

Life

How thrilling is your life? Take our quiz and discover your *Gusto Quotient*

B3

On Campus

Online book buying offers students alternative options when purchasing textbooks.

A3

Local

OU students fall below the national average for binge drinking.

A6

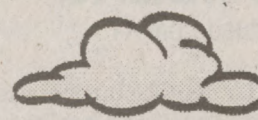
Sports

OU's mens basketball team defeats Northwestern on the road.

B5

Today

Mostly Cloudy
High 31°
Low 21°



A6

The OAKLAND Post

Weekly campus newspaper serving The Oakland University community 10¢

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FAST facts

• **Free Chinese Language Workshops**
OU's Professional Development and Education Outreach is sponsoring a free 10-week workshop entitled "Chinese Language Basic Survival Skills." Two sections of the workshop will be held. The first will be from 3 to 4:30 p.m. on Mondays, the second from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Thursdays. Workshops begin January 24th and are held in Room 202 of the Kresge Library. The program is free for students, faculty and staff, but space is limited. Call Linda Robak at (248) 370-3037 or fax (248) 370-3137 to register.

• **LSAT Prep Workshop**
The College of Arts and Sciences' LSAT workshop will run from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on three consecutive Saturdays starting January 15th. Cost is \$250, which includes books. For a brochure and to register, call (248) 370-3125.

• **Avoid becoming a victim!**
OU's Center for Family Business will hold a breakfast workshop entitled "Victim Thinking vs. Accountability" from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Thursday at the Doubletree Guest Suites in Troy. The workshop is free to eligible Center for Family Business members and \$50 to others. Pre-registration is required, call (248) 370-3128 or email the CFB at sba-cc@oakland.edu.

• **Late Fee starts late for Win2k**
Because of problems due to power outages the first week of the year, the \$35 late registration fee will not be assessed until Tuesday January 18th. The final day to register for Winter 2000 classes is Monday, January 24.

Campus-wide power outage caused by mechanical mishap

By Brent Chismark
OF THE OAKLAND POST

The y2k bug was not at fault in two campus-wide power outages early in the new year. Mechanical failure in a high-voltage switching cabinet and the subsequent repairs caused the two separate incidents.

Both the high-voltage specialist hired by OU and his assistant sustained only superficial injuries from the 13,200-volt electrical arc that lead to the outages.

Two main power feeds from Detroit Edison, known as "A" and "B," each carrying 13,200 volts, are the electrical lifelines for the whole campus.

Though the entire campus can easily

run on one feed, according to Dan Niezurawski, Associate Director of Plant Maintenance, Detroit Edison frowns on that practice except in emergency situations.

On Monday, January 3rd, the OU Campus was put wholly on the "B" feed, so that the new Business and Instructional Technology Building could be integrated. The next day, the campus was put on "A" for the integration of "B".

The first problem arose from the discovery that the Recreation Center had never been connected to the "A" feed correctly. The power was "out of phase," causing all electrical motors in the building to run backwards.

To remedy this, last Wednesday the

campus was put back on "B" so the problem at the Rec Center could be repaired. Before the process of putting the building back in phase can begin, the feed lines are relieved of all remaining charge.

At 8:10 a.m., while the high-voltage specialist hired by OU was discharging one of the lines, a freak accident created a 13,200-volt electrical arc which knocked him and his assistant to the ground.

The root of the accident was the A line switch box in the Public Safety building, where friction between two vital parts of the switching process caused the line to essentially remain live.

POWER continues on A2



Reena Sibayan/The Oakland Post

NEW ID: Changing a personal number is a quick process. Students who are interested should go to the Registrar's Office in 106 O'Dowd.

Parking problems



Reena Sibayan/The Oakland Post

NO PARKING: OUPD ticketed cars who were illegally parked. Persons who chose to park illegally will have to pay a \$20 fine.

tips

- Arrive early
- Plan ahead by checking campus maps and have several parking options ready.
- If you are late, check outer lots first (it only takes 5 to 10 minutes to walk across campus).
- Do not leave valuables in your car in plain view. Lock them in the trunk.
- Do not park illegally no matter how late you are for class.

Students control right to change ID numbers

By Brent Chismark and Sarah Everson
OF THE OAKLAND POST

Identity theft is a serious problem, claiming at least 400,000 victims per year. It occurs when an individual uses another's name, address, Social Security number, or other identifying information to commit fraud.

One major way people can have their identities stolen is through the easy access to Social Security numbers. It is often also used for insurance policies, Medicare, and in some states as the driver's license number. The Social Security number is also used for Student Numbers at many universities, including OU.

However, many students at OU are unaware that they can change their student ID number to a number of their choosing.

This change could mean a lesser chance of identity theft caused by the easy access to their Social Security number.

The process is quick and directions are listed in the OU schedule of classes. All students have to do is go to the Registrar's Office in 106 O'Dowd and tell the staff that they want to change their student number. There is no charge for this service.

By providing this service, OU protects students' rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

U-M uses a student's Social Security number along with a check digit as their student number. An algorithm configures the check digit, that way the student number is not just a Social Security number. There is currently no way for U-M students to change their student ID numbers.

In contrast, MSU has never used a student's SSN for their student number. When students first apply, they are given a randomly generated number. The Social Security Number is used only as a cross-reference.

Registrar Steven Shablin told The Oakland Post that "maybe 20 students [at OU] change their numbers per year" and that no more than 500 students have changed during his tenure.

A student who does not elect to change from their Social Security may end up distributing it needlessly because it is required for a lot of different school services. These include things from writing a check at the bookstore to researching on the computers at the library.

At OU, the last six digits of a student's Social Security number are used as the default PIN code for the SAIL system. A misplaced hold notice containing that number could make a Social Security number that much easier to steal.

NUMBERS continues on A2

Y2K planning prepared OU

Only minor glitches affected the campus during the new year transition

By Lisa Remsing
OF THE OAKLAND POST

In spite of what many fanatics believed, midnight of the new millennium came and went without any serious problems. OU was no exception.

After spending \$2.1 million on 7,000 pieces of equipment, OU officials were confident that all

glitches were taken care of and that nothing would go wrong as the clocks hit midnight in the year 2000. They were mostly right.

As with most of the country, OU uses computers extensively for classes, registration, payroll, and its business operations. OU's main computer program, Banner 2000, is used by Financial Aid, Student Records, Registration, and many

other crucial offices, and was brought online last year to replace the non Y2K-compliant ISIS system.

If problems had occurred, students could not have registered for classes, faculty and staff would not have received paychecks, and students would not have known how much they owed for tuition.

The OU Board of Trustees began planning for Y2K in

Fall, 1998. Planning included establishing a Y2K team, creating a Y2K website and newsletter, and informing the community of these plans.

OU's Y2K team was headed by Randy Hansen, Interim Vice Provost for Research and Graduate Studies. Hansen was unavailable for comment.

Necessary repairs were

Y2K continues on A2

inside

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Get Out	B3
Sports	B5
Etcetera	B7

NUMBERS

continued from A1

As far as OU business is concerned, Registrar Shablin has no worries about identity theft. "If someone got into SAIL and tried to access your grades and scheduling information, your PIN would keep them out." The Registrar's office advocates the changing of students' PINs to create this layer of security. "With your PIN left unchanged, it would be easy to commit fraud on SAIL."

Outside of school, however, identity thieves may use a consumer's identifying information to open new credit card accounts, take out loans or to steal funds from checking, saving, or invest-

Y2K

continued from A1

made to all computers on campus, some only requiring a "patch" to prevent Y2K glitches.

Only minor problems were noticed in the New Year, and OU's Y2K team is currently addressing those glitches.

One glitch involves ELM, an old email program still used by some staff members, which shows the date as 100 rather than 00.

The Y2K team has also begun manually setting clocks on some

ment accounts. Additionally, stolen and counterfeit numbers have been used to gain employment and hide identity to commit various forms of crime, according to the Social Security Administration's Website.

Not only are individuals victimized by identity thefts, but private businesses and government agencies also. Credit Card companies incur significant losses resulting from the misuse of Social Security numbers.

To guard against identity theft, experts suggest not giving out a Social Security number unless absolutely necessary. Also changing your Student ID Number if possible will keep both potential and budding thieves at bay.

of the older computers all across campus. OU officials expect minor problems to surface as the year progresses, and are ready to fix them as the need arises.

"The power outage last Wednesday was a wake up call to the University. That's what could have happened if Y2K had caused campus wide chaos and if the school was not prepared for the worst," said Chris Wolfs, communications junior.

Anyone with questions concerning OU's Y2K procedures can call the Y2K hotline at (248) 370-4Y2K or email OUY2K@oakland.edu.

POWER

continued from A1

Niezurawski said that the arc created a carbonization effect that connected the A and B systems and caused the B system to overload and switch off.

Power was off campus-wide for approximately five hours while the carbonization burn was cleaned up.

The specialist was treated for a flash burn to his eyes, but otherwise was unharmed. Niezurawski said that there are no liability problems between OU and the private company, and referred to the accident as an "Act of God."

In order to repair the mechanical failure, the school ran wholly on the B line until Saturday morning at 3 a.m., when all power was cut off to perform maintenance on the switching cabinets.

Because of the previous events, Plant Maintenance cautiously allocated a six-hour period to perform the maintenance work in order to allow for unforeseeable circumstances, however none were encountered and all buildings were back online by 8:45 a.m. Saturday.

student Affairs

UPDATING OU

Student Affairs would like to welcome back all students for winter semester 2000!

• **Congratulations** to the following Fall 2000 **Keeper of the Dream Award winners:** Annie Chung, Bonifacio DeLaRosa, Lashanda Evans, Kristin Kouba, Razzaaq McConner, Aniesha Mitchell, Tamarus Southward, and Ralph Williams II.

• Need someone to talk to? The **Counseling Center** at the **Graham Health Center** has personal counselors available. First 6 sessions are free. No long waiting list. Appointments generally available within 2-3 days. Call 370-3465 for an appointment or to get additional information.

Do you want to have the ultimate leadership experience?

Are you interested in getting paid to have a remarkable summer?

If you answered yes, then we dare you to join the Orientation Team 2000 and become an **Orientation Group Leader!** Interested students must attend one of the following information sessions: Wednesday, January 26, 12 noon-1 PM, Wellness Classroom, Rec Center Wednesday, January 26, 5:30-6:30 PM, Wellness Classroom, Rec Center Thursday, January 27, 12 noon-1 PM, Wellness Classroom, Rec Center Applications are due by 5 PM Friday, January 28 For more info call 370-3260

• **ATTENTION SENIORS.** On-campus recruiting resumes February 1, 2000. Don't miss out on the opportunity to interview with employers visiting campus for a variety of professional positions. Contact Placement & Career Services for details and registration information at 370-3250.

• **The Academic Skills Center**, 103 North Foundation Hall, (248) 370-4215 would like to welcome students to the winter semester of 2000! We offer tutoring for most 100 and 200 level courses, and our tutors are students who've taken the courses you're taking. **STOP BY!!!**

Attention all Oakland University Students...

Earn a \$25 gift certificate to the OU Bookcenter!

The Graham Health and Counseling Center values your opinion and is willing to pay you \$25 (redeemable at the OU Bookcenter) for answering a few questions. Here's how it works...Graham Health and Counseling Center is working to enhance its services to the student population. Your input is of the utmost importance in accomplishing this task. Volunteer about 45 minutes of your time to answer some general questions about this topic and earn a \$25 gift certificate to the OU Bookcenter. Call 370-3465 to schedule your one-on-one interview today! All responses are anonymous and confidential! **This survey is highly targeted and will only accept a certain number of respondents so call right way.

THIS WEEK

• **Group Exercise** classes begin January 12th and run through April 14th. Stop by the Recreation Center and pick up your group exercise schedule.

• Entry forms/applications for **intramural sports** are now available at the Rec Center. The winter semester intramural season will begin on Wednesday, January 19th with table tennis.

UPCOMING EVENTS

• Win **FREE** books for the winter semester! Play in the **"We Got Game" 3:3 Basketball Tournament** on Saturday, **January 22, 2000**. Each overall team will receive top prizes and campus recognition. Door prizes will be awarded every 45 minutes. You must be present to win.

• The next **Campus Recreation Family Free Day Open House** will be on Sunday, **January 23rd** from 12 noon-3 PM. Open recreation, kiddie aerobics, kiddie basketball and youth basketball have been scheduled.

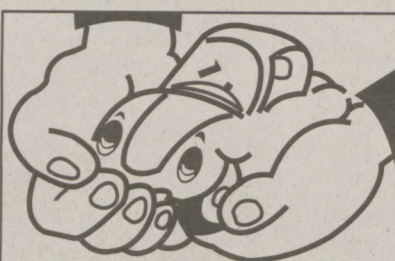
• **Placement & Career Services** will host an Open House on **January 24th** from 12 noon-1 PM in room 126-127 of the Oakland Center. Learn about the valuable services offered and meet the staff!

• Meet Ron Kotz from Daimler-Chrysler Corporation and learn how to dazzle employers during a job interview as he discusses the concept of a **behavioral interview** in a seminar on **January 25th** from 4-5:30 PM in room 126-127 of the Oakland Center.

• Have you considered a career in the government or non-profit sector? Come to the Oakland Room in the Oakland Center on **January 28th** from 12 noon-1 PM and learn about the many **career paths** available. A panel of professionals representing diverse employment opportunities will answer your questions and provide valuable information.

• **The African American Celebration Committee** announces Christy S. Matthews, President and CEO, Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, as the major speaker for the month. She will be speaking on Monday, **February 7, 2000** at Meadow Brook Theatre. Also, Cornell West is confirmed for Thursday, March 9, at Varner Recital Hall. The Committee on Race Relations/Vice President for Academic Affairs is sponsoring this lecture. Call the CSA and Leadership at 370-2400 for more information.

• **February 17th**, 6 PM at Varner Recital Hall, **"Driving While Black,"** a discussion of racial profiling. Free admission.



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Hard Thing
to Face.

The Howard Hughes Program in Biological Communication

Ten research fellowships of \$2,400 each will be awarded to Oakland University freshmen and sophomores to gain work experience in research laboratories. Selected students will be working for maximum of 10 hr/week for 8 months on a rate of \$7/hr. Students with interest in biological/biomedical research are eligible to apply.

Inquiries may be directed to:
Dr. Judette Haddad,
Laboratory Coordinator
362 Dodge Hall
(248) 370-3566
haddad@oakland.edu

Application deadline: January 14, 2000

Are you Catholic? Interested in receiving \$500 towards your tuition? St. John Fisher, the Catholic Community serving Oakland University, is offering a faith formation process for Young Adults that might interest you. Email abad@oakland.edu or call 370-2189.

Interested in developing your spirituality? St. John Fisher, the Catholic Community serving Oakland University, is sponsoring a Winter Retreat from Friday, Jan 28 - Sunday Jan 30, 2000 (you're home for super bowl kick-off!), to be held at the extraordinary Subiaco Benedictine Retreat House in Oxford, MI. Cost \$65. Email abad@oakland.edu or call 370-2189.

CRIME watch

• Professor threatened by Students

OU Police are investigating a complaint by a female faculty member concerning alleged threats against her by four students in her class. The threats were allegedly made before the final exam in December. The alleged threats were overheard by another student who told the instructor. The instructor called OU police on January 3rd.

• Suspicious circumstances at Kresge Library

Staff at Kresge Library reported what may have been an attempted break-in at the library over the holiday recess. Employees noticed a broken off key in the lock of the Key Cabinet, which houses keys for doors to offices and rooms throughout the library. Library personnel are not sure if the broken key was for the cabinet or not.

• Man found passed out behind the wheel

OU Police impounded a car in the P-1 lot and released the driver, a male, to paramedics. Police noticed the car, with the engine running and did not see a driver shortly before 1 a.m. Monday. The officer discovered the middle-aged driver hunched over the middle console. He was awakened by police who reportedly smelled alcohol on his breath. He was turned over to paramedics without being arrested, and was taken by ambulance to Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital.

What's news?

Please call in any news tips to The Oakland Post.

at: X4267

ask for Brent or Lisa.

Study shows dorm residents lack insurance

By Jenn Madjarev
OF THE OAKLAND POST

Traditionally, the average college student worries about issues such as registering for classes, buying books and moving away from home. Today, students have a new worry to add to their list-theft.

According to a earlier study by the Independent Insurance Agents of America (IIAA) and College Parents of America (CPA), it was revealed that most parents and students don't think enough about insurance, therefore leaving many students and their parents exposed to damage, loss or theft.

"An uninsured loss such as the theft of a laptop or a liability claim stemming from a party mishap can deal a devastating blow to college

student's limited bank account or the financial livelihood of a parent already struggling with high tuition bills," IIAA Consumer Affairs Advocate Madelyn Flannagan pointed out.

Student renters are not the only ones who need to think about renters insurance. Students who live on campus are generally covered by their parents' homeowner insurance for theft, but the limit of that coverage can vary from \$2,500 to \$10,000. According to Flannagan, students with expensive computers, stereos, televisions and other valuables may want to

contact their parent's insurance agent to make sure that their possessions are fully covered.

The survey conducted by the

protect their personal property or to safeguard against liability.

When students and parents were asked why they didn't protect the student's personal property with insurance, most respondents said they "don't know" or they "didn't think about it."

College and universities are not unsusceptible to property crimes. At OU, campus larcenies have plummeted from 119 offenses to 81 in the past five years.

And between 1997 and 1998, breaking and entering fell from 11 to five. Elementary education, junior, Rachel Weiss said, "My mom made me get renters insurance just in

case."

Towbey Kassa, elementary education junior is currently looking for an apartment and insurance to go with it. "If something goes bad I want to be insured. They can screw you over if something happens."

"Theft is the number one crime on college campuses. With all these valuables in students' dorms and houses, it's no surprise," observed Jayna Neagle, a spokesperson for the Insurance Information Institute.

For information on The Independent Insurance Agents of America, visit www.iiiaa.org. For more information on College Parents of America, visit www.collegeparents.org. And you can visit Insurance Information Institute at www.iii.org.

DORM ROOM THEFT PROTECTION TIPS

- Always lock your door. Even if you are only going to be gone a few minutes. Keep your keys with you at all times.
- Leave expensive jewelry at home.
- Engrave electronic items (computers, television, stereos) with your driver's license number and the state in which you live.
- Do not leave belongings unattended on campus. A book bag left unguarded in the library is a quick easy target for thieves.

Web shortens bookstore lines

Internet book sellers offer more choices of college text books

By Hillary Crawford
SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

Why stand in line for an hour and a half to buy textbooks that cost too much? Now, the Internet has reasons to stop wasting time in lines.

With a few clicks of the mouse, textbooks can be on the way to anyone's house or dorm. All that is needed is a credit card.

Many sites now offer textbooks on-line. The most popular sites are amazon.com and bigwords.com. These sites allow students to browse around and find the books needed for many classes offered in college.

Bigwords.com allows students to browse the different school sites to find the textbooks by the professor teaching the classes, or by the course number. This makes it that much easier to find the books for classes.

Each company has its own pricing for their books and shipping and handling. The books can be delivered within three days at amazon.com for a higher shipping and handling price. Bigwords.com allows the books to be delivered within 48 hours, or one to three business days, of the purchase, which makes it the fastest on-line provider of textbooks out there so far.

All prices are reasonable and somewhat cheaper than the prices at the bookstores on campuses. Bigwords.com says that it does not

charge for shipping and handling, as long as the amount spent is \$35 or more. It also says that its books are up to 40% lower than most campus bookstores.

Bigwords.com is only a textbook provider and is more oriented towards the buyer, which is the student. It has many programs for the students, including professor partnerships, which allows students to get the exact books the professors will use for their classes. This might not happen if textbooks are ordered from amazon.com.

Bigwords.com also says that it will match any other on-line competitor's prices, so students have no reason to shop at any other site.

The question, then, is whether it is worth giving out personal information to an unknown entity to buy textbooks, or if it is just better to use the campus bookstore.

Beth Stenzynski, a journalism junior said, "I probably would not buy my books on the Internet. I would rather pay more to avoid the hassle of going through all of that. It's not worth it, and it's not really safe to buy things off the Internet."

The one problem with buying textbooks, or anything off the Internet, is the fear of not knowing who is on the other end of the line. Many students are afraid to use the Internet to

BOOKSTORE continues on A5



Photo illustration by Reena Sibayan/The Oakland Post

COMIN' AT YA: With all the options for purchasing books online, it can be intimidating for the consumer. Before buying over the Internet, compare prices and make sure personal information is secure.

African-American Celebration Month Activities

Saturday, Jan. 13

- Gospel Choir 7-10 pm at the Varner Recital Hall, Varner Hall

Monday, Jan. 17

- All-Campus Unity March 11:30 am-noon on the first floor of Vandenberg Hall
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Day at Pioneer Court, OC
- Reflections on the Unity March for HS Seniors 1-2 pm at Pioneer Court, OC
- Candlelight Vigil and Alumni Night 7 pm in Gold Room C, OC

The celebration continues through March 21.

Check out The Oakland Post every week for a listing of activities.

Prof donates books, needs help

By Kristi Twork
SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

As students return to class, most will head to the bookstore to take back the books that are no longer needed from last semester. Why stop with textbooks? Old novels, textbooks, hard covers and paperbacks are desperately needed by students in Africa, who have very few books available to them.

Along with the rest of the world, Africans are experiencing significant change, culturally, politically, and economically. However, they continue to struggle to keep up with today's fast-paced technological and social advancement. As they work to become educated, students from the elementary to post-graduate level are hindered by a lack of available books.

Here at OU, Prof. Vincent Khapoya has been working to help change that. A native Kenyan, Khapoya has taught at OU for 26 years and currently serves as chair of the political science department. He is also involved with international studies curriculum building, and coordinates the African

studies program at OU.

In conjunction with the ongoing effort by the African Studies Association, a national non-profit organization of which he is a member, Khapoya has donated many books, and has even shipped books at his own expense to institutions throughout Africa.

The ASA, according to its web page, exists "to bring together people with a scholarly and professional interest in Africa." Besides administering the publication of various scholastic journals, direct involvement with African affairs, and sponsorship of a number of African scholars, the ASA conducts a book donation program to help alleviate the shortage of scholarly books and journals in African institutions.

"It is considered the premier organization for African studies in the country," Khapoya said.

According to the web page, thousands of books have been distributed by ASA to various African institutions since the inception of the program in 1994.

DONATION continues on A5

Concerns to be questioned

Let me be, if not the first, the latest to wish you a very Happy New Year. I hope that all of you brought in the new century in a great fashion. So far I've spoken to people who have done everything from going to Las Vegas to attending church. Personally, I rang in the New Year in Chicago, somewhat disappointed that nothing happened come midnight. But nonetheless, welcome back.

As all of you are probably already aware, my biggest concern around campus is the lack of student participation and influence on university decisions. We've tried incessantly to figure out what the heck it is that you, the students, want us to do in Student Congress. I thought that there would be a huge backlash to the "Cameras in the Bathroom" situation, so we took that on and had an open forum, got publicity on two news channels, but nobody cared. That's alright though, we were concerned about something that the major population wasn't, no problem. Then the University signed a contract with Pepsi making it the sole



NICK MITCHELL

distributor of drinks on campus without approaching students. Surely this is an issue that the student body would be upset with, yet again, no response. Both of these situations along with the golf course and several other issues persuaded me to just chalk it all up to student apathy. You just don't care about anything.

But I was wrong. After attending a conference entitled "Defeating Student Apathy", I realized that we just aren't asking the right questions. What we think is important to you just isn't. I think that people in student government get too caught up in the major issues to realize that there are many smaller problems that are just as important as the large ones. So instead of continuing to fight for things that you just don't care about, I'm

going to leave it entirely to you. In the coming weeks, you will be receiving a survey in the Post which will give you a chance to clearly rank, in order of importance, the major issues facing the University. This will give us a chance to know exactly what you would like us to do. It also gives you a rare chance to clearly voice your opinion on what matters to you. It seems that Student Congress, year in and year out never clearly hits on the true problems of its constituency. All that is going to change this year! I truly want to know your concerns and I equally want to address each and every one of them. But the only way we can help you is if you help us. We need a direction and what better way to get it than by going directly to the source.

So once again, welcome back and I look forward to being your President for one more semester. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, as always please do not hesitate to contact me in the Congress office at 62 OC or call us at x4290.

My name is Nick Mitchell, and as always, thank you for your support.

PERSPECTIVES

SECTION A

WEDNESDAY • JANUARY 12, 2000

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The OAKLAND POST

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An independent award-winning paper at Oakland University since 1976

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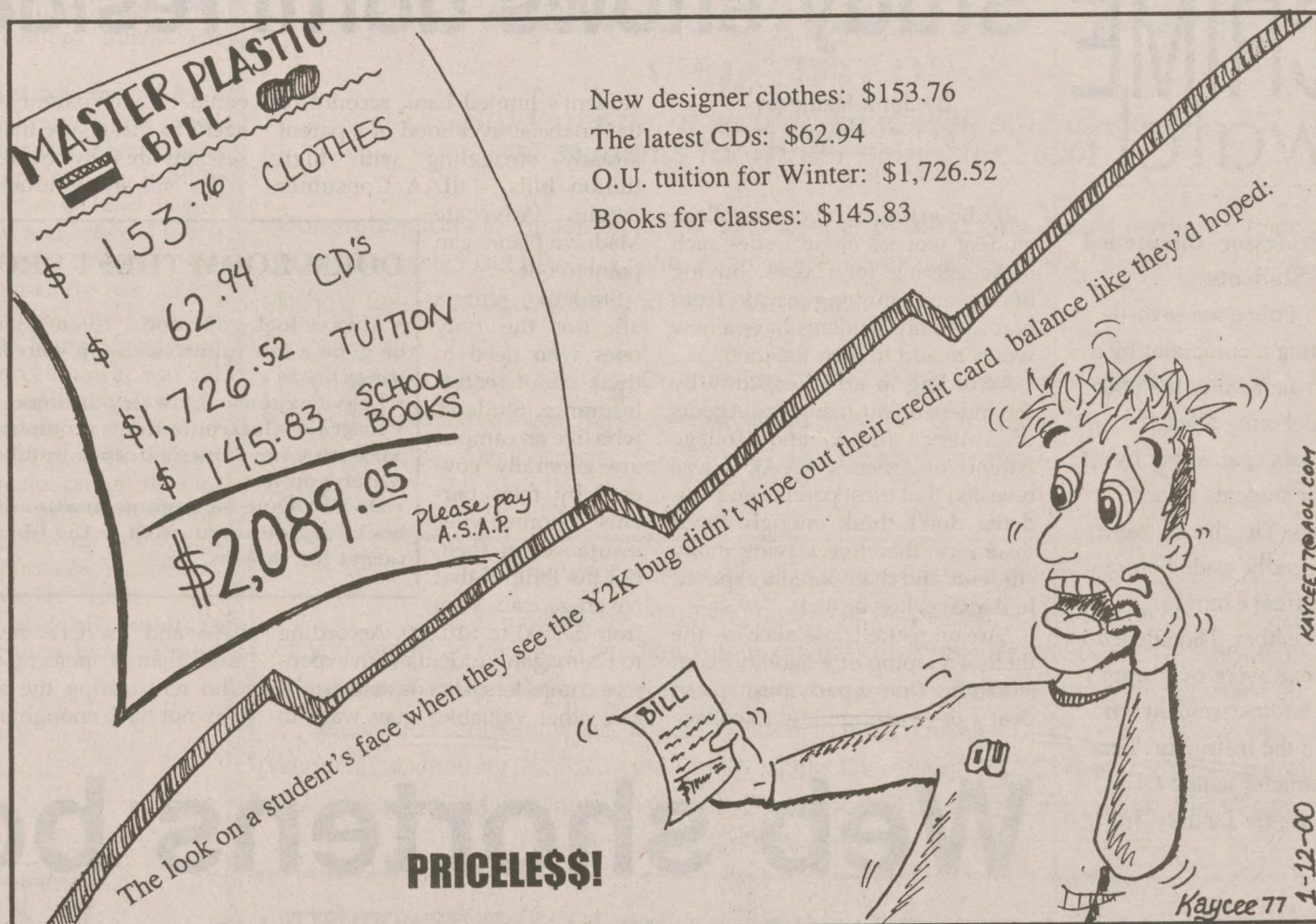
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LETTERS THE EDITOR

The Oakland Post welcomes your letters to the editor. All Letters to the Editor must include a name, phone number, class rank and field of study or Oakland University affiliation. Letters more than 400 words will not be accepted. Letters will be edited for clarity and length. The editor may use discretion to reject any letter for publication. Letters to the Editor deadline is Friday at 5 p.m.



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Volume 26 Issue 13 - 16 pages

SETTING IT straight

This space is reserved to correct factual errors that appear in
The Oakland Post

EDITOR'S view

According to commercials, college students fit into a slacker stereotype

Ever since I can remember, I have always enjoyed commercials. Instead of getting all frustrated and flicking through the channels when commercials aired, I sat patiently and mesmerized until regular programming continued.

I had so many favorite commercials. Who can forget the Wendy's "Where's the beef?" commercials or Rally's "Cha-ching" commercial.

These days commercials are .com this and .com that. Although commercials are full of .coms, I do admire the advancements of technology and the creativity which are put into popular commercials.

One thing that has really caught my attention these past few weeks are the online college book buying commercials. I understand that advertisers are competing with each other to produce the most eye-catching and appealing commercials to outclass their competition, but I'm ashamed to say that the image of today's college students are at risk.

At risk, you may ask? Yep, according to many of the popular commercials, which ironically are focused to advertise college textbook websites, are the same commercials that portray college students as dumb, ignorant, lazy and poor.

For example, ecampus.com has a number of insulting commercials that really have nothing to do with buying textbooks online. The commercial which stands out in my mind is the burping the alphabet commercial. Some guy belches out letters while ecampus.com flashes information on purchasing textbooks at its website. After the letter Z is burped out two guys stand there and laugh at him. I myself don't find anything funny about an adult burping on TV. I can understand elementary school kids burping and finding it absolutely hysterical but not mature college adults.

Another stream of commercials which demonstrate college students as no-brained idiots are the bigwords.com commercials. These commercials feature Tom Green, some obnoxious hyperactive comedian, yelling at college students about buying textbooks on the web. In one of the commercials he is hiding himself in a bush, and as some students pass by he pretends that he is some kind of talking shrubbery. One of the students says to the other, "I wanna be a bush too!"

As for me, if buying textbooks online is going to put me in the same category as students who want to be bushes or shrubs, then I should get going now because I've got one, long line to stand in at the bookstore!

Jenn Madjarev
Editor In Chief

LETTERS TO THE editor

OU Alum questions new library policy

Dear Editor,

As an Oakland University Alumni associate member, I would like to know why the Kresge Library changes their policy for using their vehicle search engines which are used to research off campus libraries.

I have been an OU Alumni member for several years and I've had access to search library databases off campus just until recently.

Now, the library has implemented a policy where only current students and faculty can use such off-campus databases. The library has cut off these off-campus search engines to other libraries.

This process was done unilaterally by the library and its affiliates. If the university alumni association wants to have future contributions made by its members, it should give members full access to such privileges as it did in the past.

Paul Ryneurson
BGS '94

INTRODUCING CAMPUS forum 370-5395

The Oakland Post's Reader Forum is an anonymous call-in-system that allows readers to voice their opinions on any topic for 20 seconds. To call the FORUM, dial 370-5395.

I hate the fact that on the first couple of days of classes the traffic during my commute in ungodly, but then the next week it's smooth sailing.

I think that it would have been interesting if something had happened at midnight of the new millennium. I sure am glad that the new semester started later than usual because I got to play my new Dreamcast system.

O.K., so the new Pepsi contract kicks in. And we go from the cool looking styrofoam cups to these old school, cheap garbage cups. And another thing Pepsi sucks!

Thank you President Russi, God among men, for replacing that nasty Coke with the 'choice of a new generation.'

I think that the lack of student participation at athletic games is not only bringing school spirit down, but it's also bringing down many of the athlete's feelings towards their fellow students.

BOOKSTORE

continued from A3

buy books because they do not know if the company is legitimate. Steve Jonuzi, business junior also felt the same way. "I would be scared to think that the person taking down my information would use it to their own benefit," he said. "I do not trust on-line stores because I do not feel safe not knowing who is actually taking down my information."

Brittany Maxey, 18, an elementary education freshman thought it would be nice to find a place that is cheaper to buy her textbooks. "I would buy my books on-line because it generally tends to be cheaper," she said.

She did have one concern. "The only drawback would be giving your personal information out to someone you cannot see," she said.

Many companies are now trying to make it more confidential for customers to buy things from their sites. Amazon.com uses encryption for the credit card numbers when a consumer makes an online purchase. Before giving confidential information over the Internet, buyers should contact the online company and inquire about its security procedures.

DONATION

continued from A3

Although the ASA contributes the funds to ship books to Africa, the books are collected through the individual efforts of organizations motivated by charitable intentions. All across the country, universities including California State Polytechnic University, Chicago State University, and Rutgers have contributed to the cause. At Michigan State University, a student organization called the Africa Book Fund raised money and collected 36 boxes of books to send to African schools and libraries, according to ASA News.

"In fact, I think that would be a worthwhile project for a (student) organization," Khapoya said.

The ASA has established guidelines for applying for a grant from its book donation program, and as a life member, Khapoya is interested in helping coordinate such an effort, he said. In his past experience, he has uncovered other sources of aid as well, such as special rates offered by the post office for charitable donations, and corporate and individual cash contributions to help pay for shipping costs.

If your student organization would like to help, contact Khapoya at (248) 370-3260.

animal (an • i • mal) n. a living being capable of feeling.

—To find out what you can do to help animals, contact PETA.

PETA

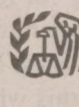
People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals
501 Front St.
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-622-PETA
www.peta-online.org

Photo: Chip Simons

It's 3 am. Call the IRS
and hang up real fast.



Introducing TeleFile from the IRS. If you are single and filed Form 1040EZ last year, you can file your tax return in ten minutes by phone. Anytime. Check your tax booklet for information.

 Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
Changing for good.

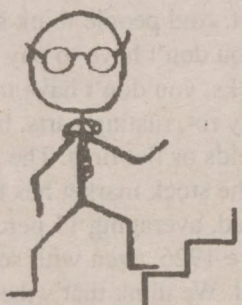
TeleFile
It's free. It's fast. It works.



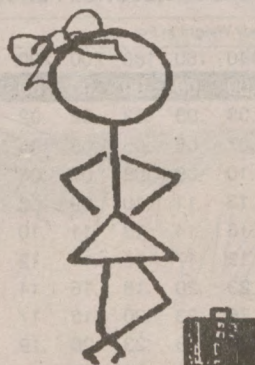
Ad Council U.S. Department of Transportation

Need a job, Selling a car, Looking for a babysitter?
Call Diane
@ 248-370-4269 and
ADVERTISE !!!!

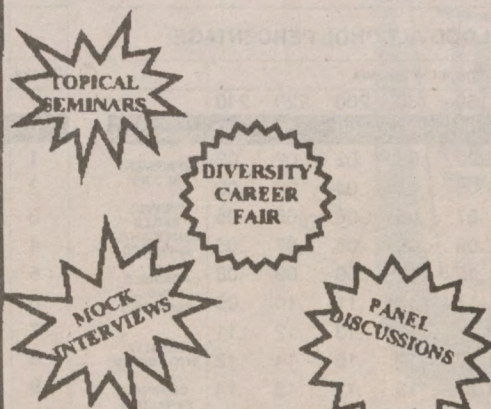
See Dick.



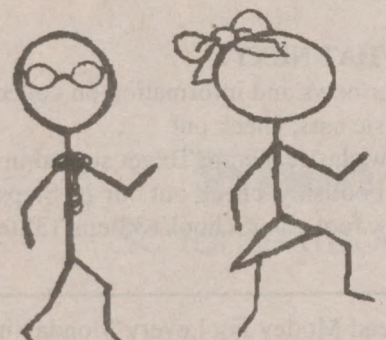
See Jane.



See Career Prep Week 2000; sponsored by Placement & Career Services.



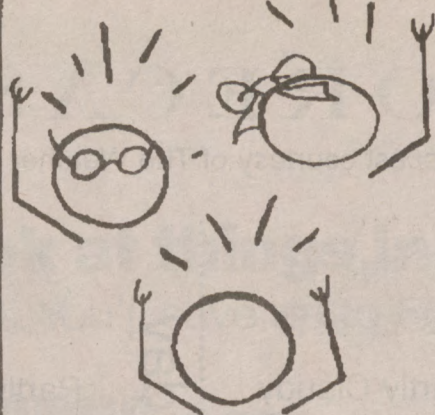
See Dick & Jane run to Career Prep Week 2000.



And, you?



See YOU, Dick & Jane at Career Prep Week 2000!



Career Prep Week 2000

January 24 thru January 28

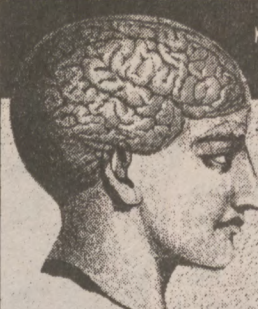
Sponsored by: Placement & Career Services 275 West Vandenberg Hall 310-3205



The Proverbial 1-2 Punch.

The remarkable power of newspaper advertising. It's immediate, credible and indisputable. Direct Mail has a different kind of power. It's personalized and involving. It knows what you're like as well as what you like. Effective, each in its own way, their power increases when used in tandem. After all, a hard right hook wouldn't be as effective without a quick left jab, now, would it?

Say It In Print.



Think About This:

You Want To Begin Investing.

But You Can't Afford Much Per Month, And Inflation Is Eating Your Savings Account For Lunch.

When you can only invest a few dollars a month, you'd better make sure they're working hard for you. Try Series I Bonds. You can get started with just \$50. They're guaranteed to stay ahead of inflation for 30 years. Their interest is exempt from state and local income taxes, and you can buy them where you bank, work, or through the new U.S. Savings Bonds EasySaver™ Plan. So visit us at www.savingsbonds.gov. Because inflation is still hungry.



I Bonds
Everyone Needs a Safe Place to Grow.

For more information about I Bonds, visit our website at www.savingsbonds.gov

A public service of this newspaper

local Edge

Festivals & Shows

• **Minotaurs & Models**
Through Feb. 26,
Important Intaglio Prints
from Pablo Picasso's La
Suite Vollard. David
Klein Gallery, 163
Townsend, Birmingham.
(248) 433-3700

• **Silverdome Boat,
Sport and Fishing Show**
Feb. 2-6, 3-9:30 p.m. Wed.
and Thurs., 11 a.m.-9:30
p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-9:30
p.m. Sat., and 10 a.m.-6
p.m. Sun. at the Pontiac
Silverdome. Featuring
over 300 boats, virtual
fishing, fishing tackle, and
more. Admission is \$7 for
adults and \$3 for children
ages 6-14.

• **Great American Train
Show**
Novi Expo Center Jan. 15-
16, 11-5 p.m. Model train
show, operating train lay-
outs, new and used trains
and equipment for sale.
Admission \$6, 12 and
under free. Parking \$5.

LECTURES & WORKSHOPS

• **Republican presiden-
tial candidate Steve
Forbes**
Feb. 11 at the San Marino
Club in Troy. Forbes is
the featured speaker at
the Lincoln Day Dinner.
Tickets are \$35 a person.
Call the Oakland County
Young Republicans at
(800) GOP-OCYR

SPECIAL INTEREST

• **Moonlight Madness
Ski-Hike**
Fri., Jan. 21, 8 p.m. at
West Bloomfield Parks.
Full moon cross country
ski or nature hike at
Snow Gulch, just north
of West Bloomfield
Township Hall. You
need your own cross-
country skis. Starts with
indoor introduction on
winter night creatures at
parks and recreation, fol-
lowed by hot cocoa. \$3
fee. Pre-registration
required. Call (248) 738-
2500

• **First Total Lunar
Eclipse of the
Millennium**
Cranbrook Institute of
Science Jan. 20, 8:30
p.m.-1 a.m. The moon
will be completely
eclipsed from 11:05
p.m. until 12:22 a.m.
The Planetarium will
feature an Eclipse Sky
Show at 8 and 9 p.m.
Admission is \$3 for
nonmembers, \$2 for
members.

Boozing it up college style

By Sarah Everson

SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

The students at Oakland University are below the national average for binge drinking. One reason is because the average age of an OU student is over 21.

Binge drinking remains a major problem at universities around the country. A new U-M study on student drinking behavior found "45 percent of U-M undergraduate students—the majority of whom are under the age of 21—are binge drinking." Those figures correlate with 42.7 percent "as measured in a 1997 Harvard Study. In a similar U-M study done in 1993, 41 percent of undergraduates said they were drinking to get drunk and 72 percent increased their use of alcohol once they arrived on campus."

Even the federal government is involved. Last year, President Clinton signed amendments to the Higher Education Act of 1965 that together require disciplinary measures on campus for underage drinking and more alcohol awareness program-
ming. OU, which has benefited from a \$24,000 grant from the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) is addressing the issue and increasing its alcohol awareness program.

Through a focus group of college students, MDCH found that most of the students thought, "Binge drinking was consuming five drinks within a two hour period and only associated binge drinking with having a good time. They did not understand the relationship between binge drinking and alcohol poisoning, which can lead to death."

MDCH Director James K. Haveman, Jr. announced on March 15, 1999 that MDCH has a new campaign "Aimed at educating college students on the dangers of binge-drinking."

At the President's Council of State Universities of Michigan held last February, "Haveman outlined a plan to curb college drinking. Included in the plan was \$433,000 the Department will use to fund comprehensive five week mentoring programs at Universities statewide to emphasize an alcohol and drug-free approach to campus life. [OU has received \$51,000 overall, \$24,000 went to the GHCC, \$5,000 went to the university, and the rest went to in-kind services (costs).]

The mentoring program will include alcohol and drug-free activities for freshman students. The Department will fund a \$50,000 initiative to train University Health Professionals to recognize and deal with binge drinking problems on campus. The Department of Community Health will work closely with the Universities, Michigan State Police, Local Law Enforcement and the Liquor Control Commission to stop underage drinking and excessive drinking."

(<http://www.mdch.state.mi.us/DCH/NewsRels/bingelan.htm>)

According to the OU CORE Alcohol and Drug Survey of Winter Term 1999, "Most OU students (76.8%) do NOT engage in binge drinking. Twenty-three percent of OU students reported binge drinking within the last two weeks. Though this number is concerning, it should be noted that this percentage is significantly lower than the national average of 40%. Many OU students (43.9%) do NOT use alcohol. If they drink at all, most OU students (81.5%) consume three or fewer drinks in an average week." (OU Counseling Center Summary of the 1999 Core Alcohol and Drug Survey Results)

Nancy Schmitz, Director of the Graham Health and Counseling Center (GHCC), believes that there are a number of reasons why OU is below the national average when it comes to binge drinking and alcohol. "OU has a small residential population. Fifty percent of the students work and go to school," she said. Schmitz also added that most students are not living at home, but rather live at home and are accountable to their parents.

According to Schmitz, OU is doing a number of things to make students more aware of the dangers of alcohol, all of which are voluntary.

One is the Campus Social Mentoring Program (PAUSE), which takes place during the first five weeks of school. Up to a dozen freshman are teamed up with a junior or senior, who is either under 21 and does not drink, or is 21 or older and only has one drink an hour. At the beginning of the Fall 1999 semester, PAUSE and 228 freshmen and 25 mentors.

GHCC also has an alcohol education class for students with minor problems with alcohol. They have a national alcohol screening day, so students can look at their drinking patterns. They also have Training for Intervention Procedures (TIPS). The 1998 University Study Manual states, "The goal of TIPS for the University is to provide students with the skills they need to intervene in situations where their peers are misusing alcohol."

The manual also states that TIPS address "the different settings in which drinking among college students takes place, what you can do to prevent alcohol-related problems, and the attitudes of your fellow students towards drinking."

Schmitz also said the GHCC conducts CORE (which is not an acronym) surveys to measure attitudes and the usage of OU students. CORE surveys are also given to other universities, so they can see the trends at other schools and can "compare apples with apples," she said.

There are also some smaller tools that are being used. The GHCC have "drunk goggles" so students can visualize what it is like to be driving while drunk. They also have a CD-ROM entitled Alcohol 101, which was developed by the University of Illinois in partnership with the Century Council. It was created to reduce the harm associated with misuse of alcohol. The program provides the physiological, psychological, and legal information to help college students make responsible decisions about drinking or not drinking.

The University of Michigan released a new study on October 21, 1999 on student drinking behavior. According to Carol J. Boyd, director of the U-M Substance Abuse Research Center who conducted the study, "Our study indicates that binge drinking among our students remains a major health and safety concern on our campus.... The study indicates that as the number of binge-drinking episodes increase, the consequences become more frequent and more severe." (<http://www.umich.edu/~newsinfo/Releases/1999/Oct99/r102199m.html>)

Boyd pointed out that the results from 1992 and 1999 U-M surveys are not directly comparable. "There are two major differences in the surveys that we think had a strong impact on the results," she said. "First, the definition of binge drinking for women was changed from five drinks in a sitting to four, taking more physiological characteristics more into account," she said.

"In addition," Boyd said, "students' drinking behavior has a negative impact on their friends, roommates and other students around them, who may lose sleep or class time caring for drunk or ill students or who may bear the brunt of their dangerous, argumentative or violent behavior," she said.

Nancy Cantor, U-M provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, said that "The results suggest that many of our students are concerned about interference in the academic and social environment caused by binge drinking. The highest priority of our University community should be to work together—all of us—to create an environment that is healthy, safe and conducive to learning, one where each of our students can do their best work."

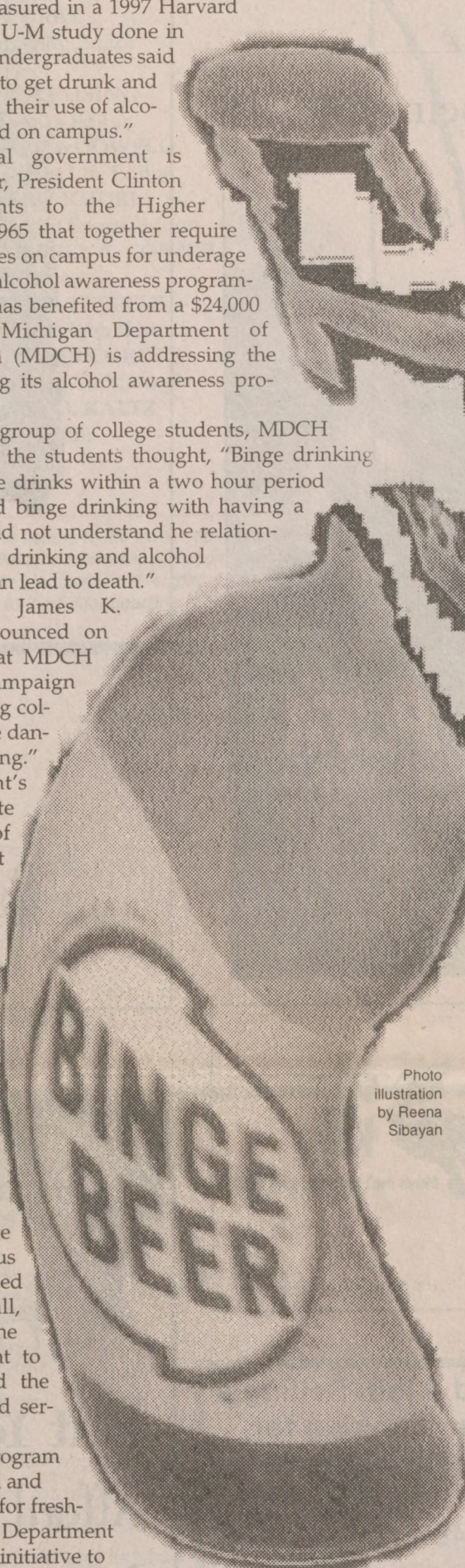


Photo
illustration
by Reena
Sibayan

ALCOHOL IMPAIRMENT CHARTS

APPROXIMATE BLOOD ALCOHOL PERCENTAGE												
Drinks	Body Weight in Pounds											
	100	120	140	160	180	200	220	240				
0	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	ONLY SAFE DRIVING LIMIT			
1	.04	.03	.03	.02	.02	.02	.02	.02	IMPAIRMENT BEGINS			
2	.08	.06	.05	.05	.04	.04	.03	.03	DRIVING SKILLS SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTED			
3	.11	.09	.08	.07	.06	.06	.05	.05	POSSIBLE CRIMINAL PENALTIES			
4	.15	.12	.11	.09	.08	.08	.07	.06	LEGALLY INTOXICATED			
5	.19	.16	.15	.12	.11	.10	.09	.08	CRIMINAL PENALTIES			
6	.23	.19	.16	.14	.13	.11	.10	.09				
7	.26	.22	.19	.16	.15	.13	.12	.11				
8	.30	.25	.21	.19	.17	.15	.14	.13				
9	.34	.28	.24	.21	.19	.17	.15	.14				
10	.38	.31	.27	.23	.21	.19	.17	.16				

Your body can get rid of one drink per hour.
Each 1 1/2 oz. of 80 proof liquor, 12 oz. of beer or 5 oz. of table wine = 1 drink.

APPROXIMATE BLOOD ALCOHOL PERCENTAGE												
Drinks	Body Weight in Pounds											
	90	100	120	140	160	180	200	220	240			
0	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	ONLY SAFE DRIVING LIMIT		
1	.05	.05	.04	.03	.03	.03	.02	.02	.02	IMPAIRMENT BEGINS		
2	.10	.09	.08	.07	.06	.05	.05	.04	.04	DRIVING SKILLS SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTED		
3	.15	.14	.11	.10	.09	.08	.07	.06	.06	POSSIBLE CRIMINAL PENALTIES		
4	.20	.18	.15	.13	.11	.10	.09	.08	.08	LEGALLY INTOXICATED		
5	.25	.23	.19	.16	.14	.13	.11	.10	.09	CRIMINAL PENALTIES		
6	.30	.27	.23	.19	.17	.15	.14	.12	.11			
7	.35	.32	.27	.23	.20	.18	.16	.14	.13			
8	.40	.36	.30	.26	.23	.20	.18	.17	.15			
9	.45	.41	.34	.29	.26	.23	.20	.19	.17			
10	.51	.45	.38	.32	.28	.25	.23	.21	.19			

Your body can get rid of one drink per hour.
Each 1 1/2 oz. of 80 proof liquor, 12 oz. of beer or 5 oz. of table wine = 1 drink.

Four Day FORECAST

Forecast courtesy of The Weather Channel (www.weather.com)

Thursday		Scattered Snow Showers High - 41° Low - 32°
Friday		Partly Cloudy High - 34° Low - 24°
Saturday		Partly Cloudy High - 38° Low - 22°
Sunday		Scattered Rain Showers High - 38° Low - 29°



Revving Up for Retirement

Q: Historically, has the value of classic cars outpaced equity investments? Can buying cars and putting them on blocks beat the S&P? — J.L., via the Internet

A: Ahh, that classic car. Feel the sweet leather seats, hear the roar of the engine, smell the exhaust ... that's filled your driveway because the car is sitting up on blocks. Without wheels, it has no power to thrill; covered with a tarp on most days, it can't even impress passersby with its shiny paint and smiling grill.

Is this any way to treat a car? More pertinent, could this actually be an investment that could pay off in the long run?

Fool, we think not. We've got nothing against collectibles. We hope your Beanie Babies, "Star Wars" figurines and that nutcracker from your Great-Aunt Edna all give you a lifetime of pleasure and happiness. We hope you take out that hot-rod Camaro every weekend and enjoy it. But it likely will not win the race against the S&P 500 in the long run.

Let's look at some numbers. Say you bought a real classic, a 1969 Chevy Camaro RS, for \$3,000. You put another \$5,000 worth of restoration work into it and jacked it up in your driveway on some cinder blocks, ready to let it appreciate until the day you sell (unlike new cars today, which depreciate anywhere from 20 percent to 40 percent the minute you take them off the dealer's lot).

Well, to just match the rate of return of the S&P, the value of the car is going to have to increase at a compounded rate of 11 percent per year (the historical average). That means that your cost basis of \$8,000 must increase to at least \$22,715 by year 10. By year 20, the car has to be worth at least \$64,498. By year 30 — if the car hasn't rusted out by now — it has to be worth at least \$183,138. That's just to tie the S&P.

Well, what are the odds of that occurring? And if you're planning for retirement, how many cars will you have to have sitting in your yard to make enough money to live off of? Man, this whole "stock market" thing looks easier every second.

What if a tornado hits and wipes out your collection of Mustangs, GTOs and Corvettes? What if you do take your muscle car — part of your retirement portfolio — down to McDonald's to show off? You risk an accident, or even theft. And people think stocks are risky!

You don't have to pay insurance on stocks, you don't have to worry about body rot, rusting parts, broken windshields or flat tires. The general direction of the stock market has been full-steam ahead, averaging 11 percent per year since 1926, even with some bumps in the road. We think that's the best place for your long-term money.

So, take that car out and live a little. Use it for what it is — an automobile, not a savings plan. Just remember to buckle up and drive the speed limit, Fool.

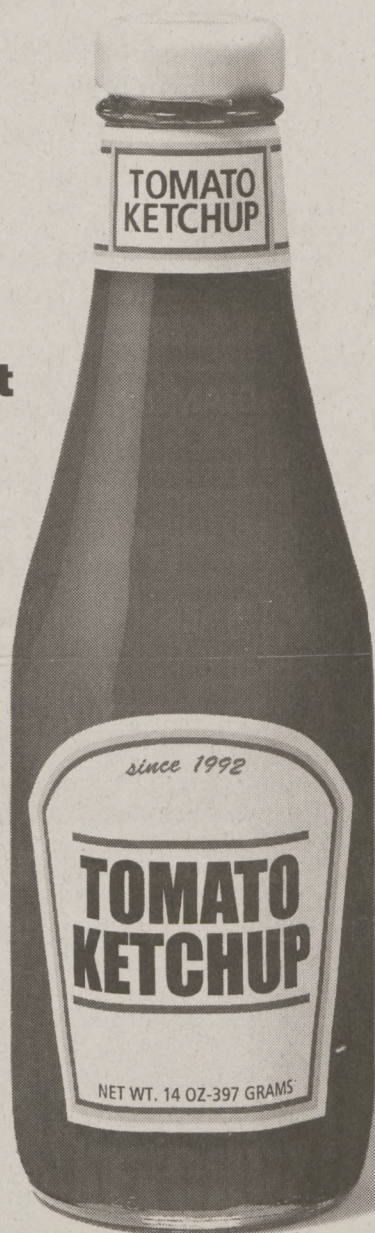
WHAT NEXT?

For news and information on collecting classic cars, check out www.classiccar.com. To get started investing Foolishly, check out our 13 Steps at www.fool.com/School/13Steps/13Steps.htm.

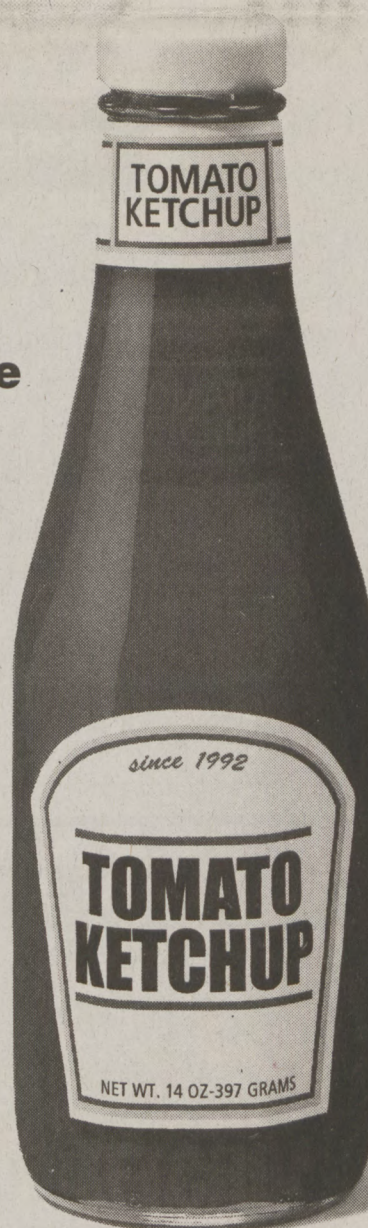
Read Motley Fool every Monday in the Money section of the Detroit Free Press

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condiment



spaghetti sauce



When you're broke, you look at things in a whole new way.
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Win a trip to Jamaica for Spring Break. No purchase necessary. Sweepstakes begins 01/03/00 and ends 02/17/00. Open to US residents, 18 years and older. Void where prohibited. For details see Official Rules on www.ecampus.com or send a self addressed stamped envelope by 02/10/00 to: c/o Rolling Stone Spring Break, 1290 Avenue of the Americas, NY, NY 10104. (WA and VT residents may omit return postage.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

To place a
classified ad, call
Diane Frkan
@ 248-370-4269

SECTION A

WEDNESDAY • JANUARY 12, 2000

page 8

EMPLOYMENT

***** Gift Shop Attendant *****

- Flexible schedule (part time)
- Competitive pay (\$6.75-\$7.25)
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- Excellent working environment
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- Many hotel benefits available

Friendly and reliable person to join our team in Troy!

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Delivery and Counter Help Needed. Flexible Hours

Great Starting Wage !

Apply in person at
3134 Walton
University Square
Shopping Center

Please call:
248-375-1330

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Opportunity Awaits

Picture Framers & Sales Associates

Frames Unlimited has opportunities for individuals with experience or potential. You will enjoy the excitement of the picture framing industry and selling of eclectic giftware. Come and grow with us. Immediate openings available.

Superb training program. Full or part time.

Apply in person at
Frames Unlimited:

Birmingham - Bloomfield Plaza - 6616 Telegraph Rd at Maple.

Farmington Hills - Orchard - 12 Plaza at 27891 Orchard Lake Rd. & 12 Mile.

Novi - Oakpointe Plaza - 22224 Novi Rd. & 9 Mile.

Troy - Somerset Plaza - 2842 W. Maple Rd & Coolidge.

Immediate Openings!

Students earn \$375/\$475 weekly processing and assembling medical I.D. cards from your home. Experience unnecessary...we train you!

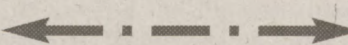
Please call Medicard at 1-541-386-5290, ext. 300.

Smiling Faces Needed

Cregar's Food Service at Meadowbrook Hall

is looking for waitstaff and dishwashers. Very Flexible Hours and great atmosphere.

Please call today at:
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Need Money ???

Warehouse worker needed.

Part-time - 25 hours per week. Flexible hours. \$8.50 per hour.

Please call:
248-852-6182 and ask for Shawn

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

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POSTAL ANNEX at University Square Plaza

Counter sales needed part time. Flexible hours, no evenings or Sundays. Competitive wage with great incentive bonus program.

Apply at
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Rochester Hills
or call:
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The OAKLAND POST
Please call: 248-370-4269

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Current openings for:
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• Admin. assistants.
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✓ Near Campus - Squirrel / Hamlin.
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✓ Exciting industry

For interview call Russ 370-TRIP X50

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YOUTH WORKER

Part-time worker position available !!

Perfect for college student pursuing degree related to human services with emphasis on Youth Development.

(social recreation, physical education, social work, fine arts)

Entry level paying \$7.00 -10.00 per hour.

Please send resume:
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Shelby Twp., MI 48315

Flexible Hours
•••••

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Weight Problem ??

Lose 30 lbs before the holidays - guaranteed !!!

Safe, natural, Doctor recommended herbal supplements.

20 years experience
Products for energy and mental clarity.
Ideal for students.

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Confidential, combined, closed meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous/ Al-anon are held every Wednesday at noon.

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DEPRESSION

<http://www.save.org>

life Edge

ON CAMPUS

•A one day **WINTER CARNIVAL** presented by CSA will take place on Jan. 13.

•**ANNA AND CARL BARNES** are donating their print collection totaling over 400 pieces to the OU Foundation 4-7 p.m. Jan. 14 at the Meadow Brook Art Gallery.

•**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.** Celebration Day will be sponsored by CSA on Jan. 17.

•January is **AFRICAN-AMERICAN CELEBRATION MONTH.**

CONCERTS

•**GORDON BENNETT** plays tight jams and dance beats at 10 p.m. Thursday, at an 18+ show at Karma, Ferndale.

•**DOWN HOME COMEDY** 8 p.m. Friday, at Fox Theatre. The show stars D.C. Curry, Joe Torry, and Sheryl Underwood.

•**ALVIN YOUNG-BLOOD HART** will play at 7:30 p.m. on Friday at The Ark, Ann Arbor.

•**JIM CARROLL**, the author of "Basketball Diaries," will present two spoken word performances, one at 7 p.m. Friday at The Blind Pig, Ann Arbor, and one at 9 p.m. Saturday at The Magic Stick, Ferndale.

•**ROBERT GORDON** with The Royal Crowns will play at 8 p.m. Saturday at The Magic Bag, Ferndale.

•**BB KING** with Bobby Bland at 8 p.m. Jan. 16 at Fox Theatre, Detroit. Tickets are \$27.50 and \$35.

•**Alex Chilton** with special guest **Driftweed** will play at 8 p.m. on Jan. 19 at St. Andrew's Hall, Detroit.

COMING SOON

•**COWBOY JUNKIES** will play at 7:30 p.m. on February 2 at the Michigan Theater, Ann Arbor.

•Special Brew and View of **"AMERICAN PIE"** on Jan. 28 at The Magic Bag, Ferndale.

•**MICHAEL FLATLEY'S** Lord of the Dance comes Feb. 8-13 to Fox Theatre. Tickets are \$10-60.

How would **YOU** rate your life experience?

Many of the life stories we hear people tell are exciting and adventurous, but how great are the things you do? Now you can rate your experiences to see how well you **Carpe Diem.**

By Cara Plowman
Jenn Madjarev contributed to this article

Memories in Motion

Give yourself 10 pts. for each of the adventures you have partaken in.

- Bungee jumping
- Sky diving
- Parasailing
- White water rafting
- Scuba diving
- Surfing
- Rock climbing
- Down hill or cross country skiing/snowboarding
- Mountain climbing
- Gone skinny-dipping

If you have done something not listed give yourself 15 pts. for each thing.

ADD IT UP _____

Life 101

20 pts. if you have...

- Almost died
- Saved someone else's life
- Had someone very close to you die

15 pts. if you have...

- Saved an animal that was in danger
- Helped a friend/loved one through a major life change

10 pts. if you have...

- Witnessed someone's death
- Witnessed someone's birth
- Gave birth to children (10 pts. for each child)

ADD IT UP _____

Get Outta Town

10 pts. if you have...

- Hitchhiked (30 pts. if you left the state you live in)
- Gone on a cruise
- Piloted an aircraft
- Flown in a helicopter
- Taken a road trip over 500 miles
- Hiked or biked for more than an entire day without stopping
- Joined the Peace Corp.
- Joined the Armed Services
- Gone on a Safari-type adventure

5 pts. for each of these accomplishments.

- Left the continental US
- Been to a different continent/foreign country

- Add 10 pts. for every country you have lived in.
- Add 5 pts. for every major city you have lived in.
- Add 2 pts. for every major city you have visited.

ADD IT UP _____

Cheating Death

20 pts. if you survived a... (10 pts added if you went to the hospital and 5 pts for each day you were admitted.)

- Car/moped/snowmobile accident (4 wheels)
- Motorcycle/bicycle accident (2 wheels)
- Plane crash
- Electrocution
- Animal attack
- Natural disaster (flood, hurricane, earthquake, etc.)
- Kidnapping/ been held hostage

ADD IT UP _____

Not of This World

20 pts for each of these. Have you ever...

- Seen a ghost
- Been abducted
- Seen a UFO
- Had psychic powers
- Moved objects without touching them

10 pts. if you have...

- Joined a cult
- Experienced a profound religious awakening
- Heard voices in your head

5 pts if you have...

- Successfully played Ouija
- Called/visited a psychic
- Been to therapy to forget any of the above mentioned

If your friends think you're crazy, add 15 pts. to your score.

ADD IT UP _____

Honorable Mentions

20 pts. for each of these...

- Do regular charity work
- Won a prestigious award
- Overcome a life threatening disease
- Run for public office (10 pts. extra if you won)
- Been involved in a stand-in or protest (10 pts. extra if rioting ensued)

ADD IT UP _____

A Dramatic Pause

20 pts. for each of these...

- Quit your job with a protest or caused a scene
- Left someone at the altar
- Been on a trashy talk show (Ricki, Jerry, Jenny, etc.)
- Cheated on your mate
- Been on TV or in a movie
- Had an affair with a boss or manager
- Dated someone as old or older than your parents

ADD IT UP _____

Dark Side

20 pts. for each of these...

- Been in a bloody fight (10 pts. extra if you won)
- Been suspended from school (10 pts. extra if you were expelled)
- Been arrested (add 15 pts. if you served prison time)
- Been a gang member, part of an organized crime family or other outlaw group
- Been in a high-speed chase
- Taken illegal narcotics (5 pts. extra for each)
- Solicited sex (10 pts. extra if from member of the same gender)
- Sold your body for money (10 pts. extra if you sold yourself for drugs)
- Stripped completely naked in a public place or in a club
- Anybody tried to kill you?
- Been involved in a political scandal (5 pts. extra if it was your idea)
- Member of the Communist party?
- Add 10 bonus points if you have fulfilled a forbidden fantasy too lurid to be mentioned here

ADD IT UP _____

Get a Life: Penalties

Deduct 20 pts....

- For every TV you own
- For every hour of TV you watch a day
- If you sit behind a desk or computer for more than 20 hours a week
- If you own Nintendo, Sega or any other electronic games
- If you spend more than 2 hours a week in shopping malls
- If you see more than 2 movies a week (in the theatres or on TV)
- If you wear headphones to listen to music in public
- If you blow dry your hair regularly
- If you eat fast food more than twice a week

TOTAL POINTS _____

Scoring

0-100 You better check yourself into a hospital because you may already be dead.

101-300 You may have a pulse but you're still living in DUDDS-ville. Get off your butt and do some living why don't you.

301-600 Impressive indeed, but life is short and there is still so much exploring to do. We are at the beginning of a new millennium so try and rack up some SERIOUS points.

601-900 All hail the King/Queen of adventure and excitement. You're not too far from the top... still not movie material though.

OVER 900 WOW! A monument should be made in your honor... that is, unless you cheated.

Did you top 900?

If you did, drop us a line and tell us about it. Want even more fame? Drop us a letter detailing all those amazing adventures. Maybe we will share your saga with the campus. Write or stop by 61 Oakland Center Oakland University Rochester, MI 48309





WHAT IS the SOUNDTRACK of your life?

1. "Rebel, Rebel" -David Bowie
2. "I Know" -Placebo
3. "Crystal Blue Persuasion" -Tommy James & the Shondells
4. "Patience" -Guns N' Roses
5. "Love Insane" -Dream City Film Club
6. "Teardrop" -Massive Attack
7. "All in the Family" -Limp Bizkit & Korn
8. "Something I Can Never Have" -NIN
9. "20th Century Boy" -T Rex
10. "Drunken Butterfly" -Sonic Youth

Krystal Kaltz
senior, journalism

Do you want to see your favorite songs in the SOUNDTRACK box? Drop by the Post with your list (and a picture of yourself if you have one).

Local band mixes it up for a fresh sound



TRIBAL: (Left to Right) Todd Levy, bass, Mike Schwartzenbarger, drums, Matthew Parnel, vocals, Jason Milan, guitar.

By Gabriela Ardelean
OF THE OAKLAND POST

The band is Tribal Traktion. If it's a name you haven't heard of yet, you soon will. Lead vocals and percussion are done by Matthew Parnel, guitar and bongos by Jason Milan, bass and back up vocals by Todd Levy and drums and percussion by Mike Schwartzenbarger.

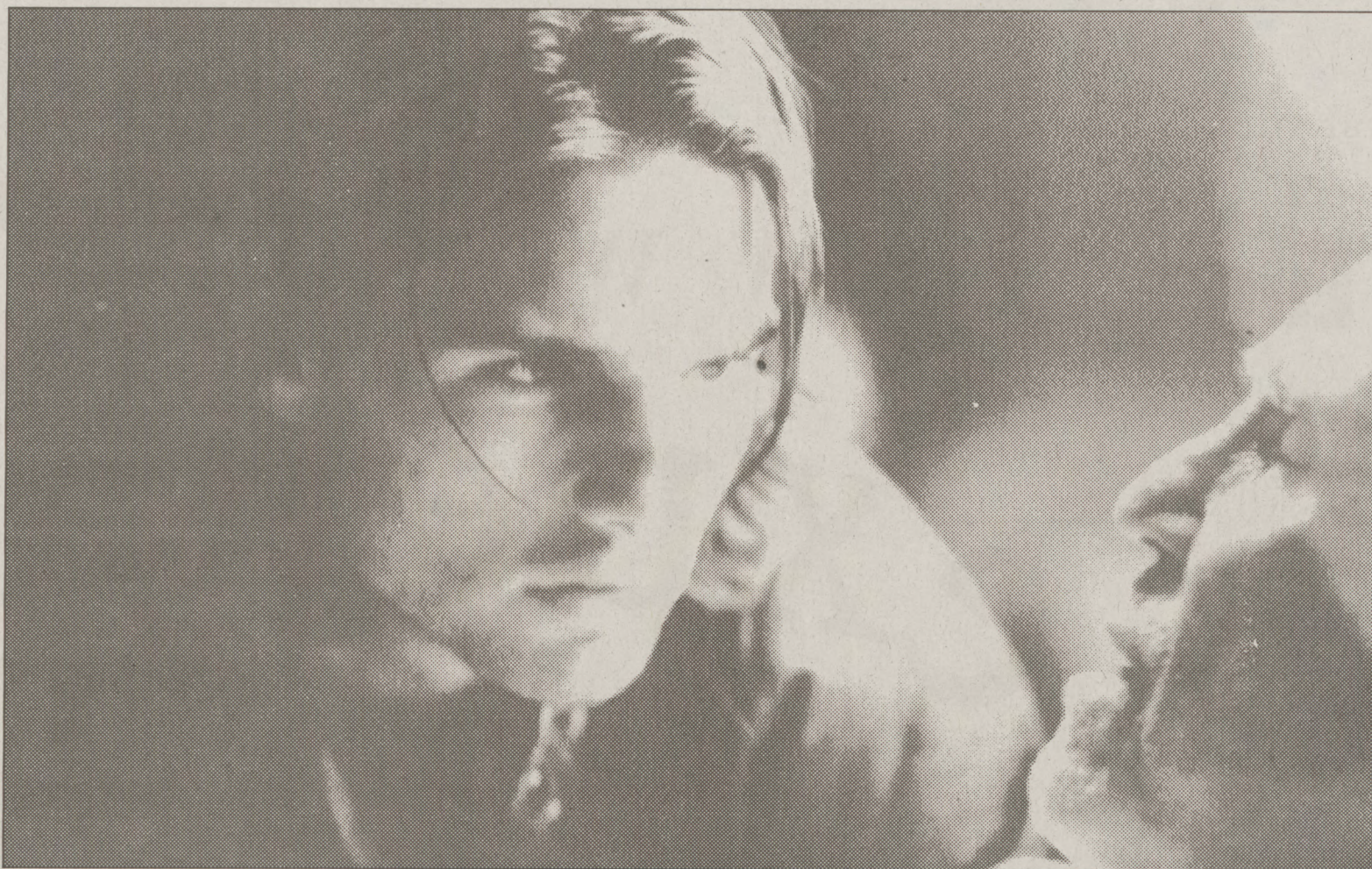
Milan, Levy and Schwartzenbarger met at OU and they picked up Parnel through an ad in the Metro Times. Levy and Milan are both seniors at OU, while Schwartzenbarger graduated in the Spring of '99.

Tribal Traktion's message is to send out "high positive energy" through music according to Milan. The sound is a mixture of reggae, rap, metal, hip hop, funk, and jazz. The music is as intense and unique as their performance on stage.

Everyone will soon be able to catch a performance by Tribal Traktion when they play the Shelter, St. Andrew's Hall, and Clutch Cargo's during the next few months. Information on upcoming performances will be listed on the band's website www.tribaltraktion.com.

Tribal Traktion will release their debut EP at the end of this month. The six song collection is self titled. Once the EP is out it can be purchased through the band's website. Milan states that the work was very involving and time consuming for all of the band members. They had spent 40 to 50 hours in the studio recording, plus extra time working on graphics. This was more work than what Tribal Traktion had expected, but well worth the outcome. The finished EP can be described as "full of energy and upbeat". The band is going back into the recording studio this summer to do a full length release, again to produce on their own, unless they get signed by a record company, in which they will be in the studio sooner. The band's future plans are "to take over the world," Levy stated with a broad grin.

A day in the life of tragedy and coincidence



ONE DAY: Magnolia explores how many things can happen in just a single day. (Left to Right) Tom Cruise and Jason Robards.

By Sara McDowell
OF THE OAKLAND POST

Chance, coincidences and dealing with reality are three issues that make up "Magnolia," the new film from Paul Thomas Anderson, the writer and director of "Hard Eight" and "Boogie Nights."

Throughout the film Anderson proves that during the time span of one day, virtually anything can happen.

Anderson intertwines the lives of ten people, building on the way that people are the same, yet unique in their actions and in the way they deal with life. This is a film that deals with the chilling angst of people's

pasts, the desperation of the present, and the uncertainty of the future.

The film also touches on real desires and emotions. Made up of emotional scenes, fast-paced crises and occasionally the intense chaos that we have all experienced, the characters and interwoven plots ultimately spool around one

another.

Earl Partridge (Jason Robards) is an elderly man dying while relating how uneventful his demise is. Meanwhile, his nurse, Phil Parmer (Philip Seymour Hoffman) tries to fulfill his patient's dying wish - to reconcile with his son, Frank T.J.

Mackey (Tom Cruise) whose womanizing philosophy of "seduce and destroy" has made him an infomercial phenomena.

Earl's wife, Linda, (Julianne Moore) is dealing with the guilt of being unfaithful, and of righting the present, even if it means accepting harsh consequences. The life of Donnie Smith (William H. Macy), a former wiz kid and once star of a quiz show "What Do Kids Know?" realizes that his best days are behind him. Donnie watches as the newest wiz kid faces the same end result. The host of the quiz show, Jimmy Gator (Philip Baker Hall) is hiding secrets of his health and trying to make amends with his daughter, Claudia (Melora Walters). Claudia is trying to hide secrets

MOVIE continues on B4



Prof. Carl Barnes donates 400 prints to MB Art Gallery

By Cara Plowman
OF THE OAKLAND POST

Seventy two prints dating as far back as the 16th century will soon be on exhibit in OU's art gallery. Professor Carl F. Barnes and his wife Anna are donating their entire collection totalling over 400 pieces to Meadow Brook.

The exhibit will be ready this Friday. Along with the opening, OU President Gary Russi will be giving a speech during the opening reception on Friday at 5 p.m.

The gallery will be split into four sections: architecture, Color Prints, Monochrome and the 12 prints of Gerald Leslie Brockhurst. Brockhurst's portraits were mostly of the romanticized female. Many consider him to have been a major influence to print making.

Carl Barnes and his wife decided to donate the prints to OU five years ago. "Then we acquired prints to fill in the vari-

ous artists we thought should be included," said Barnes. The couple started their collection in 1982 to use in a course Carl was teaching.

The original prints are printed from stone, metal, wood and many other surfaces.

Along with the prints, a 325 volume research library will be donated. The books deal with both prints and print-making.

Some of the more remarkable prints include Brockhurst's *Head of a Girl*, Richard Parkes Bonington's *Tour du gros-horloge, Evreux*, and Herbert Gordon Warlow's *Cathedral of Notre-Dame*.

To see some of the prints for yourself, the



PRINT: Edmond-Francois Aman-Jean's *Sous les Fleurs*. 1897.

museum is open Tue.-Fri. 1-5 p.m. and Sat.-Sun. 2-6:30 p.m. Also, they are open the evenings of MB Theatre performances.

Holiday movie releases disappointing this year

Seen any good movies lately? Chances are you haven't. Nothing on the 'Big Screen' caught my eye over the holidays.

The end of December is supposed to be one of the best times to go to the movies. Everyone is on vacation from work and it's a good escape from the malls and family gatherings. That's what it has always been for me.

This year was the exception.

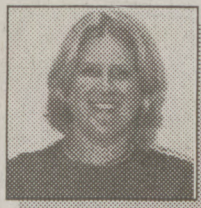
"Galaxy Quest" starred Tim Allen in a futuristic Star Trek rip-off, I mean, spin-off. Needless to say, it didn't get my \$7.50. I thought back to the last big Allen movie before considering seeing Galaxy Quest. He was better as Santa Claus (which doesn't say much).

Hmm, what else? "The Talented Mr. Ripley" came out Christmas Day. Traditionally, I go to the movies after Christmas dinner, because it's the only

place open. I had anticipated the newest Matt Damon, Gwyneth Paltrow movie, because it was being described as dark and strange, two characteristics that often make good movies great.

Not only was the movie two and a half hours long, it never actually ended. The plot twists were predictable, and with the exception of Damon's, the characters were not believable. It almost ruined my Christmas.

Damon's other movie "Dogma" was released just before "The Talented Mr. Ripley." The ensemble cast was great with only one exception. Since I won't mention the mystery "actress" (she's actually not an actress at all. In fact, she doesn't have even one line in the whole movie) you are going to have to sit through the movie not realiz-



CARA PLOWMAN

ing the stupid mistake that is about to unfold before your eyes. I just hope that it makes as much sense to you as it did to me. I guess the maker (Kevin Smith) thought it would be funny. Nice try, but it ruins the movie.

"End of Days" might have been better had it been cast correctly. The trend of actors accepting roles out of their type-casting is growing at an alarming rate.

Often it's bad (Schwarzenegger in "End of Days"). Sometimes, though, it's okay (Tom Cruise in "Magnolia").

There is hope for moviegoers though. One movie was perfectly funny with a great cast, a high amount of believability and an outstanding story to tell. "Man on the Moon" gets my vote as the best movie (probably of the year). See it if only to wit-

ness Jim Carey's career performance. This was one role that method acting really paid off well for Carey (it was probably pretty fun too).

Courtney Love and Danny DeVito complimented Carey's Andy Kaufman character. The movie is sprinkled with the brilliant craziness of Kaufman and others. The story is one that the world should know.

It must be hard to make movies at all, and it must be nearly impossible to make really good movies. I think too many film makers concentrate on getting big-name stars or the laughability factor. A good story and good acting make a great movie. That's all.

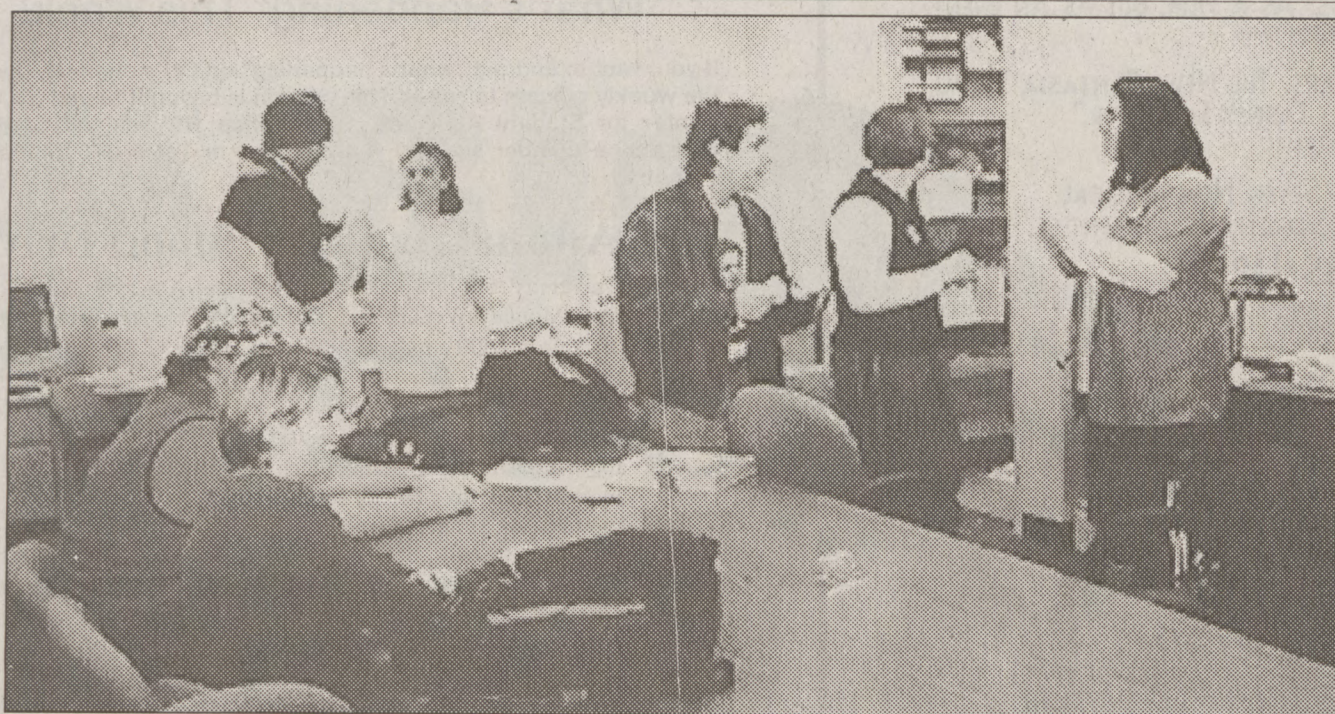
Cara Plowman is a journalism sophomore and Life Editor for The Oakland Post. caplowma@oakland.edu

GET OUT

SECTION B

WEDNESDAY • JANUARY 12, 2000

page 3



COME ON IN: SPB is always looking for fun-seekers with creative ideas to join their staff. Bored with just going to class? Check out what is in store for Winter '00 semester.

SPB UP-AND-COMING

The Student Program Board has been hard at work trying out new and entertaining ideas. So, what's in store for Winter 2000?

By LaToya Smith
SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

One hundred crazy people hiding in the basement of the Oakland Center have planned to mix-up, transport, hypnotize and uplift the OU community in the new millennium.

The Student Program Board, which is the largest and most active programming organization on campus, will provide cultural, social, recreational, educational, and entertainment programs throughout this semester. What is their goal?

SPB Chair Raymond Landsberg, senior, secondary education, said, "I hope that students realize that there is something else to do at Oakland besides just attending classes."

The organization will present "Tuesday Comedy" featuring such comedians as Harry Basil, who will portray the movie going experience using costumes and impressions. Gary Greenberg, who appeared with Gilbert Gottfried on USA's "Up All Night" will also perform live in the Pioneer Food Court.

When students get stressed from their day to day classwork, SPB offers one and two day excursions for relaxation and fun.

If you've ever wanted to witness the groundhog seeing his shadow on Groundhog's Day, SPB invites you to join them on their trip to Pennsylvania. The SPB's Publicity Chair, Chris Wolfs, junior, communications, said, "We're looking forward to doing things more group-oriented this semester."

Other trips allow students to spend an afternoon in Hell, Michigan, where 'Hell has frozen over.' For only \$8, you can see just how it happened. SPB wants you to be able to tell everyone 'where you went and where they should go.'

Also, the annual ski trip to Shanty Creek is on again. The weekend promises adventure and challenge on the slopes.

When finals are right around the corner and students are stressed and feel as though they want to just leave the country, SPB offers a trip to Toronto. For \$39.99 they can take in the many museums, restaurants and theatres in the district.

SPB is well known for its Underground Coffeehouse settings. It showcases music artists who attempt to erase the bindings of race and culture and let those who sing do it with their heart.

It encourages the OU community to chill out with eclectic, acoustic and thought-provoking types of music. The coffeehouse activities take place on Saturday nights at 8 p.m. in the OC.

For those students who are low on cash, SPB presents Wednesday free movie nights. The lineup for this semester includes the Blockbuster hits, "The Matrix," "My Best Friend's Wedding," "The Shining," and "American Pie."

Though it believes in having the most fun possible, SPB knows when to

get serious. In the past, it has held lectures by Oprah Winfrey, Jimmy Carter and Marcus Roberts.

In the spirit of African-American Celebration Month, it brings us a lecture through Adilah Barnes. This performer will take you on a journey through the history of African-American women from Sojourner Truth to Maya Angelou.

Landsberg said, "Although many of our events are strictly for entertaining OU students, SPB prides itself on the fact that we also have a variety of educational events that can supplement what a student learns in class."

Other planned events for SPB this semester include its annual Casino Night and a mixed up Beauty Pageant, which claims to end all pageants. Cash prizes will be awarded, and fun is guaranteed.

According to Wolfs, SPB is always looking for a few extra crazy people. Prospective SPB member Ashante Barnes, junior, engineering, said "I look forward to joining SPB so that I can meet new people and add to OU's diversity pool."

SPB ties its success directly to the large number of students volunteering their time to ensure that their fellow students have a complete college education. It is eager to accommodate everyone it can and only asks its members to give what they can.

Events

Calendar of activities

Underground Coffeehouse with Wally Pleasant

8 p.m. Saturday

The movie "The Matrix"

8 p.m. Jan. 19

Ski Trip to Shanty Creek

Jan. 21-23

The comedy of Gary Greenberg

7:38 p.m. Jan. 25

"I Am That I Am: Woman, Black"

8 p.m. Jan. 31

Groundhog's Day Trip to Pennsylvania

Feb. 1-2

Battle of the Bands Revisited starring Lackluster

8 p.m. Feb. 8

"Hell Froze Over, Come See..." (trip to Hell, MI)

Feb. 12

Casino Night

8 p.m. Feb. 12

Psychic and Hypnotist Night

8 p.m. Feb. 12

The movie "My Best Friend's Wedding"

8 p.m. Feb. 16

Underground Coffeehouse with Lucy Webster

8 p.m. Feb. 19

The comedy of Leighann Lord

7:38 p.m. Feb. 22

"Creative Dating" with David Coleman

March 15

For more information stop by the
SPB office for a calendar

Considerate, kind people wanted



SARA MCDOWELL

Courtesy and patience: these are two traits I notice that people in public settings rarely practice. For example, I was grocery shopping the other day, and I realized how rude and impatient people are when it comes to making space for other shoppers. Shoppers leave

their grocery carts in the middle of the aisle while they go off to look for their items. Other shoppers don't know how to maneuver their shopping cart so that they aren't running into others or cutting people off while strolling down the aisles. It isn't too difficult to think consciously about one's actions. The lack of respect that people have for strangers is incredibly sad.

How hard is it to move a grocery cart out of the center of the shopping aisle? How hard is it to hold a door open for someone, or to simply move out of the way of others on a sidewalk? Doesn't it feel good when strangers do something to help you out, without having to ask for the help? Where are these types of people lately?

These small acts don't go unnoticed. People remember them and are thankful for them. Not only does it help out others when someone lends a hand, but the person doing the good deed usually feels better too.

Don't get me wrong, being patient and courteous is not always fun to do, but it isn't hard. Feeling as if you have helped someone else out by taking the time to give directions, answer a question or letting a pedestrian cross the street while it is raining or cold out, should be enough reward to do something kind. Why? Because it doesn't take too much effort, and you would want someone to help you out if you needed it.

Some people may not understand things as easily as others do. Not everyone can comprehend things at the same speed. Not everyone comes from the same background, and not everyone knows the same things. By acknowledging this, it may help a person to exercise their patience.

What is the sense in being rude or disrespectful to someone? Does it make someone a better person by being this way? No, it doesn't. It just makes them unfriendly, uncaring and unkind. Does it make a person feel superior or better to be rude and unhelpful? It shouldn't.

I'm not trying to say that people should readily go out searching to help others, but when an opportunity does arise, why not take it and help someone out? It isn't too hard to smile, say hello, or ask someone how their day is. It could make someone's day, or even make you a new friend.

By living by the "golden rule" of "do unto others what you would like them to do unto you," the world would be a much friendlier place to live in.

Sara McDowell is a journalism junior and Assistant Life Editor for The Oakland Post. Sara.McDowell@oakland.k12.mi.us

For Your ENTERTAINMENT

literature

"Girl, Interrupted" by Susanna Kaysen

Kaysen's memoir tells of her experience in a psychiatric hospital during the late 1960s. The book has been adapted for the big-screen and stars Wynona Ryder and Angelia Jolie. The film opens on Friday at theaters nationwide.

•168 pages
•\$10

the arts

Auditions for Neil Simon's comedy, "Barefoot in the Park"

Stagecrafters will hold auditions at the Baldwin Theatre in downtown Royal Oak on Monday, Jan. 17 and Tuesday Jan. 18. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. and auditions begin at 7 p.m. For more information, call the Stagecrafters audition line at (248) 541-4832.

radio

Radio gossip show, "Loose Lips" hits the airwaves

The radio station 96.3 will debut their new gossip talk show at 8:20 a.m. on Jan. 12 during "Johnny in the Morning." The show will run every Wednesday morning.

club

Latin Dance Party at Clutch Cargo's

Salsa, Mambo, and Latin House music will be played at 9 p.m. every Friday night at the Mill St. Entry at Clutch Cargo's, Pontiac. Free dance lessons begin at 9:30 p.m. For more information call (248) 333-2362.

MOVIE

continued from page B2

of her own from a religious and lonely cop named Jim (John C. Reilly).

Magnolia is made in a way that is true to life. All of the characters are searching for something, whether it be love, death, reconciliation or peace, the pursuit is great.

Tom Cruise's performance shines throughout the film. He comes off as natural, full of energy and very convincing. His eyes are capturing as they show a cocky male-chauvinist, and later as a hateful raging son.

Melora Walters also delivers a stellar performance as she plays a strungout cocaine user. As she fidgets and moves with paranoia and intensity, she comes across as one of the most believable characters ever seen on film.

The film will keep your attentive because of the great acting, but also through intriguing camera work and use of music.

Long unbroken tracking shots are used so that the camera moves as the eye does. Another interesting shot is that of an empty room as two characters drift in and out of it.

The music is very powerful, matching the moods of the scenes, and playing throughout the majority of the first two hours of the film. An interesting moment takes place when the characters of the film sing along with the soundtrack.

There isn't always a clear cut reason for why things happen, and Anderson shows us this. He gives the audience a three hour film that leaves people talking, questioning and wondering, but also realizing that life is really a series of unpredictable events that people need to consciously deal with.

In life we sometimes settle or accept things that aren't our notion of perfect. That is reality. Life isn't perfect. We can not always have what we want or even need. We can, however, deal with what we do have, and "Magnolia" shows us this.

"A MAGICAL, MUSICAL, ANIMATED MASTERPIECE!"

David Sheehan, CBS-TV

"IMAX" IS THE WAY TO SEE IT - NOT JUST AS A FILM, BUT AS AN EVENT."

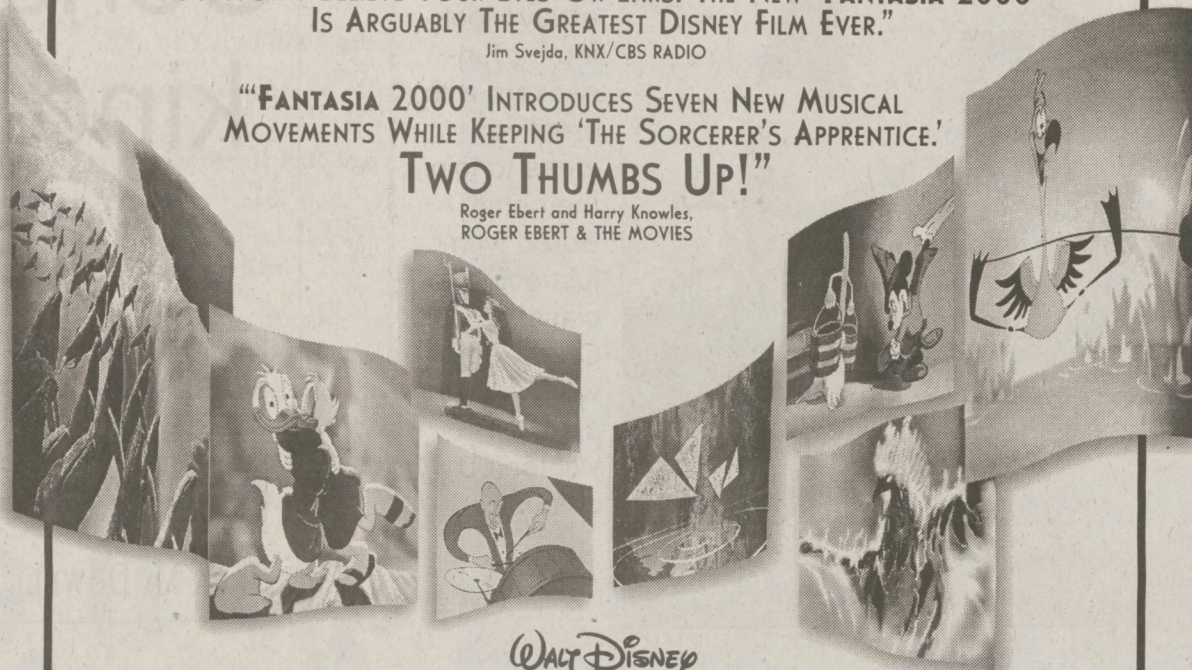
Roger Ebert, CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

"YOU WON'T BELIEVE YOUR EYES OR EARS. THE NEW 'FANTASIA 2000' IS ARGUABLY THE GREATEST DISNEY FILM EVER."

Jim Svejda, KNX/CBS RADIO

"'FANTASIA 2000' INTRODUCES SEVEN NEW MUSICAL MOVEMENTS WHILE KEEPING 'THE SORCERER'S APPRENTICE.' TWO THUMBS UP!"

Roger Ebert and Harry Knowles, ROGER EBERT & THE MOVIES



FANTASIA 2000

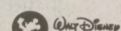
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The Center for Student Activities

"What's Happening" This Week!

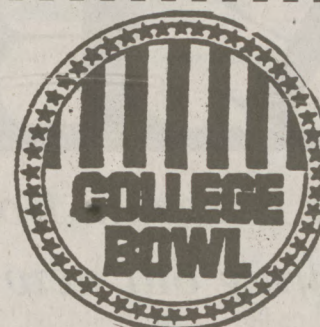
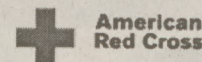
If you want to find out "what's happening" on OU's campus, this is the weekly column to read. This column is brought to you by The Center for Student Activities (CSA) Office, 49 Oakland Center. Our phone number is 2400, on campus, or (248) 370-2400, off campus.

OU Annual January Blood Drive

Oakland University will be sponsoring its annual American Red Cross Blood Drive, Monday-Wednesday, January 24-26. The Blood Drive will take place from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m., in the Gold Rooms, OC.

When you give blood you give . . .
another birthday, another anniversary,
another day at the beach, another night under the stars,
another talk with a friend, another laugh,
another hug, another chance.

Giving blood is safe. Please consider giving blood January 24-26!!! To make an appointment, call the CSA Office at x2400 while on campus or (248) 370-2400 from off campus.



COLLEGE BOWL

The Varsity Sport of the Mind

It's time for College Bowl! Those of you who are familiar with the Varsity Sport of the Mind already know how much fun it is to participate and how many prizes are involved. For those of you who haven't heard of College Bowl, here's what it is all about...

College Bowl is a trivia game competition that challenges the minds of college students from all over the United States. Teams consist of 4 to 5 players who work together to answer questions about popular culture, history, math, sports, music, and many other subjects.

Teams are comprised of four players who answer questions for points. There are two types of questions: toss-ups, worth ten points apiece, and bonus questions, worth a stated number of points between 20 and 30. For a toss-up question, only individuals may buzz in and answer. There is no conferring allowed. If a player answers a toss-up correctly, his/her team gets a chance at the bonus question. The team may confer on the bonus questions.

Oakland University will be sponsoring a campus tournament on Saturday, January 29, to determine the top college bowl team on OU's campus. The first place team will win a total of \$400 in prizes. In addition, the first place team will win the right to represent Oakland University at the Regional College Bowl Tournament at Kent State University, February 18-19. All entry fees, transportation, lodging and meals will be provided. The second place winners will receive a total of \$200.

Entry forms are available in the Center for Student Activities Office and 20/20 Information Center. Entry forms are due by Thursday, January 27. There may be teams who need players, so individuals or partial teams are also encouraged to enter.

Bumpers: OC Games Room is hosting the ACUI Region 7 Qualifying Tournaments

Saturday, January 29, 2000

On Saturday, January 29, Bumpers: OC Games Room will sponsor several tournaments in the following events: Men's and Women's Billiards (Nine Ball), Men's and Women's Table Tennis, and Euchre. All competitions are for singles, except euchre, which is a two-person team competition. The winners of these tournaments will win the right to represent OU at the ACUI Region 7 Championships which will be held at Kent State University, February 18-20. All regional entry fees, transportation, lodging and meals will be provided for the winning individuals and teams. The entry fee for each of these competitions is \$5.00 per person. The entry fee for Euchre is \$10.00 per team.

A minimum of six entries is required to hold a tournament for each event. Winners will have their names posted on a permanent plaque as well as represent OU at the ACUI Region 7 tournament. Sign-up for the tournaments is at the front desk in Bumpers: OC Games Room. Sign-up will begin on Monday, January 10 through Wednesday, January 26.

--- CSA SERVICE WINDOW ---

CSA events you can sign up or buy tickets to:

➤ College Bowl Campus Competition, January 29.

SPB events you can sign up or buy tickets to:

➤ Annual Ski Trip to Shanty Creek, January 21-23.

Lockers for Rent!



CSA has lockers available to rent in most academic buildings and in the OC. The cost is \$5 per semester plus a \$5.00 refundable deposit.

Lessen the burden of carrying your belonging all over campus! Rent a locker!! To rent a locker, just come to the CSA Office, 49 Oakland Center.

The 3rd Annual

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Day

Monday, January 17, 2000

❖ All-Campus Unity March ❖

Sponsored by Association of Black Students

11:30 a.m. - - First Floor Lobby, Vandenberg Hall

❖ Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration ❖

Noon-1:00 p.m. - - Pioneer Court, OC

(Light lunch and birthday cake will be provided during the program.)

❖ Reflections on the Unity March for High School Seniors ❖

Sponsored by Association of Black Students and Admissions

1:00-2:00 p.m. - - Pioneer Court, OC

❖ Candlelight Vigil and Alumni Night ❖

Sponsored by Association of Black Students

7:00 p.m. - - Gold Room C, OC



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Day Kicks Off

AFRICAN-AMERICAN CELEBRATION MONTH

"Celebrating the African Influence in the America's"

January 17 - February 23, 2000

sports Edge SCOREBOARD

SWIMMING

DEC. 2-4
Men 1st
Women 1st

Jan. 7
Oakland 59
Florida Atlantic 47

Oakland 76
Emory 19

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

DEC. 4
Oakland 80
Southern Utah 70

DEC. 11
Eastern Michigan 68
Oakland 56

DEC. 22
Oakland 75
Central Michigan 61

DEC. 28
Detroit Titans 73
Oakland 57

Dec. 30
Ohio 103
Oakland 92

Jan. 3
Oakland 80
Morehead State 71

Jan. 8
Youngstown State 84
Oakland 77

MEN'S BASKETBALL

DEC. 4
Oakland 78
Southern Utah 65

DEC. 7
Bowling Green 69
Oakland 57

Dec. 9
Toledo 90
Oakland 76

Dec. 11
Western Michigan 89
Oakland 87

Dec. 18
Michigan State 86
Oakland 51

Dec. 20
Cleveland State 81
Oakland 67

Dec. 27
Ohio State 76
Oakland 50

Dec. 30
Akron 97
Oakland 72

Jan. 2
Oakland 60
Northwestern 41

Jan. 3
Loyola (Chicago) 69
Oakland 60

UPCOMING GAMES

MEN'S BASKETBALL

JAN. 13 - at Valparaiso, 8:50 p.m.
JAN. 15 - CHICAGO STATE, 7 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

JAN. 13 - at Valparaiso, 6:30 p.m.
JAN. 15 - CHICAGO STATE, 4:30 p.m.

WOMEN'S SWIMMING

JAN. 14 & 15 - MICHIGAN, EASTERN MICHIGAN, time TBA.

MEN'S SWIMMING

JAN. 15 - at Kenyon College, 2 p.m.

Big 10 Success

*OU men defeat Northwestern on the road;
January 2 game ends with 60-41 on the scoreboard*

By Kelli Petrove
OF THE OAKLAND POST

The strong smell of defeat overtook the Northwestern fans on their home turf as the Grizzlies roared over the Wildcats on Jan. 2.

With teams such as Michigan State, U-M and Ohio State on OU's schedule, the season has been full of tough Big Ten teams and intense competitions for the Grizzlies.

"We've played a tough schedule so far this year," Head Basketball coach Greg Kampe said. "We've learned how to play against them, it was only a matter of time before we put together a good game."

The team did come together and laid its skill on the court. With three minutes remaining in the game, OU was ahead 57-30.

Even though the Wildcats put up an effort in the final minutes they were only able to score 11 more points putting the final score at 60-41 in favor of the Grizzlies.

"Beating Northwestern is a very big deal," Kampe said.

With a key player such as junior forward Dan Champagne out with a broken wrist, the rest of the team had to come together to

stomp on the Wildcats.

"There will be a decision by the end of the week if Champagne will be able to play the rest of the year," Kampe said about his injury.

Taking on the Wildcats, sophomore guard Brad Buddenborg scored 19 points and sophomore guard Mychal Covington had 11 rebounds.

Myke Thom, a senior guard for the Grizzlies scored eight points with seven rebounds and three assists.

"He played very well," said Kampe of Thom.

"Beating Northwestern is a very big deal."

Greg Kampe
Head Basketball coach

Grizzly champions



Bob Knoska/The Oakland Post

INTENSE COMPETITION: Sophomore Tamara Swaby swims butterfly and freestyle for the Golden Grizzlies. The women took first place in the Mid-Con competition. They swim against Michigan and Eastern Michigan at home on Jan. 14 and 15.

Put Sanders where he belongs; not with the Lions

Newsflash- There are rumors that Mr. Quitter-A.K.A Barry Sanders will be coming back next year.

The other day I was having this conversation with a few friends, and I naively said that if he came back, it would be to a team other than the Lions, but they told me that I was wrong because the Lions would not trade him, and he would have to finish out his contract.

This is sad, but true.

This scumbag committed a cardinal sin in sports. He gave up on his team when it needed him the most.

Now I know what you're thinking, "How can this guy, who works for a university newspaper, write such a negative column about the greatest running back in NFL history?"

It's easy, this is just how I

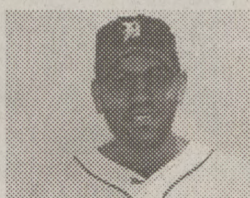
feel, and call me old fashioned, but I believe in loyalty in sports. I hate the way professional athletes hold out on their respective teams for money these days.

I know a lot of fans probably disagree with me, and think that Sanders should come back to the Lions.

I agree that it would most likely improve the team, but the truth is, I would rather see the Lions lose without him than win with him.

I have heard a few people say, "If he comes back, than I can wear my Barry Sanders jersey, and not feel like a freak."

Hold the phone, everybody has one of those jerseys including me, and I already



RAMEZ KHURI

used mine to wash my car. My advice to people who are worried about that is to either get rid of it, or just throw that thing in a closet somewhere and forget about it.

I am a big Sergei Fedorov fan, and a few years ago, when he held out on the Red Wings for more money, I felt the same way about him as I do with Sanders.

Sanders is not holding out for more money, but it all goes back to that loyalty issue.

Fedorov had to earn his fan appreciation back, but let's face it, the Red Wings without Fedorov is like buying a CD without owning a CD player. It just doesn't work, but if you put them together, they make great harmony.

Wrestling explodes as sports entertainment

Lisa Cali
OF THE OAKLAND POST

If you're still trying to figure out why males of all ages have been randomly yelling out things like "The Rock's" famous quote, "It doesn't matter what your name is!" then you've been affected by the explosion of wrestling.

The World Wrestling Federation and World Championship Wrestling have existed for about 55 and 80 years respectively, but in the past couple of years wrestling has become one of the most popular forms of entertainment, especially for teenage and young adult males.

The sudden explosion of wrestling seemed to come out of nowhere, but for lifetime wrestling fans, the changes that brought about the current success are obvious.

Jason Kepsel, a sophomore management information systems student, has been watching wrestling since he was very young. The difference, he says, is that wrestling has gotten edgier and has become a form of shock TV.

The reason for these changes is that wrestling has gone from being classified as a sport to being "sports entertainment."

"People always made fun of wrestling because it wasn't real, but the WWF kept saying that it was real. Now, they (the WWF) just come out and say that it's not real," Kepsel said.

This change has been more successful than the owner of the WWF, Vince McMahon ever

imagined. "Raw," a WWF program on USA, is currently the highest rated cable show on TV. Nine out of 10 sports videos on the best-seller list the week of Nov. 16 were wrestling videos. Wrestling merchandise is selling thousands of dollars per week.

Duan Johnson, otherwise known as "The Rock" is probably the most famous of the new generation of wrestlers. "The Rock's" favorite sayings, including, "It doesn't matter..." and "Can you smell what 'The Rock' is cooking?" can be heard coming from the mouths of men and women of all ages.

Other popular wrestlers include "Stone Cold" Steve Austin, who is often credited with beginning all the hype, Mick "Mankind" Foley, whose autobiography is #2 on the bestseller's list and Bret "The Hitman" Hart. Women are also becoming part of this trend with former wrestler Rena "Sable" Mero and current star Joanie "Chyna" Lee.

Years ago, when wrestling was booming with personalities such as Terry "Hulk" Hogan, it seemed to be aimed at younger children. Now, however, much of the content is inappropriate for young viewers.

Nevertheless, they still watch it, as do spectators of many ages. Dave DeAngelo, Coordinator of Facility Operations, Campus Reaction is near 30 and has been a wrestling fan for life.

"I get picked on occasionally because I am a fan at my age," DeAngelo said. "But it doesn't matter what people say."

At the Mid-Continent Conference Championship on Dec. 2-4 both the men and women's swimming and diving teams clinched first place.

The OU men scored 973.50 points claiming victory, Western Illinois placed second with 804 points, Valparaiso took third with 511 points and IUPUI got fourth place with 507.50 points.

Thiago Orso was named swimmer of the year in the Mid-Con and Drew Williams received the newcomer of the year award.

Head Men's Swimming coach Pete Hovland was named coach of the year at the event.

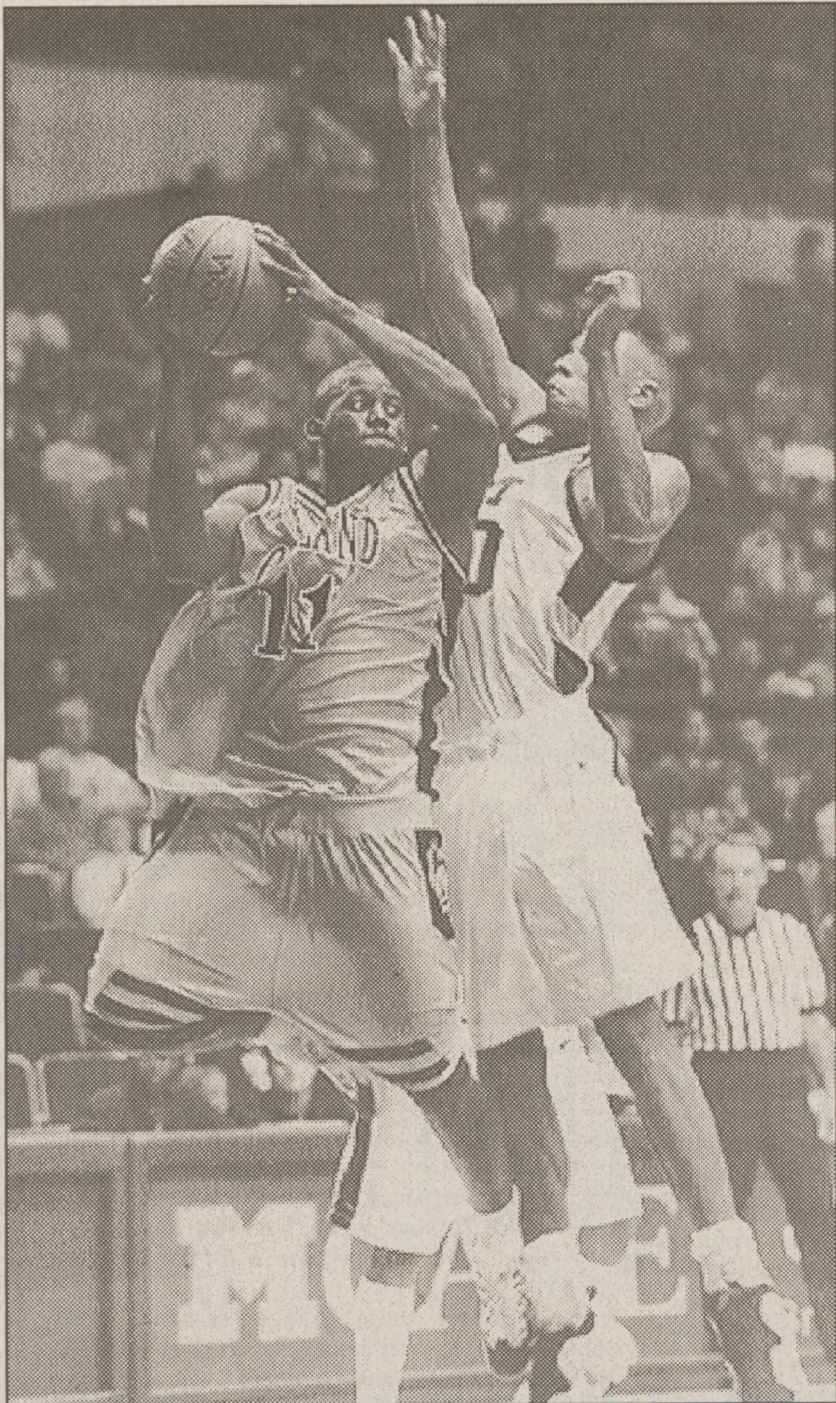
The women took 1068 points to earn first place, Western Illinois was second with 592 points, Valparaiso took third with 526 points and IUPUI was fourth with 470 points.

Rachelle Atrasz was named swimmer of the year for the women, Kazi Murr was diver of the year and Danielle Ward earned the award for newcomer of the year in the Mid-Con.

Head Women's Swimming coach Scott Teeters was also named coach of the year.

Ramez Khuri is a junior journalism major and Assistant Sports Editor for THE OAKLAND POST. rmkhuri@oakland.edu

Basketball *review*



FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT: Junior guard Steve Houston edges his way past UM-Dearborn opponent during a game in late November. Houston was red-shirted his sophomore year and played for Texas A&M before coming to OU.

Bob Knoska/The Oakland Post

Thom's final season

Senior Mike Thom enjoys his last year as a Grizzly

By Cindi Blaylock
OF THE OAKLAND POST

Myke Thom began his basketball career at the tender age of three. Quite a young age for most, but for Thom that's just the way he remembers growing up in Monroe, MI. His father coached basketball for Monroe Community College and his older brother played as well.

"There were always basketballs laying around the house," said Thom. "It was just something that I did and liked to do and was good at."

As he got older, Thom attended basketball camps and traveled along with his father and brother on their road trips.

Continuing the sport into high school at St. Mary's Catholic Central, where he broke into track and soccer, Thom became the president of his class. By the time his senior year rolled around he was beginning to attract the attention of scouts from across the country. He received offers from Ivy

league schools, including Harvard.

"The academic part of it was really important to me," Thom said. "I enjoy school and I get good grades so I knew that I wanted a good school to go to that I could get a good degree and that was going to help me when basketball was over."

Thom says he chose OU because they had the best balance between athletics and academics.

"I was able to get three academic scholarships along with my athletic full ride," Thom said.

Thom was so impressed by OU's offer that he signed in November before even graduating from high school.

Thom is now in his senior year, carrying 18 credit hours, working in the Admissions office as a Tele-counselor with the PAWS program, all while balancing his basketball schedule.

He takes one day at a time noting each challenge as it comes.

"I appreciate life in the sense that I have the opportunity to play basketball,

attend college and be around people who are willing to help me out," Thom said.

Thom draws a lot of inspiration and support from his family. His parents had two children and adopted six, with Thom included.

"They've worked their whole lives to give us the opportunities that we have. They're two of the most humble people I know," Thom said.

Closing out his senior year, Thom plans to really enjoy this final season. The Grizzlies are playing for the NCAA championship and are well on their way with their recent win against Youngstown on Saturday.

"I have a ton of memories," Thom said of his basketball career. However, if he doesn't make it to the NBA he won't be heartbroken. For Thom, the future awaits. He's considering graduate school and wants to become a Marine Biologist.

"I like being out on the water," Thom said. "It's not studied a whole lot, so it's a challenge to me."



STANDING STRONG: Sophomore Sarah Judd hangs onto the ball in complete concentration as UM-Dearborn opponent tries to take away the ball. Judd started in all 27 games last season for the Grizzlies.

Bob Knoska/The Oakland Post

While most students enjoyed weeks of relaxation the basketball teams kept up the hard work

By Ramez Khuri
OF THE OAKLAND POST

Before Christmas break, OU's Men's and Women's Basketball teams had gotten off to a rocky start, and now after break, not much has changed.

The men's overall record to this point is 4-12, but don't count this team out just yet. With a victory over Northwestern, a Big Ten school under its belt and a 2-0 record in the Mid-Con, assistant coach Eric Stephan is optimistic.

"December started, after we got back from Hawaii we won the first game in the league, we beat Southern Utah here at home by 13, and played probably our best game up to date then," said Stephan.

After that game the Grizzlies lost three straight home games to Bowling Green, Toledo, and in overtime against Western Michigan. "The guy hit a 25 footer on us in overtime," said Stephan.

Then the team traveled to Michigan State. "We actually played well there," said Stephan. "We lost by quite a bit, but we played well, then we went to Cleveland State and lost by 14."

The Grizzlies lost to Ohio State and Akron before traveling to Chicago to play Northwestern, a Big Ten team.

"We beat them by 19, that was a big win, and I don't care where

Northwestern finishes this year, we beat a Big Ten school and I think everyone in the country who knows basketball and follows stuff saw OU and thought, wow they beat a Big Ten school, they weren't thinking, OU just beat some bullshit team, and for a second year program in division I that's pretty big."

The women's overall record is 5-7 and it is 1-1 in the Mid-Con.

Head coach Beckie Francis said, "Central Michigan is a MAC team that we lost to on the road and they came into our place and we were really happy to get that win because it was our first year in Division I. Then on the

Grizzly Injury Report

• Men- Dan Champagne, who suffered a broken wrist earlier in the season is still not back, and Brad Buddenborg is healthy and playing again after suffering a sprained left ankle on Dec. 11.

• Women- Becky Barok has a stress fracture in her left foot, and is scheduled for re-evaluation in two weeks. Jamie Ahlgren was scheduled for surgery yesterday on her ACL. Sara Skutt missed the last two games due to a bad back, and Courtney Ruffing has a tender knee.

Mid-Con Basketball TV schedule for 2000

- 1-11 Southern Utah at UMKC on Mid-Con at 7 p.m.
- 1-29 Oakland at Youngstown State on Mid-Con at 6:30 p.m.
- 2-10 Youngstown State at Chicago State on Mid-Con at 7:30 p.m.
- 2-12 Oral Roberts at Valparaiso on Mid-Con at 12 p.m.
- 2-17 Valparaiso at Western Illinois on Mid-Con at 7:30 p.m.
- 2-21 IUPUI at Oral Roberts on Mid-Con at 7:30 p.m.
- 3-6 Men's Tournament Semi #1 on Fox Sports Net at 5 p.m.
- 3-6 Men's Tournament Semi #2 on Fox Sports Net at 7:30 p.m.
- 3-7 Women's Tournament Final on Mid-Con at 5:30 p.m.
- 3-7 Men's Tournament Final on ESPN 2 at 8:30 p.m.

Mid-Continent Conference

Standings

Women's Basketball

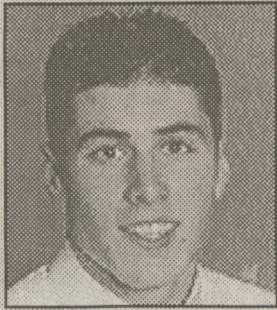
	Conference	Overall
Youngstown State	1-0	8-4
Valparaiso	2-0	7-4
Western Illinois	1-0	7-5
Oakland	1-0	5-6
UMKC	1-1	6-7
Oral Roberts	1-1	5-7
Southern Utah	0-2	5-7
IUPUI	0-2	4-7
Chicago State	0-1	0-11



Men's Basketball

UMKC	3-0	8-6
Oakland	2-0	4-12
Oral Roberts	2-1	6-8
Chicago State	2-1	5-7
Youngstown State	2-1	5-9
Southern Utah	2-2	6-8
Valparaiso	0-3	5-9
Western Illinois	0-3	5-11
IUPUI	0-2	2-10

Player of the Week



BRAD
BUDDENBORG

- ❖ Men's Basketball
- ❖ Guard
- ❖ Born, February 18, 1979
- ❖ Undecided major
- ❖ Garden City High School
- ❖ Brad played 32 minutes against Youngstown State and scored 24 points to help the Grizzlies to a 85-66 victory.



Bob Knoska/The Oakland Post

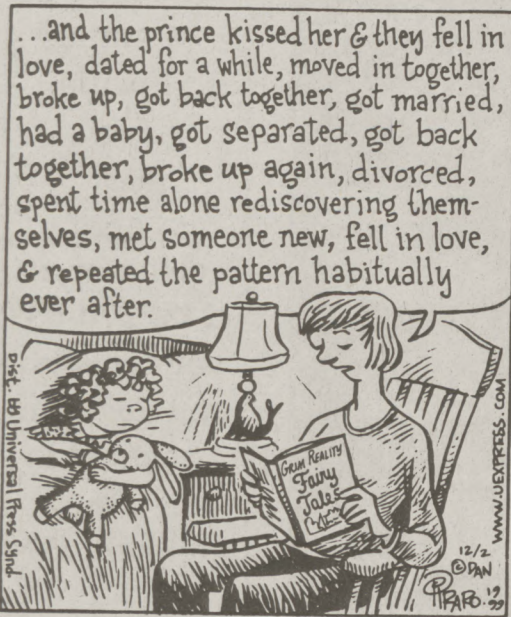
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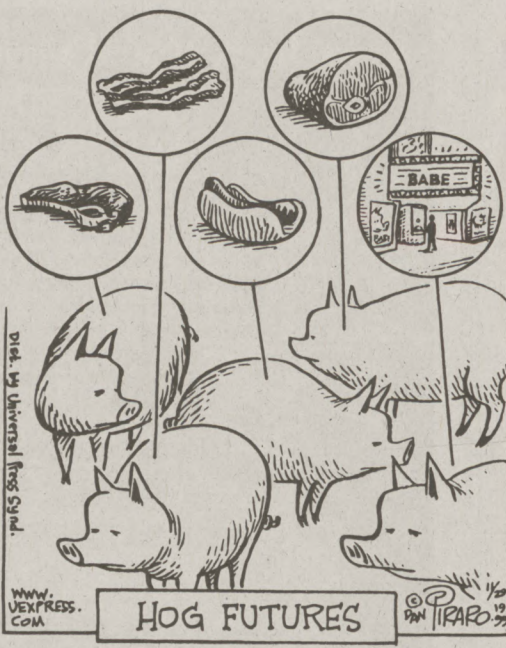
WEDNESDAY • JANUARY 12, 2000

page 7

Bizarro by Dan Piraro



Bizarro by Dan Piraro



LEX

THE CALLOUS BEHAVIOR YOU FOUR HAVE EXHIBITED TOWARD ALL OF THE STUDENTS YOU'VE PERCEIVED AS "INFERIOR" IS DEPLORABLE. THE STUDENT JUDICIARY COUNCIL HEREBY SENTENCES YOU TO SIX WEEKS OF HARD LABOR...



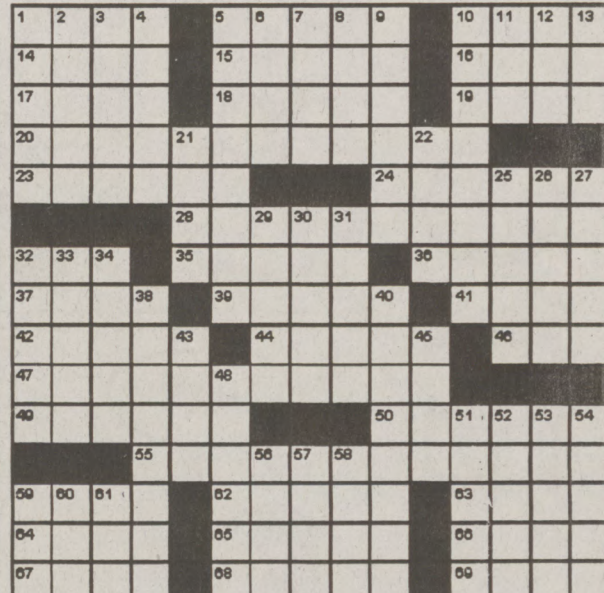
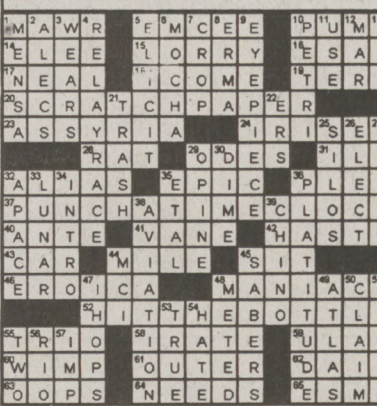
DO YOU GUYS WANNA WATCH THE STAR TREK MARATHON THIS WEEKEND?



THE UNIVERSAL CROSSWORD Edited by Timothy E. Parker

- ACROSS**
- 1 Where to find four suits
5 Place of worship
10 Hotel counts
14 Chinese dollar
15 Spaghetti Western director
16 Face shape
17 Ready and willing's partner
18 Hooded windbreaker
19 Martin (cognac)
20 "How to Win Friends and Influence People" author?
23 Washington state airport
- 24 Member of the mimosa family
28 Jones/Smith sci-fi film?
32 Sun Devils' sch.
35 High-hatters
36 Bush-league
37 Part of Maverick's attire
39 City in central Florida
41 Japanese War (1894-95)
42 "My Own Private"
44 Troika
46 Short or long weight
47 Broadway aside?
49 Eventually
50 Old phone
- company sobriquet
55 Old route for westward bound settlers?
59 Like some vino
62 Phileas Fogg portrayer
63 Big name in film
64 Ground-breaking '60s musical
65 "there yet?"
66 Sch. before jr. high
67 Eyes, to Shelley
68 What we can be out of, sometimes
69 Song word repeated after "Que"

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER



"HERB ALIBI" by James R. Richardson

- choosing
8 Huber of women's tennis
9 Noted "Death Valley Days" host
10 Aurora
11 Plumb of "The Brady Bunch"
12 Check the water?
13 Guileful
21 Rotating engine parts
22 Projectile of modern warfare
25 "Stifle!"
26 Likeness, in combos
- 27 Place with a rubber center?
29 Prefix meaning night
30 Certain ski lifts
31 Long Island community
32 Dispatch boat
33 Passenger vehicle
34 Utility company's measurement
38 "Strange Days" band
40 Buttercup relatives
43 Man-bird
- 45 Part of Q.E.D.
48 Laughing carnivores
51 Scottish slopes
52 Golfer's delight
53 He's in for good
54 Andes beast
56 Copter precursor
57 Declare firmly
58 Former House name
59 P, on fraternity row
60 Row with the flow
61 Triangular sail

Damon's Signs of the Times

January 12 - January 18

- ARIES** (March 21-April 20) — Some things in your life are out of your control; right now, fighting will only agitate an already difficult situation. This is a good time to work on personal issues, like money management.
- TAURUS** (April 21-May 20) — Rare progress can be made on a project previously going nowhere. Traveling brings benefits at work or vice versa. Take advantage of this time of incredible productivity.
- GEMINI** (May 21-June 21) — Your logic might be a little fuzzy this week, but you have quite a few emotional insights; use this time to support those in emotional need. This is a good time to get close to a romantic interest.
- CANCER** (June 22-July 22) — You probably aren't in control of everything right now, so try to work with the person or people who are in control. Use your communication skills to get what you need.
- LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) — Cooperate with others at work and your life will go a lot smoother; though your co-workers may be wrong in some areas, your ego may be making the situation worst.
- VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 23) — Spend time having fun, preferably with others, or you may find yourself in the doldrums. This is a good time to deal with tedious work, since you have high concentration now.
- LIBRA** (Sept. 24-Oct. 22) — Time spent discovering yourself is invaluable, whether through solitude or self-learning classes. Problems with close relatives clear up after a bit of effort.
- SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 22) — Money issues come to the forefront; deal with them accordingly or there will be problems down the road. Previous relationship problems can be dealt with appropriately now.
- SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Watch your extreme behavior, which probably has been going on for a while; signs show that things could get real difficult if you don't. Relatives can help with finances.
- CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) — Give an old financial problem another shot; your mind might be clearer or you could just get lucky. Bring a secret passion to the forefront; you'll feel better.
- AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) — Spontaneous romance is possible this week, though the stability and safety of it is questionable. Friends provide support and benefits, perhaps with strings attached.
- PISCES** (Feb. 20-March 20) — This is a time for action, particularly in regards to your self-improvement. Draw on your self-discipline to deal with jealousy or control issues from higher-ups.

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

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WEB girl

Web Girl is the expert web-surfer **THE OAKLAND POST**. Check out this space every week as she takes you on a trip through cyberspace, exploring the strangest, funniest and most interesting websites on the Internet. Take it away WebGirl...

Haven't joined the MP3 digital music revolution yet? With Napster's (www.napster.com) easy to use MP3 search engine and MP3 player you can download and upload almost any song you can think of. Combine it with WinAmp (www.winamp.com) or another freeware "converting" utility, and you can "burn" your own music CDs.

Hate logging offline to make a phone call? **DialPad.com** may help. It's a bit "jumpy" but you can use it to call anyone in the continental U.S. for FREE while connected to the net. All you need is a web connection speakers and a microphone.

Welcome back! If you can find your computer around your leftover supply of bottled water and canned goods, check out the following sites...

Nobody can tell you for sure when you'll pass away. But for all those pessimists, the **DeathClock.com** site can give you a time range. It makes you realize just how short life really is.

Did you know that the first chocolate chip cookie was invented in 1933? How about that eating with a fork was once considered scandalous? True tales and strange and amazing facts await you at **DidYouKnow.com**.



If you have any questions, comments or cool websites you can contact Web Girl at

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Check out your daily horoscope! Play the daily puzzle, Play Four! Read about the latest Technology! Visit **THE POST** Online @ www.oakpostonline.com!

MORE ETC.

TOM the DANCING BUG

Another Kid Falls Into the Gorilla Cage.

-a parable-

BY RUBEN BOLLING

LOOK! THAT SMALL CHILD FELL INTO THE GORILLA CAGE!

WOW! SHE'S GENTLY HANDING THE CHILD TO THE ZOOKEEPER! SHE'S ACTING ALMOST HUMAN!

WHAT?!

THROUGH HUNTING AND DEFORESTATION, HUMANS HAVE PUSHED MY SPECIES TO THE EDGE OF EXTINCTION!

YOU HUMANS LOCKED ME UP IN THIS CAGE FOR LIFE!

THEN ONE OF YOUR KIND FALLS INTO MY CAGE, AND I SHOW SOME COMPASSION -- AND YOU CALL IT HUMAN?!

I'D SAY THAT KINDNESS SHOULD BE CALLED INHUMAN!

I LIKE THAT MONKEY. IT'S FUNNY!

HEY, LET'S THROW SOMETHING AT IT!

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WWW.TOMTHEDANCINGBUG.COM

Chuck Shepherd's NEWS OF THE weird

LEAD STORIES

• According to a December Boston Globe report from Xi'an, China, the Three Brothers Scorpion Restaurant claims to be the first in the country to reintroduce the 18th-century fascination with the scorpion into domestic cuisine, based on the health benefits. Scorpion venom (reduced in potency by a six-month process of preparation) is believed to aid against fever, chills, skin problems, immune disorders, bad kidneys and possibly tumors. Other favorite dishes of the Three Brothers are silkworm larvae, cicadas on sticks and poisonous tree ants.

• Erik Sprague, 27, a doctoral student in philosophy in Albany, N.Y., has undergone several body modifications (teeth sharpened, tongue forked, forehead bumps implanted, "scales" tattooed) in order to appear like a reptile, according to December wire service reports. Sprague, described as an "excellent" student by a professor, told reporters that he knows of four other people who have made such "single-theme conversions" (as a zebra, tiger, leopard and a giant puzzle called "The Enigma"). He will appear on the TBS show "Ripley's Believe It or Not" in January.

Mixed News on the Environment

• After resisting for five years, Missouri was forced by a federal judge in November to allow the Ku Klux Klan into its Adopt-a-Highway program, publicly recognizing the organization for keeping clean a one-mile segment of Interstate 55. And the Army revealed in September that its new lead-free combat bullet will not be ready before 2003 (although some local police departments already use a less-powerful model); the Army needs the bullet because 1,000 indoor military firing ranges are currently shut because of lead contamination. And in June, researchers at Ontario's University of Guelph reported genetically engineering a pig that produces manure 20 to 50 percent lower in the pollutant phosphorous than ordinary pig manure.

Cultural Diversity

• Latest from Weird Japan: Nonordained "pastors" in Tokyo are exploiting the Japanese fascination with Christian weddings (1 percent of Japanese are Christian, but 70 percent of all weddings are), according to a September Reuters news service report; the fake ministers' justification: The Bible condemns holy marriages of a believer to a nonbeliever, but does not mention marriages of two nonbelievers. And in May, a Times of London story reported the frequent installation in Nagasaki and other cities of "unwanted-dog postboxes" into which pets can be directly placed for pickup if the owners tire of them.

• As with weddings in Japan, Christmas shopping in Singapore is a huge national pastime despite the fact that only 13 percent of the people are Christians. Half of the country's annual retail sales come during the season; shopping malls turn into extravagant theme parks; traditional hymns saturate cities. Explained an interdenominational leader: Singaporeans merely use the Christmas season as a long year-end celebration leading up to the Chinese New Year in January.

Unclear on the Concept

• Among those caught up in the consequences of Florida's Marriage Preparation and Preservation Act of 1998 (which requires license applicants to read a 16-page booklet heavy on parenting techniques and responsibilities and gives a \$32.50 license discount for taking a four-hour course): Max Gordon and his bride, Mollie Levy, who planned to marry in Delray Beach last September until Max had trouble reading the book because of his cataracts. Max is 90, Mollie 82, and between them they have six children and 31 grand- and great-grandchildren.

• After protests in October, Grand Canyon University, a small Christian college in Phoenix, canceled its scheduled "Assassins" fund-raising game, in which gun-carrying players pay for the privilege of shooting colleagues with Nerf darts, with the last one standing getting a restaurant certificate. Many students originally failed to connect the game to recent school violence, such as the freshman woman who told a reporter, "This is a Christian university, so we know the difference between right and wrong."

Least Competent Criminals

Ski-mask-wearing Floyd Brown, 24, was charged with robbing a Holiday Inn in Anchorage, Alaska, in November, apparently oblivious of the 40 police officers just off the lobby in a law-enforcement training conference (advertised on the marquee out front). And in December in Las Vegas, robber Emilio Rodriguez, 19, was shot to death as he rushed into Mr. D's bar, which is a favorite haunt of (and was filled with) off-duty police officers.

Also, in the Last Month ...

Hormel Foods announced it would open a 16,550-square-foot Spam Museum and Visitor Center next year (Austin, Minn.). Miss America of 1998 took a job waiting tables at Artie's deli in New York City. A 41-year-old man carrying his unwrapped shotgun to a pawn shop innocently stopped by a bank to make an inquiry, provoking a major police response (Athens, Tenn.). Two sociology professors announced a new "Journal of Mundane Behavior" for rigorous study of the inconsequential (Fullerton, Calif.). Robert Wald obtained a patent for boxer shorts with built-in briefs, sewn inside in a shared waistband (Toluca Lake, Calif.).

(Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, P.O. Box 18737, Tampa, Fla. 33679 or Weird@compuserve.com, or go to www.NewsoftheWeird.com/.)

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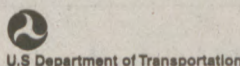
The Graham Health and Counseling Center values your opinion and is willing to pay you \$25 (redeemable at the OU Bookcenter) for answering a few questions. Here's how it works.... Graham Health and Counseling Center is working to enhance it's services to the student population. Your input is of the utmost importance in accomplishing this task. Volunteer about 45 minutes of your time to answer some general questions about this topic and earn a \$25 gift certificate to the OU Bookcenter. Call 370-3465 to schedule your one-on-one interview today! All responses are anonymous and confidential.

* The survey is highly targeted and will only accept a certain number of respondents so call right away.



Jackie Esworthy was killed by a drunk driver one week after her high school graduation.

What should you do to stop a friend from driving drunk?
Whatever you have to.
Friends don't let friends drive drunk.



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If interested, please contact Jane Briggs-Bunting at 248-370-4138