



THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

November 1, 2006

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50 cents



ON A2 AND B2.

ELECTION 2006

Complete election coverage, including ballot proposals, an election glossary and the latest polling numbers.

Also inside

Campus — A3

The search is on
The College of Arts and Science is looking to fill a position for a new dean. More info inside!

the Mix — A8

'Borat' is almost here!
Find out about all the crazy fun of "Borat" by reading our review on the Mix (A8).

Features — B1

The Post goes inside the marathon
An OU nursing major and cross country coach each complete Detroit Marathon.

Sports B-3

OU swimming dominates in Tri-Meet
Both the men's and women's swimming teams walked away with wins at meet.



Who are they?



Dick DeVos

- NAME: Richard M. "Dick" DeVos, Jr.
- AGE: 51
- RESIDENCE: Ada, Mich.
- PARTY: Republican
- EDUCATION: BBA Northwood University, Midland Mich.; Executive Study Programs at Harvard Business School and the Wharton School
- CAREER: 1989- Present: Founder, President of investment company The Windquest Group; 1993-2002: President, Alticor, Inc; 1991-1993: President and CEO, NBA's Orlando Magic
- PERSONAL: Dick was born and raised in Michigan. He has been married for 27 years to Betsy DeVos and they have four children; Rick, Elissa, Andrea and Ryan. His parents are Richard M. "Rich" and Helen DeVos

Jennifer Granholm

- NAME: Jennifer Granholm
- AGE: 47
- RESIDENCE: Lansing, Mich
- PARTY: Democrat
- EDUCATION: bachelor's degree in political science and French; University of California-Berkeley Harvard Law School
- CAREER: Lawyer, Michigan Attorney General 1999-2002
- PERSONAL: Granholm was born in the British Columbia district of Canada and moved to California when she was 4-years-old. She was also the first person in her family to attend college. She is married to Daniel Mulhern.



What do they stand for?



What does this mean to you?

By MARIA VITALE
Senior Reporter

With Michigan's plummeting economy jobs are on the top of the priority list for voters, even over abortion and other moral issues.

If DeVos wins the election, some changes that may be made include a tax cut for low-income working families and elimination of the Single

Business Tax. Also, Intelligent Design would be added in Science class as an alternative to the theory of Evolution. With DeVos as Governor, abortion may become an option only in cases where the mother's life is in danger. DeVos is for overturning Roe vs. Wade, if that Supreme Court ruling is overturned, abortion would no longer be available on demand. Embryonic Stem Cell Research would not be

opened up in Michigan. However, DeVos is for stem cell research that takes stem cells from adults rather than aborted embryos. Under DeVos, Affirmative Action initiatives would not be furthered as he doesn't see Affirmative Action as a solution to the problem.

If Granholm is reelected she plans to put into action a project that would put Michigan to work with road and

bridge projects and nursing home improvements and pollution cleanup. She would not be adding Intelligent Design as an alternative to Evolution Theory in Science classrooms. She would continue to break Michigan's stop on Embryonic Stem Cell Research, and begin using the stem cells from embryos for research. If still in office Granholm will continue to support Affirmative Action.

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Don't know what the political candidates are squawking about?: Check out our election glossary on B2



For fresh daily news and exclusive stories, visit our Web site at www.theoaklandpost.com

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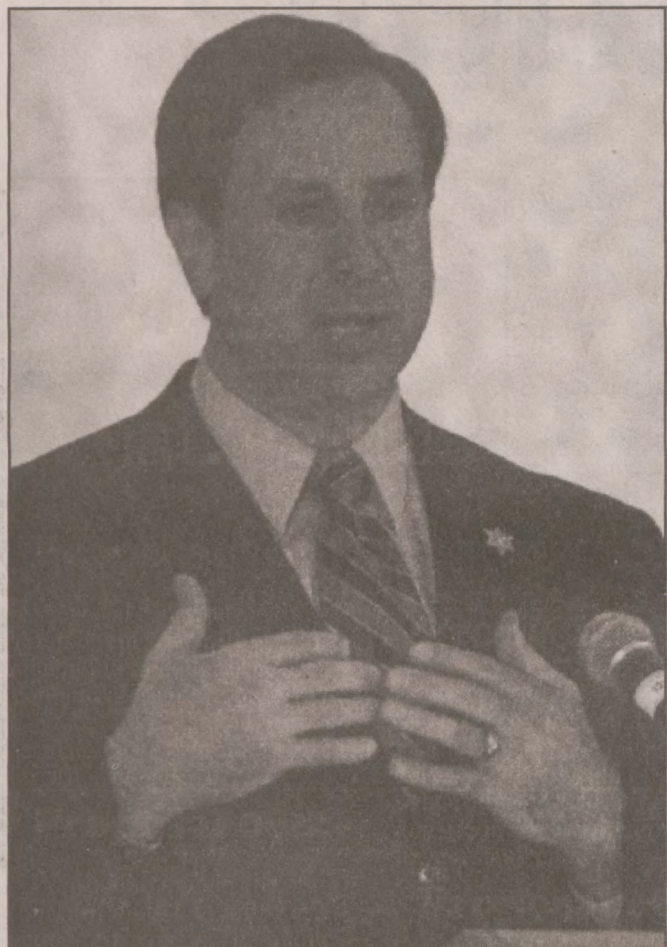
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News tip? Call (248) 370-4268



■ Who did you vote for and why? E-mail your response to editor@oak-postonline.com

Who are your U.S. Senate candidates?



Mike Bouchard

(AP) - NAME: Michael Bouchard

AGE: 50 (Born April 12, 1956)

RESIDENCE: Birmingham

PARTY: Republican

EDUCATION: Bachelor's degree in criminal justice and police administration, Michigan State University, 1979.

CAREER: Oakland County sheriff, 1999-present; Michigan Senate, 1991-99; Michigan House of Representatives, 1991; Beverly Hills Village Council, 1987-90. Former police officer and small business owner.

PERSONAL: Married to Pam Bouchard; three children.

Debbie Stabenow

(AP) - NAME: Deborah Ann Stabenow.

AGE: 56 (Born April 29, 1950)

RESIDENCE: Lansing

PARTY: Democrat

EDUCATION: Bachelor's degree, Michigan State University, 1972; master's degree in social work, Michigan State University, 1975.

CAREER: U.S. Senate, 2001-present; U.S. House, 1997-2000; Michigan Leadership Institute, 1995-96; Michigan Senate, 1991-94; Michigan House, 1979-90; chairwoman, Ingham County Board of Commissioners, 1975-78.

PERSONAL: Married to Tom Athans; two children and one step-



Bouchard tries to gain on Stabenow

By TIM MARTIN
Associated Press Writer

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — When Republicans shopped around for a place to try and knock off an incumbent Democratic senator this fall, one of the first places they looked was Michigan.

On paper, Sen. Debbie Stabenow looked like she could be vulnerable.

The freshman senator squeaked into office by little more than 1 percentage point in 2000, beating Republican incumbent Spencer Abraham by one of the narrowest margins in the country.

The state economy — hammered by layoffs in the auto industry and the loss of its blue-collar manufacturing base — is among the worst in the nation, a recipe for potential voter unrest.

And Republican challenger Mike Bouchard is good on the stump, able to talk about his law-and-order record as the sheriff in one of Michigan's most populous counties, where he could attract lots of votes.

But Bouchard has struggled to capitalize on his strengths. He has trailed Stabenow in recent polls, in some cases by 10 percentage points

or more.

Thirty-four percent of 600 likely voters polled statewide Oct. 22-25 by Lansing-based EPIC-MRA either did not have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Bouchard or didn't recognize his name.

Stabenow — with a stint in the U.S. House and previous statewide runs in her three-decade political history — is much better known and has focused her campaign on issues worrying voters in her economically strapped state.

She has run ads saying she is fighting to protect jobs and health care, was instrumental in striking a deal to stop some of the Canadian trash being dumped in Michigan and has helped protect the Great Lakes.

Despite that name recognition disadvantage, Republicans remain hopeful about Michigan. Analysts point to the National Republican Senatorial Committee's infusion of \$1.2 million to the Bouchard campaign and last week's \$700,000 campaign fundraising stop in Warren by President Bush as evidence some party leaders believe Michigan still is winnable.

"It's an indication at least the White House thinks the seat is in play," said Craig Ruff of Public Sector

Consultants, a Lansing think tank. "They wouldn't visit at this point if they didn't think it was within shooting distance."

Other analysts say Republicans are so tied down defending incumbents in other states, trying to preserve their Senate majority, that Bouchard still won't have the cash he needs to make a late run at Stabenow even with the recent infusion of money.

"It'll be an uphill battle for Mike Bouchard," said Ross Baker, a political science professor at Rutgers University who analyzes congressional races.

Stabenow campaign spokesman Brent Colburn said the GOP hadn't made a substantial financial commitment to the Bouchard campaign when compared to Republican Senate candidates in states such as New Jersey and Virginia.

Stabenow has been able to count on some high-power visits of her own, including past appearances by Illinois Sen. Barack Obama and a stop planned for Friday in the Detroit area with former President Clinton.

Stabenow had a large cash advantage overall, having raised \$12 million since she became a senator in 2001. Bouchard reported raising

about \$5 million as of Oct. 18.

Republicans say Bouchard would have broad appeal if he could get his message out to voters. They say his law-and-order background resonates in the post-9/11 age, and he's in touch with the state's economic woes, at one point touring the state in a U-Haul to symbolize people leaving Michigan to look for jobs elsewhere.

But many voters — including supporters — remain in the dark about him.

"I know nothing about Mike Bouchard — other than he's a sheriff and he's a family man," said Drew Klovens, a Lansing baker and self-described conservative who plans to vote for Bouchard anyway. "I just haven't heard much about him."

Co-worker Jane Stevenson plans to vote for Stabenow because the incumbent senator is more in line with her views on abortion rights and other social issues.

Both voters say national and state policies have contributed to the state's job woes, along with missteps by the Big Three automakers. And they doubt a single U.S. senator has much effect on the state's economy.

"The writing was on the wall 20 years ago about the auto indus-

try, and nobody paid attention," Stevenson said.

There has also been relatively little attention paid to the Senate race.

Stabenow agreed to two low-exposure debates, one of which was taped and shown twice statewide on public television stations. But she rejected Bouchard's request for a live broadcast showdown on statewide TV.

The Senate race also has been overshadowed by the state's gubernatorial campaign and the Detroit Tigers' run to the World Series, which have dominated media coverage in recent weeks.

Given his showing in the polls, some might expect Bouchard to be losing heart. Instead, he's drawing on history to convince backers he still has a chance down the stretch.

He notes that Stabenow was outspent by Abraham in 2000 and trailed him in early October polls by 10 percentage points, but beat him 49 percent to 48 percent on Election Day.

Bouchard says the same formula could work again — this time, in the GOP's favor.

"Things are going in the right direction," Bouchard said of his upset chances. "It's all going to be about turnout."

What are this year's proposals?

Proposal 06-1

Proposed constitutional amendment that will require money intended for conservation and recreation funds to be used for their planned purposes. The money cannot be used for other means.

Proposal 06-2

Proposal to amend the state constitution to ban affirmative action programs in the public institutions. According to the ballot language, the public institutions affected by the proposal include state governments, local governments, public colleges and universities, community colleges, and school districts. By voting yes for Proposal 2, you are voting

to ban the affirmative action programs.

Proposal 06-3

Referendum on Public Act 160 of 2004, that would allow for the hunting of mourning doves. The act would establish a mourning dove hunting season and require a dove hunter to have a small game license.

Proposal 06-4

Proposed constitutional amendment that would prohibit the government from taking private property by eminent domain, in certain instances. The amendment would prohibit the government from "taking private property for transfer to another private individual or

business for purposes of economic development or increasing tax revenue," according to the proposal language. For the government to take private property, it would have to demonstrate the property was to be used for public use.

Proposal 06-1

Legislative initiative to create mandatory school funding levels. The proposed law would increase funding by about \$565 million and require the state to finance any shortages in the General Fund. It would also reduce the cap retirement fund contribution paid by public schools, community colleges and state universities and "shift the remaining portion to the state."

The Oakland Post is hiring!

We are hiring for the following positions:

- **Two senior reporters:**
One will cover a general assignment beat and the other will cover a public affairs beat, which includes covering OUSC and BOT meetings as well as keeping up-to-date on local public affairs and politics.
- **Two assistant editors:**
One assistant features editor to help the section editors of: the Mix, Noted and Features.
One assistant news editor to help the section editors of the front page, campus and local news.
- **Two advertising sales people**
Both will assist the advertising management staff in selling advertising to local and national advertisers
- **One assistant photo editor**
This person will assist the photo editor in editing and taking photos and managing the photo staff.

If you are interested in any of these positions, please drop your resume and cover letter off at 61 Oakland Center or e-mail us at editor@oakpostonline.com.

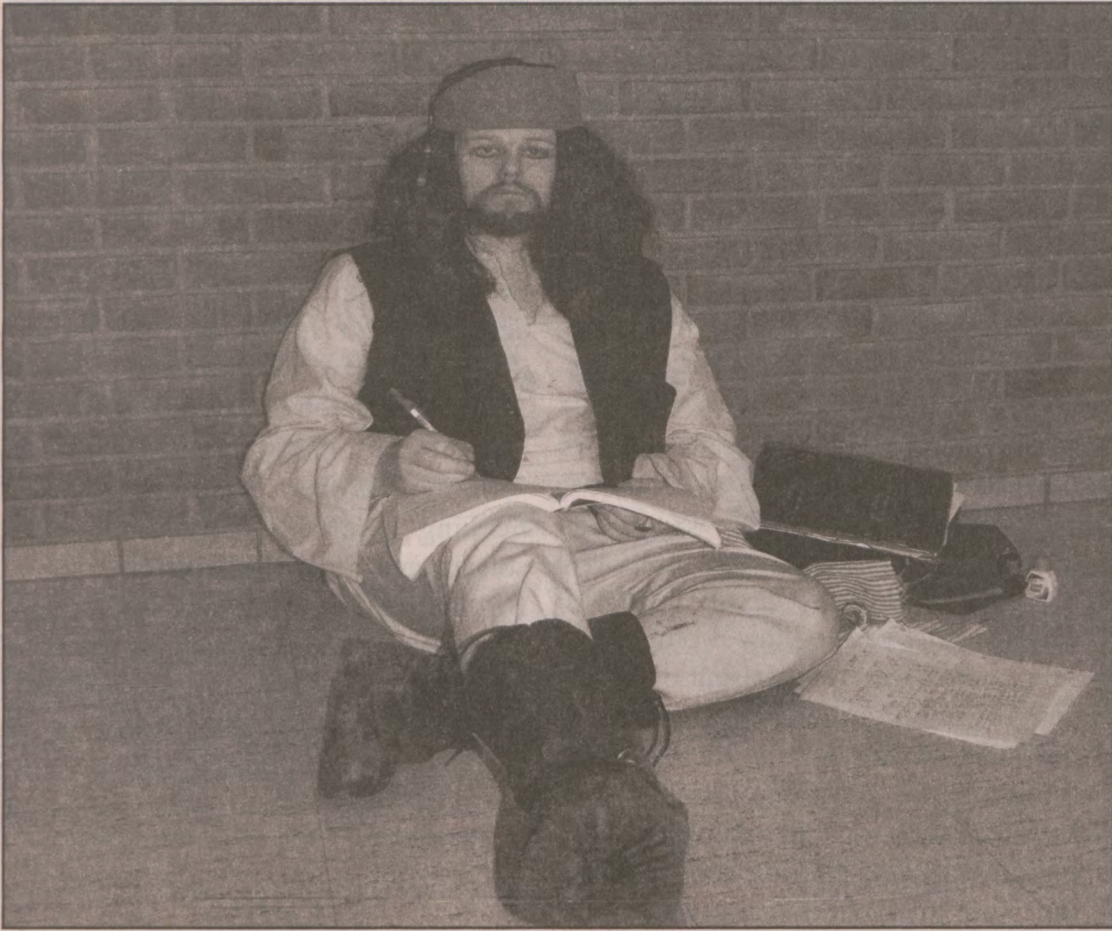
What do you think?

How will you be voting on this year's proposals?

E-mail your thoughts to editor@oakpostonline.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY ...
 "You're a student at Oakland? You must be smart — only smart people go to school at Oakland University."
 — Detroit Tiger Manager Jim Leyland to Post editor Kara O'Connell

OU HALLOWEEN '06



DAN WILKINSON/The Oakland Post

Captain Jack Sparrow — otherwise known as Junior Dan Foeller, — takes a break from battling evil pirate ghosts to knock down some schoolwork on the first floor of Wilson hall. OU students were spotted yesterday sporting a variety of interesting costumes.

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

Q: Do you support affirmative action? Why?



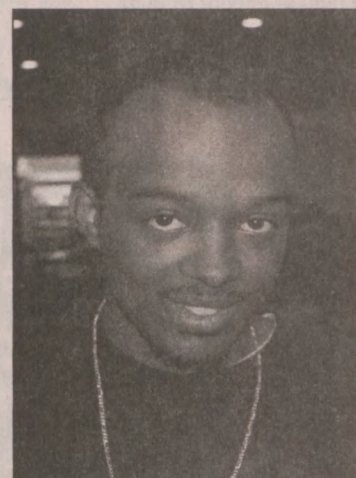
A: No. I personally think affirmative action is reverse discrimination against people.

Solomon Lamacchio
 Junior Marketing



A: Yes. I feel that there's still discrepancies between education in certain areas where it's not equal.

Jonathan Thomas
 Sophomore Biology



A: Yes. I don't believe the playing field in America is equal yet.

Brennon Edwards
 Sophomore Business

Search is on for new arts and sciences dean

Committee looks to fill position

By KYLE MAGIN
 Senior Reporter

Wanted: A new dean for Oakland University's College of Arts and Sciences, an expanse filled with 15 departments, 60 majors and well over two-thirds of the universities' student population.

Finding a candidate willing and able to meet the needs presented by such a plethora of people is the job of Chemistry

professor Mark Severson.

Severson heads up a search committee charged with finding the person to oversee all those students. The eight-member committee plans to have the new dean hired by February so they can start by summer semester 2007.

"We're looking for a person that will lead the college to a higher level of productivity and represent all the majors and disciplines included in that," said Severson.

Officially, the search Web site states: "We seek a dynamic and committed leader whose philosophy and administrative skills will guide an active, growing, and diverse college and university community. The Dean will provide leadership and coordination, and will facilitate coopera-

tion among the departments within the College." That might be a tall task, considering that majors range from Studio Art to Biochemistry and nearly everything in between.

"The dean of CAS is a very big position, they oversee a vast majority of the students at the University, make recommendations on personnel issues like hiring faculty and appointing department chairs," said Severson.

The position has been officially void since the spring of 2005 — but don't worry, the duties haven't gone neglected. In the interim, Ronald Sudal has filled the position vacated by David Downing, who is still with OU as the Vice Provost.

Severson was optimistic about the process for finding a new candidate.

"Right now we're in the process of taking initial applicants, who we've contacted and have contacted us, and deciding who to reply to 8-10 candidates for a video interview, occurring in December," he said.

"By early in the New Year, we will have four to five finalists in for on-campus interviews, and hopefully by February we'll have a new dean."

The search will be conducted both inside the University and outside of it, as all CAS faculty were invited to apply and the University took out ad space in various academic journals. The prospective dean, after approval by the search committee, will need to pass President Russi, the Provost, and finally, the University's Board of Directors.

Student's score quiz bowl victory

By JESSE DUNSMORE
 Contributing Reporter

Perhaps Oakland University student leaders and the faculty should switch roles until next year's Academic Quiz Bowl.

Students upset the faculty in the third match of this year's test of knowledge and reaction time Oct. 26 in the Gold Rooms in the Oakland Center.

The Academic Quiz Bowl event was part of Advising Week 2006, presented by OU's academic advisors.

The event was divided into three matches, the first two each held between a team of OU students and a team of faculty members. The students and faculty each won one of those matches, then squared off in the third match.

The students won the final match, 80-75.

Academic Advisor Lorin Wright was dubbed "the superstar" by his team because of the large number of questions he answered.

"Often times you have to take a chance," said Wright, who also played in high school. "As soon

as you get the inkling of what the answer might be, then you just have to buzz in and go with it, because the other team's going to a split second after you think of it."

According to Jean Ann Miller, director for the Center of Student Activities and Leadership Development, one goal of the event was to attract players for OU's student College Bowl teams.

Coordinator of Campus Programs Paul Franklin said that registration will begin in a few weeks. Students will be welcome to form their own teams and register with the Center for Student Activities office to participate in OU's campus competition, to take place Jan. 20.

"We hope to be able to provide the first-place team a minimum prize of \$400," he said. The winner of the campus competition will be entered in the regional competition held at Ohio University from Feb. 23-25.

Additional information about College Bowl can be found at www.collegebowl.com.

Alumnus recognized for various triumphs

Awards honor those who have made positive change

By MARIA VITALE
 Senior Reporter

OUAA acknowledges that no good deed is left unnoticed.

The Oakland University Alumni Association will host their 12th Annual Alumni Awards Banquet Nov. 4. This event will take place at 6 p.m. in the Oakland Center Banquet Rooms.

The Alumni Awards Banquet is held annually to honor OU Alumni and those who are making a difference in the Oakland community.

"It's a great opportunity to recognize outstanding people," said Erin Sundrovec, Assistant

Director of Alumni Relations. "It's affirming your belief in the University and the good things that we're doing."

At this year's banquet, six award winners will be honored for their achievements in business, community service and volunteerism.

This winners who will be honored at the banquet are: Lew Bowman for the Distinguished Alumni Service Award, Anne Cairns Fenderlein for Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award, Robert Deneweth for the Odessey Award, Nino DiCosmo and William Goldenberg for the Spirit Award and Philip Willis Jr for the Honorary Alumnus Award.

The master of ceremonies for this year's banquet will be Gene Fogel, Special lecturer in the Department of Rhetoric, Communications and Journalism

and weekend anchor for 760 WJR. Entertainment for the event will be provided by harpist and OU student, Larua Palmieri.

Although this event is put on by the Alumni Association, everyone is welcome to attend. "We want anybody to be able to attend the banquet," said Sundrovec. Tickets are \$100, and \$75 for members of OUAA.

Nominations for the awards come primarily through word of mouth of faculty, and those in the community. Nomination forms can be found online at www.oakland.edu/alumni and will be accepted through Spring of 2007 for next year's awards. Once nominated a committee looks over the list and selects the award recipients.

For more information on the Alumni Association Awards Banquet visit www.oakland.edu/alumni, or contact Carol Carpenter at (248) 364-6134.

Breakdown of Alumnus Awards

■ Distinguished Alumni Service Award is OU's highest alumni honor and recognizes outstanding alumni leadership and service to the alumni association and to the university.

■ Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award recognizes outstanding professional achievement and/or contributions to the community.

■ Spirit Award recognizes exemplary volunteer service to the university.

■ Odyssey Award recognizes alumni who seek to exemplify OU's motto "to seek virtue and knowledge."

■ Honorary Alumnus Award recognizes individuals who have not graduated from OU but who have given outstanding service to the university.

POLICEFILES

■ Around noon last Thursday, OUPD officers responded to a domestic violence complaint in the 1000 building of OU's Student Apartments. The complainant invited them into the apartment where they interviewed her, her roommate and a witness. The police found out that the complainant had a confrontation with her roommate over a sign that encouraged the roommate to lock the door when she left. After a brief argument, the roommate thrust the complainant into the door, where she sustained an injury on her back from the doorknob. At this point, both girls exchanged punches and pulled each other's hair. The roommate was transferred to OUPD for booking and was charged with assault and battery. Both females will be separated.

■ Last Friday, at 10:30 p.m., Police were dispatched to a call regarding the theft of a purse. The girl who called the police stated that around 5:40 that evening she went to the Cafeteria to eat. During her meal, she sat the purse in the seat beside her. After she ate, she went back to her apartment and realized that her purse was missing. At that point, she went back to the cafeteria to locate her purse and it wasn't still there. The girl stated that inside the purse was a cell phone, wallet and various other personal effects including credit cards. Currently, there are no suspects in the theft.

■ OUPD responded to a report of theft last Friday in the OC lounge. The student who called the police had been working on his laptop in the lounge when he got up to use the restroom. When he returned to the seat, his laptop was gone. He told officers that he didn't recognize anyone suspicious in the area, but that the male that was seated next to him was gone when he returned.

Student congress seeks to fill open position

By OWEN SEXTON
Contributing Reporter

Confirmation of a new Student Activities Funding Board Chairperson was unsuccessful at this week's Student Congress meeting. A secret ballot was held in which, OUSC chose not to approve Saman Waquad for the position.

The Student Activities Funding Board is a student-run financial organization that allocates funds for student programs. They are responsible for funding all student sponsored events and programs on campus. Waquad had been acting as SAFB Chair since Lindsay McCullough's resignation two weeks prior.

A disappointed Waquad addressed congress after the decision had been made, pointing out that she has been publicly endorsed by Student Body President Madalyn Miller, Student Body Vice

President Mia Evans and former SAFB Chair McCullough.

"This is very discouraging," Waquad said. "If you cannot trust the approval of the president and vice president then what good are those positions?"

Miller expressed her frustration, accusing OUSC of making a decision without discussing it prior to the confirmation. Evans also urged congress to stop being so last minute.

Waquad said that she has been active with SAFB since 2005 and some members of congress may not understand all the work that is involved. She is also president of the Pakistani Students' Association and has been active around campus for three years, serving as an OUSC Legislator and a Residence Hall Adviser.

In addition, Legislator Michael Potter announced Monday that he will be leaving Student Congress to pursue an internship opportunity.

UP 'N COMING AT OU

■ United States Naval Academy Professor of English Bruce Fleming will visit OU Nov. 14 to present a lecture titled "Teaching Globally, Thinking Locally" in Gold Room A of the Oakland Center at 4 p.m.

■ The Joan Rosen Writing Studio — created through a \$300,000 grant donated by Professor Emerita of English Joan Rosen and her husband Robert — was officially dedicated Monday, Oct. 23. The center is located in the Kresge Library and provides students the opportunity to refine their writing skills with the help of Interim Director Jeanie Robertson and peer writing consultants.

■ The Graham Health Center will be providing flu shots to members of the OU community for \$24. The clinics will be held at OU Nov. 1 and 7. The cost for the shot can be billed to HAP, Care Choices, Medicare Part B or paid with cash or check.

■ Members of the OU community now have the opportunity to save money on good seats for upcoming theater productions like "SPAMALOT" and "Moving Out." See the Center for Student Activities Service Window to purchase these tickets, which CSA provides once a semester.

NEW FACULTY AND STAFF MEET AND MINGLE

■ The Oakland University community is invited to meet the new OU faculty and staff at the Meet and Mingle Welcome Reception on Nov. 7. Program welcoming the new faculty and staff begins at 4 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

SPRING BREAK INFORMATION

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Services

Sunday evening Catholic Mass for Oakland University students. Across the street at St. John Fisher 3665 E. Walton Blvd. First Sunday of Each Month at 7 p.m. Social follows. All are welcome. www.oucampusministry.com 248.370.2189

For Rent

Homes to rent/Brand New 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, all appliances. Starts as low as \$849 a month. Close to campus. Call Son Homes at Sheffield Estates at 800-924-0797. Skyline/Clayton Retailer.

Childcare

Rochester Hills family looking for experienced babysitter to help during the week and on the weekends with our two kids (4 and 2). We pay \$10-12/hour depending on experience and prefer if you can drive to our home. Please contact Karen at 248.375.9487.

Working Mother Needs A Hand... Seeking a reliable, fun loving person to care for a 9 yr. old girl in our Bloomfield Twp. Home. Enjoys arts & crafts, board and computer games. After school hours, excellent pay. Must have reliable transportation and references. E-mail response to: ablender@bluerockmi.com

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Absolutely beautiful YORKIE puppies are available to take home now! Show Exhibitors/Breeders of AKC Champion Bulldogs. 14 years experience with the breed. We offer AKC CHAMPION STUD SERVICE, to AKC approved females. Occasionally Pet and show prospect puppies. We breed for health, temperament and conformation. All pups are Champion sired and raised in our home with children. Just email me mac_benson231@UnionPlus.net

Men's & Women's Conference Tournament AT OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

Nov. 2 #1 Valparaiso vs. #4 Western Illinois (W) 11 a.m.
#2 Oakland vs. #3 Southern Utah (W) 2 p.m.

Nov. 3 #1 Western Illinois vs. #4 IUPUI (M) 11 a.m.
#2 UMKC vs. #3 Oral Roberts (M) 2 p.m.

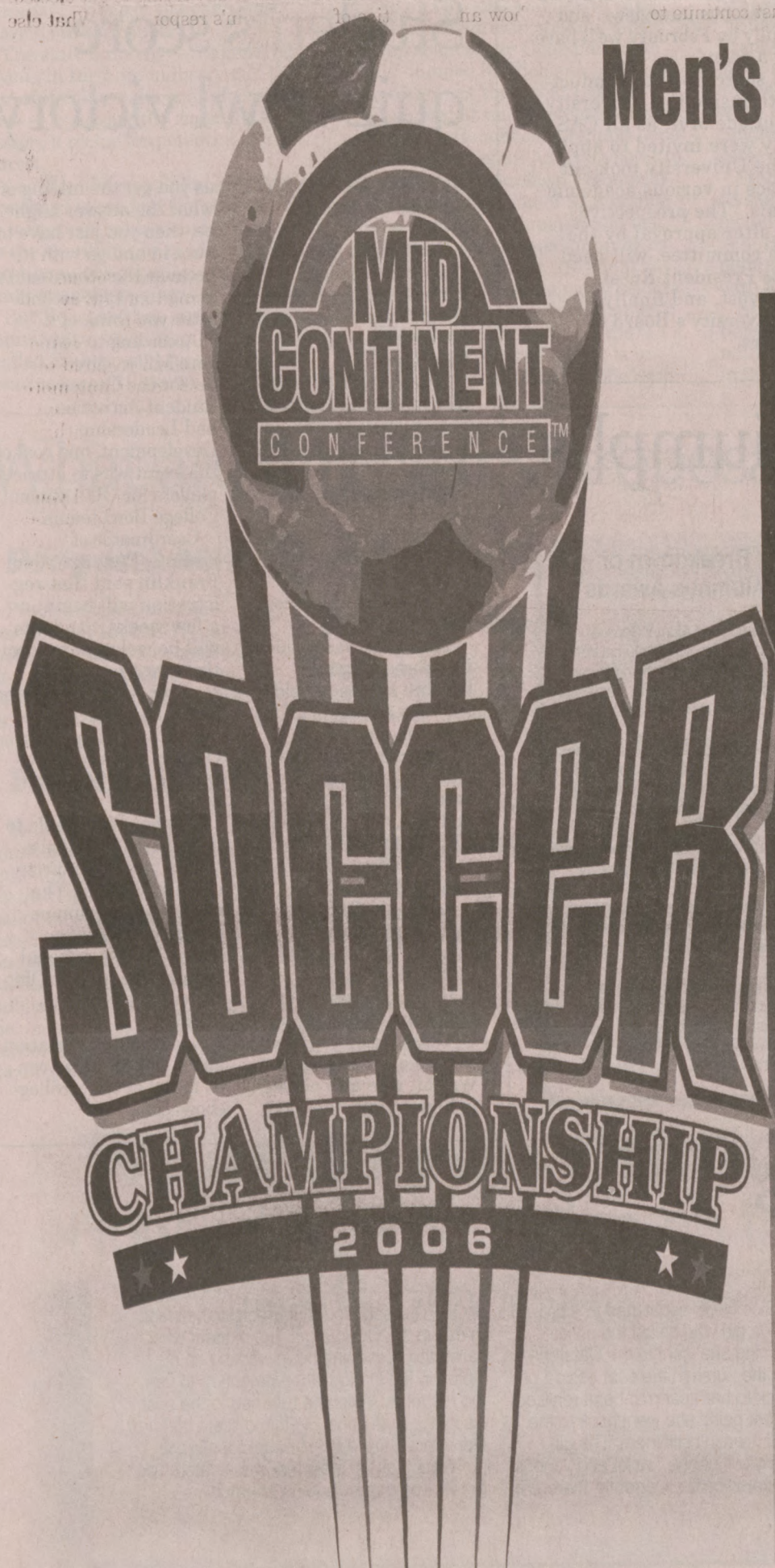
Nov. 4 Women's Championship 1 p.m.

Nov. 5 Men's Championship 1 p.m.

ADMISSION - \$5 per day

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OU = Apathy?

Why is it that the most important issues pertaining to our lives seem to create the greatest amount of apathy?

Next week most college students in Michigan will get to cast their vote for candidates that will play a large part in deciding whether our economy will improve, whether a woman has a right to choose to abort a pregnancy and whether intelligent design will be included in high school biology courses.

How many of us will actually cast a vote? The answer is less than a third, according to recent voter turnouts.

Before you jump to the conclusion that this editorial is another typical ploy to inspire more Michigan citizens aged 18-29 to show up to polls next Tuesday, consider that before you're even qualified to cast an informed vote — you need to first inform yourself.

Members of The Post attended a journalism confer-

ence last week designed to teach young reporters and editors efficient methods to improve the way news is reported, and in turn received by readers.

One workshop that The Post attended dealt with making important news — like election coverage — interesting enough so that readers wouldn't skip past it to read a movie review of "Borat" (although we heard it was pretty darn funny).

It was suggested that we add more art — in the form of photos, illustrations, cartoons and color schemes. It was actually said that we need to make ourselves appealing to the "lowest common denominator."

That means you.

How does that make you feel? Some of the most respected members of the Associated Collegiate Press said that the only way to get you folks interested in informing yourselves about issues

that will directly affect your lives was to flash some childish cartoons in your face.

As members of the collective unit of young adults, it definitely offended us.

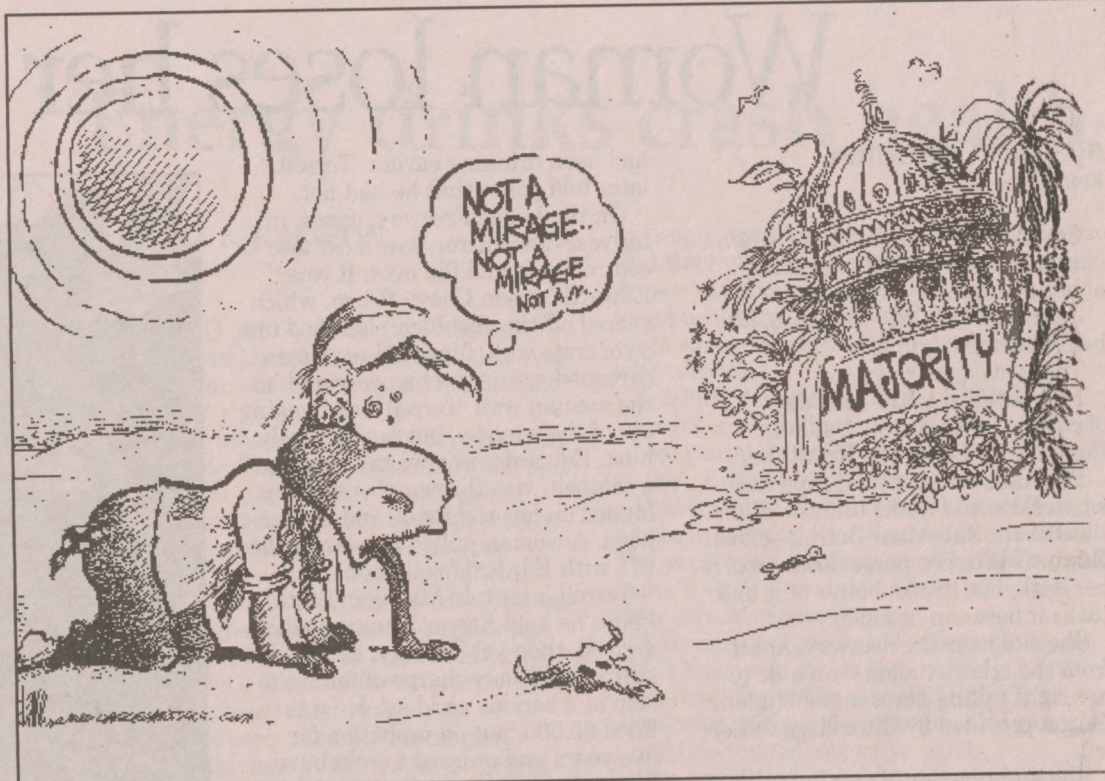
Unfortunately, they're probably right. The level of apathy our generation displays is incredibly disturbing. Half of the OU students we interviewed about their stance on affirmative action for the "What's On Your Mind?" section of our Campus News page had no idea that Proposal 2 contains a bill that, if passed, would effectively prohibit affirmative action in Michigan.

Some didn't even know what affirmative action is.

Is this the culture that we want to create for our society once it's our turn to take over control?

Halloween was yesterday, but that thought is still sending shivers down our spine.

— THE OAKLAND POST



Mirage or Majority
By Mike Lane

GUEST COLUMN

Levin is 'warm and charismatic personality'

By KATIE JACOB
Guest Columnist

Democratic candidate for State Senate from the 13th district Andy Levin spends most of his time on the campaign trail trying to win an important race at a critical time in Michigan because he wants to make a difference.

The Harvard-trained lawyer's decision to quit his job in Washington, pack up his family and return home to run for office was a huge commitment, financially, physically and emotionally.

Long days spent on get out the vote activities- knocking on doors, showing up at farmers markets and football games, attending house parties, lining up dollars and volunteers, meeting with area businessmen and city officials- leave barely enough time for him to see his (4) young children when they wake up in the morning and kiss them good-night before they go to bed.

But seven years ago at age 39 after being diagnosed and treated for Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (he is now cancer free) Levin faced a quandary that is

common to survivors. He asked himself why God put him here. And he decided that he wanted to do something that would make a difference.

A warm and charismatic personality Andy Levin is an appealing candidate. Very much like his father, Congressman Sander Levin and his uncle, Senator Carl Levin, he is up front and direct. Campaign spokesperson Vicky Selva says, "Andy cares about what you have to say but he will not back off his position". She continues saying, "All of the Levins are like

this. This is what it is. I hope you agree with me but if not, that is ok I won't back down."

Responding to concerns voiced by businessmen over the impact of unions on jobs in Michigan, at a recent Birmingham-Bloomfield gathering, Levin proved her point by stating "I will be more pro-business than you can ever imagine, but I will not turn my back on the unions." He explained that labor unions were responsible for the creation of the middle class and that they must continue to have a place at the table.

Levin believes that people with different viewpoints should sit down together to look for solutions. He believes that he has leadership abilities that will bring people together and move them forward.

Levin is focused on issues that are important to Michigan: jobs, the economy, healthcare and education. He believes that we should make use of our resources such as an excellent university system and the technological know-how and expertise of the auto industry, to develop

bold new programs like alternative energy or stem cell research that will bring jobs and money to Michigan. He believes that Michigan can lead the nation in these areas.

Levin acknowledges that he is in a tough race in a republican-leaning district and thinks that his election would be an historic win but he remains energized about achieving his goals. Where other politicians might grow weary after pounding the pavement day after day trying to get elected, Levin's response is "What else have we got?"

STAFF COLUMN

Dems are going to win majority for 'wrong reasons'

By KYLE MAGIN
Staff Column

In next week's midterm elections the Democratic party will win majorities in the legislature for the wrong reasons.

They will not win because of where they stand on Iraq, North Korea, jobs, health care or abortion.

No, the democrats will win simply because they are not the republicans.

The greatest harm Americans can cause their country is to cast votes based on who their choice is not, rather than who they are.

Foley. War. Abramoff.

Present day political America is a classical case of

guilt by association for the Republicans.

GOP incumbents and challengers alike are distancing themselves from President Bush, who's ratings are roughly on par in America with the NHL and anything else on TV during "Grey's Anatomy." This still hasn't saved them from negative attack ads from democratic foes, quickly linking their opponents to the political "Titanic" that is the White House.

This kind of advertising harms voters and lets democrats play the political game with an easy button.

They don't have to focus on the fiscal issue or dabble in domestic policy, they can simply velero their

opponent to the President and watch them lag behind harmlessly.

It also confuses a voters' prime duty to their nation: making an informed decision.

Voters can't do that when they are picking between apples and oranges, between a candidate without the baggage of majority rule and one who may be a victim of the system.

The democrats would have America believe that they are riding in to save the day on a shining white horse, to save America from Bush, Rove, Rumsfeld, Cheney and the rest of Satan's marching band.

But, the fact of the matter is that the Democrats haven't had enough cohesion and

organization in their party to defeat the President - twice, or win a majority in congress since 1995.

The American people have purchased the GOP and left the democrats on the shelf for a reason.

The GOP hasn't done everything right during their tenure, ask citizens of Louisiana or Iraq and I imagine they would agree with that sentiment.

What it has had to deal with, however, is beyond anything any congress in history has ever had to face.

Terrorist attacks on our nation's financial heart on 9/11 and the disappearance of a major US city in New Orleans off the map have made the last six years some

of the unquestionably hardest in American history.

Maybe the situations weren't handled as well as they could be, but who's to say the donkies would have done any better?

The answer is that we will never know.

The best guard against ignorant voting is to stack your candidates up side by side.

Don't just vote democrat because they aren't republicans.

Vote them in or vote them down because they are strong on issues and better than the republicans.

A vote for the Democratic party, if cast because you disagree with 1600 Pennsylvania avenue, will

hurt Woodward avenue, Squirrel road and every street in between.

Make the democrats step up, make them respond to issues with something more than "If you agree with my opponent you agree with Bush..."

Make them own their duties, make them tell you what they will do to get you a job, what they will do to educate the next generation and what they will do to protect your country.

If the Democrats are allowed to take office just because they are good at casting their opponents in with a lot of garbage then whoever said democracy wouldn't work because people were too ignorant to make decisions was exactly right.

By e-mail:

editor@oakpostonline.com

By mail:

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

What do you think? Have a news tip?
Send your comments to The Oakland Post.

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

CORRECTIONS CORNER

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



THE OAKLAND POST
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER



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

— The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States

Woman loses her eyesight, not spirit

By SARITA CHOUREY
Kalamazoo Gazette

ROYAL OAK, Mich. (AP) - When her car hit the wall, it was going about 80 mph.

Julie Edwards, 20, was alive, but badly hurt. And blind.

That was a year ago.

Fast forward to the first day of classes in August at Oakland Community College in Royal Oak.

Ponytails and baseball caps turn when Edwards walks into the night class at the suburban Detroit school. Edwards sets her purse down next to her desk, but thinks better of it and tucks it between her feet.

She sits near the doorway, apart from the other students, an aide to her right taking notes and a student liaison provided by the college to her left.

She and the aide, Tami Latoni, 21, who is employed by Edwards' family, step into the hallway so Latoni can read handouts to her without disturbing the class.

"After the accident, I didn't have anything," Edwards remembers. "It was darkness all the time. I just thought it was going to be horrible."

But, "I decided with the help of my mom that I was not going to sit around and think bad thoughts all the time, and think that my life was over. I want to get back into my life."

The four-hour lecture ends with an icebreaker. When Edwards stands to speak, she sounds a lot like her peers: She says she hopes for world peace, likes the color blue, loves Gummi Bears and rap music. Classmates nod and chuckle.

On Aug. 1, 2005, four friends in their 20s were heading out for some fun. It was nothing special — Edwards went to clubs, bars and "random banquet halls" around Detroit at least twice a week. At about 1 a.m., she and her friends arrived at a busy nightclub.

When they couldn't get in, they left — Trebor Brooks and Leslie Jones, Jr. in one car, followed by Edwards and her boyfriend, Erskine Terrell, who was driving Edwards' car. Edwards

had been drinking earlier. Terrell later told police that he had not.

On the Lodge Freeway, Jones, in his rearview mirror, saw a car lose control, spin and flip over. It was Edwards' green Chevy Prizm, which veered off the shoulder, slammed into a concrete wall, flipped three times, careened across the highway and hit the median wall. Terrell was hanging out of the window, but not seriously hurt. Edwards, who wasn't wearing a seatbelt, was thrown about 20 feet, landed on her right side and hit her head. A woman pulled over and called 911 with Edwards' cell phone.

Terrell later told Michigan State Police he held Edwards until medics arrived, then left. In May, he pleaded guilty to a felony charge of failure to stop at a serious accident. He was fined \$5,000, put on probation for five years and ordered to reimburse Edwards \$182 charged to her debit card after the accident.

Terrell called Edwards' house and tapped on her bedroom window last Thanksgiving, Edwards said, but they've had no other contact since.

After the accident, Edwards was taken to Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit with broken bones in her face, a traumatic brain injury and damage to her pituitary gland and optical nerves, which took her sight.

She didn't know she was blind at first. "Then I remember not seeing, and seeing things that weren't there," Edwards recalled.

Finally, her mother told her that she had lost her sight.

"I was so scared," Edwards said. "I couldn't see anymore, but I didn't get it."

In February, Edwards moved into the Michigan Commission for the Blind Training Center in Kalamazoo. She has spent weeks in and out of surgery, four weeks recovering at the Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan in Detroit, and months at home under the care of her mother.

In the months after the accident, she had four major brain surgeries. Plastic surgeons fixed a dent in her skull left when doctors had to remove part of it to ease swelling on her



Julie Edwards takes a seat on an Amtrak train in Kalamazoo, Mich., for a trip home to Dearborn Heights in February 2006, following her first week at the Michigan Commission for the Blind Training Center in Kalamazoo. Edwards, blind since suffering a head injury in an August 2005 car accident, was making her first solo trip since she moved to the center to learn skills to live independently.

brain. She couldn't raise her arms, her hips were out of line, she had headaches, back pain and trouble walking straight.

Edwards moved to the Training Center six months after the accident.

Most residents wait months or even years; sometimes they cannot accept the reality of being blind, or they're too angry, counselors say.

"Julie might be unique in that she didn't want to wait," said Corda Moss, executive secretary at the Commission for the Blind. "She wanted to get her training right away."

"I was really scared," recalled Edwards, who calls herself "the newest blindy."

But she began making friends and gaining confidence.

"Within the first week, I loved it," says Edwards, who before the accident had attended Michigan State University for a year, then spent

two years at Madonna University's College of Nursing and Health.

At the Training Center, Edwards learned a computer program that reads words aloud. She learned the proper way to sweep her cane right-to-left, how to cook, how to catch a bus. She wrote a short story in Braille, made wind chimes and learned _ nervously _ to operate a band saw.

Instead of a clock, which the other students were making ("There's no point. It doesn't talk."), Edwards built a box for shoes.

She has 400 pairs of shoes lining her closet, the colored stripe on the sides of sneakers matched to outfits. After the accident, she still matches. She has learned to make Braille labels and sew them into her clothes, using a self-threading needle.

Edwards now lives in a Berkley

apartment complex for brain-trauma survivors.

Next February, Edwards and two others will receive the Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan's Courage Award. They were selected from the 1,500 brain-trauma patients treated in the past year.

Is she courageous? Edwards isn't not sure.

"I think that I do get an award for moving on with my life, getting this accident behind me."

Six months ago, Edwards was wondering about her dating prospects. She'd always had a boyfriend before.

"No one's going to want to come up and talk to me if I'm walking around with a cane," she had worried.

Life goes forward. Edwards says she's grown up.

"I can live by myself, which I never did before when I could see."



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Application Deadline: January 15, 2007

www.mayoclinic.org/summer3-rst

Tigers and Grizzlies share the cage - and even play nice

By JEFF KRANITZ
Managing Editor

By 11 a.m. Sunday morning — after trying to avoid the broken glass on the sidewalk from countless beer bottles that never made it to a recycling bin — it was visibly apparent that downtown St. Louis just wrapped up a rocking-good party that had been 24 years in the making.

For myself and the six other Post editors who happened to be in town attending a journalism conference, that morning was the culmination of a week that none of us will ever forget.

For months we had all been looking forward to attending the conference with the hopes of having an opportunity to learn more about our chosen profession. We considered ourselves lucky when we realized that we were going to be in St. Louis while The World Series was being played, but imagine the excitement we felt when we discovered that we were sharing the same hotel — and floor — of the Detroit Tigers.

Instead of taking advantage of the seclusion and luxury of the four star restaurants nestled in

the corners of the main floor, the American League champs chose to mix it up with the common folk.

The vibe felt like little league all over again. I'll never forget the elevator ride I shared with centerfielder Curtis Granderson. In the midst of playing on the greatest baseball stage in the world, I could hear the giddiness in his voice as he shared his excitement while talking to someone on his cell phone.

"Yeah, it's great!" he said. "Mom and dad are here — it's awesome! I just hope we get to get back to Detroit this weekend."

Sadly, we all now know that Granderson was able to get back to Detroit — but with no more baseball left to play.

Not once did any of these millionaires or all-stars refuse a photo or an autograph. Even the gambler himself, Kenny Rogers — who has a reputation for being unapproachable — agreed to take a photo with our features editor, Erin Mallard. He even smiled.

The celebration that followed

the Card's game five victory was unlike anything I had ever seen. twenty square blocks in downtown St. Louis were filled with bumper-to-bumper traffic, horns honking, high-fiving and dancing in the streets.

And the Cardinal fans couldn't have been cooler. I felt there was nothing I could do at that point but congratulate them on their

victory, and what I got in response were

countless hugs and reassurances.

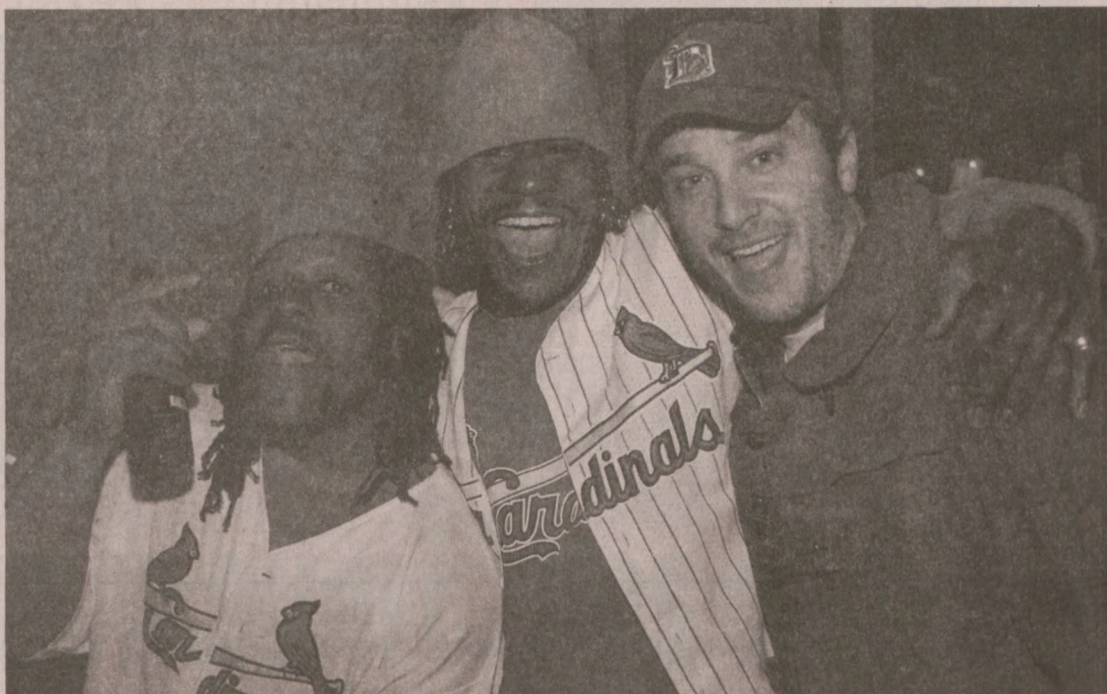
Although it was in vain, I think the greatest moment came when, after a disappointing game four loss, Magglio Ordonez looked to Editor-in-Chief Kelly Reynolds and myself during an elevator ride and said in his Venezuelan accent: "We still alive."

Unfortunately, they were only able to stay alive for one more game.

Fortunately though, it seems like this team can only get better. And as for the memories we were all able to share — those will stay with us forever.

Oh, and by the way — we did learn quite a bit at the conference.

Commentary



Jeff Krantz, managing editor of The Post, shares a hug with two St. Louis Cardinals fans after the Cards beat the Detroit Tigers in Game 5 of the World Series.

KEVIN ALFORD/The Oakland Post

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY ...

Nov. 1, 0079 - Pompei buried by Mt Vesuvius
Nov. 2, 0512 - Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel painting 1st exhibited
Nov. 3, 1953 - 1st live color coast-to-coast telecast (NYC)
Nov. 6, 1975 - 1st appearance of Sex Pistols
Nov. 7, 1868 - Standard uniform approved for postal carriers

NOTABLE NUMBERS

172	100+	\$2.22	900	4.2%
people in 18 states have been sickened by a salmonella outbreak.	the number of American deaths in Iraq this month	average gas price in the United States as of Oct. 30	the number of expected white collar cuts at parts supplier Visteon	National unemployment rate

Energy drinks crash health

By CARLA K. JOHNSON
The Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — More than 500 new energy drinks launched worldwide this year, and coffee fans are probably too old to understand why.

Energy drinks aren't merely popular with young people. They attract fan mail on their own MySpace pages. They spawn urban legends. They get reviewed by bloggers. And they taste like carbonated cough syrup.

Vying for the dollars of teenagers with promises of weight loss, increased endurance and legal highs, the new products join top-sellers Red Bull, Monster and Rockstar to make up a \$3.4 billion-a-year industry that grew by 80 percent last year.

Thirty-one percent of U.S. teenagers say they drink energy drinks, according to Simmons Research. That represents 7.6 million teens, a jump of almost 3 million in three years.

Nutritionists warn that the drinks, laden with caffeine and sugar, can hook kids on an unhealthy jolt-and-crash cycle. The caffeine comes from multiple sources, making it hard to tell how much the drinks contain. Some have B vitamins, which when taken in megadoses can cause rapid heartbeat, and numbness and tingling in the hands and feet.

But the biggest worry is how some teens use the drinks. Some report downing several cans in a row to get a buzz, and a new study found a surprising number of poison-center calls from young people getting sick from too much caffeine. Red Bull founder Dietrich Mateschitz based his product on tonics sold in Asia. He started selling Red Bull in 1987 in Austria, his native country, and today 2.5 billion cans are sold a year in more than 130 nations. The industry leader grabbed more than 37 percent of the U.S. market last year, according to Beverage Digest.

Rumors have swirled around Red Bull for years. Contrary to hearsay, the ingredient taurine (an amino acid important in making bile to aid digestion) is not made from bull urine, and Mateschitz did not learn about Red Bull from rickshaw drivers in Thailand. The urban legends-debunking Web site <http://www.snopes.com> has a page devoted to exposing the false claim that Red Bull contains a banned substance linked to brain tumors.

No evidence was ever found that sudden deaths in Ireland and Sweden were caused

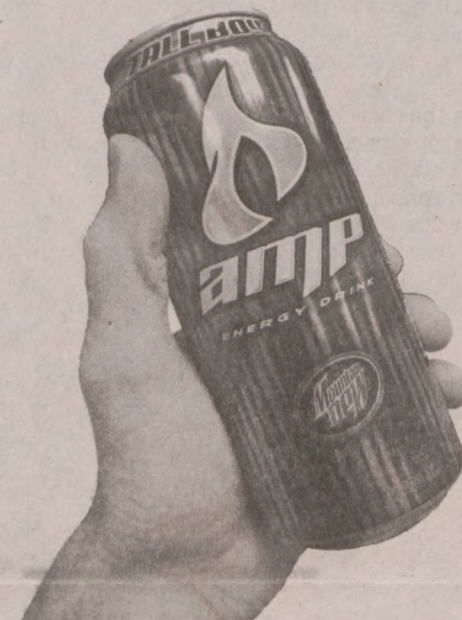
by people drinking Red Bull. But it's true that the Swedish government studied energy drinks and recommended they not be used to quench thirst or replenish liquid when exercising. And they should not be mixed with alcohol.

Too late. Anheuser-Busch and Miller Brewing now produce several "energy beers" — beer containing caffeine. And Red Bull and vodka — mixed up by bartenders who call it a Friday Flattener or a Dirty Pompadour — has been popular for a decade. On Red Bull's MySpace page, the product's 11,000 "friends" include alcohol products, which also have their own MySpace pages.

A Brazilian study found college students didn't feel as drunk as they actually were after drinking vodka and Red Bull. Their perception of their coordination and reaction time didn't match objective tests.

The potential for accidents and alcohol poisoning worries Dr. Sandra Braganza, a pediatrician and nutrition expert at the Children's Hospital at Montefiore in New York. As she prepared to write an article about energy drinks for a pediatrics journal, she was surprised how little published research she could find on them.

"The truth is, we don't know what kind of effects these ingredients can have," Braganza said of taurine, glucuronolactone and guarana. "We have to start doing more studies on this."



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THE WORLD IN BRIEF

War death cases were incorrectly reported to families

WASHINGTON (AP) — The families of seven soldiers who died in Iraq or Afghanistan were given incorrect or misleading information about the deaths, the Army has concluded after a review of war casualty reports. The review, which began last summer, covered hundreds of casualty reports and marked the first step in a new process ordered by Army Secretary Francis Harvey to ensure that families receive accurate information. An Army spokesman, Lt. Col. Kevin Arata, said Monday the review found seven cases in which families were given erroneous information. The best-known was Cpl. Patrick Tillman, the former National Football League player whose family initially was told he had been killed by enemy forces in Afghanistan.

New York considers banning artery-clogging trans fats

NEW YORK (AP) — When some KFC restaurants secretly switched to frying oil free of trans fats, customers didn't notice. Attempts to rid the chain's popular biscuits of a shortening filled with the artery-clogging substance did not go as smoothly. KFC announced Monday that it would no longer fry chicken in artery-clogging trans fats, but unless the company finds a substitute for the shortening, the biscuits could be outlawed in New York City — just one casualty of the city's proposal to ban trans fats. The restauranters said that isn't so. "This ban threatens popular dishes and affordable menus," said E. Charles Hunt, executive vice president of the New York State Restaurant Association. He called the ban a "recipe for disaster that could be devastating to New York City's restaurant industry."

CENTER FOR STUDENT ACTIVITIES

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United Colors of OU
Cultural Awareness Week 2006: November 6-11, 2006

ALL WEEK

- Display of Poster Contest Entries
Winner announced at the Closing Ceremony on Friday, November 10.
- Map of the World
Identifying where is "home" for OU's International students, faculty and staff.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6

"Stand Up & Vote" - Voter Mobilization
All Day, University Student Congress Office, 62 Oakland Center
Opening Ceremony: "Let's Get Real" facilitated by Dr. Toni Walters, Professor of Education
An open forum, Part 1, about what is cultural diversity in America today.
Noon-1 pm, Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center
SPB presents Josh Blue, Winner of NBC's Last Comic Standing
8 pm, Banquet Rooms, Oakland Center

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

National Election Day - VOTE!!!
The polls are open from 7 am until 7 pm.
International Speech, Translation & Dictation Contest
For more information, contact Dikka Berven at dberven@oakland.edu.
10 am-3 pm, Gold Rooms, Oakland Center
Documentary: "Skin Deep" & Discussion
Skin Deep is a documentary film on college students confronting racism.
Facilitator: Dr. Chaunda Scott, Associate Professor of Education
7-9 pm, Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Passport Fair
Apply for a new passport or renew your passport.
11 am-2 pm, Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center
Multicultural Roundtable Discussion
Sponsored by OUSC's Legislative and Multicultural Affairs
Noon-1 pm, Oakland Room, Oakland Center
"Speed Culture"
8-9 pm, Hamlin Lounge, Hamlin Hall

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Global Market
Samplings of food, crafts & music from around the world
5:30-7:30 pm, Banquet Rooms, Oakland Center
OU Passport Contest - Fill up your OU passport with stickers passed out at the Global Market display tables to win prizes from around the world!!!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Closing Ceremony:
"Keep It Real" & Unveiling of OUSC's Unity Mural
An open forum, Part II, on what is yOUr commitment to cultural diversity.
Facilitator: Dr. Jude Nixon, Director of The Honors College
Noon-1 pm, Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center
International Faculty, Staff & Friends Reception
Sponsored by The Office of Academic Affairs & Provost
4-6 pm, Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Ninth Annual Diverse Voices Conference:
"Diversity Today: A Moral Perspective" with Dr. Juanita Johnson Bailey,
University of Georgia
11 am-2 pm, Varner Recital Hall, Varner Hall

Have a question for the CSA Office?

Email us-- csa@oakland.edu

CSA

Annual Leadership Retreat Golden Ticket to Leadership

January 27 - 28th, 2006
Courtyard Marriott

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This event is free for all OU students!

Contact Jean Mick at
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for more information.

CSA SERVICE WINDOW EVENTS

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

- The Rat Pack is Back! In the Tribute to Frank, Sammy, Joey & Dean
- Royal Winnipeg Ballet "Dracula"
- Porgy and Bess
- Moving Out
- The Barber of Seville
- Spamalat
- Irving Berlin's White Christmas
- Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker
- Joffrey Ballet's "The Nutcracker"

LISTEN. SEE. PLAY.



MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE "THE BLACK PARADE"

By ERIC ALLEN
Contributing reporter

What's red, white and black all over? My Chemical Romance falling down a flight of stairs as they clumsily do their best to rip off Queen and Green Day on their latest

endeavor, "The Black Parade."

From its soaring guitar parts to its 5 minute epics, "The Black Parade" reeks of Green Day's "American Idiot" and the operatic mentality of much of Queen's work. "MCR" goes as far as bringing in longtime Green Day producer Rob Cavallo to work his magic on this record.

Unfortunately for the band, this album is old news, as everybody and their brother's band is doing rock opera/concept albums now. Maybe if "The Black Parade" came out 5 years ago, the album would be revolutionary, but now it just seems like a rehash of other band's ideas.

The low point of the album is probably the country rock track entitled "Teenagers" in which lead singer Gerard Way comes to the conclusion that "teenagers scare the living s*** out of [him]." The line serves as a point of irony as it's obvious that the teenagers Way is referring to are the ones clamoring to buy his band's new record and make him an even richer than he already is.

When writing this song My Chemical Romance must have figured most Hot Topic customers don't know much about country music as "Teenagers" seems to be a complete rip off of a Brooks and Dunn song. With its twangy guitars, group chants on the chorus, and vocals that are more like talking than singing, the song is eerily similar to the country duo's song, "Rock my World (Little Country Girl)."

Although it's easy to bash My Chemical Romance's "The Black Parade", there are some redeeming qualities to the record. The track "Dead" is a bouncy and catchy tune that sounds like the band garbage picked it from Cheap Trick's trash. Another song that is an interesting listen is "House of Wolves," which plays off the riff of the Stray Cats' 1982 hit "Stray Cat Strut."

It's undeniable that My Chemical Romance is truly at their best when they are playing fast three minute pop punk songs. However, their ambition to create a grandiose opera style record has taken away much of the fiery fast paced music that seemed to make them so popular in the first place.



THE DECEMBERISTS "THE CRANE WIFE" NOV. 7 @ CLUTCH CARGO'S

By DAVE PHILLIPS
Contributing Reporter

Having already had a successful beginning, by indie rock standards, The Decemberists march into Clutch Cargo's on Nov. 7, a changed band. They're beginning the biggest tour of their lives. They've left longtime label Kill Rock Stars for the bigger, brighter lights of Capitol Records. And, most importantly, they've released a new album, "The Crane Wife" with a bit of a change from their previous material.

The move to Capitol was a controversial one. Anytime a band gains in popularity, there's a backlash among some longtime fans. "We were concerned about that," The Decemberists' frontman Colin Meloy says, "but I think people recognize that we're the type of band that would do better on a bigger budget, and we weren't going to be able to experiment as much (on Kill Rock Stars)."

The experimentation is evident on major label debut The Crane Wife. "I think it's the best thing we've done," Meloy says. Two tracks clock in at over eleven minutes each. There's room for even more instrumentation than any other album the band's put out, and there are three different versions of a song called "The Crane Wife."

The story of The Crane Wife is the inspiration behind the album, and the title tracks are all concocted from it. Meloy came across the story one day in the children's section of a local bookstore, according to a press release.

It's not surprising that the folk-inspired Meloy would take interest in such a story; the band's prior releases have all largely been based on "old-timey" stories of engine drivers, architects, sailors and ships. "I guess that stuff has always struck me as interesting," Meloy said.

As far as the current tour goes, Meloy has a love-hate relationship with touring. "I like the performance aspect," he said, "but it's also super exhausting." The tour promises to be big, though. "With six of us switching up instruments on stage, it's going to be quite a production. It's exciting because we can get more instruments on stage. It's hard to say what to expect."

The vast layering of their sound is what's made Decemberists albums what they are, so, fans would be wise to welcome the label change. A bigger label means more support, meaning the band can actually afford to fully represent their unique sound on stage. There should be a passion there, as they're still on their way up, still trying to prove themselves. All of these storylines combining should make for an interesting show. For more information visit www.thedecemberists.com.



ROCKSTAR'S "BULLY"

By KYLE MAGIN
Contributing Reporter

Remember every awkward moment, confrontation with a tormentor or uneasy entrance into a confining social clique in high school? Now you can play them out with the new video game, Bully. The game follows the main character, Jimmy, as he starts the year at a boarding school, Bullworth academy. Playing

as jimmy, you have to work your way through a series of social situations familiar to anyone who has ever been a "new kid." These include encounters with the opposite sex, wrestling the resident fat kid in gym class and dealing with teachers bent on hearing themselves speak rather than doing out a little help. "Bully" captures classic American high school stereotypes to a T, complete with jocks, preps, nerds and greasers. One of the best side adventures is a P.E. game of dodge ball, where the jocks suspiciously end up on the same side and the gym teacher ridicules the slow and poorly coordinated.

The game, which made its premier last Tuesday, came under fire before its release. Jack Thompson, a Miami lawyer who is currently bringing two suits against the game's maker, Rockstar Games, called the game a "Columbine simulator" without ever playing it. The game is blood-free, and besides fists and stink bombs there is nothing comparable to the level of violence exhibited at Columbine. Thompson's ongoing suits are each worth \$600 million as well as concern surrounding teenaged violence supposedly stemming from Rockstar's "Grand Theft Auto" series. He asked a judge before the game's release to ban it from shelves and sale to minors, which the judge, who played the game, dismissed. The game bears a "T" rating, which means it is deemed playable for ages 13 and up.

BORAT ASSAULTS THEATERS

By KEVIN ALFORD
Contributing Reporter

"Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan" may be received as the most offensive films ever produced. If you don't feel it's offensive, you will almost certainly think it's hilarious.

Set to open Nov. 3, the Borat movie follows The Ali G show's Borat Sagdiyev, a Kazakhstani journalist played by Sacha Baron Cohen, and his producer Azamat Bagatov, played by Ken Davitian, as they traverse the United States in search of "cultural learnings" to improve the quality of life in Kazakhstan. The duo interview seemingly random Americans, including former presidential candidate Alan Keyes, the owner of an antique shop and an evangelical congregation, assuming everyone they speak to is a typical representative of the United States.

The real premise of this film involves Cohen interacting with unknowing strangers, trying their best not to be offended by Borat's terrible manners and cultural misunderstandings. The movie is filled with ridiculous scenarios, like one scene where the pair purchase a bear for personal protection, or another, which was cut from the movie, available on YouTube.com, where Borat attempts to walk across the Mexican border through Arizona, winding up inside a state penitentiary.

Though the easy comparison to Rob Reiner's cult classic mockumentary "This is Spinal Tap" will undoubtedly fill the reviews of this movie, it is important to know that "Borat" is a very different

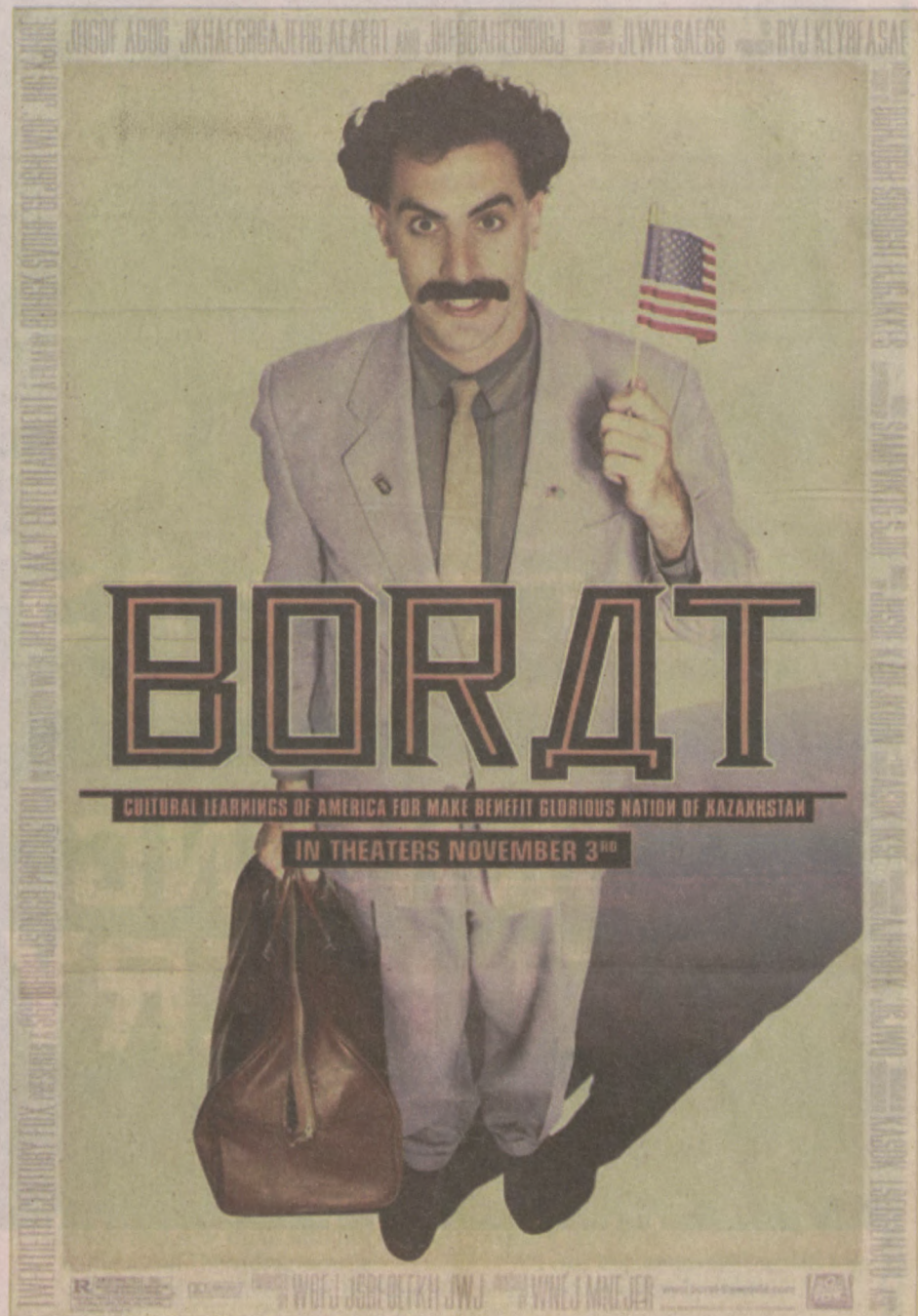
sort of film. While "Borat" will not be forgotten any time soon, the storm of controversy already features a long list of complaints, including claims of rampant anti-semitism (though Cohen himself is Jewish) and legal threats from the actual government of Kazakhstan. Cohen as Borat promises to offend some female viewers, as he only sees women as sex objects,

often referring to them as "prostitutes."

Though the style and plot are completely different, Borat is shaping up to be the next Napoleon Dynamite. Expect moviegoers to introduce such words as "jagshemash!" and "wawaweewah" into regular conversation shortly after the movie opens.

While it is unfortunate this movie received a 0 percent on the

"understanding of actual Kazackstanni life" meter, it did score an 85 percent on the "see-again-ability" charts. Borat is a winner, be sure to catch it soon, if only to understand your friends references. For a second course of Borat, several deleted scenes have been uploaded to youtube.com, and all of Borat's original 'reporting' can be found on the Ali G show's DVD sets.



GOOD EATS Miyako

By KIM YONICK
Contributing Reporter

Miyako Japanese Steakhouse, located in Great Lakes Crossing serves authentic hibachi style food. The restaurant serves a variety of different hibachi dinners such as steak, chicken and seafood. They also serve sushi along with a great kids menu.

There is a peaceful and calming atmosphere in the restaurant. Each table holds approximately nine people with a flat bed cooker in the middle. Once food is ordered, the server brought soup and a salad to the table. The soup itself

was a little on the salty side and the salad has a vinaigrette type dressing served.

After finishing the soup and salad, the hibachi chef came to the table with all the ingredients for the table's order. The chef entertains the guests, putting an egg on the flat bed and spinning it, then with his spatula tossing it into the air and not cracking it. He also created a huge flame from cooking oil and also separated the rings of an onion, stacking them to look like a volcano. The sesame chicken was cooked well and served with vegetables and fried rice. For about \$13, the atmosphere combined with the amount of food is incredible. Miyako comes highly recommended

Jessica Childress, Visual and Performing Arts Chair of SPB

FAVORITE POEMS

SPB brings a poetry contest to Fireside lounge, 8 p.m. Nov. 2

1. Nikki Giovanni "All Eyes on U"
2. Maya Angelou "Still I Rise"
3. Langston Hughes "Dream Deferred"
4. Phillis Wheatley "Ode to Neptune"
5. Nikki Giovanni "Kidnap Poem"
6. Langston Hughes "Kids Who Die"
7. Walt Whitman "As If a Phantom Caressed Me"

7 SELECT

OU runners cross the line

OU nursing major chose marathon as first race

By KELLY KOZLOWSKI
Contributing Reporter

"All that matters is that I crossed the finish line," Jessica Nivicki said after finishing the Detroit Free Press/Flagstar Bank Marathon Sunday.

The 21-year-old Oakland University senior nursing major was one of 3,876 to complete race.

Nivicki ran the 26.2 miles in 5 hours, 6 minutes and 33 seconds.

A runner for two years, she chose the marathon as her first race.

"I was always active," Nivicki said, in reference to the 15 years she spent dancing before taking up running. "I have to sweat."

Nivicki and cousin, Renee Campbell, 20, from Michigan State University, paced each other for a majority of the race. "It definitely helped having someone to run with," Nivicki said. If I would have run the race alone, I honestly don't think I would've made it."

Nivicki said that cheering from friends



KELLY KOZLOWSKI/The Oakland Post
OU senior nursing major Jessica Nivicki and cousin Renee Campbell of MSU ran the Detroit Free Press/Flagstar Bank marathon on Sunday. This was Nivicki's first marathon.

and family also helped her along the way. Spectators paid special attention to the "greenies," including Nivicki, who were running a marathon for the first time.

"Being a first-time marathoner was definitely an experience I will never forget," Nivicki said.

Jessica Nivicki
Age: 21
Marathon goal: to finish
Favorite place to run: Paint Creek Trail
Shoes: Nike Shox
Favorite food while training: Boca burgers
Years running: 2
Marathon placement overall: 3373

Rice meets marathon goal

By KELLY KOZLOWSKI
Contributing Reporter

Oakland University coach Paul Rice went to the Detroit Free Press/Flagstar Bank Marathon with one goal in mind: to finish in under three hours.

And sometime after 10 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 29, Rice achieved that goal.

The 34-year-old head coach for OU's cross country and track teams finished the race, his first marathon, in 2:54:52. He placed fourth in his age bracket and 50th overall.

He credits his fastest mile to crowd supporters. "I got such a boost at nineteen miles when my whole OU cross country and track teams were out there cheering and screaming and jumping up and down with posters and signs," Rice said.

Rice is in his 10th season as head coach and said he loves Oakland University. "Even



Paul Rice, OU's head cross country coach, finished his first marathon this Sunday.

after almost 10 years of coaching, I still don't feel like I've given back enough."

Rice's assistant coach Matt Kaczor finished 13th overall with a time of two hours, 36 minutes, and 37 seconds.

Paul Rice
Age: 34
Marathon goal: to finish in under three hours
Favorite place to run: Paint Creek Trail
Shoes: Nike Air Structure Triax
Favorite post-run food: candy and cookies
Years running: 17
Marathon placement overall: 50

Desi Rang represents, reaches out

New group hopes to unite Indian students

By NORA GOTHAMY
Contributing Reporter

Bright red and gold illuminated the Pioneer Rooms of the Rec Center at last week's Diwali celebration. Students wearing authentic saris stood side-by-side with students dressed casually in jeans and t-shirts, illustrating a tapestry of cultures.

Just four weeks after its creation, the student group Desi Rang has produced several successful events while networking with other OU student organizations.

Within two weeks of Desi Rang's existence, the student organization received a strong response to their first major event, the Diwali Dinner. This social and religious event recognized the Hindu 'Festival of Lights' celebration.

Although only 60 tickets were printed, 120 people attended, and over 40 people were wait listed and unable to attend.

The focus of Desi Rang is to represent the many "rang," or "colors," in Hindi, of the Indian Subcontinent, and "desi," or culture. This title "shows diversity" says Sumera Chaudhry, an OU Electrical Engineering Masters student and Desi Rang's Vice President of Student Affairs.

The Indian Subcontinent includes India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan and Nepal, most of which are represented by Desi Rang's nine executive board members and at least 30 to 40 general body members.

Prior to Desi Rang, no single student organization represented all countries of

the Indian Subcontinent. "They are all split up so we would like to join them all together," says Jitesh Singh, an OU Masters of Public Administration graduate student and President of Desi Rang.

Through this unification, Desi Rang can fulfill their goal of assisting international students.

International student Uday Nandury, an OU Physical Therapy graduate student and Desi Rang member, said said that "people are lacking the help they need when they come here," to America. "I am personally an international student" says Singh, "as are most of the board members." Since many board members found themselves in need of social assistance when arriving in America, they now help newcomers with similar needs.

Assistance for international students includes pick-up from airports, help finding campus jobs and encouraging awareness of American culture, "like Halloween, so we have a Halloween party" says Singh. Mentor programs which would assign four or five students to one of twelve participating OU staff members are also in the process of implementation.

"OU staff and faculty have been very supportive," said Singh. Although a new organization, they succeeded in bringing Virinder Moudgil, Provost of Academic Affairs, as the keynote speaker of the Diwali Dinner.

Desi Rang is also interested in working with other diverse organizations says Singh, emphasizing "the goal is not to compete with any other organization."

To contact Desi Rang about partnering in events, or for more information about upcoming events such as their end of the year party or movie nights, send e-mails to desirang.ou@gmail.com.

You can also find Desi Rang at Facebook.com, or Orkut.com, until their website is completed.

CAMPUS HAPPENINGS



DAN WILKINSON/
The Oakland Post

Senior Casey Conlon designed this mural, titled "The Gift," for the new Joan Rosen Writing Studio. Conlon painted it along with other member of the student organization La Pittura in time for the dedication ceremony.

Professor's passion lives on in studio

By KELLY KOZLOWSKI
Contributing Reporter

"Three-fourths of intelligence is knowing where to find the answer."

Oakland University Writing Center consultant, Laurel Goerke, said she still values that bit of advice from her eighth-grade teacher.

This year, OU students gained one more place to find some answers: the Joan Rosen Writing Studio.

Located on the north end of Kresge Library's main floor, the studio is part of the Oakland University Writing Center, which opened in January 2006.

The center is available to students, both graduate and undergraduate, as well as faculty.

Fourteen student consultants from various disciplines offer appointment times and walk-in hours for students seeking help with writing assignments, cover letters, resumes and all things rhetoric.

Faculty members are available for help with more advanced projects, such as theses, staff proposals and dissertations.

The process is simple.

Make an appointment to guarantee a session, or walk-in and hope for an opening. Bring an assignment in progress or a finished product along with any guidelines from the instructor. Then let the improvement begin!

"Those who come and use it, use it again," said Sherry Wynn, the center's assistant director.

In the first five weeks of the 2006 fall semester, 650 students met with consultants. The record-breaking week serviced 175 students.

With numbers on the rise, Wynn says the center is in need of more consultants.

Students interested in becoming consultants should contact the writing center for information. Consultants are required to take the RHT 320 Peer Tutoring in Composition class before being hired.

Wynn says consulting is a great way to get involved in the OU community and eventually neighboring communities as well. One of the goals of the center is to anticipate community needs and cater to them.

Writers aren't the only people who have contributed to the center.

Casey Conlon, a senior English major, designed the mural that distinguishes the writing center from the rest of the library. Conlon, along with other members of the student organization La Pittura painted the mural in time for the dedication ceremony on Monday, Oct. 23.

OU President Gary Russi hosted the event, which was also attended by principal donors Joan and Robert Rosen.

The Rosens contributed a \$300,000 grant to the project. An additional \$50,000 grant came from William and Diana Mitzelfeld.

Joan Rosen, professor emerita of English at Oakland University, was part of the original development team for a writing center at OU and served as its director in the 1960s.

Although Rosen has put much of her time and money toward the facility and its operation, she is quick to praise the contributions of others who played important roles.

Wilma Garcia was one such woman.

Rosen and Garcia worked together in the early stages of the center, and although Garcia died in 2002, Wynn said, "I can sometimes hear her voice when I walk in the writing center."

"Wilma Garcia (was) the Maya Angelou of Oakland University," said Wynn. "Her students adored her. She was the kind of person who evoked all this passion about writing."

The passion is evident in the work of Wynn and the center's interim director, Jeanie Robertson.

Despite overwhelming numbers of students seeking help, Robertson says, "I have not turned one away."

Studio hours are Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m.- 7 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

A satellite site is open in 117 East Vandenberg Hall Sunday through Wednesday 7 p.m.- 10 p.m.

For more information or to make an appointment, call (248) 370-3120 or visit www.oakland.edu/writing-center.

Election-speak 101

Affirmative Action:
A policy enacted in America in the 1960's, gives federal preference to minorities, women and other under-represented groups. Its goal is to counter past and ongoing discrimination though giving priority acceptance for government contracts, education, employment and training.

Eminent Domain:
Power of state to take private property for public use with compensation to the owner.

Challenger:
Candidate seeking to upseat incumbent

Gubernatorial:
Pertaining to state governor, or office of the state governor.

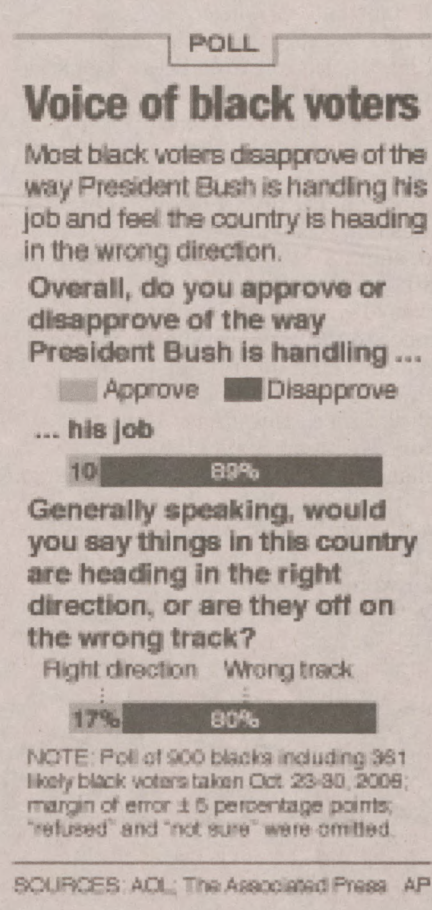
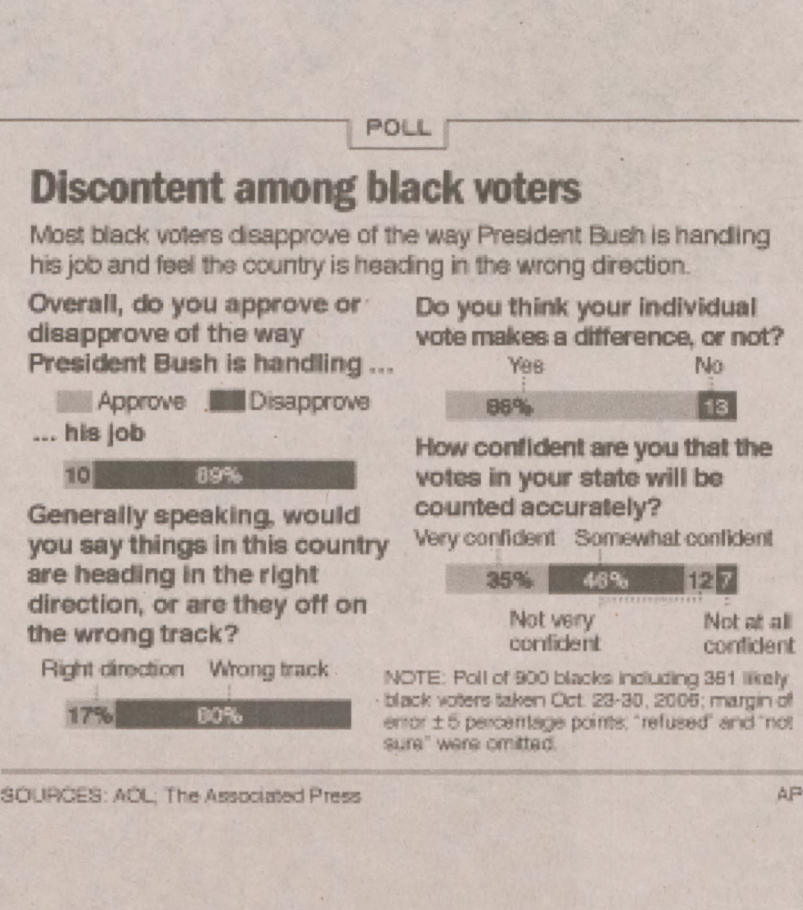
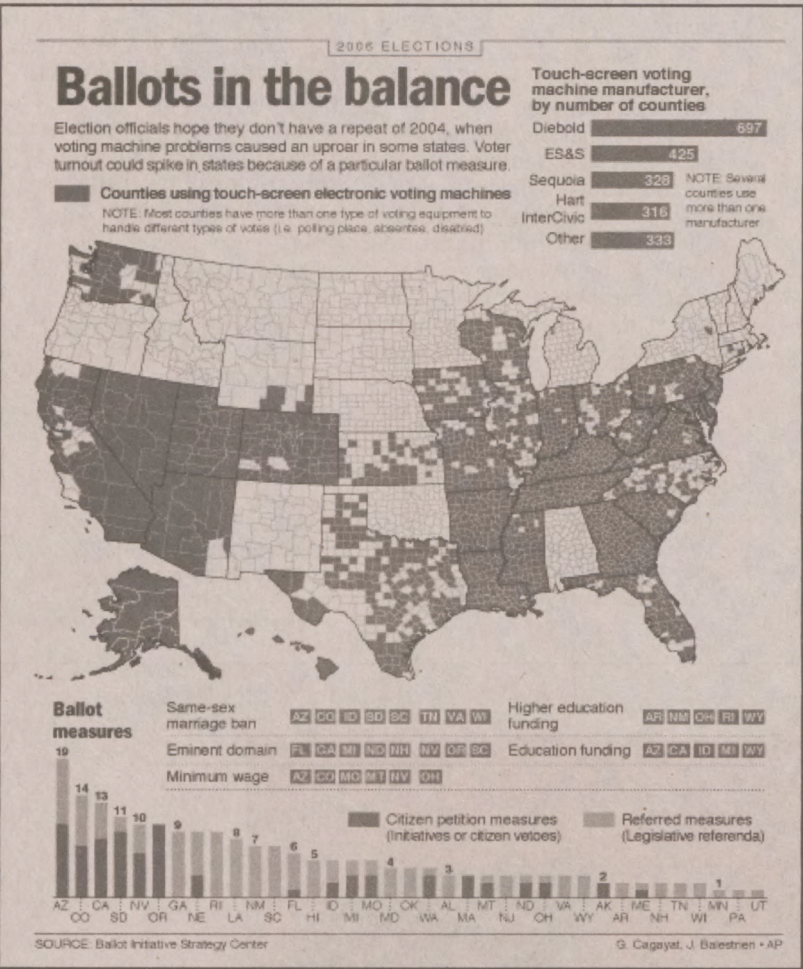
Incumbent:
Current holder of an office or indicated position.

Legislative Initiative:
The power of representatives in congress to introduce new laws.

Michigan Civil Rights Initiative (MCRI):
Proposal 2 on the upcoming ballot which would ban Affirmative Action.

Mourning Dove:
A small bird native to Michigan, hunted for both its flesh and for sport. The Dove is recognizable for its sad call "woo-ooo-ooo-ooo-ooo."

Referendum:
Principle or practice submission of a purposed public measure to be voted on.



"DEEPLY SICK, UTTERLY IRRESISTIBLE."

RICHARD CORLISS, TIME

BORAT

CULTURAL LEARNINGS OF AMERICA FOR MAKE BENEFIT GLORIOUS NATION OF KAZAKHISTAN

TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX PRESENTS A FOUR BY TWO PRODUCTION / AN EVERYMAN PICTURES PRODUCTION SACHA BARON COHEN

BORAT: CULTURAL LEARNINGS OF AMERICA FOR MAKE BENEFIT GLORIOUS NATION OF KAZAKHISTAN ORIGINALS: ERHAN BARON COHEN BORAT'S IMAGE: JASON ALPER

EDITED BY PETER TESCHNER DIRECTORS OF ANTHONY HARDWICK LUKE GERSCHULER EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS DAN MAZER MONICA LEVINSON

PRODUCED BY SACHA BARON COHEN JAY ROACH CHARACTER CREATED BY SACHA BARON COHEN STORY BY SACHA BARON COHEN & PETER DAYNHAM & ANTHONY HINES & TODD PHILLIPS

SCREENPLAY BY SACHA BARON COHEN & ANTHONY HINES & PETER DAYNHAM & DAN MAZER DIRECTED BY LARRY CHARLES

NOVEMBER 3 ONLY IN THEATRES

New poll shows Granholm, Stabenow increasing their leads

By KATHY BARKS HOFFMAN
AP Political Writer

LANSING, Mich. (AP) - A poll released Tuesday shows Democrats Jennifer Granholm and Debbie Stabenow getting more than 50 percent of the vote and increasing the margins over their GOP challengers in the races for governor and U.S. Senate.

Gov. Granholm led GOP businessman Dick DeVos by 10 points, 52 percent to 42 percent, with 6 percent undecided. Three third-party candidates got only negligible support.

Stabenow, the incumbent U.S. senator, led Oakland County Sheriff Mike Bouchard 52 percent to 38 percent, with 9 percent undecided. Libertarian candidate Leonard Schwartz got 1 percent and two other third-party candidates got only negligible support.

The poll of 600 likely voters statewide was conducted Thursday, Sunday and Monday by Lansing-based EPIC-MRA for The Detroit News and TV stations WXYZ in Southfield, WOOD in Grand Rapids, WILX in Lansing and WJRT in Flint. It had a sampling error margin of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

In polls conducted earlier this month, Granholm was up 8 or 9 points over DeVos, while Stabenow had been ahead by 12 or 13 points.

Granholm campaign spokesman Chris De Witt said he liked the trend.

"Voters are responding to the fact that Governor Granholm has a record of putting the people Michigan first and the fact that DeVos has a record of putting his own interests first," De Witt said.

DeVos campaign spokesman John Truscott said he wasn't worried by what the polls are showing.

"We know that we're fighting from behind. We have always said we would be, and we'll focus on our get-out-the-vote efforts," he said.

Poll: Proposal 2 gaining support, but still close

LANSING, Mich. (AP) - A ballot proposal to ban some types of affirmative action programs in Michigan appears to have gained some support recently, according to a poll released Tuesday.

But neither side involved in the Proposal 2 campaign said they put much stock in polls, particularly with the election just one week away.

The poll of 600 likely voters conducted Thursday, Sunday and Monday showed that 49 percent would vote to ban the use of race and gender preferences in government hiring and public university admissions. Forty-two percent would vote against Proposal 2, while 9 percent were undecided.

A similar question on a poll from Oct. 22-25 showed 40 percent of respondents supported the proposal, 44 percent opposed it and 16 percent were undecided.

Both polls were done by Lansing-based EPIC-MRA for The Detroit News and TV stations WXYZ in Southfield, WOOD in Grand Rapids, WILX in Lansing and WJRT in Flint. The polls had a sampling error margin of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

"At this point in the campaign, it's about getting out the vote," said Doug Tietz, campaign manager for the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative, the group supporting the ballot proposal.

MCRI debuted its first television ad Tuesday. The 30-second spot features MCRI executive director Jennifer Gratz and Ward Connerly, a Californian who has supported the Michigan effort and is one of the nation's leading advocates of ending race and gender preferences.

"Some are using fear and distortion to preserve this system forever," Gratz says in the ad. "The elites don't see the harm when working people are passed over for diversity."

The proposal's main opposition group, One United Michigan, said in a release Tuesday that more than 85 percent of the contributions to the group supporting the ballot measure are coming from out of state.

"Out-of-state millionaires are trying to buy an election," said Heaster Wheeler, executive director of the Detroit Branch NAACP and a co-chair of One United Michigan.

"They don't care that they are dividing our state. They don't care that our businesses say this proposal will hurt our economy. They don't care that our law enforcement leaders say this proposal will put public safety in jeopardy. They don't care that educators say this proposal will hurt our ability to educate young people in a diverse community," she said, adding, "Don't be fooled, Michigan."

VOLLEYBALL

Down and out

OU losing streak goes on

By **BRITTANY OCHTINSKY**
Contributing Reporter

Oakland University's volleyball team proved last Saturday night that it would not go down without a fight.

After dropping Friday's match to first-place Oral Roberts University in three games, the Golden Grizzlies refueled to take on the Centenary Ladies in one of the closest matches of the season.

Though the Ladies came out on top, the Grizzlies made a comeback to force the match to five games, a first since the opening match of the season.

Oakland held the early lead in each of the first two games last Saturday night, but the Ladies turned up the heat and edged out the Grizzlies by scores of 30-24 and 30-25.

Game three saw OU with the early advantage yet again, but Centenary threatened to close in on the lead. Trailing by only three points during the game, the Ladies were unable to gain the lead, as the Golden Grizzlies claimed victory on the first of two games, 30-24.

Oakland rallied from behind in game four with help from junior Monica Frechen, who made three kills to pull ahead of Centenary.

A kill from sophomore Leah Dupuie late in the game sealed the deal, and Oakland forced a tie match with another 30-24 win.

The fate of the match rested on game five, as OU looked for its second win of the season.

Freshman Nikki Pawson broke a 7-7 tie with a pair of kills, but it wasn't enough for the Golden Grizzlies, as Centenary came from behind to win the final game with a score of 15-12.

Despite the loss, several Grizzlies had a record-setting night.

Frechen led the team with 18 kills and teammates Dupuie, Pawson, and sophomore Stephanie Parkin all hit double figures as well. Parkin's 16 kills and five aces set a personal best.

Sophomore Lauren Duquette had five aces as well and both tied the school's Division 1 record.

Seventeen total aces for the Golden Grizzlies was enough for a new school record in D1.

Duquette had a season-high 26 digs, only one shy of her personal best.

Pawson led the team with six blocks and freshman Alex Darin had a career-high night with 57 assists, along with 17 digs.

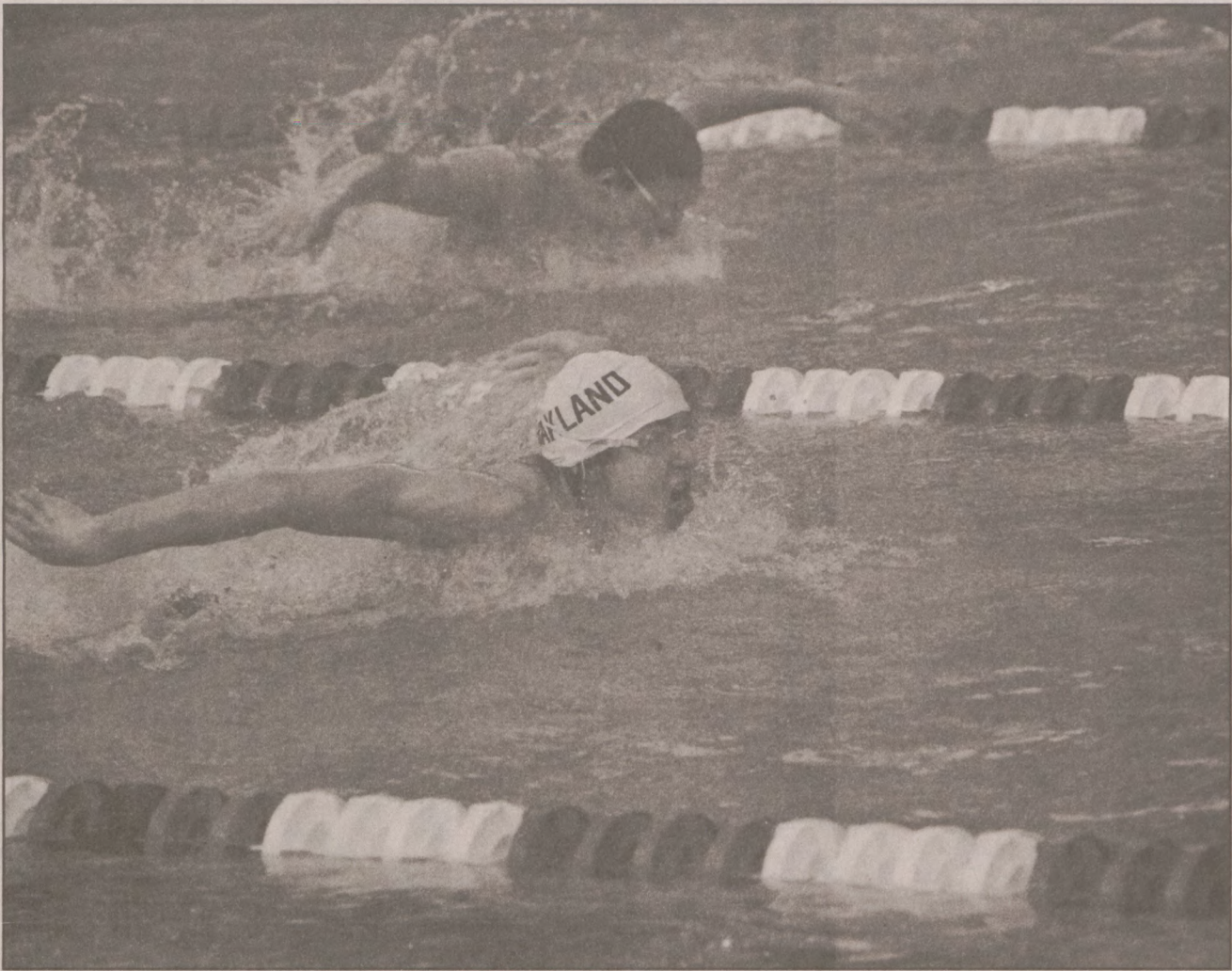
This weekend Oakland rounds out its home schedule with a pair of Mid-Con matchups.

Friday night, the Western Illinois Westerwinds blow into town and the Grizzlies look to bounce to victory over the UMKC Kangaroos Saturday.

Both matches begin at 7:00 p.m. in the O'Rena.

SWIMMING DOMINATES

IN TRI-MEET



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Freshman Alex Brinks sails the length of the pool and leaves one of his opponents in the dust. Brinks and the rest of the Golden Grizzlies defeated University of Cincinnati 130-102 and Wayne State University 138-100. On the women's side, the women's team defeated Cincinnati 134-83.5 and Wayne State 133-100. For individual results, check out the Weekly Roundup.

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

Cross country runs at championship

The men's and women's cross country teams traveled to Lee's Summit, Mo. last Saturday for the Mid-Con Championships hosted by UMKC. The men's team placed second overall, falling to Southern Utah, who placed a remarkable five runners in the top five.

Pacing Oakland in the 8k race was junior Jason Young who finished with a time of 26:35:35, which was good for a seventh place overall finish as well as a spot on the All-Conference First Team. Trailing Young for OU was sophomore Andrew Lawrick, who finished eighth and freshman Zack Jones, who finished 10th. Both Lawrick and Jones earned spots the All-Conference Second Team.

The women's team finished third, trailing first place Oral Roberts University and second place Valparaiso. Leading the way for Oakland

in the 6k race was senior Laura Fisher, who ran a time of 23:07:58 for a 10th place finish. Fisher was named to the All-Conference team.

Freshman Sara Lieblein finished 16th overall and was named Newcomer of the Year in the Mid-Con. Freshman Kayla Doan and Senior Dayna Cline cracked the top 20, finishing 18th and 20th respectively.

Next up for cross country is the NCAA Great Lakes Regional at Bowling Green University in Ohio on Nov. 11

Swim Teams win Tri-Meet

The men's and women's swim teams both defeated the University of Cincinnati and Wayne State University in a Tri-Meet last Saturday. The women's team defeated Cincinnati 134-83.5 and Wayne State 133-100. The Golden Grizzlies were led by senior Amanda Burwell

and sophomore Sophia Gustafsson, both winning two events. Burwell picked up her victories in the 200 individual medley and the 200 backstroke and Gustafsson won the 500 and 1,000 freestyle. Also swimming well for OU was junior Carolyn Routh, who took home the 200 freestyle.

On the men's side, the Golden Grizzlies defeated Cincinnati 130-102 and Wayne State 138-100. Picking up first place finishes for Oakland was sophomore Aaron Holdsworth in the 200 freestyle and 200 butterfly. Freshman Adam Ralph and junior Ryan Kish took the top two spots in the diving competition.

Both teams have a busy weekend ahead of them, with two meets in two days on Friday and Saturday.

—By Rob Tate, Contributing Reporter

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DEEE-TROIT BASKETBAAAALL! ...

It's that time of year! Just two exits away off I-75, our Detroit Pistons hit the court tonight in their regular season opener against the Milwaukee Bucks at 8 p.m. The Pistons were picked to finish fourth in the Eastern Conference by Sports Illustrated, with the defending champions, Miami Heat, ranked first.

Grizzlies ready for playoffs

Women's soccer wants to take tournament on their home turf

By ROB TATE
Contributing Reporter

It's playoff time here at Oakland University as the men's and women's Holiday Inn Select Mid-Con Soccer Tournament kicks off with the women's semifinals at the OU soccer field tomorrow morning at 11 a.m. OU will be hosting the Mid-Con soccer tournament for the second time in three years.

But the women's team would rather forget 2004, the last time the tournament was held here, when they dropped the first round game to Oral Roberts.

"Being at home is a very big advantage," head coach Nick O'Shea said. "We've been here, we've been rested, and we are used to our field. It's a huge advantage."

Oakland instead will focus on this year and hopefully get some sweet revenge on Valparaiso, who beat the Golden Grizzlies 3-1 in last year's championship game. Oakland will be looking for their first title since 2003, which has been quite a drought for the program, since reeling off four straight titles from 2000-2003.

OU wrapped up the season last Thursday with a 3-2 conference road loss to IUPUI.

Oakland led 2-0 with junior Kristi Tomczyk continuing her hot streak as she netted both goals for the game. Tomczyk comes into the Mid-Con tournament scoring five goals in her last two games.

Tomczyk was the team's leading scorer for not only the Golden Grizzlies, but the entire conference this season, scoring

12 goals and assisting on two. Sophomore Jessica Boyle assisted on Tomczyk's second goal of the game, for her sixth assist of the season.

IUPUI rallied in the second half, scoring all three of their goals to cap off the game. Sophomore goalkeeper Kim Herbst made four saves on the night. Herbst ended the regular season with a 7-8 record, and a 2.12 goals-against-average.

With a week off between games O'Shea is confident his team is ready.

"This time of year, you're a little more tired, so an extra days rest actually might help us," O'Shea said.

Oakland also comes into the tournament injury free.

"We are healthy now than we have ever been," O'Shea added.

OU ends the regular season with 7-10 record and 4-2 overall in the Mid-Con.

"In the beginning of the year, look at some of the teams we were playing, Loyla-Marymount, Arizona, Michigan, we were playing very competitive teams," O'Shea said.

Number two seed Oakland will take battle to the third seed Southern Utah Thunderbirds at 2 p.m. Thursday. Southern Utah ended the regular season 5-9-3 overall and a 2-1-3 record in Mid-Con action.

"(Southern Utah) is a very aggressive team, they work very hard, and they have a quality forward up top in Brooklyn Phillips," O'Shea said.

The championship game will be played at 1 p.m. Saturday at the OU soccer field.



Oakland University ended their season ranked second in the Mid-Con, finishing 7-10-0 overall and 4-2-0 in the conference. They will play the Thunderbirds of Southern Utah University on Thursday in the semi-final round of the Mid-Con tournament.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Sophomore midfielder Jessica Boyle deflects the ball toward a Western Illinois opponent. The Westerwinds are ranked fourth in the Mid-Con tournament and will play number one ranked Valparaiso, giving Oakland a chance to play them in the final game if they are victorious.

Mid-Con Tournament Matchups

All games at Oakland University

Thursday, Nov. 2

Match 1

#1 Valparaiso vs. #4 Western Illinois
11 a.m.

Match 2

#2 Oakland vs. #3 Southern Utah
2 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 4

Mid-Con Championship Game

1 p.m.

The winner of the Mid-Con Championship earns a NCAA Tournament berth.

Better luck next year

Men's soccer fails to make Mid-Con tournament

By ROB TATE
Contributing Reporter

A losing season and soccer mix like water and oil when it comes to the men's soccer program at Oakland University.

Even since entering Division I play in 1998, the OU men's team has been resilient and extremely successful.

Since the program was started at Oakland University in 1973, Oakland has never finished a season below .500 winning percentage.

The closest instances in which Oakland nearly went below .500 was in 1979 when the team finished 9-9-1 for then coach Wayne Pirmann, and last season when the team finished 10-9.

Two years after the 1979 season, current Head Coach Gary Parsons took over the reigns and OU hasn't had a losing season until now.

The team led off the season winning a home game against Coastal Carolina but things turned south from there. OU proceeded to go on a five-game losing streak, falling to number 17 ranked St. Johns and dropping games to Drake, Cal-State Northridge, and then top 10 ranked UCLA and Akron.

Offense was the main cause for concern earlier on in the season, with only two goals being scored in the first six games.

OU only accumulated 17 goals on the season, a large decrease from the previous season's 29 goals.

Oakland's leading scorer this year was freshman Stefan St. Louis who scored four goals. Junior Nick Nelson and

senior Jim Denk were both second on the team in goals with three apiece.

OU proceeded to go 2-3 overall in conference play.

Arguably, Oakland's best win came in front of its biggest home crowd on Oct. 4 as the Golden Grizzlies defeated their in-state rivals Michigan State 2-1 on a cold and soggy afternoon.

Nelson knocked in the first goal of the game followed by the eventual game winner by St. Louis who was subsequently named the Mid-Con player of week following that game.

Coach Parsons would rather forget about the last five games of the season, as the Golden Grizzlies dropped four of last five games.

The fifth game the Golden Grizzlies squeaked out a 2-2 tie against Detroit-Mercy, with many of the starters not playing.

The defense on the season played admirably for the most part. Junior Adam Brent and sophomore Ian Daniels were the main anchors on the team.

Sophomore goalkeeper Steve Clark went 5-9-1 in his first full season as a starter.

The future is still bright for the soccer program next season. Oakland is only losing three seniors in Denk, Brady Vance and backup goalkeeper Josh Slaughter.

Freshmen Ty Gehring, Sebby Harris, and Daniel Lopez all saw increased playing time as the season progressed and should be key components to next season's team.

St. Louis had a lot of playing time this season and should improve more for next season as well.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Piotr Nowak charges past an Ohio State University opponent. This was just one of the losses that the Golden Grizzlies suffered this season, making this their first losing season under coach Gary Parsons since 1979.