Matthews Band, Pearl Jam, Sublime and, of course, Jimi Hendrix.

Even though McDonnell plays in a band, he said he doesn't consider himself a musician.

"It's just something I do because I love doing it," McDonnell said.

In late November, Breach played at the Presents for Pints event at Sherwood Brewery in Shelby Township. The event was sponsored by Detroit's Classic Rock Station, WCSX 94.7 and hosted by personality Dave Doran.

Breach's first performance was

the brewery, Breach was the only band they considered to play at the event.

"(Radio personality) Doug Podell had been scouting out local places that keep good music and traditions alive, and he found Sherwood," McDonnell said. "WCSX originally insisted another band play for the event, but I was very flattered when Ray and Lisa Sherwood said they wouldn't do it unless Breach played."

The Presents for Pints event raised money for underprivileged children. Anyone who brought a bus pass, duffel bag, gift card, new clothes, paper towels, toilet paper or bottled water received a free pint of beer.

McDonnell said his favorite part about playing for the event was seeing all of the people who came out to support charity and their band.

"If the crowd is having a great time, I'm having an even better time," he said. "Music is a strong form of communication, and it's surprising how much you can relate and interact with somebody when you're on the same musical wavelength."

McDonnell's goals for Breach are to finish a full album and to go on tour.

In addition to Breach, McDonnell also plays with the band Asphalt Barnyard, a Lake Orion based band. He was invited to play with this band by his uncle, Gregory Poche, who works at OU.

McDonnell said the biggest difference between his two bands is the age difference.

"The Asphalt guys are bit older, so it's kind of an older crowd," McDonnell said. "But they are both great bands. We help each other a lot."

Breach will perform at the Sherwood Brewery on Jan. 9. McDonnell also hosts open mic night at the Sherwood every Thursday at 8 p.m.

To get information about Breach's upcoming performances and listen to their music, visit the band's page at [facebook.com/breachrock](http://facebook.com/breachrock) or [myspace.com/breachtunes](http://myspace.com/breachtunes).

in November 2007 at the Sherwood Brewery, which has been named best brewery in Detroit for the last three years by the Detroit Free Press. Breach performs at the Sherwood about once every other month.

Owners Ray and Lisa Sherwood discovered Breach by searching for Michigan bands on MySpace. They sent the band a message asking them to perform.

"I don't think we ever heard about each other," McDonnell said. "But they were very friendly, and we needed a place to play."

When Ray and Lisa were notified that WCSX wanted to host a radio show from



# The Scene

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www.oaklandpostonline.com

15

## Art and music collide at the DIA

### *Detroit singer Monica Blaire performs at Friday Night Live*

By ALEXIS TOMRELL  
Scene/Mix Editor

Monica Blaire's proud passion for her city is contagious. Detroit, to her, is a crossroads of collaboration and talent, a fusion of genres that has led her to a unique point in music.

This Friday, Jan. 8, the soul songstress will perform at the Detroit Institute of Arts' free "Friday Night Live" event in the museum's film theatre.

As part of new programming at the DIA, the museum opens late on Friday nights from 6-10 p.m. for a variety of free interactive art activities and musical performances.

This will be Blaire's second appearance at Friday Night Live, as she returns for the next installment of "Bridging the Gap: Adventures in Sound Vol. 2."

The concept centers on a collection of Detroit artists that collaborate with the DIA to bring the audience a full-on participatory experience that combines art and music.

"Friday Night Live bridges the gap between generations and mediums," Blaire said.

Patrons will get the chance to talk with musicians before and after the show. Before the show starts at 7 p.m., the DIA offers drop-in art workshops and guided tours of the museum.

This week's event features drawing in the galleries for adults and children, as well as "Bookarts: The Altered Book," a class for recreating small books into artworks.

Interactions like these break the veil that is traditionally held between performers and the audience.

"When we blur the line, true art is created," Blaire said.

A quick phone conversation with Blaire is enough to get anyone excited about the state of Detroit music. Her positive energy when talking about her music and the talented history surrounding the city is part of her "Detroit crusader" cause.

She compares her Detroit heritage to wearing a "badge of honor." Despite negative national attention the city is often dealt, Blaire's music is a testament to its thriving creative originality.

Her own musical style is eclectic, a blend of old and new school, taking cues from a variety of influences from funk

to hip hop and blending them with new sounds.

Her voice is a presence — powerful and emotional — a vocal tour loaded with artistic maturity.

"My music is honesty and truth wrapped in pop, soul, R&B, funk and hip hop," Blaire said.

Blaire grew up immersed in these musical influences.

Her father was involved in Motown and her mother also introduced her to world music, particularly African sounds.

Blaire identifies her greatest mentor as her godmother, Ortheia Barnes, the international recording artist who is also playing during this week's Friday Night Live.

This history inspires Blaire to continue making music in the Detroit area.

Her and various local artists are entering into a new phase of ingenuity with events like Friday Night Live providing the stage.

"Shows like this give Detroit an opportunity to be excited about what we produced and what we have to offer," she said.

2010 will reveal more of Blaire's virtuoso as she works on her new album and continues to work on her "Back to the Future" music project released on her website.

She is also collaborating with Detroit rapper Invincible and will continue to travel and tour the country.

After Friday's show at the DIA, she recommends heading over to friend and hip hop artist Marv Won's release show at The Shelter in St. Andrew's Hall.

It's this Detroit bond that Blaire radiates. Her talents are not self-serving but part of a greater project to encourage others to revel in Detroit music.

This week's Friday Night Live will also feature Jon Bibbs, Marv Won, Ro Spit and Ortheia Barnes.

The DIA is located at 5200 Woodward Ave. For more information about the event check out [DIA.org](http://DIA.org) or [Monicablaire.com](http://Monicablaire.com).

Other artists playing Friday Night Live this month:

FLY, a jazz pop trio, Jan. 15.

Pianist Phyllis Chen and cellist Johannes Moser, Jan. 22.

American indie, Carpe Diem string quartet featuring Peter Soave, Jan. 29.



Photo courtesy of Monica Blaire  
Monica Blaire is a Detroit singer, songwriter, MC and independent artist who fuses musical genres.



# Artist uses home as canvas

By ALEXIS TOMRELL  
Scene/Mix Editor

Before holiday break, The Oakland Post published a piece on Detroit's Heidelberg Project. The project has taken over a street in Detroit and filled it with art — the once deteriorating street is now decorated with murals, found art pieces and various installations that convey messages about the struggles of urban communities.

In the middle of Heidelberg Street sits a vibrant orange house adorned with iron works and painted text. This is the house of Tim Burke, 49, a veteran Detroit artist. Although his house is not directly affiliated with the Heidelberg Project, he has been a longtime supporter of founder Tyree Guyton's cause.

Burke has turned his house into a massive art installation, a constant work in progress. In an interesting twist, his house is even copyrighted.

Since then, Burke has added his own artistic vision to the house. Its entrance is guarded by "iron creatures," looming human-like sculptures. His idea for the creatures was born out of a recurring nightmare he used to have as a child.

"The iron man is an archetype image, just like the Tin Man in the 'Wizard of Oz,'" Burke said.

Burke grew up in a violent alcoholic home and much of his art speaks as protest against these abuses.

The second central work of his house is a piece titled "Weapons of Mass Destruction." It is a metaphorical piece littered with alcohol bottles and a giant ad of Bombay Sapphire. He believes alcohol is used as a weapon of mass destruction. The work calls attention to the fact that alcohol is one of the nation's biggest killers.

"The bottles used are all found right here in my neighborhood, there is a liquor store on every corner," Burke said.

Burke believes that the state and manufacturer should be held responsible for selling alcohol and sued in the same way tobacco companies were sued in the 90s.

Burke started making art in 1986, around the start of the Heidelberg Project. Later he met Guyton and began putting up his iron creatures on the street in 1993.



Photo courtesy of Tim Burke

Detroit artist Tim Burke reuses and recycles thrown-out and found material for his art projects.

Around this time, Burke's success as an artist grew. His work was shown with international artists at the Biegas Gallery in 1992. He also had his art work for sale at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

"I made tables and chairs constructed from their renovation granite," he said.

This summer, he created four pieces, one which was donated to the Midwest Aids Coalition auction. It was a 10-foot tall wooden sculpture of a cat titled "Crack me up Kitty Cat."

To see more photos of Tim Burke's art, go to [detroitindustrialgallery.com](http://detroitindustrialgallery.com) or visit his home on Heidelberg Street.

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## New law snuffs out smoking

By MIKE SANDULA  
Senior Reporter

Starting May 1, Michigan residents will be barred from smoking in most public establishments, as House Bill No. 4377 goes into effect that day.

James McCurtis Jr., public information officer for the Michigan Department of Community Health, said they've been pushing for a public smoking ban for more than 10 years.

"It started out as an idea that this is good to keep people healthy in Michigan and it just evolved from there," McCurtis said.

The bill, also known as the Ron M. Davis Law in honor of the late chief medical officer of the MDCH, passed both the Michigan House and Senate on Dec. 10. Governor Jennifer Granholm signed the bill into law eight days later, making Michigan the 38th state to prohibit smoking in public establishments.

Exempt from the ban are: vehicles and home offices; the gaming floors of the three Detroit casinos; existing cigar bars that have a humidor and make at least 10 percent of their total revenue from cigar sales; and tobacco shops that make 75 percent of their sales from tobacco products and don't serve food and drinks.

Michigan's 20 Native American casinos are also exempt because state law does not cover them.

All places subject to the ban are required to post "no smoking" signs or the international "no smoking" symbol in a visible place. Individuals and business owners who violate the law will be subject to penalties of \$100 for the first offense and \$500 for subsequent offenses.

"This is for the greater good of all citizens of Michigan," McCurtis said.



Photo Courtesy of [www.flickr.com/people/rbrwr](http://www.flickr.com/people/rbrwr)  
Since House Bill No. 4377 was passed, smokers will no longer be able to light up in public places including restaurants and bars.

According to MDCH, second-hand smoke is the third leading cause of preventable deaths in Michigan, responsible for approximately 2,500 deaths a year.

"The law might make people quit or, at a minimum, smoke less," said Judy Stewart, Campaign for Smokefree Air campaign manager and government relations director at the American Cancer Society.

"I think it's going to be good for the state," said Alexis Zuccaro, a general manager at Gus O'Connor's Public House in downtown Rochester.

She said it will require "an adjustment period," but she doesn't foresee it having a negative impact on the restaurant's business.

"There will be some disappointed guests, of course,

but I think we're going to gain some people as well," Zuccaro said.

At Oakland University, smoking is prohibited in any public area of the buildings, but is allowed in designated areas and outdoors, 25 feet away from buildings.

"Personally, I think our country has done a complete 180," said Brian Clarkston, a junior math major, citing that tobacco was an integral crop during the founding of America. He said the ban isn't likely to make him quit.

Braley Bullard, a sophomore studying journalism and photography, used to live in Chicago and London, which both ban smoking in public. She said she enjoyed living in both places because she doesn't like for her clothes to smell like smoke.

But standing outside in 25-degree weather, Bullard said smoking bans haven't made her quit so far. "You get to be more social hanging out with all the smokers in the freezing cold."

"To me it seems like drinking, a lot of the time, goes hand in hand with smoking for a lot of people," said Jillian Albert, an undecided freshman who smokes. But she added that it might be good for smokers who are trying to quit.

Loren Bailey, a freshman majoring in sociology and anthropology, said it depends. She said it's going to be hard for bars because "it's what you do in there," but as a non-smoker, she likes the idea of not having to put up with the smell.

In 2004, Ireland became the first European country to impose a public smoking ban, and as an Irish pub, Zuccaro said Gus O'Connor's is trying to look at it in a positive light.

"If the Irish can do it, we can do it," Zuccaro said.

## Detroit council keeps promise of professionalism

By COREY WILLIAMS  
Associated Press Writer

DETROIT — The Detroit City Council, which has been criticized for bickering and scrutinized by federal authorities investigating city contracts, delivered on a promise of more professionalism in its first meeting of 2010.

But campaign promises by many on the nine-member board to end public infighting were tested early Tuesday when the four returning members and four of the five new members split over a pension board appointment.

New President Pro Tem Gary Brown's nomination to a police and fire employees retirement board was defeated 5-4. Four of the five new council members, including Brown, voted for his appointment.

Second-term Councilwoman Brenda Jones was then nominated for the retire-

ment board. Her appointment passed unanimously.

"Brenda Jones lobbied hard for it, and the process worked. I'm disappointed I didn't get the selection. I'm sure she'll do a great job," said Brown, a former Detroit deputy police chief.

Brown was fired by ex-Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick and was part of a successful \$8.4 million whistle-blowers' lawsuit against the city.

Kilpatrick was charged with perjury in March 2008 after sexually explicit text messages between the married mayor and his ex-chief of staff contradicted testimony each gave during the 2007 whistle-blowers' trial. They lied on the stand about their roles in Brown's firing and having a romantic relationship.

Detroit voters had already become disillusioned with the city's leaders when Kilpatrick resigned in September 2008 as

part of plea deals in two criminal cases.

Then last summer, volatile Council President Pro Tem Monica Conyers stepped down after pleading to federal conspiracy charges for selling her "yes" vote on a \$47 million sludge hauling contract.

Conyers, is scheduled to be sentenced in March.

Two incumbents finished out of the top nine in the city's Nov. 3 general election. Two others did not seek re-election.

Former WJBK-TV anchor and reporter Charles Pugh received the most votes in his first run for public office, elevating him to council president. Brown, another newcomer, had the second highest total followed by former president Ken Cockrel Jr.

"When we talk about unity, it's going to be very rare that we get nine-nothing votes," Pugh said of Jones' selection to

the pension board. "Don't look at how the sausage is made, just eat it. I just want to make it very clear that we are a body of nine and we are going to take every issue by issue."

The council agreed to discuss later a planned 10-percent salary decrease to cut into Detroit's \$300 million budget deficit. Jones wanted to allow the five new council members a chance to discuss the issue.

The salary reduction will take effect Jan. 18 unless the board rejects it. A voluntary 10-percent cut taken by the previous city council expired Dec. 31.

The new council likely will continue the pay cut, Cockrel said.

Mayor Dave Bing cut the pay of his office staff, appointees and nonunion workers by 10 percent in September. Some city unions have agreed to similar cuts.



# Local news briefs: tolls increase, auto sales

## Romantics to play Detroit auto show charity event

DETROIT — The Romantics will perform next week at the North American International Auto Show's black-tie charity preview event in their hometown of Detroit. The annual gala will be held Jan. 15 at Cobo Center downtown. Proceeds from the preview support Detroit-area children's charities. Tickets are \$250 each. Members of the public can attend the auto show from Jan. 16-24. The Romantics gained fame in the 1980s with such hits as "What I Like About You" and "Talkin' in Your Sleep." Guitarist/vocalist Wally Palmar said in a statement Tuesday that the pop group is "proud to take part in this charitable event." Past performers at the charity preview include the Barenaked Ladies and Celine Dion.

## Tolls increase on US side of Blue Water Bridge

PORT HURON — The Michigan Department of Transportation is increasing tolls on the U.S. side of the Blue Water Bridge. The rate for passenger vehicles doubled to \$3. The rate for commercial vehicles is \$2.50 per axle, up from \$1.75, with a further increase to \$3.25 per axle scheduled for April 1. Bridge manager Michael Szuch said it's the first U.S. toll increase since 1997 and will bring tolls in line with those charged on the Canadian side. The new tolls are expected to increase revenue by about \$8 million to \$10 million a year and will help pay for maintenance. The bridge is about 55 miles northeast of Detroit and connects Port Huron, Mich., and Sarnia, Ontario, over the St. Clair River.

## Detective's trail camera captures theft

HOMER TOWNSHIP — A Michigan State Police detective who has used motion-detecting cameras to get images of a bear and an eight-point buck has recorded a pair of thieves in action near his hunting spot. Detective Sgt. Andrew Longuski said that he checked a camouflage digital trail camera Dec. 24 and found the image of two men stealing from his tree stand in Homer Township. The photo from the camera shows one of the men carrying a set of steps from the stand. Longuski said he usually leaves his business card attached to his hunting gear to deter potential thieves. He said he had set up the camera to photograph deer. Longuski is seeking tips on the theft. Anyone with information should call the Michigan State Police in Bay City at 989-684-2235.

## Chrysler, Ford report double-digit drops for 2009

DETROIT — Chrysler said 2009 was its worst sales year in 47 years, while Ford saw sales drop 45 percent. Sales for the auto industry are expected to be at their lowest level in nearly 30 years. Still, there were signs of progress. Ford ended the year with December sales up 33 percent. The company said it gained U.S. market share for the year for the first time since 1995. Chrysler sold just over 931,000 cars and trucks last year. Sales for the company last dropped below 1 million in 1962. Chrysler said its sales fell 36 percent compared with 2008 as the company received government aid and worked through bankruptcy protection.

Source: The Associated Press

## Oakland University Career Services

# 2010 Career Events

Oakland University  
Career Services

## January

- 12 Open House | 11am-1pm  
Preside Lounge, OC
- 21 Hospice Presentation | NOON-1pm  
Rooms 125-130, OC
- 27 Winter Career Fair | Noon-3pm  
Banquet Rooms, OC
- 27 Peace Corps Presentation | 5-7pm  
Gold Room A, OC

## February

- 2 Internship Co-op Panel | NOON-1pm  
Gold Rooms B & C, OC
- 5 Mock Interviews | 9am-4pm  
275 W. Vandenberg, OC
- 9 Social Networking | 5-6pm  
Student Technology Center, OC
- 15 Etiquette Dinner | 5-7pm  
Banquet Rooms, OC

## March

- 2 CIA Presentation | 5-7pm  
Gold Rooms A&B
- 4 Careers in IT | 5-6pm  
Gold Rooms B & C, OC
- 9 & 10 Graduation Fair | 10am-6pm  
Bookstore, OC
- 10 University Collaboration Education Fair  
1-5pm | UoM First
- 16 Student-to-Alumni Power Networking Dinner  
6-8pm | Banquet Room B, OC
- 16 The Hidden Job Market | NOON-1pm  
Gold Rooms A&B, OC
- 18 Disney Presentation | NOON-1pm and 5-6pm  
Gold Room A, OC
- 23 Careers in Government | NOON-1pm  
Preside Lounge, OC
- 25 Careers in Government | NOON-1pm  
Preside Lounge, OC

## April

- 7 Health Sciences Fair | NOON-3pm  
Banquet Rooms, OC
- 29 Education Career Day | 10am-1pm  
Banquet Rooms, OC



## Defense dominant in win

By ZACH HALLMAN  
Staff Reporter

The Oakland University women's basketball team continued its improved play and won for the third straight game, 64-44 Monday against the Western Illinois Leathernecks.

The Grizzlies dominated on the defensive end, holding the Leathernecks to 25 percent shooting from the field and forcing 18 turnovers in the game. Head coach Beckie Francis said she thought the improved play of the defense and the recent improvement in the win column is no coincidence.

"I think our defense is improving and I think that's why we are winning. I still think our defense can get better and smarter; I was a little upset with the fouls we were committing," Francis said. "Maybe I am being picky, but I was just unhappy that they got to the line 17 times."

Oakland held just a two-point lead with 12 minutes remaining in the first half when the Grizzlies began to pull away. On five consecutive trips up the floor, Oakland either caused a WIU turnover or forced the Leathernecks to shoot a long-distance 3-pointer to beat the shot clock.

The Grizzlies capitalized on their series of defensive stops, going on an 11-0 run over the next five minutes.

Leading the scoring run was sophomore guard Sharise Calhoun, who went 4 for 4 from the field in the first half and finished the game with eight points and two steals.

"I always have pride in my defense, but also I just try to be that spark plug and getting everybody into it," Calhoun said. "Everybody played great defense today; I always take pride in (my defense), but it's way better when the whole team gets stops."

The Grizzlies were especially stingy in the second half as Western Illinois was only able to convert four field goals and shot just 16 percent from the floor. According to Calhoun, this is welcome news and shows an improvement over previous games.

"Our second halves have been a little slower of a start for us defensively (this season)," Calhoun said. "That's what our focus has been all week in practice — getting stops and really focusing on team defense."

Senior forward Melissa Jeltima extended her streak of scoring in double figures to 29 games by putting 22 points to lead all scorers. Jeltima scored the first 10 of Oakland's points on the night.

"I did not really think about being aggressive, I just saw an open lane and I took it," Jeltima said. "I think they fouled me three times in the beginning of the game, so I just started out the game on the line."

She also knocked down a career high three 3-pointers.

"I am just really relaxed out there and my teammates are setting good screens for me and getting me the ball when I am open," Jeltima said.

Overall, it was a balanced scoring attack by the Black and Gold, with all 12 players seeing minutes and 10 of them scoring.

Forwards Hanna Reising and Bethany Watterworth each scored eight points.

Francis said she was very pleased to see so many players involved in the scoring and credited her team's motion offense for helping to get so many open chances to shoot.

"We had 21 assists on 23 of our baskets because our players are unselfish and they don't care who takes the shot," Francis said. "In fact, I thought that the last couple of minutes we were too unselfish."

Oakland will take its three-game winning streak on the road this week with a pair of games against Summit League foes, facing Centenary College on Saturday and Oral Roberts on Monday.

Six of the team's next eight games are away from the friendly confines of the O'Rena. While confident in her team, Francis said she knows that the rest of this month will surely be a rough test.

"I feel really good, we are healthy and we're fresh," Francis said. "It was really nice having this break, but now (the players) are going to be starting classes and we are heading to the road. I've got a lot of new players on this team and they don't know what it's like to travel on the road into this conference and it's tough."



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post  
Melissa Jeltima (pictured top left) leads the team in nearly every individual statistical category this season, including points per game, rebounding, steals, blocks and assists.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post  
With Monday's win, Oakland improved its all-time record against Western Illinois to 16-7.



Visit [www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)  
for continued coverage and game  
stories from throughout the week.



## GOLDEN GRIZZLIES

of the

## WEEK

# Grizzlies win a late-game thriller

By DAN FENNER  
Sports Editor

The Golden Grizzlies men's basketball team defeated the IUPUI Jaguars in thrilling fashion, 85-82, Saturday night at the O'Rena in a matchup of the last two undefeated teams in Summit League play.

Trailing by nine points with just 1:45 to play in the game, the Jaguars fought back and cut their deficit to just two points with under a minute to play. But Oakland was able to hold on for the victory thanks to a couple of key defensive stops and three of four converted free throws by Derick Nelson in the closing seconds.

"Hell of a basketball game," head coach Greg Kampe said. "I'm sure it was great for the fans, not so much for the coaches. I am very pleased; the game was high scoring but I liked our defense ... Down the stretch, we guarded really well and every key possession we had a stop."

Behind the strength of Nelson's season-high 24 points, which included back-to-back 3-pointers to open the game, the Grizzlies never trailed following the opening possession.

At a key stretch of the first half, IUPUI tied the game with 6:15 to play, but failed to capitalize on a series of missed shots and turnovers by the Grizzlies and never took the lead.

Oakland regained control of the game as freshman Ledrick Eackles provided a spark off the bench late in the half when he stole the ball twice at midcourt and converted easy layups. Overall, he scored a career-high 13 points to go with four assists and three steals.

"I just come in and bring that extra energy off the bench. I fit in where I can, it doesn't matter," Eackles said.

OU held a 44-40 advantage at half-time, with star forward Robert Glenn providing much of the scoring for IUPUI despite a tough matchup against Grizzlies center Keith Benson.

"We watched film early on during practice before the game and watched how (Benson) guarded," Glenn said. "Before the game I worked on my 15-footer and knew I was going to have to hit (that type of shot)."

In the second half, Oakland extended its lead to as many as 13 points with just over 10 minutes to play.

Benson converted an important 3-point play with a layup and subsequent free throw with just under two minutes remaining before the resilient Jaguars stormed back again with a couple of

successful 3-pointers.

It was IUPUI's use of a full-court press defense in the second half that gave the Grizzlies so much difficulty, leading to several turnovers and miscues.

With 59 seconds remaining, the game was halted for nearly five minutes when referees were forced to utilize instant replay to determine possession after Oakland guard Larry Wright was pressured on his own side of center. After a lengthy conference between the three officials, they ruled it was a backcourt violation and IUPUI was awarded the ball in a two-point game.

"Instead of arguing (the decision) with a minute to go in the game, (I figured) we had better guard. So I wasn't going to argue it. I needed to talk to my team. And they calmed down and understood that it doesn't matter; if we get a (defensive) stop, then we win," Kampe said.

On the ensuing possession, Oakland got just what Kampe was hoping for as the Jaguars Billy Pettiford was forced to throw up a long-range shot which missed the target. Eackles grabbed the rebound and Oakland padded their lead with free throws down the stretch.

The game ended on an unsuccessful desperation shot by John Ashworth that would have tied the game at the buzzer.

"We knew it was a 40 minute game and we had to play all 40 minutes, so no, I'm not surprised by what they did, or what we did," Kampe said. "I'm very pleased with the way we played. We played a very steady game."

In addition to the offensive production by Nelson and Eackles, Benson contributed 23 points and had 13 rebounds — his conference-leading ninth double-double of the season. Senior Johnathon Jones tied his season-high in assists with 11 to go along with 12 points of his own.

Oakland shot 51 percent on the night, up significantly from their previous game when they struggled from the field at just 39 percent shooting.

All five Jaguars starters finished in double figures, with Glenn putting up 21 points to lead his team.

Kampe said he was happy to come away with the victory in such an important in-conference game, though his focus is still on preparing for the more meaningful games later in the season.

"You don't win championships in January. You play, you get better and you win in February and March. We're still (concerned most) about that tournament. Sure we want to win the regular season championship, and tonight helped us," he said.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

The game featured a matchup of two players, Oakland's Keith Benson and IUPUI's Robert Glenn, that have been named Summit League Player of the Week on multiple occasions this season.

Nelson echoed the sentiments of his coach, and said that the players have their sights set on winning the conference.

"(IUPUI) played a good game and we have a lot of respect for them," Nelson said. "This was a big game ... It was a stepping stone on the way to the championship."

Jaguars coach Ron Hunter recognized this game as a sign of things to come in the two teams' rivalry.

"This was a heavyweight game. These were two of the better teams in the league. And as I told my players, we will see (Oakland) again a couple of times. This is just the first of this battle," he said.

Oakland (9-7, 3-0) will take its game on the road for a pair of away games this week against Oral Roberts (Thursday) and Centenary College (Saturday).

## Game Notes:

- Through all of the tension that filled the O'Rena as the officials determined

the outcome of a contested Oakland timeout and backcourt violation call with under a minute to play, the two head coaches were able to share a laugh to lighten the mood, if only for a moment.

With the referees huddled at center court, IUPUI coach Ron Hunter wandered down to the OU bench to chat with Kampe before being unceremoniously ushered away by game officials. Hunter proceeded to pick up a statistician's cell phone off the scorer's table and jokingly signal to Kampe that he was going to call him from across the court so they could finish their conversation. To the amusement of the crowd, Kampe searched his pockets for his own phone, wearing a grin on his face.

"I wish that cell phone had worked; I had some choice words for Kampe," Hunter said jokingly after the game.

- OU is now alone in first place in the Summit League standings as the only team with an unblemished conference record (3-0).

- Johnathon Jones played all 40 minutes for the third time this season.



# Things we learned about the Lions in '09

By DAN FENNER  
Sports Editor

## COLUMN

With the NFL's regular season now complete, and the Detroit Lions final record set at 2-14, it's time to reflect on the state of the team, the things we witnessed this season and the ramifications these developments will have on the future of the beleaguered franchise. Here are the things we learned:

### Matthew Stafford

Detroit's \$42 million man had the eyes of the NFL upon him from week one of the season, and he did not disappoint. In just his third NFL game, he guided the Lions to the end of their disgraceful losing streak. Doubters of Stafford need only to watch the game against Cleveland to realize what this guy is capable of.

Sure he threw more interceptions than you'd have liked to see, but his decision making only stands to improve with time and experience. Stafford is fortunate to possess the skills that cannot be taught: unparalleled arm strength and the ability to lead his teammates — even as the youngest guy in the huddle.

The Lions did right in selecting Stafford, and the rebuilding effort in the post-Matt Millen era will be expedited as a result of filling their void at quarterback from the start.

### Martin Mayhew

After a full season of evaluation, the Lions general manager walked away with an impressive haul of young players from his first NFL Draft.

Stafford is just one of eight rookies who made important contributions this season.

Linebacker DeAndre Levy forced his way into the starting lineup late in the season, while defensive tackle Sammie Lee Hill steadily improved to the point where he could start regularly for the Lions next season.

But Mayhew will need several more successful draft classes to build the Lions into a playoff contender. Detroit will be positioned to select several more impact talents again in April, and it's essential that they capitalize on the opportunity.

### Louis Delmas

One of the few shining stars this season was rookie second-round pick Louis Delmas. Drafted out of Western Michigan, Delmas assumed the starting free safety job nearly from day one. He finished second on the team in tackles

and was responsible for making the play calls for the secondary. But perhaps more importantly, he provided a physical presence that opposing players feared — something that only few of Detroit's players of the last decade can honestly claim.

Delmas is a playmaker and he's going to be a building block for the Lions defense for years to come.

### Drew Stanton

Since he was drafted in 2007, fans had been clamoring for Drew Stanton to get an opportunity to play for the Lions. Many people were even crazy enough to suggest the team should pass on drafting Stafford with their first overall pick last April because they had faith that Stanton would morph into the franchise quarterback they were seeking.

In the final weeks of the season, however, Stanton was completely over-matched when given playing time while Stafford was injured. His performance was a far cry from his preseason heroics that had fans so giddy.

The truth of the matter is that Stanton was never really destined to be anything for the Lions, even before injuries curtailed his first two seasons. He is merely another wasted draft pick by Millen that, quite honestly, would not have received the fans' support had he not been a homegrown talent, attending Michigan State University and Harrison High School.

With Daunte Culpepper packing his bags this offseason, the Lions will have to sign a veteran quarterback to serve as Stafford's backup, leaving Stanton as the third-string signal caller at best.

### Coaching

The jury is still out on whether Jim Schwartz will be a successful head coach, but we can now safely draw one conclusion about Lions coaching: Rod Marinelli and the 2008 staff was the worst collection of coaches ever assembled.

There was no discernable difference in the talent level between the Detroit team that went winless two seasons ago and the team that squeaked out two victories in 2009. Above all else, blame the coaching, and blame Millen for choosing to hire them in the first place.

The Lions brought in some reputable people to coach the team when they cleaned house and that bodes well for the team as it continues climb out of the hole it found itself in.

All in all, the 2009 season was still a difficult one for fans to endure, but at least now there are things you can point to as signs of optimism for years to come.



## GAME SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 6-12

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

1/7 at Oral Roberts  
1/9 at Centenary College

### CLUB WRESTLING

1/10 vs. GVSU, Mott and Michigan in Ann Arbor

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

1/9 at Centenary  
1/11 at Oral Roberts

### INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

1/9 Eastern Michigan Invitational in Ypsilanti

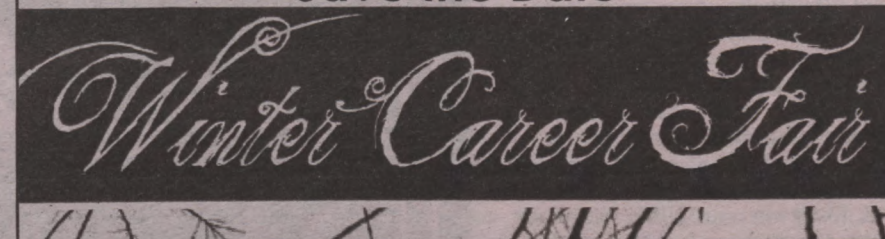
### CLUB HOCKEY

1/7 at Grand Valley State

### SWIMMING & DIVING

1/9 at Eastern Michigan

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# THE SPORTING BLITZ

By DAN FENNER  
Sports Editor

While classes at Oakland University were on hiatus for nearly a month, the basketball season continued without a hitch throughout the break.

The Golden Grizzlies women's team (5-9) endured a rough month in December, losing five consecutive games. OU ended this streak with a 73-25 blowout win over cross-town opponent, Rochester College, Dec. 29.

In defense of the team's record, the Grizzlies did play a difficult non-conference schedule, which included three Big Ten Conference opponents. They flirted with an upset on the road against Penn State, Dec. 21, leading by 12 points at halftime, but falling 69-64 in the end.

Oakland's performance in this game may prove to be a turning point in the team's season.

"We talked about this after the Rochester College game, that even though we lost the Penn State game, we felt like we had won that Penn State game because of how well we played," head coach Beckie Francis said. "It actually gave us confidence that we can play with people in our league."

The Grizzlies finished with just a 3-8 record in their out of conference games, but have an opportunity to make amends by improving their play for their Summit League schedule.

A 75-40 win over IUPUI Saturday evening upped their conference record at 1-1, and Monday's 20-point win over Western Illinois gave the team a three-game winning streak as it heads on the road this week for a pair of road games.

Francis has elected to utilize the depth of her team with 11 players receiving regular playing time, including four freshmen.

Senior Melissa Jeltima has been the top scorer for OU through 13 games, averaging 15 points while also grabbing nearly eight rebounds per game.

Forward Bethany Watterworth has made an impact in her freshman season by scoring 14 points per game and averaging more than seven rebounds per contest. With the season-ending injury to starting center Brittany Carnago that occurred in the exhibition season, Watterworth saw her role with the team increase.

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#### #2 BIG JOHN®

Medium rare choice roast beef, topped with yummy mayo, lettuce, and tomato.

#### #3 TOTALLY TUNA®

Fresh housemade tuna, mixed with celery, onions, and our tasty sauce, then topped with alfalfa sprouts, cucumber, lettuce, and tomato. (My tuna rocks!)

#### #4 TURKEY TOM®

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#### #5 VITO®

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- ★ Extra cheese or extra avocado spread
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- SLIM 3 Tuna salad
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OK, SO MY SUBS REALLY AREN'T GOURMET AND WE'RE NOT FRENCH EITHER. MY SUBS JUST TASTE A LITTLE BETTER, THAT'S ALL! I WANTED TO CALL IT JIMMY JOHN'S TASTY SANDWICHES, BUT MY MOM TOLD ME TO STICK WITH GOURMET. SHE THINKS WHATEVER I DO IS GOURMET, BUT I DON'T THINK EITHER OF US KNOWS WHAT IT MEANS. SO LET'S STICK WITH TASTY!

*Jimmy John*

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A full 1/4 pound of real applewood smoked ham, provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, & real mayo!

#### #8 BILLY CLUB®

Choice roast beef, smoked ham, provolone cheese, Dijon mustard, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.

#### #9 ITALIAN NIGHT CLUB®

Real genoa salami, Italian capicola, smoked ham, and provolone cheese all topped with lettuce, tomato, onion, mayo, and our homemade Italian vinaigrette. (You hav'ta order hot peppers, just ask!)

#### #10 HUNTER'S CLUB®

A full 1/4 pound of fresh sliced medium rare roast beef, provolone, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.

#### #11 COUNTRY CLUB®

Fresh sliced turkey breast, applewood smoked ham, provolone, and tons of lettuce, tomato, & mayo! (A very traditional, yet always exceptional classic!)

#### #12 BEACH CLUB®

Fresh baked turkey breast, provolone cheese, avocado spread, sliced cucumber, sprouts, lettuce, tomato, and mayo! (It's the real deal, and it ain't even California.)

#### #13 GOURMET VEGGIE CLUB®

Double provolone, real avocado spread, sliced cucumber, alfalfa sprouts, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. (Try it on my 7-grain whole wheat bread. This veggie sandwich is world class!)

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#### #15 CLUB TUNA®

The same as our #3 Totally Tuna except this one has a lot more. Fresh housemade tuna salad, provolone, sprouts, cucumber, lettuce, & tomato.

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Fresh sliced turkey breast, bacon, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. (JJ's original turkey & bacon club)

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## Third crasher at White House party

By EILEEN SULLIVAN and MATTHEW LEE  
Associated Press Writers

WASHINGTON — The third gatecrasher at November's White House state dinner turns out to be a local event planner who got in with members of the Indian delegation, a U.S. official said Tuesday.

The third person who got into the party for India's prime minister without being on the guest list was Carlos Allen, who runs an event facility called Hush Galleria in the nation's capital, according to this U.S. official who was not authorized to speak publicly about the incident and spoke anonymously.

Hush Galleria promotes itself as arranging black-tie and casual events "to place-up-and coming individuals with elite individuals in our luxury environment for the purpose of assisting and supporting each other to accomplish self-enrichment, business enhancement and community patronization."

The Secret Service would not identify the man who is currently under investigation, just like Tareq and Michael Salahi, the publicity-seeking, would-be reality TV couple whose gatecrashing was disclosed last year.

The Secret Service said, unlike the Salahis, the man never got close to the president or the first lady.

Allen traveled to the White House from the hotel where the Indian delegation was staying. The Secret Service said the man arrived with members of that delegation. But he was not in the Secret Service's

database of people prescreened and approved to attend the event. Part of the security screening is a criminal background check that the Secret Service does before a guest enters the White House.

The Salahis and the man traveling with the Indian delegation did not go through that background check.

But the Secret Service said all three uninvited guests went through other screening, such as metal detectors, before the event.

Allen is a U.S. citizen. His Facebook page says he's a fan of Michael Salahi.

Allen traveled to the White House with a group of Indian business leaders in vehicles paid for by the Indian government, the U.S. official said.

State Department spokesman Ian Kelly said the agency has reviewed the incident and already made changes for how it handles foreign delegations.

Subpoenas have been issued for the Salahis to testify before Congress on the Nov. 24 incident. Through their attorney, the Salahis have said they will invoke their Fifth Amendment right to refuse to testify against themselves.

The Salahis have been trying to land a part on a Bravo reality show, "The Real Housewives of D.C.," and were filmed by the TV show around town as they prepared for the White House dinner. Since the dinner, their lives have been under the microscope. Virginia's Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is investigating a charitable polo event the Salahis sponsor.

## 'Dots' not connected in airline attack

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama asserted on Tuesday the government had enough information to foil the attempted bombing on a Christmas Day airline flight but intelligence agencies "failed to connect those dots" and left nearly 300 passengers and crew in peril.

Obama called that unacceptable. "I will not tolerate it," he said.

The accused attacker, 23-year-old Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, has claimed ties to al-Qaida. Witnesses said he ignited an explosive mixture but it failed to do serious damage to the Northwest jetliner or its passengers, and he was subdued by other passengers and airline crew members on the Detroit-bound Northwest Airlines flight.

Obama, speaking after meeting with his Cabinet and national security team, declared, "We have to do better, and we will do better. And we will do it quickly."

But while he expressed clear displeasure with the U.S. failure to prevent the suspect from boarding a U.S.-bound flight, Obama did not announce any firings or job reassignments.

According to a White House statement released later, Obama told his gathering of officials: "This was a screw-up that could have been disastrous. We dodged a bullet but just barely. It was averted by brave individuals, not because the system worked, and that is not acceptable."

"While there will be a tendency for finger pointing, I will not tolerate it," he told the high-level officials, according to the statement.

Obama also said he was suspending the transfer of Guantanamo detainees to Yemen. The Christmas attack has raised concerns about Yemen, because the Nigerian man has claimed to have been acting on instructions from al-Qaida operatives in that country.

Nearly half of the 198 terror suspect detainees held at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba are from Yemen. But Obama reiterated his vow to eventually close the camp.

"Make no mistake, we will close Guantanamo prison," Obama said. The camp, he said, "was an explicit rationale for the formation of al-Qaida" operating in Yemen.

As for the Christmas attack, Obama said it exposed "a potentially disastrous" security failure.

He spoke after a White House meeting with the officials charged with carrying out two reviews he has ordered. Obama spelled out recent changes in security protocols for airline flights and changes to the government's watchlist of suspected terrorists.

Obama told reporters the security lapse didn't have to do with the collection of information but with the failure to integrate and analyze what was there. The bottom line, he said was that the government had "sufficient information to uncover this plot and potentially disrupt the Christmas Day attack."

"Our intelligence community failed to connect those dots which would have placed the suspect on the no-fly list," he said. "This was not a failure to collect intelligence, it was a failure to integrate and understand the intelligence that we already have."

Obama said that it was clear the government knew that the suspect, Abdulmutallab, had traveled to Yemen and joined with extremists there.

## NIW BRIEFS

Source: Associated Press

1-5 | HONIARA, Solomon Islands — Landslides and a tsunami destroyed the homes of about one-third of the population on a Solomon Island, but lives were likely spared as residents with memories of previous disasters fled quickly to higher ground, officials said Tuesday. From the air, extensive damage could be seen on a remote western island after a 7.2-magnitude temblor triggered the landslides in the Pacific Solomon Islands on Monday, said disaster management office director Loti Yates. No injuries have been reported some 30 hours after the biggest in a series of quakes churned a tsunami wave that was up to 10 feet high as it plowed into the coast, officials said. However, more than 1,000 people have been affected after some 200 houses were destroyed on Rendova, an island some 190 miles from the capital Honiara. Only 3,600 people live on Rendova.

1-5 | ZARQA, Jordan — The suspected Jordanian double agent who killed eight people on a CIA base in Afghanistan was recruited by his country's intelligence agency after it threw him in jail to coerce him into helping them track down al-Qaida's No. 2 leader, counterterrorism officials in the Middle East said Tuesday. Three Middle Eastern counterterrorism officials said 32-year-old physician Humam Khalil Abu-Mulal al-Balawi was jailed for three days after he signed up for a humanitarian mission to the Gaza Strip with a Jordanian field hospital following Israel's offensive there. At that time, authorities were aware that al-Balawi had posted fiery writings on militant Web sites, calling on Muslims to join a holy war against Israel and the United States.

1-5 | WASHINGTON — The Hubble Space Telescope has captured the earliest image yet of the universe — just 600 million years after the Big Bang, when the universe was just a toddler. Scientists released the photo Tuesday at a meeting of the American Astronomical Society. It's the most complete picture of the early universe so far, showing galaxies with stars that are already hundreds of millions of years old, along with the unmistakable primordial signs of the first cluster of stars. These young galaxies haven't yet formed their familiar spiral or elliptical shapes and are much smaller and quite blue in color. That's mostly because at this stage, they don't contain many heavy metals, said Garth Illingworth, a University of California, Santa Cruz, astronomy professor who was among those releasing the photo.

1-5 | LONDON — A United Airlines pilot who was pulled from his trans-Atlantic flight to Chicago shortly before takeoff pleaded guilty Tuesday to being above the alcohol limit for flying a plane. Erwin Vermont Washington, of Lakewood, Colorado, was removed from United Airlines Flight 949, which was scheduled to fly from London's Heathrow Airport to Chicago in November, after a co-worker suspected him of being drunk. Prosecutor Kevin Christie said two policemen spoke to Washington about the concerns and performed a breath test especially designed for aviation staff, which he failed.



# MOUTHING OFF

The views expressed in Mouthing Off do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Oakland Post

24

www.oaklandpostonline.com

January 6, 2010

## Hey you, make grizzlies giggle

*You can stuff your mouth...ing off column with your own rants, raves*

By DAN SIMONS  
Mouthing Off editor

It's the first Monday meeting of the new semester. My boss is going across the room finding out what people in the newsroom are working on for the paper. Please skip me. Please forget that I work here. Pass over me because I barely do journalism.

"Simons, what are you working on this week?" asks Boss Miller.

Damn it.

I've had the entire break to come up with something for Mouthing Off and I've got nothing. I'm still trying to figure out why I woke up underneath a pool table on New Years morning, let alone an idea for a satire column for my school paper.

"Well, um, I was thinking about writing a column. Yeah." I am so screwed.

My Red Bull breakfast hasn't even kicked in yet and already I'm trying to figure out how to ingest enough caffeine to magically produce a funny yet biting column for the winter welcome back week. It's really not as easy as it seems. And energy drinks are pricey.

First, I've got to show up to school before noon. The things I do for this paper.

Then I have to put up with my lovely cavalcade of co-workers, stuffed into a steam-cooker of an office with as much cell phone reception as a mine shaft.

When I do finally get a column out, I send it off to the copy desk where they remove all the expletives and carefully explain to me how offensive the column is.

I then come up with a photo or graphic idea for Jason Willis, who I'm pretty sure sacrifices live animals to get his graphic design skills. I tell Jason my idea and then I wait for him to finish doing the for-real news stuff.

Then I ask Jason again two hours later.

Then I ask Jason again two hours later, and with the prospect of maybe buying him a Sam Adams when he finishes, and less than 10 minutes later I put the graphic on my page.

"Why don't you mouth off about the start of a new semester?" someone said to me, unaware that I did that last semester ("New Semester Shakedown," check it out online). No one read it because we didn't have school for a week due to the professor's job inaction. This newsroom could use another strike. We could afford that.

I could mouth off about the non-consensual pillaging the bookstore does to our bank accounts. Last semester I bought a three pack of geography books I was told I needed for my class. I never opened them, never used them once for class. That set me back \$170. My friend needs to spend \$90 on a book about movies and another friend spent \$374 on two books. It's academic racketeering and they should at least buy our wallets dinner first.

"Hey, the Lions still suck, make fun of them." As much fun as it is to kick a man while he's down, poking fun at the team is like beating a dead horse. A national embar-

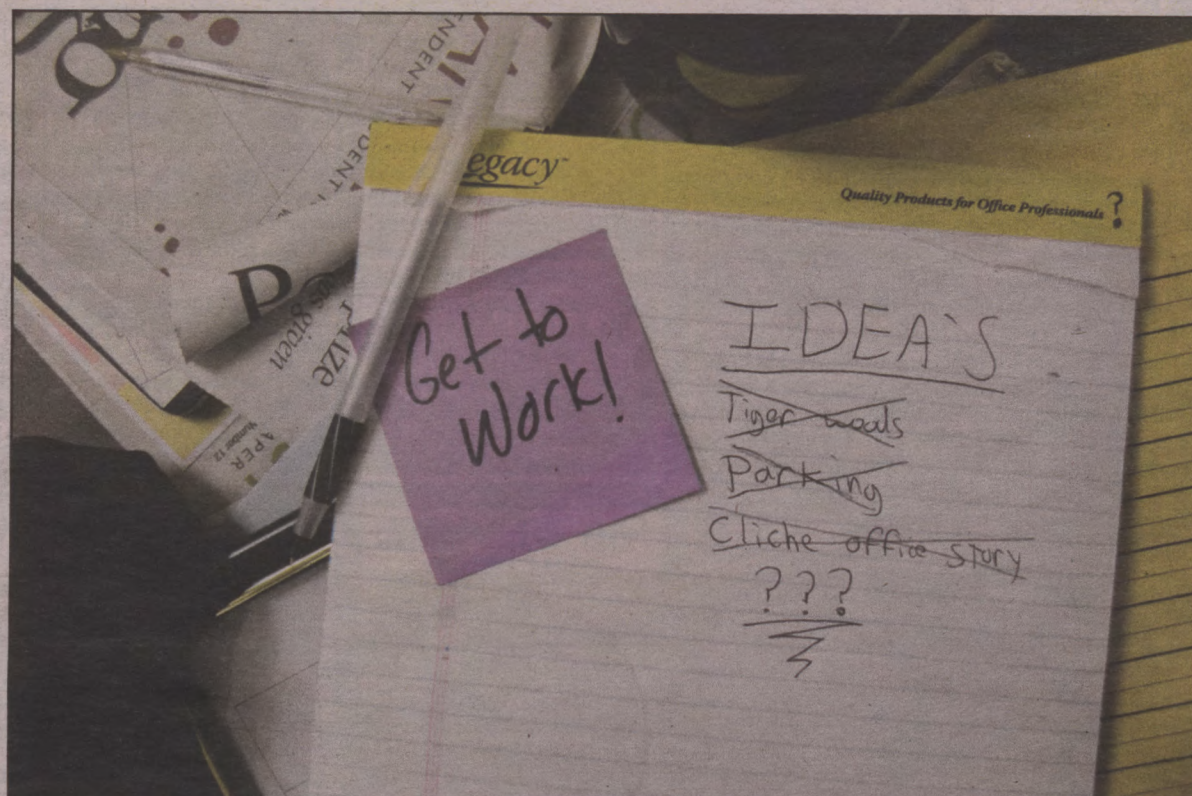


photo illustration by JASON WILLIS / The Oakland Post  
Pack of sticky notes: \$1. Four pack of Red Bull: \$7. Six pack of Sam Adam's Winter Lager: \$13. Picture to go with Mouthing Off? Priceless.

rassment of a dead horse.

A University of Michigan fan and friend of mine said I should mouth off about how Michigan State lost in the Valero Alamo Bowl to Texas Tech. I then told him that the Wolverines didn't make it to a bowl and that he could kiss my Spartan ass.

"Michigan is cold!" I know, get over it.

"Detroit is poor!" That's great, deal with it.

"Parking sucks!" Carpool or something. I drive a car made during the Cold War and I have a 40 minute commute to school. It doesn't heat up until I turn onto Squirrel Road. Cash for Clunkers wouldn't even take my car; it has more rust than the Titanic and gets less miles per gallon.

"What about New Years Resolutions?" I would, but I made a resolution to not do cliché topics. It's less than a week into 2010 and people have already stopped caring that it's a new decade. People are still going to eat crap, despite Taco Bell trying to pull a Subway and advertising their new Fresco menu as a serious weight loss strategy. They are still going to spend more money than they should, and they are still going to smoke.

Oh, and smoking. There is that smoking ban that's going to take effect in May and make already irritable

smokers even more pissed off. One of my friends wanted me to mouth off about marijuana laws. I'm going to be blunt and say I don't indulge in that particular recreation, so I'd need to do a joint authorship on the subject.

Wait a second, that's it. No, not the weed, the other people writing Mouthing Off columns. Anyone can write for this section, you know. You don't have to be a member of The Oakland Post, or even a journalism major. And if you read some of the articles last semester, you know that you don't even really need to be that funny to get printed. Like this column, for example.

Mouth Off, Oakland. Get an opinion and coat it in snarky, witty, clever rhetoric. If you don't think it's funny, don't worry, I can guarantee you I've had worse ideas handed to me (Televised sheep fighting. 'Nuff said). Sure I can eventually near-overdose on caffeine and come up with something, but this is your student paper, so you start writing for it.

Grizzlies, if I get more than 50 legitimate Mouthing Off articles sent to [oakpostmouthingoff@gmail.com](mailto:oakpostmouthingoff@gmail.com) before the end of the semester, I'll do something crazy like publish in this section a photo of me wearing a leopard print Snuggie.

Please, anything to get my boss to stop glaring at me.