

Celebrate Valentine's Day by adopting that special someone a penguin. Read more on page A5.

# THE POST

Be sure to check out the Valentine's Day guide on page B1.



February 9, 2005

www.oakpostonline.com

50 cents

## Financial aid woes continue

BY ALLISON BRUNNER  
SENIOR NEWS WRITER

OUSC legislators and gallery members voice their disgust week after week about the problems they encounter with the financial aid office.

Dr. Mary Beth Snyder, vice president of Student Affairs, addressed their concerns at Monday's OUSC meeting.

Snyder, along with Pete Nacy, associate vice president of Enrollment Services, is working to reorganize the Financial Aid office.

"It is not always their fault," Snyder said.

She said students need to understand that the problems they have cannot be blamed entirely on the financial aid office.

The government is also a huge factor for delayed Financial Aid Snyder said.

The issue arose over a change in policy requiring students to have a zero balance on their accounts in order to register for classes.

This change, which occurred during the summer of 2004, according to legislator Saman Waquad, was not publicized enough to students.

It caused many students to be ineligible to register for classes, Waquad said.

Legislative Affairs Director, Jackie Claiborne, said she knows many students who pay their remaining fall balance with the refund check they receive a few weeks into the winter semester.

Unfortunately, with the zero balance rule, these students could not register and were some of the 70 who were kicked out of the residence halls between fall and winter semesters.

Snyder said each of their cases was separate.

They were removed, she said, either because of academic standing, late paperwork, not paying attention to or following up on notices received or because of outstanding balances.

However, some students just couldn't afford this semester's tuition, Snyder said.

Those students are being helped on an individual, one-on-one basis, to help them get back on track and be able to enroll next semester.

The delay in refund checks is one of the issues being addressed already, she said.

Snyder was delighted to announce that refund checks, or the reimbursements students receive once all their financial aid paperwork has been processed, will now be given 10 days before the first day of classes, rather than two weeks into the semester.

"This will give the students enough time to buy their books with their refund checks," Snyder said.

Another attempt being made is to prepare financial aid packages for incoming freshman and transfer students by the middle of March so they have enough time to process all the information and apply for financial aid.

It is important that these students start off knowing how to properly handle financial aid Snyder said.

Training of the financial aid staff is in the plan as well.

Please see OUSC on A2



Photo courtesy of KRTCampus  
Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm speaks to delegates during the third night of the 2004 Democratic National Convention in Boston last summer.

## HIRE OPINION

### Governor says college is a must for future employment

BY ROQAYA ESHMAWI  
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Michigan may be the first state in the nation to reward students for going to college, if Gov. Jennifer Granholm's plan falls into place.

Starting with the class of 2007, a Merit scholarship proposed by the governor will guarantee \$4,000 in tuition reimbursement to each higher education student who completes two years of college.

"Michigan will now define merit the way the economy does, by rewarding those who earn college degrees," Granholm said at the State of the State Address last night.

She also hopes to remove the barrier that many Michigan colleges and universities pose to adults who want to obtain higher education.

The policy of not accepting credits after a certain period of time leaves many adult students unable to finish their degrees.

Granholm's plan will ask higher education institutions to create "college amnesty," so adult students who want to finish their degrees can enroll within the next three years without worrying about losing their previous credits.

Lower unemployment rates and higher personal income growth are associated with a highly educated workforce, Granholm said.

"A college degree is important for a paycheck," she said.

Funding for higher education has been drastically cut since the governor took office in 2003, while K-12 education funding has remained relatively stable.

The December release of Lt.

Gov. John Cherry Jr.'s Commission on Higher Education and Economic Growth report prompted the governor to make higher education a priority.

With a promise to further increase tax cuts, it remains unclear how the governor plans to fund these initiatives.

She will present a proposed budget to the legislature on Thursday.

Associate professor of economics Ronald Tracy said he believes that funding for higher education may be cut.

The governor has a large budget deficit to work with, caused by the "fiscally irresponsible" decision made by former Gov. John Engler to drastically cut taxes, he said.

And the governor "knows we Please see STATE on A2

## Hazy days of winter



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post  
Just after 9 a.m. Feb. 2, a fog forms as the sun rises. As the temperatures begin to rise steadily, changes in weather will be noticeable with frost shifting to fog and winter jackets getting traded in for windbreakers. Spring is just around the corner.

## NCA to review general education

BY LIBBY BAKER  
MANAGING EDITOR

North Central Associations, one of six regional accrediting associations that monitor U.S. schools, will visit OU's campus Monday.

NCA representatives will review upcoming changes in the university's general education program, set to go into effect in the fall semester.

The new program requirements will apply to freshmen students enrolling in the fall term. Current students will not be affected by the changes.

"Much has changed since the current general education program was conceptualized" said Virinder Moudgil, vice president for Academic Affairs and provost.

"There have been significant advancements in society and technology and in the way people live and carry out their careers. Employers today emphasize the importance of liberal studies, critical thinking, leadership and the ability to work with people from a wide variety of backgrounds."

New requirements will have three components including foundations, exploration and integration areas. They will also focus on improving student's critical thinking skills, information literacy, communication and social awareness.

"Through an emphasis on important capacities that cut across the curriculum," said Susan Awbrey, vice provost for undergraduate education, "students will further enhance their abilities to think critically, find and evaluate information, communicate effectively and become productive citizens."

Administrators believe the new program requirements will better prepare students for their futures.

"Oakland is responding to the changing needs of society and of the workplace. The new general education program continues OU's tradition of maintaining a distinctive undergraduate experience - the first element in Oakland University's strategic plan and in its Vision 2010," President Gary Russi said.

The NCA last visited OU in 1999. For more information on the association, visit www.nca.umich.edu.

## Foreign difficulties loom

BY SHEILA KOSZTOWNY  
ASSISTANT LIFE EDITOR

President Bush has expressed his desire to spread democracy in the world.

But even in his second term, disputes between foreign countries halt the expansion of democracy.

During a panel discussion last week, professors Peter Trumbore, Alan Epstein and Mark Rigstad analyzed the foreign policy challenges the Bush administration would face in his second term.

"One of the issues that the Bush administration faces in the next four years is what to do with the Iranian nuclear power development," Rigstad, professor of philosophy, said.

Iran continues to develop its nuclear technology against the will of the United States, and Rigstad said the United States would attack Iran with targeted missile strikes if nuclear development continues.

But Iran is not the only country that has

advanced nuclear technology; North Korea also has some.

"The North Korean threat is far more serious than any possible threat from Iran or the threat that Iraq presented at the beginning of the war," Trumbore, professor of political science, said. "North Korea is where the real problem is."

The United States does not know how many nuclear weapons North Korea has, but assumes there are up to a dozen, Trumbore said.

In 1994, the United States and North Korea made an agreement to sustain nuclear reactors, Epstein, professor of political science, said.

However, the deal fell through due to unkept promises on both sides.

Although he confirms that North Korea is at the top of Bush's agenda, Epstein keeps an eye on China.

"East Asia is the way of the future," Epstein said. "This is where the future

Please see FOREIGN on A2



Photo courtesy of KRTCampus  
President George W. Bush delivers the State of the Union address before a joint session of Congress at the Capitol's House chamber on Feb. 2 in Washington, D.C.

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**FOREIGN**

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rival will emerge to the U.S. power.

"China will be regarded as the dominant power of East Asia, which may cause many of the countries of the region to find ways to align more strongly with China and retreat away from the U.S.," he said.

China has been rising in power and butting heads with the United States, especially with trade.

The United States and China are currently disputing over oil reserves in other countries, and China is the second largest oil importer while the United States remains the first. China has an advantage over the United States with its trade agreements with South American countries such as Brazil, Venezuela and Chile.

"It gives the Chinese leverage over the United States in its own hemisphere," Epstein said.

Military power is also a concern since China is the second largest military spender in the world. Last year, China strengthened its military by combining forces with Russia.

The United States will either ally with China or try to protect itself, he added.

In the confirmation hearing of U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, North Korea and China were addressed frequently.

However, Trumbore expressed his doubts of any mending

between these countries.

"If we are going to stand for liberty...what do we say to China?" asked Trumbore of the communist country, adding North Korea to the question. "I would be surprised if we make any fundamental changes in those countries."

Trumbore analyzed President Bush's inaugural speech, presented on Jan. 20 this year, to see where the administration is headed in foreign countries.

"It was a speech that took many of us by surprise," Trumbore said, even stating that Bush said the word "freedom" 27 times and "liberty" 15 times in the speech. "It seems to be a very ambitious, a very energetic agenda."

Although it seems "ambitious," the agenda will remain the same, Trumbore said. Americans will continue to see governmental aid to Iraq and establish democracy abroad.

Iraq had its election on Jan. 30, which was a U.N. mandated national election.

However, the Bush administration opposed the idea of an election in 2003; the Grand Ayatollah Ali Sistani, a Shiite spiritual leader, initiated the election, Rigstad said.

"In the end...I think (it) was a remarkably, surprisingly and hopeful election," Rigstad said, calling the election a "victory" for Sistani.

**STATE**

*Continued from A1*

have the ability to raise tuition, it'll be hard for her to resist not to cut our appropriations," he said.

"Unless someone is going to take a leadership role and raise taxes," the situation will not improve, said professor of economics Kenneth Murphy.

Rochelle Black, OU's director of government relations, said she thinks higher tuition is a possibility.

But "there is some understanding amongst people that most universities really do their best to keep tuition increases at a minimal level," she said.

Raising graduation rates is not the only factor affecting the economy, Tracy said, adding that the key to higher wages is higher skill.

Funding for universities is important, "but what we really need to do is improve our skill base and fund post secondary education at all levels," he said.

Zuhair Al-Fakhouri, visiting assistant professor of economics, agreed.

The knowledge acquired in colleges and universities is tailored to obtaining a degree, not necessarily tailored to providing a suitable base for the job market, he said.

"There are a lot of students graduating, but do you have the ability to attract financial institutions and corporations," he said.

Granholt also addressed this issue, saying that as part of the 21st Century Jobs Initiatives program, "we must ensure that the people in Michigan have skills that jobs demand."

Black said she was pleased that a good portion of the governor's speech focused on the importance of higher education and making the state a better place to live and work.

But even if the economy is in the best position it can be, Murphy said Michigan's tax collections will fall short of the state's expenditures, and that means a permanent budget deficit.

"At the end of the day, the reason Michigan's economy is in such poor shape is because George Bush's economic policies failed to stimulate the national economy in a significant way," Murphy said, adding that the state's economy "will not recover until the U.S. economy mounts a more serious comeback than it has to date."

But the governor has high hopes and a vision for Michigan's future if citizens come together.

"We must throw off our ease and habit of partisan division and have the courage to stand on common ground," she said.

OU Gaming Guild Star\*Con will entertain students with their competitive gaming event, featuring board games, role playing, card games and entertainment systems GameCube and PlayStation 2. "All of the games are interesting, and it will give (students) a chance to try them out first," Anne Zeilstra said, a volunteer for the event. The event will be held in the Gold Rooms, Heritage Room, Oakland Rooms and other rooms. The Oakland Room will show Japanese animated films, including work from Miyazaki, who is "as big in Japan as Walt Disney," Zeilstra said. Vendors will be stationed in rooms to sell games and snacks will be offered. The event is open to all students from noon to midnight on Saturday, Jan. 12, and is free of charge.

**OUSC**

*Continued from A1*

"It is important that students can go to any staff member and receive the same answer and have proper guidance in their issue," Snyder said.

She said customer service training would also be included in the program.

**IN OTHER BUSINESS:**

Susan Awbrey of the General Education Committee announced the new general education curriculum beginning for all incoming and transfer students in the falls of 2005 and 2007, respectively.

It will be a three-part program including foundations (basic skills), explorations

(studying all areas) and integration (relating the class to a student's major).

"The goal is to make general education more understandable," Awbrey said.

Student Body President, Jonathan Parks, recited the first of two readings of the SAFAC, or Student Activities Fee Assessment Committee, proposal.

It included a three percent cut for both the OUSC and SAFB, a one percent increase for the SPB and the creation of a Deficit Safety Net and a student video club, each receiving two percent of the funding.

WXOU and The Oakland Post's fund-

ing stayed the same. The congress will vote on the bill next week.

A resolution passed to recognize and honor student organizations that have raised money for the tsunami relief fund.

Elections for OUSC will be held at the end of March.

Anyone interested can pick up a petition packet in the OUSC office.

The only remaining orientation date for candidates is today, Wednesday Feb. 9 at 4:30 p.m. in the Lake Ontario Room of the OC.

OUSC scholarship applications will

be available this week in the congress office.

The discussion topic from last week regarding National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness and Information Day was not discussed at all.

Next week's discussion topic will be how to improve student life on campus.

Students interested in applying for the student liaison to the board of trustees have until the end of March.

Wednesday, Feb. 16 will be an open forum to ask questions about the Gender and Sexuality Center from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. in Fireside Lounge.

Musician and singer Pete Schmidt will be performing in the new part of the OC Thursday at 8 p.m.

SAFB Chair Charity Jones described a new program, "Diversity for Dollars," in which organizations draft a proposal and present it to SAFB.

The top three will receive \$5000 to fund their event and a \$500 bonus following the conclusion of the event.

Jillian Key was approved to the Research and Review Committee.

OUSC's next meeting will be Monday, Feb. 14, Valentine's Day, at 4 p.m. in the Oakland Room of the OC.

Oakland University  
Eye Research Institute  
**SUMMER UNDERGRADUATE  
PROGRAM IN EYE RESEARCH**  
May 9 – July 29, 2005

Ideal S.U.P.E.R. candidates will be Oakland University sophomores or juniors who are pursuing careers in biomedical research or teaching. Up to six students will be assigned to one of six research laboratories, working directly with ERI-faculty. This training program includes: lab safety, sound research design, vision science seminar series, a \$3,000 scholarship, independent research, and audio-visual presentation of work. ERI scientists explore the biochemical, physiological, and molecular aspects of eye function and development. ERI research expands the understanding of ocular diseases such as cataract, retinal degenerations and glaucoma. Application packages may be obtained from Ms. Paulette Realy, 416 Dodge Hall. (248) 370-2390, or online: <http://www2.oakland.edu/eri>

**WE PAY FOR DIVERSITY!!!**  
Student Organizations, do you want an extra 500.00 in your flex account?

If the answer is yes, then I have the solution for you.

In conjunction with Student Congress' efforts to improve race relations on campus, SAFB is sponsoring Diversity for Dollars. Each organization is asked to submit a proposal for an event costing up to \$5000.00. The proposal should be detailed and include a budget.

The top three educational, social, or recreational programs that yield a diverse audience will get the event paid for by SAFB and also win \$500.00 upon completion of the event. Proposals will be available in the CSA office Thursday February 10, 2004.

Organizations should submit the proposal by March 4, 2004.

For more information contact Charity Jones at [cr2jones@oakland.edu](mailto:cr2jones@oakland.edu) or (248) 370-4294  
62 Oakland Center

**Positions available on Student  
Activities Funding Board**

Applicants must be OU students in good academic standing.

Meetings are Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m.

Applications are available in the Student Congress office

Contact Charity Jones  
SAFB Chair  
62 Oakland Center  
[cr2jones@oakland.edu](mailto:cr2jones@oakland.edu)  
(248)370-4294

## Only a click away

### Students can cut college costs with easy Internet option

BY ANTHONY MARTINEZ BEVEN  
THE OAKLAND POST

For the second straight semester, OU senior Gwen Lee pocketed a few extra pennies.

How?  
By purchasing her course texts from <http://www.half.com>, an eBay sponsored Web site that offers textbooks, paperback books, audiobooks and a variety of others at half of the listed price.

"The books are so much cheaper," said Lee, 21, who would rather hit up the Internet than buy from the OU bookstore.

Despite the shipping and handling fees charged by Internet sites like [half.com](http://half.com), [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) and a bundle of others, Lee said it's worth it in the long run.

"Why go to the bookstore and pay \$100 for

a book that they will only give you \$5 for at buy back?" she said.

"Then they sell the book the next semester for the same price it was sold to you for."

And Lee isn't alone. This is a trend many students find themselves teetering toward.

#### Pros outweigh the cons

Being a college student is expensive. The average OU student commutes to campus and takes 12 credits, paying around \$2,300 a semester, including OU fees.

But that figure doesn't include the cost of books, which can run between \$200 and \$500, depending upon a student's major.

Your total dollar amount: \$2,500 to \$2,800.

Imagine cutting the hefty sum of textbook costs in half, saving some extra cash for that well-deserved spring break trip to South Beach.

Most students shop at the bookstore or Textbook Outlet for the sake of convenience, or because they think they have to wait until the first day of class for the title of the required text(s). Not true.

Since OU expanded course registration to the Internet SAIL system, accessible through the OU Web site, students can e-mail instructors and professors weeks before classes begin.

They can find out the required course texts, type the one-stop online book site of their choice into the Web browser and get the books weeks ahead of time.

This method often saves students from the hassle of pushing and prodding through the crowded bookstore or the Outlet, searching for a book that is sometimes out-of-stock by the time you get there.

### Textbook Shopping Sites

- <http://www.half.com>
- <http://www.amazon.com>
- <http://www.alibris.com>
- <http://www.allbookstores.com>
- <http://www.varsitybooks.com>
- <http://www.campusbooks.com>
- <http://www.bigwords.com>
- <http://www.ecampus.com>

- Compiled by Oakland Post reporter Anthony Martinez Beven

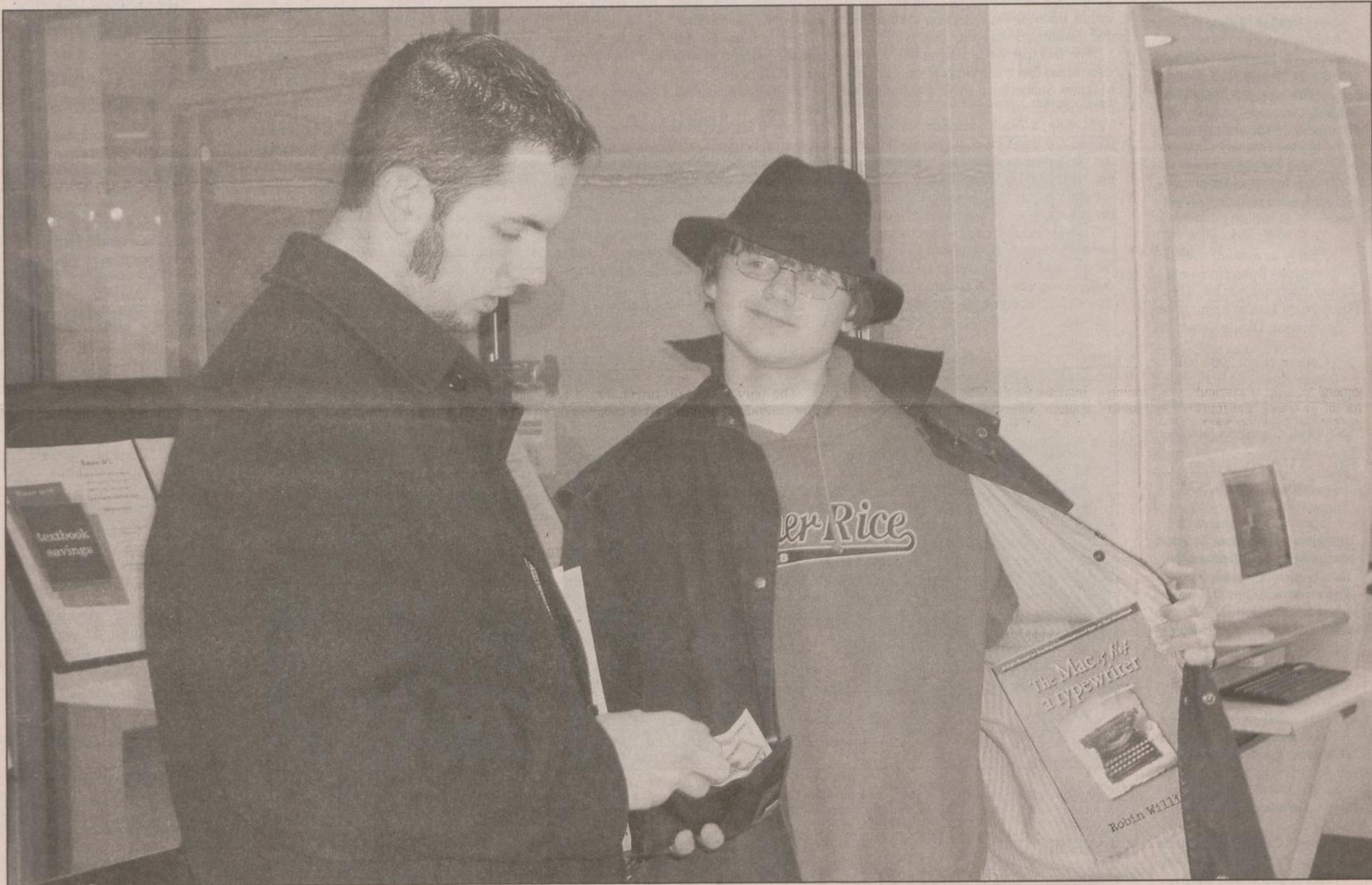


Photo illustration by Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post

High textbook costs have forced some students to buy books from other venues, one of which is through Internet Web sites that sell textbooks at sometimes half of the listed price.

## Students screened for anxiety

Health  
wise

BY JULIE SWIDSWINSKI  
THE OAKLAND POST

Do you have trouble sleeping or concentrating? Do you feel restless or get annoyed easily?

You may be suffering from anxiety.

Approximately 80 students participated in the Anxiety Screening Day held last week at OU.

"Every year we screen students for depression, anxiety, eating disorders and alcohol abuse," said Pamela Marsh, a licensed psychologist at the Graham Health Center.

"It is a way to take a student's

mental temperature and a chance to educate, using these tests as tools," Marsh said.

With an estimated 19 million affected adults, anxiety disorders are the most common mental illness for Americans.

These disorders, which can be hereditary, cost nearly \$42 billion in treatment each year.

They can surface in many forms, from specific phobias to obsessive-compulsive behavior.

The tests held Wednesday, which consisted of 16 questions, primarily screened for Generalized Anxiety Disorder and Post Traumatic Stress

Disorder, two common forms of anxiety.

GAD affects roughly four million Americans.

It occurs when there is an excessive and uncontrollable worry about everyday things.

Without proper treatment, GAD can interfere with daily living by causing muscle aches, extreme irritability and an inability to sleep and concentrate.

PTSD can develop after an individual experiences a traumatic event such as sexual or physical assault, the death of a loved one or a natural disaster.

Within three months of the

event, the disorder can develop and horrify sufferers by causing them to continuously re-experience the trauma through thoughts and dreams.

They detach themselves from things and people that they associate with the trauma, and lose interest in their surroundings; they may also be hypersensitive.

Although anxiety disorders are highly treatable, only one-third of those affected seek help.

Of those tested at OU, more than 18 percent showed having trouble with anxiety.

They were offered six free counseling sessions.

To prevent the onset of these disorders, students should recognize what stresses them and learn methods for dealing with it.

When stress begins to affect students physically - with headaches, irritation and tension - help should be sought.

"School always stresses me out, plus this is the time when we need to realize what to do with our lives," said freshman Jessica Crumpton.

Stress caused by the pressure to succeed, extreme exam schedules or being away from home is natural for students to feel, but should be watched to make sure

Editor's Note:

This is the third in a continuing series about health issues that may concern college students.

that it doesn't become excessive. "Students need to look at normal stress and see if their coping methods are working," Marsh said.

For students who have a particularly hard time during finals, De-Stress Zone on April 20 should be an event to attend.

Please see ANXIETY on A4

police

### files

• A male student left his dorm room at approximately 6 p.m. one evening and shut and locked his door.

When he returned to his room at approximately midnight, he found that his door was closed but unlatched, and all the

screws from the door's lock were on the ground.

He put the screws back in and thought his roommate was playing a joke on him.

He later realized that his camcorder, money and cologne were missing.

• A female wearing 2-inch heel boots lost her balance and fell, landing on her right hand and right knee.

She said she found the steps of Parking Lot 32 in poor condition - with loose stones and concrete - as she was walking down them.

She was taken to Graham Health Center for treatment.

• A female left her locker in the Recreation Center unlocked for a few minutes.

She returned, took her gear bag and left, assuming that all of

her belongings were inside the class.

She later noticed that a new pair of shoes, bought in January of this year, was missing.

• The OU men's baseball team was in the sports bubble setting up for a Saturday morning baseball camp.

The coach said that some of the teammates were horsing around and one of them fell and

was knocked unconscious for approximately 30-45 seconds.

American Medical Response transported him to Beaumont Hospital of Troy to check for a possible concussion.

• A male slipped on ice on a sidewalk outside of Anibal House and fell backward on his tailbone.

He said he was experiencing minor back pain.

the **LOW** down

Wednesday, Feb. 9

Newly admitted freshmen students are invited to attend the Fall Admit Reception at 6:30 p.m. in the OC's Banquet Rooms on either Wednesday or Thursday.

Thursday, Feb. 10

The School of Nursing is displaying an exhibit about health disparities present in the African-American community from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge.

An African Mock Wedding will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the OC's Oakland and Heritage Rooms.

The faculty and staff talent show will be held at 7 p.m. in Varner Recital Hall.

Friday, Feb. 11

At noon in the OC's Gold Rooms, Dr. Ronald J. Stephens, coordinator of African and African-American studies, will discuss the history of Idlewild, a settlement that started as a summer resort for African-Americans who were excluded from resorts open only to whites.

Enjoy an evening with comedians Brian Green and Chastity Washington at this week's Friday Night Live at 7 p.m. at the Vandenberg Dining Center.

College Night 2005 will feature some of Michigan's college choirs and dance teams at 7:30 p.m. at the Shotwell-Gustafson Pavilion.

Saturday, Feb. 12

Spend the evening with "Imaginary Homeland," a jazz ensemble that will feature OU faculty member Mark Stone. The event will start at 8 p.m. at Varner Recital Hall. Tickets are \$8 for students and \$15 for general audience.

Monday, Feb. 14

OUSC meets at 4 p.m. in the Oakland Room of the OC.

Tuesday, Feb. 15

Join Sisters of Success at their first Women's Forum, which will bring professionals from Michigan to share their success stories, at 5 p.m. in the OC's Banquet Rooms. RSVP by Feb. 8 by e-mailing sos\_org@yahoo.com

~ Compiled by Rogaya Eshamawi, Campus News Editor

# Panel discusses possibility of a minority U.S. president

BY CHRISTA ELAINE BADON  
THE OAKLAND POST

In 1972, the late Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm was the first African-American woman to throw her hat in the ring.

In 1984 and 1988, civil rights activist Jesse Jackson tried but didn't succeed.

Today, U.S. Senator Barack Obama may be the greatest hope of having this title on his resume.

The title: President of the United States. In a panel discussion hosted by the College Democrats and Republicans of OU, the idea of one day having a black president was broached.

Will it happen in our lifetime? Will he or she be a Republican or a Democrat?

Michael McGuinness, co-president of the College Democrats, and Doug Merriam, former treasurer of the College Republicans, facilitated the discussion.

Both were optimistic that it could happen.

"I want to see a woman. I want to see an African-American, because I think it would be great for our nation so we're not seen as an Anglo-white nation," McGuinness said.

Merriam said he thinks it could happen within three or four election cycles, and that a woman or minority may win.

"The fact that we're having this discussion means that it can happen sooner," said Matthew Sunderlin, a 16-year-old member of the audience.

"Having a black president or even a female ... I don't care, as long as the person elected cares about the same things as me," Sunderlin said.

Lisa Sunderlin, OU alumna, agreed with her son.

"I don't care if it's a man, woman, black, white, Eskimo or Portuguese. I'm looking for someone who has ideas like mine," she said, adding that what matters is the candidate's ideas, abilities and experiences.

Freshman Brandon Glatfelter said with the country's current divisiveness, it may take 50 years.

"The divisions are growing and nothing is being healed," he said.

"I hate to say it, but I would not vote for an African-American Republican because some of the Republicans in power disgust me.

"I'm gay and I won't heal until Bush and Republicans recognize my rights," he said.

Despite that some had the optimism of change, others said that Americans might never see a black president in office.

"We all would like to see a black president," said T. Danyale Butler, an accounting major.

But "if the power shifts, we're not going to give that up. Would you want to give that up?"

"We're not ready yet," she said.

Gloria Sosa, director of Multicultural Initiatives, agreed.

"I don't think we'll have a black president anytime soon, probably not even in my lifetime," she said, citing lack of communication as a reason.

"We don't talk about real issues. We don't talk to each other."

Student body President Jonathan Parks said the prospect of a black or female president is slim.

"It's because of what our country is based on.

"They'll let Arnold Schwarzenegger be president before Oprah Winfrey," Parks said, adding that every American president has been wealthy and that the White House has never housed a president who has been "real."

"There are people out there struggling. How do you know about struggle? Get a person of diversity in there, or a real person," he said.

"They know about real experiences.



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post  
Students and members of the OU community come together to discuss the possibility of the White House seeing a minority president.

"You have to ask the masses," he said.

Woody Adams, an entrepreneur who attended the discussion, pointed out that individuals should not forget that "we are all human beings."

"We all have the same heart, the same physiology anywhere in the world," he said, adding that people need to be loved and understood.

"As young people, don't buy into stereotypes. Black is a color, not a people," he advised the audience.

"I'm not black. I'm of African descent. If we stop talking black and white, maybe Oprah could win.

"It's all about the individual," Adams said.



Approximately 80 students were screened for anxiety at the Anxiety Screening Day held at OU last Wednesday. Professionals from the Graham Health Center administered the screening tests and spoke with participants after evaluating the results.

## ANXIETY Continued from A3

Different techniques for relaxation, including pet and massage therapy, will be available to participants.

Also, stress management methods, such as deep breathing, meditation and visualization, will be taught.

For everyday coping, Marsh emphasizes getting good sleep, watching your diet and exercising.

Limiting the intake of alcohol and caffeine can also help reduce an individual's level of anxiety.

Whether anxiety is triggered by situational occurrences or

by heredity, counseling alone may not always be enough to treat it.

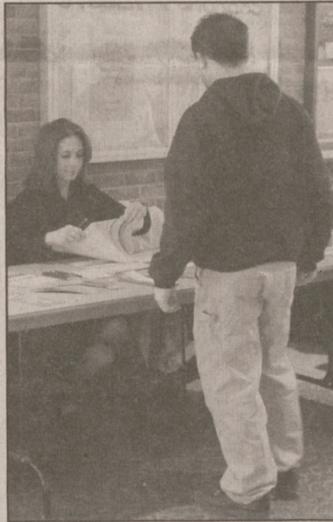
"Sometimes anxiety is created when a person views the world in a way that may not be accurate," Marsh said.

In these cases, psychotherapy can be used to alter the individual's blurred image of the world.

Medications are also available to help patients deal with their disorders.

Interested individuals may obtain screenings by contacting the Graham Health Center.

On the Net:  
<http://www.adaa.org>



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post

news **IN** short

### Phishing e-mail sent to OU web-mail accounts

Students, faculty and staff should be aware of phishing e-mail: e-mails sent out by scammers claiming to be legitimate institutions.

Scammers usually ask for social security and credit card numbers, and bank pins and passwords.

Individuals who receive such e-mails are asked to contact the OU Helpdesk at helpdesk@oakland.edu or at (248)370-4357.

If an unauthorized transaction is suspected to have occurred, individuals are asked to contact their bank's social security department or the OU Police Department at (248) 370-3331.

Please see next week's issue for further information.

### Wireless network available at Rec Center

OU's Recreation Center has been enjoying a new addition this semester: a wireless network.

A wireless network card as well as a GRIZZNET login will be needed to access the network.

### All-University Fund Drive surpasses goal

The 2004-05 All-University Fund Drive raised \$186,902; \$171,470 of which will go to OU, \$12,918 for United Way and \$2,514 for the Black United Fund.

The funds raised surpassed the goal by \$4,500 and pose an eight percent increase over last year's donations.

Donations were made by 452 faculty and staff members.

### Graduation rate up, degree time down

The six-year graduation rate was almost 47 percent for the full-time, first-time freshmen who entered in 1998.

The tracking system was first used in 1984, and 2004 marks the first significant increase since then.

The rate usually averages around 40 percent.

The rise is attributed to successful programs such as COM 101, Connections, Freshmen Outlook and students taking more classes per semester on average.

~ Compiled by Allison Brunner, Senior News Writer, and Rogaya Eshamawi, Campus News Editor

Oakland University's

## Student Affairs

Weekly column

updating YOU every week!

144 Oakland Center Rochester, Michigan (248) 370-3352

### STUDENTS FIRST STUDY JAM!

Come out and study with other OU students! Receive subject-specific tutoring! Get helpful study tips from successful upperclassmen! Open to all registered OU students every Wednesday evening from 10 PM-midnight in 112 East Vandenberg Hall (Honors College) on the following dates: 2/9, 2/16, 2/23, 3/16, 3/23, 3/30, 4/6, 4/13. Subjects tutored include AH 104, ENG 105 and 181, HST 115, JPN 114, LIT 181, MTH 011, 012, 118, 122, 141, and 154, PSY 100, 225, and 250, RHT 150 and 160, SPN 114, 115, 214, 215, 314, and 316.

### ACADEMIC SKILLS CENTER

New ASC Learning Strategy Workshops featuring the series "Where There's A Will There's An A" have begun. Testing Techniques—Students will learn how to take multiple choice, short answer and essay exams. Wed., Feb. 9th and Thurs., Feb. 10th at noon-1 PM and 6-7 PM. Memorizing Techniques—This session will focus on how the brain functions and provide various memory techniques. Mon, Feb. 14th and Tue., Feb. 15th at noon-1 PM and 6-7 PM. Contact the ASC to reserve seating at 248-370-4215

### CHINESE LANTERN FESTIVAL

Come experience the world of China with Oakland's International Students & Scholars, Wednesday, February 23, 2005 in celebration of the Chinese New Year/Lantern Festival. Join the festivities from 3-5 PM in Oakland's Fireside Lounge and enjoy live Chinese entertainment, food sampling, and also calligraphy.

### LEARNING RESOURCES

Attention Sophomore and Juniors We are looking for student mentors for the Martin Luther King, Jr./Cesar Chavez/Rosa Parks College Day Program.

Are you looking for a great leadership opportunity?

Are you interested in making money? Do you like working with middle and high school students?

If your answer is YES to the above questions, contact Learning Resources, 103A North Foundation Hall, (248) 370-4455.

### GRAHAM HEALTH CENTER

GRAHAM HEALTH CENTER Graham Health Center is here to help. If you've managed to put on a few pounds over the holidays, here are some tips for losing them: drink plenty of water, watch your portions, eat a variety of healthy foods, and avoid sugary snacks. If you need further help, please call ext. 2341 for information on healthy eating and exercise.

GHC...The Place to be for a Healthy Me! 370-2341

### CAREER SERVICES WINTER CAREER PREP MONTH 2005

#### FEBRUARY EVENTS

Internship Panel Discussion Thursday, Feb. 17th, 2005 from 12 noon-1 PM, OC Gold Rooms A & B Learn the value of internships in today's competitive job market and network with employer representatives. J.D. Power & Associates and Automation Alley representatives discuss key skills/criteria sought by employers. Ask OU students about their internship experiences in the psychology, business and engineering fields.

#### Walt Disney World Presentation/Interviews

Tuesday, Feb. 22nd, 2005, 12 noon-1 PM, Oakland Room, OC Attendance at presentation is required to interview! All majors and college levels invited. Build your resume, network with Disney leaders, and meet students from around the world!

# Affirmative action in hands of voters

BY LAUREL DROZ  
THE OAKLAND POST

Affirmative action is a controversial subject on college campuses. A recent petition to amend the state constitution to ban affirmative action is intensifying the debate.

Supporters of the ban on gender and racial preferences submitted, by their count, a petition of more than 508,000 signatures in an attempt to force the issue on the ballot.

Secretary of State spokesperson Kelly Chesney explained that roughly 318,000 valid signatures were needed on the petition for the issue to appear on the ballot.

"We review them to see if there are indeed sufficient signatures," Chesney said.

Affirmative action opponent Ward Connerly of California initiated the petition. Connerly is co-founder of the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative.

According to a press release, the group hopes to "amend the constitution to prohibit the University of Michigan and other state universities the state, and all other state entities from discriminating or granting preferential treatment based on race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin."

A spokesperson for the group was unavailable for comment.

Citizens for a United Michigan is one group that opposes the amendment.

"Ward Connerly's plan is one that would revert to a society that accepts discrimination against women and people of color," according to its Web site.

"We oppose the efforts of Connerly, who is trying to buy changes in our constitution," David Waymire, spokesperson for the group said. "We don't need people from California telling us what to do."

Affirmative action was enacted to insure minorities were given special consideration in situations like college enrollment. This was done to protect against discrimination and encourage diversity.

Some students now feel affirmative action gives minorities preferential treatment. The topic is especially controversial at the University of Michigan, which has exceptionally high admission standards.

Students applying there say they fear they will be denied enrollment because they are not of a minority the University is looking to admit.

"We do not have, and have never had, quotas or numerical targets in either the undergraduate or Law School admissions programs. Academic qualifications are the overwhelming consideration for admission to both programs," U-M Student President Mary Sue Coleman said in a statement Jan 13, 2003.

"There are no easy approaches to achieving the diversity that we agree is important. We all wish there were, but there simply aren't. The percentage plans that some states have tried to achieve diversity in admissions would not work for Michigan, nor for most other colleges and universities in the country. There is no substitute for the careful consideration of race as one of many factors in a competitive admissions process," Coleman said.

The petition drives to collect signatures to bring the ban to the ballot came shortly after Coleman's statements, after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that U-M could consider race in admissions decisions.

If enough signatures have been collected, the proposed amendment will be voted on in 2006.

## Forget flowers, give a penguin

BY LAUREL DROZ  
THE OAKLAND POST

Flowers, chocolate and cheesy greeting cards. You know all the clichés. Once again it's Valentine's Day, and you know you're going to have to do better than those candy hearts that say things like "hug me."

Time to think of something creative. Something different. Something like a penguin.

Betcha didn't see that one coming. This year the Detroit Zoo is inviting the public to adopt a penguin or a polar bear for Valentine's Day.

I know what you're thinking, "I can barely take care of my goldfish."

Don't worry, this is a symbolic adoption. You won't walk outside to find a polar bear sporting a red bow in your driveway.

"It's a wonderful program," Detroit Zoo Director of Membership, Samantha Murphy said. "All donations go to care and feeding and the species survival program," Murphy said.

For \$35, your Valentine will receive a certificate of adoption, a fact sheet about your animal, a plush toy of your animal and just in case you really would have missed it, some Valentine candy.

You can order your Valentine adoption by calling (248) 541-5717 or order online at [www.detroitzoo.org](http://www.detroitzoo.org).

"Flowers die, chocolate gets eaten," said Murphy, "this lasts all year."



Photo courtesy of the White House  
President George W. Bush greets Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick after delivering remarks at the Detroit Economic Club in Detroit, Mich., Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2005, while Detroit Economic Club President Beth Chappell looks on.

## Bush promotes economic plans

ELIZABETH GORECKI  
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

In a speech at the Detroit Economic Club Feb. 8, less than 24 hours after submitting his 2006 federal budget to Congress, President Bush outlined his ambitious economic agenda.

The budget calls for the elimination

or reduction of 150 programs that are "not succeeding." Under the President's proposed budget, the state could gain increased federal aid for nutritional programs and education, but Michigan also stands to lose more than \$1 billion over the next decade in health care and disability programs.

Bush began his speech by recognizing

Michigan's Jim Comer and presenting him with the President's Volunteer Service Award for his work with VIP mentoring, an organization that matches children of incarcerated parents with adult mentors.

"People like Jim remind people that

Please see BUSH on A8.

# Troubling tattoo trend

BY MEGAN TWOHEY  
MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL  
(KRT)

MILWAUKEE - When David Romo returned to Milwaukee last summer after 16 years in the federal penitentiary, he was surprised by how many young people in the city had teardrop tattoos.

Romo, a large man with a bald head and pockmarked face, had been tattooed with the symbol in the early 1990s. At that time, he said, the marking was worn only by those who had committed murder, served time behind bars or lost a fellow gang member to violence.

The 52-year-old suspected many of the teenagers he was seeing with the teardrop couldn't make such claims.

"Since I've been out, I've seen a lot of kids with them," Romo said. "It's like they don't even know the real meaning."

Romo isn't the only one noting the growing number of teardrop tattoos popping up under the eyes of youths.

Police and youth workers are alarmed by the trend.

They worry teens are wearing the decades-old tattoo as a fashion statement without understanding it can cause them harm.

"They are a very dangerous fad for young people to be getting involved with," said Richard Harris, a former gang member turned youth worker in Green Bay, Wis.

"There's an expectation among older gang members that you know what it means. At one time, I would have caused some serious harm to someone who had teardrops



Gary Porter/Milwaukee Journal Sentinel  
A teardrop tattoo used to be gang related, signifying that the person had killed someone, but many kids today are getting them to make them appear tough or as a fashion statement.

Please see TATTOO on A8.

## Global Glance

### Israel, Palestinians call truce

Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas and Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon announced a cease-fire Tuesday, hailing it as a new opportunity for peace in the Middle East. The historic summit in the Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh was the first upper-level meeting between Israeli and Palestinian leaders in more than four years.

### Land of cigars bans smoking

The Cuban government acknowledged the health risk of tobacco and announced its ban on smoking in public places yesterday. Cubans are no longer allowed to smoke in air-conditioned areas, offices, schools and sports centers in an island-wide health drive by President Fidel Castro's Government.

So far, ashtrays and cigarette machines have been removed from restaurants and hotels and state-run bars and restaurants have been ordered to set up separate smoking areas.

The smoking decree, published a month ago, also banned the sale of cigarettes to minors and at any store within 100 yards of a school.

### Second license to clone human embryos given out

The scientist who cloned "Dolly" the sheep in 1996 was granted the second British license to clone human embryos for medical research, the U.K.'s Human Fertilization & Embryology Authority said yesterday. Professor Ian Wilmut, of the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh and a team from King's College, London, plan to clone embryos to study motor neuron disease.

### Peru to perform country's first-of-its-kind surgery

Nine-month-old Milagros Cerron will be Peru's first candidate for a rare surgical procedure never before performed in Peru. Cerron was born with a rare congenital defect known as sirenomelia, or "mermaid syndrome," in which the person's legs are fused together. The condition affects one in 70,000 babies, and there are only three known children with the condition alive in the world. The surgery is set for Feb. 24.

## Global

### goof

### McDonald's manager left with egg on her face

In Holland, Mich. a man was fined \$600 and put on probation for throwing an Egg McMuffin at a McDonald's restaurant manager after he said he didn't get what he ordered.

Scott Rodgers, 46, was convicted Thursday of misdemeanor assault and battery. Besides probation, he was sentenced to three days in a work program, fined and is banned from the McDonald's.

Authorities said Rodgers and his six-year-old son stopped to get four Egg McMuffins with ham on Oct. 9, but returned to the service window to complain that at least one of the sandwiches had sausage.

County prosecutor Craig Bunce said when the shift manager asked him to give the sandwich back, he threw it through the window at her.

"The manager was picking egg out of her hair," he said.

Rodgers' attorney said he did not throw the sandwich, but rather returned it quickly.

-Compiled by Elizabeth Gorecki,  
Local News Editor

Information taken from  
various news sources.

EDITORIAL

## Credit card debt holding students down

It happens before you even know it. All of a sudden you've racked up thousands of dollars in credit card debt.

It's easy to do when you're a student. You figure you'll pay off that debt once you graduate from college and get a "real job."

Unfortunately, students are graduating with more and more credit card debt, on average about \$2,700 (according to young-money.com). Between student loans and credit card debt, students can expect hefty payments upon graduation.

Having a credit card isn't all bad when used responsibly. They help students build credit history, which is important when you want to purchase a home or apply for a loan.

So how can you avoid slipping in over your head?

When possible use cash for purchases instead of credit cards. Don't spend more than you have.

Understand the formalities on your card. Is there an annual fee? What is the late penalty? How much will you pay in interest?

Keep the number of credit cards you have to a minimum and use them only in emergency situations.

Remember, when you graduate you'll have student loans to repay, too, so be responsible with your cash.

And learn how to manage your money now. This will help you as much in the future as it will right now.

STUDENT VOICES

## Student says country is a long way from having an African-American president

BY MICHAEL WILLIAMS  
THE OAKLAND POST

Thursday, Feb. 3, the College Democrats and the College Republicans held a discussion on the potential for America to have an African-American President.

Students, along with members of the faculty, voiced their opinions on the topic.

Statements were given as to why or why not this could become a reality.

Despite the optimistic mindset many have as to this event possibly symbolizing racial progress in this country, there are certain realistic situations that must be dealt with first.

And unfortunately, there is still unwillingness by people in this country to provide support that could make this situation take place.

An example is this past year's Vice Presidential debate that took place between Cheney and Edwards.

A question was asked to the effect of, what can be done about the AIDS situation in America?

African-American women are currently the biggest group contracting AIDS.

I might add an African-American woman asked the question.

Vice President Cheney said he wasn't even aware of the situation, and Edwards did not utter one word.

In order for an African-American to become president, that person would need to be backed by people currently in that position.

How can you provide support when you are not aware of devastating contemporary issues concerning that group of people?

Which leads to another point, what agenda will be carried out?

Would it be one that would reflect the interest of the African-American community?

Since, no doubt, they would most likely make up a large amount of that person's constituency.

I know the idea of having an African-American president seems nice, and the thought alone can stimulate the emotions of people, but we are talking about a land where it was legal for people to be treated as less than human beings.

The first thing most people say is that was a long time ago, but time does not alter truth.

Just last year, we still had people being lynched in certain parts of the country.

It certainly seems logical to have an African-American president, seeing as how this country was built off of the backs of African-Americans, not to mention certain historical landmarks and locations in this nation's capital itself.

But as we all know, a lot of times what is logical does not always happen.

Another point brought up by people is that there have been blacks in high political positions, namely Condoleezza Rice and Colin Powell.

The interesting thing about this situation is the support behind these people coming from the African-American community.

The support they receive is usually divided among African-Americans.

A lot of influential people of times past who had overwhelming support of African-Americans, and could connect with them on a personal level and who understood their struggle, did not attain the political positions of Rice and Powell.

So while it might be nice to ask the "what ifs," the fact is there are still things remaining that keep us asking questions and not witnessing the reality.

—Michael Williams is a student intern at the Center for Multicultural Initiatives office.

Interested in submitting a guest column? Contact Brendan Stevens or Libby Baker at (248) 370-4268 or email editor@oakpostonline.com.

## LIFE ON EARTH The Leading THEORIES

<p><b>EVOLUTION</b> SAYS LIVING THINGS DEVELOPED FROM EARLIER FORMS</p> <p>SCIENCE APPROVED!</p>	<p><b>INTELLIGENT DESIGN</b> SUCH AS THE BIBLICAL ACCOUNT OF CREATION</p> <p>VERY POPULAR</p>	<p><b>inTElligENT DESIGN -oF-the-gODS</b> MANKIND SPRANG FROM ZEUS'S MIGHTY SCEPTER AS HE RODE HIS GOLDEN CHARIOT ACROSS THE SUN OR SOME SUCH THING...</p> <p>OR SOME SUCH THING...</p>
<p><b>interPLANETARY inTElligENT DESIGN</b> "JOHNNY HUMANOID-SEED" ALIENS PLANTED LIFE ACROSS THE GALAXY</p> <p>STAR TREK NERD APPROVED!</p>	<p><b>NO EVOLUTION or DESIGN</b> IN REALITY YOU'RE ONLY A SEA SQUIRT WHO ATE SOME BAD PLANKTON, AND THIS IS ALL JUST A LONG, AWFUL DREAM...</p> <p>URP!</p>	<p><b>YOUR THEORY HERE:</b> GO CRAZY. THEN MAKE A FUSS AND FORCE SCHOOLS TO TEACH IT!</p>

GUEST COLUMN

## OUSC busy serving students

### Legislation passed in support of Gender and Sexuality Center



**SARAH COOK**  
OUSC  
Student Services  
Director

In the past few weeks, your Oakland University Student Congress has been working on a number of different projects.

We have approved a few different bills and resolutions on your behalf, and we are working on many different initiatives to make your time at OU more enjoyable and successful.

An important piece of legislation OUSC passed is support for a Gender and Sexuality Center on our campus. This legislation was supported by 14 OUSC legislators, as well as four executive board members.

It passed almost unanimously. It is important for students to remember OUSC will not be paying for this center; we are, however, in support of such a center being put on our campus.

The GSC is something OU needs; we are one of two public universities in Michigan that does not have such a center.

A GSC will serve the student body in ways nothing currently on our campus can. Graham

Health Center is a wonderful part of our university and provides necessary services, however, it is not specialized in the ways a GSC would be.

Many things cannot change on this campus until we have the right tools to initiate it, and a GSC is one of those tools.

OUSC has been very active this year, and we have passed a lot of legislation. We recently passed legislation to support school spirit amongst OU students.

We also passed legislation to help support the lacrosse team in having use of the on-campus bubble.

Personally, I have been working with the financial aid office to ensure ease for handling student concerns.

They are always open to friendly suggestions, and I am more than willing to hear your concerns and relay them to the office.

The financial aid office is trying very hard to change in order to benefit the students.

Also, from student services we have a new essay that OUSC will be trying out this year.

The Technology Advancement Program, also called TAP, is an essay contest with a first prize of a new laptop computer.

All the prizes are new pieces of technology and it is very worthwhile to enter. The entry forms are available in the student congress office.

We still have the OUSC Student of the Month parking spot in lot P-2. Applications are simple and available in the OUSC office (62 Oakland Center).

It guarantees you a parking spot for a month, which is not too bad on a campus where everyone complains about parking problems!

Finally, OUSC is having our annual elections.

Petition packets are available in the CSA office, and a completed packet will get your name on the ballot.

You can run for Student Body President, Vice President or for a legislator position. There are many new events this year for the OUSC elections, so even if you don't run, come and check them out and be an informed voter!

As always, OUSC is here to serve you, the student. Stop by any time and talk to me or another member of student congress.

If you aren't interested in being a legislator, we also have many committees that are always looking for new members with fresh ideas.

Otherwise, keep stopping by for the free scantrons and bluebooks and remember we're always here for you!

### Corrections:

If you see any mistakes in The Post, please let us know by sending a description of the mistake to editor@oakpostonline.com or call (248) 370-4268. We appreciate your help.

### The Oakland Post

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## Letter was not hostile

Dear Editor,

I wrote no hostile letter (Jan. 26) directed toward anyone specific.

As all careful readers of The Post will note, I did not name the individual referenced in my letter at all.

Anyone who thinks otherwise is mistaken.

The letter was simply not all about him, unlike the one written by Emily Eisele (Feb. 2).

I hope the reason that Emily is confused and did not grasp the point of my letter is a result of her emotional attachment to this person rather than a lack of cognitive ability on her part.

The point of my letter to the editor was that many important issues are not really discussed on campus.

There seems to be groups of people who sermonize to everyone else rather than actually engage in two-way communication.

These hypocritical people would rather tell everyone else how to think and act rather than listen to a real variety of perspectives.

Sadly, this results in the majority of students, staff and faculty just going about their lives as though the sermonizers do not exist.

The unnamed panelist that I mentioned was simply one illustrative example, among others, of the fact that diverse perspectives are not expressed in many university forums and that this makes dialogue impossible.

I do not "disregard awareness raising."

However, there is a time and place for everything.

In my letter I did imply there might be a certain degree of propagandizing by some left-leaning people of good will.

Emily skillfully points out that this is the case.

She accurately observed that the panelist used his position on the panel as a "mode of political outreach."

Apparently, the fact that the panel was supposed to discuss the vision of Martin Luther King Jr. did little to stifle his single minded pursuit of his political agenda pertaining to homosexuality in the public square and the plight of women on campus.

In fact, I do not care one way or the other about his sexual proclivities, and I do not doubt that he "puts forth ungodly amounts of energy promoting tolerance."

What I thought was entirely inappropriate was his insistence on making everything discussed about MLK connect back to homosexuality.

In a way, it looked as though he was just another white person trying to exploit MLK and African-Americans in pursuit of his personal goals.

In fact, I would have been unaware that he even was gay except that he kept talking about it over and over.

That harping is the reason why I said he was "very gay."

Just like some people are "very" republican or others "very" vocal, I am sure it was clear to everyone there that he was gay as the day is long.

It seems to me that the panelist would be proud of being called "very gay" since it obviously is a very important part of his identity.

It is ridiculous that Emily emphasizes my major and the office I work for, as if people who study a given field or work in a given area are not permitted to express opinions that she does not share.

Nobody told me majoring in sociology required a strict adherence to any ideological orthodoxy.

The way I see it my letter was not "devoid" of real dialogue, but was an effort to stimulate it.

Some people just can't see the forest for the trees, or tell the difference between the main point and an example nor discern ego-

tistical thought police from honest partners in communication.

Sincerely,

Garrett Garcia  
Senior  
Sociology

## GSC will not require new building

Dear Editor,

I'm writing to express my strong support for a Gender and Sexuality Center.

Our Student Congress is right on target with their overwhelming vote for the development of such a center.

It is also very encouraging to learn that Oakland University President Gary D. Russi has stated his support for these campus resources.

Hopefully, our administrators bear that in mind.

I would also like to refute some inaccurate assertions from last week's letters.

As a heterosexual African-American female, I resent the suggestion that only gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning students are advocating for these resources and only they would or could utilize the services to be provided.

On top of that, the argument that any campus office that isn't utilized by every student is useless is absurd.

Although not every Oakland attendee, or anywhere close to a majority, is physically disabled, it is absolutely critical that we have our Office of Disability Support Services to serve that population's needs.

In case you didn't know, university funds and tuition dollars allow that office to function.

(In addition to our tuition money, Oakland is subsidized in large part by the state government - even though not every Michigan taxpayer attends Oakland).

Last week's contention that the Center for Multicultural Initiatives is worthwhile because it serves all students is misleading.

While the CMI is a very worthwhile office on our campus and deserves strong support from our administration, its own mission statement indicates that it focuses on "particularly under-represented racial and ethnic groups (African-American, Latino and Native American)."

Again, in case you didn't know, university funds and tuition dollars allow that office to function.

The title of a Gender and Sexuality Center is most appropriate because it DOES accurately represent the desired focus of the programs and services.

It won't just be a women's center, or a gender office.

It won't just be an office for LGBTQ students, or a sexuality center.

As the students who have put together an impressive proposal indicate, it could be all of these things and more.

Which leads us to an important point: This center doesn't even exist yet.

When it hopefully does begin, it clearly won't be in a new building or involve large portions of our tuition money.

The tentative arrangements, still being worked out, are for a currently vacant room in an already existing building to actually be used for benefiting students.

This student request is not radical and is not outlandish.

Sincerely,

Jessica Crumpton  
Freshman  
Art History

## GSC would benefit all

Dear Editor,

I am a student here at Oakland

University.

I am writing about banners that I see in the OC about the Gender and Sexuality Center, and I am in full support of it.

As well, I am very pleased to see that my Student Congress is taking supportive action.

I also think that it is a misleading statement to say that this center is only by and for the gay population here at OU.

I am, in fact, a straight male and when this center is completed, I will make use of it, just like many other straight students here on Oakland University's campus.

Sincerely,

Eric Rebant  
Freshman  
General Studies

## GSC money would come from student fees

Dear Editor,

After reading last week's paper, I must write in to further the understanding of my fellow students.

As a student who has been actively involved in working toward the development of the Gender and Sexuality Center, I am concerned by the misconceptions about the center.

I hope that I can help clear up some of these misconceptions.

First of all, the GSC is not going to be a new building.

It is not even going to be a new office.

The location of the GSC has not yet been determined, but it most likely will be a space that is currently not being used.

One of the spaces under consideration is currently a storage closet.

So obviously the comparison of the GSC to the building of the \$37 million Rec Center is more than a little ridiculous.

Secondly, the center is not just for "some people." Jason Hanson wrote in that "the proposed programs do not apply to me, being a male student, and I do not feel they represent the majority of the students on campus," and Steve Townsend goes on to accuse the center of being only for homosexuals.

First of all, the title is the GENDER and SEXUALITY CENTER.

Last time I checked, EVERYONE has a gender and sexuality.

The center is for ALL PEOPLE, and if Mr. Hanson and Mr. Townsend had read the plan for the center, they would see programs for straight men, such as "Love Shouldn't Hurt" and a University wide Anti-Rape and Anti-Hate campaign are included in the plan.

Also, the center will provide services to anyone who is domestically abused, discriminated against or raped, including men.

Though the numbers are lower for men, the possibilities of all of these instances do exist.

And if you refuse to recognize that they do, and still feel that the center won't help you personally, I hope that all heterosexual men would want their girlfriends or sisters to have a place where they feel comfortable going if they were victims of rape, discrimination or domestic abuse.

Another argument that is made against the center is that students don't want their "tuition" dollars to pay for it.

First off, let me clarify that tuition is strictly the money that you pay for classes.

Any money for the center would be taken out of student fees.

Do you know what else is taken out of fees?

Money for student organizations, including religious and political groups.

I, Katie Miller, a very liberal lesbian woman, contribute money to the College

Republicans when I pay my fees.

And all homophobes pay for the Gay/Straight Alliance.

Additionally, we all pay for Disability Support Services, the Center for Multicultural Initiatives, Admissions, International Students and Scholars and the Academic Skills Center, even though we may not be disabled, a racial minority, a new student, an international student or in need of academic aid.

Townsend also asked, "Why should the students proposing this establishment have a center when they can easily form a student group and invite faculty and staff members to mentor and advise them?"

Actually, we are a student group, the Students for the Development of a Gender and Sexuality Center.

We meet Tuesdays at noon in the Oakland Center, and we would love for anyone who would like to help us work toward the development of a Gender and Sexuality Center to join us.

But a student group is not enough.

If you are a victim, you shouldn't have to seek out a student group for support.

You should know that your university supports you, and that you have somewhere to go.

Sincerely,

Katie Miller  
Junior  
Student Congress legislator,  
executive board member of the  
Students for the Development  
of a Gender and Sexuality  
Center  
Elementary Education

## Student Congress not focused on student needs

Dear Editor,

To start with a history lesson: In the wake of Sept. 11, 2001, the United States Congress passed a law which, toward the vague aim of "combating terrorism," posed (and continues to pose) a serious threat to the civil liberties of average Americans.

The provisions of this bill were no secret to the legislators who approved it; still it was passed and signed into law.

Five points to anyone who can tell me why.

Here's the answer: this bill was called the Patriot Act, and opposing it was political and social suicide in post-9/11 America.

So what's my point?

My point is that "patriotism" became an untouchable idea after 9/11. It constituted whatever the Bush administration said it did, and that was that.

I see a disturbing parallel between the post-9/11 Federal Administration and the post-Proposal 2 Oakland University Congress: the creation, not only of a position toward an issue, but also of an attitude of extreme disapproval and hostility toward any person not sharing said position.

In short, "equality" has become just as much of an untouchable within our campus society as "patriotism" was three years ago at a national level.

That said, I feel a need to speak out about the creation of a Gender and Sexuality Center, perhaps on the behalf of those students too timid to challenge this campus' particular brand of orthodoxy (and, of course, on the behalf of those too lazy to write an essay like this one).

I do not support the creation of such a center, mainly because I have not seen anything showing it to be in my best interests. I am writing this because I see nothing of value in the center for the majority of Oakland University students.

First of all, what exactly

would such a center be for?

I have heard no speech, nor read any article, which adequately defines the role of such a center.

Of course not, less information means less criticism. Sorry guys. Going on the name alone, then, this center assumes two obvious roles: the one regarding gender and the other regarding sexuality.

What exactly is meant by "gender?"

Are there enough transgendered Oakland students to warrant such a role?

I don't know, and certainly I've never heard of anyone bothering to find out, even though my tuition money (and yours) would be spent toward this center.

What other role could "gender" mean? Certainly not "men's issues" - I've never heard of any, and this campus (especially this Congress) has demonstrated no interest in them.

Could it possibly be "women's issues?"

More than likely - but there's already a Women's Issues Forum on campus with its own room (more than many organizations can claim).

The issue of rape has also been thrown about regarding this aspect of the center. Mention has been made of the Graham Health Center having a limited capacity to deal with this, however big of a problem it may be (again, stats not provided).

The bigger issue is: Why dress up the issue with "gender" if it's a women's issues center?

Obviously, to deflect criticism. "Patriot Act."

Then, of course, we come to "sexuality."

Much more than "gender," I see this as defining the center itself, as well as the drive behind it.

My first objection is the demand for such a role.

Those advocating the center are outspoken (to put it politely), especially on this aspect, but their clamor seems to me disproportionate to their numbers.

Again, statistics are needed to justify an expenditure of tuition funds (formerly our money) toward this center.

Not, I repeat not, statistics of those "supporting" its creation (which after all is not much of a commitment) but rather statistics of those willing to donate their own money toward it, which is in essence what will happen if the center is approved.

An additional consideration is the existing groups both promoting and supporting LGBTQ on-campus. I know of the Gay-Straight Alliance and S.A.F.E. On Campus by name, and I'm positive there are others whose names escape me at present.

These material concerns, however, are at best supplemental and at worst terribly boring.

My main objection to the creation of a Gender and Sexuality Center is not the idea behind it (as infuriatingly vague it may be), but the way in which the Student Congress has chosen to promote their agenda.

I have three specific charges to level against the Oakland University Student Congress.

1. The campaign for this center has been conducted without giving any clear idea of what the center will actually do.

Only the most fragmentary idea can be deduced from the various signs around campus, and (entirely on one's own cognitive processes) from its name.

I have a right to know exactly what my money is being spent on, and that right is not being respected.

2. Congress, as well as this proposal's advocates in the Oakland community, have made it Oakland backwards to oppose this center, in substitute for any actual facts or statistics.

(Just FYI, one of the main arguments for the center is the fact that "nearly every other college has one - OCC!" OCC also has 59,000 more students than we do. Other colleges also have many more on-campus students than Oakland.)

I refuse to accept the label of "homophobe" or "chauvinist" or even "right-winger" simply because I oppose a bill, which is

clearly special-interests motivated.

I can think and define myself, thank you very much.

Each person must choose his or her position on this issue based on his or her values and priorities.

Student Congress and this center's advocates are engaging in the very lowest form of peer pressure - and we all know from our D.A.R.E. classes that peer pressure is a bad thing.

3. Most seriously, Student Congress has shifted as a body away from the needs of the students.

The Proposal 2 debacle (that just keeps coming up here in The Post, doesn't it?) showed very clearly that Congress has developed an unhealthy obsession with the issue of homosexuality, which (as often pointed out) did not represent the majority of students and disregarded Congress' duty to work for concrete and useful policies.

Now this proposal only outlines more clearly the congress' direction and mindset.

Our august legislators have clearly forgotten that our money both finances their crusades and lines their pockets.

I can see no worse failing.

I hope that this essay will further open the debate on the proposal to establish a Gender and Sexuality Center on campus.

In an attempt to forestall the inevitable martyrdom I face for writing this article, let me say unambiguously that I have no particular grudge against women or members of the LBGTQ community.

I respect people as people, with the (fool's) hope that the same will be extended to me.

What I resent is the misuse of my tuition money (and all of yours) without proper explanation, without proper cause and without respect for our right to object.

I respect our legislators as people, too, but I will be heartily glad to see them out of office.

Sincerely,

Peter Halabu  
Sophomore  
English

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- FIRST AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

**BUSH**  
*Continued from A5*

the greatest strength of our country is the hearts and souls of the citizens of our country," he said. "I can't think of a greater gift, a more noble cause than to surround a child who may hurt with love."

Bush then launched into an explanation of his "three pillar" economic-growth strategy; to insist on a budget that limits the federal government, to build on an environment that encourages and promotes economic growth, and to put in place reforms that keep American businesses and workers competitive.

He also commented on the challenges the country is facing, especially here in Michigan.

"We've been down a challenging road, together, since the last time I came to address the Detroit Economic Club. After all, we had a stock market decline and recession, we've had corporate scandals, we had an attack on our homeland and we've got the demands of an ongoing war," Bush said.

He said as a result of these things, our economy is being rebuilt stronger than ever and national security has been greatly improved.

He talked about issues that hit close to home, such as Michigan's high unemployment rate.

Since December 2003, Michigan

has lost 47,000 payroll jobs, a majority of them in manufacturing, and while the unemployment rate, currently 6.8 percent, is lower than in 2003, it is still well above the national rate of 5.4 percent, according to Michigan's Web site.

"Other parts of our country struggle, just like Michigan. I'm very aware of that," the President said.

He said for these reasons, his improved budget includes a boost in military spending which would favor defense-related manufacturers in Michigan.

Bush also talked about how free trade would help the country economically.

"America is home to about five percent of the world's population. That means 95 percent of our potential customers are abroad," he explained. "Millions of American jobs - and this is important for the people of Detroit to understand - millions of American's jobs are supported by exports."

Bush dedicated a good portion of his time to discussing his top domestic priority, a Social Security reform that would allow young workers to set aside some of their wages in a private account.

"And to keep America competitive in the 21st century, we have got to honestly and openly address the structural problems of Social

Security," he said.

Bush made a point of assuring seniors that they will be taken care of in the future under his program.

"You're in fine shape and nothing is changing," he assured them. "But the government has made promises to our younger workers that it cannot pay for."

Bush calculated that in 13 years, the Social Security system will be paying out more than it takes in, and that the problem will only get worse unless it is changed.

He referred to the current system as a "train wreck" and urged citizens and Congressman to work toward a solution instead of ignoring or avoiding what he said is the inevitable future; the system going broke.

"Are you going to sit there and let the train run over young workers, or are you going to act?" he said, telling young members of the workforce to ask Congress to answer their questions.

Not everyone supported the President and his plan. About two dozen demonstrators protested the President's visit and his plans for Social Security and economic policy from across the street from Cobo Arena, where the speech took place.

Julia DeMio, 27, waved her banner emblazoned with the slogan "No War" and said that the President's first priority should be bringing troops home and focusing on domestic issues rather than foreign policy.

**TATTOO**

*Continued from A5*

who hadn't gone through what I had."

Nailing down the origins of the teardrop tattoo is difficult.

Wes McBride, president of the California Gang Investigators, said it surfaced in California's Hispanic gangs in the 1940s. Other gang experts said the marking began in Mexico and Puerto Rico.

Whatever the exact history, it has continued to be associated for the most part with Latinos, said law enforcement officials and former gang members, who agreed with Romo's description of what the symbol has meant.

For decades, only hardened gang members and convicts wore the tattoo; that has changed in recent years.

"Ten or 15 years ago, you didn't see teardrops very much. Now you see it quite often," said Michael Young, captain of the Milwaukee Police Department's intelligence division.

"It's rampant on the south side," said Shaphan Coleman, a former gang member who does youth outreach in neighborhoods throughout Milwaukee.

Today, teens and young adults are getting the marking to demonstrate their gang affiliation, no matter how loose.

A teardrop under the left eye symbolizes gangs that fall under the category of People, said Stanley Cole, other youth workers and gang members.

One under the right eye signifies gangs that fall under Folks. People and Folks are two different gang "nations." There are many different factions affiliated with each nation.

Others without a gang affiliation are getting the teardrop to look cool, Cole said. Rap music and fashion offer inspiration. L'il Wayne, the popular teen rapper, dons two small teardrops under his right eye.

"It's a fad," Harris said. "Kids get them because they like the way they look."

The fad is cheap. Most people tattoo themselves or have

a friend do it.

As Young put it, "Any kid with a bottle of ink and a pen can do it."

That's how James, a handsome 20-year-old with smooth skin and dark hair, got the marking. He was 12 and had just joined a Milwaukee gang.

As James watched a friend use a homemade tattoo gun to carve the symbol on the cheek of a fellow gang member, he decided he wanted one, too.

There was some personal meaning behind the symbol. His father had died. But James made the decision more on a whim. The boys had been smoking marijuana. James found the marking attractive.

"I just wanted it," said James, whose name has been changed to protect his identity. "It looked tight."

But eight years later, James regrets his decision. At 16, he was sentenced to four years in prison for armed robbery. Behind bars, the teardrop inspired harassment from other inmates.

"I'd look in the mirror and say, 'This brings a lot of problems,'" said James, who got out of prison last month.

Problems also can surface outside prison. Back in Milwaukee, James is struggling to stay clear of trouble. But the teardrop can make that difficult.

"You walk into the wrong neighborhood with that and you can get killed," said Ramon Candelaria, director of the Latino Community Center.

The marking also can be a barrier to employment.

Romo is working to resurrect a concrete business he ran as a young man. His teardrop has created barriers to success.

"I've lost a lot of customers," Romo said. "They said: 'I don't want this crazy gang banger working on my house.'"

Frustrated by the tattoo's stigma, Romo and James plan to have theirs removed.

"I'm done with it," James said. "I want to start a new life."

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Noon-1 PM; Gold Rooms, OC

Wednesday, February 16  
Movie Night, "Imitation of Life"  
7 PM; Gold Rooms, OC

Thursday, February 17  
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6 PM; Shotwell Pavilion

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Tuesday, February 15  
5-6:30 PM; Gold Room A, OC  
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Tuesday, February 15  
Noon-1PM; Gold Rooms, OC

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Have a question, comment, or concern for the CSA Office?

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# A plan for Valentine's Day

## A guide for guys to impress their special someone this year

BY SHEILA KOSZTOWNY  
ASSISTANT LIFE EDITOR

Listen up, guys. You have five days to plan for Valentine's Day and come up with something special for your significant other.

And don't be the guy who rushes to the corner store for flowers and chocolate on the big day.

"Some guys just know exactly what to do," said Tom Durcell, 20, a sophomore. "This year though, I'm in a bind because I don't know exactly what to do. I gotta think of something."

Dustin Smith, 21, a junior, said, "I think it's something that guys really need to work on."

Here are some guidelines that might come in handy on Valentine's Day to make it special for the woman you love.

### Be creative.

This is the one essential way to sweep her off of her feet.

With creativity, it shows her that you spent a lot of time preparing and thinking about her. There are so many ways to be creative with gift ideas and the plans for the day, yet most of you guys claim that you have no clue what to do.

Ask yourself what is creativity? It is spontaneity, originality and thoughtfulness.

Take something that is common and turn it into a masterpiece.

For instance, a friend of mine loves Hershey Kisses, also a popular chocolate during this time.

Her boyfriend covered her room with them, all over the floor, on her dresser and on her bed.

Then a rose sat in the middle of her bed with a card that read, "I kiss the ground you walk on."

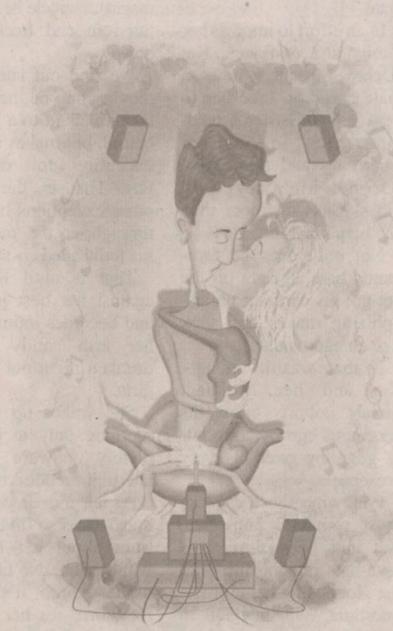
Another guy plucked out all of the marshmallows in three boxes of Lucky Charms cereal and put them in one box for his girlfriend, all because the marshmallows were her favorite part.

### Focus on the other person's happiness, not your own.

In the book "Men Are from Mars, Women Are from Venus," author John Gray states that the best relationship is when a couple consistently pleases the other.

That is exactly what this day should be about, as should the entire relationship.

You should never be con-



cerned about your own welfare, but rather set your mind on the other's needs.

If you both are pleasing each other, then you will never have to think about your own needs because the other person is

already fulfilling them.

On this day, take the time to wait on her hand and foot.

If she needs a Kleenex, give her one. If she wants something to drink, get it for her.

### Get personal.

Along with creativity, personalizing your gift is more meaningful than a store-bought gift.

One year, I made my boyfriend an owner's manual, in which I was the product.

I mimicked a car manual with a table of contents such as operating and cooperating, maintenance, qual-

ity and in case of an emergency. It was a guide to help him understand me and how to take care of me.

It was a hit and he still talks about it today.

Try to integrate those inside

jokes or pet names into your gift.

### Show off your skills.

Even Napoleon Dynamite realizes the importance of skills.

"You know, like, num chuck skills, bow hunting skills, computer hacking skills...Girls only want boyfriends who have great skills," he said.

How about showing off your cooking skills?

One year, my boyfriend surprised me with a prepared dinner with candles and a room draped with curtains to make it feel like we were somewhere other than his apartment.

Another couple dressed up in their fanciest outfits and decked themselves out to have a romantic dinner inside.

By dressing up, it makes the night feel like it is really special. They danced the night away in a candlelit room.

### Show affection.

During the evening make sure to show affection.

A light caress on her arm or on her back will show her how much you love her, and it makes her feel desired. This is always a

self-confidence booster for women because it makes them feel attractive.

Perhaps spend some time giving each other massages with some spa treatment.

Even better, relax in a hot tub along with the massage.

### Confess your love.

Sometimes saying those heartfelt words "I love you" can wear out their meaning, although they stay true.

This time tell her in a different way like write a poem or sing a song.

Spelling it out is a good idea.

For instance, my friend woke up to the words "I love you" written with sidewalk chalk on her driveway.

If the pavement isn't working out for you, carve your declaration in the snow or write it on her car with washable paint.

### Go with tradition.

Who said that girls don't like flowers and chocolate?

I encourage you all to explore out of the norm, but if you are already pleasing her with all kinds of creativity and spontaneity, then doing the traditional activities can be nice.

She does not expect the same thing all of the time, so tradition makes her feel like a true lady.

# There's no need to break the bank this time around

BY NICOLE BEATTIE  
THE OAKLAND POST

Here in America, we have a tendency to go overboard with our holiday celebrations.

As soon as the Halloween jack-o-lanterns begin to rot, the Christmas trees are already being assembled at the malls and the reindeer is lit up in your neighbor's front yard.

We celebrate St. Patrick's Day more elaborately than the Irish, and we equate Easter with plastic eggs and bunnies.

There is nothing wrong with holiday spirit, but where should we draw the line? How much is too much?

Businesses and manufacturers are raking in the dough, capitalizing on uninformed consumers who obsess over holiday products in an attempt to satisfy their loved ones.

Valentine's Day is no exception. According to the National Retail Federation, Valentine's Day 2005 spending is set to top \$13 billion.

Greeting cards, candy hearts, diamond necklaces, a dozen red roses and a box of chocolates: this is how many people celebrate Valentine's Day, with a thoughtless gift out of obligation rather than a thought or gesture from the heart, made out of a celebration of love.

This year, don't buy in to the commercialism and don't get your sweetheart the conventional heart-shaped gift just because everyone else is doing it.

No good can come of it. Chances are, by the end of the night you'll end up broke and there's no guarantee you'll be getting lucky!

Here are five ways to surprise your valentine with a creative (and inexpensive) alternative:

1.) **The Food:** Make the entire day special for your loved one.

If you live together, make them breakfast in bed, or if you're dating, get up early and deliver them their breakfast, along with their favorite flavored coffee.

For lunch, consider a picnic with homemade sandwiches and lemonade (if the weather permits).

Save money by creating an elegant dining setting in your own home. Cook your sweetheart's favorite dishes and go out to a fancy restaurant just for dessert.

Instead of a box of expensive chocolates, which may cost you \$65, make chocolate covered strawberries for your significant other.

It's inexpensive, easy and you can tell him or her you made them yourself.

2.) **The Mood:** Buy inexpensive votive candles and put on some music. Burn a CD of your favorite love songs and play it throughout the evening.

Make your evening romantic, even if it's at home. Instead of buying someone a day at the spa, give them the spa treatment at home.

A professional massage costs about \$65 on average, plus tip. Give your sweetheart a massage for free!

3.) **The Card:** According to the National Retail Federation, "Greeting cards remain the most popular Valentine's Day gift this year, with nearly two-thirds (66.9%) of consumers planning to purchase at least one card for the holiday."

You can save on a card by going to the



Photo courtesy of KRTCampus

Fudge is a easy treat to make for your special someone on Valentine's Day.

dollar store, but remember, no one wants a generic message written by someone else.

Write your own message, or even a poem. Loved one will greatly appreciate the gesture. If you're musical, or you sing, write your loved one a song.

4.) **The Gift:** Don't buy a dozen red roses!

If delivered, they can cost up to \$80, and although beautiful, roses are not every girl's favorite flower.

Find out what her favorite flower is and buy her one.

One lily, Gerber daisy, or bird of paradise will impress your girl much more.

Jewelry is a biggy on Valentine's Day. High end jewelers advertise heart shaped pendant necklaces every year for

hundreds of dollars, tennis bracelets for thousands and men's watches, including a diamond dial, may cost near \$10,000.

Yes, diamonds are a girl's best friend; however, costume jewelry is very in right now.

Substitute a diamond necklace with something funky that she can wear every day.

5.) **If you must go out, try someplace that won't break the bank:** Try ice skating or possibly a free art or history museum.

You can go window shopping and get coffee in a nice downtown area or take your sweetheart to the place you went on your first date.

It's the best way to show them your love and your creative side this Valentine's Day.

### Show your love without emptying your pockets

Valentine's Day may be the time to show your beloved how much you care, but you don't have to sink deeper in to debt in the process.

Consumer Credit Counseling Services offers these suggestions on ways to give meaningful gifts without breaking the bank:

**Give of yourself.** Use whatever talent or skill you have to create something memorable for your valentine. It could be a song, a painting, a gourmet meal or even a straight-from-the-heart love letter.

**Go back in time.** Do you remember where you were and what you were doing when you fell in love? Even if you can't return to the scene, you can recreate the magic at home with a few reminders.

**If the weather cooperates, get outdoors.** Take a hand-in-hand walk, plan a picnic for two or snuggle together around a cozy campfire.

**Give your partner a break from the mundane that lasts longer than a day.** Create a coupon book that offers such things as massages, sleeping-in privileges or even getting out of dishwashing duty. Consumer Credit Counseling Services offers a free coupon creation page at [www.money-management.org/gifts](http://www.money-management.org/gifts).

**Include the entire family in your celebration.** Familyfun.com lists a number of family-friendly romantic movies such as "Beauty and the Beast," "Lady and the Tramp" and "The Princess Bride."

**Share your goals.** Instead of spending a lot on fleeting holiday gifts, agree with your partner to put that money toward a longer-term goal such as a new home or a grand trip.

Edited and compiled by  
Phyllis Stone (KRT).

After breaking up in 2000, Limblifter returns with its electric album "I/O."

Photo courtesy of Limblifter.com



# Limblifter finds its musical nitch

By Dave Phillips  
The Oakland Post

Some albums just fit certain moods. The Cure's "Disintegration" matches a depressing time perfectly. "Bewitched" by Luna is one of the most relaxing, Sunday morning type albums ever made. For an upbeat, electric sound to crank up and drive along to try "I/O" by Limblifter.

Limblifter has found success in the States before. Their 1996 self-titled debut album included the hit "Screwed It Up." The band released one more album, "Bellaclava" in 2000, before they broke up when lead singer Ryan Dahle began work on a new record with a new band.

The long wait and all of the changes worked out perfectly. A band would be hard pressed to make an album as melodic and emotional as "I/O."

At the stroke of the play key, it's obvious that Limblifter means business. "Get Money" is one of the most rocking album openers in recent memory, a very effective way to start things off.

"Perfect Day to Disappear" is next, keeping the pace up. A simple, effective guitar riff is key to this. This is lyrically one of the best songs on the album and is something most people can relate to.

The guitar work on the album is incredible. Nowhere is this more apparent than "In/Out." An excellent guitar part pre-

vails throughout, with Dahle's voice adding a pleasant feel to the track.

"Drug Induced" changes the feel of the album completely. Keyboard kicks off the song, and Jordy Birch, creating a nice melody, accompanies Dahle. The pace is slowed and a nice instrumental ending caps the track off.

Violins begin "Alarm Bells" and Dahle incorporates more vocal help in the form of Vicky Sjahall and Canadian rock star Matthew Good. The mood is somber. The topic is a relationship gone badly. Dahle sings, "We won't work out, cause our partnership is a sinking ship."

"Jumbo Jet Headache" picks the mood up immediately. It's one of the catchier songs on "I/O," and it's the second radio single. Dahle's vocals are prominently displayed as he repeatedly sings "bring on the headache."

The final three tracks are a bit of a let-down from the rest of the album. They're still good; they just can't match the intensity and emotion of the first eight tracks.

This new version of Limblifter, with its large cast of characters, has produced an amazing album. The melody between the instruments and Ryan Dahle is not something you hear every day. The emotion displayed, especially on tracks like "Alarm Bells" and "Drug Induced," is not easily matched. Limblifter has done something that most "pop rock" bands today cannot: made an album worth listening to.

# 'Date' provides some laughs

By Juliet Kraft  
The Oakland Post

Every woman has the love life she wants." If that were true, Brad Pitt would have somewhere around a million girlfriends.

However, that statement is a shining example of the recurring nonsense that spews from an over-priced gigolo starring in the new movie, "The Wedding Date."

In an effort to impress her family and ex-fiancé, Kat (Debra Messing) hires a male escort to take her to her younger sister's wedding back in London. Charming and sexy Nick (Dermot Mulroney) provides Kat with more than she bargained for.

Not only does he arrogantly bare all right off the get-go, his constant philosophizing makes him look like an egomaniac.

If that wasn't enough, Kat and her abundant female cohorts boost his enormous ego by constantly goggling over his very presence.

Following the format of most romantic comedies, Kat and Nick develop a love-hate relationship with the plot posing the ultimate question: Will they fall in love and live happily ever after?

In their quest to develop a false romance to pass off as the real thing, they

begin to make a tangible connection.

Nevertheless, both characters are apprehensive to declare their emotions.

Nick is wary because he doesn't seem to want to be the one to give in, whereas Kat is understandably leery of his profession.

When Kat was asked where she had found Nick, she replies with a nervous grin, "In the yellow pages." Yet, she really ran across a magazine article he was featured in and tracked him down.

We find out later in the movie that he had never taken a client to a wedding before, but makes a special exception for desperate Kat. That sets the tone for other exceptions he makes throughout the movie for his redheaded co-star.

That is until Kat goes against her best judgment and becomes intimate with her arm candy after a drunken night out with the girls.

She wakes up the next morning only to be completely unaware of their late-night rendezvous.

As her morals go out the door, Kat also finds out the truth about her break-up with her ex. No need for a tissue though, it's hard to feel sorry for her because she can cry on the shoulder of a handsome man.

What the movie lacks in character development, especially with Nick, it



Photo courtesy of Universal Pictures  
Debra Messing (left) and Dermot Mulroney share a moment as Kat and Nick in "The Wedding Date," a romantic comedy following the mold of "Pretty Woman" with a role-reversal and less movie-making history.

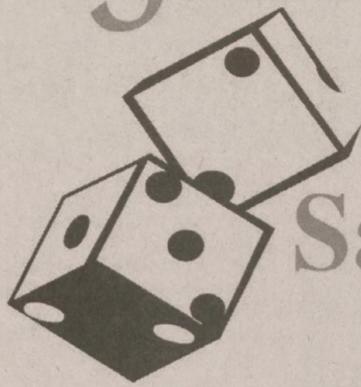
makes up for in witty banter and heartfelt lessons in love.

The movie is definitely not as touching as 'Pretty Woman,' which it resem-

bles in both plot and theme.

Overall, "The Wedding Date" does have a few good one-liners and laughs, but nothing that will make movie history.

# Jackpot Casino Night



Saturday, February 19

7:00 - 10:00 pm

Gold Rooms, Oakland Center

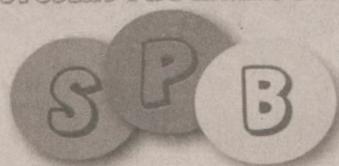
Prizes!

Come play your favorite casino games like Black Jack, Texas Hold'em, Craps, Slot machines, and more. Everyone is welcome! Must have valid OU student ID to win prizes.

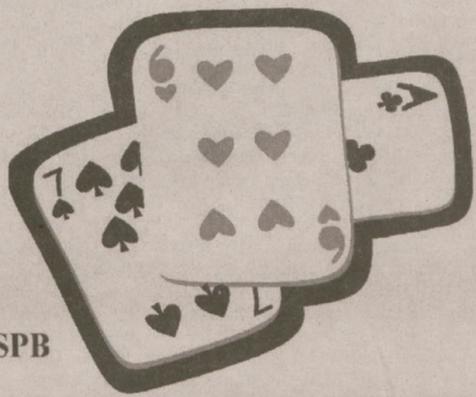
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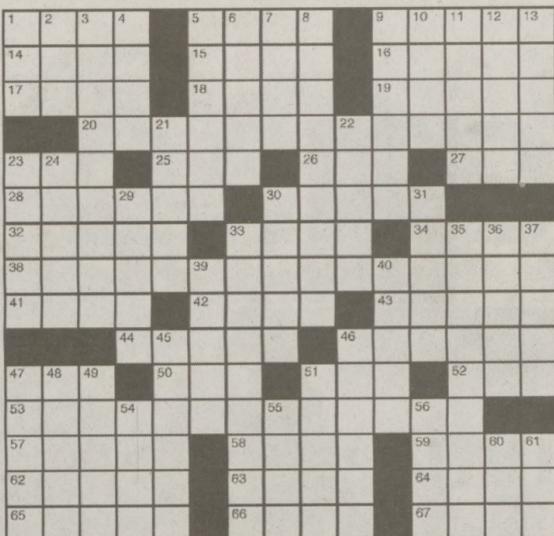
# Crossword puzzle

**ACROSS**

- 1 Sunscreen ingredient
- 5 Guitar adjuncts, briefly
- 9 Norwegian dramatist
- 14 Vivacity
- 15 Fall guy
- 16 Drain cover
- 17 Dictator Idi
- 18 Nagy of Hungary
- 19 Cranny
- 20 Broadcast journalist made dinner?
- 23 Actress Ward
- 24 Belgrade man
- 25 Wind dir.
- 26 PFC's entertainment
- 28 Bonus NFL periods
- 30 Slurred
- 32 Literary lion roared?
- 36 Pot sweetener
- 37 Big letters in Detroit
- 38 Tours to be
- 42 Pop singer bragged?
- 47 Share billing
- 50 Sellout letters
- 51 Make a choice
- 52 False front
- 53 Drill parts
- 56 Smart one
- 58 Musician wanted to know?
- 62 Fortune's deck
- 63 Carrier to Israel
- 64 Disagreeable responsibility
- 66 First name of a plane

**DOWN**

- 67 Major ending?
- 68 Dele opposite
- 69 Fill an empty flat
- 70 Conks out
- 71 Italian noble family
- 1 Green shade
- 2 \_\_\_ mater
- 3 Parachutes
- 4 Astronomer Cannon
- 5 Stir up
- 6 NYC cultural attraction
- 7 City on the Seine
- 8 One cubic meter
- 9 Dishonorable
- 10 Vivacity
- 11 Taken down like a QB
- 12 Sweet-smelling gas
- 13 Lacked
- 21 Untidy person
- 22 Ship's company
- 26 NATO member
- 27 \_\_\_ Jose, CA
- 29 Disparaging remark
- 31 Logical starter?
- 33 For fear that
- 34 Place
- 35 Wise birds?
- 39 Opinion value?
- 40 Elected off.
- 41 NYC summer hrs.
- 43 Environment



- 44 Border lake
- 45 Baby beds
- 46 Kind of model
- 47 Net flinger
- 48 Gasoline rating
- 49 Unsaturated alcohol
- 54 Coarse wool
- 55 Conductor Sir Georg
- 57 Uneven
- 59 Small rodent
- 60 "Six Feet Under" character
- 61 Twosome
- 65 Fr. holy woman

R A P T   S L A B   A D A M S  
 A G U A   P A R A   R E M I T  
 T O N I   I T E R   C A I R O  
 C L O T H E S H A N G E R  
 S C H G E E T E N O D E  
 M O L A R S   B O X E S  
 E L I D E   F L O E   T E M P  
 W I N D S H I E L D W I P E R  
 S N E E   A X E S   H E I N E  
 R A Z E D   F E S C U E  
 A A R M E D   B I L U S N  
 G R O U N D S K E E P E R  
 O M A N I T I N S D E A L  
 R O N D O   A L I T   G A L A  
 A R S O N   R O N A   E N I D

# Horoscopes

By LINDA C. BLACK  
 TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES

**Today's Birthday (02-09-05).**

A surprising development leads you to great riches. Invest them into your business as frugally as you can. Another surprise later on could dry up that oil well just as quickly as it came.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

**Aries (March 21-April 19) Today is a 7:** You'll have more time the next few days to rest and recuperate. Don't attempt any big advances now, you need to recover your strength.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20) Today is a 7:** You'll have more time to spend with friends for the next couple of days. That's good, but resist the urge to splurge the money you've recently earned.

**Gemini (May 21-June 21) Today is an 8:** One surprising development just went your way, but the next one won't. Don't push your luck, show respect.

**Cancer (June 22-July 22) Today is a 6:** Your efforts will pay off for years to come. You should be proud of yourself. You're not quite through yet, so postpone a trip you'd like to take.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Today is a 7:** Take time away from the game to add up your wins and losses. Don't worry about missing anything, this is not a good time to gamble.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today is a 7:** Maybe you need to look at the situation from a new point of view. Imagine you're seeing it through the eyes of a kooky friend.

**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Today is an 8:** After you've made the commitment, it's time to get down to work. You'll learn more as you go along, so continue to pay attention.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Today is a 7:** You'll have more time in the next few days to cuddle with someone you love. Make arrangements for something special, but don't spend a lot of money.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Today is a 7:** It's not a good idea to get your roommate all riled up. Advise caution for the next few days, and practice it yourself.

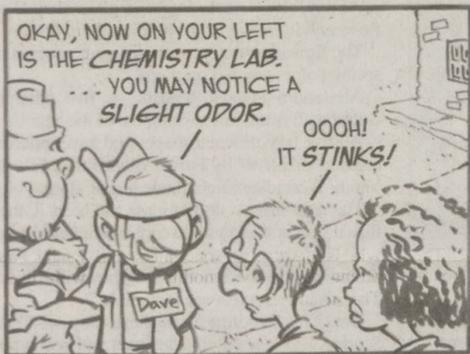
**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today is a 7:** Previous commitments interfere with your ability to study the subject you'll be using next. Just do the old stuff the old way. It'll be easier.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Today is an 8:** Don't get carried away in your enthusiasm, and buy a bunch of toys you really don't know how to use, yet. Easy does it.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Today is a 7:** Changes are predicted for the next couple of days. Don't let yourself be pushed this way and that. Steer a steady course.

# Comic

**2 Dudes**



IT SMELLS LIKE EGGS LEFT IN A HOT CAR FOR OVER A WEEK.



By Aaron Warner

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 TIME: 7:30 PM  
 LOCATION: STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING  
 TICKETS AVAILABLE AT: CENTER FOR STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Theater is overbooked to ensure capacity. **ARRIVE EARLY;** Seating is on a first come, first seated basis. **PASSES DO NOT** guarantee admission and passes must be surrendered upon demand. No one will be admitted without a ticket or after the screening begins. Issuer reserves the right to refuse, revoke or limit admission in its sole discretion at any time. Admission constitutes consent for the issuer to photograph and record bearer, and to use the likeness of bearer for any purpose without payment.

**NO RECORDING**  
 This screening will be monitored for unauthorized recording. By attending, you agree not to bring any recording device into the theatre and you consent to physical search of your belongings and person for recording devices. If you attempt to enter with a recording device, you will be denied admission. If you attempt to use a recording device, you consent to your immediate removal from the theatre and forfeiture of the device and its contents. Unauthorized recording will be reported to law enforcement and may subject you to criminal and civil liability.

**ARRIVE EARLY! SEATING IS FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE!**

**Kuaki Maala Huola.**

**Translation:**  
**May Your macadamia Nuts Not Volcanically Erupt Before You Get Lei'd.**

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Cressie Smith works on some of her responsibilities as director of student organizations and Greek life within the Center for Student Activities, a position she filled three months ago.

Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post



# CSA welcomes new employee

By ALICIA SOSSI  
THE OAKLAND POST

Three months before graduating from Central Michigan University in the spring of 2003, Cressie Smith decided she wanted to work with student life on college campuses.

Now, she is in her third month as coordinator of student organizations and Greek life in the Center for Student Activities office at OU.

"This is where I want to be right now," said Smith, a native of Warren, Mich.

At the CSA office, Smith works with student organizations and oversees the governing counsels of all sororities and fraternities. She also meets with and advises organization presidents.

"She has brought new energy and focus to the CSA office with her ideas and expertise, particularly in the area of Greek life," said Sara Crampton, coordinator of student leadership development at the CSA.

A member of the Alpha Chi Omega sorority, Smith has first-hand experience planning events and community service activities for Greek organizations.

She also worked in the student organizations office at CMU.

"She has extensive knowledge of Greek systems and has been able to incorporate her ideas with the already established groups on campus," Crampton said.

Before coming to OU in November, Smith was associate director of Greek life at Albion College.

While earning her master's in educational administration and community leadership from CMU, she was a graduate assistant for student life.

So far, Smith has spent much of her time at OU observing the way activities work on a commuter campus.

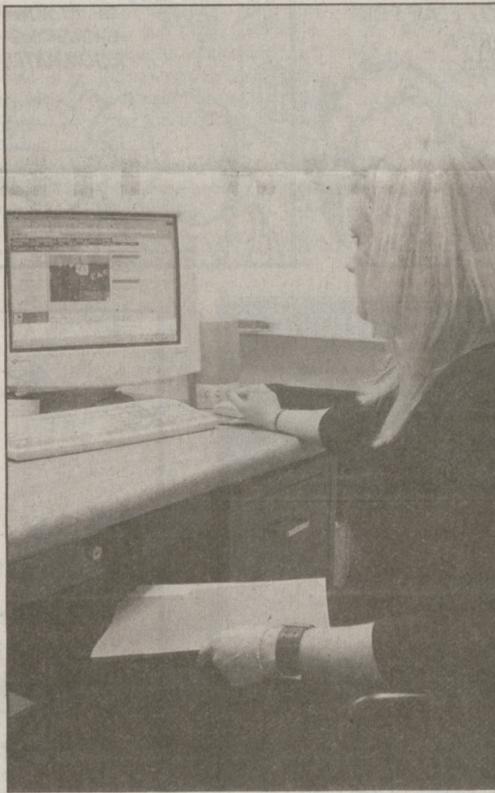
She would like to see commuter students get more involved and plans to bring people onto campus by holding more quality events.

Smith also hopes to see new student organizations emerge.

"I encourage students to form something not already offered," she said.

Smith, whose special interests include promoting community service and providing counseling for students, believes that OU holds many opportunities for her.

"I enjoy all the opportunities to get to know people — both students and staff," Smith said. "Working with students is the most important part of my job."



Cressie Smith makes sure student organizations and Greek life run smoothly at OU.

Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post

# Exhibit heats up the DIA

By DAVE PHILLIPS  
THE OAKLAND POST

Temperatures up to 1,000 degrees Celsius: the potential for a piece you've spent months on to shatter at any time.

Vibrant colors and captivating shapes are words that describe the latest exhibit "Red Hot and Very Cool: Murano Glass from the Olnick Spanu Collection" at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

The process of glass as art is a long one. The 500 degrees Celsius mark is the point where the glass changes from solid to "malleable," meaning it's able to be formed and retain its shape. The glass is constantly reheated and cooled, making it difficult to get the right temperature. If cooled too rapidly, the glass will shatter.

"I like the colors, that's my favorite part of the exhibit," said Suzanne Trojanowski, 31.

Vibrant color is a common theme in most Murano pieces.

A good example is Giuseppe Signoretto's "Albero con gli Uccelli," or "Tree with birds." The tree is a vivid green, and the birds are many different, intense colors.

"A Murinne" by Artisti Barovier is another piece with brilliant color.

Red and yellow stripes line the rim of a large vase with different shades of blue and a hint of yellow fills the bottom of the bowl. The bowl rests on a dark red platform.

"A Murine" was made in 1914, but looks as though it was created yesterday.

There are some innovative pieces in the exhibit. "Fiori," by Anzola Fuga, is glass shaped as flowers with metal stems holding them up.

The flowers are clear with different patterns of spring colors painted on them.

Alessandro Piano's "Pulcini" is five different chicks with metal feet sticking out of the bottom.

All five take different shapes and have different colors. "Fazoletti" by Fulvio Bianconi and Paolo Venini is handkerchiefs made out of glass.

The artist takes a disc of glass and heats it, then flips it over and allows it to cool and fall into place.

"All of these works are fantastic," said John Streit, 62. "I'd like to learn how they make them. These handkerchiefs are incredible."

One of his favorite artists in the display was Carlo Scarpa, who generally made vases and bowls and had more pieces in the exhibit than anyone else. His works were mainly opaque with textures on them.

Most of the pieces also served a purpose. You could eat your cereal out of "Turchese e nero" by Tommaso Buzzi or pour a drink out of "Primavera" by Ercole Barovier.

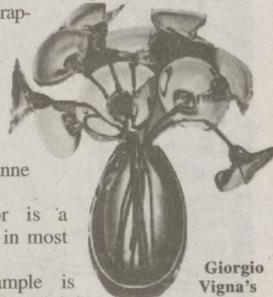
Breaking the monotony of Dixie cups and Tupperware appealed to some.

"I loved all parts of the exhibit," said Sascha Kaiyn, 31. "I love the functional pieces because in America those things are so ugly."

The Murano exhibit, as well as the rest of the DIA, has an audio tour device, which is similar to a cell phone and is free of charge. The device tells the information of each piece by punching in a piece's number, as if you were getting your own personal tour.

The exhibit also has videos playing, showing the process of making glass among other things.

"Red Hot and Very Cool-Murano: Glass from the Olnick Spanu Collection" runs from now until Feb. 27. Tickets are \$10 and include admission to the rest of the DIA.



Giorgio Vigna's Fuochi d'acqua

Photo courtesy of the DIA

# Diversity-driven sorority coming to OU's campus

By SHEILA KOSZTOWNY  
ASSISTANT LIFE EDITOR

For the girls of Zeta Sigma Chi, the word "multiculturalism" is used as regularly as "hello" and "goodbye."

Zeta Sigma Chi Multicultural Sorority, Inc. is expanding its interest to OU and invites women of all cultures to join.

The sorority is known for its diversity and encourages women to seek higher education and careers, while getting involved with the community.

"We actively seek to find women of various cultures," Sheena Harrison, the sorority's national secretary, said. "It really adds to the richness and value of our sisterhood."

The sorority has members from across the globe and emphasizes the acceptance of all cultures.

"You bring in your own self...and embrace your own heritage," said Zeta Sigma Chi national assistant director of expansion Pamela Mercado, who is Argentinean and Irish.

Mercado joined the sorority in 1997 at Michigan State University, whereas Harrison pledged in 2000.

"I know that based on my own experiences...the world was only black or white," Harrison said, adding that she is bi-racial. "When I got to Michigan State, the world did not fit in those two categories."

"It opened up my eyes to how similar struggles are between different groups," she said.

Zeta Sigma Chi is a fairly new sorority, founded in 1991 by eight women from Northern Illinois University. They aimed to unify "cultures, ethnicities, religions and backgrounds," according to their Web site.

They also place emphasis on support in the community and education.

"We are a social service sorority," Harrison said. "We have a lot of emphasis on community service."

Sorority chapters, or university groups, devote five to eight hours a week to educational events, community service,

women's shelters, clothing drives and other charity work, Leonna Whitney Beatty, Zeta Sigma Chi national director of expansion, said.

One chapter even adopted their own soup kitchen. After the Dec. 26 Southeast Asian tsunami devastated the world, Zeta Sigma Chis formed an effort relief for tsunami victims.

The sorority is involved with the Ronald McDonald House, which provides care for families with seriously ill children, and belongs to the National Association for Multicultural Education.

Zeta Sigma Chis throw parties and hold events on campus that highlight multiculturalism. In fact, each chapter is required to plan a multicultural event every year.

In 1998, Mercado planned "Multicultural Extravaganza," a talent show that showcases cultures, at MSU and has been running ever since. The University of Michigan began their version called "One Love" and other chapters picked up on this event. The sorority has grown to



Photo courtesy of Zeta Sigma Chi Multicultural Sorority Inc. Some of the members who attended last year's Founders Ball celebration in Detroit pose for a group picture. The event is held each year in March to celebrate the eight founding mothers of Zeta Sigma Chi.

eight chapters across the United States and has a total of about 300 members, Beatty said.

Currently, MSU has the largest chapter with over 60 girls joining since its 1996 establishment and U-M ranks a close second, Beatty said.

Along with the interest in OU, the sorority plans to expand to universities in Texas, California, Pennsylvania, Illinois and Maryland.

"I want to see the sorority

grow," Harrison said. "I've always felt that it's such a wonderful, true thing."

Zeta Sigma Chi chose OU for its diverse campus and from e-mail contacts from interested women in the area.

"It is really a diverse campus," Beatty said. "The area is really good at celebrating diversity."

Zeta Sigma Chi will hold an open house at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 16 in the Lake Ontario Room of the

OC for all women who are interested, followed by a three-day open rush as a bonding period.

"I can tell you personally...I have seen it and have benefited from the organization," Mercado said. "Just being in one organization and learning about different cultures."

"I've learned that I want to learn more about different cultures," Beatty said, a Zeta Sigma Chis since 1999 at MSU. "I want to travel more."



# OU snaps 11 game road losing streak

BY DAVE PEMBERTON  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Golden Grizzlies were able to end their road woes by defeating Western Illinois University 72-67 on Saturday night.

OU was up 68-67 with 18 seconds left to play.

The Leathernecks were forced to foul senior forward Rawle Marshall, who sank two free throws to put OU up by three.

**Oakland 72**

**W. Illinois 67**

Western Illinois missed a three at the other end and then fouled senior forward Cortney Scott.

Scott sank both of his free throws to put the game out of reach for the Leathernecks.

The Grizzlies had five players in double figure scoring led by Scott's 17 points.

With the win OU is now 4-5 in the Mid-Con and moves ahead of Western Illinois in the conference standings.

The win came after OU fell at home to the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC), 83-76 on Thursday.

The Kangaroos were defeated in the Mid-Con, but fell to Chicago State University on Saturday.

"UMKC is an outstanding team," OU head coach Greg Kampe said last Thursday. "So far through this portion of the season, they are just better than us. They are shooting the ball extremely well."

UMKC shot over 53 percent against the Grizzlies. The Kangaroos were led by senior Carlton Aaron's 22 points and 13 rebounds.

Aaron (6-9, 322 lbs.) had 14 points and 12 rebounds at half-time.

"The big fella is a dominant player in this league, and he is having a heck of a season," Kampe said. "We tried a bunch of different things (against him)

and none of them worked.

"We have to look and see if we can figure out something better."

Sophomore guard Mose Howard had not made a field goal the entire conference season, but managed to score 13 points against the Grizzlies.

"That's what championship teams do, they find ways to beat you," Kampe said. "They are on their way to winning a championship. I salute them and I salute their coach. They are a very good basketball team."

Marshall led OU with 26 points and Scott added 21 points. The two combined for 75 percent of the Grizzlies' offense.

Marshall said as the two senior leaders, he and Scott put pressure on themselves to score.

UMKC coach Rich Zvosec acknowledged how hard it is to defend Marshall and Scott.

"I do not know if you can stop those two," Zvosec said. "I don't think you can, because they're too good of players. You can hope to make them work for it. They worked fairly hard to get those points."

OU hits the road to face two Mid-Con foes this week.

First, the Grizzlies head to Southern Utah on Thursday night.

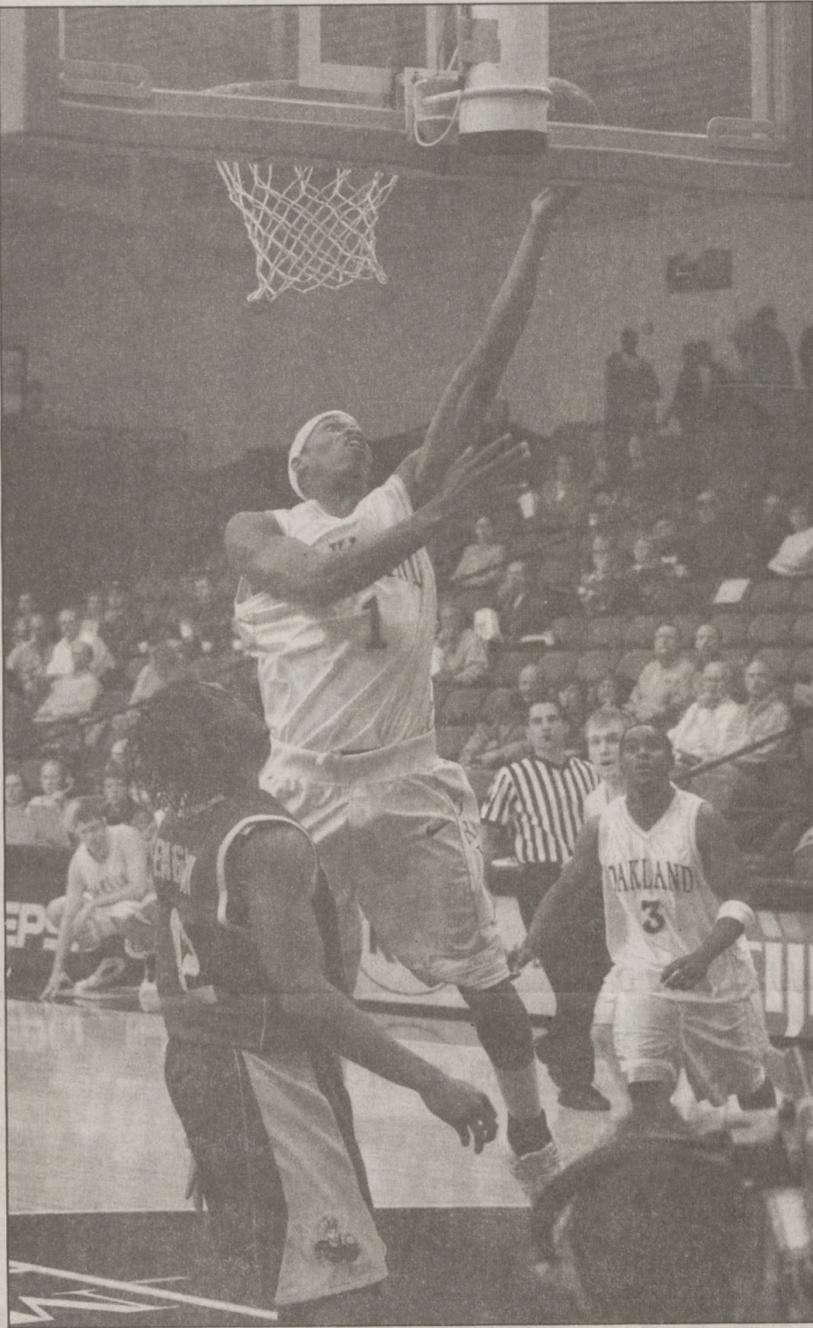
Then the Grizzlies head to Kansas City to take on UMKC at 8 p.m. on Saturday.

The game will air live on Comcast Local.

## Game Preview



**Who:** OU (6-14, 4-5 Mid-Con) at Southern Utah  
**When:** Feb. 10  
**Where:** Centrum Arena  
**What:** OU will look to climb up the Mid-Con standings by defeating Southern Utah. The Grizzlies beat the Thunderbirds soundly earlier this season.



Senior forward Rawle Marshall goes up for a layup against the Kangaroos on Thursday night.

Bob Knoska / The Oakland Post

# Irish too much for Grizzlies

BY DANA UTZ  
SENIOR SPORTS WRITER

The OU men's and women's swimming and diving teams swam against the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame and despite their efforts, both teams were unable to come up with a victory.

The women's team was able to keep the score close until the end when they fell to the Fighting Irish 163.5-134.5.

**Notre Dame 175**

**Oakland 107**

The men's team fell to the Fighting Irish, 175-107.

Junior diver Linda Keskey helped lead the team, taking first place in both the one- and three-meter diving events.

The beginning of the meet was working in favor of OU.

They won the 200-yard medley relay with a time of 1:48.32.

Junior freestyler, IMer and flyer Line Jensen finished third in the 400-yard individual medley.

She finished right behind fellow teammate sophomore IMer, freestyler and breaststroker Amanda Burwell, who took first.

Senior backstroker Renie Green came in second in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 59.12, while senior freestyler and backstroker Holly Miller finished in third place (1:01.04).

In the 100-yard backstroke,

junior breaststroker Maria Musialczyk took the victory when she came into the wall at 1:06.47.

Melissa Jaeger also claimed a win, hers in the 200-yard butterfly, touching in at 2:07.10.

In the 50-yard freestyle, sophomore freestyler and backstroker Jenna DeJonge, freshman freestyler Sarah Brettrager and freshman freestyler Rachel Beardsley took 2-3-4 for the Grizzlies.

Jaeger gained more points for OU when she came in second in the 100-yard freestyle (53.24).

In the 200-yard backstroke, Green and Jensen finished second and third.

Freshman breaststroker Kim Bacon took a second place finish in the 200-yard breaststroke with her time of 2:21.78.

Senior freestyler Karoline Freytag was able to get a third place finish in the 200-yard freestyle (1:55.52), she also took second in the 500-yard freestyle (5:07.16).

On the men's side, freshman breaststroker Zoltan Horvath took two individual titles, one in the 100-yard breaststroke and one in the 200-yard breaststroke, finishing with times of 58.72 and 2:04.73, respectively.

The Grizzlies 200-yard medley team took second place. The team of junior backstroker and IMer Eric Lynn, freshman flyer and freestyler Chris Tansel, sophomore backstroker and IMer Bryon Tansel and Horvath touched the wall at 1:35.11.



OU's seniors were honored before their match against Notre Dame.

Bob Knoska / The Oakland Post

Junior freestyler and IMer Nick McCollum gained some points for OU with his third place finish in the 400-yard individual medley (4:11.62).

McCollum finished third in the 200-yard backstroke with a time of 1:56.25.

Freshman diver Ryan Kish took third in the one-meter diving board with 275.25 points.

Kish took the title in the three-meter board with 294.98

points. OU will be taking a break for the next two and a half weeks to condition for the National Independent Conference (NIC) Championships.

OU will host the NICs from Feb. 23-26.

Horvath and diver Linda Keskey were named Mid-Con Athletes of the Week for their performance against the Fighting Irish.

## Game Preview



**When:** Feb. 23-26  
**Where:** OU  
**What:** The Independent Conference (NIC) Championships will be held at the OU Aquatics center for both the men's and women's teams.

## One last look at XXXIX

BY MIKE DOWNEY  
KNIGHT RIDDER TRIBUNE

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. —A look back at the week and the game . . . not the best Super Bowl played, that's for sure, but far from the worst.

Number of fans at Alltel Stadium who could tell you what Alltel means?

Maybe a third.

Number of fans at Super Bowl XXXIX who expected Bill Clinton and George H.W. Bush to dress like twins?

Probably none.

Most memorable thing said by a player during Super Bowl XXXIX week?

With the exception of anything that came out of Terrell Owens' mouth, not a thing.

Best newspaper headline after Super Bowl XXXIX game was over?

"Damn!" Philadelphia Daily News.

New England Patriot who deserves a lot more credit for his team winning Super Bowl XXXIX than he has been given so far?

Offensive tackle Matt "Don't call me Bud" Light, who kept that oh-he-is-so-great Javon "the Freak" Kearsse to one solo tackle, one assist and not so much as one sack.

Best Super Bowl XXXIX TV commercial?

None. (And, whoa, is that donkey with the Clydesdales a tired concept or what?)

Fighting Illini alumnus who came up big in Super Bowl XXXIX when the game was on the line?

Greg Lewis, 30-yard touchdown catch for Eagles with 1:48 to play.

Fighting Illini alumnus who went out hurt in Super Bowl XXXIX and nearly cost his team the game?

Eugene Wilson, Patriots defensive back, whose replacement, Dexter Reid, couldn't cover Lewis.

Number of head coaches in Super Bowl XXXIX who went to the wrong sideline before the game?

Just one: Bill "Wrong Way" Belichick.

Answer to the Super Bowl XXXIX question: "Romeo Crennel, Romeo Crennel, wherefore art thou, Romeo Crennel?"

Cleveland, where the sight of a man with a Super Bowl ring is a rare one indeed.

Why Donovan McNabb stressed repeatedly before Super Bowl XXXIX: I am not a running quarterback?

One carry, zero yards.

Possibly the weirdest stat of Super Bowl XXXIX?

McNabb rushed for more yards than Tom Brady.

Best comment on TV by Troy Aikman while Eagles took forever to score in the last few minutes of Super Bowl XXXIX?

"How many of Philadelphia's fans must be screaming at their TV screens right now: 'Hurry up!'"

Reason why Chicago's wide receivers sat home watching Super Bowl XXXIX and wept?

MVP Deion Branch had 10 catches in the first three quarters alone.

Number of players who caught more passes in Super Bowl XXXIX than Freddie "I Want to Thank My Hands for Being So Great" Mitchell did?

Ten.

Quote from Super Bowl XXXIX player that won't go down in history with "We came, we saw, we conquered."

"We aren't the sexiest team in the world, but we're strong-willed." -Patriots linebacker Ted Johnson.

Number of times Jacksonville's newspaper reported what a great job at Super Bowl XXXIX Jacksonville was doing?

Lost count.

Number of times Super Bowl XXXIX bus drivers got lost going to and from game?

Lost count, but it definitely threatened the all-time record owned by the 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics.

Team that you can bet won't beat the Patriots at Super Bowl XL in Detroit?

Detroit.

**Scholarship Opportunities**

... Sponsored by the OUAA

The Oakland University Alumni Association (OUAA) is currently accepting applications for several \$2,000 scholarships for the Fall 2005/Winter 2006 academic year.

- College of Arts and Sciences
- School of Business Administration
- School of Education and Human Services
- School of Engineering and Computer Science
- School of Health Sciences
- School of Nursing
- Honors College
- Black Alumni Affiliate

These scholarships are open to any undergraduate student who will have junior or senior status by Fall 2005. Scholarship recipients must have two or more full-time semesters remaining in their academic program and must have a 3.0 GPA in their major field of study and a cumulative 3.0 GPA at OU.

Applications are also being accepted for the following scholarships:

- Frances C. Amos School of Business Administration** (open to juniors and seniors with at least 3.4 cumulative GPA)
- Thomas A. Yatooma School of Engineering Alumni Memorial** (open to juniors and seniors with a 3.25 cumulative GPA)
- Legacy Scholarship** (open to freshman and sophomores whose parent or grandparent is a graduate of Oakland and a member of the OUAA)
- Returning Alumni Scholarship** (open to OU graduates who are pursuing a second degree from Oakland University)\*\*\*certifications excluded\*\*\*

Scholarship Applications are available on the alumni website at [www.oualumni.com](http://www.oualumni.com)  
Contact Carol Carpenter at the John Dodge House (248) 370-3700 x 1390 or [cmcarpen@oakland.edu](mailto:cmcarpen@oakland.edu) for more information.

**ONLY COMPLETED APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2005 WILL BE ACCEPTED**



Join us for a meeting on:

**Monday, February 14, 2005**

**@ 4PM**

**Oakland Room of the Oakland Center**

**LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!**

Oakland University Student Congress  
Oakland University  
62 Oakland Center  
Rochester, MI 48309-4401  
(248) 370-4290  
[congres1@oakland.edu](mailto:congres1@oakland.edu)

# CAREER NIGHT

February 16, 2005  
Banquet Room A in the O.C.  
7:00 to 9:00 pm

Free Food & Beverages  
Open to All

Sponsored by the Sociology Club

## Sisters of Success 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Women's Forum

Tuesday, February 15, 2005.

From 5pm until 8pm in the Banquet rooms in the Oakland center. Successful women from across Michigan are coming to share their success stories and network with the students at OU. Attire is Business casual.

Dinner will be served at 5:00 pm- All must RSVP for dinner via email [sos\\_org@yahoo.com](mailto:sos_org@yahoo.com)

All others can attend the networking and listening session at 6:15pm



### Go Red and Fight Heart Disease, Women's No. 1 Killer

Go Red For Women is the American Heart Association's national call for women to reduce their risk for heart disease. Across America the red dress and the color red are becoming recognized as symbols of women's empowerment to improve their heart health.

call the American Heart Association at 1-800-AHA-USA1  
or visit us online at [www.americanheart.org](http://www.americanheart.org).



Has anyone ever called you crazy?  
For the way you dress?  
The things you say?  
What if you left for two years?  
Moved to another country.  
To live with people you don't know.  
Where no one speaks your language.  
What if you were going to improve their lives?  
And in the process, improved yours.  
Would that be crazy?  
Peace Corps.  
Life is calling. How far will you go?

Call 800.424.8580 | Visit [peacecorps.gov](http://peacecorps.gov)

## Hockey rallies for victory

BY BRENDAN STEVENS  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

An early deficit and physical play wasn't enough to deter the OU men's club hockey team.

Avenging a 5-3 loss to the University of Michigan earlier this season, the Grizzlies turned the tables, defeating the Wolverines, 5-3.

But the victory didn't come without a pep talk from head coach Craig Furstenuau and perseverance through a pair of two-goal deficits.

U-M took advantage of early OU penalties by capitalizing on its power play chances.

The Wolverines broke the scoreless tie early in the first period, scoring on a two-man advantage. Just 42 seconds later, U-M extended its lead with another power play goal.

OU got one goal back to make the score 2-1, but the Wolverines quickly regained their two-goal

lead on their third goal of the period.

With the game's momentum hanging in the balance, Grizzly freshman goaltender Chris Joswiak came up with what turned out to be the save of the game.

With his team trailing by two goals, Joswiak faced a U-M skater one-on-one on a breakaway opportunity.

Joswiak stonewalled the Wolverine and the play shifted in the other direction.

The Grizzlies took the puck on offense and capitalized on Joswiak's stellar save by tallying a goal and making the score 3-2, which is how the first period ended.

Although Furstenuau praised Joswiak for his save during the first intermission, he had to send a message to his players.

Aware of his team's lack of intensity, the coach showed his own fire by breaking a stick in the locker room during the break.

His team responded by shutting the Wolverines down over the next two periods by stepping up to U-M's physical play and making the most of offensive opportunities.

The Grizzlies took a one-goal lead into the third period and eventually extended their margin to 5-3 while continuing to play solid defense.

OU withstood a late-game barrage by the Wolverines, even as they played the last few minutes of the game six-on-three due to penalties and U-M's pulled goalie.

Leading the Grizzlies were senior forward Ron Kolito, sophomore forward Will McMahon and junior forward B.J. Belliotti, tallying two points each.

Belliotti has been on a scoring streak, recording four goals in the last three games.

Freshman OU defenseman Paul Ishel picked up the assist on senior defenseman Ron Teasdale's first period, short-handed goal. It was Ishel's first point this season.

This weekend, the Grizzlies will take on their first American Collegiate Hockey Association Division I opponent of the season; Oklahoma University.

OU is a Div. II member of the ACHA.

Oklahoma is ranked 16th in Div. I competition of the ACHA, making its pair of games against OU

crucial to its hopes of holding on to the final spot in the Div. I National Tournament.

Both teams have experience crossing over the divisions.

The Grizzlies split their two games against the University of Michigan-Dearborn last year, losing 8-6 and winning 6-1.

Oklahoma also had a split, losing 2-1 in overtime to Colorado on Friday, and defeating the Buffalos 5-2 on Saturday.

The Grizzlies finished the regular season Greater Midwest Hockey League competition with a 7-4-1 record, giving them 15 points and second place overall behind Michigan State University.

The seven teams will compete in the GHML postseason tournament Feb. 18 and 19.

OU wraps up the regular season against Northern Michigan University at 8:30 p.m. on Feb. 25 on its home ice at the ONYX Ice Arena in Rochester.

The reigning national champion Grizzlies, along with the ONYX, will also be hosting the ACHA Div. II national championship tournament, March 2-5.

Oakland 5

Michigan 3

## Short-handed Ladies no match for Grizzlies



Bob Knoska/The Oakland Post

Senior forward Amanda Batcha goes for a layup against Centenary. Batcha finished with 10 points in the Grizzlies' win over Centenary.

BY AARON WALKER  
THE OAKLAND POST

The OU women's basketball team (15-6, 7-3) defended their home court Monday night against Mid-Con foe Centenary College (1-19, 0-10), defeating the Ladies 69-50 at the O'Rena.

Oakland 69

Centenary 50

OU won the tip, and junior guard Jayme Wilson was fouled while driving to the basket. She sank both free throws.

OU began the game in a full court press, which it went in and out of throughout the game.

Junior guard Anne Hafeli recorded Oakland's first points on a transition jump shot.

Just under four minutes into the game, senior forward Amanda Batcha grabbed a defensive rebound and pushed the ball down court to find Hafeli for a three pointer. This gave the Grizzlies an 11-0 lead.

Out of a timeout Centenary responded with a drive from junior guard Laura Kizyte for their first points of the game.

OU countered with a jump shot from senior center Petra Manakova assisted by sophomore guard Joya Puryear to give OU a 13-2 lead.

Batcha's reverse layup from Puryear gave OU a 38-20 lead.

OU led 40-20 going into the half, on 50 percent shooting from the field, 43 percent from beyond the arc and a sizzling 87 percent from the free throw line.

The second half began with sophomore forward Nicole Piggott scoring from out of the post. Wilson stole the ball, and Puryear layed it up to give OU a 44-20 lead.

At the 15 minute mark, the Grizzly defense shined again as Puryear stole the ball and layed it up to put OU ahead 48-27.

"We played well. A lot of people contributed. It was a good team effort." Anne Hafeli said.

"I wasn't crazy about our intensity level, but a win is a win. We still looked tired from our road trip," OU head coach Eileen Shea-Hilliard said.

Coach Hilliard even laughed when Batcha attempted a three pointer late in the game. It was the first of her career.

She misfired. The crowd looked stunned to see her hoist up the shot, too.

This game featured another balanced attack by the home team.

All 11 players who recorded minutes recorded points or rebounds.

Hafeli led OU with 14 points and Batcha added 10 points.

Manakova's 10 points and six rebounds rounded out the Grizzlies double figure scorers.

Laura Kizyte led Centenary with 15 points and eight rebounds.

OU fell to Western Illinois University, 56-52, on Saturday afternoon.

**Game Preview**



**Who:** OU  
**@:** Southern Utah  
**When:** Feb. 12  
**Where:** Centrum Arena  
**What:** The Golden Grizzlies will look to cement second place in the Mid-Con with a victory. OU defeated the Thunderbirds 77-55 earlier this season.

### Women's Mid-Con Basketball Standings

	Mid-Con	Overall
Western Illinois	10-1	15-6
Oakland	7-3	15-6
Valparaiso	7-3	13-8
Oral Roberts	7-4	16-6
Southern Utah	5-5	9-12
Chicago State	5-6	10-12
UMKC	3-7	6-15
IUPUI	3-8	5-17
Centenary	0-10	1-19

## Around the Mid-Con

**Hafeli earns national honor.** Junior guard Anne Hafeli earned the College Sports Television Player of the Week honor for the week of Jan. 24.

Hafeli scored a career-high 31 points, including nine three-pointers in OU's 77-55 win over Oral Roberts on Jan. 24.

The nine three-pointers were just one shy of an OU school record and one shy of the most in the NCAA so far this season.

Hafeli has spent the past four weeks as the country's leading long-range shooter, with 3.6 per game.

**Oral Roberts coach joins USA Baseball staff.**

USA Baseball announced today that Oral Roberts University baseball head coach Rob Walton will serve as an assistant coach on the 2005 USA Baseball National Team that will represent the United States this summer.

Walton will assist 2005 Team USA Head Coach Steve Smith of Baylor University. Walton will serve as pitching coach.

Last season, Walton led ORU to its first 50-win season in 20 years. He also clinched the pro-

gram's record-breaking seventh straight conference crown to earn Mid-Con Coach of the Year.

"This is a thrill and an honor," Walton said in a press release. "It was totally unexpected, and I was caught a bit off guard. To be asked to be a part of this staff is both humbling and exciting."

**Mid-Con teams learn opponent for Bracket Buster.**

Oral Roberts (15-5, 6-2 Mid-Con) and Valparaiso (9-11, 5-3) have been assigned non-conference games as a result of their participation in the Bracket Buster Saturday pool.

The Golden Eagles will travel to Southwest Missouri State, while the Crusaders will visit Butler on Feb. 19. Game times for both games are to be determined.

There were 64 Div. I institutions in the original pool, and 22 teams were selected to participate in the Bracket Buster Saturday event on Feb. 19.

The remaining 42 squads have been assigned non-conference games.

Information from the Mid-Con Web site used in this report.