

OU sophomore Tom Butwin talks about his CD and his upcoming concert. See B1 for the full story.



Read about the "Communicable Consumption" art exhibit in Meadow Brook Art Gallery on B2.



OUSC battles over banquet costs

By JULIE SWIDINSKI
THE OAKLAND POST

The rules for OU's social scene are getting more complex by the minute.

Not only do campus organizations have to classify their proposed event by type, they've also got to clarify the guest list unless, of course, they're exempt from the rules, which depends on the type of group they are.

And you thought graduation requirements were complicated.

The state of campus events monopolized much of Monday's Student Congress meeting from the get go.

Not all of the discussion, however, was about the off-campus guest ban that has left many students in a snit.

The end-of-the-year Congress bash also became an item of Congress when Legislator Doug Merriam sponsored a bill that would divert \$4,000 allocated for OUSC's End of the Year Banquet to a Disability Support Services Capital Projects Fund.

"I just don't think that we should be having an end of the year banquet at an expense of \$4,000 of students' money," Merriam said.

After concerns were voiced that the cost of the April 15 banquet was too high, President Jonathan Parks said the

amount was set aside just to stay on the "safe side."

"The food comes out to roughly two and a half thousand dollars, and then there are invitations, room rental fees, DJ equipment and things of that nature," Parks said.

"The real cost will be about three to three and a half thousand dollars for about 60 individuals," he said.

Parks also said the banquet will not just benefit Student Congress, but also legislators, student committee workers, Student Program Board and OU's vice presidents.

"It is also like a welcoming for OUSC's new president and vice presi-

dent," Parks said. "This is where they get sworn in at."

Legislator Katie Miller agreed with Merriam that the money should not be spent on OUSC, but expressed concern that giving the money to the Disability Support Services could prompt future expectations from the group.

Student Activities Funding Board Chair Charity Jones said, "It isn't something specific for the Disability Support Services, it's just a fund. 'What's to say that if we make a fund for them, we can't make a fund for CMI,'" she added.

Merriam pointed out that the money can be used to purchase materials for capital projects on campus that

Disability Support Services might be interested in carrying out.

The organization helps ensure that students with disabilities are able to receive equal education opportunities by providing auxiliary aides, interpreters, access to housing and parking and other services.

Some legislators were concerned about how far plans had gone for the banquet, since the semester is coming to a close.

"We have invitation lists, the room is booked, and I was on the phone with the catering company today," Parks said.

"It would've been a good idea to vote

Please see OUSC on A8

Last-minute campaigning



Write-in candidates Fallon Bojanowski (center) and James Brown (right), along with their campaign manager, Joe Vittorini, rolled onto campus in a party bus to promote their presidential campaign.

Dante Ciuolo/The Oakland Post

Campus remains dance-free

By ALLISON BRUNNER
SENIOR NEWS WRITER

The moratorium on dances will not be lifted until the end of the semester, said Dean of Students, Glenn McIntosh.

A pair of town hall meetings was held Wednesday, March 23 to hear student organizations' opinions and suggestions on the ban and guest policy issue.

Approximately a dozen representatives from various student organizations, including the Association of Black Students, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the Muslim Student Association, showed up to each meeting, one held at noon, the other at 5 p.m.

Presidents of organizations were notified of the meetings that Jean Ann Miller, director of the Center for Student Activities, said were meant to give an opportunity for suggestions on dances and what the guest policy should be.

McIntosh attended the first meeting and said he "was pleased with the cross-dialogue among students and administrators. Both parties voiced a clear concern for the safety of the campus community."

One suggestion was to allow each OU student to bring and be responsible for two non-OU people, and every dance or event should be required to have 10 workers.

It has been two years since there was violence of this magnitude at OU, Miller said, which is why there is the high concern to keep students safe at future events.

Dances are always required to have OU police in attendance, and they were at both dances, the one in January and also in February.

Both events involved the use of pepper spray to control the crowd after the fights broke out.

The location of the first dance was in the Banquet Rooms, which has multiple entrances. The second was moved to the Gold Rooms, which has one way in and one way out to control the crowds.

The move, however, did not stop the brawls.

Gloria Sosa, director of the Office of Equity in the Center for Multicultural Initiatives, said things like this happen when there is an environment where there is more potential for safety issues.

"There is a dance and then there are other events," Sosa said.

One student suggestion was to have two separate policies, depending on whether it is an event for fun or if it showcases the university in some way.

Student Body President Jonathan Parks disagreed with that idea, because he said it might show special interest.

Events such as the Meadow Brook Ball are not classified as a dance, because they typically are a controlled group, through tickets and a guest list, and people do not come and go as they please at a ball.

Parks said dances are used as a way to fundraise, and that is all they are used for.

McIntosh said alumni and parents attending events are not appropriate at student organization events, because they are not the intended audience.

Tina Marleau, a member of Phi Sigma Sigma sorority disagreed with McIntosh and said "excluding people is not going to make

Please see BAN on A8

Speaker encourages students to take part in King's dream

By NICK COTTA
THE OAKLAND POST

Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream should not be remembered as simply a statement, said Reginald Turner, president-elect of the National Bar Association, the nation's largest and oldest association for black lawyers and judges.

"We should ask ourselves two questions: What

are the challenges to Dr. King's dream that we face today?"

"And second, the harder question, what have I done in the last year to help my community realize the dream?" Turner said, as he spoke on King's dream last week.

Turner finds that affirmative action and the need for diversity are important.

He said the most important pro bono case of his

career was the Supreme Court case in which the University of Michigan's affirmative action admissions policy was challenged.

"The Michigan case confronted our nation with critical questions of justice and equality, and as always, lawyers played a critical role in the monumental struggle for justice," he said.

Turner found U-M's actions to promote equality to be fully justified, and part of the university's First Amendment right.

The education of all students is thoroughly enhanced by a diverse student body, and a university has every right to promote it, he said.

The old de facto system, he said, supports white

Please see MLK on A2

Reporter shares experiences from Iraq

By KADIDJRI LAHAB
THE OAKLAND POST

When Nancy Youssef gets up in the morning to go to work, she knows she's not going into a third-floor office in a downtown corporate building; she's entering a war zone.

"I get paid to watch history unfold before my eyes every day," Youssef said.

A staff writer for The Detroit Free Press and foreign correspondent for Knight Ridder, Youssef is home from her third trip as a correspondent in Iraq.

Youssef is from Washington, D.C.; she studied at the University of Virginia and interned at The Baltimore Sun.

The internship led to a job at The Free Press in 2001, where Nancy responded to an editor's e-mail requesting reporters to cover the war in Iraq.

And she's been going back and forth since 2003.

Passion for the subject is Youssef's motivation, who said she and other journalists find the work addictive.

Riding in a Humvee is a must for any journalist coming to Iraq, she said, adding that hearing the

pinging of bullets against the vehicles helps to understand what the troops are experiencing.

"It is the biggest story of our time. We went over a month before the war started and lived in Amman, Jordan for two months, and then we went into Iraq the day after the regime fell," Youssef said.

She usually covers political and Arab street stories. Her interest is in the people of Iraq.

Being of Egyptian descent makes it easier for her to blend in, when necessary.

But danger is a reality.

Please see IRAQ on A2

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WEEKEND OUTLOOK

Friday	SHOWERS	Saturday	SHOWERS	Sunday	SHOWERS
HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW
45	30	46	33	50	35

MLK
Continued from A1

students by giving points for attributes whites have more access to, such as certain private schools, certain areas and parental alumni status.

Turner discounted the claims made by the program's opponents that it discriminates against white students.

The case was the most impor-

tant civil rights case of the time, he said, adding it was "sadly ironic" that the most important civil rights case of the 21st century involved preventing the clock from being turned back to before Brown v. Board of Education.

"A society that has done something special against the negro for hundreds of years must now do something special for him in order to equip him to compete on

a just and equal basis," he said, quoting King's stance on affirmative action, and criticizing a Detroit News article in which the author stated King's stance was hard to pin down.

Both King and Thurgood Marshall, the first black Supreme Court justice, would support the modern affirmative action movement, he said.

Opponents to the modern move-

ment do not take into account documented evidence that states all students benefit academically when there is a diverse student body, Turner said.

Over 60 Fortune 500 CEO's and 30 top military leaders sent briefs to support the effectiveness of diversity, he said.

Turner noted that admission doesn't necessarily guarantee success, and there can be "no

affirmative action on a physics exam."

But research has shown the minor gaps between races in academic achievement usually disappear after a year or two of all students working in the same environment.

The event, hosted by Cooley Law School, was scheduled to be held during Black History Month, but was postponed due

to OU's snow day.

John Nussbaumer, associate dean of Cooley on OU's campus, pledged that his criminal law class this summer would volunteer with a group that Turner had touted earlier, Focus: Hope, a Detroit based civil and human rights organization.

Nussbaumer said he always likes to find a way to implement what he hears in a lecture.

IRAQ
Continued from A1

"You could easily become paralyzed by fear for hours and sometimes for days, but I'm here to do a job," Youssef said, adding that her perspective on the risk of danger is, "If I'm going to go, I'm going to go."

Reporting to the American public about the situation in Iraq can be difficult, Youssef said.

Recently, the Scott Peterson trial dominated headlines, which pushed the Knight Ridder staff stories off the front pages.

Youssef said it is difficult for the staff who has worked hard on stories, but she understands the American public is "Iraqed-out."

Post-war Iraq has changed since Youssef's first trip, including relations between Iraqi citizens and U.S. troops.

"There was this great enthusiasm for what was about to happen," she said.

"There was this expectation that the Americans had this great plan and everything was going to work beautifully."

But now relations are tense.

"There was a lot of interaction between the military and the Iraqis. Now there is a mutual repulsion and each side just tries to stay away. Nearly every Iraqi I've met knows someone who has been killed since the end of the regime," she said.

The people closest to Youssef are the Knight Ridder staff, which consists of American journalists and Iraqi citizens they've hired off the streets to be translators, security and journalists.

The average Iraqi salary is \$200 a month. But Iraqi staffers working with Youssef are given ten times that amount.

"We are not only buying their time, we are buying their loyalty," Youssef said. "If they are getting \$1000 or \$2000 a month, they are less likely to sell us out."

She never leaves the hotel without her translator, and doesn't speak to anyone outside the hotel unless her translator says it is okay.

She wears the same attire as her translator and blends in well after leaving the hotel.

All the Iraqi people want is security, Youssef said, adding that a growing frustration of uncertainty has caused many of the educated to flee.

But their options are limited. "No country wants an Iraqi," Youssef said.

"How many families of dead people can you interview?"

Nancy Youssef,
Detroit Free Press reporter
Knight Ridder Tribune foreign correspondent

"And you can't get immigration status in the United States under the argument of political asylum, because the U.S. government recognizes Iraq as liberated."

Knight Ridder offers its correspondents hazard pay, but Youssef said she doesn't do this for the money.

There are times when she and other foreign correspondents feel the strain of their work and want to walk away, she said, but they cannot and do not.

"It's such a demanding job and it's so draining. How many families of dead people can you interview," she said. "At the same time, I think you can stay at this job if you are really passionate about it."

Youssef, who comes home every two months, is returning to Iraq in May.

She and her family have an understanding. She doesn't tell them how dangerous it is, and they don't tell her how worried they are about her.

Youssef, who spoke to Interim Director of Journalism Mike Lewis' Ethical Issues in the Media class last Thursday, asked students if they would be interested in reporting from Iraq.

Individuals interested in contacting her about foreign correspondence may e-mail her at NancyYoussef@freepress.com; while overseas, she uses nancyyoussef@hotmail.com.



File Photo/The Oakland Post
Foreign correspondent Nancy Youssef speaks to Mike Lewis' Ethical Issues in the Media class about her experience in Iraq and the danger she faces reporting from a war zone.

Levin speaks at OU

BY CRYSTAL ALLEN
THE OAKLAND POST

Put the Iraq War aside, and the greatest issue facing the United States this year is Social Security, said Democratic Senator Carl Levin.

There is a \$7 trillion national debt in the United States, and the next generation will be responsible for

paying it off.

"It is a philosophical issue," he said, when he came to speak at OU last week.

At least 10 million children living in the United States do not have health insurance, he said. "Shame on us."

By the year 2020, the U.S. government will take in less money for Social Security than will be paid out. By

2052, the U.S. Trust Fund will be used up, he said.

Privatization "makes Social Security less secure," he said.

Levin also touched on issues such as health insurance and the utilization of Social Security systems in Britain.

Also on the panel sat Timothy Melton, Oakland County Commissioner; Sigrid Grace, chair of the Rochester

Area Democratic Club, Virinder Moudgil, vice president of academic affairs and provost; Ginger Houghton, president of the College Democrats; Brian Koss, president of the College Republicans and Jonathan Parks, student body president.

"What do we as a people want to do together," Levin asked the public.

Today is the last day to vote for OUSC president, vice president and legislators.

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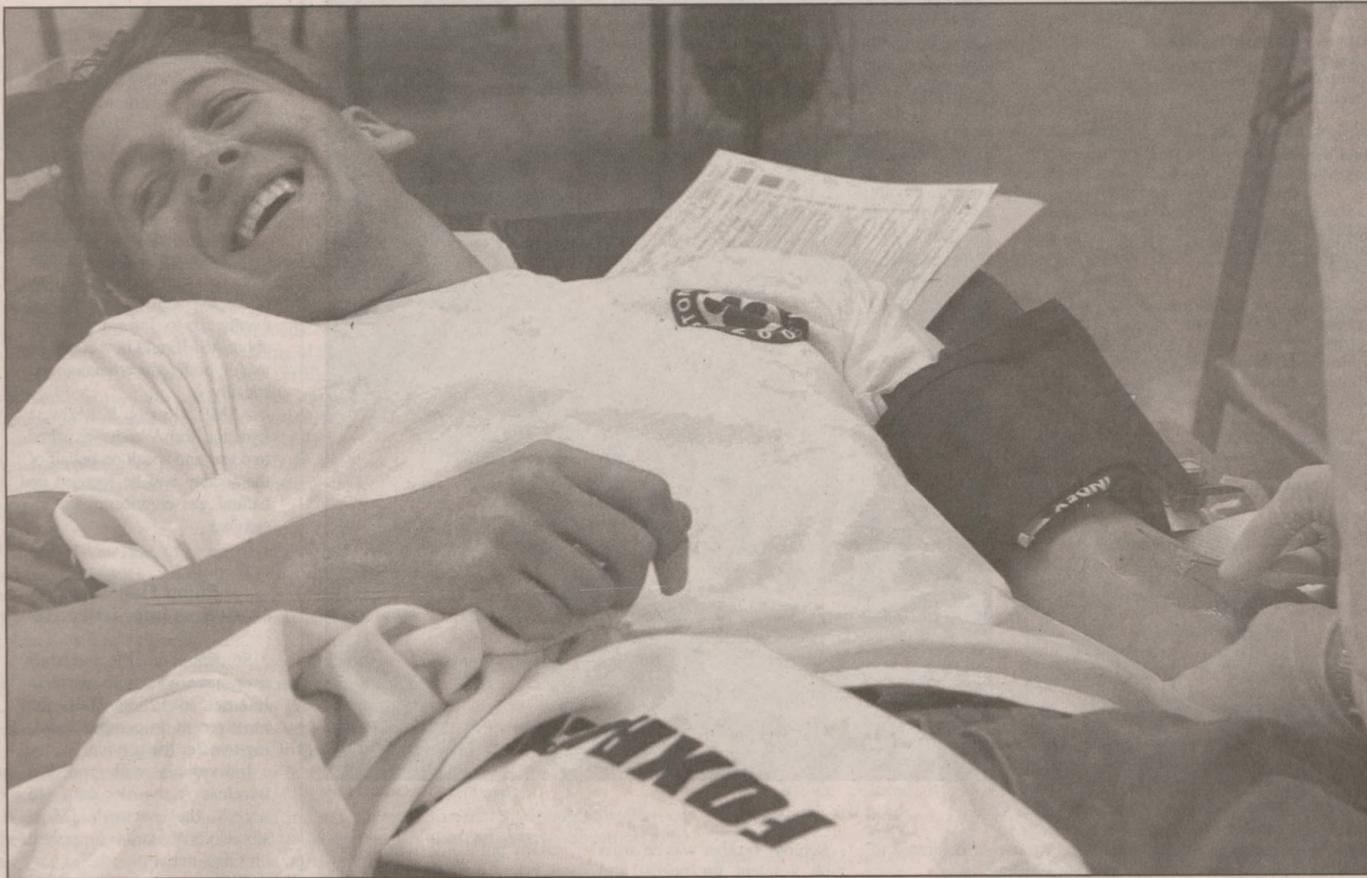
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Red Cross collects blood



Mark Wiedbusch gives blood at the OU Winter Blood Drive held in January.

The Spring Blood Drive started Monday and will continue from 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. today in the OC Gold Rooms.

According to the American Red Cross, the blood supply is usually reduced during this time of year, which makes it difficult for the Red Cross to supply hospitals with blood for emergency procedures and elective surgery.

The Red Cross encourages donors to make appointments ahead of time, but walk-in donors are welcome as well.

Dante Ciullo/File Photo

Master's program enjoys success

BY LESLIE SHEPARD-OWSLEY
THE OAKLAND POST

The Liberal Arts program is on the rise, expanding like a helium balloon, and its professors are floating with excitement.

In 2003, the board of trustees approved two new programs, MALS (Master of Arts degree in Liberal Studies) program and Studio Arts as an undergraduate degree.

The attendance in both programs has leapt beyond the estimated projections in the past year, and the fervor for the programs is taking hold.

"The classes have been so interesting, very challenging, but worth it. You encounter all sorts of subjects that you may never have thought of studying before, like war and art," said Alysa Hunton, a current MALS student.

The MALS program's current enrollment of 29 is a far cry from the two students enrolled in 2003.

Its uniqueness stems from the platform of a broad-based humanities degree which allows students to study subjects on an interdisciplinary basis, unlike undergraduate degrees which don't usually afford that opportunity.

"MALS allows students to integrate the study of diverse subjects such as literature and medicine,

music and war history, AIDS policies and film studies, to name a few," said professor Natalie Cole, chair of the MALS program and winner of the Teacher Excellence Award in 1998.

Students are required to complete 37 credits in the MALS program, but the learning doesn't stop there.

For the past two years, students traveled abroad to apply course work in conjunction with a particular country explored or overall theme.

Last year, the students traveled to London, but next winter, the students will don their babushkas and parkas when they travel to St. Petersburg, Russia to coalesce their knowledge with experience.

"The MALS program offers me the opportunity to travel to places that I would not have visited on my own. I had never spent days listening to conversations about Dickens and his influence in the modern world and with such an exceptional group of people," said Helen Basberg, a non-traditional student.

Core classes are developed specifically for MALS students, the one common denominator being they are each interdisciplinary.

During the past year, for example, core classes included Science and Religion, The Contemporary Artist in War, the City in History, Art, Literature and Film, and Space in Art, Architecture, Film and Literature.

In addition to the core, students take six electives

and complete a master's thesis or project. Cole speaks in a reverential tone of her colleagues and staff that help make it all work.

"It's been just terrific. I get to work with great teachers like David Maines, who earned the Research Excellence Award in 2002 and will be teaching Inequality in America in the fall.

The core instructors often approach their subjects in unique ways.

Professor Eugenie Beall, who is teaching The Contemporary Artist and War, invited a navy commander to her class, "to show how the military is actually run (and) to see what war really means," Cole said.

Though students stand to gain a master's degree, the program is not vocationally driven.

It is geared toward the student who wants to be well-versed in the humanities. However, the MALS degree is advantageous to any professional, from the secondary education teacher to the art major.

Cole is a visionary and sees the MALS program picking up speed and flying off in different directions in the future.

By December '05, four MALS graduates will be handed their second diploma.

She hopes to encourage more students to go to the annual conferences of the Association of Graduate Liberal Studies Program, a national organization of lib-

eral studies held at the likes of Stanford and Duke Universities.

This gives students the opportunity to interface with other colleges and walk away with yet another learning experience.

She would also like to continue with the student outreach at the Older Persons Commission here in Rochester, Mich.

Just this past August, research papers written by Holly Gilbert, Susan Brown and Mary Ann Mayer were presented and were well received.

"MALS is like a kaleidoscope with many shapes and colors all in one little sphere, and you can choose any piece you want, discover it, and then take another and learn that piece," Basberg said.

"That's what education does, opens windows to areas you didn't know about before."



Risking lives to save art

BY HEIDI ROMAN
THE OAKLAND POST

Would you put your life in danger to save a piece of art or literature?

Guy Stern posed this question as he spoke on altruism in the service of art and literature last Wednesday.

Stories have surfaced of people who rescued Jews and other refugees and took them into their homes during the Holocaust at the risk of their lives and the lives of their families.

"These things, while very brave, are still fathomable," said Stern, professor emeritus of German and Slavic studies at Wayne State University.

"We can all ask ourselves if somebody

knocks on your door and says 'please hide me or I'm going to be killed,' even at the risk of your own family, you might indulge in that," he said.

But who would do the same for a painting or a book?

Stern cited examples of people who took that risk, not for personal gratification, but to rescue artwork and literature they deemed irreplaceable during World War II.

"The rescue of art is a sign of human resistance," Stern said.

The Detroit Institute of Arts is now home to several paintings that would not have survived without the acts of William Balentine, who crossed Germany and pur-

Please see ART on A4

Series explores Grant's character

BY KARL BUCHMAN
THE OAKLAND POST

Who is buried in Grant's tomb?

Professor of history Carl Osthaus attempted to answer that question to an audience of over 100 last week.

Was Ulysses S. Grant the "bad president?" Or was the "good general?"

Osthaus explained that while Grant's talents made him an effective general, his failings as a president were partly due to many circumstances that were out of his control.

"I'm willing to pay attention not only to what Grant could control and not control, but also to many extenuating circumstances," he said.

"Postwar America was very different from wartime America," Osthaus said, adding that the differences in the

country made it difficult for Grant to always understand the best way to run the country.

Having had less political experience than most U.S. presidents, Osthaus said Grant was ill-prepared for the challenges that lay before him, despite his popularity.

"He entered the White House with great applause," Osthaus said, pointing out that Grant's popularity as a general won him his candidacy for president.

But his experience as a general did not help him as a president, or it may have even harmed him, Osthaus said.

In spite of Grant's difficulties as president, Osthaus found it important to not overlook his talent as a general.

"He was successful because he understood the rhythmic of war -



one battle led to the next," Osthaus said. "His world after 1865 was far more complex."

Alumnus Joan Belanger, a former student of Osthaus', said she attended the event when she discovered he was speaking.

"He kept it very interesting," Belanger said. "I'd come again."

"I love these guys," said alumnus Keith Sirlin.

"They make history come alive and they make it understandable ... you can understand what happens today when you understand what happened 150 years ago."

Please see GRANT on A4

police files

• OUPD officers found two students walking erratically down the hill south of Vandenberg Hall.

Both males appeared to have trouble walking. One of them could not respond to the officers' questions.

He stumbled backwards, fell on his back and was unable to get up.

Neither could take tests to determine how intoxicated they were. Both were transported to Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital by American Medical Response.

• Presidential candidate Charity Jones reported a stolen sandwich board political sign that she had placed in the side-

walk area north of the OC. The sign is approximately 3 feet by 2 feet.

• An intoxicated female under the age of 21 was discovered in the 4th floor of East Vandenberg by an officer responding to a dispatch.

Her eyes were bloodshot and an odor of intoxicants was detected.

• A male said he placed his

belongings into a locker at the Rec Center, but left it unlocked. When he returned to the locker room, he noticed that the items in his wallet had been moved around, and the cash had been stolen.

The officer took the items remaining in the wallet to check for fingerprints, but none were found. The items were then returned.

• An unknown caller informed OUPD of a suspicious white Ford Explorer in parking lot P-16. An officer observed several male subjects inside the vehicle and stopped it.

One of them said he and his friend had been drinking earlier.

When he saw police traveling behind his friend's vehicle, he felt paranoid and jumped out of it.

the LOW down

Wednesday, March 30

Bring your lunch to rooms 128-130 of the OC at noon and learn about environmentally friendly gardening, how to care for your lawn and how to create your own rain garden.

Thursday, March 31

Guest speaker Patricia Ireland will discuss women's leadership and studies at noon in Banquet Room A of the OC.

The Alice Conner Gorlin lecture will feature speaker Catherine Mann, who will discuss international issues and events.

The lecture starts at 3 p.m. in Elliott Hall Auditorium, room 242.

A documentary about Teena Brandon, a female who passed herself off as a male, which ultimately caused her death, will be shown at 6 p.m. in Kresge Library.

Friday, April 1

OUSC election results will be announced at noon in the OC's food court.

Friday Night Live will host Jeff Capri, a worldwide comedian, at 7 p.m. in Vandenberg Dining Center.

The Gay/Straight Alliance is hosting its 2nd Annual Drag Show at 8 p.m. in the Banquet Rooms of the OC.

Sunday, April 3

Artist Phaedra Robinson will speak on her "Communicable Consumption" exhibition at Meadow Brook Art Gallery in 208 Wilson Hall at 2 p.m.

Monday, April 4

Web registration (SAIL) for Spring and Summer 2005 classes begins at 12:01 a.m. by class standing.

Tuesday, April 5

Dr. Leroy Hood, president and founder of the Institute for Systems Biology in Seattle will discuss how systems biology is changing biology, medicine and society. He will also receive the 2005 Biomedical Science Achievement Award for his accomplishments Tuesday at 4 p.m. in the Banquet Rooms of the OC.

~ Compiled by Allison Brunner
Senior News Writer

Students cast ballots

Students vote for president, vice president and legislators

Students cast their votes online at several polling stations throughout the OC.

All votes will be processed electronically, except for write-in votes which will be counted by Krupa Ujla, head of the Elections Commissions.

The Elections Validations Committee will hold a meeting Thursday night to discuss any concerns regarding the election.

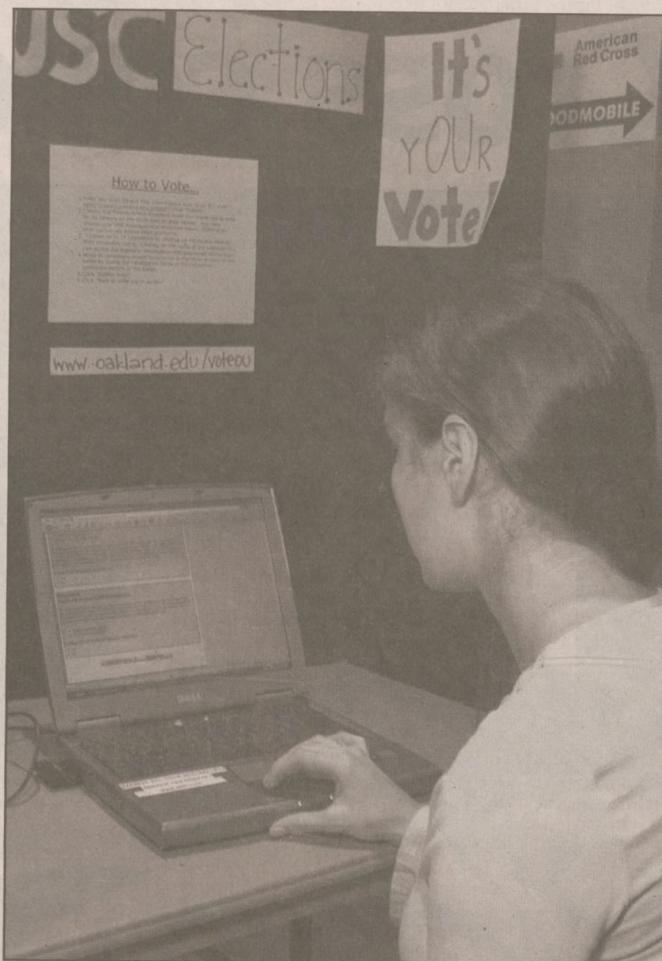
Individuals have until Thursday at noon to file a complaint, either by e-mailing Ujla or dropping off the complaint at the OUSC office, 62 OC.

Election results will be announced Friday at noon in the OC's food court.

Voting ends today at 10 p.m. Students may vote by visiting <http://www.oakland.edu/voteou>.

Don't forget to vote.

Visit
<http://www.oakland.edu/voteou>
before 10 p.m. today to let your voice be heard.



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post

ART Continued from A3

chased every piece of art he could afford so it would not fall into the hands of the Nazis.

During the German retreat from Italy in World War II, custodians and librarians of the Royal Library of Naples surrounded the building to try and protect it from burning after the Nazis had poured gasoline around it.

Their protest was not enough to save the library, however, because the Nazis responded by shooting them all and burning the library.

Felix Nussbaum is an artist whose work survived, even though he did not.

Nussbaum was a painter who escaped to Belgium where he was able to continue his work during the Holocaust.

When he was sent to Auschwitz, his friends in Belgium hid his paintings. There

is now a museum dedicated to him in Germany.

On one day alone, the Nazi regime burned over 20,000 books that were written by Jewish authors or which they felt carried anti-Nazi messages.

Although paper was not always available to the artists who continued their work during the Holocaust, they created art on linen, dish cloths and even the backs of postage stamps.

Stern gave other accounts of art and literature saved by cellmates of artists in concentration camps who hid the works under mattresses.

Some artists buried their own work and came back to rescue it years later, or destroyed their own creations to avoid seeing them in the hands of Nazis.

Eva Schloss, a lecture attendee whose family was in hiding for two years during the Holocaust, recounted her personal experience.

Schloss' brother was an artist with a talent for poetry and painting. The family hid several of his paintings under the floorboards of a home in Holland that they had escaped to in the night.

Years later when the war was over, Schloss and her mother returned to the address and were able to retrieve the paintings.

The artworks are currently traveling throughout the country to be displayed, and will eventually take permanent home in Amsterdam's Resistance Museum.

Schloss, who is stepsister to the well-known Anne Frank, is featured in James Still's play, "And Then They Came for Me: Remembering the World of Anne Frank," which is currently playing at the Meadow Brook Theatre.

Stern pointed out what he found to be five motivations that enticed these individuals to take on risks for the sake of art.

Many put themselves in danger because of their religious beliefs, saving a sacred object that belonged to the church.

Others had ideological motivation and identified personally with a piece of political art.

Some were driven by their aesthetic attraction to the piece.

Others were motivated by pure human decency, believing there was no reason for the destruction, and the decent thing to do would be to stop it.

Lastly, Stern cited a desire to preserve global culture as a motivation.

He said he believes that there are still many acts of greatness that have not yet been exposed.

Stern, who was born in Hildesheim, Germany, emigrated to the United States in 1937.

He has a master's degree in Germanic and Slavic Studies from Columbia University, and received his doctorate in 1953.

GRANT Continued from A3

Alumnus Matthew Wegrzynowicz, who described himself as a Civil War junkie, said last week's lecture was his first time back on campus since he graduated in 1989.

"I came to hear (Osthaus) talk about Grant because his classes were just phenomenal," he said, adding that he thought the lecture was excellent.

Osthaus' lecture was the last of six lectures in the "History Comes Alive" series hosted by OU's department of history and College of Arts and Sciences.

Osthaus, a professor at OU since 1970, said he found speaking about Grant to be "a wonderful experience."

He also said he was pleased with the turnout. "I thought they'd be tied to the television, but there are people interested in history."

Do you have a story idea for The Post? Is there something you would like to read about? E-mail us at news@oakpostonline.com.

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

ASME Kickoff Lecture

The American Society of Mechanical Engineers is an organization who's membership on campus declined over the past decade. It was almost obsolete until a group of individuals, including sophomore, and now president, Joseph Schaffer and associate professor of mechanical engineering Sayed Nassar, now advisor, helped bring it back to life at OU.

Tuesday night was a kickoff event to mark ASME's return. Schaffer said the evening's purpose, as well as upcoming events, is to inform students about ASME and how it can be useful both educationally and socially.

ASME's Region V, Midwest Director, Tom Wendt was asked to come and speak on behalf of the society and he focused on natural gas engineering in his seminar.

Elliott Hall offers wireless Internet access

Students, faculty and staff now have access to wireless Internet in Elliott Hall, the most recent on-campus building to offer the service.

Individuals will need a wireless network card to access the network. Most stores carry cards supported on OU's network.

Grizznet logins are also required. For students, faculty and staff, the login is the same one used for e-mail.

OU offers summer camp for children

Parents can now educate their school-aged children at OU, by having them attend one of several camps offered this summer. Children can attend camps that pertain to a variety of interests, including math, writing, dance and sports.

For more information, visit <http://www2.oakland.edu/oakland/ouportal/index.asp?site=21>.

GSC forum cancelled

A forum scheduled to discuss how a Gender and Sexuality Center could benefit the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning population at OU was cancelled because guest speakers were unable to attend.

The LGBTQ Resource Fair, also scheduled for Tuesday, was held in the Fireside Lounge.

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LOOKING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS?

Commuter Involvement Award, Volunteer Service Award, and Sidney Fink Memorial Award Applications Now Available

Nominations forms available in CSA (49 OC), CMI (121 NFH), Dean of Students (144 OC), Service Desk, Campus Recreation, and Student Congress (62 OC) offices.

Questions? Call Jean Ann Miller at 370-4332 or email her at jam@oakland.edu. Deadline for all three awards is Friday, April 1, 2005 to the Center for Student Activities Office, 49 Oakland Center.

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MICHIGAN COLLEGIATE VIRTUAL JOB FAIR

April 4-15, 2005
Website hours: 24/7

Looking for full-time, part-time, internship/co-op or career related employment? Participate in the Michigan Collegiate Virtual Job Fair! Visit <http://www.mcvjf.org> and submit your resume. What is a Virtual Job Fair? You can view an employer's "virtual" booth that includes job postings, company information and contact data 24/7. Interface with employers through group and private chat rooms. How do I participate? IT'S FREE AND IT'S EASY. Visit <http://www.mcvjf.org> April 4-10, 2005 and submit your resume to any of the job postings. Visit chat rooms during the week of April 11, 2005.

Partial list of registered employers includes: American Express Financial Advisors, American Health Care Services, Camp Grace Bentley, City of Madison Police Dept., Creative Solutions, Detroit Country Day School, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Farmington Public Schools, First Investors Corp., Gentex Corp., MetLife, Financial Services, Mill Street, Modern Engineering, Inc., National City Corporation, Northwestern Mutual Financial Network, Nursing Home Group Rehab Services, Pepsi Bottling Group, Port Huron Hospital, Quicken Loans/Rock Financial, Shurgard, TESCO Group, U.S. Army TARDEC, UPS, Wedgwood Christian Services and Workforce Software.

The MCVJF is sponsored by the Michigan Association of Collegiate Career & Employment Services, the Michigan Collegiate Job Fair, and the Michigan Council for Cooperative Education.

STUDENT LIAISON TO THE OU BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2005-2006

Applications/Nominations available at Student Affairs, 144 Oakland Center. Deadline is March 31, 2005.

Call 248-370-4200 for more information.

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE presents Jeff Capri

April 1, 2005, 7 PM, Vandenberg Dining Center
Free admission and refreshments

Today Jeff's own observational (and at times physical) style touches on everything from the tacitly mundane to the ridiculous. He is a comic with great stage presence, sharp wit, and a timely delivery that has entertained audiences all over the United States, and abroad. Jeff is considered by his peers to be a consummate professional; he can easily adapt to any crowd. Jeff has worked a wide variety of audiences. Ranging from corporate events to high school grad nights, bars and nightclubs to national television, USO celebrity tours to even a nudist colony! His ability (not necessarily) to work clean while keeping a caustic cynical edge is evidence of a well-seasoned comedian. He has appeared along side many respected entertainers, including Adam Sandler, Ellen DeGeneres, and Sinbad.

Pimp yo' ride

By PAUL KAMPE
THE OAKLAND POST

Spring is upon us, and it's time to get your car cleaned up and time to take care of some neglected maintenance. Many people fail to keep up their car the same way that they might in the summer, and who can blame them with the winter we went through?

When car maintenance is brought up, many think about car engine maintenance, which is important, too, however, your car takes quite a beating on the local roads.

It's no secret that we drive on some of the worst roads in the country, ASE certified mechanic James Orth said. "We see more damage to rims and tires due to potholes." Orth, the assistant manager of Belle Tire in Auburn Hills, also points out that he sees an increase in alignments. "Winter weather takes its toll on cars."

Although it may take a mechanic to repair some of the damage to your ride, there are several things that car owners can do themselves to keep their cars running their best. So after you get one of this year's first car washes and you take all the empty pop bottles and Big Mac wrappers out of the car, the easiest thing you can do by yourself is to give the tires a look a few times a week.

"The (air) pressure is always a good thing to do, make sure pressure is up to spec," said Jim Rink, AAA Michigan spokesperson. If one of the tires isn't up to par, take your air pressure gauge — you can even get one at Meijer — and measure the air pressure inside the tire, measured in pounds per square inch. The proper inflation level will be printed on the sidewall of the tire or inside the driver's side door. Keeping your tires properly inflated is an easy way to increase your fuel efficiency, and everyone needs that these days.

Orth noted that you should check and see if it looks like there is enough tread left on the outside of your tires. If the grooves in the center of the tread pattern are almost even with the outer tread on the tire, it's time to replace.

Orth mentioned the need to replace wiper blades as well. The best test for them is simply just your everyday use, and because of the snow and ice in the winter, the blades are susceptible to breakage. If they streak or leave most of the rain on the windshield, then obviously you should get a new set. However, the wipers will still be looked over by many, but it's in the best interest for your safety, and they are cheap and easy to replace. When you head to the store, all you need to know is the make and model of your car to find the right blades for you.

Rink said that the fuel filter is another gas saver and that's because a clean one can

also increase your fuel efficiency. The air intake hose will lead you to the air filter. If you have trouble, look for a diagram in your owner's manual. When you take it out, hold it up in the light. If it's brown colored, then it's done and needs replacement, again head to Meijer or an auto parts store for a new one.

While you're under the hood, find the reservoir over-flow tank for your radiator. Open it up and see if there is an acceptable amount of engine coolant (antifreeze) in there. If you need to buy more, make sure and check over the manual again, because some cars only take a certain type of antifreeze.

If even the simple checks for your car aren't up your alley, you can take your car to a mechanic. For instance, Belle Tire will do a free 12-point inspection for you. They will inspect and check the levels of the fluids in your engine, as well as your tires, oil, and air filter. They will also perform what Rink says is another important spring test; the battery load test. The importance of testing your battery is something people might only think of after it's already too late. Rink says that the cold temperatures in the winter can affect how your battery is going to perform.

If you've been procrastinating, it's probably time to get that oil change. You're supposed to do that every 3,000 miles or around every three months. If you don't know how to do it, or if you just aren't hands on, you can drop by one of the many oil change shops. The Quality Lubrication oil change shop on the corner of Walton Boulevard and Squirrel Road is right by campus.

In anticipation of a sizzling summer, you may want to get your air conditioner checked and charged before you melt away your summer from behind the steering wheel.

A trunk filled with accessories, besides your subwoofers, is important year round. You should always make sure you have a jack, a spare tire, a crowbar and a set of jumper cables. The age of cell phones is starting to make these things unnecessary, but being able to change your own tire is a good skill to have. And there's always that chance that you could need a jump because your battery is dead, and not everyone carries them.

If you live on campus or you just have enough time to run errands between classes, you can pick up car parts at Auto Zone or at Advance Auto Parts on Perry Street in Pontiac, south of Walton Boulevard (east of campus). And if you feel more comfortable, you can always venture into the automotive aisle at Meijer in Rochester or in Auburn Hills, because they have an extensive selection of auto parts available.



Quake causes tsunami panic

Just three months after a tsunami terrorized Indonesia leaving more than 300,000 people dead, the same region was shaken by an 8.7 earthquake. The official death toll stood at 330 Tuesday, but officials fear it could soar into the thousands. The quake that triggered the Indian Ocean tsunami. No tsunamis were reported, but this marks the first time in recorded history that two quakes of such great magnitude happened so close together.

Laura Bush meets with Afghan president

First lady Laura Bush set out Tuesday for a quick visit to Afghanistan, undertaking a trip to a war-torn country where American forces are still battling a stubborn Taliban-led insurgency. She is expected to arrive in Kabul midday Wednesday and spend about five hours on the ground, spending most of her time being briefed on educational initiatives for Afghan women. She also will meet with President Hamid Karzai and have dinner with U.S. forces at Bagram Air Base north of Kabul.

Mrs. Bush has expressed concern about the limited educational opportunities for Afghan girls under the rule of the former Taliban regime.

Soccer fans rush field; riot

Angry fans invaded the field and forced the suspension of an African World Cup qualifying match between Togo and host Mali, then went on a riot and looting spree in Bamako. Togo led 2-1 when the game was stopped in second-half injury time.

Saturday, the home fans at the packed 70,000-seat stadium became upset when Kader Koubadia scored what appeared to be a goal in injury time.

Police fired tear gas at dozens of angry fans who ran onto the field after the goal, and state television immediately cut its live transmission. Dozens of people passed out after inhaling the gas.

Fans joined residents to continue rioting in the city, with thousands descending on the capital's main African Unity Avenue and screaming for the heads of Mali's top soccer players.

Global goof

50 Cent not shot, not happy about it

Rapper 50 Cent is disappointed nobody has tried to shoot him while he's been out driving, because he spent \$200,000 bullet-proofing two of his cars.

The rapper, who was shot nine times in an attack before rising to fame, has spent a lot of time and money on ensuring he's safe when he's on the road, but he's never had the opportunity to put the efficiency of the safeguards to the test.

He tells BLENDER magazine, "I have two (bulletproof vehicles), one in New York, one in LA, and it was about 100 grand each.

"I'm actually disappointed though: Nobody's shot me. I spent a lot of money on that s**t!"

-Compiled by Elizabeth Gorecki
Local News Editor
Information taken from various news sources.

DIAGNOSING THE WOUNDS

Identifying leaking car fluid

Is your car bleeding? Bruce Bonebrake, an Automotive Service Experience certified Master Auto Technician and host of the Do It Yourself (DIY) Network series "Weekend Mechanic," shares his knowledge on how to read leaks and spills.

Description	Likely Fluid	What to do
Dark brown, Oily	Oil	Match the leak against the fluid on your dipstick. Oil leaks are common in older cars where seals have loosened up. A lack of oil could ruin your engine.
Dark to light brown, Oily	Power steering fluid	Check for an oily consistency
Light amber	Brake fluid	To check, see if you can detect a bitter smell. Brake fluid has a very distinctive odor. There is only a pint or so of brake fluid in your car to begin with, so the impact of a leak can be huge. If your car is leaking a lot, pull over rather than risk having your brakes fail.
Pink to dark red, thin	Transmission fluid	Again, match the fluid to the dipstick to check it.
Pink or orange	Coolant (in newer cars)	Be sure to clean it up — small animals like its sweet taste, but it's extremely toxic.
Bright yellow to yellow-green	Coolant (in older cars)	Again, be sure to clean it up.
Clear and watery	Water	It likely condensed on the air conditioning hardware or in the exhaust system and is no cause for concern.

If you see a leak under your car every time you park, you should fix it as soon as possible. The same goes for any leaks that leave a spot bigger than a baseball.

Women's history movement reaches milestone this March

By AVA HABERKORNHALM
THE OAKLAND POST

This month marks the 18th year that National Women's History Month has been recognized and the 25th anniversary of the multicultural women's history movement.

This year, the National Women's History Project, along with numerous other organizations, is celebrating the theme of "Women Change America." This theme honors the role of American women who have impacted society by transforming culture, history and politics.

About 143 women are being honored for their contributions to American life. The list includes Maya Angelou, Emily Dickinson and Amelia Earhart.

National Women's History Month began in 1970 as Women's History Week. The week was established to combat the fact that women's history was relatively ignored in the K-12 educational curriculum, and thus, unknown by the general public.

The response to Women's History Week was extremely enthusiastic. Over the next few years, more than 100 women came to take part in the activities, which included community resource projects and essay contests.

Following the enthusiastic response, in 1981, a congressional resolution was passed declaring March 8 National Women's History Week. Soon after, as a way to reach gender equity in the classroom, state departments of education began developing and distributing materials in the class-

room in recognition of National Women's History Week.

Finally, in 1987, after petitioning Congress, National Women's History Week was expanded to include the entire month of March.

There is now a President's Commission on the Celebration of Women in History in America, which takes reports on effective women's history programs and listens to recommendations of programs still to come.

Another organization, the Women's Progress Commission, will soon begin holding hearings to decide the appropriate methods of preserving historical sites of importance to American women's history. On the smaller scale, there are tons of community based groups that are coming together in a nationwide celebration.

At OU, there have been numerous events on campus in recognition of the month.

"I think that the events for Women's History Month could have been advertised a little more, but I like that OU has taken the effort to celebrate the month, and look forward to future celebrations," sophomore Stephanie August said.

The next OU event celebrating Women's History Month is a lecture entitled "Equal Rights: Are We There Yet?" Thursday, March 31 with Patricia Ireland. The event will be held from 12-1 p.m. in Banquet Room A of the Oakland Center.

Events will also be held throughout April. For more information on campus events, contact the Center for Student Activities.



Courtesy of National Women's History Project

TAXING Times

Facts about filing and tax form tips as deadline **LOOMS**

By KRISTIN SOMMER
THE OAKLAND POST

There's forms 1040, 1040EZ or 1040A for the Internal Revenue Service. The state of Michigan requires Form MI-1040. Occasionally a D-1040(R) or D-1040(NR) has to be filed if the taxpayer lived or worked in Detroit.

Claiming additional credits or owing money add to the income tax alphabet- and number-soup.

The type of job held, the location of the job and how much money was made all affect which forms need to be filed.

Every January through April, tax season takes over accounting and tax-service providers offices.

Recent years have seen the addition of downloadable online forms, electronic filing, taxpayer assistance programs and software available for purchase at many stores.

This year, to avoid confusion and stress, many students had someone else complete their taxes.

Monica Glowski had her dad's accountant complete hers.

"Maybe in a couple years I'll try to do my own," Glowski said.

Karl Wesenberg let a professional take care of his return when he filed earlier this year.

"I had someone do it because I had some questions," Wesenberg said.

While many students turn to someone else, some

tackle the job themselves.

This year, Michigan, along with 18 other states, joined in the Free File Alliance. The alliance is part of the Intuit Tax Freedom Project that started in 1998. The project has allowed more than eight million people to complete their returns for free.

By going to www.statetaxfreedom.com anyone who meets one of three criteria can complete their state and federal returns for free.

If you qualify for the Earned Income Credit, earned less than \$35,000 or served active military duty then you can file for free through this program.

The state's treasury department has a list of several Web sites that offer online filing. Some charge for both state and federal returns, some for just the state, and some charge nothing if you qualify.

All state forms are also available online at www.michigan.gov/treasury.

Accounting major Kristie Caballa plans on completing her own taxes this year with software she purchased, something she doesn't find too hard.

"I think most people could do it (themselves) if they wanted to," Caballa said.

For self-filers, there are many sources available to answer any questions that may come up.

H&R Block Premium, located on Walton Boulevard in Rochester Hills, "always answers questions for free," employee Susan Wipperman said.

Many students are confused on whether to claim

themselves.

"It's very important that a student doesn't claim themselves if their parents are, because they could lose their health insurance" and other coverage only available to dependent children, Wipperman said.

The IRS is also working on making income tax forms easier. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) offers free tax help for people who made less than \$36,000.

VITA offices are located throughout the county in libraries, community centers, schools or senior centers.

Unless an extension is filed and granted, all returns are due April 15.

The closer to that day the return is filed, the longer it will take to process and disperse refunds.

Both the IRS and state of Michigan have a direct deposit option. By providing a bank account number and routing number, refunds can be directly placed in the account, making it much faster than a check in the mail.

E-filing returns also speeds up processing.

Oakland University students that prefer having a professional complete their return can take advantage of a special OU discount at H&R Block Premium for \$99, Wipperman said.

H&R Block Premium can be reached at (248) 652-2250.

To find a VITA office near you, call (800) 829-1040.

Taxpayer peeves

What annoys Americans most during tax season, according to a recent survey:

- 30 Compiling, organizing tax records
- 10 Paying tax bill
- 9 Finding correct forms
- 8 Panicking about deadline

© 2002 KRT
Source: Survey by International Communications Research for Staples Graphic: Pai

New club draws an older crowd

By LAURA WEINER
THE OAKLAND POST

One can only imagine the less than thrilling options senior citizens have when it comes to having a good time. Now, thanks to Greg Pike, things are looking up. Club 650 opened last week, and it is causing a stir around Rochester.

Club 650 is a night club-style monthly event that allows seniors an alternative to their usual activities.

"It is a little hipper and edgier than other daytime activities that were being offered," said Pike, manager of video production and performing

arts for the Older Persons' Commission, and the man in charge.

The event takes place at the Ruth Cattell Auditorium, which holds 250 people in its cabaret-style seating, all anxious to see the different entertainers.

There is a variety of different things to see, including comics, singing and dancing.

All the performers are senior citizens who came out to audition and wowed Pike.

The entertainment is not the only thing that draws people to this event.

"We gave it a real Vegas feel. It is stylistic, with stylistic lighting, a

neon sign out front, a real late 50s thing," Pike said.

"It was absolutely beautiful with candles and wonderful wine glasses," said Joan Beutel, an attendee as well as an organizer for the event. Volunteers, donned the "650 girls," worked the room.

"There are some Oakland University girls walking around taking Polaroid's and serving finger sandwiches in cigar-girl type outfits," she said.

The tickets are \$7 and can be purchased at the new OPC building, 650 Letticia. The event is open to the general public, although it is mostly

senior citizens.

"It was about 90 percent older people and 10 percent families of the people performing," said Marye Miller, the director of the Senior Activity Center.

So far the event has been a great success. The first show sold out two weeks before opening night. This show ended with a standing ovation from the crowd.

Another show will take place every third Thursday of the months to come, and Pike couldn't be happier.

"It was such a success I can't wait to see what's to come."

ALTOIDS

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EDITORIAL

Religious groups dispute over National Day of Prayer



**SHEILA
KOSZTOWNY**
Campus Life Editor

Just around the corner in the city of Troy, the National Day of Prayer has sparked controversy.

Every year on the first Thursday of May, the city of Troy holds the prayer event on city property. All religions are invited to the event, although it is predominantly Christian-based groups that lead the prayer.

The issue is not over which faiths should attend the event or if it should be held on city property, but rather who should lead the prayer.

Christian and interfaith groups, which include Islam and Hinduism, are disputing over who should lead the prayer.

This reminds us somewhat of Jesus' disciples that were disputing over who was the best in the book of Matthew in the New Testament of the Bible (Matthew, Chapter 18).

All religions have been attending the event for over 11 years in Troy, according to the Troy National Day of Prayer Christian Task Force Web site.

Over the years and including this year, 53 churches of all religions attend the event, but prayers are held at different times.

Yet be that as it may, the Christians have led the event since it started in 1994. The Troy NDP Christian Task Force "seeks to bring people together that live, work and worship in Troy, Mich. at a common public forum for united prayer for our country and community."

The group is "united on the foundation of the Holy Bible and in our faith in God of that Bible and our Savior Jesus Christ."

In fact, the event was founded on Christianity. The National Day of Prayer was called as early as 1775 with the First Continental Congress, said the Troy NDP Web site.

It later was named by President Abraham Lincoln, and was enacted as an official holiday in 1952 by Congress. President Bush supports the National Day of Prayer.

The group's Web site states that it is "intended for all peoples of faith to pray to the God of their understanding."

However, the next sentence says, "Our expression of that involvement is specifically limited to the Judeo-Christian heritage."

They also follow the Lausanne Covenant, a Christian organization that proclaims Jesus Christ their savior.

It seems to be that Christianity has founded the event, and should continue leading the prayer.

In fact, this year's theme is "God Shed His Grace on Thee" and will be held at Veteran's Plaza.

All other groups, as always, should be invited to the event, but should respect its principle establishment.

DIVERSITY CORNER

University should recognize accomplishments of Parks

BY MICHAEL WILLIAMS
THE OAKLAND POST

For many students, the past couple of days have been a time to celebrate.

The cause of the celebration is the OU men's basketball team. The team recently made it into the NCAA Tournament for the first time in OU history.

There has also been another first in OU history.

Jonathan Parks is the first student to be back-to-back student body president.

Mr. Parks has been congratulated and told that he is the first to accomplish this feat, but as far as being recognized officially by the university, nothing has been done.

"Why not" is the question a couple of people on campus would like to know.

Of course no one expects anything on the level of making the NCAA Tournament, and this is not being wrote as an attempt to compare the two.

It is simply a question I am asking.

When asked to comment on his experience as being student body president for two consecutive school years, Mr. Parks stated, "I would like to be remembered for my honesty and sacrifice. During my two terms with Congress, I had no problem calling a spade a spade. If something foul was going on and I saw it, I called it out."

Honest words coming from a person who comes across as confident in himself.

My guess is you would have to be to deal with some of the things he dealt with in Congress these past two years.

Campaigning for that position is hard work, as we can now see from the students who are currently running for that same position.

Which makes me think, how do students feel when they go all out and do not get recognized on a level comparable to what it is they achieved?

Mr. Parks is now on his way out and his seat will be taken by someone new.

Will the student be seen for what they do, or will the university continue to reap the rewards for the hard work the student does?

-Michael Williams is an intern at the Center for Multicultural Initiatives office.



GUEST OPINION

Here's how Bush may win by losing

BY PETER A. BROWN
THE ORLANDO SENTINEL (KRT)

Politics is a funny game. A win can turn out to be a loss, or sometimes you can lose by winning.

The betting here is a California judge's decision to legalize gay marriage there will eventually fall into that category.

In the long run, those unhappy with the ruling may come to view it as a catalyst that advanced their overall agenda, and not just when it comes to same-sex marriage.

Gay-rights proponents may well wonder, as they did after last November's election, whether court victories are worth the political cost.

That's because the decision likely will help President Bush win the upcoming war over judicial confirmations about to engulf Washington, D.C. Such a victory could tilt the national verdict on many issues.

The nation's political polarization has created consolidated agendas among Republicans/conservatives and Democrats/liberals that cut across single-issue constituencies.

First of all, the California Supreme Court may overturn this decision. If not, a state constitutional amendment taking the matter out of court hands by banning gay marriage would seem quite possible.

After all, voters in 11 states last fall banned gay unions. California is unlikely to be any different if the question is on the ballot.

However, the decision could help the anti-gay marriage crowd on the other side of the country. In politics, everything is interrelated, and the impact of this lawmaking by judicial fiat will be felt in Washington, D.C.

For the most part, Republicans who oppose gay marriage also don't like abortion, tax increases, business regulation, too much government spending, the United Nations and efforts to restrain U.S. power.

The left's mantra is almost exactly opposite, so that the notion of two teams fighting each other on a variety of matters is a largely accurate metaphor.

It doesn't matter that it was a California state judge appointed by a Republican who ruled on gay marriage.

It could not have come at a better time for the GOP team arguing that confirming federal judicial appointments is worth spending serious political capital.

That is obviously true for both parties, but the GOP has the edge because it controls the Senate, where the war over the judiciary is about to be fought.

Supreme Court Justice William Rehnquist has cancer. Bush will almost certainly have at least one

high court appointment this year, perhaps more.

At the same time, he has resubmitted seven appointments to the U.S. Courts of Appeals for Senate confirmation. Democrats stopped them from getting up-or-down votes through use of the filibuster last year.

Historically, both parties have used their majority power to reject court appointments in the Senate. But never before has a minority prevented confirmation by refusing to stop talking.

Under current Senate rules, 60 of the 100 senators are needed to cut off debate, and the Democrats have 45. That has been enough to sustain a filibuster, but not to win up-or-down votes.

The Republicans are threatening to change Senate rules to make it impossible to filibuster judicial nominees, a possibility dubbed "the nuclear option" because Democrats have said in response they will use procedural rules to stop the Senate from conducting business.

The threats to go nuclear over the current seven nominees are a dress rehearsal for the real show: the Supreme Court. So far, this battle over the appeals-court appointments has been like the National Basketball Association regular season. The basketball public only becomes engaged once the playoffs begin, and that will be the case in spades when the high-court nomination is made.

Democrats are daring the president and the Republican Senate to eliminate the filibuster and take them on in an exceptionally high-stakes public fight that could have enormous consequences at the ballot box.

Democrats will argue, as they did during last year's campaign when they warned re-electing Bush would create judicial Armageddon, that they should use any means possible to stop Bush's nominees.

Bush will say he wants only judges who will follow the law and let the people decide political questions.

He'll dare the Democrats to act like sore losers and question, as he did successfully last fall, whether they have any ideas of their own or are just reflexively against anything the GOP favors.

In campaigning for a federal constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage, which also might get some help from the California decision, Bush has decried activist judges who legislate from the bench.

That's why the ruling in California can't do anything but help confirm the kind of nominees who could help his team's agenda for years to come.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Funds should not have been used for plane ticket

Dear Editor,

I am a 2004 OU graduate and a former member of Student Congress who still reads The Oakland Post from time to time to see what is happening around Oakland.

I could not believe the audacity of Student Congress President Jonathan Parks using \$500 to buy a personal plane ticket to the OU Tournament game.

I knew Parks in my years at OU, and he is not a bad person. I would never claim he was.

But to spend that much of students' money to fly one person to a game; and for what?

Parks was not a speaker at the game. There was no need for him to be there.

If he did not take the time to register for a bus, that is his own fault, not the fault of the students.

I am glad that was not my tuition money being used, but if I was still an OU student, I would be livid.

I am surprised the administration is not becoming involved with such a gross misuse of students' money.

It sounds like Enron at the Student Congress level!

Congress definitely needs to pass some new rules if they want to have any credibility in the future.

I guess I should have become president when I was at Oakland so I could have used the discretionary fund to pay my tuition, when at the last minute I realized I was short on money or to take a spring break trip.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Kopp
2004 OU graduate
Political science

What do you think?

Send comments to editor@oakpostonline.com or mail to 61 OC, Rochester, MI 48309.

Include name, class rank, phone number and field of study. Please limit letters to 350 words.

Letters may be edited for content and length.

The Oakland Post uses discretion and may reject any letter for any reason.

The Oakland Post

61 Oakland Center Rochester, MI 48309

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Conference highlights diversity

By **STEPHANIE PARRY**
THE OAKLAND POST

It is not the first, and it will not be the last, but it has been nearly a decade since such a collaboration within the African-American community at OU.

After a much-expressed need to bring issues like unity and self-assurance back to a forum for dialogue, the Center for Multicultural Initiatives decided it was time to host a conference to address these and other subjects in an informal setting.

On Saturday, March 26, the CMI presented the

"Our World Today," conference in the OC's Oakland Room.

Though targeted at African-American students, the conference welcomed students from all backgrounds and walks of life to participate.

In addition to OU students, others from Eastern Michigan University, Albion College and Adrian College were also invited to attend.

"Our World Today" opened up informal dialogue concerning issues impacting student success and sought to enhance leadership skills as well as

foster acceptance of one's self and others.

"There is no more important discussion than that of the self," said Omar Brown-El, assistant director of CMI. "All of us should be evaluating ourselves every day."

A group of all-student presenters from OU campus groups including the Circle of Sisterhood, Brothers and the Association of Black Students shared experiences and held a discussion on issues affecting the African-American community.

Attendees were able to choose between a wide variety of sessions — such

as health, finances, hip-hop music and becoming a "phenomenal" and confident woman — all geared toward creating a greater self-awareness and helping students feel more comfortable in their own skin, no matter what the color.

"Students need to look at themselves with self-awareness and a sense of unity within their communities so that they may bring about a positive change in those communities."

"We hope that this conference has made that possible," said CMI Director Gloria Sosa.

\$4,000 price tag causes fuss

Legislators debate how to utilize student funds

OUSC
Continued from A1

on this at the beginning of the school year," he said. Jean Ann Miller, director of the Center for Student Activities, presented the progress of the updated guest policy to Congress.

Two town hall meetings were held last Wednesday to discuss changes to the policy that currently bans guests from attending events at OU.

"I submitted a policy because Dr. Russi wanted to see one with three different versions of the guest policy," Jean Ann Miller said.

"We did not receive any consensus of what the guest policy should be based on the two various discussions."

Jean Ann Miller continued that the discussions leaned toward distinguishing between two different

types of events; dances and other social events.

"The policy should be according to the type of guests that are being sought for the event," she said, "but nothing is set in stone."

Concerns were raised about why some groups, such as the Student Program Board, are allowed to invite guests when other student organizations are not.

There are exceptions to the ban, Jean Ann Miller said, and student organizations can submit their event requests in writing to her.

"SPB has taken a big hit from this (ban). We had been planning a major concert to take place at the end of April and it had to be cancelled due to the current event situation on campus," said SPB Chair Shaquonda Binion.

"I hope that the students

know that I do apologize if they feel that the treatment is unfair, however, SPB has taken a hit," she said.

University guest policies are also being taken into account, Jean Ann Miller said, and a possibility is to have student organization training sessions to reflect the group's purposes.

Organizations may also have to hold specific orientations for major events that they must attend as part of the training.

If they do not attend, it could possibly result in the organization to be suspended from holding major events for the next year.

But nothing is clear-cut at this point, Jean Ann Miller said.

"This is not a slam against student orgs."

"Innocent students were hurt twice this year because students aren't controlling their guests,"

Binion said, adding "above student life is student safety."

Concerns over student safety and OU's guest policy recently appeared after five warrants were issued to non-OU students following several altercations that occurred on Feb. 18.

Next week, OUSC will discuss whether OU needs a student legal aide next year.

IN OTHER BUSINESS:

- Student Congress is devising a Resident Involvement Award.

- The GSA's 2nd Annual Drag Show will be this Friday at 8 p.m.

- Results for OUSC president, vice president and legislators will be revealed Friday at noon in the Food Court.

- OUSC meets at 4 p.m. Monday in the Oakland Room.

Ban to last through the end of semester

BAN
Continued from A1

your community stronger."

"The philosophical discussion on the target audience for student organization sponsored programs fostered a consensus that student activities fee dollars, paid by current students, should be appropriately used to provide events and activities for the campus community."

Furthermore, since the external community does

not provide funding to support campus programs, they are not the primary target audience to be served by student organizations," McIntosh said.

He also said he would like to refocus student organizations over the next few months and get their events back to concentrating on the interests of students.

Sosa said the question is why are OU students not attending OU events.

"The programming sucks and money is being

wasted," Parks said of student organization events.

He suggested organizations cosponsor events to bring different groups together and increase attendance.

Students and staff will meet as a "task force" to create ways to make events and activities safer.

McIntosh said "they will also review the current dance policy with the intent of making improvement recommendations."

"I thought the meeting

concluded on a high note with students pledging to work closer with university administrators to improve the quality of student organization sponsored programs and activities, and to assist in the development of event management strategies," McIntosh said.

The CSA office will continue to devise avenues for students to share their ideas, but no additional town hall meetings have been planned at this point.

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CENTER FOR STUDENT ACTIVITIES

49 Oakland Center, Rochester, MI 48309-4401
(248) 370-2400 csa@oakland.edu www3.oakland.edu/oakland/currentstudents/csa

"Flicks at Oakland University" Film Series

April 5: All About My Mother

All films can be viewed at 7:30 PM in Meadow Brook Theatre. Cost: \$4.00

2005 Spring Blood Drive

TODAY
9 AM - 9 PM
Gold Rooms, OC

Walk-ins Welcome!

Looking for Scholarships

Commuter Involvement Award
Volunteer Service Award
Sidney Fink Memorial Award

Nomination forms are available in the CSA Office- 49 OC, CMI Office- 121 NFH, Dean of Students Office- 144 OC; & OUSC Office- 62 OC

International Night

Friday, April 8
7 - 10 PM
Banquet Rooms, OC

Experience displays, food, entertainment, and music representing countries from around the world.

Sponsored by
OU's Multicultural Student Organizations, The Center for Student Activities, and The International Students and Scholars Office

22nd Annual Oakland University Photo Contest

April 18 - 20
Fireside Lounge, OC

Open to all OU Students & Employees!
Entry Forms available in the CSA Office- 49 OC and SPB Office- 64 OC

Sponsored by:
Center for Student Activities and the Student Program Board

CSA SERVICE WINDOW

RESERVATIONS FOR:

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

- Beauty and the Beast (Apr. 12)
- Tosca (Apr. 13 & 15)
- Margaret Garner (May 6)
- Hairspray (May 1, 5 & 15)
- Riverdance (May 17)
- Little Shop of Horrors (May 19 & June 5)
- The Daughter of the Regiment (June 8 & 10)

ON CAMPUS EVENTS: TICKETS AND SEATING

- Vagina Monologues (April 15, 16 & 17)
- Bowling, Student Program Board Event (April 19)

Oakland University Student Congress

Elections

TODAY
12:01 AM - 10 PM
On Campus (polling stations) & Online

All currently registered students are invited to cast their ballot for the next president and vice president of the student body, as well as student-elected legislature positions.

Free Advance Screening
Fever Pitch
Drew Barrymore and Jimmy Fallon

Monday, April 4
7:30 PM
Star Great Lakes Crossing

Free tickets available at the CSA Office, 49 OC, ticket window

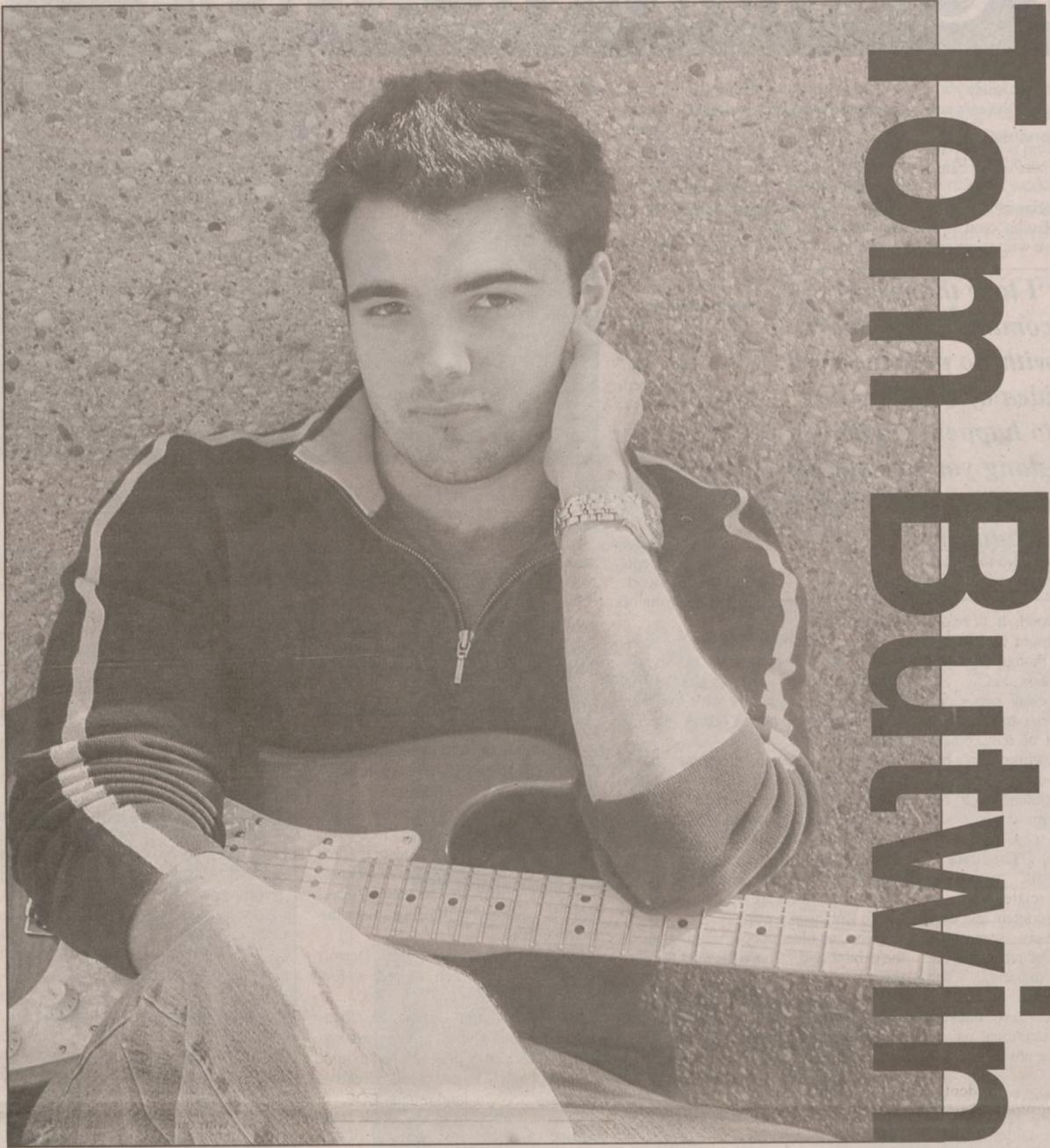
Lunch and Learn About:

Environmentally Friendly Gardening TODAY
12 - 1 PM
Rooms 128 - 130, OC
Presented by:
Tracie Beasley, Stewardship Director of the Clinton River Watershed Council

Scarf Knitting for Beginners
Monday, April 4
12 - 1 PM
Rooms 128 - 130, OC
Presented by:
Diane Becker, published pattern designer, will teach the basics of knitting.

Student & Greek Organization Recognition Night

Sunday, April 17
Awards Nomination Packet available in the CSA Office, 49 OC



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post

OU student takes his voice and guitar to the local scene

BY SHEILA KOSZTOWNY
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Tom Butwin's parents didn't need to drag him to take piano lessons as a kid; he willingly suggested it.

OU student and guitar solo artist Tom Butwin of Troy took his inspiration from music and produced his own album in October 2004, titled "Living Room."

The album has been taking him and his guitar around southeast Michigan for local shows.

"This is the first thing that I produced all by myself," said the 20-year-old sophomore, who is studying pre-law.

The album took over seven months to produce, all of which was synchronized on his computer in his basement.

"It (has) a little bit of everything that I listen to, (though) I wouldn't say that I sound like somebody in particular," he said.

Some of his favorite musicians include John Mayer, Eric Clapton, Dave Matthews and George Harrison of the Beatles.

"I learn things from what they do and combine what they do," he said. "I'm not out to reinvent anything, but not blatantly sound like anyone else."

Yet Butwin tends to stand out from the rest of the alternative rock bands with the sounds of the saxophone, played by longtime band member Ryan Pas.

Other band members include drummer C.J. Wolfe and bassist A.J. Pipas.

"Being in a band is a lot of hard work," said Butwin, who practices every day.

Butwin's passion for music came at an early age while in kindergarten, when he asked his parents to take piano lessons. He continued with lessons until he developed an interest in the guitar in middle school.

It wasn't much longer until he jammed with classmates to form a band called "Subject 2 Change."

In fact, Pas was one of the members in the band, until the band broke up at the end of high school.

It was then Butwin decided to go solo, bringing his guitar and stage presence to audiences in the area.

He not only strives to improve his guitar skills, but also his performing skills.

"I can be in my own basement, it's the same thing," he said of his relaxed performing style. "(I am) as natural as possible (and) as comfortable as possible."

"It definitely takes time to be comfortable on stage and be entertaining on stage."

Butwin has played on OU's campus in Vandenberg Hall and the OC, as well as local hangouts Bella's Coffee Shop in Auburn Hills, Mr. B's in Rochester and The Magic Bag in Royal Oak.

This year, Butwin is reaching out even further. On April 19, he will perform at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit.

He is setting up a performance for "The Mitch Albom Show" within the next month, he said.

"My whole purpose is to play for as many new people as I can. It keeps you on your toes, making you want to perform as good as you can," he said. "I'm not going to change what I do. If you don't like it, then OK, sorry. I like input from people if it's going to make me better."

Currently, Butwin is working on recording songs in a professional studio.

"Living Room" is available at all shows for \$5, and can also be ordered at <http://www.mperia.com>.

To check out Butwin's music, visit his Web site <http://www.tombutwin.com>.

Butwin is also a talk radio host for WXOU's "Pat, Tom and Dale in the Morning" on Tuesdays from 9-11 a.m.

See Butwin in his next performance on Tuesday, April 19 from noon-1 p.m. at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit.

Tom Butwin

Sequel "armed" with a similar humor

BY ANDREA WELT
THE OAKLAND POST

After a long hard day in a bathing suit, talent and evening gown competition and saving your friends, you would think that the days of Miss Congeniality were over ... well, guess again.

"Armed and Fabulous," the sequel to the highly successful "Miss Congeniality" takes place three weeks after the beauty pageant, or "scholarship program" that Gracie Hart (Sandra Bullock) placed runner-up in, and she has returned to her regular job as an FBI agent, or at least she tries to.

But because of her success from the Miss United States Pageant, she is too well-known to be a field agent, and return cast mate Capt. McDonald (Ernie Hudson) feels that Hart's abilities as an FBI agent would be better served in the public eye as the new face of the FBI.

This transition was somewhat irritating because Hart went from a snorting klutz to a bossy prima donna that was more concerned about not damaging her Fendi luggage than her job.

There were numerous comedic performances because of her demeanor, but it was a disappointment to see her act like a typical person that most people despise.

Replacing Hart's 'oh so handsome' partner Eric Matthews (Benjamin Bratt), whose absence is explained by him breaking up with Hart at the beginning of the movie and then getting a promotional transfer to Miami, is Sam Fuller (Regina King), who just so happens to be suffering from an anger management issue and is not too pleased at the idea of having to work with Hart.

Not that it wasn't enjoyable to watch Fuller beat up on Hart both verbally and physically, but it just didn't live up to the combination of Bratt and Bullock.

The movie did have a different setting, Las Vegas, and the plot revolved around Hart and her new image.

However, the writers did focus the suspense around the same idea as the first movie, which was killing Miss United States, better known as Cheryl (Heather Burns).

This sounds a bit trite, but it was because of this repetition of Hart having to save Cheryl, again, there are so many hilarious moments that Bullock pulls off without a hitch.

When she is attempting to get information on the kidnapers of Cheryl and Stan (William Shatner), she dresses up as an older Jewish woman, going as far as using prosthetics and playing the mother of her stylist Joel (Diedrich Bader).

With this combination of Bullock and Bader (formerly of "The Drew Carey Show"), it was one of the funniest parts of the movie.

Granted sequels are famous for lacking in originality, and this one is no different, merely an extension of the first film.

However, there are some new characters mixed in to make the trip a tad different, and it was good to see Gracie Hart in action again.



Photo courtesy of Warner Bros. Pictures
Diedrich Bader, Regina King and Sandra Bullock star in "Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous."

Beck explores variety of music genres

Album surprises audiences with new sounds and unusual style

BY DAVE PHILLIPS
THE OAKLAND POST

In 2002, Beck released "Sea Change." Critically acclaimed, the album was a bit of a commercial disappointment.

"Sea Change" was a depressing, melancholic, gloomy album.

The sudden, drastic change from anything else Beck has ever released was too much for some people to handle.

You're more likely to find it in the used records section in your local record store than any other Beck album.

The follow up to "Sea Change" is "Guero," a return to form for Beck.

This album, released last week, is a nonstop party, the way most of Beck's music is.

The mood is upbeat, the subjects are cheerful and the beats are fresh.

That's where the Dust Brothers come in. Working with the team that also produced 1999's "Midnite Vultures," as well as 1996's "Odelay," seems to have been a creative stimulus for Beck, who probably didn't even need it anyway.

The Dust Brothers bring credit other than Beck's best albums — they've also produced the Beastie Boys "Paul's Boutique" and the soundtrack to the movie "Fight Club," as well as selected

songs for both the Rolling Stones and Hanson.

The diversity that the Dust Brothers bring to the table is essential.

"Guero" is equal parts Beta Band, Beastie Boys and Black Crowes. Beck pulls something off that is a rare feat — the tracks are all distinctly different, but the album retains one general focus.

"Guero" showcases Beck's typical comedy in places.

It's difficult not to smile while listening to some parts in "Hell Yes."

The sample of a female saying "Please enjoy" is comical.

It has a mixture of samples that create a hysterical conversation toward the end of the song.

You can picture Beck laughing as he listened to the final product.

Jack White of the White Stripes guests on "Go It Alone."

When that news first broke, most people figured he'd be singing or playing guitar, perhaps both.

Ironically, he plays a funky bass line, an instrument that the White Stripes don't even use.

"Broken Drum" is the only song that resembles anything from "Sea Change." The mood is somewhat somber, with lyrics like "and when I say/fare thee well/my only friend/oh how the days go" and an ending of "I'll never forget you."

The entire album has an unmistakable

groove. It's difficult to listen to without wanting to move.

The Dust Brothers did an amazing job with the beats, and the way the vocals are arranged matched up perfectly.

Classifying Beck is impossible. This album alone borrows from rock, electronic, hip-hop, new wave, lounge and on and on.

The instruments used range from guitar and bass to clavinet, organ and harmonica.

Of course there is rampant sampling, along with vocoders and keyboards, as well as claps and stomps.

There truly is something for everyone here. Beck has definitely put himself in early consideration for album of the year.

CONTEMPORARY DETROIT ARTIST IS ONE WITH COMMUNICATION

Phaedra Robinson brings unusual mediums and content to art world

By SHEILA KOSZTOWNY
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Lipstick, bullet holes, wine, beet juice and tar are just some of the items that Detroit contemporary artist Phaedra Robinson uses on her palette.

Her work is displayed in her exhibit, "Communicable Consumption," at the Meadow Brook Art Gallery through April 17.

The 56 pieces in the exhibit, created since 1991, represent a variety of mediums.

The exhibit includes paintings, drawings and sculptures with pieces from her previous exhibit "Silent Forest." Robinson even painted on the walls of the art gallery two weeks ago in a collective collage.

Robinson said the title of the current exhibit is based on its ambiguous definition and the layering of language.

"The idea of communicable being like its definition. It can be communicated," Robinson said. "It can be two people relating and communicating or can also be something that is deadly."

"I started thinking about consumption. (It is) something that you could catch. It can be something that's deadly. Consumption could also be a deadly disease, along with the idea of obsession."

Her work plays on contrast by content. She values complexity through simplicity.

Several pieces play off sensitive parts of the human body such as the ears and tongue.

The tongue to Robinson is a powerful organ that can speak kindness, yet cause conflict.

The sculptures such as "Honey Locust," "Unspoken Truths" and "A Pack of Lies" often have written unseen inscriptions on them.

In fact, "A Pack of Lies" has 44 written lies on each sheet of layered paper, formed to the shape of a deck of cards.

Another sculpture, "Jealous Hunter," is made of layered paper to mimic wood.

"With paper coming from trees... and layering it back into something that is akin to a block of wood, it is really interesting to me. It might look like a block of wood, even though it is just layers of paper," Robinson said.

This process of layering paper and painting over it takes time and effort.

Robinson uses a lot of reds, blacks and whites in her work, and is particular with the materials she uses.

"The materials you use relate back to content and they say something of what you are making," she said.

Many of her works have unusual materials aside from traditional paints. Tar, graphite and coffee are among her materials.

"It's interesting because she doesn't use paint, she uses hair dye and lipstick," said junior Torri Ashford, a photography and studio art major.

"I was thinking about the contrast between nature and manmade materials," Robinson said of the tar. "I think the other materials are pretty straightforward. I think that the reference is straightforward as far as putting on lipstick and kissing the page as a way of applying the mark."

Although she selects her materials carefully, Robinson said her pieces are mostly intuitive.

"I love the process of coming to the board with no preconceived idea of what's going to happen, yet all along you are making decisions, although it is intuitive," she said.

"I become excited and passionate about a concept. Most of my work doesn't come out of

pure emotion."

Yet her work often digs into the emotions of the viewer whether positive or negative. Many students like Errin Whitaker like to analyze what the artist was thinking and how it relates in communication.

"Communication is a big part and a lot of people do not elaborate on the tongue and the eye," said Whitaker, a senior and history major. "You have to go a step beyond your day-to-day uses of your senses. It is something deeper, even if you do it subconsciously."

However, others are not quite as receptive to Robinson's work.

In fact, an older couple walking out of the exhibit said, "I hope they get the person who did this," and "People consume different kinds of chemicals now days."

The couple could have been referring to Robinson's video, "Rock, Paper, Scissors: 1001 Attempts to Betray a Friend." The 22-minute video depicts a male and female playing the game, and violently turns into a bloody fight with scissors.

"I don't think I am a violent person,"



Sheila Kosztowny/The Oakland Post
OU students Torri Ashford and Errin Whitaker observe artwork in the "Communicable Consumption" exhibit at the Meadow Brook Art Gallery, featuring multiple art mediums.

Sculpture at left: "A Pack of Lies," sculpted by Phaedra Robinson, using watercolor paper and sheets of braille. Robinson wrote a lie on each piece of paper, totalling 44 lies.

Robinson said. "I don't own a gun." For the pieces with bullet holes, Robinson said she borrowed a gun from a friend.

Whitaker found the film fascinating in the realm of communication.

"Betrayal is hurtful. It's funny that she used paper, rock and scissors," Whitaker said.

Robinson has been a teacher at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit for over five years, and also teaches portfolio classes for students of all ages.

She has written for the Metro Times, and is currently writing for the Detroit.com.

In 2004, Robinson left Detroit Contemporary, which closed a few months later.

Robinson bought a rundown, abandoned house in Detroit a few years ago to start a residency program and exhibit called the Center for Creative Exchange.

"It's more about bringing people from outside of Michigan," she said of the center.

She is seeking funding to renovate and run the structure. It is expected to be open in a few years.

Robinson will speak to OU students in a lecture about her work.

She will also be a moderator in a panel discussion, "What Not To Do In the Art World Today."

Robinson's art lecture is Sunday, April 3 at 2 p.m. in the Meadow Brook Art Gallery.

Panel Discussion "What Not To Do in Art Today"

Tuesday, April 12 at 7 p.m. Check back for location.

"Communicable Consumption" art exhibit. Open from noon to 5 p.m. daily (except Mondays).

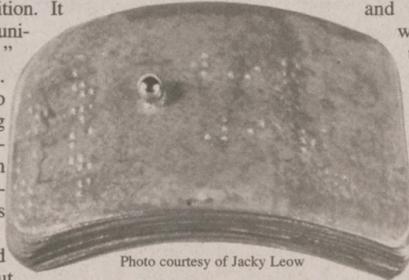


Photo courtesy of Jacky Leow

"We Are The World" International Night 2005

Food

Entertainment

Displays

Music

Representing Cultures From Around the World



Friday, April 8
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Libby Baker
Editor In Chief

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The Post mix

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March 30, 2005

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B 3

Two Minutes With The Fireside Lounge Piano



Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post

BY JEREMY SELWESKI
THE OAKLAND POST

Step 1: Go to the Fireside Lounge.
Step 2: Sit down, relax and listen closely. If your timing is right, chances are you'll hear some incredible music coming from the piano in the corner, a zany concoction that sounds like the lo-fi blips and bleeps of a classic video game soundtrack given an epic makeover — twisted violently like a pretzel, blown up and then spit back out in the grandiose proportions of a Hollywood motion picture score.

The mastermind behind this unique musical melting pot is OU sophomore Alexander Hotra. Considering the technical complexity of the songs he plays, Hotra is a mostly self-taught pianist.

"I took lessons when I was young," he said, "but then I gave up on it for a while. I've just been playing for fun for the past five or six years."

Hotra visits the lounge frequently to play the piano.

He admits that despite his brief musical theory lessons, he can barely read music and often does not even know the key of the song he is playing. He feels that he performs best when he is not thinking about the technical aspects of the music.

This lack of formal training partially explains why Hotra is not a music major at OU. But the talented pianist also believes that pursuing music as a career would take away from the simple pleasure of making music on his own terms.

"If I became a music major," Hotra said, "it would become a job, not a hobby."

Hotra takes most of his inspiration from the soundtracks of landmark video games like "Final Fantasy," "The Legend of Zelda" and "Super Mario Brothers," as well as scores from "Star Wars."

After he regained his interest in the piano, Hotra hunted down the sheet music for his favorite pieces. He would learn the basic melodies of each song without ever copying them note-for-note.

Hotra said that he has a great memory and a sharp ear. He is able to remember the music because of what he describes as "kinesthesia," in which muscle memory guides his hands to the correct notes. Hotra memorizes the sound rather than the actual music and adds his personal touch to each song.

"I just start poking around until I figure out the song's structure," Hotra said.

Hotra's reputation around campus appears to be growing.

Bob Bednard, who calls himself Hotra's "biggest fan," said he and his friends come to the Fireside Lounge three days a week just to hang out and listen to Hotra play.

"He's our soundtrack," Bednard said.

The spring lecture series begins in the Meadow Brook Hall ballroom on Monday, April 4 at 7 p.m. with the "Art of History." Local historian and storyteller Maureen Esther will entertain audiences with a discussion about prehistoric cave

Out and About

Music, Theater, Dance

paintings, King Tut's finery, Civil War photography and much more. Light snacks are included in the \$8 ticket. Call (248) 364-6263 to make a reservation.

The spring concert season is in full bloom as Verner Recital Hall presents the **University Chorus and Oakland Chorale** on April 1 and 2 at 8 p.m. The program includes works of Vivaldi, Martini, Schumann, Beethoven, Ticheli, and "Psalm 90" by

Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Charles Ives. Tickets are \$10 general and \$6 for students.

On Tuesday, April 5 at 8 p.m., VRH presents the **OU Jazz Band and OU Jazz Singers** under the direction of Danny Jordan. Tickets are \$6 for all seats.

DANTE'S ENIGMA

By Dante Ciullo



Tibetan monks pour sand from their mandala painting into Beer Lake to spread peace over OU. The picture below has been altered, and The Post challenges you to find all seven changes.



ANSWERS

A2 (lamp post added), A4 (lamp post missing), A5 (hat changed), B1 (student added to crowd), C2 (student bag changed), C2 (decorative top changed), C5 (cymbal strap changed)

Recommended

READING

"The Book of Illusions" by Paul Auster was English professor Robert Anderson's latest great discovery.

This gripping novel is about a man who falls into a deep depression after his wife and children are killed in a plane crash. When it seems that all hope is lost, he finds comfort and inspiration in

the work of 1920s silent film star Hector Mann and begins a quest to learn everything he can about him. He is astonished when he later discovers that Mann, who has been presumed dead since 1929, is still

alive.

"I really liked the long, detailed descriptions of silent films," says Anderson. "It was very interesting to learn about, because this was a topic I knew almost nothing about before reading this book."

—Jeremy Selweski

Melissa Bennett, wellness, health promotion and injury prevention major, has found a class that feeds her addiction for great fiction novels. Her world literature class at Oakland Community College is currently reading 19th century classics like "**Moll Flanders**" by Daniel Defoe.

"I love the whole story. It flows well, it's descriptive and it's an easy read," said Bennett, who always has her nose in a historical fiction novel.

This classic novel tells the tale of a young London woman in the 1700s who is on a quest to become rich, no matter what it takes. She goes through five different marriages and lies about her wealth in order to climb the social ladder and become rich.

"It's interesting and I'm glad I got to read it, but I wouldn't have known about it unless I took this class," Bennett said.

—Nicole Beattie

Beth Eslinger, a psychology major, enjoys reading novels in her spare time.

"Even though I don't have very much spare time with working and going to school full time, I try to find time every day to read at least one chapter," she said.

Recently, Eslinger enjoyed the novel "**The Gambler**" by Fedor Dostoyevsky.

"I had to read this novel for my international studies of Russia class, and I thought I wasn't going to enjoy it," she said, "but I was so wrong."

The 200-page novel is about Alexey Ivanovitch, a young man who works in the household of a Russian general. Alexey attempts to raise his social standing through gambling, but ends up losing most of his money due to an addiction to roulette. To make matters worse, he falls in love with the general's niece, who will only love him if he is wealthy.

Eslinger says she would recommend this book to "anyone who enjoys reading about drama or other cultures."

—Josie Vitale

Clean Up Your Act

ENVIRONMENT

Gas prices are soaring in Michigan and so is the amount of auto emissions in the air. Here are About.com Car Guide's top five fuel-efficient cars that can help you keep the environment and your wallet happy.

© **Toyota Scion xA:** Unlike the microcars of the past, this little car packs a punch — it's light and it gets 35 MPG!

© **Volkswagen Golf TDI:** This sleek turbodiesel runs on eco-friendly fuel and gets 40 MPG.

© **Jeep Liberty Diesel:** Most SUVs are gas guzzlers, but this automatic four-wheel-drive gets 27 MPG.

© **Honda Civic GX:** Who needs gasoline? This sedan runs on Compressed Natural Gas. A full tank = \$6.

© **Toyota Prius:** This self-sufficient hybrid uses gasoline and electricity to get around town. No plugs required.

All vehicle information courtesy of About.com
<http://www.about.com>

4

good reasons to hit the door
during the coming week

WEDNESDAY 30

Get tips on starting a rain garden and other eco-friendly gardening at the CSA's "Lunch & Learn" at noon in the OC, room 128.



Get a green thumb!



Women are strong

THURSDAY 31

Join N.O.W. at noon in the OC's Banquet Room A for a lecture on gender equality: "Equal Rights: Are We There Yet?"

FRIDAY 1

Come see the Gay/ Straight Alliance's 2nd Annual Drag Show at 8 p.m. in the OC banquet rooms.



"Dude looks like a lady!"



Get Registered!

MONDAY 4

Don't miss it! SAIL registration by class standing for the Spring and Summer 2005 semester begins today at 12:01 a.m.

Crossword puzzle

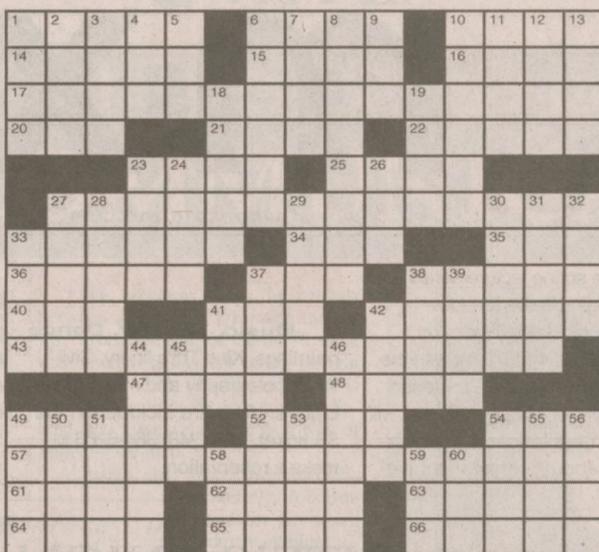
ACROSS

- 1 Costume jewelry
- 6 Stereo adjuncts
- 10 Wineglass part
- 14 Negative particle
- 15 Electrical cable
- 16 Verdi masterpiece
- 17 Business order
- 20 Dijon donkey
- 21 Meal scraps
- 22 Property claims
- 23 Herring's kin
- 25 Poetic tributes
- 27 Political order
- 33 Meditative ones
- 34 NY gambling parlor
- 35 Create lace
- 36 Feeds the pot
- 37 AARP members
- 38 Terre __, IN
- 40 Half of B.S.
- 41 Food from taro
- 42 Buffalo team
- 43 Military order
- 47 Fine spray
- 48 Valuable stones
- 49 Go with the flow
- 52 Actress Gilbert
- 54 Lend a hand
- 57 Class order
- 61 Citrus drinks
- 62 Lays down the lawn
- 63 Twirler's stick
- 64 Fancy schmancy

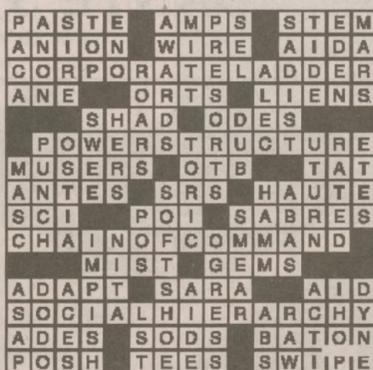
- 65 Golfer's gadgets
- 66 Snatch

DOWN

- 1 South American rodent
- 2 Some time hence
- 3 Male parent
- 4 Zenith
- 5 Rock producer Brian
- 6 Tony, Oscar and Edgar
- 7 Kitchen glove
- 8 Separates before laundry
- 9 SSS word
- 10 Pain specialist
- 11 Neap or ebb
- 12 Idyllic garden
- 13 Red planet
- 18 Pride sounds
- 19 Baldwin of "Malice"
- 23 Popeye's __ Pea
- 24 Towel ID
- 26 Record a voice-over
- 27 Body blow
- 28 Roman port
- 29 Shaped like a doughnut
- 30 Vehicular 180
- 31 Given a score
- 32 Summers in Provence
- 33 Fem.'s opposite
- 37 Tapless tap dancing
- 38 Soccer star Mia
- 39 Arab garments
- 41 Opp. of neg.
- 42 Sully



- 44 Like a rascal
- 45 Old-time actress Naldi
- 46 Female beast
- 49 Quickly, please!
- 50 Extinct bird
- 51 Surefire shooters
- 53 Helper
- 54 First part of a play
- 55 Flapjack chain's letters
- 56 Unit of force
- 58 D-Day craft
- 59 6-pack muscles
- 60 Lacking experience



Horoscopes

By LINDA C. BLACK
TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES

Today's Birthday (03-30-05). Travel beckons this year, and it looks like an excellent idea. Select a destination that stirs your passions and imagination.

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 an 8: The goal you've been after for so long is almost within your reach. Conditions are in your favor, finally. There's not a moment to lose.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Today is a 6: Tally your resources and figure out what you have and what you don't. You're in for at least one pleasant surprise, and you'll know where to focus attention.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) Today is a 10: You're wise to keep your opinions to yourself for a little while. The odds are not good that you will, but it would still be wise.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) Today is a 5: A change in how you do a job will free up a lot of your time. It's OK to get assistance, that's not cheating in any way. If you're running late, delegate.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Today is a 10: Your relationship grows stronger the more stuff you do together. Declare your intentions then ask the questions that lead to a solid commitment.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept.

22) Today is a 5: You're close to making a change that you've been contemplating for ages. It has to do with your home, family or possibly your dicor. You'll know when the moment is right.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Today is an 8: Don't be stopped just because you have no idea what you're doing. You're a quick study, especially now. Hurry up, before anyone knows.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Today is a 6: Keep pushing, your reward is closer now than ever before. Accept more responsibility, and the included benefits.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Today is a 9: You're lucky in games because you've got a few tricks up your sleeve. Amaze them with your fabulous sense of humor, too. You're the star.

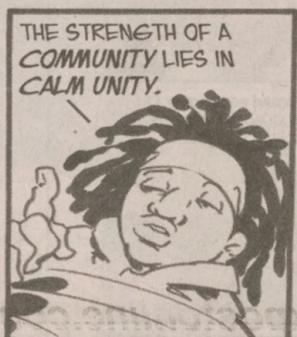
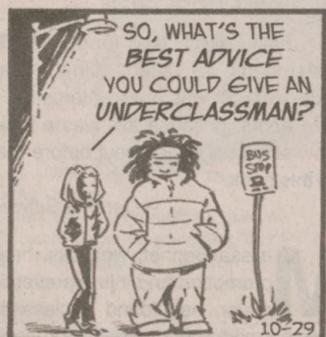
Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today is a 4: Push to get a household job wrapped up in the next day or two. You get extra points for using stuff you already have in storage. Be creative.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Today is an 8: You're in an excellent frame of mind to learn an amazing trick. Something that was impossible is about to become commonplace. Be on the leading edge.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Today is a 6: The effort you've put in earns you more than a fatter pay check. You also are granted more respect and, quite possibly, a promotion.

Comic

A College Girl Named Joe



By Aaron Warner

© 2002 Amazing Aaron Productions

Get more out of your summer than tennis elbow, a sunburn and sand up your bathing suit.

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Class schedules are available at <http://insight.emich.edu/students/ocsb/index.cfm>
www.emich.edu

Spring classes start May 2, 2005 • Summer classes start June 27, 2005

Remembering So We Won't Forget

Sixty years after the liberation of Auschwitz, Oakland University pays tribute to the survivors and heroes of the Holocaust through a series of special events.

SONGS REMEMBERED: ROBYN HELZNER IN CONCERT



A frequent performer at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., Robyn Helzner presents a moving and uplifting presentation of Holocaust-related songs in Yiddish, Ladino, Hebrew and English. Her unique blend of song, story and lively audience participation reveals the essence of each song and makes them accessible to today's audiences.

Join Ms. Helzner on Thursday, March 31 to celebrate life and pay tribute to those voices lost in the Holocaust.

Thursday, March 31, 2005
7:30 p.m.

Varner Recital Hall, Oakland University

Children under 18 and students
\$8 in advance
\$10 at the door

Adults
\$15 in advance
\$20 at the door

To purchase tickets, call (248) 370-3013

For more information, call (248) 370-2650 or visit www.oakland.edu/remembering



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- Global Glance / Global Goof
- Police Beat
- Letters to the Editor
- Horoscopes / Crossword
- The Mix
- Other
- In Short / Low Down

E-mail your answer to editor@oakpostonline.com

JOIN US!!!



**For Oakland Post Writers' Meeting
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and Bumpers Game Room.**

If you can't make it or would just like more information about The Post, contact Editor in Chief Libby Baker at (248) 370-4268 or editor@oakpostonline.com



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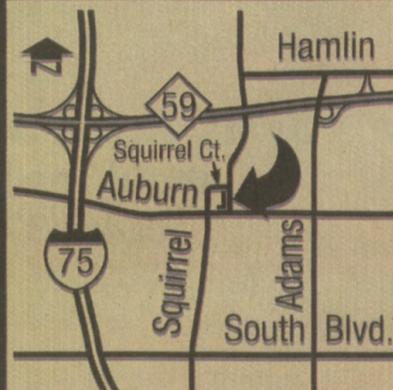
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Tourney tickets on sale

NCAA first and second rounds to be held at The Palace

By **BRENDAN J. STEVENS**
SPORTS EDITOR

Although this year's March Madness is still in progress, preparation for next year's tournament is already underway.

In December, OU was announced as a host institution for the first and second rounds of the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament.

While OU will serve as host, the games will be played at The Palace of Auburn Hills March 17 and 19 of next year.

"We are very excited to be a part of hosting an NCAA championship," OU Associate Athletics Director Tracy Huth said when the announcement was first made. "It will be a great opportunity for us to work with The Palace of Auburn Hills. We and the rest of the university community are looking forward to hosting the event."

"We are pleased that the NCAA placed enough confidence in us to host such a prestigious event."

With the Grizzlies trip to the Big Dance this year, the team also proved its program is up to the challenge.

For those fans wishing to get a jump on the competition, tickets officially went on sale last week.

Applications for tickets to the first and second round games of the 2006 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament are now being accepted.

Tickets are \$180 each, which includes all three sessions of the first and second rounds, or six games total.

"The Palace of Auburn Hills and 'March Madness' is an unbeatable combination," OU Director of Athletics Jack Mehl said in a press release. "Now that Oakland University has learned how to 'crash the dance,' we're thrilled at the possibilities."

"I know basketball fans throughout the area will join the Golden Grizzlies and our friends at The Palace as we host the 2006 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament first and second round games here in Oakland County."



Fans like these will pack The Palace of Auburn Hills for the first and second rounds of the 2006 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament with OU hosting the event. Ticket information is available at www.OUGRIZZLIES.com or by calling (248) 377-0100.

According to the press release, orders for tickets will be processed on a first come, first serve basis unless demand warrants the necessity of a random selection process.

Information on ticket purchase can be

obtained by e-mailing tix2006@oakland.edu, clicking on the "NCAA Basketball" logo at OU's official athletics Web site at www.OUGrizzlies.com or by calling 248-377-0100.

Check, money order, MasterCard, Visa,

AmEx and Discover are the acceptable forms of payment for the tickets.

If an application is unsuccessful, refunds will be disbursed by June 1, 2005. Otherwise, tickets will be distributed by January 31, 2006.

Women's tennis still in search of first win

By **ALLISON BRUNNER**
SENIOR NEWS WRITER

The women's tennis team lost to their cross-town rivals, the Titans of the University of Detroit-Mercy, earning only one out of the seven points possible in the match.

UD-M swept all three doubles matches to earn their first point of the match.

The first doubles duo, junior Lisa Pellafone and freshman Teuta Lulgjuraj, were closest of their teammates to a win, but fell shy with an 8-5 loss to the Titans

duo of Holly Smith and Bianca Savarino.

Paired at second doubles, sophomores Lauren Sanchez-Murphy and Angela Trecola earned only four games. This was not enough to beat their opponents Andrea Buter and Ashley Cummins, who earned eight to win.

Pellafone picked up the Grizzlies only point of the match with her 6-2, 6-2 win in the second singles position. She held off her tough opponent, only giving up two games in each set.

Trecola, in the third singles

slot, split sets but was unable to come away with a win after a close third set, with final scores of 6-3, 1-6, 10-8.

A recent graduate of Cousino High School in Warren, Lugjurai holds the first singles position and faced a tough 6-4, 6-3 loss to Titans top-seeded singles player, Smith.

This was the second match-up between the Grizzlies and Titans this season. In their first match, the women of OU, on home turf, fought a hard battle but were only able to come away with two points, compared to UD-M's five.

The Grizzlies will not face the Titans again this season unless they meet at the Mid-Con Tournament. It is scheduled to take place at the end of April in Indiana.

The women of OU are looking to add a point in their empty win column and have an opportunity Thursday and Friday when they face IUPUI, Southern Utah and UMKC at a Mid-Con Conference cluster in Indianapolis.

The league championships will take place April 22 and 23 in Valparaiso, Ind.

Softball cancelled

Due to wet field conditions, the OU softball team's back-to-back doubleheaders against the University of Kansas City-Missouri, scheduled for Friday and Saturday, were postponed.

The games were set to be the Golden Grizzlies' (3-17 overall) home and conference openers.

Michigan's wet season also forced the cancellation of a doubleheader with Central Michigan University on Tuesday, March 22. OU is scheduled to play three consecutive doubleheaders against Mid-Con foe IUPUI on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

The Grizzlies will tentatively play on their home field for the first time on Tuesday, April 5, with a doubleheader scheduled against the University of Detroit-Mercy.

Golf squads sweep Butler Invitational

By **BRENDAN J. STEVENS**
SPORTS EDITOR

In their first joint competition, both the men's and women's golf teams bested the competition.

The Golden Grizzly squads both took first place in last week's Butler Invitational.

Winning by 13 strokes with a score of 604, the men captured their second consecutive team title to begin the spring season. The University of Detroit-Mercy finished second with a score of 617.

OU also bested Mid-Con foes IUPUI and Chicago State University, which finished third and eighth, respectively, in the eight-team field.

The Grizzly women held off Ball State University, taking a two-stroke victory, 662-664.

The women also defeated confer-

ence competition, with IUPUI finishing sixth and CSU placing 10th in the 10-team field.

It was the Grizzlies' third consecutive tournament victory, dating back to the fall portion of the season.

Junior Jonathon Pauli paced OU's men's squad, taking first overall in the competition by beating UD-M's Mark Sommerfield by one stroke with a 146 (70-76).

Three other Grizzly golfers finished in the top 11 to help give the men a victory.

Senior Brian Stuard had the best OU score of the day, shooting a 74 to finish the two-round tournament with a total of 149 to place third overall.

Tying for sixth, Chad Elliot finished the tournament with a total of 153 (75-78) for the 36 holes.

Senior Matt Pullen rounded out the

Grizzlies' top finishers, placing in a tie for 11th with a two-round total of 156 (79-77).

OU's fifth scored golfer was sophomore Rob Reynolds, who finished the invitational in a tie for 34th with a 166 (82-84).

As an individual, or golfer whose score did not count toward the team total, sophomore Charlie Kluesner gave OU a fifth golfer in the top 20 with a 17th-place finish and a score of 159.

The Grizzlies' win at the Butler Invitational was the men's fifth team title of the season.

They also won a match-play contest against UD-M during the fall portion of their schedule.

On the women's side, junior Patricia Ellsworth led the way with a second place finish, shooting a 161 (79-82).

Ellsworth was one of four Grizzly golfers who finished in the individual top 10, helping give the Grizzlies the win over Ball State.

Sophomore Christina Cibrario finished three strokes behind Ellsworth to earn her a tie for fourth place with a 164 (80-84).

With the second lowest score of the day by an OU golfer (83), senior Leigh Gulbransen earned eighth place with a final total of 167.

Rounding out the Grizzly women to earn a place in the Invitational's top 10, sophomore Stacey Goins finished in a tie for 10th overall with a score of 170, thanks to a pair of 85s.

Freshman Katie Hollenbeck was the fifth scored OU golfer, placing 31st with a total of 191 (103-88) in the two-round tournament.

With a 200, freshman Alicia Zuckerman placed 39th in the tournament, but was not counted toward the team score because she played as an individual.

Both Pauli and Ellsworth were recognized for their team-best finishes in the Butler Spring Invitational.

After finishing first and second,

respectively, the pair were named Mid-Con Golfers of the Week.

Pauli was honored for the second time this season, while it was Ellsworth's fourth time earning the weekly award.

Both times Pauli was recognized, it was for his performance at the Butler Invitational, first in the fall and then in last week's spring event.

Pauli is currently second on the team with an overall scoring average of 73.47 strokes per round.

Ellsworth has been the women's top finisher, or tied for the top spot, in all of the squad's six events this season.

She also leads the team with a 78.25 scoring average.

Saturday, the men's squad was defeated by IUPUI, 6-3, in a match play event.

Results for the men's competition at the Beau Massatto Invitational were unavailable at this issue's deadline.



Junior Jonathon Pauli



Sophomore Patricia Ellsworth

Defending national champions start strongly

By **BRENDAN J. STEVENS**
SPORTS EDITOR

With seven consecutive wins to start its season, the OU men's club lacrosse squad is on a roll.

After winning the 2004 Central Collegiate Lacrosse Association league championship, this year's team has relocated for another run at a title.

An 8-2 record in the fall portion of its season has prepared the Grizzlies for their toughest schedule in the program's 10-year history.

Led by senior captain attacker Billy Bing, a two-time All-American and two-time CCLA Offensive Player of the Year, OU returns experienced players at key positions.

Transfers and skilled incoming freshmen will also help bolster the Grizzlies' depth, which has been lacking in previous seasons.

OU began the season ranked 10th in the United States Lacrosse Men's Division Intercollegiate Athletics poll, but has since moved up to ninth in the Division A rankings.

So far this season, the Grizzlies have defeated Texas Tech, Texas, Texas A&M, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Wisconsin-Stevens Point and Indiana in their seven games, with the victories over Buffalo and Indiana giving the team a 2-0 league record.

Next on the docket is a CCLA showdown with Central Michigan University at 6 p.m. on Saturday.

UPCOMING GAMES

4/2 @ Central Michigan	Mount Pleasant, Mich.	6 p.m.
4/7 @ Michigan State	East Lansing, Mich.	7:30 p.m.
4/9 vs. Purdue	Rochester, Mich.	1 p.m.
4/13 vs. Univ. of Michigan	Rochester, Mich.	7 p.m.
4/17 @ Miami-Ohio	Oxford, Ohio	2 p.m.
4/23 @ Western Michigan	Kalamazoo, Mich.	2 p.m.

Heroics give game greatest weekend

BY BLAIR KERKHOFF
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

AUSTIN, Texas — The realization hit sometime during the surreal seven minutes it took the officiating crew to determine nothing less significant than whether one team would play in the Final Four and the other would extend its season for at least five minutes.

The greatest weekend in college basketball history was upon us.

Michigan State survived an epic 94-88 struggle with Kentucky that needed a second overtime period to settle things. Sunday's action left the final score from the regionals: Four classic finals, three decided in extra time, two by comebacks for the ages, one exhausting weekend.

Sunday at Texas was no time to catch a breath.

"It seemed to me to be an all-timer," Michigan State coach Tom Izzo said.

Double-overtime regional finals happen, oh, every few decades or so. This was the third one ever. The last came in 1966, when Texas Western beat Kansas.

The Final Four could easily include West Virginia, Arizona, Wisconsin and Kentucky. But Louisville, Illinois, North Carolina and Michigan State are headed to St. Louis this weekend mostly because fortune smiled on them.

The Cardinals battled back from a 20-point deficit and overcame one of the greatest shooting performances in the game's history to beat West Virginia in overtime in Albuquerque.

Top-ranked Illinois trailed Arizona by 15 points with four minutes remaining, and by eight with less than a minute remaining, before forcing overtime and keeping its season alive by taking the Chicago Regional.

Next came the weekend's blowout: North Carolina's six-point victory over heavy underdog Wisconsin in Syracuse, N.Y. No overtime was required here, but a Badgers three-pointer was blocked with two minutes remaining that would have tied it.

Michigan State-Kentucky shaped up as a beauty. They arrived with similar personalities, hard-working teams without All-America types who

started freshmen point guards and could bring firepower off the bench.

Nobody envisioned a game that would leave 16,239 fans and two teams speechless for several minutes with the outcome in doubt.

Regulation time was ticking away. Michigan State led 75-72 when Kentucky sharpshooter Patrick Sparks missed a three-pointer. The Wildcats' Kelenna Azubuike chased down the rebound and missed from the corner. The ball bounded out to Sparks, who snatched it inside the three-point line, dribbled back and launched a final shot.

The ball bounced on the rim five times before falling through, and a three-pointer was signaled. The Wildcats celebrated. But wait: Did Sparks' right toe touch the line on the release? If so, Michigan State had a 75-74 victory.

Official Jim Burr headed directly to the television monitor to watch the replay.

The two other officials, Mark Whitehead and John Higgins, joined Burr. Minutes passed. The teams were in the huddles, but not much was being said. Michigan State fans chanted "Two, two, two." The Wildcats' faithful countered with "Three, three, three."

Burr put on headphones. Was it CBS Sports President Sean McManus, already flush with soaring ratings, pleading a case for popular Kentucky?

Nope. Burr was talking to the TV truck.

"I don't know how many angles he had, but he showed me every one he possibly could," Burr said. "And I still really couldn't find anything that would overrule my original decision."

Finally, Burr emerged and stuck both hands in the air to signal the shot was good. He walked over to Izzo to explain, and Izzo nodded his head.

Even without the replay dramatics, Michigan State-Kentucky offered every quality imaginable. Michigan State shot 70 percent in the second half and outscored the Wildcats by only four points.

The Wildcats had the final possession in the first overtime, but Michigan State's defense prevented a shot in the last 25.5 seconds.

Kentucky made up an eight-point deficit with five minutes



Photographs by
Julian H. Gonzalez/Detroit Free Press
Above: Kentucky's Chuck Hayes (44) fouls Michigan State's Paul Davis (40) during the Austin, Texas Regional Final. Right: The three officials watch replay after replay to determine if the shot by Kentucky's Patrick Sparks was a three, sending Michigan State and Kentucky into the first overtime in their NCAA Regional Final.

left in regulation. The Spartans trailed by four early in the first overtime.

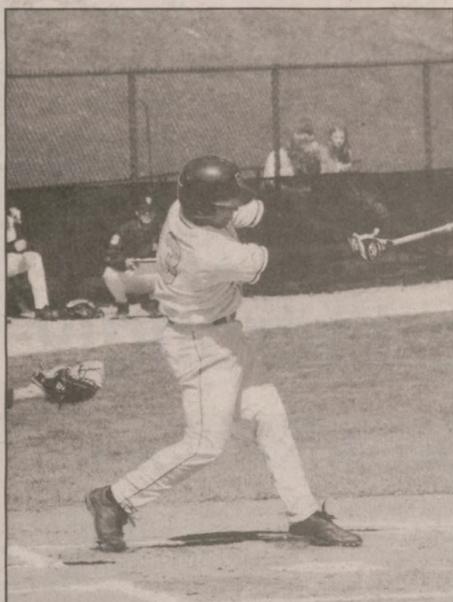
Someday, Kentucky and the other teams that lost over the weekend might come to appreciate their places in history. Now isn't the time. Wildcats



forward Chuck Hayes answered postgame queries through sniffles. Azubuike slumped in his chair with a blank stare.

The emotions were perfectly understandable. Nothing much needed to be said about the game — or the weekend.

Grizzlies swept by Wolverines



Bob Knoska/File Photo

Sophomore Brad Noel takes a swing in a game last year.

BY DAVE PEMBERTON
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The Golden Grizzlies put up a tough fight, but were unable to come away with victory in a four game series against the 22nd ranked University of Michigan last weekend.

OU almost upset the Wolverines in game one of a doubleheader on Saturday. OU led 4-1 going into the bottom of the seventh and final inning.

U-M rallied to score three runs and took the 5-4 win, when U-M senior first baseman Kyle Bohm scored on a wild pitch.

Sophomore pitcher Paul Phillips allowed only one run on seven hits with six strikeouts and only one walk through six innings, before giving up three runs in the seventh.

Freshman right fielder Ryan Joffrion went 1-3 with an RBI for OU.

Bohm went 1-4 with two RBIs and scored a run for the Wolverines. Senior center fielder Matt Butler went 3-4 with one RBI.

In game two the Grizzlies took a 2-0 lead in the top of third, but the Wolverines came back with two runs of their own in the bottom of the third.

U-M then added two more runs in the bottom of the fifth and four runs in the sixth to take the 8-2 win.

Butler went 3-3 and scored two runs for U-M and Bohm went 2-3 with four RBIs.

OU's best offensive game was the final game of the

series on Sunday. OU scored four runs on seven hits led by senior second baseman Bryan DeLamielleure, who went 2-4 with an RBI.

Unfortunately for OU, the Wolverines had a better offensive day. U-M scored seven runs on 10 hits to take the 7-4 win.

Butler had another big offensive day, going 3-4 with an RBI. Butler put on a display all weekend, hitting .687 with 5 RBIs in 16 at bats.

In the first game of the series on Friday, the Grizzlies ran into some tough U-M pitching.

Senior pitcher Jim Brauer threw six scoreless innings for the Wolverines. Things did not get easier once Brauer left the game.

Sophomore pitcher Clayton Richard came in and did not allow a hit in three innings to secure the 10-0 victory for the Wolverines.

With the four losses, the Grizzlies' record drops to 1-13, but they have played a rough schedule. The Wolverines were OU's third opponent who was ranked in the top 25. OU has also not played a home game the entire season.

The Grizzlies will look for their second victory when they take on Central Michigan at 3 p.m. today in Mount Pleasant.

OU faces Eastern Michigan University at 1 p.m. on Friday in Ypsilanti and then host the Eagles at 1 p.m. on Saturday. OU heads back to Ypsilanti for a 1 p.m. game on Sunday against EMU.

COLUMN

Spring is almost in the air



BRENDAN J. STEVENS
Sports Editor

Spring is still creeping its way into Michigan.

But whether the flowers are blooming or buried under globs of mud, the Major League Baseball season is only days away from beginning.

Mud isn't just covering the foliage, however. It is smeared all over spring training, and the game of baseball itself.

And it has a name: steroids.

Scandal is nothing new to MLB, and is certainly no stranger to skewing the public perception of the league.

Most recently, MLB has had to recover from a strike that tarnished the league's image in the fans' eyes.

But things were starting to turn around, thanks in large part to the dramatic increase in home runs. Its once savior, however, may also be what condemns the league, at least for a while.

Steroids have dominated the offseason discussion, with few exceptions.

Only talk of overpriced free agents and the continued rise in record-setting salaries distracted fans and onlookers from the plague that steroids have become.

Thanks to Jose Canseco's book, which implicated some of recent history's most prominent sluggers, steroid rage isn't only a side effect of the enhancers themselves.

Congress has gotten in the act, calling numerous hearings to investigate the steroid trend.

But it's all too late. This is not a new development in the league.

While Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa were blasting them out of the park, owners, teammates and fans alike were content to sit back in awe.

But when Barry Bonds suddenly became the league's best home run hitter, after never hitting more than 40 in a season, the talk began.

So what if he went from toned to bulky. Why did it matter that his head grew as quickly as his muscles. Why suspect foul play?

Then came BALCO. But that wasn't necessarily the event that pushed the steroid issue over the edge.

It wasn't until the negative side effects of steroids became evident in professional and amateur athletes alike became obvious that the flood gates were opened.

Olympic athletes were being held from the games because of positive steroid tests.

Jason Giambi was forced to miss almost an entire season because of injuries many thought were related to steroid use.

And saddest of all, teenage athletes were dying because of misuse of steroids. All they wanted was to be like the people they emulated so much.

MLB was unaware of the growing influence steroids were having on the game and its players. There's no way they could be.

A former American League Most Valuable Player died.

Everyone knew why.

McGwire disappeared after retiring from baseball and shrank in physical stature as much as his public profile did.

Everyone knew why.

Then the much-criticized Barry Bonds is implicated, and there is an outcry.

It's still too early to claim Bonds' innocence or guilt, but it's unfair to throw the mud only when players who fans love to hate are accused.

There is mud all over the league until someone comes out and tells the truth.

Brendan Stevens is a senior majoring in journalism. Send comments to sports@oakpostonline.com.