

On Campus

The Historic Dodge House is the focus of renovation plans.

A3

Local

The preliminary results of Census 2000 are in.

A6

Life

See what the "Top Girls" views are about Women's History Month.

B1

Sports

OU softball, start of a new and exciting era.

B3

Today

Partly Cloudy
High 54°
Low 42°



A6

The OAKLAND POST

Weekly campus newspaper serving The Oakland University community 10¢

Wednesday • April 5, 2000 • www.oakpostonline.com

Award-winning independent newspaper THE OAKLAND SAIL, INC.

Residence halls provide comforts of home

Space limited, students urged to sign up ASAP

Linda Andrews

SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

The long line in the OC last Wednesday was not for those wanting a Taco Supreme at Taco Bell, but for those residence halls students who missed early contract

sign up for next year, or for commuter students who intend to live in the residence halls next fall.

Sign up for returning students began on March 20, and according to Eleanor Reynolds, Director of University Housing, "The residence halls are not completely filled, but are very close." She

urges students to get their contracts in immediately.

With the high enrollment of commuter students at Oakland, many may wonder what the residence halls have to offer. Current university changes, combined with the social and educational benefits of dorm life, have compelled students to make OU dorms fuller than in recent years.

Dorm life has provided many students with some of the comforts of home. Meals are already prepared, the dorms are in a safe environment, and there are plenty of

areas to study or work on homework. In addition, students can also use this opportunity to get their first taste of independent life.

"The dorms gave me a lot of independence," said Susan Freigruber, 29, a graduate of Oakland who lived on campus her first two years of college. "I learned to do my laundry and work on things like car repair without having to call my father. I developed a lot of patience while dorming. We had to get used to the personalities of our roommates and develop our people skills."

Matthew Nowak, 20, will be experiencing OU dorm life for the first time this coming fall semester after commuting from home for his first year of college.

"I want to dorm so that I can get away from my parents, just be out on my own for a little bit, but still have the comforts of home when I need it," Nowak said. "Now I get an extra half hour of sleep in the morning because I won't have to drive."

All of the dorms at OU have

DORMS continues on A7

FAST facts

• **Faculty Forum**
The Honor's College Winter 2000 Faculty Forum continues with "A Report from Bangladesh", to be presented by Peter Bertocci, associate professor of Anthropology, at noon on Tuesday, April 11 in room 112, Vandenberg Hall. For more info contact (248) 370-4450.

• **Festival of the Middle East**
OU's Festival of the Middle East ends this week with "Challenges to Islam in the 21st Century," presented by professor John L. Esposito, Ph.D. This program will be held at noon on Wednesday in Gold Rooms A and B of the OC. Anyone with questions can call the Center for International Programs at 370-2154.

• **SBA Lecture**
OU's School of Business Administration presents the 2000 Alice Conner Gorlin Memorial Lecture at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday in 201 Dodge Hall. The Lecture features Dr. Clifford Gaddy of The Brookings Institution, and is titled "Russia's Virtual Economy: Evolution and Prospects". For further information, contact the SBA at (248) 370-3282.

• **State of Academic Affairs Address**
Provost Louis Esposito invites all faculty, staff and students to his "1999-2000 State of Academic Affairs Address" at noon on Thursday, April 13 in room 201 Dodge Hall. Anyone with questions can call (248) 370-2190.

Engineering students catapult into action

By Sara Wilbur

SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

Medieval practices or an assignment for Professor Michael Latcha's Mechanical Engineering class?

When was the last time you saw a real working catapult? The catapults being made for ME 486 may not be as large as their medieval counterparts, but the power within them can be just as tremendous.

On April 20 from 12-3 p.m., at the field at the corner of Walton and Adams, students from the class will display and test their final projects.

The final project is for students to create a catapult, or ballista that can hurl a softball at least 150 feet to a target to prove accuracy and then hurl the ball as far as possible for distance.

Catapults and ballistas are based on the design of Archimedes, a 12th Century B.C. Greek mathematician. The challenge for the students is to create a device that can turn potential energy into kinetic energy in an efficient manner.

Students are assigned to groups of three or four, and then given about two months to research and complete the project. The devices

are to be constructed from supplies found in places like Home Depot, Lowe's or Damman

Hardware. This is a student funded project with a spending limit of \$150. The device must not use any electrical or chemical energy to power itself and, must be capable of being fired remotely for safety purposes.

Latcha said, "Essentially, I want to give students the opportunity to design and build something that's real. I give them this problem to throw softballs as far as they can possibly throw them, and also throw them to hit a target 150 feet away."

On the day of the competition, teams are given 15 minutes to set up their machines and fire three times for accuracy and three times for distance. Competition is fierce and students are serious about this project which counts toward a percentage of their grade.

The competition was last held in 1997 on Founder's day and will be held on Founder's Day again this year. The distance competition winner three years ago hurled 382 feet, while the accuracy competition was won with an average throw of 10 feet within the target. Past catapults have been made with parts from a Monte Carlo to two by fours and concrete blocks.

While this may not be one of the highlighted events of Founder's day, it's sure to be an interesting one.

“Essentially, I want to give students the opportunity to design and build something that's real.”

Michael Latcha
Associate Professor
Engineering &
Computer Science



Photo courtesy of Michael Latcha

READY, AIM, FIRE: Students prepare "1000 Hours," a device used to hurl softballs. The device is powered by two Monte Carlo suspension springs.

New HS/Nursing task force explores merger, other issues

By SunShine Joy Collins

SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

"In an effort to provide the best possible educational experience for our students in the most effective and productive way, it is useful to periodically review and evaluate the way we deliver service," said OU Provost, Louis Esposito.

To do so, Esposito has formed a task force to examine the administrative structures of the School of Nursing and School of Health Sciences. Reviewing the present organizational

structures, evaluating programmatic needs, determining relationships amongst the two schools, and recommending the best options for the schools' structures are four points the task force will be touching base on. "I look forward to the results of the task forces work," said Esposito.

According to Director of Media Relations, Ted Montgomery, task forces are an ongoing process, and are set up for each school at OU. The forces are there to ensure continued forward mobility. "Different forces are devised routinely to better OU and most importantly the educational experi-

ence for the students," said Montgomery.

The force is currently made up of nine members who are either faculty or professionals in outside health care delivery. When asked if students would have any type of input, Interim Nursing Dean, Kathleen Emrich stated, "There certainly is a plan for all stakeholders to be part of the planning concept."

A task force for these schools was put together in the past but never moved forward on any conclusions. "The task force has no connection to the past, the decision now is to be the most optimal one, in order

to enrich the students education," said Emrich.

There are currently 1,738 nursing majors as of winter enrollment and 1,536 health science majors. With these majors there are interdisciplinary functions that are required now in health programs. "A one structure force may help to implement these programs better, maybe one structure will be formed or they will remain separate," said Emrich.

The Vice-Provost and chair of the task force committee is William Connellan and comments and input can be forwarded to him by calling (248) 370-2190.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES AGENDA

WHEN: June 8, 2000

TIME: 2 p.m.

WHERE: Gold Rooms, OC

ACTION ITEMS

- I. University personnel actions
 - II. Approval of Worker's Compensation Redemption.
 - III. Recommendations to accept gifts to OU.
 - IV. Resolutions honoring Student Liaisons to BOT.
 - V. Approval of Oakland University Trustee Academic Success Fund proposals for 2000-2001.
 - VI. Approval of Senior Citizen tuition.
 - VII. Approval of General Fund budget proposed revisions.
 - VIII. Approval of Banking Contract.
 - IX. Approval of BOT meeting dates for 2000-2001.
- * Proposed revision of the 2000-2001 Academic Calendar.

inside

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student Affairs

UPDATING OU

• **Graham Health Center** is offering sale prices on selected services to recognize April as being **National Sexually Transmitted Disease Awareness Month**. Receive the Hepatitis B vaccination at **\$30.00** per injection with coupon, 10 condoms for **\$1.00** + tax (limit 20), and **\$5.00** anonymous HIV testing. Increasing your awareness of STD transmission and reminding you that **ABSTINENCE** is the only 100% effective method of prevention is also one of GHC's main objectives. Please feel free to contact us by calling ext. 2341 or email health@oakland.edu.

Try the new service at the Academic Skills Center.

Writing Consultants Online!

If you have specific questions about writing

Or the papers you're working on, Send them to:

Tutors@oakland.edu

You'll get an answer within 24 hours

And by noon on Monday

for weekend requests.

Note, this is not a proofreading service.

Specific questions only, please.

• WHAT'S NEW AT THE CAREER RESOURCE CENTER?

- Expanded Friday hours through June - 12 noon to 4 PM
- Pathways, the CRC newsletter is packed with interesting career tidbits
- Bridges, an excellent resource to explore occupations and get career info
- Career Development Discussion Group beginning May 2nd from 5-6:15 PM

* Ask the Counselor - quick career info via email crc@oakland.edu

For more information about any of our services, contact the CRC at 370-3263 or visit our office at 154 North Foundation Hall. Don't forget to visit us on the web <http://phoenix.placement.oakland.edu/crc/>.

THIS WEEK

• This is the last week we are accepting **2000-2001 Commuter Involvement Award** applications in the Dean of Students Office, 144 Oakland Center. **Deadline is Friday, April 7th.** Call 370-3352 for more information or see display ad elsewhere in this issue.

UPCOMING EVENTS

How do you fit the entire world in one room?

It seems impossible but members of the **International Students Organization (ISO)** are willing to give it a try. They are organizing **International Night**, one of the biggest events on campus.

On **Friday, April 14** you will experience a variety of ethnic foods and see a number of groups representing cultures from around the world. It will be a good opportunity to spend a nice time and learn something new about the world. Come and join international students and their American friends in the Oakland Center from 7-10 PM. Tickets for this event are available through the CSA Ticket Office for \$3.

Campus Recreation Updates

• **Scuba lessons** - registration begins 3/27 and classes begin on **April 26th**. For anyone needing a scuba review, registration begins on 3/27, and the class is June 14, 2000.

• Registration for **swim lessons** for spring/summer will start **May 1st**. Registration will be available at the Welcome Center desk in the Recreation Center. You must pay for the lessons at the time of registration. If you have any questions, please contact Steve at (248) 370-4532.

• **Lifeguard classes** for spring 2000 will be on Tuesday and Thursday, 5:30-9:00. Registration is open and classes begin **April 13th**. Call (313) 576-4101 to register.

• **Community memberships** will once again be available beginning **May 1, 2000**. S Call 370-4732 for further information.

• The Department of Campus Recreation and the School of Business Administration present the **Surf 'N' Splash Summer Camp**. A terrific opportunity for children ages 11-13 to learn computer skills and enjoy some recreational activities all in the same day! Four one-week sessions will begin **June 19th**. For more information contact 370-3128 or e-mail space@oakland.edu. Space is limited.

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.

CSA Office hours are:

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday, Thursday and Friday
8:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday

ENJOY OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S



❖ April 5, 2000 - One-Woman American Indian Pow-Wow

Get the real scoop on American Indian life. Judy Bartol is from the Potawatomi Hennaville Tribe from Escanaba, MI. She will come in traditional native dress and will discuss the history and traditions of her tribe. The program begins at 9:30 p.m. in the Vandenberg Dining Center on Tuesday, April 4, sponsored by Residence Halls Programs. Program repeated on Wednesday, April 5 at noon in the Oakland Center, sponsored by the Center for Student Activities.

❖ April 6, 2000 - Freebie Day

They say nothing at Oakland University is free! They're wrong! The Center for Student Activities will be giving away a lot of things in the Oakland Center on April 6. Come join us in the Exhibit Lounge for OU's Spring Freebie Day!

❖ April 6, 2000 - Elvis Quik-Pik Contest

Can you spot Elvis? They say he's still alive, and the Center for Student Activities has found him. Look for him in and about the Oakland Center between 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. and take his picture! The most unique photo of Elvis will win a great prize. Photos must be turned in by 5:00 p.m. Thursday, April 13, 2000.

❖ April 7, 2000 - Favorite Web Sites

Curious to know where your OU professors and staff surf to on the net? What are their favorite web sites? The Center for Student Activities has invited professors and other university "head honchos" to discuss where they like to go in Cyber Space. This event will be held in the Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center at Noon.

❖ April 7, 2000 - Friday Night Live w/ Marty Putz

Guaranteed to be a good time! This hilarious comic will send off Spring Fling with a laugh! The OU Community is invited to attend this event for FREE! The laughter begins at 7:00 p.m. in the Vandenberg Dining Center. Sponsored by Residence Halls Programs.

❖ April 8, 2000 Family F.R.E.E. Day 2000

Enjoy a day of Fun, Family, and F.R.E.E. The Oakland University Recreation Center will sponsor Mini Family Olympics, Face Painters, Jugglers on unicycles, and Balloon Artists from 12:00 noon until 3:00 p.m. in the Activity Center. Don't miss this Family F.R.E.E. Day!

Bird Watching at Point Pelee Friday, May 5

Point Pelee National Park, southernmost tip of the Canadian mainland in Ontario, provides a happy hunting ground for the ornithologist, the entomologist, the botanist and the photographer. This eleven-kilometer strip of forest-covered land projecting into Lake Erie serves as an important way-station for migrating birds. Hundreds of species make a stop here during their northward migration. The trip is only \$25 per person and includes transportation, park entry and a tour by a Point Pelee naturalist.

The Stratford Festival Friday, May 26 and Saturday, May 27

Join us for a two-day, one-night trip to the renowned Shakespeare Festival. We will be seeing "Hamlet" and "As You Like It". More information will be available in the near future.

17th Annual Photo Contest Winners

Black and White

- 1st Place "Moonrise" by Ken Hightower
- 2nd Place "Boats at Dock" by Liz Barclay
- 3rd Place "Cathedral Window" by Veronica Chojnacki
- Honorable Mention "Dog in Window" by Jason Luther
- Honorable Mention "Stairwell" by Alicia Anderson

Color

- 1st Place "Blue Saints and Sinner" by Ron Rapin
- 2nd Place "Girl in Field" by Veronica Chojnacki
- 3rd Place "Hippo" by Kendra Tucker
- Honorable Mention "Mayan Colors" by Lisa Abod
- Honorable Mention "Horse in Water" by Julie Hodge

THE CSA SERVICE WINDOW

Sign up for CSA and Student Organization Events:

- Tickets for ABS Step Show (April 7)
- International Night (April 14)
- Tickets for the ABS Scholarship Ball (April 15)
- Sign up for Point Pelee Trip (May 5)
- Trip to Stratford May 26-27 (beginning April 10)
- Meadow Brook Pictures are in!

Sign up and tickets for SPB Events:

- Tickets for "Lord of the Dance" (May 14)

Join
the
30 million
Americans
who e-file



Thirty million Americans use IRS e-file to file their federal tax returns.

Expecting a refund? Get it back in less than half the usual time with IRS e-file. Even faster by Direct Deposit!

Do you owe more tax? You can e-file your return well ahead of the deadline but wait until April 17th to pay the balance due.

You can even charge it to a credit card. Or ask us to debit it from your bank account.

IRS e-file is fast, simple and secure. So accurate, there's less chance you'll get one of those letters from the IRS.

Ask your tax preparer to e-file your return or use your own computer. For details, see your tax professional or visit our Web site at www.irs.gov

IRS e-file

CLICK, ZIP,
FAST ROUND TRIP

The Internal Revenue Service
Working to put service first



Instruments?

Who Needs Them?

five o'clock shadow
doesn't!

A drummer, keyboard player, bassist, trumpet player, guitarist, and tenor sax player put their instruments away to produce the awesome sounds of vocal harmony and percussion to the stage. Check out these acapella musicians in the

Fireside Lounge

Tuesday, April 11 @ Noon

There's something about your first piece.

AMERICAN PIE

Showing on the north side of O'Dowd Hall*

Wednesday, April 12 @ 8pm

Bring a blanket and your friends.

We'll bring the apple pie!

American Pie Poster Giveaway after the movie!!

*notice location change

ANY QUESTIONS?

CALL SPB @ 248-370-4295 or

VISIT US IN 64 OAKLAND CENTER

STUDENT PROGRAM BOARD

SPB

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

100 CRAZY PEOPLE HIDING IN THE BASEMENT OF THE OAKLAND CENTER

CRIME watch

• Homeless man

sleeping in Dodge Hall
OU police ticketed a homeless Oregon man, maintenance workers discovered him sleeping between the last row of seats and the wall in 201 Dodge Hall around 7:30 a.m., Wednesday March 29. Police recognized the man as the same one found sleeping in Hannah Hall several months earlier. At that time he was escorted off campus and told not to return or face arrest for trespassing. OU police detained the man who identified himself as Dennis Wayne Thomas. He told police he had no identification, but police found an Oregon identification card with the name Dennis Wayne Zirkle. He was ticketed for trespass and dropped off at the Pontiac Rescue Mission.

• Phony e-mail bomb threat

A Fitzgerald House head resident reportedly received an email bomb threat on Saturday, April 1. OU police were notified. On Sunday, the head resident was told by a student that the email threat was an April Fool's joke. Police cancelled a bomb smelling dog and overtime for officers who had been scheduled to work based on the threat.

• Alcohol related incident

Hamlin Hall's head resident called OU police when two female students were allegedly spotted on the roof of the residence hall early Friday, March 31. The head resident told police that the two students had removed the window screen and crawled out on the roof. When officers arrived at the room, they noticed the odor of alcohol and observed one of those students attempting to place the screen on the window. None of the 10 individuals inside the room admitted to going out on the roof, but police questioned two women students who fit the description of the women seen on the roof. Both agreed to a breathalyzer test and were ticketed for being a minor in possession of alcohol. The police had no immediate suspects.

Skills Center tutors clean up litter

By Lisa Remsing
OF THE OAKLAND POST

Student tutors from the Academic Skills Center dedicated their lunch hour last Wednesday to clean up part of OU's campus.

According to Jeff Vande Zande, Tutor Coordinator and organizer of the clean

up, six people participated in the effort; four student tutors, a tutor's friend, and Vande Zande himself.

"It was fun making a difference cleaning up the woods," said Kevin Phillips, junior, elementary education. "It was rewarding to help the university look better."

Vande Zande explained that as part of the tutoring program, students take regular walks of campus to familiarize themselves with all of the offices and buildings on campus. Through these walks, the tutors noticed the woods behind Hamlin Hall, which were in dire need of cleaning.

As plans got under way for the clean up, Vande Zande advertised the volunteer opportunity in the weekly newsletter that is distributed to tutors in the Academic Skills Center.

During the noontime clean up, the students collected six full bags of garbage. Some items included liquor bot-

tlers, a metal waste basket, pieces of old record albums, love notes, a horoscope page, and toys that had rolled down the hill from married student housing.

"It's the kind of volunteerism and selflessness that these students exhibited that I think really make a difference," said Vande Zande.

"They weren't simply interested in doing something to build their resumes, they were simply interested in helping out in whatever way they could."

For information about the services provided by the Academic Skills Center, please call (248) 370-4215.



Mike Hoban/The Oakland Post

DAMAGED DODGE: Peeling paint and shotty siding are a few of the noticeable repairs which will soon be replaced and restored.

Dodge House dodges decay

Historic look 'preserved' with vinyl

By Mike Hoban
SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

The historic John Dodge House may be getting a quarter-million dollar face-lift. The exterior paint is peeling and 86 windows and six exterior doors are neither functional nor energy efficient, according to OU officials.

The project is expected to be approved at the upcoming April Board of Trustees meeting.

The cost for vinyl siding, insulated windows with screen and doors is estimated at \$250,000. The funds for this project will come from the OU Contingency Fund.

"Our goal is to have it completed before the snow flies, during the current construction season, no later than fall," said OU Associate Vice-

President for Facilities Management Susan Aldrich.

Auto pioneer John Dodge and his wife Matilda, purchased the house as a farm retreat in 1908. After Dodge died, his widow remarried Alfred Wilson and built Meadow Brook Hall when the Wilsons donated the house and property to the university in 1957.

According to Aldrich, the vinyl siding used will have a grain finish to maintain the historic look of the building.

OU Budget Manager Matt York has worked in the building for two years and says, "It's a neat house, but the draft in the wintertime starts howling, and it gets a little chilly."

The John Dodge House is located on the east side of campus near the golf course and is now used to house administrative offices including Alumni Relations.



Mike Hoban/The Oakland Post

HISTORIC HOUSE: The John Dodge House, located on the east side of campus, is awaiting its quarter-million dollar face-lift.

Student body president critiques campus

STUDENTS FIRST!!

Seeing as I only have about three weeks left in my term as President, I find no better time than now to express some of the problems I have seen with this University. I'm graduating in about a month and can afford to make some criticisms. But nevertheless, I hope the school can and will take some of these points into consideration:

1. Why the hell don't we have a football team? We are now a Division I university, we want national recognition, and yet we won't start a football program. I see only benefits if we pursue this: great publici-



NICK MITCHELL

ty, an increase of school spirit, something to do on Saturdays, and an influx of money not only from the program itself, but also from the alumni.

2. Geese suck. When I walk from the Oakland Center to class, I don't like dodging goose droppings along the way. I also don't appreciate the incessant hissing noise emanating from the fowl. Now while I'm a strong proponent

of animal rights and conservation, I just don't see the need to have all these harassing birds on campus. I'm not necessarily condoning the extermination of the animals, but nonetheless, something needs to be done.

3. I also hate how long it takes cutting through red tape just to get anything done around here. For example, our esteemed professor

CRITIQUE continues on B7

PERSPECTIVES

SECTION A

WEDNESDAY • APRIL 5, 2000

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The OAKLAND POST

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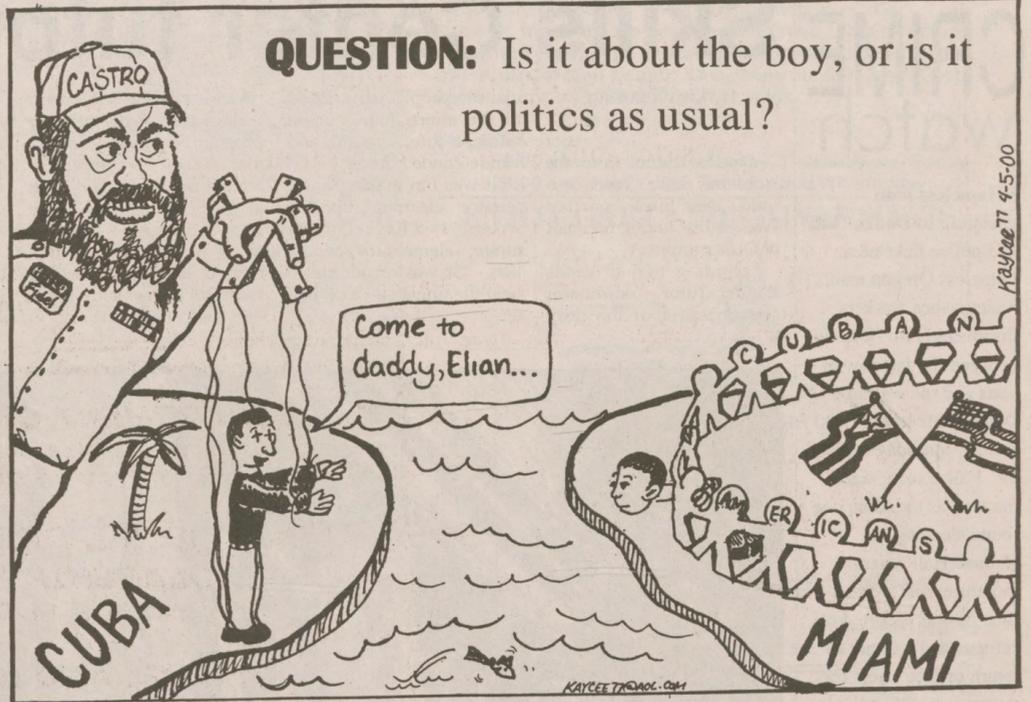
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LETTERS THE EDITOR

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.



QUESTION: Is it about the boy, or is it politics as usual?

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via e-mail oakpost@oakland.edu
Volume 26 Issue 24 - 16 pages

SETTING IT straight

THE OAKLAND POST apologizes for misspelling Barbara Kirkpatrick's name in last week's issue.

EDITOR'S view

Elian's plight should be a family affair

Juan Miguel Gonzalez is coming to the U.S. to see his son Elian, the boy who's mother died during their escape from Cuba last November. The State Department approved Juan's visa and he is expected to visit his son soon.

With the elder Gonzalez's visit, the "should Elian stay or go" controversy will heat up to an all time high.

Elian has been living with relatives in Miami and they are prepared to fight a lengthy court battle to keep him in the U.S. Cuban Americans support Elian's family and are demanding that the government refuse to return the boy. Fidel Castro, Cuba's dictator, has demanded his return and Elian's father wants him back.

Where does this child belong? The answer may not be popular with the keep Elian here faction, but the child belongs with his father.

Just because Juan's political beliefs do not fall in line with the American Dream, doesn't mean the government has the right to keep a father from his child.

Many people will be quick to point out that Elian's mother's wishes should be considered. She did die trying to bring her son to this country, apparently trying to make a better life for her son. That sounds like a sound argument, but when did it become U.S. policy to obey the wishes of a deceased parent over the wishes of a living parent?

Suppose a child's father died and wanted the child to be raised an atheist and the surviving mother wanted to raise the child a Christian. Would there be protests demanding the father's wishes be granted? Of course not.

It may be hard to accept, but the U.S. way of life is not for everyone. It is true the U.S. enjoys more freedom than any other nation in the world and this truly is a land of opportunity, but many people do not want to live the U.S.'s lifestyle.

The Elian controversy is going to get a lot uglier over the next few months. There will be court battles and protests. People will make demands and if the decision to send Elian back to his father is made, there could be major problems. The authorities in Miami are currently preparing for possible riots.

It seems strange for all this commotion over one child, but the situation has gone beyond the fate of Elian. The ramifications of whatever decision is made will be felt for many years in this country, especially in the Cuban community.

This situation has turned into a large sensitive political elephant. Like every controversy that faces the U.S., headline grabbers and politicians are lining up to voice their very loud opinions on the subject.

They have diverted the attention from the real issue — a son should be with his father.

Joe Gray
Managing Editor

LETTERS TO THE editor

Former student reveals the 'real' theatre issues

Dear Editor,

The 500 students in the Music, Theatre and Dance Department aren't going to perform in a real theatre while they are at Oakland University.

Meadow Brook Theatre isn't going to have a real artistic director while it's an auxiliary unit of the university under the Finance and Administration Division.

First of all the theatre of Meadow Brook Theatre isn't a real theatre, it's a recital hall that was built with government funds that were restricted and couldn't be used for a real theatre with real dressing rooms, rehearsal space, wings or flies or space for scenery and lights.

So Music, Theatre and Dance would just be getting a problem if it got Meadow Brook Theatre back for the students to perform in.

The same way that Finance and Administration would have a real problem if they got a real artistic director for Meadow Brook Theatre.

Finance and Administration needs to do studies and oversee slow shows that no student would be caught dead watching. If they aren't doing studies and hiring consultants, and putting on slow shows, it looks like they really don't have any work to do in relation to the theater.

Now we just can't have that, can we?

Sincerely yours,

K. Jarold

Former OU Student

Reader response

Should Elian Gonzalez be sent home or allowed to stay in the United States?

"I think he should be able to stay in the United States because he has family here that loves him and there are more opportunities here for him."

Kathy Herrera
Senior

"I think he should go back to his father in Cuba because that is his family. America may have economic advancements, but family is important."

Lisa VanDebogart
Sophomore

"He should definitely go back to Cuba. It's a father's right to be with his child and that should be the end of the subject. If it were an American dad over here and his son was in Cuba, there would be an outcry for him to come home. So why isn't it the other way around?"

Andrew Squires
Junior



It's disgusting how some people leave the bathroom's around here. They don't always flush and they leave used paper towels on the floor. I feel sorry for the people who have to clean up after these pigs.

I am so sick of these lousy gas prices. What the hell is going on? I can barely fill up my tank and I don't even have a big car.

The Oakland University Community is cordially invited to attend

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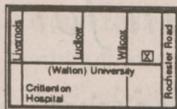
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animal
(an • i • mal) n. a living being capable of feeling.

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7:30 p.m. Thu., 11 a.m. & 7:30 p.m. Fri., 10:30 a.m., 3 & 7:30 p.m. Sat., 1 & 5 p.m. Sun. at the Palace of Auburn Hills. Admission is \$5-\$12. For information call 248-377-0100.

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LECTURES & WORKSHOPS

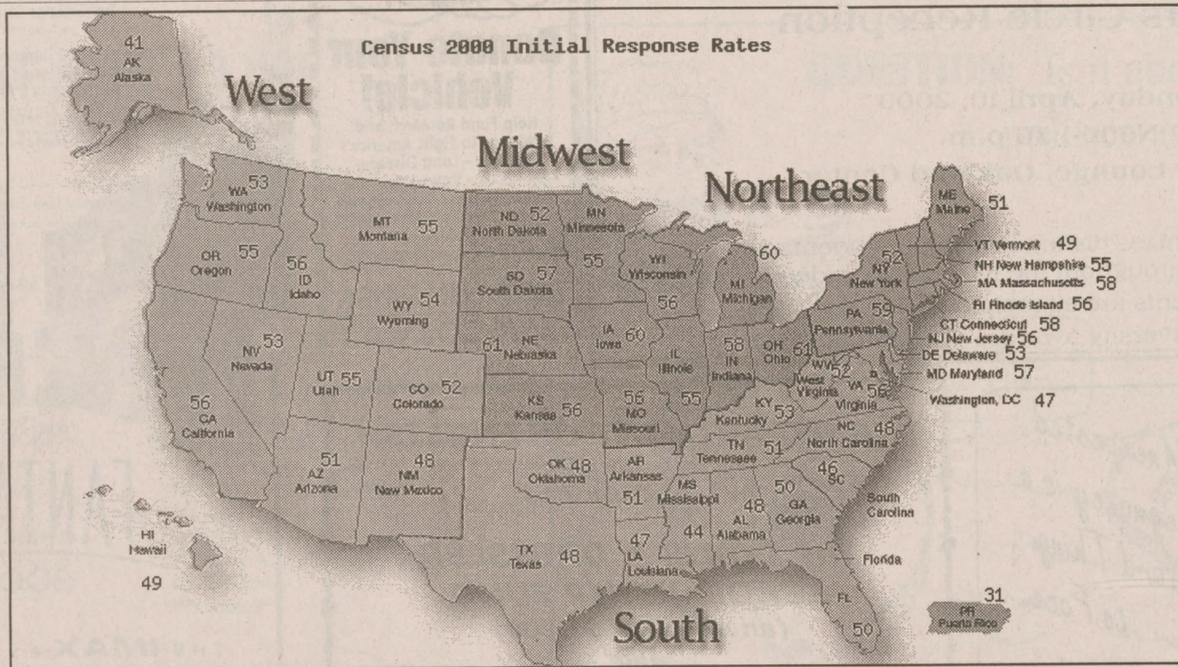
•AUTHORS IN APRIL 2000 AUTOGRAPH PARTY
4-6 p.m. Wed., April 12 at the Rochester Hills Public Library. Authors Peter Catalanotto, Betsy Duffey, Vicki Cobb, and Theresa Nelson will be signing books. For information, call 248-650-7140.

•VAN GOGH: FACE TO FACE
1:30-2:30 p.m. Fri., April 7 at the Rochester Hills Public Library auditorium.

SPECIAL INTEREST

•TRYNCHUK-FRAMIL DUO
2-4 p.m. Sun., April 9 at the Rochester Hills Public Library Auditorium. Violinist C. Trynchuk and cellist S. Framil will be performing. For information call 248-650-7150.

•IRISH AMERICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE COOKERY SCHOOL
10 a.m.-1 p.m. April 8 and 15 in Southfield. The theme is Irish entertaining, with a cooking demo, tasting, and lunch. Fee of \$20 per person, which includes a cookbook. For information call 248-356-0042 9 a.m.-9 p.m. daily.



United States Census 2000 Preliminary results in for first census of millenium

By John Stoll
SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

One, two, three, four... it's time for U.S. Census 2000.

Technically, it's actually past time for the nation's largest counting day of the decade as last Saturday, April 1 was designated by law as the official "Census Day."

With the state of Michigan reporting in 16 percentage points lower than their target rate and Oakland County currently reporting at 69% (the target is 82%), the U.S. Census Bureau says there's still a lot to do. Less than 1% of entities nationally have met their target. Now, the government needs to hire people to complete the project ensuring an accurate count and balanced representation.

Every 10 years, the U.S. Census Bureau conducts a nationwide count as mandated by the Constitution to learn the concentration of people from region to region and city to city so that it can distribute funds, political representation and social assistance properly.

A census was originally conducted in the United States so that the legislatures on both the state and federal level knew how many representatives each region should get in Congress. Now the focus has expanded to analyzing growth trends, communities in need, future planning commissions and Social Security and Medicare forecasts.

For instance, the state of Michigan in 1990 registered about 9.5 million residents, giving the state 16 congressional seats in the U.S. House of Representatives. Michigan is among the top states in the nation in population as well as political representation. In order to keep the seats it has, as well as other political and economic advantages, Michigan must get an accurate count.

Getting an accurate count has incredible ramifications.

"The census is as important to our nation as highways and telephone lines. It's how America knows what America needs. It will provide the data that will help target more than \$2 trillion in federal funds during the next decade for schools, employment services, housing assistance, hospital services, programs for the elderly and much more," said Kenneth Prewitt, the director of the Census Bureau.

The Census is also how America knows what Oakland County and, specifically, OU, needs as well. The monetary value of federal and state grants coming into OU are directly influenced by the results of the nationwide census. Federally sponsored development programs including long term local business expansion, civil planning, and education and health service availability are directly dependent on the numbers derived from Census 2000.

For OU, that means getting some support from both its students and the surrounding

MICHIGAN COMPARATIVE RESPONSE RATE

Initial response rate
Michigan: **61%** National: **53%**

Target rate
Michigan: **77%** National: **70%**

community at large in the current Census. According to predictions by Michigan Gov. John Engler, "The amount of federal funding Michigan will receive over the next decade as a result of Census 2000 will be over \$50 billion." If OU students want to see some of the cash come their way, they'll have to bank on the community to do its part in revealing its needs.

One example of OU receiving federal assistance based on the needs of the community comes in the opportunity of educating the county's teachers with a richer hands-on experience thanks in part to census data. According to President Russi's office, last fall OU began implementing a \$1.3 million federal grant to help K-12 teachers to use technology more effectively in the classroom in the Pontiac and Rochester areas. Likewise in 1999, OU won a \$1.5 million GEAR UP grant to partner with the Pontiac School District. The five-year federal grant allows OU stu-

dents to help middle school students prepare for college by offering counseling, tutoring and mentoring.

For starters, if you have received your U.S. Census form in the mail and have not yet mailed it back, do it as soon as possible, being careful to complete the forms accurately and in their entirety. Though the forms are already past due, there is no penalty for turning them in late- the important thing is that you get them in. According to Michigan Census spokesperson Claude Bittingham, the "slight penalty" is for not turning the forms in at all.

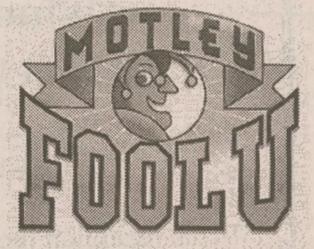
"We try to convince individuals of the necessity of filling out their forms," said Bittingham. "We emphasize the value of the census to them and their community."

If you haven't received the forms, it's either because you don't need to fill a form out because you are considered a dependent, or somehow you were missed in the mass 100 million person mailing last month due to your residency or U.S. mail complications. Those who haven't received the forms, but think they have to fill them out or aren't sure about their filing status should seek further help in the census process.

For OU students, this may mean tracking down some census forms through campus administration offices or giving the state's Census office a call. Bittingham says that students living on campus nine or 10 months out of the year should consider filling out a form if they feel they should be counted in the local demographic.

"Each student should make that decision for themselves," said Bittingham, "It's wherever they consider their normal place of residence to be." Bittingham further encourages students to call the local Census Office in Troy, or log onto www.2000.census.gov.

A final way to help out the U.S. Census is by taking a job as one of the 74,000 applicants needed to work with the "hard to count" populations, such as those on welfare, homeless, or living in college residence halls and other non-traditional addresses. The jobs will reportedly begin in late April and early May and will pay for training, mileage and up to \$13.75 per hour. Anyone with questions or job enquires can contact the U.S. Census Bureau, or visit the Meadowbrook Village Mall Thursday evening at the Census booth.



The Next Big Winners

Q: Where besides biotechnology and other technology stocks are the next big winners? — C.W., via the Internet

A: Well, C.W., we generally tell people that they don't have to look for "the next big winner" to invest successfully. Then again, finding the next big winner doesn't necessarily hurt either — and we're not exactly above looking for it.

One method that we've found to organize the search for The Next Big Thing, whether it be in biotechnology, wireless communications, the Internet or other sectors, is to look for what we call "Rule Breakers." These are companies that are breaking the rules of the business world and are providing something that is dramatically better than the old order. The rules for finding Rule Breakers are as follows. Look for:

- 1) The top dog and first-mover in an important, emerging industry.
- 2) Sustainable advantage gained through business momentum, patents, visionary leadership and/or inept competition.
- 3) Excellent past share appreciation, with the stock outperforming 90 percent or more of the other stocks in the market over the previous year.
- 4) Good management and smart backing.
- 5) The greater the consumer brand, the better.
- 6) A significant constituent of the financial media is recently on record for calling the stock overvalued.

As you'll notice, this strategy focuses on buying the leading companies rather than broadly seeking whole industries. However, finding Rule Breakers does necessitate finding important, emerging industries, and biotechnology certainly qualifies on that score.

These rules of the road are all described in greater detail on the Fool.com Web site, but let's take a little detour and focus in on the rule that might be the most shocking to some — that you should actually pursue investments that a significant constituent of the financial media has already called "overvalued."

We've found in our travels around the financial markets that the financial media are not necessarily made up of the savviest investors. Particularly in the case of companies that are developing new, exciting and sometimes unproven technologies, it seems that the instincts of many old-line financial writers are to bad-mouth what they cannot understand. When the stock of a company that is doing something truly revolutionary begins to ascend in price, the financial media often rely on outdated valuation techniques to "prove" that the company can't possibly be worth what the market says it is. Quite often the press is not only dead wrong about that, but is actually producing a good starting place for your research. (Most members of the financial press are not themselves investors in individual companies.)

That certainly isn't to say that every article that states that a stock is probably overvalued has to be wrong. The mainstream press can't always get it backward, of course. But where your research leads you to recognize and understand an industry and a company, the existence of hostility from the mainstream press about the value of the stock shouldn't necessarily be a deterrent. It might — if all the other factors listed above are present — be a reason to consider buying.

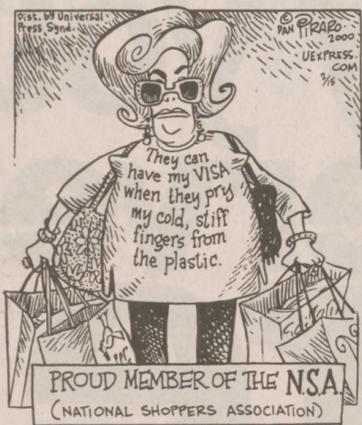
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Four Day FORECAST

Thursday		Partly Cloudy	Friday		Scattered Showers	Saturday		Mostly Cloudy	Sunday		Partly Cloudy
	High - 61° Low - 41°			High - 64° Low - 41°			High - 55° Low - 31°			High - 56° Low - 39°	

ETCETERA

Bizarro by Dan Piraro



Bizarro by Dan Piraro



LEX

by phil flickinger (www.l-e-x.com)

WE DIDN'T WANT TO GIVE YOU A SHOW, BUT WE VALUE FREE SPEECH HERE AT THE STATION.

IT'S COOL. I PROMISE NOT TO CAUSE ANY PROBLEMS.

GOOD. NOW HERE IS A LIST OF WORDS YOU CAN'T SAY ON THE AIR.

AW, THESE ARE GOOD FU- I MEAN FRIGGIN' WORDS!

REMEMBER, YOU PROMISED: NO PROBLEMS! NOW, THE SHOW IS AN ECLECTIC MIX OF MUSICAL GENRES; WHAT DO YOU WANT TO NAME IT?

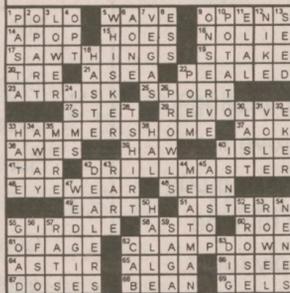
"AURAL SECTS WITH BLAKE & COMPANY."

THE UNIVERSAL CROSSWORD

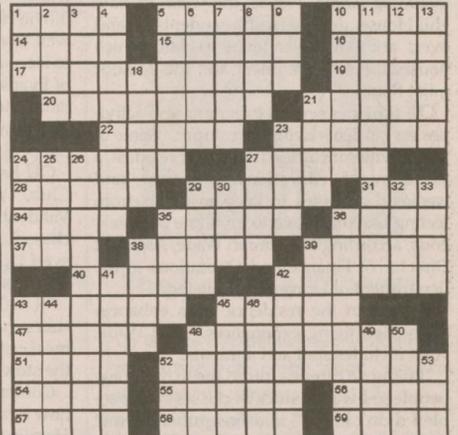
Edited by Timothy E. Parker

- ACROSS**
- 1 Smidgens
 - 5 Jibe
 - 10 City near Santa Barbara
 - 14 Russian inland sea
 - 15 Male bee
 - 16 Peddled
 - 17 Bricklayer turned actor?
 - 19 Do a plastering job
 - 20 Direct routes
 - 21 "We'll see"
 - 22 Green strokes
 - 23 Muddy
 - 24 His and hers
 - 27 Bones in
- the foot
- 28 Popular nesting places
 - 29 Field's companion
 - 31 "Keep it down!"
 - 34 One not to be believed
 - 35 Fictional Butler
 - 36 ___ En-lai
 - 37 West ender?
 - 38 W. Yorkshire city
 - 39 Nene
 - 40 Toss
 - 42 Psyched (Slang)
 - 43 Metes and
- DOWN**
- 45 "Get lost!"
 - 47 Full of fluff
 - 48 Range between Spain and France
 - 51 Cologne senior
 - 52 Baggage handler turned songwriter?
 - 54 Doe or roe
 - 55 "Don't ___ muscle!"
 - 56 See 6 Down
 - 57 Goofs
 - 58 Not kosher
 - 59 Czech river

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER



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"CHANGE IN PROFESSION" by Norman S. Wizer

- 9 Hallow conclusion?
 - 10 Hanks has two
 - 11 Clergyman turned comedian?
 - 12 Suspect's story
 - 13 Lazed around
 - 18 Innuendos
 - 21 Gloom
 - 23 Statesmanship
 - 24 Distant prefix
 - 25 Kind of trigger
 - 26 Sportsman turned
- author?
- 27 Uses a shuttle
 - 29 Friends' pronoun
 - 30 Rubicund
 - 32 Water bearer
 - 33 Colored
 - 35 Races, as a motor
 - 36 Trade
 - 38 "___ Be Good" (1941)
 - 39 Fertilizer
 - 41 Keys in
 - 42 Compensate in advance
- 43 Wesley Snipes flick
 - 44 Gretzky, once
 - 45 Written work on a region's trees
 - 46 Rocky's opponent
 - 48 Milne character
 - 49 Useful Latin abbr.
 - 50 Vojvodina resident
 - 52 1 in. = 2.54
 - 53 Reuben need

Damon's Signs of the Times

April 5 - April 11

- ARIES** (March 21-April 20) — Today is an excellent time to start on financial goals; money opportunities will come to you if you plan ahead. Try to do some long-distance travelling.
- TAURUS** (April 21-May 20) — Positive, lucky things are probably happening this week; you may be finally getting what you deserve. Keep your strong personality mellow now.
- GEMINI** (May 21-June 21) — Intuition will help you through a difficult time. Artistic endeavors are great this week; if you can't make time to do it, make time to appreciate art.
- CANCER** (June 22-July 22) — A conflict or crisis from earlier this week keeps your energy going and things should be looking better by the weekend. Money comes and goes quickly this week.
- LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) — Romantic escapades are a great idea for this week; people will definitely respond to you. Work promotions are possible, so be on your best behavior while on the job.
- VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 23) — Communicating with your loved ones makes a big difference this week. Listen to a friend now and you may get a tangible reward, perhaps monetary.
- LIBRA** (Sept. 24-Oct. 22) — Keep your eyes open for money-making opportunities through people you know. A plutonic or cool relationship may turn passionate by next week.
- SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 22) — Reorganize your priorities and values; they probably need updating. Major life changes can be made this week, so take your time and evaluate your current life.
- SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — You can practically ask for what you want now and get it. Take advantage of your good fortune and energy while positive opportunities are in your life.
- CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) — Money or a love interest may be coming into your life this week. Take risks and go for what your heart believes in; you probably won't go wrong.
- AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) — Sagittarius - Capricorn - Aquarius - Unexpected changes may be happening late week, though they will be for the best. Family members help you see yourself for who you really are.
- PISCES** (Feb. 20-March 20) — Don't rush into anything this week; delay action and decisions if you can. Friends can help you through the issues currently going on in your life.

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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browndamon@hotmail.com

WEB girl

Web Girl is the coolest web-surfer at 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 Web Girl...

If you've got a lot of DVDs lying disorganized around your home, then you may want a FREE copy of the DVD Profiler v. 0.94 program for your PC. By using the DVDs barcode, it creates a personalized, searchable database of titles, genres and other movie information. Go to hotfiles.zdnet.com and search for "DVD PROFILER."

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What's your risk of developing cancer? Anyone can take the test at www.yourcancerrisk.harvard.edu, but it's more accurate for those ages 40 and older and who have never had cancer.

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If you have any questions, comments or cool websites you can contact Web Girl at ouwebgirl@writeme.com

life Edge

ON CAMPUS

•The **OU SYMPHONIC BAND** will play contemporary and traditional favorites from the wind repertoire at 8 p.m. on April 5 at the Varner Recital Hall.

•The **OU CHORALE/OU CHORUS** will perform at 8 p.m. on April 7 in the Varner Recital Hall.

•The **CHAMBER ENSEMBLE CONCERT** will play a free concert at 3 p.m. on April 9 in the Varner Recital Hall.

•The Association of Black Students is inviting everyone to attend the **DRIFTING ON A MEMORY 2000** Scholarship Ball at 7 p.m. on April 15 at Gingellville Conference Center. Tickets are \$13 for single tickets and \$25 per couple. Transportation is provided if needed. Tickets sold at the CSA Window.

•The **ABS Greek Step Show** will take place at 6:30 p.m. on April 7 at the Shotwell-Guestafon Pavilion at OU. This event will feature Detroit's own **BIG DOGS, BLOOD-HOUNDS & PITS**. Must be 18 with picture ID.

CONCERTS

•**METHODS OF MAYHEM**, with rocker Tommy Lee as the front man, will bring their madness at 8 p.m. on April 6 to St. Andrew's Hall.

•**SNAPCASE** with special guests Grade, Ensign and Turmoil will play at 7 p.m. on April 8 at St. Andrew's Hall.

•**ALL STAR GARAGE SOUL** from Burlington, VA, featuring John Fishman of Phish, will play at 9:30 p.m. on April 9 at the Blind Pig, Ann Arbor.

•**SECOND CITY** will perform a new hockey-themed revue entitled "The Puck Stops Here." The show will run April 5-16 at the Second City Comedy Theater.

COMING SOON

•**THE BLOODHOUND GANG** will play at 7 p.m. on May 7 at Clutch Cargo's, Pontiac.



Photo courtesy of the DOH

OPERA CHARACTERS: (Left to Right) Prince Siegfried, von Rothbart and The Queen Mother. All three are characters in Tchaikovsky's "Swan Lake." The opera ran March 27-April 2 at the Detroit Opera House

ABT renders "Swan Lake"

By Carl Savich

SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

The American Ballet Theatre brought their spectacular production of "Swan Lake" to the Detroit Opera House, which ran from March 27 until April 2.

The ABT, formed in 1940, is one of the leading ballet companies in the U.S. and the world. "Swan Lake" is the most famous and acclaimed ballets and is one of Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky's greatest musical achievements. The production was an immense success, playing to nearly full houses during its run.

The costumes, scenery and sets were lavish and spectacular. Bradley L. Stroud, Director of Dance for the Michigan Opera Theatre, distinguished this production from previous stagings of the ballet.

"This production is unique with regard to the scale involved," said Stroud. "The costumes and sets cost \$2.5 million in the current production."

The choreography was by Kevin McKenzie, who follows the original choreography of Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov. They did the original choreography for Tchaikovsky, and they worked with him on "The Nutcracker," and "Sleeping Beauty." It follows faithfully the original Petipa-Ivanov choreography of the 1895 production in St. Petersburg.

The costumes and the scenery were by Zack Brown. The lighting was by Duane Schuler.

In the four act version, they edited out about 40 minutes from the original score. The overture was also removed. The total performance time was about two and a half hours, with intermission after act two.

The Orchestra was conducted by David Lamarche in a melodic and engaging performance. Although, at one moment during a difficult violin solo, the instrument sounded slightly off key. The nearly full house was enthralled by the nearly flawless performance.

The MOT has featured several works by Tchaikovsky within the last several seasons. All have been spectacularly successful. The 1999-2000 season featured not only "Swan Lake," but "The Nutcracker," the highly popular holiday performance of which were tremendously successful, and the "Harlem Nutcracker," which featured Tchaikovsky's music arranged by Duke Ellington, Billy Strayhorn, and David Berger.

During the 1998-1999 season, Tchaikovsky's opera "Eugen Onegin" was staged at the Detroit Opera House.

Tchaikovsky's poignant, melodic and evocative music is always popular with MOT audiences. "Swan Lake" was no exception. Its week long run at the MOT was a popular and critical success.

The fairy tale story of "Swan Lake" revolves around Odette, a young princess who is under the spell of a sorcerer, von Rothbart. In act one, Prince Siegfried is celebrating his 21st birthday. His mother gives him a crossbow for a present and tells him that he must choose a bride by the next night.

Siegfried, with his friend Benno, goes hunting by a lake. In act two, he takes aim at a swan that then transforms into a human (Odette). She tells him that because of Rothbart's spell, she must be a swan; only in darkness can she assume human form.

If someone swears eternal loyalty to her and marries her, she can be freed from the spell. But, if she is forsworn, then she will eternally remain a swan.

In act three, at the Great Hall, Siegfried must choose his bride. Rothbart appears as a guest with his daughter Odile, who is made to resemble Odette. Siegfried swears fidelity to Odile, but then realizes that she is not Odette. Odette is shown weeping while Siegfried rushes to the Lake of Tears. In act four, by the lakeside, Odette informs Siegfried that she will eternally turn into a swan if she doesn't kill herself. When Rothbart appears, both are shown leaping into the lake; Rothbart's spell is broken, and Siegfried and Odette are united in life after death.

Paloma Herrera danced the part of Odette and Odile. The performances by the cast and the entire ensemble were impeccable. Herrera and Carreno flawlessly danced the "Black Swan Pas de Deux" while the ensemble danced a Czardas, Spanish Dance, Neopolitan Dance and a Mazurka.

The dances of the Cygnets and Swans in act two, by the lakeside, displayed the perfect timing and dance skill of the ensemble.

The ABT is American ballet at its finest; it has a long and distinguished history and tradition of excellence. Jacqueline Kennedy-Onassis was the Honorary Chairman Emerita of the ABT. Currently, her daughter Caroline holds the position.

The ABT's production at the DOH was a spectacular popular and critical success. The cuts in the musical score do little to dilute or diminish the power of Tchaikovsky's eloquent music. It showcases ballet and dance at its finest.

Pride Forum announces lesbian, gay film series

Support group offers weekly meetings for students

By Ann Buchinski

SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

The Pride Forum is a student organization dedicated to the support and visibility of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and supportive straight students at OU. Through weekly meetings and social events, the Pride Forum maintains a network for those who feel silenced or ostracized because of their sexual orientation.

The group was started in the late 1980s by Mike Petroni. Weekly meetings were held in Graham Health Center under the supervision of Susan Soloman, who acted as the group's coordinator.

In the beginning, the Pride Forum was a very private support group. Those interested called the Forum's hotline to find out about meeting times and dates. Shea Howell, professor of communications, brought the Pride Forum 'out of the closet' in 1993 when she became the group's official faculty advisor.

Under Howell's guidance, the Pride Forum held "February Forums" to discuss gay and lesbian issues on campus. They also fought to change OU's anti-discrimination policy to protect the rights of gay and lesbian students.

"One of the fastest growing aspects of the (gay and lesbian) movement is student organizing," said Howell. "College is often a time when students are exploring their identities. They need to know there are other like them on campus."

This semester, the Forum began holding weekly movie nights known as the "Lesbian and Gay Film Discussion Series." On these nights, students are encouraged to come together to watch movies such as "The Band Played On," "Better Than Chocolate," and "Love, Valor, Compassion."

Ron Butzlaff, professor of psychology, believes such events are "a great way to meet other people on campus in a relaxed, supportive atmosphere."

Butzlaff, acting as the Forum's faculty advisor this year, is offering participation in the film series as course credit for the Fall 2000 and Winter 2001 semesters. Students who take the course will be required to attend the film series, and choose one film on which to write a research paper to be presented in class. The course will be offered as two or four 400 level psychology credits.

The development of a gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered alumni group is also in the works.

The Pride Forum has had trouble publicizing itself in the recent past. Flyers have been carelessly torn down and a stereotype of the group being "ultra political" keeps many students from getting involved.

Those involved are adamant about the fact that its main focus is social outreach. This outreach is indicated in the attitudes of those currently involved.

Jennifer Ford, proud Pride Forum affiliate, said, "Initially I attended in order to meet other gay people on campus so I wouldn't feel so tremendously alienated from everyone. Being at the meetings is a comfort."

Before the Pride Forum's president Tim Rooks arrived at OU, he didn't know any other gay people.

"I remember the summer before my freshman year. I just couldn't wait," said Rooks. "The prospect of having people here with whom I could identify was wonderful."

The Pride Forum holds meeting at noon every Tuesday in the Oakland Center. The film discussion series is held every Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Honors College atrium in East Vandenberg Hall. For more information, email prideforum@yahoo.com or check out the Pride Forum website at www.oakland.edu/org/prideforum/.



APRIL: WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

By Lani Morgan

SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

In support of Women's History Month, "Top Girls" by Caryl Churchill will be performed this weekend in the Varner Lab Theater. The show deals with the question, "Can a woman have a place in the career world and have a family at the same time?"

This ambiguous story takes place in England and America in the 1970s, when Margaret Thatcher was the first female Prime Minister of England. The message of the play is best described in a quote by author and poet Rebecca West.

"People call me a feminist whenever I express sentiments that differentiate me from a doormat or a prostitute," said West.

"Top Girls," comprised of a 16 member all-female cast, focuses on women in the workplace from one feminist view: the only

women who can advance in society are those whom are born wealthy.

Marlene, a brash, intimidating businesswoman is the show's central character. In the first act, five historical women, who each represent someone in Marlene's modern-day life, visit her. These characters, some fictional, some not, include such people as Pope Joan, a woman who lived as a man in order to be Pope.

The second act shows Marlene's encounters as a woman in the modern-day career world.

The show does not claim that women are perfect or better than men. All of the characters, to some degree, are ashamed to be women. It instead portrays women in the position of power, shows how that position has changed, how far women have come and how far they have to go.

Tickets for "Top Girls" are a \$4-5. It plays April 6 and 8 at 8 p.m., April 7 at 11 p.m., and April 9 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

TOP GIRLS

BY CARYL CHURCHILL
DIRECTED BY MICHAEL GILLESPIE



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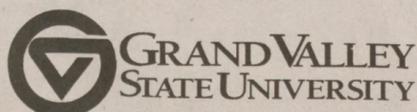
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SCOREBOARD

SOFTBALL

March 31	
Western Illinois	8
Oakland	0
March 31	
Oakland	1
Western Illinois	0
April 1	
Western Illinois	2
Oakland	0
April 1	
Western Illinois	3
Oakland	0
April 2	
Bowling Green	6
Oakland	0
April 3	
Oakland	3
Detroit	0

BASEBALL

April 1	
Oakland	8
Youngstown State	2
April 1	
Oakland	7
Youngstown State	6

TENNIS

April 2	
Oakland	7
Valparaiso	0
April 2	
Oakland	5
IUPUI	1

WOMEN'S GOLF

April 1-2

Oakland tied for fifth in the Grand Valley State University Spring Invitational. Twelve teams competed this year.

UPCOMING GAMES

BASEBALL

APRIL 5 - at Ohio State, 6:30 p.m.
APRIL 8 - at Western Illinois, 12 noon, (DH)
APRIL 9 - at Western Illinois, 12 noon, (DH)
APRIL 11 - DETROIT MERCY, 3 p.m.

SOFTBALL

APRIL 7 - at Youngstown State, time, TBA, (DH)
APRIL 8 - at Youngstown State, time, TBA, (DH)

WOMEN'S GOLF

APRIL 9 & 10 - Tri-State Spring Tournament (Tri-State University-Angola, Indiana), time TBA each day

MEN'S GOLF

APRIL 10 & 11 - at Western Kentucky Invitational, time, TBA each day

Hard hitting

COACHES

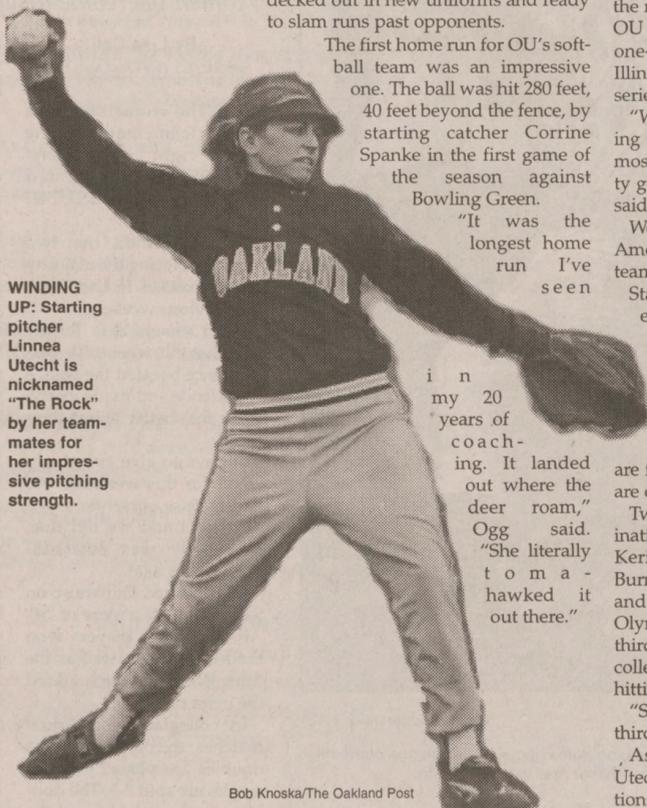
• **Head coach Steve Ogg** coached for 12 years at Oakland Community College and was athletic director there for a time. Ogg was hired at OU in October of 1998.

• **Assistant coach Donna McDaniel** played softball at Fresno State and was hired by Ogg in January of 1999.

• **Assistant coach Donald Dreher** was coaching local summer travel ball and was hired by Ogg in January of 2000.

HOME GAMES

- **OU vs. IUPUI:** April 14 and 15, Time TBA.
- **OU vs. Illinois:** April 29 at 3:30 p.m.
- **OU vs. Southern Utah:** May 5 and 6 at 12 noon.



WINDING UP: Starting pitcher Linnea Utecht is nicknamed "The Rock" by her teammates for her impressive pitching strength.



TAGGING THE COMPETITION: Shortstop Ericka Burns and infielder Bozena Johnson gang up on Grand Valley player during a game on March 28 on the home field.

New field, new uniforms, new equipment and the start of a new era at OU

By Kelli Petrove
OF THE OAKLAND POST

Things are getting easier for the newest varsity team at OU. The women's softball team no longer has to chase off deer and clean up after them before games. Fences for the new field have been completed and now keep the wildlife at a distance. The women are now ready to add to the changing face of OU.

The deer have not gone far beyond the fences, however, and they continue to make appearances during practices and games.

"The field is a beautiful setting," Head coach Steve Ogg said. "During a game against Western Illinois about eight deer came out of the woods and everybody stopped to watch them."

Even more exciting to watch than the wildlife is the women of OU who are decked out in new uniforms and ready to slam runs past opponents.

The first home run for OU's softball team was an impressive one. The ball was hit 280 feet, 40 feet beyond the fence, by starting catcher Corrine Spanke in the first game of the season against Bowling Green.

"It was the longest home run I've seen

in my 20 years of coaching. It landed out where the deer roam," Ogg said. "She literally took a hawked it out there."

OU's fence is 20 feet longer than most of the opponents they will face.

Even with impressive home runs and wildlife surroundings, being the new team in town brings with it many challenges. Earning the respect of the competition may be one of the hardest goals for the team to achieve. In a pre-season poll, OU was ranked last due to its new status as a Mid-Con team.

To make things a little more difficult, OU was faced with the top two ranked teams in pre-season polls, Western Illinois and UMKC for the first eight Mid-Con games.

In a first step to gain the respect of the nation, OU defeated number one-ranked Western Illinois in one game of the four-game series.

"Western Illinois has a lot of returning seniors and we have none. We are mostly freshmen. This victory is a pretty good sign for long term goals," Ogg said. "We are very close to their level."

Western Illinois also features an All-American pitcher as a senior on the team.

Starting the new OU team wasn't easy. The athletic department hired Ogg in October of 1998 to give him time to recruit players. He traveled the state and the region and even headed out west to find the women of OU's new team. Eight of the current players are from out of state, and most players are on partial scholarships.

Two recruits, which are already dominating the field, are captains junior Keri Sedgley and freshman Ericka Burns. Burns leads the team in hitting and made the Canadian Junior Olympic team last year. Sedgley plays third base and transferred from a junior college in California. She is second in hitting for the Grizzlies.

"Sedgley is playing great defense at third," Ogg said.

As for the pitching staff, Linnea Utecht has whizzed past the competi-

"We call Linnea 'The Rock' because she can pitch and pitch and pitch," Ogg said.

“Western Illinois has a lot of returning seniors, and we have none, we are mostly freshmen. This victory is a pretty good sign for long-term goals.”

Steve Ogg
Head softball coach

In addition to the responsibility of recruiting players, Ogg needed to find himself a coaching staff. The first step was hiring Donna McDaniel in January of 1999. McDaniel played softball in California for Fresno and had coached previous to coming to OU.

The final step in a well-rounded OU team was hiring Donald Dreher in January of this year. Dreher had been coaching a local summer travel league when Ogg hired him on as an assistant coach.

With all the ingredients for a new team, the coaching staff and the team was ready to hit the Mid-Con with a force.

With the athletic department funding, the team was able to complete initial start up and buy uniforms and equipment for the new season. The only funding that wasn't available was for a spring trip.

"The athletic department was very supportive of our funding needs," Ogg said.

The team took it upon itself to raise the money by hosting youth sports camps and working concession at swim meets. After raising enough money, the team traveled to spring training to get in a few non-conference games in the beginning of the season.

Now, with 31 games under its belt and a 11-20 overall record (1-7 in the Mid-Con), the team has gained experience and confidence to improve on the current record.

OU will play four conference games at Youngstown on Friday and Saturday and will travel to Western Michigan University April 12 for non-conference action.

"We've gotten used to the conference, and there will be a drastic change in the next eight games as compared to the first eight," Ogg said. "I'm predicting total improvement and I'm proud of the team and how hard they work."

THE TEAM

- **Julie Anderson** CF/P; freshman; Portland HS, Portland, MI
- **Ericka Burns** SS/3B; freshman; Central Huron HS, Clinton Ontario; captain
- **Tiffany Evans** IF/P; freshman; Elgin HS, Larue, OH
- **Jennifer Granger** IF; freshman; Troy HS, Troy, MI
- **Bozena Johnson** IF; freshman; Louisville HS, Louisville, OH
- **Mary Kate McGowan** OF; sophomore; St. Andrews College, North Carolina
- **Jennifer Morgan** P/IF; junior; Rochester HS, Rochester, MI
- **Erica Owens** OF; freshman; Fraser HS, Fraser, MI
- **Megan Piar** C/OF; freshman; Bloom Carroll HS, Lancaster, OH
- **Laura Plunkitt** IF/OF/P; freshman; Imlay City HS, Imlay City, MI
- **Crystal Ruddock** P/IF; junior; Victor Valley HS; Apple Valley, CA
- **Keri Sedgley** 3B/1B; junior; Solano JC, Napa, CA captain
- **Laura Seffens** CF; freshman; Brandon HS, Ortonville, MI
- **Katie Snyder** OF/SS; freshman; Troy Athens HS, Troy, MI
- **Corrine Spanke** C/3B; sophomore; Central Michigan, Ortonville, MI
- **Danielle TerHaar** OF; junior; Oakland CC, Macomb Twp., MI
- **Linnea Utecht** P/1B; freshman; Oshkosh West HS, Oshkosh, WI
- **Sarah Watters** OF; junior; Oakland CC, Marine City, MI

the fountain of youth

Tai-Chi offers fresh approach to fitness for people of all abilities

By Ramez Khuri
OF THE OAKLAND POST

Throughout their lives, many people have searched for the fountain of youth. Even though it probably doesn't exist, there is one thing that comes close.

Tai-Chi, a traditional and ancient form of Chinese martial arts, could be the answer to many people's dreams. Unlike other martial arts, like Karate, Tai-Chi is non-violent. Through its slow and graceful moves, it teaches people to relax the body as well as the mind.

Some of the many benefits of practicing Tai-Chi include mind and body meditation, relaxation and reduction of stress, internal organs are exercised, blood circulation is improved, it helps to prevent illness and improves health longevity, it relieves arthritis and increases flexibility in the joints. It prevents bone fatigue and improves balance and coordination. It improves mental and physical concentration and focus. It helps to prevent chronic disease, hypertension, and

diabetes. It helps to prevent falls, and it strengthens and improves the bodies immune system.

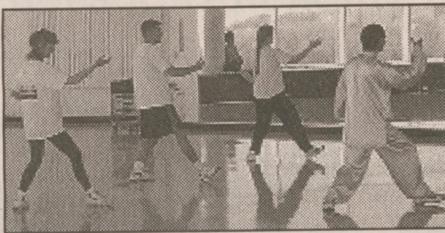
Chang Mao, a first degree Tai-Chi instructor from China said, "Inner energy is the resource of life, and if inner energy disappeared, you're going to die. So with most people, they cannot control their inner energy. It's somewhere in the body, but they don't know where it is, and they don't know how to control it or use it. But by doing Tai-Chi, it helps you to create your self regulation system."

Mao says that Tai-Chi can be practiced by people of all abilities, because it does not require great strength. It uses a persons "chi" or internal energy rather than muscular force. Because internal energy can be continually developed and strengthened, Tai-Chi can be practiced well into old age.

Daily practice will keep a person young in appearance, agile in movements, and tranquil in the

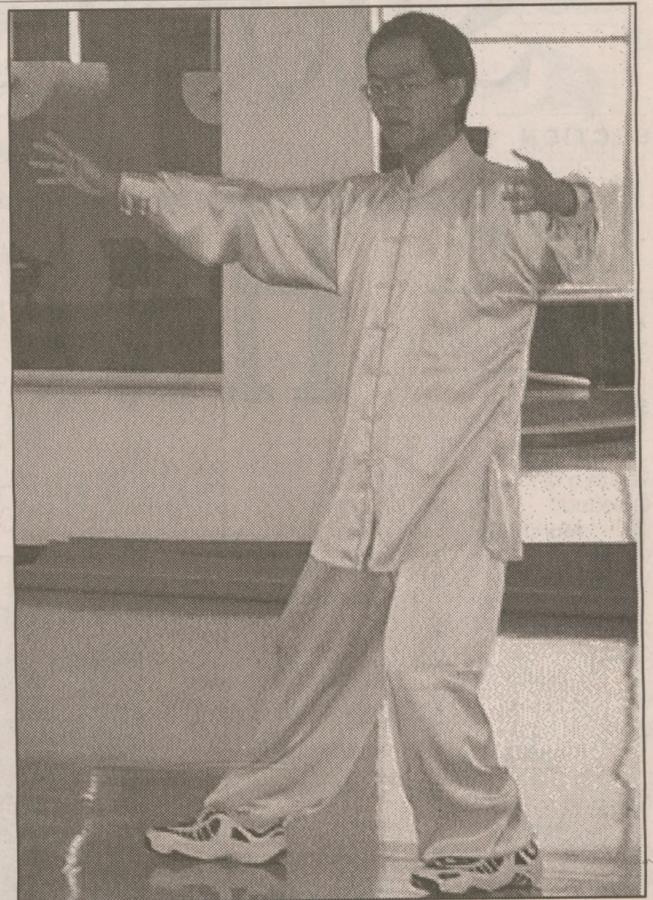
mind. The physically under-developed and chronically ill will find a therapeutic effect through the practice of this art, unmatched by any other form of exercise.

Mao teaches a free Tai-Chi class in the Rec Center on Mondays and Thursdays.



photos by Ramez Khuri/The Oakland Post

CONCENTRATE: (above) Chang Mao demonstrates the art of Tai-Chi to students at the Rec center. (right) Mao executes a move in formal Tai-Chi dress during one of his weekly classes.



Mid-Continent Conference

standings

Softball

	Conference	Overall
Western Illinois	7-1	20-13
UMKC	7-1	14-13
IUPUI	3-1	11-12
Valparaiso	4-4	8-6
Southern Utah	1-3	4-27
Oakland	1-7	10-17
Youngstown State	1-7	3-22

Baseball (as of April 2)

Oral Roberts	4-0	18-9
Oakland	2-0	11-10
Southern Utah	3-1	12-11
Western Illinois	3-1	5-17
Chicago State	1-3	9-9
Valparaiso	1-3	4-17
Youngstown State	0-2	4-10
IUPUI	0-4	4-14

Division I brings changes to athletics

Track and field: could this be reality in near future?

By Nathan Borsheim
SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

There was much excitement and anticipation when OU moved to Division I in the fall of 1998. So what exactly is it doing with it?

With the move to Division I and the population of OU continuing to increase, the question arises: how will the school adjust the athletics program? Will the school just add to existing programs, or will they add more varsity sports to accommodate the increasing number of students who bring a wider range of athletic interest?

Athletic Director Jack Mehl said, "It comes down to meeting the needs of students. Adding a varsity sport today is different than it was 30 years ago when school officials just decided what sports there were going to be. Today you have to take into account student interest and

equal opportunity for men and women."

Last year the athletic department conducted a survey in which 16 percent of the students who answered said they wanted to add more sports to OU.

One sport that OU could consider adding would be varsity track and field. Track is a sport in which both men and women can participate and which is accessible to a large number of students. Basketball, baseball and soccer may carry teams of 15-20 players. Where as a varsity track team could easily carry 60-plus members.

According to Mehl, "There has to be a need and a large interest shown by the student

body, then the board of trustees would vote on it."

By having a cross country team, OU already has access to distance runners.

As for sprinters, in six of the last ten years there were sprinters at the Oakland County High School meet that were a mere second from qualifying for Olympic tryouts.

Money is also an issue that OU has to consider. An athletic director at a nearby high school said they just got, including the design and planning, a new top of the line eight-lane track, equipment, lighting, drainage and seating for

under \$2 million. With President Russi talking about spending \$30 million on a new hockey arena, it may be possible to allocate around \$3 million for a track team.

Money is a factor which the board would consider. Not only would they consider the initial start-up costs, but also the continued care and maintenance of the facility and equipment.

Every varsity team raises money to support their team on top of the base sum that the school grants them.

Adding a varsity track team could give more students a chance to participate in a varsity sport and bring more competition to OU.

"I have no position, pro or con, to starting a track team. But, the final decisions are made at a higher level than me," Mehl said. "But adding a varsity track team hasn't been discussed in the last five years since I've been athletic director here."

"Adding a varsity track team hasn't been discussed in the last five years since I've been athletic director here."

Jack Mehl
Athletic Director

"

Baseball wins, streak hits five

By Chad Mack
SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

The Grizzly baseball team is on a five-game winning streak, after starting the season with six straight losses.

Youngstown State became OU's latest victim, dropping both games in the double header on Saturday.

OU won the first game cruising to an 8-2 win, behind the pitching of Sean Boesch, who pitched a complete game.

Boesch pitched all seven innings and gave up eight hits and two runs.

OU compiled eight runs on 11 hits and had no errors.

The hitting was led by Casey Caid, Jeremy Isherwood and Nick Diponio.

OU got a scare in game two, but hung on to win 7-6.

After going up 7-2 in the fourth inning, Youngstown State mounted a comeback and pulled to within one in the bottom of the ninth.

Trevor Seyka got the save after giving three runs in the bottom of the ninth before closing it out and preserving the win.

Head coach Mark Avery has a lot of confidence in his pitching staff.

He said, "Our pitching has carried us and we have scored enough to win. We're pitching in the high 80's (mph), but we need to stop walking people."

Another reason OU has turned around the season is the power hitting of players like Nick Diponio and Rob Brockman.

Brockman gives most of the credit to his teammates and coaching.

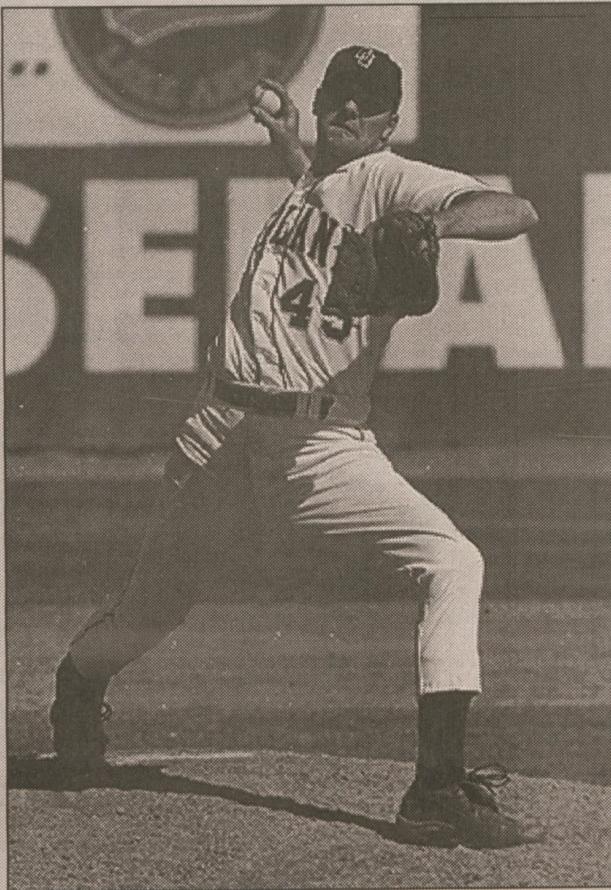
"The rest of the team has been hitting well, and we are getting runners in scoring position," Brockman said. "The coaching staff is the best that I've ever played for."

In the last 15 games, OU was 11-4, and has given up an average of 4 runs a game.

OU is 11-10 overall and over .500 for the first time all year.

When asked about the improved hitting of this year's team, Avery attributed it to off-season training in the weight room.

OU's biggest challenge will come against Oral Roberts on April 15 and 16. That's when the team really needs the fans' and students' support. The game just may be for sole possession of first place in the Mid-Con. The men are currently tied for first place in Mid-Continent standings.



Bob Knoska/The Oakland Post

ON THE MOUND: During an early season home game, OU threw the competition out of the running. The men are tied for first in the Mid-Con.

OU serves up Mid-Con victory

Women overcome disappointing Vegas trip

By Lisa Cali
SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

The women's tennis team made all the right moves last weekend and defeated Valparaiso 7-0 and IUPUI 5-1.

OU welcomed the two wins after losing the majority of the matches in Las Vegas the previous weekend.

Head coach Kris Jeffrey said that this weekend's performance boosted the team's confidence and made everybody feel better about their ability.

"I have to give everybody credit for this weekend. We had to raise ourselves to the next level and we did that. Everybody was outstanding," Jeffrey said.

OU defeated Valparaiso on Saturday with a score of 7-0. All six singles players won their matches, as well as the three doubles, which added the extra point.

In collegiate tennis dual matches, the only reason the doubles are played is if the singles are split 3-3. The doubles are then played and the

team that wins two out of the three doubles gets the tie-breaking point.

During the Valpo game, the women decided to play the doubles anyway to gain experience and enjoy the nice weather.

On Sunday, OU traveled to IUPUI and defeated them with a score of 5-1. First singles player, Kristie Mathews, pulled out of a three-set match as the winner. However, second singles player Kristy Tragle just missed winning her three-set match.

Brittany Maxey, Theo Nae, Kristy Sabat and Jennifer Herrera, OU's third through sixth singles players all won their matches against IUPUI as well as Valpo.

"We just have to keep a competitive and positive attitude and keep focusing during practice," Jeffrey said. "And if we do that, we will stay at this level."

The women play Chicago State at noon on Sunday at the home courts.

OU beat Chicago State in Las Vegas and hope to do the same on Sunday.

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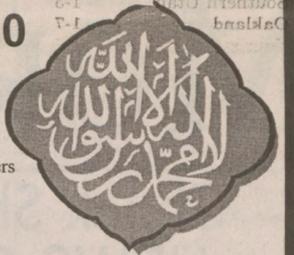
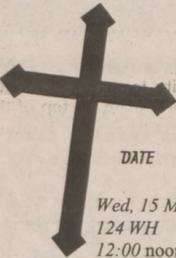
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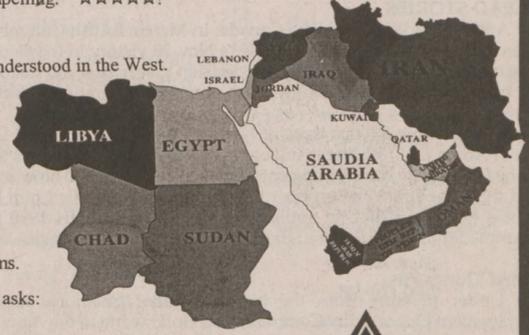
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FESTIVAL OF THE MIDDLE EAST
15 March-5 April 2000



DATE	SPEAKER / EVENT	TOPIC
Wed, 15 Mar 124 WH 12:00 noon	Tamara Machmut-Jhashi, Ph.D. Assistant Professor, Art & Art History	"The Art of Marc Chagall" Russian-born French artist Chagall (1889-1985), one of the most important and innovative painters of the 20 th century, illustrated many literary works, including the celebrated <i>Arabian Nights</i> .
Sat, 18 Mar-Sun, 9 Apr Meadow Brook Theatre Various times. For information, call theatre at (248) 377-3300. Ask about student tickets.	Karim Alrawi's Chagall's Arabian Nights	How Russian-born French artist Marc Chagall came to illustrate the <i>Arabian Nights</i> , one of the most entertaining and compelling works in the literary canon. Internationally acclaimed dramatist Karim Alrawi is Playwright-in-Residence at Meadow Brook Theatre, Oakland University.
Mon, 20 Mar Archive Room Kresge Library 12:00 noon	Film: Silences of the Palace Followed by discussion by Peter Bertocci Sociology & Anthropology	Spell-binding Cannes Film Festival award-winning Tunisian film set in the rapidly changing world of French colonial rule; described by critics as "exquisite" and "compelling." ★★★★★!
Tues, 21 Mar 124 Wilson Hall 12:00 noon	Therisa Rogers, M.A. Lecturer, Middle Eastern Studies Center for International Programs	"Masculinity in Early Islam" This vital concept in the formative years of Islam, a notion often misunderstood in the West.
Wed, 22 Mar Gold Rooms, OC 12:00 noon	Arab Music! Arab Dance!! With Arab musicians & dancers	The rich, rhythmic, and diverse musical culture of the Arab world; Arab music exerted profound influences on the development of European music; e.g., the English word <i>lute</i> comes from the Arabic <i>el ud</i> (the stringed musical instrument).
Thurs, 23 Mar OC Lake Superior Room 12:00 noon	Muneer Fareed, Ph.D. Lecturer, Middle Eastern Studies Center for International Programs	"Dissolution of Muslim Marriages in the U.S." Muslims seeking divorce in American courts face unique, complex legal and religious problems.
Mon, 27 Mar Archive Room Kresge Library 12:00 noon	Film: The Veiled Revolution Followed by discussion by Peter Bertocci Sociology & Anthropology	Highly acclaimed documentary on women's veiling (and re-veiling) in Egypt; it asks: Can (re)veiling be a revolutionary act?
Tues, 28 Mar OC, Fireside Lounge 12:00 noon	TasteFest : Arab Cuisine!! Lecture-demonstration by an Arab chef With gratis samples	Arab cuisine was a major influence on the development of European-Mediterranean cuisines by introducing items such as coffee, rice, saffron, the fork, and other such culinary gifts to the West.
Wed, 29 Mar 124 WH 12:00 noon	Louisa C. Ngote, M.A. Curator of Visual Resources Art & Art History	"Delacroix in Morocco" French artist Eugène Delacroix (1798-1863) visited Morocco in 1832, as a result of which he produced some of his most sumptuous and erotic paintings.
Thurs, 30 Mar 124 WH 12:00 noon	Bonnie F. Abiko, Ph.D. Associate Professor Art & Art History	"Arab Storytelling: The Illustrated Book" The stories in al-Hariri's <i>Maqamat</i> and in Firdawsi's <i>The Book of Kings</i> have inspired some of the most magnificent miniature paintings in the Islamic world.
Mon, 3 Apr 202 Kresge Library 12:00 noon	Film: Mecca: The Forbidden City Followed by the discussion by Peter Bertocci Sociology & Anthropology	Major documentary on the <i>hajj</i> , pilgrimage to Islam's most sacred city, an event that draws over 2 million Muslims each year; rich in cultural details.
Tues, 4 Apr 124 WH 12:00 noon	Fatma Mili, Ph.D. Associate Professor School of Engineering & Computer Science	"Arab Women: Leaders, Fighters, & Innovators: My Personal List" Notable, distinguished Arab women have made vital contributions to many fields, though seldom known or acknowledged in the West.
Wed, 5 Apr OC Gold Rooms A & B 3:00 p.m.	John L. Esposito, Ph.D. Professor of Religion and International Affairs Director, Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding Walsh School of Foreign Service Georgetown University Washington, D.C.	"Challenges to Islam in the 21st Century" What course (or courses) will the world's fastest growing religion take in the new century and millennium, and how will the rest of the world, including the U.S., react? The views of America's most distinguished scholar of Islam and the Middle East.



- Presented by:**
- College of Arts and Sciences
 - Center for International Programs
 - Department of Art and Art History
 - Meadowbrook Theatre

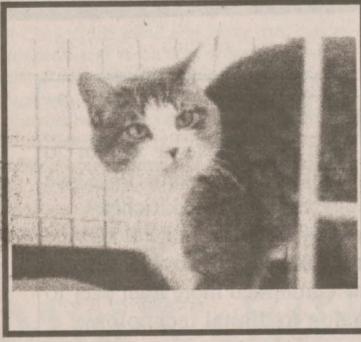
What Do You Think?

The Campus Forum wants your ideas!

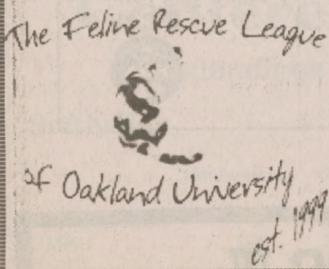
Call now at:
(248) 370-5395

Calls are confidential and may or may not be printed in The Oakland Post.

Feline Rescue League of OU presents: Angel



This 10 month old female kitten is a bit shy, but very sweet and playful... She is house-trained, has all of her shots and is spayed. Won't you give this sweet Angel a home?
<http://atib.sba.oakland.edu/feline>



To adopt, please contact:
Elizabeth Lake Animal Rescue
248-682-9649
elarmom@aol.com
FRL OU: 248-980-5621

Women's GROUP FORMING NOW!

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SUPPORT, HELP MANAGING STRESS, A CHANCE TO TALK ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS?

You're not alone. You can find the understanding, support, insight, and comfort you seek by joining the "Discussion Group for Women" at the Counseling Center at Graham this spring. All you have to do is find an hour and a half in your schedule to sit down and talk in a safe and confidential environment and in the company of other women on campus that are experiencing some of the same personal challenges.

The Counseling Center at Graham is forming a discussion group for women 25 years or older, students and non-students, who are dealing with any of the following challenges:

- relationship issues
- discrimination issues
- stress management
- interpersonal challenges
- managing school, home, and work

The group will begin the first Thursday in April and run for 10 weeks. It will be held in the Counseling Center at Graham from 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$25 for all ten weeks. Due to popular demand, this group is filling up fast! Call (248) 370-3465 for more information. Your confidentiality is paramount!

MORE ETC.

Chuck Shepherd's NEWS OF THE weird

LEAD STORIES

• Another Radical Idea from Canada: In March, British Columbia Supreme Court Judge Glen Parrett overturned Mike Frazier's Nov. 20 victory in the election for mayor of the village of McBride, ruling in a 28-page decision that Frazier did not deserve the office because he had passed out knowingly false campaign literature attacking opponent Maurice Bonneville.

• At press time for this issue of News of the Weird, Broward County (Fla.) high school senior Adam (A.J.) Walker is still on the list of possible admittees to the Air Force Academy in the fall, despite his 1998 no-contest plea to attempting to blow up his high school. Walker told the Sun-Sentinel newspaper that the academy solicited him because he is a standout athlete (golf) and that he applied "out of curiosity." His 1998 plea covered charges of attempted murder, armed burglary, placing a destructive device and conspiracy.

First Things First

• Under pressure from the National Labor Relations Board and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, a Holiday Inn in downtown Minneapolis agreed in January to pay \$8,000 each to nine undocumented immigrants from Mexico whom it had fired for helping with a union organizing drive. One EEOC official compared the men to civil rights pioneer Rosa Parks for fighting their dismissals, even though they were unlawfully holding the jobs from which they were fired.

• In January, a Teamsters union local in Chicago, having picketed Donnellan Funeral Home for several months, decided to step up the protests during a funeral and began to yell chants as a woman's body was taken from Donnellan to a church, where shouts of "Who are we? We are Teamsters!" greeted family members' solemn arrivals. Next time, vowed a union official, picketers would proceed on to the graveside ceremony with their chanting.

Inexplicable

• In December, members of a science class at Elizabethton (Tenn.) High School created a Nativity scene out of dissected cadavers of cats as part of a homeroom decorating contest. After many protests, a school official told reporters that the teacher was "shocked" that anyone had interpreted the scene as anti-Nativity and said she thought most reactions to the display were positive.

• At an anti-drug ceremony under the protection of Mexican army personnel at a dig on a hillside in Ciudad Juarez, in December, Mexican and U.S. officials, including FBI Director Louis Freeh, unearthed the remains of murdered victims at a drug trafficker's farm. According to a New York Times report of the ceremony, the Mexican government had also provided a dozen local women in black miniskirts, low-cut blouses and high heels, wearing "Hostess" nametags, to line the routes to the graves.

Least Competent Criminals

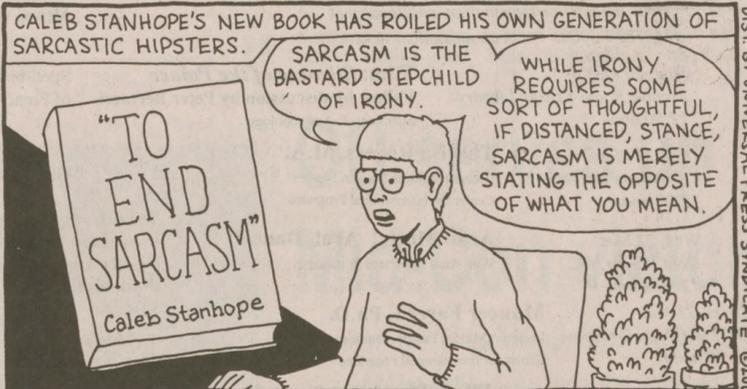
• Adam Brooks Jr., 17, admitted to a judge in Columbus, Ohio, in March that he was the one who broke into a woman's home, tied her up, and stole the car out of her garage. According to the victim, a 76-year-old woman, after Brooks tied her up, he came back in from the garage three times before finally leaving, twice to get her to teach him how to use the garage-door opener and once to tell him how to operate a car with automatic transmission.

(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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TOM the DANCING BUG PRESENTS:

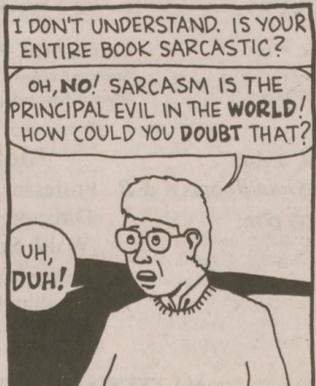
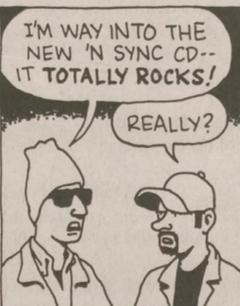


New Book Blasts Sarcasm



STANHOPE CONTINUED, "SARCASM HAS POISONED OUR YOUTH. IT DOES NOT SHED LIGHT ON VIEWS; IT OBSCURES THEM IN A MOCKING MANNER."

BRIAN GOTTLIEB, OF THE CENTER OF CULTURAL STUDIES, RESPONDED TO STANHOPE'S THESIS:



DIST. BY UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE ©2000 R. BOLLING-490 WWW.TOMTHEDANCINGBUG.COM

CRITIQUE

continued from A3

John F. Kelly graciously donated a stuffed Grizzly bear for the campus. Instead of accepting the animal with open arms, the Athletic Department frowned on the tasteful taxidermy and shoved it right back in his face. I ask you, who wouldn't want a stuffed Grizzly bear on campus? Does this not represent our fighting mascot? Shouldn't we express some sort of school spirit? I guess the administration thinks not.

4. Residence Hall students will agree with me on this one. If you live in the dorms for winter semester and then want to live on campus for spring or summer, instead of staying in the same room, you have to lug all your stuff from one building to the other merely to appease all

the GM interns arriving for the summer. I'm all about hostel travelers (especially since I will be one this summer in Europe), but we need to take care of our own first and foremost. I don't see the hassle in placing the non-students in the extra space available to them, instead of uprooting the settled residents that are here year round.

5. Is it just me, or do we seem to hire the wrong people for the wrong jobs. What I mean by this is, when a student goes to Student Accounts, wouldn't you expect that we'd hire a people person for that position? If I have a question about my financial aid, why would they hire somebody that obviously belongs at a confined computer and/or is just down-right mean? Here's a thought, let's hire people who don't hate their job, their life, and actually like students.

6. And the final thing that bothers me most around here is people making a pointed effort to be P.C. just to curry favors from the administration. You don't know how many times I've witnessed individuals act one way in front of me and completely different in front of administrators (etc.) who could further their interests. It's not only a bad habit, but this constant "sucking up" encourages a lack of honesty, undermines those individual thinkers who stand up for what they believe in, and it basically makes the entire university community nothing more than a bunch of "yes men." Speaking your mind garners a respect from your peers...try it.

I suppose I've offended or irritated some or all of you with the above points, so I think I'll quit while I'm ahead, or at least par for the course.



CLASSIFIED ADS

To place a classified ad, call the Advertising Dept. @ 248-370-4269

EMPLOYMENT

Opportunity Awaits

Major international automotive supplier in Auburn Hills seeks part-time college student for Administrative Assistant position.

Great for International Business or Business Student !!

- Proficient with Microsoft Office,
- Lotus 1-2-3 and/or Excel necessary.
- PowerPoint and Access desired.

Miscellaneous clerical duties. French/Spanish language desirable. Flexible hours and fast paced environment.

Please fax resume to Vanessa at 248-340-3190

Valeo

WIPER SYSTEMS

GIFT SHOP ATTENDANT

- Flexible schedule (part-time).
- Competitive pay, starting up to \$7.25
- Raise possible.
- Excellent working environment.
- 18 years older.
- Many hotel benefits available.

Friendly and reliable person to join our team in Troy.

Smile a must !!!!

Please call:

Gift Shop: 248-680-7218
Office: 248-528-2166

HELP WANTED

Deneweth's Greenhouses
16125 22 Mile Rd

Day time and Evening all shifts available

Please apply in person or call 810-459-4393

Opportunity Awaits Telemarketing Career

Fast growing Troy based credit card processor is seeking to employ sharp, self-motivated individuals with strong sales skills. Responsibilities will include establishing Visa/MC acceptance for businesses throughout the US.

Hourly + Commission+ Bonus=

A great income!!!

Please call Marc: 248-269-6000
or fax resume to: 248-269-2222

LOOKING FOR A YOUNG MRS. DOUBTFIRE

Need a dependable, college student to interact with my 5-year-old daughter Monday through Friday from 3-6 pm. Responsibilities include picking her up from camp/school and taking her back to our house in Huntington Woods.

Ideal candidate will have an insured car, clean driving record, and extremely dependable. Salary would be \$75.00 a week plus gas money.

Please call: 248-582-1490

NEED MONEY ???

Metropolitan Tanning Salon needs help.

- Neat appearance
- Reliable transportation
- energetic
- Part & Full-time

Please call Brianne at 248-853-0303 or fax resume to 248-299-4940

Check out The Oakland Post online at:

www.oakpostonline.com

Need Money ?????

We Need You!!!

Fitness Instructors

- Kickboxing (Tae Bo style)
 - Aerobic, Step & Water
- Experienced preferred
2-6 hours per week

Many locations!!

Please call: 248-353-2885

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

Greenskeepers

The OU Golf Course

seeks full-time and temporaries for lawn mowing and miscellaneous gold course duties. **Required:** high school graduation or equivalent and valid Michigan vehicle operators' license. Pay rate is \$8.00 per hour. Hours are to be determined.

Send resume: Oakland University
Attn: Employment Office, 140 North Foundation Hall
Rochester, MI 48309-4401 or fax (248) 370-3485

Need a cool summer job ??

OPW Decks is hiring immediate positions for deck powerwashing, sealing & deck construction. Flexible hours at \$15.00 & up per hour.

Please call:

OPW Decks
248-541-7448

Help Needed

Shipping & Receiving Position at Decker Equipment. Flexible with school schedule, good pay. M-59/Crooks area.

Please call:

248-852-6182 and ask for Julie

Look in the Classifieds !!!!!!!

Be a Model !!!

METROPOLITAN MODELS

is now hiring female models for bar & restaurant promotions featuring swimwear & lingerie.

Work in a fun environment and make lots of \$\$\$\$. Must be 18+ and have reliable transportation. Full or part-time work available.

Hourly pay rate starts at \$30.

For details, contact Nikki at 313-343-6620 or 313-350-1273
\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

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

MedMatch Medical Recruiters

Permanent & Temporary Staffing Clerical & Clinical Professionals. Currently seeking individuals interested in medical positions. Computer experience and/or knowledge of medical terms a plus. Great opportunity for Health Science majors.

Please call:

Medmatch! 248-651-0652
or fax: 248-651-2748

We Want YOU !!!

Stan's Dugout

Now hiring bartenders, wait-staff, cooks & dishwashers.

- Great Money
- No experience necessary
- Flexible schedule
- Very close to OU

Stop by Stan's Dugout
3350 Auburn Rd
on Auburn Rd at Squirrel
or call: 248-852-6269

FOR SALE

1993 Red Dodge Shadow ES Convertible

V6, 4 speed, Auto, ABS, Air, Cruise, AM/FM Cassette Radio. Power Windows & Locks: Manual Top, Airbag. Approx 70,000 miles

\$5900.00 / OBO

Please call: 248-375-2735

SEEKING ROOMMATE

Roommate Wanted

2 BDR of 4 BDR, 2 bath home. 1 mile from OU. Off-street parking. Plenty of storage. Possible own bath depending which floor of home. Available now.

Please call: 248-340-7596

COUNSELING

Words of Faith

248-652-8857
By Pastor Terry Rebert
For Words to Live By!

APOCALYPSE THE TRUTH

- EXPLORING • THE BIBLE

Every Wednesday at 8 pm in the North FoodCourt of the Oakland Center.

Bible Answers
248-543-7873

AA/ Al-Anon on OU Campus

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

In Room 5 at the Graham Health Center, through door at right of the Counseling desk.

SPECIAL INTEREST

CHINA / TIBET TOUR

Travel with Dr. Stamps on study tour
May 10 - 29, 2000

Please call: 248-370-2425
for more information !!

CHILD CARE

Summer Help Child Care

Dependable, responsible person needed to care for three children, ages 5, 3, and 2. For summer months starting the week of June 12th. Previous experience with children is desired. General schedule is 30hrs per week. Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays. Must have reliable car for local driving to various activities. West Bloomfield location (Hiller and Greer area).

Please call (248) 682-3506 and leave message

Wanted: Sitter

Sitter M-F (9 - 3) for three children (8, 10 & 11-years-old in Waterford area. Must have reference / salary negotiable.

Please call: 248-618-8092 and leave message.

Babysitting Needed

Looking for experienced, caring, reliable and non-smoking sitter for a five & four year-old and seven month old in Troy.

Make \$8 per hour, two days a week from 9 to 1pm. References and transportation required.

Please call: 248-641-0025

Day Care Provider

Summer sitter needed in my Troy home for two children, ages nine & eleven. Must have transportation.

Please call Karen: 248-879-3946

Childcare Needed

Troy home seeks energetic, creative and non-smoking sitter, two mornings a week and occasional evenings.

Please call: 248-641-9867

Looking for a job, a place to live or a car to drive ???

ADVERTISE The Oakland Post

Pictures worth a 1000 cultures



Photos Courtesy of The Arts League of Michigan, Inc.
TEARS OF JOY: This painting, entitled "And the Woman Cried," by was created by artist Dora Gonzalez Bagget.



FRESH NATURE: This painting by Ivan Stewart, Jr., entitled "The Color Purple," is one of the twenty-four paintings that are on display.

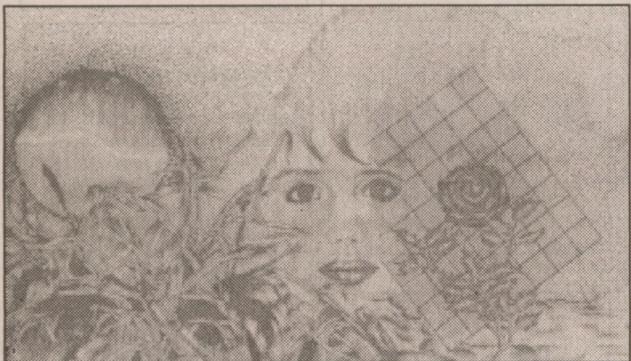
Exhibit supports minority artists and art organizations

By Stefanie Kato
 SPECIAL TO THE OAKLAND POST

Pondering on where to go to view beautiful paintings, dealing with people of minority descents, and plants? Look no further, because The Arts League of Michigan is pleased to present the exhibit entitled "People, Plants, and Cultures." This is a juried exhibition located inside the Executive Office Building, Pontiac.

Sponsored by the Ford Motor Company, a mere idea that had only been dreamed of has now been made possible. The Arts League of Michigan, a nonprofit organization that supports the needs of minority artists and art organizations, and Jean Vogt, a friend of the league, have accomplished their goals with the art exhibition that tours nationally.

Inside of the Executive Office Building is where you will find an absolutely breathtaking exhibit.



RESPECTING MOTHER EARTH: "Sustainer" is a watercolor, mixed media painting that was made by Richard Perez.

Most importantly, there are wonderful people inside who will help you with any questions, or bewilderments you may come across. The Director of Community and Minority Affairs, Richard W. Williams, and his secretary, Jane Oswald, are very helpful in answering questions and giving a history of exactly what occurs on the "Second Floor" each month. Once a month they have a "Brown Bag Luncheon." This allows a minority speaker to come in and discuss their culture, and their life.

"A vibrant colored art display," said Oswald, smiling at the paintings. The exhibit is an extraordinary experience. The viewer of the painting feels as if they are right there inside of the artist's mind. Each painting gives a wonderful and inspirational message on what the artist is trying to get across to the viewers. The paintings relay to the essence of nature, and the beauty that signifies it to people and their culture. Almost every culture is surrounded by different plants in nature, however we are all brought together by the same soil that fertilizes us. These exuberant paintings bring a rush to the observer's body allowing them to feel almost exactly what the artist was trying to get across when the paint swiped the canvas. They may even bring up memories from the observer's past of the same relevance.

The paintings range from a few hundred to a few thousand dollars. Each painting unravels a different story, and for that the paintings are priceless, and well worth the cost.

The exhibit, which runs through April 6, expresses and celebrates the original work of minority artists from Southeast Michigan. Sixty-eight entries have been made from thirty ethnically and culturally diverse artists. However, only twenty-four paintings proceeded into the exhibit after they were judged.

"I found it hard to reject a piece or body of work based on my personal tastes. After all, the beauty lies in the eye of the beholder," said Atef El-Sayed, an exhibition juror.

A new minority culture is featured each month and events are always in progress.

Get out of the suburbs now



MIKE MURPHY

It's springtime in suburbia. The lawn crews are working hard. The dogs are outside racing around, and if you listen carefully, you can hear kids outside chasing the ice cream truck.

That's where I'll be soon, home in the suburbs. Not like I ever left, of course. The college I went to for the past eight months is nestled into a suburban community mere minutes from - and nearly identical to - the place I "left."

Will I ever really leave? Do I want to? Do I want to be locked into a fate of raking the leaves in the fall, mowing the lawn every weekend and shoveling the snow off the walk in the winter?

Anything out of the ordinary, like a Heidelberg Project or unusual architecture, is considered a "blight." It brings property values down, so it must be destroyed.

But, suburbia has the siren's call of stable living on it's side, doesn't it? It's unexciting, okay, but that's the big selling point. No risks, no worries, no problems. Food on the table and quiet streets at night. Bliss, suburbia says, is found in the absence of risk and the elimination of danger into a horrifyingly secure life.

Is that really bliss? I don't know. I can't say whether I want to embrace it or run from it. I've never been away for long enough to find out.

It would take something drastic, then, to take the suburbs out of the suburbanite. What if the US forced every citizen to live abroad for a year? And when I say abroad, I don't mean Canada. I mean some place where the people and cultures are different. Imagine that. You hit a certain age, 19 maybe, and then it's time to go somewhere else.

Most Americans would come back, and when they did, imagine what the country would be like. Everyone over 20 would have lived abroad.

One of the biggest trends in business and especially universities these days is diversity. What better way to teach Americans about foreign cultures than to drop them into one?

This would certainly spice up the lives of our middle-class youth. Why do you think we turn into overweight alcoholics with hypocritical intolerant morality and enough emotional complexes to keep our therapists in work forever? We're bored, that's why!

Ship us somewhere else. Make us work at a gas station in New Zealand for a year. Or on a road crew in Germany. Or in a bakery in Okinawa. Then, all of the sudden, the spell of suburbia gets broken. And I bet that after a year out of the suburbs, we'll either never go back to them or love that life of stability, of no risks, no worries, and no problems. Either way, we're better off, right?

Of course it's a half-baked scheme, maybe not even that. We don't have the money to pave the road or feed the hungry around here, much less send everybody overseas.

Think about it. And get out of here, for at least a while. See the world.

Mike Murphy is a Journalism senior and columnist for THE OAKLAND POST.

For Your ENTERTAINMENT

theater **"Top Girls"**
 Can a woman have a place in the career world and have a family at the same time? "Top Girls," a play by Caryl Churchill, directed by Michael Gillespie, explores this question. The play will run April 6-9 at the Varner Lab Theatre on campus. The times of the show are April 6 and 8 at 8 p.m., April 7 at 11:00 p.m. following the choral concert, and April 9 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for general admission and \$4 for students. The play involves adult language and an adult theme. See B1 for more information on "Top Girls."

comedy **Need a good laugh?**
 Lewis Black, a regular comic on the Daily Show with Jon Stewart, will be the featured comedian from April 6-8 at Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle, located in Ferndale.
Campus comedy...
 The Residence Halls Programming presents Friday Night Live, featuring the comedy stylings of Marty Putz at 7 p.m. on April 7 in the Vandenberg Cafeteria. Putz has appeared on "The Tonight Show," "Make Me Laugh," and Comic Strip Live."

concert **KISS**
 Kiss, and special guest "The Motor City Madman" Ted Nugent, along with Skid Row will perform The Farewell Tour at 7 p.m. on May 24 at the Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets are \$45 and \$75 and are now on sale at all Ticketmaster locations. Kiss has sold more than 70 million albums with releases such as "Love Gun," "Lick it Up," and "Hot in the Shade."

photos **OU Photo Contest**
 As you are strolling through the OC on your way to class, check out the photographs from the 17th Annual OU Photo Contest. The student photography will be displayed in the Fireside Lounge today.