

KIAND POST

Weekly campus newspaper serving The Oakland University community

Wednesday - February 3, 1999

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Award-winning independent newspaper THE OAKLAND SAIL, INC.

Andrews fires SAFB chair

By SHAJAN KAY Special Writer

There was not an open seat at Monday's Student Congress meeting, as more than 30 student leaders took time out of their day to express their outrage with the decision by Student Body President Scott Andrews to fire Carina Moore, the Student Allocations Funding Board chair.

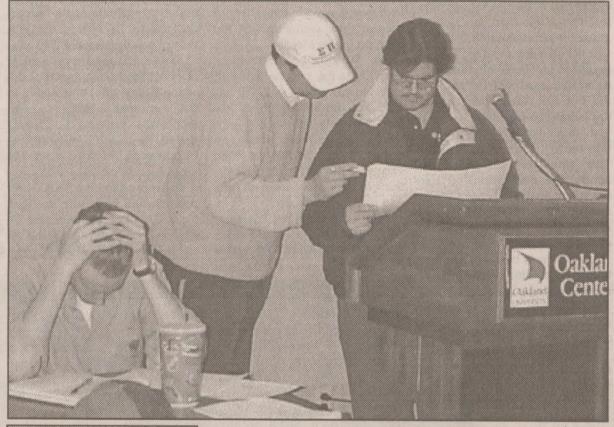
On Friday, Jan. 29, Moore was notified by Andrews that she was being terminated from the position of SAFB chair.

According to Moore, Andrews escorted her out of the OC and denied her access to the Congress office. A memo addressing Moore's termination was placed on the office door by Congress Vice President Hemant Mahamwal.

The memo "... decreed that (Congress members) are NOT to permit Ms. Moore to enter or remain in the office without the explicit presence and explicit consent from (Mahamwal) or President Andrews. Should Ms. Moore enter the office (Congress members) are ordered to request that she leave immediately. Should Ms. Moore fail to comply with a request to leave immediately (Congress members) are authorized to contact the Oakland University Police Department and request that the department remove her."

According to Moore, she had come in to the Congress office Friday to process some paperwork which involved transferring funds to different student organizations.

Moore said she could think of nothing that could have instigated Andrews's decision to fire her. In a telephone interview, Andrews said he has been "trying to run many aspects of Congress in a business-like fashion," which has included perfor-



CONGRESS CRISIS (top): Student Congress President Scott Andrews and Vice President Hemant Mahamwal (left to right, standing) in consultation at the heated meeting.

(UN)DESERVED PUNISHMENT? (bottom) Carina Moore argued her case against Andrews' decision to terminate her from SAFB chair post.



Third VPAA finalist visits



LOUNGING (right to left): Candidate Wanat chatted with Mary Papazian, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and Francis Jackson, associate professor of nursing.

By LIDIJA MILIC News Editor

A roll backwards out of a stuck chair on his way out of the meeting with student groups was the career advancement. only slip the third VPAA finalist made during his visit.

After a 21-year career University of Illinois at Chicago, leadership opportunities.

The third finalist for vice president for academic affairs and provost spent Monday and Tuesday on campus meeting with OU groups.

Wanat has served at UIC as executive associate vice chancellor for academic affairs since 1993 and as vice provost since

However, according to Wanat, it was the year-and-a-half of serving as interim provost and vice chancellor in 1996-97 that prompted him to search for

Since there were no opportunities at UIC, Wanat applied for the OU position.

"I'm still at the stage of learning John Wanat is looking for new about Oakland," Wanat said. "(But it) strikes me as a kind of institution like UIC."

In Wanat's description, UIC and OU have several things in common, including growth, highly diverse student population, graduation rate, commuter vs. residence halls population. and approximate date of estab-

See WANAT page A5

Web page follows golf course development

By LIDIJA MILIC News Editor

The turmoil over the second golf course may seem to have quieted down lately, but the debate is not over for certain community groups.

Since December 1998, supporters of "trees not tees" could log and financed onto a web site dedicated exclusively to the second OU golf course.

The web site, located at www.OUforest.org and an e-mail hotline info@OUforest.org, both founded and operated by Todd Scott, provide an array of information about the recent hotly debated project.

According to the mission statement, the site is created "to pro-

information regarding Oakland the community of the ways in University's campus forest and which to help preserve the forthe growing movement to pro- est; and increasing public awaretect its natural state."

Center

on the State of the Student

gone one performance review,

which took place at the end of

See MOORE page A2

Body Tuesday.

last semester.

The site is not affiliated with OU and by Scott and his support-

The introduction to the site states the following reasons behind the

"There is reasonable is produced room to strike a bal- continues, "If ance between forest preservation, acade- golfer, antimics and financial needs."

> **Todd Scott** Web Site Founder believe

ness of the project and its potenthe area. The statement you're expect-

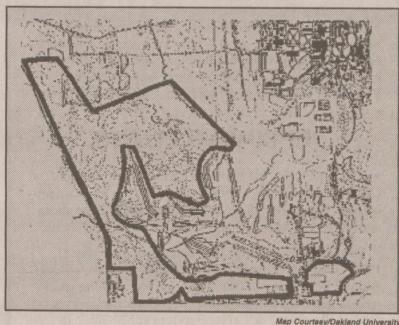
ing an antiestablishment, eco-terrorist web site, you will be disappointed. We the facts on this

creation of the site: providing issue speak for themselves. information about the golf There is reasonable room to course that OU administration is strike a balance between forest

vide accurate, comprehensive "reluctant" to offer; informing preservation, academics and financial needs."

The site proceeds to offer a timeline of events, meetings, discussions and decisions about the tial impact on R & S Sharf golf course, archives containing released university documents about the project, related links and suggestions on what can be done to preserve the OU forest.

Some of the documents displayed on the site include: the golf course expansion study prepared for the OU internal golf committee, the 1996 survey results for the Katke-Cousins golf course, minutes from the May 20, 1998 OU Foundation meeting, and minutes from Board of Trustees meetings relevant to the golf course.



MAPPED OUT: The outlined area will be the location of the second golf course.

FAST

FACTS

• Phi Alpha Theta History Society presents the lecture "Harry Truman, The Korean War, and the Expansion of Presidential War Powers" given ture Monday, Feb.8, from noon- the Cashiers window in NFH.

by History Professor Bruce Zellers on Tuesday, Feb. 16 at 7 p.m. in rooms 128-130, OC.

· African - American Celebration Month continues with Diversity Awareness Trivia Challenge today from noon-1p.m. in the Fireside Lounge, OC, and African-American Contributions to arts and litera1p.m. in Gold Room A, OC. Male Fashion Extravaganza Wednesday, Feb. 10 at 7 p.m. in Gold Rooms A-B, OC.

• Deadline to register for graduation in Winter 1999 is Friday, Feb. 5. Graduating seniors should pick up an application at the Registrar's Office in 102 O'Dowd Hall, and turn it in to

• Department of Art and Art History is offering two \$1,500 travel grants to qualified art history majors to participate in a study tour of Turkey.

The tour will take place May 15-25, 1999. Students who receive the grant should count on additional cost of about \$750.

For additional information and application forms, contact Art History Professor Carl Barnes at

(248) 370-3388.

• "Love, Intrigue and Politics: Studying the Royal Court in Early Modern France" will be presented Wednesday, Feb. 10 at noon as part of the Honors College Faculty Forum.

Sara Chapman, assistant professor of history, will present the lecture in the Honors College 112 Vandenberg Hall.

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Student Affairs

UPDATING OU

- CONGRATULATIONS 1999 KEEPER OF THE DREAM AWARD WINNERS! John Autry III, Adrienne Carter, Doron Elliot, Ronald Howell, Dedra McGlory, Shawn McLernon, Shaunda Scruggs and Natasha Vanover. Your efforts to enhance interracial understanding at OU are commendable and very much appreciated. • STUDENT AWARDS. Nomination forms for the following student awards are still available at the Dean of Students Office, 144 OC: The 1999 Matilda R. and Alfred G. Wilson Awards and Human Relations Award (Feb.
- 12th deadline), and M.A.G.B. Awards (Feb. 15th deadline).
- OVER THE COUNTER MEDICATIONS. No need to travel to a drug store! Cough, cold, sinus and pain relievers available at discounted prices at Graham Health Center, 370-2341.
- FACULTY AND STAFF. Save \$10 at the Rec Center by purchasing a "Mini-pass." The Rec Center has developed a new membership option for OU faculty and staff- a pass good for use of the facilities 10 times-normally a \$60 value, now on sale for \$50. Any OU faculty/staff or their spouse/significant other may purchase this "Mini-pass" at the Welcome Center in the Rec Center lobby.
- General Motors Production Supervisor Alternating Co-op Program. General Motors is currently looking for students who are majoring in Business, HRD, HRM, Engineering or Arts & Sciences. Ask yourself if you can perform the following tasks: Supervising medium to large groups of employees? Be responsible for the effective use of personnel, material and equipment? Meet production cost schedule? Maintain quality control requirements? Comply with the terms of local and national labor agreements? Implement safety and housekeeping standards? Maintain corporate and unit management control system? If your answers are yes, then contact Placement & Career Services, Experiential Education, at 371 Vandenberg Hall West (370-3213) to find out more on this exciting opportunity with General Motors.
- DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, THEATRE AND **DANCE.** Nearly every Tuesday at noon (with very few exceptions), the MTD department hosts "Arts at Noon," a showcase for the talents of all our students. These performances take place in Varner Hall in either the Studio Theatre or Recital Hall.
- ACADEMIC SKILLS CENTER, 103 North Foundation Hall, (248) 370-4215. Make the most of your study time, **WORK WITH A TUTOR!!**
- CAREER RESOURCE CENTER. Are you experiencing "career confusion?" If you are, please stop in at the Career Resource Center in North Foundation Hall. Our new hours for Winter 1999 are Mon.-Thurs., 10a.m.-4p.m. Appointments are optional—to make an appointment, call 370-3250 (Dept. of Placement & Career Services).
- CAREER COALITION. Explore a career through the Career Coalition. Contact OU alumni and other resources. Contact the Career Services web site at: http//phoenix.placement.oakland.edu/connect/career.htm.
- CHEAPER THAN A MOVIE TICKET! For one of the best entertainment values around, check out the Student Rush Tickets at Meadow Brook Theatre. For only \$5 per ticket, you can see productions at this award-winning professional theatre. Buy 1 or 2 tickets per ID for \$5 each at the Box Office in Wilson Hall the day of the performance. Call 377-3300 for a free brochure.

THIS WEEK

 Professional Placement Recruiting. On-campus recruiting for Winter, 1999 is now in progress. Don't miss out on the opportunity to interview with the quality employers recruiting on Oakland's campus. Contact Placement & Career Services for details (370-3250).

UPCOMING EVENTS

- The 1st CO-ED 2:2 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT at OU will be Feb. 6-7, 1999 from 7-8 p.m. The tournament is free! Top prize will be a pair of Reebok or Nike shoes sponsored by the men's and women's basketball teams.
- Educator's Recruiting Day will be held on May 3, 1999. Last year's event drew 24 school districts/schools and involved nearly 1,000 interviews for teaching and related positions in education. To register for the event, contact Placement & Career Services at 370-3250. In addition, the following workshops are being offered for Education majors: Feb. 3 (5-6pm, 128-130, OC), Feb. 16 (10-11 a.m., 126-127 OC) and Feb. 24 (2-3 p.m., 126-127 OC): "Resume Writing for Educators," and Feb. 6 (10am-noon, Heritage Room, OC): "Placement Services/Learn How to Use Resume Expert Web."
- EDS Open House. EDS will be hosing an Open House in the Fireside Lounge of the OC on Monday, March 1 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Representing EDS will be Oakland alumnus Kevin McFee. Submarine sandwiches and pop will be served. Please contact Professional Placement (370-3250) or our web site (http://phoenix.placement.oakland.edu) for information.

Moore

Continued from page A1

Andrews indicated that Moore had gone through one performance review and had also received several documentations, about which he would not go into detail.

According to the termination slip given to Moore, "On December 4th, Carina was spoken to regarding numerous examples of unprofessionalism, including actions deemed to undermine the integrity of the Student Congress Executive

"This meeting was documented, and Carina was put on two months probation.

"On January 6, 1999, Vice President Mahamwal and I (Andrews) filled out a semesterly evaluation of Carina Moore. She received a less than satisfactory grade on her evaluation."

At the Monday meeting, Moore indicated that her evaluation was never discussed with her and she did not even see it prior to the day when she was fired.

At the end of Moore's evaluation form, the question is asked, "Has employee been spoken to about this evaluation?" evaluator answered "no." The next question, "If no, why not?" is answered, "Terminated before evaluation review."

The Congress bylaws state that the responsibilities and duties of the SAFB are to:

- "1. Allocate funds from the Student Activities Fee to student organizations;
- 2. Allow student organizations to appeal the decisions of this
- 3. Encourage programming by student organizations that will benefit the University communi-

Also, according to the bylaws, the duties and responsibilities of the chair are to:

B. be responsible for the actions of the SAFB."

other than allocate funds. The of her salary. release of minutes and informa-

members of been on a consistent basis."

the heading "job Andrews writes, "The work Carina does is of high fessionally." quality, and in an easily readable

At the meeting, present their comments on the decision to fire Moore.

Matt Tapson, the president of no problems with how SAFB has been run under Moore, it has been run fairly smoothly."

According to Jason Young, an SAFB officer, "SAFB has been very well organized and everything by Moore has been on time and run professionally."

During Monday's meeting, Andrea Zwolinski, president of the Greek Council, asked Andrews: "Do you have the legal right to remove someone from the office and why can't Carina get into the office?"

Andrews replied that there was uncertainty of what was Moore's property belonged to Congress.

Andrews added he was concerned that Moore might try to take important SAFB records from the Congress office. He also mentioned that he had spoken to OUPD and that as the president of the student body he was ulti-

who could be in the office.

Moore has been a Congress the institution expands. In Moore's semester evaluation member for over a year and tivity," Andrews commented, last summer. She said she took a tee of Congress. This semester, did not feel that student organithe committee has done little zations should have to pay half campus.

According to Moore, she was

Congress has not "SAFB has been put in the 20 hours of work very well organized required of Association of Black Students, However, under and everything by her. All other asked Andrews, "(As a) chief cabinet memperformance," Moore has been on bers are paid time and run profor 20 hours a week. Moore said

Jason Young she does not SAFB officer understand

why she has several student organization been fired, especially since her leaders appeared in the gallery to semester evaluation, the apparent basis for her termination, has never been discussed with her.

Shawn McLernon, president of Beta Alpha Psi, said he "has had Golden Key, asked when the allocation forms will be available to the student body again. Andrews replied the forms would be placed outside the Congress office door after the meeting.

Andrews added the SAFB chair position will hopefully be filled by next week. He also said he has the right to appoint someone to the position on an interim

The Congress decided to move into a closed meeting to discuss the matter of Moore's termina-

4 However, at the State of the personal property and what Student Body Address at noon on Tuesday in the Fireside Lounge, Andrews commended SAFB and its chair for helping student organizations realize larger events.

> The address also included the discussion of the position of faculty at OU, parking problems, need for improved academic pro

quality sacrificed for quantity as

Andrews also spoke about the under the heading "job produc- served as the SAFB chair since need for a 24-hour computer lab, encouraged students' involve-"Carina runs the SAFB commit- voluntary pay cut because she ment with the Congress, and pricing of goods and services on

The attending students, who had a chance to ask questions tion to student organizations and paid \$7 per hour for 10 hours a after the presentation, seemed week, but she more interested in different

Michelle Guy, president of the spokesperson for student body, where were you to address the \$7 per hour concerns of the golf course?"

Andrews responded that he attended the Board meeting but could not speak at it, discussed the environmental concerns with the student liaisons to the Board, spoke to OU President Gary Russi about the issue and even helped students organize the anti-golf course protests.

Guy also inquired why he did not speak out about the issue when he knew about it since June

Andrews said, "I knew it was a done deal and that the Board's mind was made up."

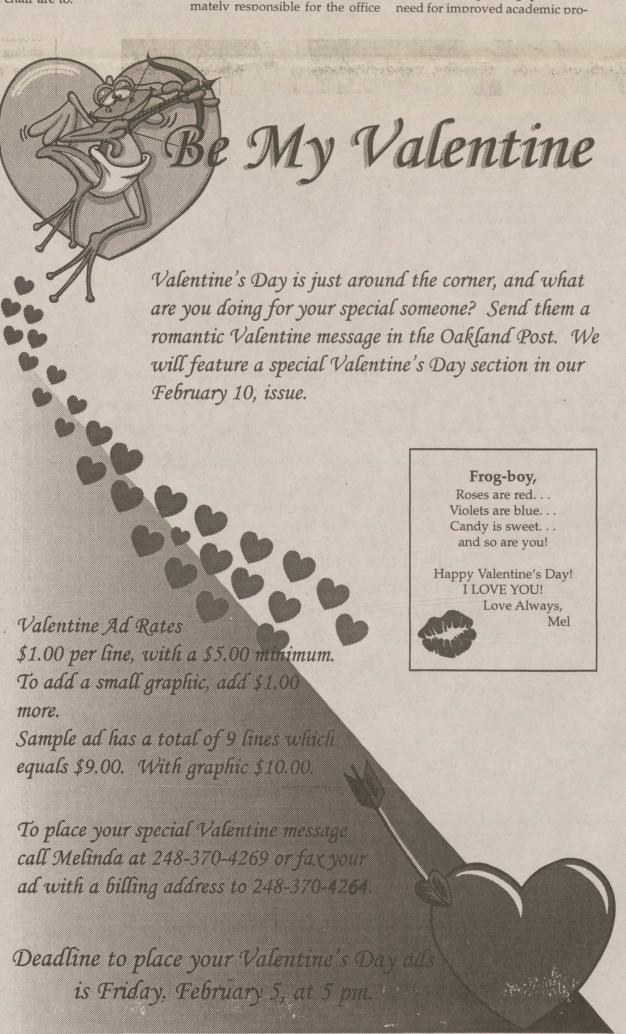
He added that his requests at Congress meetings for legislature to come up with resolutions on the issue remained unan-

Guy also asked why the student body president did not support nor take part in the Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration, to which Andrews replied that he had classes, work and other meetings to attend.

Mike Hoskins, communications sophomore, asked Andrews how often he is attainable.

Andrews said he neglected to put his office hours on the Congress door, but that he spends a lot of time in the OC building.

News Editor Lidija Milic contributed to the story.



ON CAMPUS

Diversity ambassadors host panels

By TANIA PREPOLEC ^{†9i}Assistant News Editor

Students took a step toward racial harmony Wednesday, Jan. 20, by participating in OU's first ethnic diversity panel discussion held in Hamlin Lounge.

discussion, "Introspection: Where do I Stand on 100 students and four faculty panelists.

The event was hosted by the newly Committee in partnership with the race relations at OU. offices of Equity and University gy sophomore and diversity ambassador.

defined by the ambassadors, is "to pro- Associate Professor Wilma Garcia. mote racial, cultural, ethnic, and gender awareness" and "to create an arena for rolling," Scruggs said. students and staff to engage in discus-

Scruggs said.

Other diversity ambassadors include journalism senior Natasha Vanover, marketing sophomore Julie Mayes, secondary education sophomore Kristin Kouba, and history sophomore Kim eral meeting entitled Harper, Scruggs said.

According to Scruggs, the faculty Race Relations?" consisted of more than members who acted as facilitators asked questions about noticing racial differences and inhumanity. They were formed Diversity Ambassador also open to suggestions on improving

The facilitators were Sociology Housing, said Shaunda Scruggs, biolo- Associate Professor Kevin Early, Communications Professor Shea Howell, Rhetoric Special Lecturer then sent an The DAC's mission statement, as Bernadette Dickerson, and Rhetoric introductory

"Professors were there to get the ball

Vanover learned about the DAC, orig-

sions applicable to our changing times," inally called the Global Community, intent of our program," she said. from a flier sent to all campus residents by University Housing Assistant Director for Program Services David Moroz, she said.

> After a genexplaining and guidelines, five educationals, volunteer opporting DACambassadors were chosen for the paid sions." positions, she said.

Vanover letter to the

four faculty members who had expressed prior interest.

"In the letter I described the goals and side excursions," she said.

Any interested student or faculty member is welcome to serve as a panelist or sit in the audience during future discussions by contacting the DAC in

advance, "Right now we're working on said.

DAC goals plans to implement monthly According to Vanover, tunities, and outside excursponsored activities will not be limited to just panel Natasha Vanover

discussions. Diversity ambassador "Right now we're working on

plans to implement monthly educationals, volunteer opportunities, and out-

In addition to hosting a variety of activities, the DAC is also preparing to open a Diversity Resource Center in 442 Hamlin Hall containing novels, magazines, journals, newspapers, and videos, ambassador Kristin Kouba said.

These materials will address cultural, ethnic, gender, and religious diversity. issues, and may only be used while in the center, she said.

"We're in the process of equipping the RC so that students can come in and use. the resources," she added.

Kouba estimates that it will be open by the end of February.

The next discussion, entitled

"Addressing Cultural Stereotypes", will be held on Thursday, Feb. 11, from 9-11 a.m. in OC Gold Room C.

All those interested should notify the DAC by writing to the Resource Center in 442 Hamlin Hall, or by e-mailing

Beads of Color



The OU Greek societies participated in the "Show Your Colors" event Tuesday in the Heritage Room. Greeks made bracelets in the colors of their organizations.

Groundhog Day springs from past

By DIANE FRKAN Staff Writer

According to tradition, on Feb. 2 when a groundhog sees its shadow, it returns back to hibernation and the winter season continues on. If the groundhog doesn't see its shadow, then winter is over and spring begins.

Across the nation and in Canada people celebrate Groundhog Day as a way to determine six more weeks of backbreaking, snow-shoveling, carsliding winter torture.

The groundhog is a woodchuck who lives underground and hibernates in the winter. Groundhog Day started as a

tradition from Romans who carried the legend to the Germans during Roman invasions centuries ago.

Another holiday is celebrated on cast weather. February 2nd that connects with the Groundhog Day: the Candlemas Day.

Candlemas Day rooted from early European Christians tradition by which clergy blessed candles and gave them to people marking the second of February as important day in winter.

The Romans brought this tradition to

the Germans who then celebrated Candlemas Day. The Germans concluded that if the sun made an appearance on this day, an animal would come out from its hibernation and if it saw its shadow, six more weeks of winter were predicted.

What started as an ancient tale became fact in the early 1880s.

A group of residents from Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania decided to celebrate Candlemas Day and searched for a groundhog.

> In 1886, the group became the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club and christened a certain hilltop near the town as "Gobbler's Knob."

This location was the residence of a groundhog Punxsutawney named Phil who, according to the legend, could accurately fore-

And on Feb. 2, 1887, Groundhog Day became official and rose to fame throughout the world.

Today, from Europe to Canada and the United States, the popularity of Groundhog Day continues to grow as society eagerly awaits six more weeks of winter or springtime joy.

Forum examines impeachment from different viewpoints

By KIM CONNELL Outside Oakland Editor

Last Thursday, the Center for Student Activities presented "The Senate Impeachment Trial of President Clinton," a forum for the OU community to discuss and debate the ongoing proceedings in American government.

The panel of speakers featured included: History Professor Carl Osthaus, retired Sociology Professor Harry Gold, and Political Science Professor John Kelley, who attempted to enlighten and challenge the crowd's view of the trial.

Each speaker presented the case from his own area of study, with Osthaus speaking about former impeachment decisions as in the case of president Andrew Johnson in 1868.

Osthaus said that Republicans were should be removed.

Gold spoke next from the sociological viewpoint, stating that he sees two themes in the Clinton case: one of value clashes and another of morality issues.

According to Gold, most Americans tend to think of themselves as "moral" and "law abiding."

"We have a desire to censor or punish those who follow a different code than our own," Gold added.

Kelly took the floor last, stating that the impeachment trial is "a wonderful experience" for Americans to witness "politics in action."

He believes there are many issues playing a role in this trial, which include historical revisionism, the media demanding the right to know everything and right away, and Republican political lust.

"We get satisfaction watching the high concerned about Johnson's refusal to and mighty brought down, even enforce reconstruction laws and felt he through we don't quite care for the

See FORUM page A5

CAMPUS VOICE

 "In the history of U.S. presidents, this is peanuts. The only serious charge is he lied. What a sex-starved fool. Clinton has he did, who really cares."

Mary Isaacs Scheduling Coordinator

 "I gave up listening to it. I am sick and tired of it and just haven't paid attention. I think it has been a witch hunt."

> Maura Selahowski Asst. director of Marketing and Business Campus recreation

 "I believe that the media is done a great job as president, better."

Tom Chirco MIS junior

 "Yeah (he should be impeached). It's scary to think that a married man can be that easily persuaded."

> **Beth Talbert** Communications lecturer

 "I do not believe that this is trying to make Clinton look like necessary. I find the latest decision to call witnesses obscene, because we've all heard the tesour economy has never been timonies. I am outraged at the amount of money spent, which could have definitely been used for something more worthwhile."

> Jacqueline Scherer Sociology professor

A JRN 200 class conducted the opinion poll-

CRIME

WATCH

Intruders in Dorm

A Hamlin resident received a call Thursday night from her ex-roommate saying that four men had stopped by the room looking for her.

When the resident arrived, the men into the room.

About an hour later, she received another call from the ex-roommate saying that the men were back and wanted

When she returned to the room, she was greeted by two of the men, whom she did not know.

They told her that they needed a place to stay and wanted to party.

When she refused to comply, they attempted to persuade her to let them

The ex-roommate then pulled the resident into the room, locking the door. The men proceeded to kick the door

repeatedly before leaving. The resident notified Nightwatch and

OUPD. The Assistant Nightwatch Coordinator was able to identify the men from the sign-in sheet and saw them run out to lot P-5 (across from Hamlin and

Vandenberg Halls). Officers went to the lot, finding no one

who matched the Coordinator's description.

Traffic Accident

A three car traffic accident occurred at the intersection of Meadowbrook and University Drives Thursday morning, when a car preparing to turn left into lot P-1 (across from South Foundation Hall) was rear-ended.

A domino effect was created when the

that car slammed into the vehicle in

No one was injured. Police ticketed the driver that hit the first car.

Missing Purse

A small, black Mickey Mouse purse containing several credit cards and car insurance information was lost or stolen Wednesday in the Dodge computer lab.

THE OAKLAND POST

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An independent award-winning paper at Oakland University since 1976

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A newspaper owned and published by the Oakland Sail, Inc. All Letters to the Editor must include a name, phone number, class rank and field of study or Oakland University affiliation. Letters more than 400 words will not be accepted. All letters are property of The Oakland Post and are subject to editing for clarity and length. The editor may use discretion to reject any letter for publication. The deadline for Letters to the Editor is Friday at 5 p.m.

EDITOR'S VIEW

Daytime TV ranges from talk to trash wasteland

Lesterday on the Jenny Jones show, participating guests had the chance to prove to the world that they're talented.

Tomorrow, for those who have nothing better to do between 11 a.m. and noon, tune in to NBC's Jenny Jones to witness "Out of control teenagers face the lie detector."

Wow. Sounds like a show you would want to miss. Or, maybe not?

Could the themes for her daily (Monday-Friday), onehour show be the reason she didn't win for favorite daytime talk show at Monday's first annual TV Guide Awards?

Well, wait a minute, that probably doesn't matter considering Jerry Springer was one of the four finalists.

Rosie O'Donnell earned the most votes from viewers, beating out Oprah Winfrey, Regis & Kathie Lee, and

Yes, Jones wasn't a finalist, but should Springer have

Honestly, it's pretty appalling to find Springer in the same company as talk show great Winfrey.

It's been said before, so let's say it again.

There is a difference between "Daytime Talk" and "Daytime Trash."

People watch "Oprah" to find out what's new with her book club, find tips from world accredited psychologists on child raising, and to witness up-close and personal interviews with celebrities like the Dutchess of York Sarah Ferguson, Madonna, Brad Pitt and Tom Cruise.

Then there is Springer.

Why do people tune into him? To see chairs, fists, feet and nasty names fly?

It's entertainment. It amuses people. It's "trashy," offensive and ridiculous.

And, for anyone who has never been to a live taping of Springer, the crowd doesn't just stand up and start chanting "Jerry, Jerry," they are coached.

Everything is coached—the applause and the booing. So if the audience is coached, what makes anyone think for a minute that the drama that is happening up on stage is real?

Could there possibly be so many dysfunctional, hostile, ruthless and mean people out there who are willing to go before millions of people and act like barbaric "assholes", as Springer might call them?

Television is a form of entertainment- be it a talk show, comedy, drama, soap opera or game show.

Some are better than others.

People need to accept various TV shows for what they are, entertainment, actors putting the bread on the table, producers keeping the ratings up.

Every show has its own niche.

For Springer, it's finding guests who are willing to beat the hell out of each other. For Jones, lately, it's finding individuals to waste a whole day for a makeover.

JEANNEE KIRKALDY

If you wish to comment on this editorial or any other story in this issue send an e-mail to oakpost@oakland.edu

PERSPECTIVES

DAILY AFFIRMATIONS AFFIRMATION 1: SOMEDAY, I AM GOING TO **RUN FOR PRESIDENTT OF** THE UNITED STATESS, AND PEOPLE WILL FINALLY RESPECT MEE. DAN By DAN QUAYLE

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Swim coach clarifies quote

Future nurse shocked

Dear Editor,

There is a first time for everything and writing a "Letter to the Editor" is a first for

What compelled me to write this letter?

As nursing students, our professors have educated us to focus on health and wellness issues concerning our clients.

Therefore, when I read the community calendar in the Jan. 20 issue of THE OAKLAND Post, I noticed a benefit for an organization that does research in seeking a cure for prostate cancer.

Can you imagine the shock I felt when I realized that the host of this wonderful benefit was Cigar Aficionado Magazine? Am I missing something here?

A magazine who hosts a benefit for a cure for prostate cancer and who is in the business of promoting cancer-causing products is a "perfect" example of an oxymoron.

Need I say more?

Sincerely,

Alexandra Demopoulos **Nursing Student** Sophomore Nursing Class Representative

Last week while my team was competing in South Florida, I received a voice mail requesting an interview from the Post.

This article was to be a historical look at the swimming programs. Needless to say, since I have been here for twenty years, I felt I could contribute something to the article.

I returned the call. For a historical piece the interview with me was very brief. Therefore, I gave the author pertinent facts and statistics.

Needless to say, I was extremely disappointed to read that the lead-in to the article that goes back to 1965, a quote by me referring to one of the most recent events in the history of the swim programs- our recent move to Division I.

The quote read, "There have been a number of disappointed, discouraged and even upset student athletes after the move in divisions. Some even feel betrayed."

I was not misquoted. I was being honest about how my team and alumni first felt when they realized they would not have a chance to defend the National Title they had

About how Yoav Ritter, a freshman at the first time, felt when he discovered he would not be able to defend the individual title (200 Butterfly) he had just won.

About how the guys on the 4x50 Freestyle Relay felt when they realized that some other team was going to win an event that had never ever been won by any other team than an Oakland team.

About how they would feel being the last OU team in the past 25 years to be able to qualify for the post-season.

Unfortunately, the question, "How do they feel about things now," was never asked.

The young men that I was referring to two years ago are extremely bright.

Once the emotion of the moment subsided and they were able to see the entire picture they quickly realized, as did I, that this move had to be made. It was in the best interest of the Athletic Department and the University

If they hadn't liked what they heard they were given a chance to leave. If they wanted to stay, but not compete, their scholarships would still have been honored.

They all chose to stay. They chose to start a about the historical outlook of a program new tradition and if you could have seen them swim this past weekend against Division I competition, I think you would agree, we're well on our way to returning to our past glory and we're extremely proud and excited about being the first ones to compete in Division I.

I appreciate the fact that THE OAKLAND POST wanted to feature the swimming programs and hope they do again.

Unfortunately, one quote taken out of context sheds a negative light on how our athletes and staff felt then and how they feel now on all the issues facing our program past and present.

Sincerely, Pete Hovland Head Coach Men's Swimming

Editor's note: "Plunge into history" ran in the Jan. 27, 1999 issue of the Post, and was written by Assistant Sports Editor Kelli Petrove.

"Dancing Bug" comic offends student

Dear Editor,

First and foremost I would like to commend you on the well-supported articles that you put in the paper about the Martin Luther King Day Unity March.

I also would like to let you know that I understand that work sometimes gets a little heavy, causing us to do things that we never intend to do. However, I do not think that this should be anyone's excuse to justify any mistake that he or she makes, because there are ways to keep this from happening.

I just wanted to inform THE OAKLAND POST staff and editor that in (the Jan. 20 issue) I saw something that I really took offense to. After reading about the Martin Luther

King Jr. March in the paper, I continued to look through the paper and found a rather offensive comment.

In the comic section of the paper there was a particular comic that read "Ethnic Humor." ...the comic strip... is a stereotype of African Americans and Jews.

I personally did not see the humor in the comic at all. I personally was offended because I am an African American female, and I don't feel that all blacks talk or behave

in the portrayed manner, nor do I feel that we are all from the ghetto.

Although this was not the most extreme

part of the (comic), whoever wrote this (comic), or placed (this comic) in THE OAKLAND POST, tried to justify it by (titling it), "Ethnic Humor, Inoffensive because it's Created by Members of the Ethnic Groups." Who cares who created it. The person(s)

who had the choice of putting this comic in the paper is just as guilty as the person(s) who wrote it.

I could not believe that in one section of the paper you would discuss unity and justice for all people, then in another section have a stereotype that continues to keep us from uniting, and is by far a misinterpretation of the truth. And there are no supporting facts to prove it to be true. I feel that people really need to wake up, and understand that ignorance will get them nowhere.

I am a student fighting for justice, therefore I hope that justice will be served in this mat-

Sincerely,

Angel Guy **Human Resources Sophomore**

SETTING IT STRAIGHT

THE OAKLAND POST corrects factual errors that appear on its pages.

• "Tom the Dancing Bug" is a weekly comic distributed by Universal Press Syndicate, to which the Post has subscribed. The comic is selected and dated each week by the syndicate. The comics will be screened more carefully, since the syndicate apparently doesn't censure what we or our readership may find offensive.

Post Information

Due to OC renovations, THE OAKLAND POST has. moved to the south side of campus. The office is temporarily located next to the Science and Engineering Building in Trailer B.

Editor In Chief News Campus Life Sports General Fax

(248)370-4268 (248)370-4267 (248)370-4266 (248)370-4263 (248)370-4265 (248)370-4264

via e-mail oakpost@oakland.edu Volume 25 Issue 17 - 16 pages

CENTER FOR STUDENT ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Congratulations! To our Oakland University Team!

On Saturday, January 30th the battle of minds determined who would represent Oakland University at the 1999 Regional College Bowl Tournament. The winners are: **Jeffery Fisher, Team Captain Jay Gazlay Kathryn Ruth Mayer Rick Herron**

Congrats also go out to our second place team:

Zack Azzam Scott Andrews Raymond Landsberg Cliff Schumer

A special thanks to Team Theta Chi for a great effort in this year's campus tournament!

International Travel

It is not too late... This year CSA is coordinating an exciting international trip to the exotic nation of Turkey. Don't let your chance to travel the world slip through your fingers! Not only would the experience look good in your memory of college life, but international travel experience is a great way to get noticed in any social or work environment.

The trip to Turkey will be May 15 - May 25, 1999. The cost will be \$1950 per person. The itinerary includes visits to Istanbul, Cappadocia, Pamukkale, Kusadasi, and much more. Visit mosques, ancient cathedrals and palaces. Learn about Turkey's rich culture! Bring back a sense of world travel and knowledge that will be with you forever. You'll never forget the fun and excitement of TURKEY1

Carl Barnes and Bonnie Abiko from the Department of Art and Art History will lead the trip.

Information is now available at CSA. Reservations for the trip can be made by calling Gina at DeWald Travel, (248) 528-9900 or (800) 228-0707

Nationally Acclaimed Speakers: Tuskegee Airmen

Come hear the tale of the first African American men to fly in combat on Thursday February 4th at noon in room 201 Dodge Hall.

African-American Contributions to **Arts and Literature**

Monday, February 8th at noon in Gold Room A, Oakland Center

The CSA Service Window

We now have tickets or sign up for the following:

- ❖ SATE Conference Sign-up
- SPB's Feb. 11 Trip to the Holocaust
- Student Tickets to Madam Butterfly

Wanat

Continued from page A1

He added that both UIC and OU are institutions representative of an increasing national trend of having a majority of non-traditional students.

"This is where issues (of nontraditional learning) will be resolved," Wanat said.

One of the issues Wanat mentioned he noticed at OU was the overall serious concern about

communication.

"It seems to me that's a critical part in any community," he said. However, Wanat said his knowledge of OU was limited.

the provost is to be "directly responsible for providing cultural background opportunities for students."

provide a rich university experi-

Prior to his current position, Wanat held various administra- said Michael Polis, dean of

provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, interim vice chancellor for research and dean of the graduate college, associate In Wanat's words, the role of dean for academic affairs, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and others.

Wanat earned a B.S. in mathematics from Loyola University, He also stressed the importance and an M.A. and Ph.D. in politiof diversity and existence of cal science from Northern "culture in the classroom" to Illinois University and the U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, respectively.

"He was quite impressive,"

tive posts, including interim Engineering and Computer Science, after Wanat's presentation Tuesday.

"He comes from a good institution which is similar to ours, but it is bigger and a little more diverse," Polis added.

All OU community members who met with the finalists filled out evaluation forms.

OU President Gary Russi will recommend one of the three finalists to the Board of Trustees after the VPAA/Provost search committee completes and submits final evaluations of all can-

Nominations are now being accepted for the following student awards:

WILSON AWARDS

Nominees for the 1999 Matilda R. Wilson and Alfred G. Wilson Awards must be graduating seniors in April 1999 or have graduated in June, August or December 1998. 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, usually a 3.3 or higher G.P.A.

HUMAN RELATIONS AWARD

The Human Relations Award recognizes a senior student who has made an outstanding contribution to intergroup understanding and conflict resolution in the Oakland University community. The major consideration of the award is the individual's service to the community.

Nomination forms are available at the Dean of Students Office, 144 Oakland Center, or by calling 370-3352. Deadline for both nominations is February 15, 1999

M.A.G.B. AWARDS

Nominees for the 1999 Michigan Association of Governing Boards (M.A.G.B.) Outstanding Student Awards must be at least junior standing, have an academic record of 3.0 or better G.P.A. and have distinctive leadership and community contributions. Nomination forms are available in the Dean of Students Office, 144 Oakland Center. Deadline for M.A.G.B. nominations is February 12, 1999.

Forum

Continued from page A3

process," Kelly said.

The audience of about 30 people asked a few questions, one being what parents should tell their children about the incident and proceedings.

Gold claims that the president's behavior should have no affect on a child's moral behavior, and that parents should teach their children their own set of morals.

This also led to the discussion of whether Americans would rather have a moral leader or a good leader in the White House.

"Nothing in the Constitution says anything about the president having to be a moral leader," Gold said.

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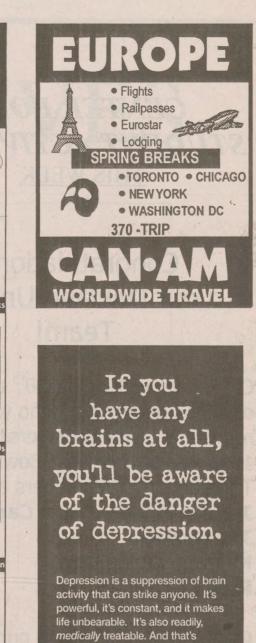


If you have story ideas, call us and let us know. Call X4268

1571







something everyone should know.

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Advertising, Web, Circulation & Editor-in-Chief.
Contact,

x4268

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Friday February 5th @ 8pm Vandenberg Cafeteria FREE

Additional support for this event was given by:

Greek Council, Oakland University Police Department, the Center for Student Activities and Leadership

Development Students Assint Perturbing Positions and the Model and Other Page Council

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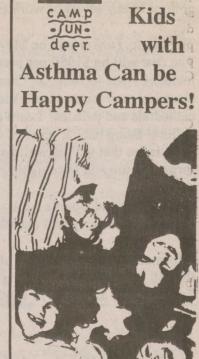
So look for and buy products made from recycled materials. And don't forget to celebrate America Recycles Day on November 15th.

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SEPA FOR





Kids at Camp Sun Deer are happy campers. Even with severe asthma, they are taking part in all the outdoor activities that normally come with camp. Children with asthma, ages 9-12, enjoy their camping experience without worrying about their health because specially trained volunteers are on hand. Registration deadline is May 2 for this year's camp, June 22-28. To register a child or to volunteer, contact: # AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION

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COMMUNITY

CALENDAR

FESTIVALS & SHOWS

• Spring Home & Garden Show Over 300 exhibits, sponsored by the Builders Industry Association. Feb. 4 -5, 2 - 10 p.m.; Feb. 6, 10 a.m - 10 p.m.; Feb. 7, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Novi Expo Center, Novi. Admission: \$6.50 adults, \$3.50 children, \$4.50 seniors 65 & older. Parking: \$5 cars and vans, \$10 large vehicles. Call (248) 737-4477.

• Detroit Boat Show

Feb. 6 - 14. Saturdays and Wednesday, noon - 10 p.m.; Sundays, noon - 6 p.m.; Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 3 - 10 p.m. Cobo Hall, Detroit. Admission: \$8, under 12 free, over 62 free on Monday. Call (800) 224-3008.

Sports Card Show

Featuring Hockey Hall of Famers Maurice "Rocket" Richard, Gil Perreault and Ted Lindsay, Detroit Viper Hockey Star Darren Banks and more. Feb. 5, noon - 9 p.m.; Feb. 6, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Feb. 7, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Gibraltar Trade Center North, Mt. Clemens. Call (810) 465-6440.

LECTURES/WORKSHOPS

• Hidden Fat in Your Diet Registered dietitian Mellissa Manser shows the hidden sources of fat in your diet an provides substitutes for cooking and baking. Feb. 10, 7 p.m. Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, Commerce Twp. Free admission. Call (888) DMC-2500 to register.

• Reincarnation & Karma Class explores previous lives. Feb. 3, 7 p.m. Grosse Pointe War Memorial,

Grosse Pointe. Call (313) 881-7511.

• Making it in Music Workshop Troy Public Schools want to teach aspiring musicians how to find a producer, how to get CDs made, how to promote music and more. Feb. 8, 7 - 9 p.m. Niles Education Center, Troy. Class fee: \$27. Call (248) 879-7582.

• Learn to Discipline Kids Clinical Psychologist James Windell presents "Discipline Strategies That Work." Feb. 8, 7:30 p.m. Birmingham Community House, Birmingham. Call (248) 644-5832.

• Focus on Families Workshops Great Lakes Crossing Mall is sponsoring free 45 minute family workshops. Topics include: gifted children, "boy" behavior, family laughter, teenage angst, temper tantrums, self-image, weight problems, discipline, day trips and fathering skills. 7:30 p.m. Fridays; 6:30 p.m. Saturdays, now through Feb. 12. Great Lakes Crossing Mall, Auburn Hills. Call (248) 454-5000 to pre-regis-

JOB FAIRS

• Construction Job Fair Macomb County is seeking entrylevel, skilled and professional workers to fill estimating, engineer, mason, and management jobs in construction. Feb. 3, 2 - 4 p.m., 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Macomb Community College, South Campus, Warren. Building K, room K301. Call (810) 228-3469.

BENEFITS

• Detroit Boat Show Charity Launch Entertainment, prizes and more. Benefits Vista Maria, Lighthouse of Oakland County, and Turning Point of Macomb County. Feb. 5, 7 p.m. - midnight. Cost: \$100. Call (313) 278-2629.

OF INTEREST TO ALL

• Roll-In-The-Silverdome Rollerskate to the latest tunes in the world's largest skating area. Now through the end of February. Pontiac Silverdome. Call (248) 456-1646.

Let us know about upcoming community events. Call Outside Oakland Editor Kim Connell at (248) 370-4267.

Conference challenges college drinking

By MELISSA BURDEN State News Staff Writer

pledged Tuesday to work together to combat excessive student drinking. Radisson Hotel, 111 N. Grand Ave. in Courtney Cantor died in October when

cate college students about the negative aspects of drink-

drinking and funding educational campaigns were brate." among the suggestions offered by students, lawmakers and university officials at the meeting.

asked the group to focus on a statewide Health, to have guardians notified if effort to fight excessive celebration

"If we can now take this structure to drive a number of other things, it will be worthwhile," said McPherson, who also stressed student involvement.

The ideas, many of which came from institutions touched by a recent alcoholrelated death on campus, included:

• Ferris state University President William Sederburg's proposal to tax beer and put the money toward financial aid. Two deaths at Ferris since December have been alcohol-related.

• Having universities provide a free movie pass or dinner for students on their 21st birthday as an alternative to drinking, an idea suggested by Nate Smith-Tyge, ASMSU Student Assembly chairperson. MSU parks and recreation junior Bradley McCue died in November after drinking 24 shots on

Computers,

What field should you be majoring in

if you want one of the top jobs in the

Do you have what it takes to make it in

These are questions all college stu-

dents ponder as they get closer to the

crunch time of actually needing a career

The good news is that increasing your

marketability now will help you with

According to the National Association

of Colleges and Employers (NACE),

many businesses are looking for those

who are not only hard working but also

Integrity, motivation, communication

skills, self-confidence, flexibility and

interpersonal skills are some beneficial

A strong work ethic, teamwork skills,

leadership skills and enthusiasm are

The easiest areas to find a high pay-

ing job are in technical fields, such as

computer science and system analyz-

Other fields of high interest are nurs-

ing, such as home health aids, and

have other important skills.

health top

Y2K jobs

By HILLARY CRAWFORD

United States today?

the real world?

after graduation.

your search.

skills to have.

also a plus.

his 21st birthday.

• The University of Michigan greek breaker anymore." community's proposal to have sorori-LANSING- Representatives from ties and fraternities hold two non-alco-Michigan's 15 public universities holic functions each semester. The plan came from Brad Holcman, a U-M student and former president of U-M's dents from drinking," said animal sci-University representatives met at the Interfraternity Council. U-M student Lansing, to discuss ways to better edu-she fell from her dormitory window after drink-

"Students need to ing at a fra-Increasing beer taxes, understand there are ternity party. Her bloodexpelling students for binge other ways to cele- alcohol level was below

Brad Holcman limit.

U-M Student • A suggestion from

James Havemen, Jr., director of the MSU President M. Peter McPherson Michigan Department of Community their child is a binge drinker. Underage consequences of alcohol use. binge drinkers should be given treatment or possibly be expelled from early is important to society. school for their behavior and an educacould be created, he said.

> McPherson said he doesn't expect MSU to begin expelling students for binge drinking any time soon. To change MSU's expulsion policy, a proposal must go through the student government and be approved by the MSU Board of Trustees.

> In addition to discussing solutions to binge drinking, the group discussed the magnitude of the problem and why it

> Many of these drinking problems exist because the notion of social drinking has been lost, Holcman said.

"Students need to understand there are other ways to celebrate," he said.

3. Registered nurses

News article.

keeping, and auditing.

health assistant areas.

nical field.

4. Teachers, secondary school

2. General managers and top executives

5. Clerical supervisors and managers

find a job in are in secretarial work, as products.

well as in farming, accounting, book-

Peg Pierce at the Southfield

find a job in computer science and

Pierce says she has noticed that many

which helps to get a better paying job.

more specific training," said Pierce.

"People are going back to school for

Pierce said she notices that many peo-

ple who have a four year bachelor's

degree are now going back to school for

a two year associate's degree in a tech-

Though technical-based jobs are not

ing job, it is an area where many jobs are

According to a NACE survey, the elec-

tronics, consulting, and aerospace fields

head the list of top ten employers who

want graduates with technical degrees.

Other fields which call for technical

degrees include: computers and busi-

the only answer to finding a good pay-

"Alcohol doesn't have to be that ice-

The ideas were met with mixed reviews from students who weren't at the meeting.

"I don't think a ... tax would stop stuence freshman Betty Nash.

Joe Allen, a no-preference freshman, said universities shouldn't control students' drinking habits.

"The university's responsibility is to educate the students," he said.

The state also will be involved in the plan. Haveman announced his department will give \$433,000 to state universities to finance five-week mentoring programs that focus on alcohol and drug-free activities.

The department will give \$150,000 for advertising in college newspapers and on radio stations that target target college students to educate them about the

Haveman said educating students

"If we don't address it early on, we're tional Web site on college drinking going to be paying for it socially for decades to come," he said. "We're not talking about social behavior, we're talking about deadly behavior ... I think four deaths are enough. We need to draw the line."

As the leader of one branch of MSU's student government, Smith-Tyge, who spoke at the meeting, said more enforcement is not the answer to the problem. An advertising campaign and treatment for students who are regular binge drinkers are positive measures, he said.

"If you don't communicate with students, there are going to be more Munn fields at other campuses across the state," he said.

petroleum, building materials and con-

Looking up the perfect career is easier

The Career Resource Center, located in

The center is open Monday - Thursday

from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and provides occu-

career counseling, resume critiquing,

"We strongly recommend students

students

senior

take a look here before they graduate,"

Katschanow already have post gradua-

"I have a job lined up already so hope-

fully it will be what I want it to be," he

Communications senior J.T. Delcamp

"It's scary because I want to make sure

that what I'm going to (grad) school for

center worker Linda Sisson said.

OU

tion plans... and some fears.

career at any level of education.

519.6

467.0

410.8

312.1

261.5

Top 5 occupations with fast growth, high earnings,

and low unemployment (in thousands):

Source: US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Projections: 1996 - 2006

The job that makes the highest starting ness equipment, engineering and sur-

wage is cosmetic dentistry at \$100,00 - veying, computer software and data

\$133,000 a year, according to a recent US processing, automotive and mechanical,

Some areas which might be harder to struction, and chemicals and allied

Employment and Training Center in 154 North Foundation Hall, is a good

Southfield said that it is the easiest to place to research and plan out your

people want to further their education, pation match-up computer programs,

than you think.

and career literature.

Communications

also has plans.

Some

Q: Do you like index mutual funds other than the S&P 500-stock index funds? In particular, what is the difference between S&P 500 funds and index funds that track the Russell 2000? — J.S., via the Internet

A: When you hear, "The market was up 28 percent last year," that means that a particular measurement of the market, in this case the Standard & Poor's 500 Index, was up 28 percent for the year. Anyone who owned an index fund tracking the S&P 500 during 1998 would also have seen their money grow by basically the same amount. Meanwhile, owners of any of the 88 percent of actively managed mutual funds that underperformed the S&P would have watched their investment fall short of this benchmark.

But are index funds just for the S&P 500? Oh no. If you can name a measurement of the market, then somebody has probably slapped an index fund on top of it: the Russell 2000 (an index of 2,000 smaller-company stocks), the Wilshire 5000 (the entire stock market - in reality there are about 9,000 publicly traded companies, but the "Wilshire 8,934" just wouldn't sound too good), the Dow Jones Industrial Average ... The list of different indices that have mutual funds tracking them is getting longer all the

And we like them all. Almost.

Different indices will produce different results over the short term, but various ivory-tower academic studies show that different sectors of the market have more or less produced the same results over longer periods of time. Though last year, the S&P 500, which indexes the largest companies in America, returned 28 percent, the S&P MidCap 400 (which tracks mediumsized companies) returned 9 percent less. However, over the last 10 years, the S&P 500 has returned 19.20 percent annually, and the S&P MidCap 400 has returned 19.28 percent. Pretty darn

Sometimes it takes longer for the averages to even out like that. The Russell 2000, the best-known smallercompany (or small-cap) index, has returned an average of 12.92 percent over the last 10 years. Does that mean small-cap companies can't keep up with bigger companies, or that a smallcap index fund should be avoided? Not if you look at the longer term. Over the last 40 or 60 years, the returns of the biggest and smallest companies are nearly identical.

But watch carefully what some companies are selling as "index funds." The real point of investing in index funds is not to try to pick the "hot" index or to pick the "cold" index before it gets hot. Putting your money into an index fund — any index fund — delivers great results to the long-term shareholder because index funds keep costs so low. The Vanguard index funds have annual costs of roughly 0.19 percent. Full-price brokerage Morgan Stanley, on the other hand, runs an S&P 500 index fund (buying the exact same stocks as Vanguard's fund) with annual costs of 1.5 percent — nearly eight times as much. Yikes!

YOUR FOUR DAY FORECAST

is what I want my career to be."

Thursday

teaching for secondary schools.

Rain / Snow High - 39° Low - 31°

Friday



Mostly Cloudy High - 39° Low - 27°

Saturday



Rain / Snow High - 43° Low - 31°

Sunday



Partly Cloudy High - 37° Low - 25°

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Piano, Guitar, Voice teachers needed for immediate openings for a studio in Rochester Hills. Please call: 248-852-8133

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is seeking a flexible customer orientated person for the following positions: Pay is \$9-\$10 per hour based on experience.

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To work in group homes or parents' homes for developmentally disabled individuals. Flexible hours, afternoons, midnights and weekends. Career opportunities and benefits available. Call 248-674-5862

Michigan Dairy

has immediate openings for part-time (20-30 hours per week) merchandisers for the Kroger stores located in Clinton Twp. and Sterling Hgts. area. This person would be assigned to visit each store every 30 days and would be responsible to merchandise Kroger Dairy products, train store employees, and reset shelf as needed. Hourly pay is \$10-\$12/hr. Communications will be with Michigan Dairy, located in Livonia. Interested

persons should call: 734-522-7060 ext. 257 or send resume to:

Michigan Dairy 29601 Industrial Rd. Livonia, MI 48150 Attn: John Palmer

Summer Management Internship

We are currently hiring motivated freshman, sophomore and junior undergraduates to fill summer internship positions. Salary of \$400.00 per week plus profit sharing bonus. Positions available in Rochester and all Metro Detroit suburbs. No Experience necessary, we will provide full training. For Further information please call:

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STEE

Section B Wednesday, February 3, 1999

The DAKLAND POST

CALLING ALL SWEETHEARTS:

We NEED your Valentine's Day true stories — your good and bad accounts of that special day, to publish in our Feb. 10 issue. Keep 'em descriptive and interesting but clean and under 450 words! Drop them off at THE OAKLAND POST, Trailer B, behind the SEB by 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5, or e-mail them to us at alnobile@oakland.edu. Any questions? Call (248) 370-4266.

Mike Murphy



Life doesn't stop for your fever anymore

I'm sure the high fever I'm running is affecting my reasoning, but I think I really miss my childhood.

The evil mad mailbomber that is the common flu sent me a package this week, and I'm still picking up the pieces of the resulting explosion.

And this flu that's going around OU is a mighty one. Remember last Saturday? I don't. I slept through it. Yes, the whole damn day.

I could go on. I have a quiz, two papers, and an exam all next week. I needed this weekend to lock myself in my room and take down all of next week's education complications oneby-one, kung-fu style. Instead? I've been in bed.

And it's been a real nasty time, too. Ever been so sick you can't even sleep? It's a little like being so angry that you can't even breathe.

Of course, I was feeling both at the same time.

No, I could bore you to tears with the details of this semester's bout with the flu — okay, I just did — but my point is that when you're sick, you have a lot of time to think.

And, for some reason (likely the fever), I thought about how great it is to be sick when you were a kid.

Remember being able to stay home from school? Wasn't that the best?

You just curled up on the couch with some hot tea and soup and watched cartoons or slept. You had "make up work" waiting for you at school the next day, but no one cares if you're a day behind in 3rd grade math

Yes, your nose ran constantly, you talked incoherently, and you couldn't do anything productive; but at age 7, you acted like that even when you were healthy.

And when you were young you had Mom who could, at least for a while, actively take care of you. This is, quite possibly, the coolest thing since my current savior, antibiotics.

See, this is one of the big reasons why guys keep girlfriends — because they need moms, even later in life. Don't buy that "strong independent male" act for a second, ladies. Just wait 'til he gets sick and "needs" you and you'll see how "independent" the lying bastard really is.

It's different today. In college, life doesn't just pause to wait for you to get better. Often, we have to go to class with some ghastly disease, staggering through South Foundation straight from "Night of the Living Dead," smelling nasty, with an exotic-looking rash on our arms and a violently spewing cough that sounds (and feels) like our lungs are literally leaving our body.

And yet, we still show up on time to class. No extra credit. No fanfare. No glory. Such a struggle, for what? A lousy quiz that the professor cancels anyway.

We've seen these heroic students in action, haven't we? The guy taking the test even though he can't quite remember how to write complete sentences?

The guy who looks like an extra from "Outbreak" valiantly trying to finish his oral presentation so he can retire back to his seat just in time for his last rites?

These sort of atrocities were unheard of back in the friendly confines of third grade. Frankly, I'm pissed.

Nobody even told me, back then, that it would be this way. The world keeps going even when I'm sick, and most importantly, I want my mommy, my blankey and my nappy medicine right now! Er.... Sorry.

Wish me luck, OU. I'm feverish again. And I'm too old for this.

Jumior Mike Murphy is a journalism major and staff writer for THE OAKLAND



SHINING THROUGH: Performers with the Oakland Dance Theatre express themselves at their December concert, "Leaving Ground!"

assions By KRYSTAL KALTZ

An increasing number of OU students

have chosen to major in the art of

dance and follow their dreams

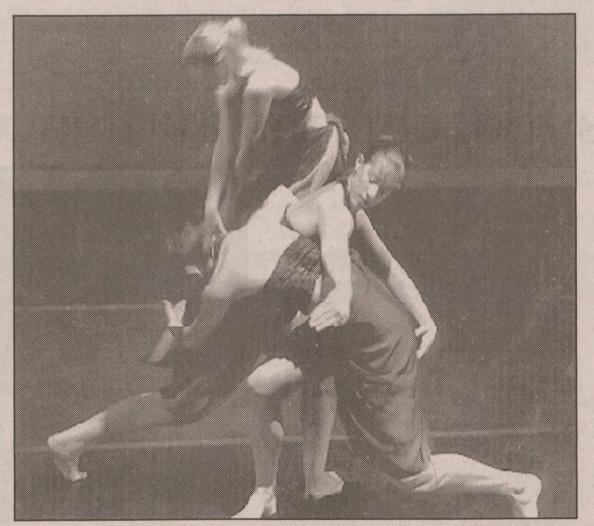


Photo Courtesy / Oakland University

COMING TOGETHER: Dancers often use their bodies to convey feelings and emotions.

Assistant Life Editor

Hidden away in the bowels of Varner Hall exists a group of students with a shared passion for motion.

In a school full of aspiring physical therapists and engineers, the dance major is skyrocketing, according to Laurie Eisenhower.

Eisenhower, professor of dance at OU for the past 12 years, has seen the program nearly double in size in the last three years, since dance became a major.

"I like to teach dance as a performing art instead of a competitive sport," she said.

However, if the students want to become professional dancers, learning the competitive edge is necessary.

"For those who want to get out there and dance, it's really tough to find a job," said Eisenhower. "Especially working with the kind of people and choreography you enjoy."

Angela Frabotta and Melanie King, both juniors and dance majors, realize the challenge they are up for.

They both plan to move to New York City after graduation and share an apartment while searching for professional work.

"It will probably be more like a shack than an apartment," said King.

Professions such as choreography and teaching, however, offer more jobs to dance majors.

"You don't even really need a degree to do a lot of things in dance," said Frabotta.

So if finding a job may be so difficult, why do students even bother with this major?

"It's the freedom to express yourself in art," said Chris Teeters, biology and communications senior and dance

Rebecca Bradin, dance senior said, "It's just what I've always wanted to do. I guess it's my passion, you could

CURRENT

EVENTS

ON CAMPUS

- David Daniels Young Artists Contest, 3 p.m. Sunday; Varner Recital Hall. Call (248) 370-2032.
- "Death and the King's Horseman," 8 p.m. Thursday, Friday, Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday; Varner Studio Theatre. Call (248) 370-2032.

THEATRE

- · "A Tale of Two Cities," 8 p.m. Thursday, Friday; 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday; Hilberry Theatre. Call (313) 577-2972.
- "The Piano Lesson," 8 p.m. Friday; 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday; Bonstelle Theatre. Call (313) 577-2972.
- "Kentucky at Sunrise," 10 and noon Monday; Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History. Call (313) 494-5800.
- " The Inheritors," 7 and 9:30 p.m. Friday; 7 and 9:30 p.m. Saturday; 4 and 7 p.m. Sunday; Detroit Film Theatre. Call (313) 833-2323.
- "The Brandon Teena Story," 7:30 p.m. Monday; Detroit Film Theatre. Call (313) 833-2323.
- "The Fantasticks," 8 p.m. Friday; 8 p.m. Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday; The Farmington Players. Call (248) 624-7467.
- "Defending the Caveman," 8 p.m. Tuesday - Friday; 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday; 3 and 7 p.m. Sunday; Fisher Theatre. Call (313) 872-1000.
- "Promises, Promises," 8 p.m. Friday; 8 p.m. Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday; Stagecrafters Baldwin Theatre. Call (248) 541-6430.

MUSIC

- Robert Walter's 20th Congress: A Greyboy Allstars Sidecar Project, 8 p.m. Sunday; Amer's First Street Grill. Call (248) 645-6666.
- Huun Huur Tu (The Throat Singers of Tuva), 7:30 p.m. Thursday; The Ark. Call (248) 645-6666.
- Phil Woods Quintet, 7:30 p.m. Saturday; The Ark. Call (248) 645-6666.
- "Der Gerettete Alberich, Hebrides Overture and the 'Eroica,' with Evelyn Glennie," 8 p.m. Thursday; 8 p.m. Friday; 8:30 p.m. Saturday; Detroit Symphony Orchestra Hall. Call (313) 576-5111.
- Patti LaBelle and Gerald Levert, 8 p.m. Friday; Fox Theatre. Call (248) 433-1515.

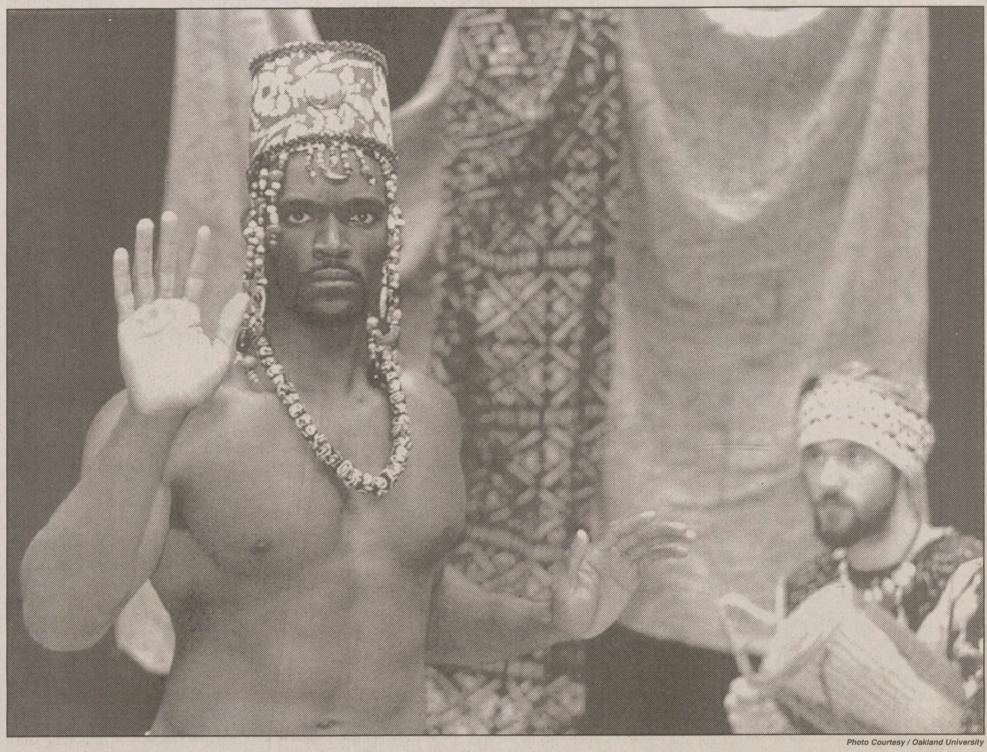
EXHIBITS

- · The Michigan Watercolor Society Annual Traveling Exhibition, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday - Friday; Oakland County Galleria. Call (248) 858-0415.
- "Half Past Autumn: The Art of Gordon Parks," 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday; Detroit Institute of Arts. Call (313) 833-7900.

MISCELLANEOUS

- "Discover Stars on Ice," 8 p.m. Saturday; Palace of Auburn Hills. Call (248) 373-0100.
- · "A Conversation with Gordon Parks," 2 p.m. Saturday; Detroit Institute of Arts. Call (313) 833-7900.
- "Quilting Time," 5 p.m. Friday; Detroit Institute of Arts. Call (313) 833-
- "Tossing Life in a Basket: Art and Divination in Central Africa," 2 p.m. Sunday; Detroit Institute of Arts. Call (313) 833-7900.

'Death' becomes them



DEATHLY DUTY: From left, Elesin (Esau Pritchett of Saginaw) accepts his duty as the king's horseman, as Tim Kennedy of Fort Gratiot looks on.

Cast learns lesson in clashing cultures, customs in MTD's latest

By KRISTAL BYRD Staff Writer

ed by the sights and sounds of ritual drumming and tribal dancing best Horseman," by Wole Soyinka, the Nobel Laureate for Literature from Nigeria,

grabs our attention. OU, professor and director Michael Gillespie presents, at Varner Studio Sons." He has also a won the American Theatre, "Death and the King's Horseman", a play based on a real-life Acting Award in 1997. incident involving a ritual sacrifice in a

Two cultures, British and West African, clash because of conflicting views of morality.

thing for a chief-horseman to follow his king in death through ritual suicide, but he said. the British viewed it as a barbaric practice that had to end.

aware and have respect for the customs low the king in death. of other cultures. It causes the audience their customs infringed upon.

Senior Esau Pritchett, theatre, plays horseman, who has committed to perform the ritual suicide.

Pritchett has performed key roles in In honor of Black History Month at other OU productions, such as "Othello", "Twelfth Night" and "All My College Theatre Festival's Irene Ryan

Pritchett said that he learned a lot from Nigerian village and the interference of being in the play. He explained that it a British colonial officer that ends in was a challenge to understand cultures different from our own.

"We see suicide as something immoral. But this play forces you to respect the beliefs of other cultures. These beliefs In a Nigerian village, it was a noble are so strong that when they are infringed upon, it wrecks everything,"

His favorite scene in the play, is when his character, Elesin, says that he will The comedy, music and dancing are not be like the "Not-I bird" who when entertaining to the senses, but the play death comes to visit, cries "Not-I!"

also challenges viewers to become Elesin sticks to his commitment to fol-

Junior Travis Walter, theatre, plays the A feast for the ears and eyes, punctuat- to imagine what it would be like to have role of Simon Pilkings, district officer of the British colony.

"I enjoy this role because it's a chalerful and he doesn't care who he offends,"said Walter.

theatre, portrays an English princess, and a village woman.

As a village woman, she adds "comic relief" to the play when she and other young villagers taunt British officers.

Junior Patricia Bullock, theatre, portrays a village woman and an African dancer, who is oppressed by British

Her role is to support and carry out the traditions of her culture.

Learning Nigerian dance was a fun experience for her. "It's more of a spiritual experience than a technique," she

The music, dancing and costuming in the play are authentically Nigerian.

The music was put together by Mark Stone, director of OU's African Drum

and Dance Ensemble. His wife, Nigerian native Elizabeth Serwah, was in charge of the elaborate costumes and choreography.

Director Michael Gillespie was very interested in doing this play. "I had describes how "Death and the King's the lead role as Elesin, the king's chief- lenge. I like the fact that he's very pow- wanted to do this play many years ago, but didn't have the opportunity, because there weren't enough students Freshman Theresa Catalfio, musical for the cast. Now we have a good strong core, and I figured that Black History Month would be the best time to do it,"

> "Death and the King's Horseman" runs Feb. 4-14 in the Varner Hall Studio Theatre. Feb. 4, 5, 6, 11, 12 and 13 shows are at 8 p.m., with two 2 p.m. Sunday matinees on Feb. 7 and 14; and two student matinees at 10 a.m. Feb. 9 and 10. Tickets are \$10 general, \$8 seniors, and \$5 students.

Call the Varner Box office at (248)370-3013 for reservations and information.

Tickets are also available through Ticketmaster Ticket Centers or by calling (248)645-6666, or one hour before performance at the Varner Box Office.

Poet reflects life, charms audience

By KRYSTAL KALTZ Assistant Life Editor

She's 55, she calls her own hair "nappy" and she has "Thug Life" tattooed on her left forearm in honor of the late 2pac Shakur.

Poet and author Nikki Giovanni spoke Thursday in Meadow Brook Theatre in honor of African American Celebration Month.

The theme for this year's celebration is "Artistic Expressions of African American Life and History." The audience was made up of roughly 250 students,

faculty and general public. Giovanni spoke on such topics as age, sex, life,

domestic abuse and gay rights. She never offered an opinion, she just related the facts to her audience.

And, if the murmurs of agreement and outbursts of applause are any indication, she succeeded in capturing the hearts of her listeners.

"It was great...very good," said Ashante Barnes, mecahnical engineering sophomore. "I liked the poems and stories she told."

Giovanni would speak for a few moments about a specific topic and then highlight what she had said with an appropriate poem from her collection.

She gave herself a shy smile at the end of each recitation, as if she were again realizing the feeling she had intended to capture with the poem.

Audience applause seemed to surprise her.

Possibly, this is because her poems are her life, reflected. Each has a special meaning and story

For example, her poem entitled "Telephone Poem," is dedicated to the memories she has of a childhood friend and their phone conversations.

The poem remembers playing, laughter and lemonade stands as well as those sneaky late-night phone conversations that always included the line, "Hang up. No, you hang up first."

Anthony Ford, philosophy junior, attended Thursday's presentation. "I thought it was very inspirational," he said.

Inspiration is easy to find in a woman who speaks of reality with the ease of a comedienne.

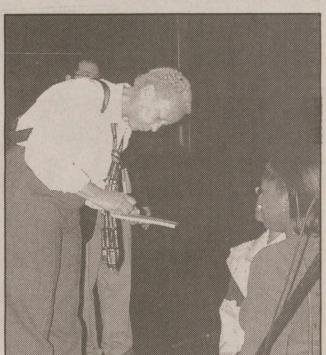
She has the ability to look back upon events in her lifetime and find the humor and meaning behind all of

Giovanni has written nearly twenty books, and all but one are still in print.

"Black feelings, Black Talk/Black Judgement," "The Women and the Men," and "Cotton Candy on a Rainy Day" are only a few examples of her books of essays and poetry.

A recording has also been made of her poetry, selling as one of the best albums in the country.

Giovanni has been named "Woman of the Year," by three different magazines, has received honorary doc-



POETIC INSPIRATION: Author and poet Nikki Giovanni signs one of her 20 books for a fan.

torates, and teaches literature, writing and poetry at Virginia Polytechnic University since 1987 as part of the Commonwealth Visiting Professor Program.

GET OUT

to the

Actor Jason Schwartzman talks music, life, first films and Max Fischer



FIRST RUSH: Newcomer Jason Schwartzman stars as Max Fischer in the comedy "Rushmore."

By ANDREA NOBILE Life Editor

Jason Schwartzman has been a busy guy lately, and it shows.

On this particular day, a rainy Monday morning, Schwartzman has taken to nestling his body every-so-comfortably into a big, cream-colored couch in downtown Royal Oak's Brazil Coffee House.

His eyes are slightly droopy as he answers questions from the reporter before me about his first film, and his eyes. first starring role, as Max Fischer in this week's "Rushmore."

The actor, a vision of dweeby funk in a peach, gray and green Hawaiian shirt, gray chinos and '70s style Adidas sneak-

ers, also recently completed his first album for Geffen Records.

Schwartzman, a drummer, describes his four-year band, Phantom Planet, as a Beatles-esque group with a vibe similar to The Who and today's Weezer. Besides music and acting, Schwartzman also writes plays and poetry, and has written and directed a few short films.

"It's been a hard year. Making a movie and doing an album are two very hard things to do. I've been kind of tired," he says, looking out from under his weary

He's been doing press interviews for "Bottle Rocket" director and co-writer Wes Anderson's second feature film since 6 a.m. today.

Some strong coffee should help him, so

Schwartzman, barely over 5' 4", saunters up to the counter, wanting something extremely sweet, with a lot of caffeine. What he gets is a potent double cappuccino with Hazelnut and Irish Cream flavorings, topped off with whipped cream and chocolate sprinkles.

It's this very drink that Schwartzman, a recent graduate of high school, offers to me at the end of our interview. A fear of germs did come to mind, but you can't argue with an overtired actor — he yawned repeatedly during the inter-

Schwartzman went from recording his album, "Phantom Planet Is Missing," to the movie's Houston set in less than a

"We recorded for like a week and a

half for some songs on this album and then I left that night, like, the last night of recording, on the red-eye. Then one week later shot the movie for three months, then got back and then we finished recording the album," he contin-

"Rushmore," a Touchstone Pictures release written by Anderson and "Bottle Rocket" co-writer Owen Wilson, also stars Bill Murray, Olivia Williams ("The Postman"), Brian Cox and Oscar-nominated Seymour Cassel.

The tragic comedy involves the actions of an obsessively off-balance 15-yearold student (Schwartzman) at Rushmore Academy and his dead seri-

Please see JASON page B8

Andrea Nobile



Make a date with greatness; rent an indie film

I guess it's just a matter of opinion.

I know, independent and limitedrelease studio films, like this week's "Rushmore," are starting to get the attention they deserve.

Critics and film scholars are saying this is a great time for movies.

Supposedly, the days of the big Hollywood movies, with the big Hollywood stars and the big, happy, tidy Hollywood ending are slowly dying off.

Whatever. That idea still doesn't comfort me into believing cinema will ever rid itself of the Steven Seagals and Bruce Willises of the film world.

I was struck by horror today, after reading in this week's Entertainment Weekly that the bright-lights, big-guns summer hit, "Armageddon," was the highest-grossing film of the year, making a grand total of \$624.3 million in domestic, foreign and video gross. I wept with disgust.

Even the critically-cursed "Godzilla," the film no one admits to seeing, made \$136 million in domestic gross alone.

"The Opposite of Sex," a wickedly entertaining romp with Christina Ricci and Lisa Kudrow, made \$6.4 million.

Not that all independent films (defined as a film made outside The Hollywood System), are great.

It's just that these cheaper films have a greater chance at being great, only because their creative juices aren't constricted. There's no nervous suits, otherwise known as producers, hovering over production, weary of anything that's not a sure sell.

That's why many big-budget films today seem like mincemeat pies of yesterdays hits - studios are more likely to back something if it's a formula they already know works.

And then there are money matters. Independent film budgets hardly ever push \$5 million, thanks in part to the absence of overpaid actors and overrated special effects.

So what comes from independent film is usually original, smart and hopefully, unlike anything seen before.

I don't know how many times I've brought home an indie movie from the video store, and my roommate said to me, "Oh God, not another one of your weird films."

I don't know how many times I've asked a friend to go see a small film like "Waking Ned Devine," "The Opposite of Sex," or "Velvet Goldmine," and they said, "Oh, can't we go see 'Armageddon'?"

Which, of course, is why I have to rent all of these films. For every "Stepmom" I'm dragged to, I run to rent "The Daytrippers."

I know, you've probably never heard of the latter film, have you?

It's definitely one of my favorites — a charming road-movie with Hope Davis, Parker Posey and Liev Schrieber. Davis and family jump in the family station wagon and head to the city to confront her cheating husband.

What comedy, heart and tears that ensues is better than any guns and buns you'll see in "Lethal Weapon 4."

So, take this challenge. Next time you're sauntering up and down the New Release aisles of your local Blockbuster™, put back "Rush Hour," and try something smaller.

Start easy, with something like director Kevin Smith's clever "Chasing

Sooner or later, you'll be renting his \$10,000, black and white debut, "Clerks" and loving every minute of it.

Senior Andrea Nobile is a journalism major and Life Editor for THE OAKLAND

THE REEL DEAL

'Rushmore' quirks not for everyone

By ANDREA NOBILE Life Editor

Making the new comedy "Rushmore" a marketing hit is like trying to find a parking space you're happy with at OU. You want something close, something you're familiar with. You don't want to go too far out there, and try something

"Rushmore," the latest quirk oddity by "Bottle Rocket" director Wes Anderson, is like that far off parking space. It's perfect, really. It does a tremendous job, creating one of the most original films in

But because its so far out there, people will most likely stay away.

Touchstone Pictures' latest release tells the hilarious, yet sad story of Max Fischer (Jason Schwartzman), a 15-yearold shorty with major ambitions most fourtysomethings wouldn't attempt.

Fischer, played to perfection by Schwartzman, actress Talia Shire's son, is obsessed with his prestigious high school, Rushmore Academy. Despite being the school's worst student, he's probably their most high-profile, off-kilter pupil to date.

"Rushmore" **Gimme More**

000

out of 4 points Fischer is editor of the school newspa-

per and vearbook, president of the French Club, German Club, Chess Club and Astronomy Club, captain of the fencing and debate teams, founder of the Doubleteam Dodgeball Society and director of the Max Fischer Players, just to name a few.

Fischer doesn't know what it means to fail (even if he is on Sudden-Death Academic Probation).

When he falls for Miss Cross, (Olivia Williams of "The Postman"), a firstgrade teacher, he attempts to build an entire aquarium in her honor, simply because she likes fish.

His ignorance-is-bliss ego deflates when he finds out Cross is dating his friend (and new enemy), steel tycoon Mr. Blume (Bill Murray.)

"Rushmore," is hilarious at times. From Fischer's dead-pan reactions to



WHAT A 'RUSH': From left, Jason Schwartzman, Bill Murray and Olivia Williams in director Wes Anderson's "Rushmore."

turn as the depressive millionaire who wants a second chance at happiness and love, it makes for a weirdly entertaining being a teenager on the verge. hour and a half.

will actually fall for this odd-ball come- dares to go that far out.

anyone trying to knock down his dy. This isn't rolling-in-the-aisles kind dreams, to Murray's career-jumping of stuff. It's more sophisticated and squirmy — the best laughter comes when you remember what it was like

"Rushmore" will probably be ignored And yet, I doubt mainstream America by large audiences — these days, no one

FOR YOUR ENTERTAINMENT

TELEVISION

• This Thursday's "ER" finally gets the award-winning scrubs drama back into shape, when Oscar-nominated actor Djimon Hounsou joins the cast as a hospital janitor, at 10 p.m. on NBC.

· "HBO's Comedy Hour: George Carlin: You are All Diseased," gives the classically gruff comedian a chance to use those seven dirty words, at 9:30 p.m. Saturday on HBO.

It's time to see whether or not the tvmovie "The '60s" lives up to the hyperactive ad campaign NBC has been steering for months now, at 9 p.m. Sunday.

FILM

• "Payback," box-office phenom and all-around loved actor guy Mel Gibson's latest, gives the Oscar-winning actor a chance to play the bad guy — but he's still the star, of course.

· World War Two drama "Saving Private Ryan," runs back into the theatres this week, just in time for the voting Academy to remember this summer's second highest-grossing film of the year.

· Check out Brazil's best film in years, "Central Station," showing exclusively at the Main Art Theatre in Royal Oak.

BOOKS

• "Playing for Keeps: Michael Jordan and the World He Made," by biographer David Halberstam looks at the success of basketball's living legend.

• "Why Not Me?," writer-comedian Al Franken's latest poke at politics, fictionalizes the campaign farce of a presidential candidate with a taste for hookers and a platform determined to end ATM

• "The Emperors of Chocolate: Inside the Secret World of Hershey and Mars," by Joel Glenn Brenner, explores the surprisingly odd lives of Forrest Mars and Milton Hershey.

VIDEO

· If you're one of maybe ten people who didn't see the gross-out hit comedy "There's Something About Mary," yet, run to the video store savor in all it's bodily fluid and body parts.

· "Mulan," Disney's latest hit film about underdogs, shortcomings and eventual triumph, features voicework by Ming-Na Wen and Eddie Murphy.

• Fans of 1996's best-seller "Angela's Ashes" should check out "The McCourts of Limerick," a documentary featuring the hearty life and times of author Frank McCourt and family.

ETCETERA

CITIZEN DOG





WERE BACK! HIS A REAL TREAT TO HAVE YOU ON TODAY, MEL! GLAD TO BE ANY CHEERIOS!

BY MARK O'HARE

BY MARK O'HARE



BilarRO

one we liked ...



BiZarRO by Dan Piraro



by Dan Piraro

Your mom & I couldn't agree on a name for you & the hospital came up with Always remember to wait a few seconds after an ambulance passes to let the lawyers go by. -And THAT'S Why my

TA-DAM



THE UNIVERSAL CROSSWORD Edited by Timothy E. Parker 1/31/99

Dominique

to bed and

rise to be

wise

ACROSS Volcano Lover" 1 Benatar and novelist Boone 25 1960 Elvis 5 Classic TV's O'Reilly 30 Gymnast

10 Get one's mitts on 14 Moises or

Felipe 15 Pianist's exercise 16 Unwanted look

17 Cakewalk 18 "Half ___ is better..." 19 "¿Cómo usted?' 20 Noted 1990

documentarv 23 Garcia/ Hoffman film 24 "The

> PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER FOR 1/24/99



"Tom the Dancing Bug," "Citizen Dog," "Bizarro," "Cheap

Psychological Tricks" and "News of the Weird" are weekly

and daily syndicates

that will be featured on the Etcetera page.

BOLLING

ship 41 Asner/Ritter

TV sitcom 43 Fireplace receptacle 48 Mel Brooks'

31 When to go western 53 Like a no-hitter 54 Words on a cake in

32 "Agnus Wonderland (Christian 55 Gershwin prayer) and Levin 35 India and 57 Tours "with" indelible 58 Less 36 Williams of upfront

tennis 59 Converse 37 Extend competitor credit 60 Stocking 38 D.J.'s pile style 39 Pea eating 61 Brings aids home the

40 Unwanted bacon water on a 62 Pulitzerwinning critic Richard

> the course 2 Off kilter 3 Weapons of the Old West 4 Classic

DOWN

Motown group (with 'The") 5 Think

"FIERY ENTERTAINMENT" by James R. Richardson

logically 6 King of the Huns in myth 7 Batman and Robin and Laurel and Hardy

8 Brylcream portion 9 Denials 10 Former senator

1 It can be for rounds? 11 Pose for another portrait

> rival 13 Fort in North Carolina

22 Calhoun of filmdom 25 Letters on a bank's door

26 "The Before Time" 27 Davis of Louise" 28 More sound

29 Word with brain or who made blind 34 fixe

12 State Farm 21 Pupil locale

as tires 42 Ceremonial dinners 43 The "A" in James A. Garfield 44 Nat Turner

or Dred "Thelma & Scott 45 Cottontails 46 A slav 49 Type of affair 50 Use a wok

32 Did a mail carrier's job 33 MIT grad. 36 Type of waltz 37 Like some

wax figures

39 Siamese

40 Treadless,

before "Let's eat!," perhaps 52 "The Sweetest Taboo" singer

51 Word said

56 Obsolete map abbr

TOM the DANCING BUG PRESENTS:



Placebo Drug Craze Hits Teens





"BUT WHEN I FOUND A SYRINGE AND A VIAL OF SALINE SOLUTION IN HIS UNDERWEAR DRAWER, I KNEW OUR BILLY HAD A BIG PROBLEM."



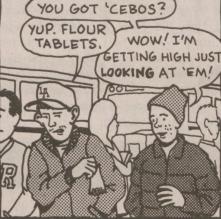
HER SON IS HOOKED ON THE LATEST TEEN DRUG KICK--PLACEBOS.

MEDICAL SCIENCE

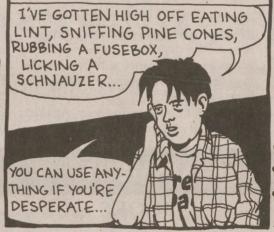
HAS KNOWN ABOUT PLACEBOS FOR YEARS, BUT THEY'VE ONLY NOW BECOME A DAN-GEROUS TEEN RAGE.



WORSE, THIS DRUG PREYS ON OUR MOST IMPRESSIONABLE AND STUPID YOUNGSTERS.



THE FRUSTRATION IN FIGHTING THE DRUG IS THAT ANY SUBSTANCE CAN BE USED FOR A PLACEBO EFFECT.



PLACED ALONE IN A BARE, WINDOWLESS ROOM, THIS TEEN CAN STILL GET HER FIX" BY HOPPING ON ONE FOOT AND SQUINTING HER EYES.



ANOTHER ISSUE IS THAT MANY PARENTS HAVE A CREDIBILITY PROBLEM.

OKAY, I EXPERIMENTED WITH SMOKING OREGANO WHEN I WAS A KID, BUT



THE ONLY TREATMENT FOR PLACEBO ADDICTION IS THE DIS-TRIBUTION OF RED-COLORED WATER AT PLACEBO CLINICS



Feb. 3 - Feb. 9



ARIES (March 21-April 20)- There may be a conflict now between your desires and your responsibilities. This conflict may not be resolved soon, so try to find a happy



TAURUS (April 21-May 20) - Conflict arises between ideal love and reality. For the next couple of weeks, use your idealism to make yourself a better person. Your partner will resist your suggestions right now anyway.



GEMINI (May 21-June 21)- Restlessness is high this week, so take time out to exert your nervous energy. Your magnetism right now draws unusual, though interesting peo-CANCER (June 22-July 22)— Try not to be too critical of



yourself (or others) this week. Love and deep thought are found through traveling, as well as a break from the heavy workload. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)- Regarding relationships, you may



feel like breaking off and starting new. Try, if possible, to slow down and remember relationships can be an asset and are not always a threat to your freedom.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 23) - You can be rather sensitive NOT this week, positively and negatively. Try to keep the dramatizing to a minimum. Partnerships are beneficial in a monetary way.



LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 22) - Spontaneous opportunities abound; take advantage. Benefits and enjoyment are found through the workplace.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 22) - Deception colors your friendships; watch your back, but don't deceive others. Heavy changes or activity are going on in your home, probable instigated by you.



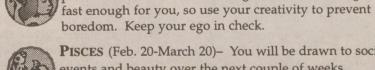
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)— Peace is found in your home. Your aesthetic sense of beauty is heightened throughout the month. Relatives call the shots this week.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) - Benefits are found



your wants, but stay patient and the conflict will dissi-AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)- Make a concerted effort to plan for the future before taking action. Life isn't going

through close relatives. Responsibilities get in the way of



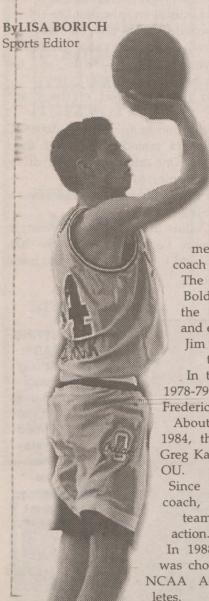
PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)— You will be drawn to social events and beauty over the next couple of weeks. Idealism is your greatest asset now, but be sure to accept reality for what it really is.

OU Alumni Damon Brown (Libra) has been studying astrology for the past 7 years and writing statewide astrology columns for the past year.

Check out your daily horoscope on line! www.oakpostonline.com

SPORTS

Dribbling towards the future



The OU Men's Basketball team has come a long way since its first season in 1967. Setting the standards tradition

was OU's first basketball men's coach Dick Robinson.

The next season Gene Boldon would head the basketball team and eight seasons later. Jim Mitchell would take over.

In the middle of the 1978-79 season, Lee Frederick took over.

About five seasons later, 1984, the current coach, Greg Kampe, started with

Since Kampe as head coach, OU's basketball team has seen more

In 1988, Scott Bittinger was chosen as one of the NCAA All-American ath-

Three seasons later, in the 1991-92 season, Eric Taylor was also chosen as a NCAA All-American athlete.

In the 1993-94 season the Pioneers reached the Regional Semi-Final, and a year later Tom Eller was picked as a NCAA All-American.

In 1997, the NCAA had Matt and Kevin Kovach as All-Americans.

Also in the 1996-97 season, OU was a Regional Finalist his players will stand up to the challenge. and in the NCAA Sweet 16.

Past OU players have gone on to play professionally. Currently, Kovach is a professional player in Germany along with Matt Stuck. Taylor moved on to play professional with the Grand Rapids Hoops team.

OU has also sent three other players to Germany to play professionally, but since have retired from bas-

also has retired from basketball.

Originally hoping to be the head coach for UCLA, Greg Kampe coached his first game here at OU against U-M, Dearborn.

"There were 73 people in the stands, and I counted them so I could see what I was getting myself into," said Kampe.

He added, "Now if you looked at the stands in the MSU game, the beginning of this year, we had 3400 seats filled with fans and the student section had OU students with painted faces and pon-poms."

He also continued to say that the MSU game was like the "birth of the university."

"People let their hair down and there was a great matter." sense of pride for the university," Kampe said.

Kampe was first told of the head coach position at OU from the baseball coach in Toledo, OH, the university where Kampe was coaching before he came to

"When I first came here (OU) I didn't drop my anchor, I tied up my ship," said Kampe talking about his his first years at OU, because Kampe originally wanted to end up at UCLA coaching.

Now that Kampe has been here for almost 14 seasons he has changed his opinion and he stated that he hopes to be here the rest of his coaching career, if the university will allow it.

"Our goal now is to win the Mid-Continent Conference." He added, "My vision (future goal) is I want to see OU students in front of their televisions watching the basketball team being announced in an NCAA tournament."

The men's basketball team has had a tough first year in Division I. It has been said in the Oakland Press that OU's men's basketball team has faced one of the toughest schedules in the league. And next year will

The Golden Grizzlies first game next season is away against U-M, Ann Arbor. But, Kampe is confident that

"This year has been an eye opening experience for us and its given us more motivation to do well, said

Compared to his first coaching team here at OU, Kampe sees a big difference in his teams.

Kampe said, "We have a much taller, stronger, and more of a love for basketball and competition."

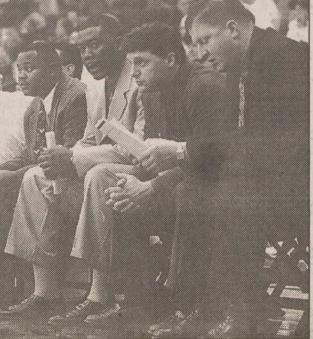
He said, "our team GPA is up to a 2.9, overall we OU also had Dennis Kann playing in Austria, but have a hallmark of a program with good athletes and also good students."

> Kampe also talked about last weeks away game, "We got in around 4:30 a.m. and we had four kids with 8:00 a.m. classes and all four attended their 8:00 a.m. class."

> Thursday OU will host Southern Utah at 7:35 p.m. On Saturday the Golden Grizzlies will face Western Illinois in a home game at 3:30 p.m. And, on Feb. 13 Kampe and his athletes face off at home against Chicago State.

> Last month, OU walked away from Chicago States home grounds in a 68-61 victory.

> "(On Feb. 13), I just want students to show up in masses, but I want them to represent OU in a classy



COACHING STAFF: 1998-99 OU Men's Basketball assistant coaching staff with Head Coach Greg Kampe.

dafaat

By ZVONKO BLAZEVSKI Staff Writer

Basketball is a game of streaks. OU almost had Valparaiso University. The

Crusaders were on the ropes

but OU could not hold them off during the final minutes on the road last Thursday. The final score of the men's game was 72-68.

OU started the game slowly but narrowed the Crusader's lead to two, at 29-27 at the half.

Champagne about the first half. "We hit a wall." buckled down and got back into the

Women dominate

U-M Dearborn

OU took a 64-50 lead with 4:27 left but saw that evaporate. Valparaiso's

Tarrance Price hit all four of his three-pointers down the stretch. The Crusaders' went on a 22-4 run in the final 4:27.

"We played tremendous basketball," said Myke Thom. "We were beating them at every aspect of the game. Tarrance Price started letting it fly and momentum shifted their way."

Champagne agreed. "We went out and played Oakland basketball. We played "We started out flat," said Dan well until the last four minutes when we

Leading the Golden Grizzlies' attack

was Brad Buddenborg with 20 points. Thom had 14 points and shot four for six from beyond the three point line. Champagne added 14 points and eight rebounds. Steve Reynolds contributed 10 points and had six assists. OU shot 38 percent from the floor in the first and shot 39 percent from the field.

"We should have won," said Buddenborg. "This was definitely our game to win but we gave it away."

Head coach Greg Kampe said, "we played well until the final four minutes of the game. We panicked. We had a chance to beat the league champs. We continue to learn from our mistakes."

Price led the Crusaders with 18 points.

Milo Stovall added 15 and Jason Jenkins poured in ten.

Valparaiso's Zoran Viskovic had ten rebounds as the Crusaders out rebound-

ed the Golden Grizzlies 41-34. OU's loss dropped the Golden

Grizzlies to 7-13.

"The game is over and we have learned no lead is secure," said Champagne

OU will try to get back on a winning track Thursday when they host Southern Utah at 7:35.

The Golden Grizzlies also play Saturday when they host the red-hot Western Illinois Leathernecks at 3:30.



FOR THE STEEL: Freshman, 11, guard LaTisha Martin tries to block and steel the ball from U-M Dearborn player in Friday's home game. The Golden Grizzlies beat the Wolves 85-50.

OU's Women's Basketball U-M

By RAMEZ KHURI

Staff Writer

team played U-M Dearborn in what turned out to be a laugher OU Friday night. OU ended up winning by 35

points, beating U-M Dearborn by a score ed that." of 85-50.

Led by freshman Stacey Premo's 12 points and ten rebounds, OU dominated in every aspect of the game, beating U-M Dearborn in total rebounds, assists, blocks, steels, and most importantly, the this." score board.

Contributing to OU's balanced attack was sophomore Becky Sensenig, who scored a college career high of 11 points, senior Tamika Bates, who also scored 11 points, and senior Teresa Tallenger, who finished with ten points and four assists.

"I was almost completely satisfied," said Sarah Judd, a starting forward for OU. "The transition (from high school to college basketball) wasn't really a big deal because I played in a great

high school league, where the competition was very tough." When asked if she was surprised

69 at the great impact she is making 73 on this team and its success, she replied, "Yeah, I am, I never expect-

OU was up by 32 points at half-time, and to ensure that there was no let down in the second half, Judd said, "We just tried to keep our focus on the game, and not get too relaxed against a team like

After playing at such a high intensity against Youngstown State last Saturday, Coach Beckie Francis didn't see any let down by her team.

"We had a great game at Valpo (Thursday night), and they were really intense and they were number one in the conference, and we did really well down there. It was hard to keep the intensity against Dearborn though,

when we were up 53-20, and I think we wins and 19 losses. may have been a little tired from traveling last night, we got in at like two in the morning, but sometimes you play down

Elizabeth Pulaski scored 16 points, Rica Barge scored 14, and Danielle Byers finished with nine for U-M Dearborn, who's overall record dropped to three

to the level of the other team."

OU's record improved to 11 wins and ten losses.

According to Francis, freshman Becky Barok was suspended for "breaking team rules."

The next home game is Thursday against Southern Utah at 5:15 p.m in the Borich



Swearing to tell the truth and the whole truth

Jack Mehl once told me, "I don't get paid to be liked, I get paid to do my

And after OU has spent almost a year in Division I the athletic department has chosen to do some spring clean-

Coaches have been let go or chosen to venture out of OU because of changes in the athletic department, and the athletic director does not care whether he is well liked or not.

Yes, there has been some changes, but the changes are not because a sports team has gone from a full-time to a part-time sport.

The sport I am talking about is the Women's Volleyball Team. It has always been a part-time sport with a part-time coach who also had another job through OU making the job full-

But as soon as half of that full-time job was given to another person that leaves the coach with only half of a job, which is coaching the Women's Volleyball Team.

So why is there all the confusion and chaos. The women's volleyball team is upset because its coach or father figure (like I have mentioned in previous columns) is leaving the OU women's volleyball program after this year because his contract is up.

The main reason why the coach is leaving—the contract renewal provides less money and no benefits.

The descion for the lower salary is the OU athletic department refuses to pay someone a full-time salary with benefits when they are only working

Now, no one can support a family with only a part-time salary and no

Sure people are mad, mainly the players and their parents, but the person making all the decisions for OU's athletic department does not mind if he is hated or not.

So athletes and parents can get mad at him all they want. It is not going to change anything.

The reason for all the confusion in past articles and columns...I admit, I didn't do something that all journalist should have learned in Journalism 200. I didn't dig deep enough to find both sides of the story. I think I was sick for that class discussion.

I was only getting the surface part of the story. So in a way, I feel like I was told the truth, but only half the truth.

For example, when I was covering the releasing of the baseball coaching staff and the volleyball's coach decsion to not renew his contract, I tried to dig deep for all the information.

The problem I faced was the athletic department was not giving specific details on the issue, but the other side was more than willing to talk about

My advice to everyone, when you think you have the truth to a story, and I don't mean little stories like my dog ate my homework type, but stories that are big and substantial that affect and deal with peoples lives, dig deep and find the whole truth.

Lisa Borich is a journalism major and the Sports Editor for THE OAKLAND POST.



DEEP BREATH: Freshman Kristen Kursiss takes a moment for a breath at the meet against Denison on Saturday. At the co-ed meet the women defeated Denison 129-114.

OU scores top times

By JEREMY SARNOVSKY Staff Writer

Last weekend the women's swim team both a first place finish with a time of 3:41.40. sank and swam.

EMU

DU

Friday night, the women faced off against a strong adversary against Eastern Michigan, and were eventually handed a 169-131 defeat.

The structure of dual meets is hurting the women's swim

"Dual meets are for teams with stars not for teams with depth," Women's Head Coach Scott

With the first place getting nine points and second place getting four, the first place position is extremely important to the team.

Many of the swimmers had their best times of the season and are reaching their peak performance of the year, however the meet was lost without key first place finishes.

"We are having a hard time getting touched out in close races," Teeters said. "We need to work on that."

Strong individual results were scored by freshman Kristen Kursiss in the 200-yard backstroke, with a time of 2:10.39, as well as by sophomore

Yvonne Lynn with a time of 58.42 in the 100-yard backstroke.

The women's 400-yard relay team also received

Without the expertise of junior Kazi Murr on the diving board, OU lost important points and handed ten points over to EMU.

"Kazi may be back for the NIC meet," Teeters said. "She would have won both the one and three-meter dives."

Although it was a tough loss, the women won at home versus Denison on Saturday 129-114.

Freshman Rachelle Atrasz led the way for Golden Grizzlies; scoring first place finishes in both the 1000-yard freestyle (10:39.96), and the 500-yard freestyle (5:12.54).

"Rachelle had her best meet of the year," Teeters said.

In the diving portion of the competition, OU showed their powers, taking first through third places in both the One and Three-meter dives, leaving Denison gasping for breath.

In addition to these efforts, there were several other first place finishes.

Junior Ellen Collins in the 200-yard freestyley 1:58.05, sophomore Peggy Strauss in the 2004 yard fly, 2:10.23, and Lynn in the 200-yard back stroke, 2:10.54.

EMU drowns Grizzly tankers; men sink Denison at home

EMU 163

By JEREMY SARNOVSKY Staff Writer

Results are becoming familiar to the men's

For the second weekend in a row, the Grizzlies captured a win, and also suffered a defeat.

On Friday, the men took on tough Eastern Michigan, who eventually handed them a 163-76 defeat.

Contributing to OU's team effort were three first place finishes, and numerous second and third places. In the 100-yard freestyle, junior Courtney Dunlap

overcame strong challenges from several EMU swimmers, when he claimed a first place with a time of 00:46.86.

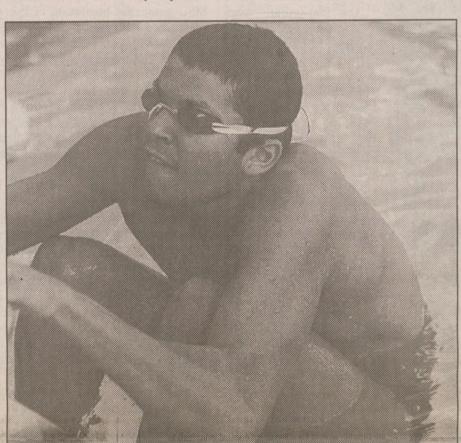
In the 200-yard backstroke, OU placed first and second, with Ido Meron clocking in at 1:52.58, followed by Haitham Hassan with a time of 1:55.45. Freshman

Mark Quinn also placed first in the 200-yard backstroke.

Despite the loss, OU was excited for their home match on Saturday versus Denison. This was evident when the men handed them a 146-93 defeat. Leading the way for the Grizzlies were the relay events, as both the 500 and 200 teams took first

Also scoring first was freshman freshman Andy Schmit in the 1000-yard freestyle (9:30.56) and the 500yard freestyle (4:39.26), junior Thiago Orso in the 200yard freestyle (1:45.07), junior Ido Meron in the 1000yard backstroke (52.70), junior Yoav Ritter in the 100yard fly (50.93), and senior Kevin Bobzien in the 50vard freestyle (21.41).

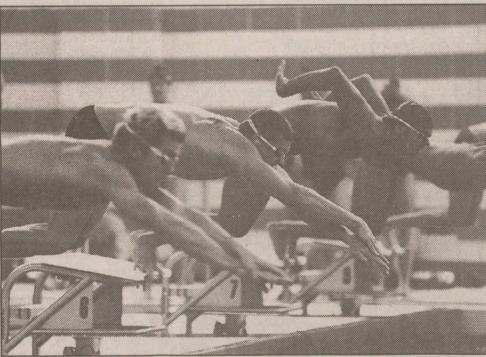
But OU's biggest event proved to be the 100-yard freestyle when Dunlap, freshman Nick Corden, sophomore Todd Duncan and senior Dan Naylis took the clerk and liferuard - come to an .aroitisog ruof irit



GETTING READY: Haitham Hassan prepares start the 200 medley relay at the home meet against Denison. Saturday OU placed first with a time of 1:34.97.

Spotlight on the

COURTNEY DUNLAP MEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING



RACING TOWARD EXCELLENCE: Courtney Dunlap, center, placed first in the 100 yard freestyle event against Denison on Saturday.

By KELLI PETROVE **Assistant Sports Editor**

At the end of his OU career, junior Courtney Dunlap will have ten years of swimming experience under his belt.

As a sprinter he swims the 50, 100, and 200 yard freestyle events, and has seen success in these events for years.

As a sophomore at Ludington high school he traveled with one other student to the state meet and returned as the only qualifier during his junior year. As a senior captain, Dunlap qualified in two individual events and in a relay

When high school was over, Dunlap moved onto OU to become a top swimmer for the Pioneers and now the Grizzlies.

His freshman year started out his OU swim career with a bang. He scored in his first NCAA Championship for his career best performance in the 100-yard freestyle, and also swam his career best in the 200-yard freestyle at the Eastern Michigan Invitational. He received the title of All-American after placing seventh at the NCAA meet.

His sophomore year at OU also proved successful, after he scored 28 points at the NIC Championship.

"Swimming has made my whole college experience perfect," Dunlap said. "I wouldn't trade it for anything."

The years of training and dedication have formed Dunlap into a model athlete. Standing six feet tall and weighing in at 180

pounds, Dunlap uses his strength to sprint to many first place finishes. Dunlap is a team player and says that his

favorite part about swimming is the team. "When I walked onto the team I had 25-30

automatic friends whether I already knew them or not," Dunlap said. "There is so much comradery between the guys on the team."

This past summer Dunlap traveled to Arizona to visit his dad's brother and his family. He spent most of his time babysitting and training. But, he did take a break from the kids for a weekend and drove to California to visit team mate Kevin Bobzien.

Since Dunlap returned home to OU, he's prepared for this season and has posted times low enough to place several meets.

GRIZZWALD'S INSTANT REPLAY

BASKETBALL

• The men lost to Valparaiso 72-68 on Jan. 28.



- The women lost to Valparaiso 69-73 on Jan. 28.
- The women defeated U-M, Dearborn 85-50 on Jan. 29.

SWIMMING & DIVING

- The men lost to Eastern Michigan 75-163 on Jan. 29.
- The women lost to Eastern Michigan 131-169 on Jan. 29.
- The men defeated Denison 146-93 on Jan . 30.
- The women defeated Denison 129-114 on Jan. 30.

THURSDAY

- The women's basketball team host Southern Utah at 5:15 p.m.
- The men's basketball team host Southern Utah at 7:35 p.m.

FRIDAY

 The women's swim team host Ohio University. Time TBA.

Inside

SPORTS

SATURDAY

- The women's basketball team
- host Western Illinois at 1 p.m.
- The men's basketball team host Western Illinois at 3:30.
- The men's swim and dive team host Cincinnati at 2 p.m.

The women's swim and dive

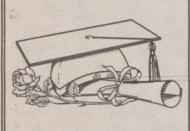
team host Ohio University. Time TBA.

SUNDAY

• The women's swim and dive team host Cincinnati. Time TBA.

SENIORSI

For those of you planning to graduate May 1, 1999 you have until Feb. 5 to apply for graduation. Hurry, rush to the cashiers window in NFH and turn in your application.

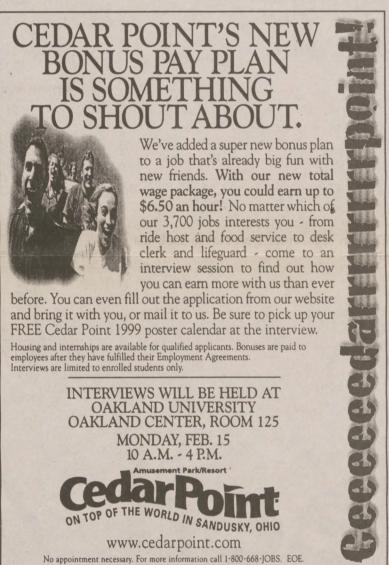




Fireside Lounge

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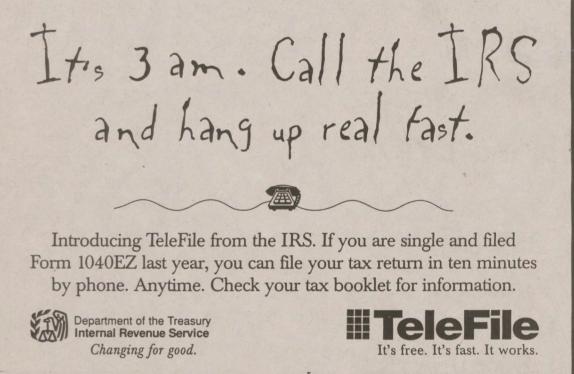
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to join in the song.



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Call Photo Editor Jenn Madjarev at X4263!

Call X4268 for more information on how to get involved.

Call X4267 with any news tips.

Chuck Shepherd's New Sof

LEAD STORIES

- Since 1996, accused murderer Eric Brown has been rendered incompetent, by paranoid schizophrenia, to stand trial, but officials at Bridgewater State Hospital in Massachusetts said recently that he had made enough progress while on medication that a trial can be scheduled. However, in December, Brown demanded to be taken off medication so he can return to his prior psychotic state in order to demonstrate that he is insane and thus a better candidate to be found not guilty. His psychiatrist is opposed, citing medical ethics prohibiting him from making Brown's illness worse.

- According to a December report in the Capitol Hill newspaper Roll Call, U.S. Rep. Dan Burton of Indiana brings his own utensils to a Capitol barber shop (scissors, comb, electric razor) to have his hair cut. Though no one would say for sure, reporters speculated that Burton does this for the same reason (fear of AIDS) that he has stopped ordering soup in restaurants and stopped going to the House gym around the time that colleague and gym regular Barney Frank revealed he was gay.

A December Newhouse News Service dispatch reported on the new fascination with tattooing among some younger evangelical Christians, who decorate themselves contrary to the teachings of the book of Leviticus, which in the last millennium was cited as the basis of calling tattooing "a form of deviltry." (On the other hand, supporters point out, the books of Exodus and Revelation describe holy symbols on the bodies of believers.) A religious female graduate student in California, interviewed for the article, said that among her tattoos was an angel, on her butt.

UNCLEAR ON THE CONCEPT

In 1997, four years after being convicted of raping a 15-year-old girl, inmate Graylon Bell won \$200,000 from a jury against the Indiana Department of Correction for being raped by his cellmate at a Plainfield, Ind., youth facility. In December 1998, Bell and the girl's family reached a settlement in her lawsuit to get part of the money. (only \$31,500 remained, after lawyers' fees, of which she will receive \$26,500.)

— At a September meeting of the Republican Party in Lawrence, Kan., a conservative faction beat back a challenge from moderates and retained control of the party. At the start of the meeting, when attendees realized there was no U.S. flag to which they could offer the traditional pledge of allegiance, the chairman solved the dilemma by unfurling a roll of 32-cent flag stamps at the front of the room.

WELL-PUT

- Tampa, Fla., nursing home resident John Yerger, 93, after realizing he had been duped into paying a \$5,000 fee to collect his alleged \$1 million winning in a Canadian lottery and ten cooperating with authorities in an attempt (unsuccessful) to sting the culprits: "It may have cost me \$5,000 but this is the most excitement I've had in a long time."

- Greensboro, N.C., city council member Keith Holliday, explaining in January why the city was forced to hire a public relations firm to deal with its current water-shortage crisis: "I'll bet you I've been asked 100 times... why we just didn't make our lakes bigger."

GOVERNMENT IN ACTION

- An inadvertent glitch in the recent earthquake-proof construction at Barnstable (Mass.) High School: The building is so solidly soundproof that students could not hear ordinary fire alarms, and for the first month of this school year (until the problem was fixed), the school board was forced to hire firefighters on overtume to stand guard in the building to alert everyone in case of a fire, at a total cost of about \$1,000 a day.

- Empowered by a November referendum in which 73 percent of the country voted against legalizing drugs, Swiss prosecutors announced they would file challenges to current law on marijuana, which bans its sale only as a "narcotic." Over the last three years, several hemp shops have opened, selling dried marijuana as an herbal room freshener (with names like "Juicy Fruit" and

"Lemon Skunk") and labeled "not for consumption."

— Tale of Two Towns: According to a December New York Times report, residents of the unincorporated community called Brooksville, Ala., are gathering signatures to petition the state to create an official town based on the Bible and the Ten Commandments, bringing together church and state, which are supposedly constitutionally separate. Sinners would be welcome but a reacted to observe public habouring codes and might have to

supposedly constitutionally separate. Sinners would be welcome but expected to observe public behavior codes and might have to attend church services to have their votes counted because many of the town's decisions would be made there. At the other end of the spectrum, El Paso (Texas) County officials in November got a court order decertifying the town of Buford, calling it a sham set up solely to protect virtually its only "residents": a dozen adult bookstores and strip clubs that have, in the 36 years of Buford's existence, been exempt from county regulation.

— According to Kenya's largest newspaper, the Daily Nation, the government in October formed a committee to study potential

government in October formed a committee to study potential problems with the country's computers' complying with the Jan. 1, 2000, date changeover. The final report and recommendations of the committee were ordered published within 18 months, which would be April 18, 2000.

LEAST COMPETENT CRIMINALS

– Julian Cabrera, 18, and a 14-year-old companion were arrested in October in San Diego and charged with shoplifting items from an AM/PM Mini Mart. A clerk who said he witnessed the shoplifting chased them out of the store and returned to call 911. While the clerk was on the phone, the suspects returned to the store to ask another clerk for a bag to put their stuff in. Their return trip to the store delayed them enough that police spotted them as they were leaving.

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, P.O. Box 8306, St. Petersburg, Fla. 33738, or Weird & compuserve.com

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Jason

Continued from page B3

ous attempts to woo a first grade teacher, Miss Cross (Williams), by building her an aquarium. Murray plays Mr. Blume, his business partner/friend-turned-enemy who eventually falls in love with Cross as well.

Schwartzman has been talking about the film all day long. He started out with radio in Canada, then hit a few television stations in Southfield and Detroit before settling in for some local print interviews in Royal Oak. Before the day ends, he'll have also visited Lansing and Ann Arbor.

But the compact actor still understands what an amazing year he's had. And, surprisingly, he attributes his good fortune to fate

"I find that with this movie everything was a major coincidence. Everything that had happened... Everything was weird about this movie. Things just kinda happened that were just strange. Everything was, like, just fate," he says, his almost black hair falling onto his forehead.

Schwartzman, who had no previous acting experience, won the part after auditioning for Anderson, who found the actor only a month before filming began. His search to find the perfect Max took nine months and exhausted 1,800 auditioners.

"I was at a party and (Casting Director Davia Nelson and I) were talking about this movie and she said that I should go up for it. I just met her. I wasn't even gonna go to the party," Schwartzman says.

"I mean, I was thinking the other night how amazing that night was for me. Like, if I hadn't gone to that party, what might my past year have been like? Totally different," he continues. If he had missed that party, he would never have gotten an opportunity to play one of the most quirky anti-heroes to date in one of the most original films of the year.

Some are dubbing this critically celebrated film a comedy about life. But the movie's star thinks there's much more there - the "more" being an audience reaction of underlying sadness and pity for the film's characters.

"It's a tragedy is what it is. And all tragedies are comedies, and people will relate to the looks on (Max's) face, and they'll feel passionate and they'll feel for the guy," he says, about whether or not audiences will relate to Max.

"Max is the kind of guy, you wanna kiss him after you slap him. You adore him, and there's a reason why he does everything and you're like, 'Oh Max, Max, Max. Why did you do that? You crazy kid.'"

For now, Schwartzman, the actor and musician, is taking it easy. He says he definitely wants to make another movie, and is planning to do Anderson's next, after a good bit of rest and relaxation.

Although it's doubtful Schwartzman wants to think any further into the future than the next few hours of sleep he can catch while on the road, he still knows what he wants in life.

"I guess my dream for the future is, (to) have the right balance of whatever is in my life. I mean, there's always going to be things tugging on me. I mean, ten years from now I could have a family, and then it's not the band and acting, it's family and job. I mean, there's so many things that come up in one's lifetime that are always tugging on you... My goal is to just constantly be balanced. And, I guess pertaining to the subject, finding that balance between music and acting," he says.

But first he has to get some sleep.

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