

■ 'Our Body: The Universe Within' opens at science center — A7

■ Champion Barbaro euthanized — A9



ICE ON SHOW

Meadow Brook Hall's 75 pound ice sculpture makes its debut in downtown Rochester's ice show.

Also inside

Campus — A3
Get the scoop on the Rec Center's deli services
Find out what's going on with the Pic-a-deli in the Rec Center?

the Mix — A10
Perfect items to keep in that perfect little purse
What will you need in that little clutch to get you through a night on the town?

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MOCAD is the newest addition to Detroit art scene
New contemporary art exhibit to open Feb. 2

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More Super Bowl XLI coverage
Who does the student body and The Post think will win the big game?



Smith, Dungy make contribution to history



AP Photos/Photo Illustration by Kevin Alford

By ROB TATE
Senior Reporter

The national football league will make a significant contribution to Black History Month on Sunday. Lovie Smith of the Chicago Bears and Tony Dungy of the Indianapolis Colts will battle it out in Miami at Super Bowl XLI as the first black head coaches in NFL history to make it to the big game.

To celebrate this occasion, as well other accomplishments of black athletes, the Association of Black Students has set up a Super Bowl party that will take place on Sunday from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. across from Café O'Bears in the Oakland Center. The event is included in the ABS African American Celebration. The party won't be a lecture event but will display African American athletic achievements and a chance for a student of any race to relax and watch the game.

Please see BOWL/A2

Pigskin drivers

The Colts' offense starts and revolves around Peyton Manning, who has not been outstanding in the playoffs. Rex Grossman has been inconsistent for the Bears, but he wins.

Grossman		Manning	
480	64	ATT	557
262	32	COMP	362
3,193	426	YDS	4,397
6.7	6.7	YDS/ATT	7.9
23	2	TD	31
20	1	INT	9
73.9	75.4	RATING	101.0
Regular season		postseason	
2-0		POSTSEASON REC	3-0

SOURCE: NFL

AP



KARIM KADIM
/AP Photo

Iraqi pilgrims flock the central square as a symbolic smoke is seen in the distance during Ashoura, the tenth day of Muharram, an important period of mourning for Shiites, in Karbala, Iraq, 80 kilometers (50 miles) south of Baghdad, Tuesday.

Bombers target Shiite worshipers; millions turn out for key Shiite rituals

By QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA
Associated Press Writer

KARBALA, Iraq (AP) — They pounded their chests. They slashed their heads. They beat their bloodied foreheads with the flat sides of swords and knives.

Hundreds of thousands of Shiite Muslims came Tuesday to this holy city, site of a battle where the Prophet Muhammad's grandson was killed, to mark the feast of Ashoura. Residents distributed

Please see ASHOURA/A2

Senate republican challenges Bush on war powers

By LAURIE KELLMAN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Senate Republican on Tuesday directly challenged President Bush's declaration that "I am the decision-maker" on issues of war. "I would suggest respectfully to the president that he is not the sole decider," Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., said during a hearing on Congress' war powers amid an increasingly harsh debate over Iraq war policy. "The decider is a shared and joint responsibility," Specter said.

The question of whether to use its power over the government's purse strings to force an end to the war in Iraq, and under what conditions, is among the issues faced by the newly empowered Democratic majority in Congress, and even some of the president's political allies as well.

What do you think? Who do you think should hold the power to end a war?

No one challenges the notion that Congress can stop a war by canceling its funding. In fact, Vice President Dick Cheney challenged

Congress to back up its objections to Bush's plan to put 21,500 more troops

Please see SPECTER/A2

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CHICAGO BEARS
SUPER BOWL XLI



INDIANAPOLIS COLTS
DOLPHIN STADIUM • MIAMI

See who, on campus, is rooting for the Bears or the Colts to win. Also, check out more Super Bowl coverage.

BOWL

Cont. from A1

"We figured it would be nice to have an event that kind of honors the African American athletes and their contribution to the sport," said Mia Evans, president of ABS and Student Body Vice President. The event will feature exhibits of black athlete history and recognize their contributions to the community.

"They serve as examples and heroes to a lot of young people as well. Throughout the whole civil rights movement people looked to sports a lot of times because they were ground breaking," Evans said.

The NFL has never had a black head coach in 40 Super Bowl games until now, and there weren't any black head coaches in the NFL until Art Shell was hired by the Oakland Raiders in 1989.

"In this period (of time) it's great to see because we recognize that there are a lot of black athletes, but we want to see them take those leadership roles to show diversity on and off the field," Evans said.

So if you do the math, it has taken 17 Super Bowls since Shell's hiring for a black head coach to pace the sidelines at the big game.

But that all came to an end on January 21 as Smith's Bears crushed the New Orleans Saints in the NFC Championship game making him the first black coach in the Super Bowl.

But Dungy joined him about four hours later, as his team came from behind to upend the New England Patriots in the AFC Championship game.

It took nearly 41 years for a black coach in the NFL to make it to the Super Bowl and then the feat occurred twice within a four-hour time period.

"We didn't know who was going to make it to the Super Bowl at the time we decided we were going to have the event," Evans said. "But it was perfect because there was even more of a reason to have (the party). We were really excited about it."

Ten years ago in the 1996 season, there were only three black head coaches and now 10 years later there were seven black coaches this during this season.

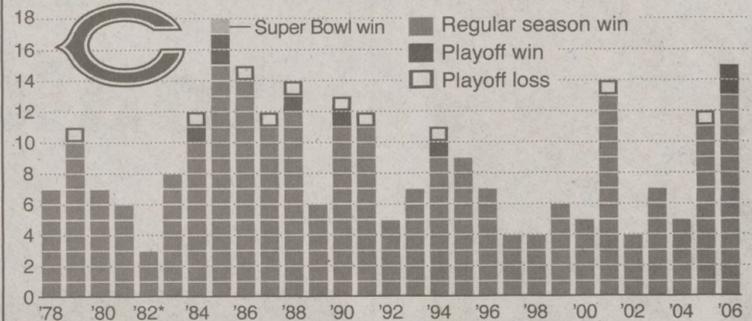
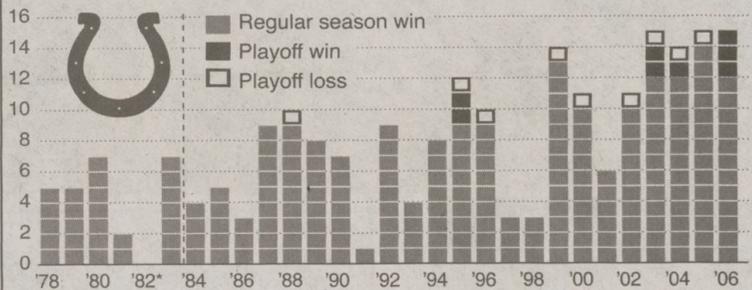
The NFL recently made a rule that all NFL teams interviewing head coach candidates to fill the position of head coach on their team must interview a minority candidate as well.

Detroit Lions President Matt Millen broke that rule back in 2003 while looking for a candidate when he hired Steve Mariucci.

Millen was fined by the league for that mistake to the tune of \$200,000.

Winning seasons at a glance

The Bears have 240 wins, including eight playoff victories and a Super Bowl championship, while the Colts have 206 wins with eight in the playoffs, since the league began playing 16-game seasons in 1978.



*As a result of a 57-day player strike the 1982 season was reduced to nine games. Note: In 1984 the Colts moved from Baltimore to Indianapolis

Hefty payday

Colts and Bears players will receive an increase for their participation in the Super Bowl. (per player)

Year	Winner	Runner-up
'06	\$73,000	\$38,000
'05	\$68,000	\$36,500

SOURCE: NFL

AP

ASHOURA

Cont. from A1

harissa, a dish made from wheat and lamb meat, along with juice and tea.

The annual religious festival is a strictly Shiite affair: Sunnis frown on such rituals of self-flagellation and public grief.

The ceremonies were held under tight security after a battle last weekend with messianic Shiites who authorities said planned an assault in Karbala. The entire city was sealed off, and pilgrims were searched at numerous checkpoints. All vehicles — including bicycles — were banned.

Altogether, more than 2 million people visited major shrines throughout Iraq for the holiest day of the Shiite calendar. With security so intense at the main venues, extremists chose targets in smaller cities where precautions were less stringent.

Bombers struck Shiite worshippers in two cities Tuesday and gunmen ambushed a busload of pilgrims in a series of attacks that killed at least 58 people. In the deadliest attack, a suicide bomber blew himself up among a crowd of worshippers entering a Shiite mosque in Mandali near the Iranian border, killing 26 people and wounding 47, according to police. At least 12 more died and 28 were wounded when a bomb exploded in a garbage can as Shiites were performing outdoor rituals in the largely Kurdish city of Khanaqin, police said.

In Baghdad, gunmen in two cars opened fire on a bus carrying pilgrims to the capital's most important Shiite shrine, killing seven and wounding seven, police said. Hours later, mortar shells rained down on two mostly Sunni neighborhoods, killing nine and wounding 30 in what police said appeared to be a reprisal attack.

One person was killed in a mortar attack on a Shiite neighborhood, police said. A Shiite man was shot dead in Baghdad and two policemen were killed in a bombing in Mosul, police said. At an Arab League meeting in Tunisia, Iraqi Interior Minister Jawad al-Bolani asked other Arab countries to set aside room in their hospitals for wounded Iraqi pilgrims.

Intense security prevented major violence in Karbala and nearby Najaf, venues for the biggest and most important Ashoura commemorations. Police found eight bodies Tuesday of people slain by sectarian death squads in Baghdad, the lowest single-day total in months.

Ashoura ceremonies mark the 7th-century death of Imam Hussein, grandson of Muhammad, in a battle near Karbala that cemented the Sunni-Shiite schism. Worshippers beat themselves with chains, slice their heads with knives and pound their chests in expressions of grief over the death.

More than 1.5 million pilgrims, mostly Iraqis but from as far away as India and Pakistan, jammed Karbala for the Ashoura commemorations, according to provincial Gov. Akeel al-Khazaali. Hundreds of thousands more joined rituals in Najaf, Baghdad and other cities.

In Karbala, pilgrims had to submit to body-searches at dozens of checkpoints before reaching the two golden-domed shrines of Imam Hussein and his half brother Imam Abbas. U.S. unmanned surveillance aircraft flew over the city to look for signs of trouble, al-Khazaali said.

"Even if the terrorists tear us to pieces, we will not stop coming to visit Imam Hussein," said Abbas Karim, 27, a laborer from Nasiriyah.

Security has been tight at Ashoura commemorations since bombings and suicide attacks killed at least 181 people at Shiite shrines in Baghdad and Karbala in 2004. Last year's Ashoura commemorations were largely peaceful, but suicide bombers killed 55 Shiites in 2005.

This year, fears of sectarian attacks were running high because of ongoing Sunni-Shiite violence, which surged after last February's bombing of a major Shiite shrine in the mostly Sunni city of Samarra.

Security measures were further tightened after

U.S.-backed Iraqi forces fought a fierce, all-day battle with hundreds of messianic Shiites who officials said were planning to slaughter pilgrims and clerics during Ashoura commemorations in Najaf.

In Najaf, deputy Gov. Abdul-Hussein Abtan said that more than 300 militants were killed and 650 captured in the battle, which ended Monday. He said 11 Iraqi troops were killed and 30 wounded. Two U.S. soldiers died when their helicopter crashed during the fighting.

Both of Tuesday's bombings took place in Diyala province, where Sunni-Shiite violence is raging.

In Khanaqin, Abed Jassim Hassan said he was participating in the rituals with his 11-year-old son when "all of a sudden the bloodshed struck." Hassan spoke as he held the boy, whose right leg was broken and bleeding.

Nawal Hassan said she pleaded with her husband not to go to the ceremonies but went with him when he refused to stay home. Her husband was wounded. "I had a feeling that something might happen because terrorists are always targeting Shiites," she said.

Khanaqin's mayor, Mohammed Mulla Hassan, said no outdoor religious events would be held in the city until further notice to avoid more bloodshed. He was referring to the anniversary Friday of Imam Hussein's burial and ceremonies marking the 40th day after his death.



BELA SZANDELSZKY/AP Photo

Lebanese Shiite Muslim men hitting their heads to bleed more after they cut it with a sword, take part in Ashoura Day in the southern market town of Nabatiyeh, Lebanon, Tuesday. Ashoura is the most important day of the longer Muharram festival when Shiites commemorate the death of Imam Hussein, grandson of the Prophet Mohammed, who was beheaded in Karbala, Iraq in 680 AD in a battle over the line of succession to the Prophet Mohammed.

SPECTER

Cont. from A1

in Iraq by zeroing out the war budget. Underlying Cheney's gambit is the consensus understanding that such a drastic move is doubtful because it would be fraught with political peril.

But there are other legislative options to force the war's end, say majority Democrats and some of Bush's traditional Republican allies. The alternatives range from capping the number of troops permitted in Iraq to cutting off funding for troop deployments beyond a certain date or setting an end date for the war.

"The Constitution makes Congress a coequal branch of government. It's time we start acting like it," said Sen. Russell Feingold, D-Wis., who presided over a hearing Tuesday on Congress' war powers. He also is pushing legislation to end the war by eventually prohibiting funding for the deployment of troops to Iraq.

His proposal, like many others designed to force an end to U.S. involvement in the bloody conflict, is far from having enough support even to come up for a vote on the Senate floor.

Closer to that threshold is a non-binding resolution declaring that Bush's proposal to send 21,500 more

troops to Baghdad and Anbar province is "not in the national interest." The Senate could take up that measure early next month.

But some senators, complaining that the resolution is symbolic, are forwarding tougher bills.

Democratic Sen. Barbara Boxer of California, for example, is a sponsor of a bill that would call for troops to come home in 180 days and allow for a minimum number of forces to be left behind to hunt down terrorists and train Iraqi security forces.

"Read the Constitution," Boxer told her colleagues last week. "The Congress has the power to declare war. And on multiple occasions, we used our power to end conflicts."

Congress used its war powers to cut off or put conditions on funding for the Vietnam war and conflicts in Cambodia, Somalia and Bosnia.

Under the Constitution, lawmakers have the ability to declare war and fund military operations, while the president has control of military forces. But presidents also can veto legislation and Bush likely has enough support in Congress on Iraq to withstand any veto override attempts.

Seeking input, Senate Judiciary Chairman Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., and Specter, asked Attorney General Alberto Gonzales for the White House's views on Congress' war powers.

OU professor, news reporter honored for journalistic success

By JESSE DUNSMORE
Senior Reporter

Gene Fogel, WJR-AM news reporter and Oakland University broadcasting professor, has been elected into the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame.

Fogel has worked with WJR since 1971, and teaches two broadcasting classes at OU.

Junior Patrick Kyc, Chief Announcer for WXOU-FM, has taken both of Fogel's classes.

"Gene just has this warm and wonderful personality about him that makes it real easy to talk to him, and [he's] just a great educator," said Kyc.

Kyc, a communication major, is a teaching assistant for Fogel's Broadcast Operations class.

Sophomore Irma Hayes, communication major, is another of Fogel's students.

"He's a pretty awesome professor; you do learn a lot from him," said Hayes. "You go in thinking it's going to be all fun and games, but at the end of the day, you learn a hell of a lot."

Fogel earned his B.A. in Broadcast Communications from Western

Michigan University in 1963.

He has received multiple awards during his 40 years of broadcasting work.

In 1981, Fogel won the George Peabody Award for his reporting on fraud in the Detroit Federal Bankruptcy Court. His reports led to the removal of two judges and the conviction of two court clerks and Detroit's leading bankruptcy attorney.

Fogel's investigative reporting on tainted bite-mark evidence earned him multiple awards in the late 1990s and early 2000s, and led to the release of two men wrongfully imprisoned for sexual assault.

In 2005, the Associated Press presented him with a Lifetime Achievement Award.

Both Hayes and Kyc said they wrote letters nominating Fogel for OU's 2007 Excellence in Teaching award.

"I think that he definitely deserves it," said Hayes. "I mean he's only been teaching for what, a hundred years?" she joked.

The hall of fame induction ceremony will be held on April 14 at Michigan State University.

Enter for a chance to win \$25!!!

Circle the correct answer for each question. Completed forms should be placed inside the box located outside The Oakland Post in the basement of the Oakland Center, office 61, no later than 5 p.m. Monday.

1. What is the name of the professor working on the book about the history of OU?
a. Holly Gilbert
b. Bill Cornellian
c. Mike Lewis
d. Fred Girard

2. What day is the Career Expedition Workshop?
a. Monday
b. Friday
c. Thursday
d. Sunday

3. What dance move was featured on A107 - KARA is supposed to have the answer!
a. right answer
b. The Mash Potato
c. The Sprinkler
d. The Lonely Sailor

4. According to our story, Q-Tips are a necessity to keep in your purse.
True
False

5. What city will Superbowl XLII take place in?
a. Las Vegas
b. Los Angeles
c. Miami
d. New Orleans

6. Who invented Platinastion?
a. Dr. Van Nostron
b. Gunther von Hagens
c. Gunder von Donderman
d. Baron von Nedermeyer

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Deli deliberation

Vacant space in OU Rec Center could become snack bar, bathroom or computer lab

By ROB TATE
Senior Reporter

The Oakland University Rec Center staff is at a stalemate in determining what to do with the empty cafe that sits on the first floor on the east side of the building.

Vacant since April 2006, after the Pic-A-Deli sandwich shop closed up operations, the space has failed to house a successful food vendor since its opening in 1998.

"It was a really, really good relationship (with Pic-A-Deli)," said Rec Center Director Greg Jordan.

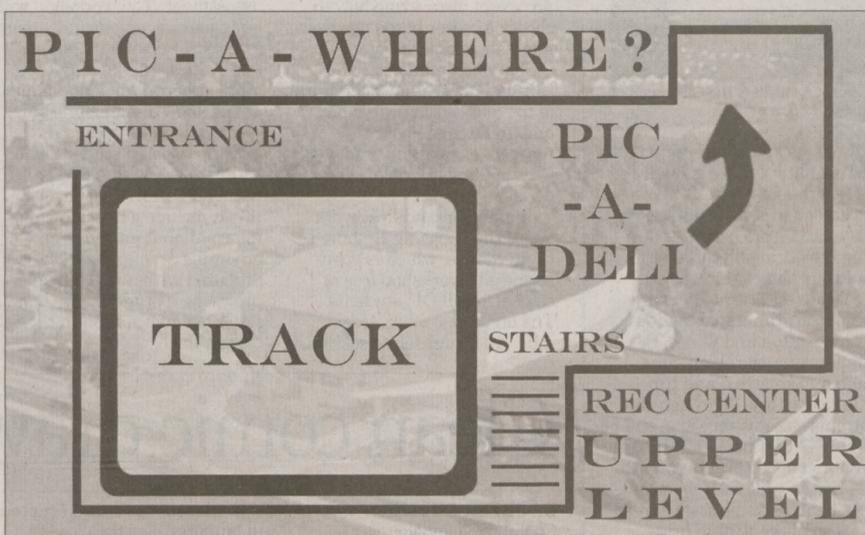
However, it appears as though Pic-A-Deli became a victim of too much competition on campus with the Vandenberg Dining Hall opening as well as Out Takes in Pawley Hall and the Pioneer Food Court in the Oakland Center. Jordan said that when the Oakland Center was renovated back in 2003, the additions of Subway, Chick-fil-A and Menutainment, among other dining venues, really slowed business in the Rec Center.

"I think that all those factors kind of drove business away from the Rec Center," Jordan said.

Another factor that keeps the business of the cafe area slow is its placement within the building.

"Our food operation should be at the front portion of the building, not the back portion," Jordan said.

Jordan refers to the front lobby area of the Rec Center as a "free zone" where you don't have to show your ID to get in.



Graphic by CELESTE FILIATRAULT/The Oakland Post

He said that most rec centers that are built now have their food area in the "free zone" so anyone can use it.

"For students that's not an issue, but for non-students there's a perception that you have to be a member to get in," said Jordan. "We had some theft a year or so ago so we are a little tighter right now. You always have to show your ID."

Another challenge for Jordan is coming up with a good economic plan for future cafes.

"When you start examining traffic flow and usage patterns and couple that with the menu you are seeking, it becomes very difficult to provide a reasonably-priced product to students and other members," Jordan said.

So what are the plans for the

future of the cafe?

Jordan says that some of his staff have suggested offering healthy choices such as smoothies, juices, bottle water and Gatorade. But the cafe doesn't have a kitchen area to prepare and keep foods fresh.

"We have had some very preliminary discussions with Chartwells," Jordan said. But he also said that the Rec Center does not provide exclusive opportunities to any vendor. One reason for that is to allow for outside food to be brought in when student organizations or parties are held at the Rec Center.

"There might be better use (for the area)," Jordan said. "Many rec centers have minimal food services at their front desk." The OU Rec Center could offer the

same limited menu at the front desk and use the cafe area for a computer lab, office space or a bathroom.

Jordan recently visited DePaul, North Dakota and Ohio State Universities and found that their rec centers have a teaching kitchen available. Jordan said that OU's space could be utilized in a similar way to offer nutrition cooking classes.

The Rec Center does not charge rent for the area, but they do take a percentage of sales that would be brought in at the cafe. At this time, no plans have been approved for the space, but Jordan says that, regardless of what is ultimately done with it, "we're going to maximize the utilization of that space."

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

Q: What food venue would you like to see brought to OU's campus?



A: California Pizza Kitchen. Their selections are healthy, but they're different, and we don't have one in the area.

Nicole Williams
Sophomore
Linguistics



A: More vegetarian sushi.

Sarah Smith
Sophomore
Undecided



A: Taco Bell. It's good food and a lot cheaper than the stuff we've got here.

Jason Bahlman
Senior
Mechanical
Engineering

Career fair grows, economy doesn't

By BRYAN EVERSON
Contributing Reporter

Michigan's economy may not exactly be booming, but you wouldn't have known it by Thursday's Diversity Career Fair.

Graduates and current students alike packed into the Oakland Center's Banquet Rooms to try and pursue job opportunities offered by the nearly 70 employers who attended the event.

"Non-minority students were certainly welcome to come, and they did come in large numbers, but as you walked around the floor you could see there was a pretty good diverse population of students," said Bob Thomas, director of career services at Oakland University.

According to Thomas, the event has seen enormous growth over the years.

"Certainly, it's bigger now than when it started," Thomas said. "It probably started with 30 companies over 10 years ago, and now it's at 70 companies, which is about the capacity for those rooms. As far as students attending, we've probably peaked at about 650 and this year I hope we're over

500, but I think students have been frustrated with the job market."

With employers offering a variety of opportunities including summer jobs, full-time positions and internships, students flocked to introduce themselves to company representatives, often with resumes.

Steve Juncaj, a recent graduate who majored in mechanical engineering, said that the event was definitely helpful in terms of finding postgraduate work.

"Since graduating, I've just relaxed and taken time off, but now I'm posting resumes and looking for a full-time engineering position," Juncaj said. "I think the event is nice. You get contacts, and these kinds of things are definitely worth it."

The fair boasted a wide variety of companies from Kroger to WXYZ-TV.

Tracey Zang, a human resources specialist for Oakland University, was one of several university employees on hand representing the school at the event.

"We come here and hire staff for the university and encourage people to apply and look at our Web site," Zang said. "We

look at students who haven't graduated yet and see what we have (available) or try and point them in the right direction. Some of the students need a few more years experience, so we're just trying to help them as well."

Thomas also added that, with the economic shift, the assortment of the companies that have attended the event has changed somewhat.

"The nature of the companies has shifted," Thomas said. Just before 2000, we saw more technical companies than we see today, so it's the auto industry where things are getting softer. I think in the service sector, though, the economy is getting better."

For more information, visit the Career Services office in 275 West Vandenberg Hall or call the office at (248) 370-3250.



CHARLES GRASKI/The Oakland Post

Students and employers mingle during the career fair.

Approval of Election Commission nominees caused contention between legislators and executive board members at Monday's Student Congress meeting. Some legislators were upset that none of the six nominees up for approval were present at the meeting.

Legislator J.L. Ricks said, "I would never vote for someone I'm not familiar with."

Ricks was strongly opposed to approving any of the nominees

for the Election Commission at that time. He was not familiar with the nominees and felt that those up for approval should have been present at the meeting.

Student Program Chair Tamara Kukuk said past experience has shown that some legislators do not take the time to get to know students that are up for approval of a position. She said to take the word of those bringing the approval to Congress.

Student Body President

Madalyn Miller told Congress to have faith in Elections Commission Chair, Krystal Minarik.

This spring, students will vote for a new Student Body President and Vice President. The Election Commission is responsible for maintaining the integrity of the election process.

According to Student Congress Bylaws, the commission will administer balloting, moderate presidential debates, host the

campaign kick-off event and handle any complaints filed by election candidates.

Despite protest by some legislators, five out of the six Election Commission nominees were approved. Approval of Amanda Saoud was postponed until next week, citing concerns over her busy schedule.

—OWEN SEXTON
Senior Reporter

United Hope at Oakland University sponsored a volunteer event where students made fleece blankets for children with cancer yesterday. "Nathan's Blankets" is the name of the project started by President of United Hope at OU, Alisha Bellows.

The blankets will go to cancer patients at Children's Hospital of Detroit as part of their "Clothes Closet" program. Bellows hopes that the blankets will help to cheer up the children and give them a sense of security.

This year's goal was to make

75 to 80 blankets with supplies provided through the Student Activities Funding Board.

The event was part of Center for Student Activities' "Once-A-Month" volunteer program.

The next volunteer opportunity will be Feb. 14 from noon to

1 p.m. in the Gold Rooms where students can make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for local shelters.

—MARIA VITALE
Senior Reporter

Students help write OU history book

By ADAM ROBERTS
Contributing Reporter

It's no surprise that journalism professor William Connellan embraced the task of chronicling Oakland University's 50-year history. He saw much of it firsthand.

Since enrolling at Oakland in 1963 as a student, Connellan has been an active participant in its growth, both as an administrator and as a professor. Now he is preparing to write a book detailing the first half-century of the university.

Connellan hopes to have the book completed by 2009, coinciding with the 50th anniversary of when classes were first offered on the Rochester campus.

The unique thing about this history book is that most of the key people involved are still alive and in the area.

Connellan and the students who have enrolled in his special topics journalism classes have spent the past two semesters tracking down and interviewing a wide range of people that have had connections to Oakland over the years. He recently interviewed former Michigan Governor William Milliken, and has plans to talk to former Governors James Blanchard and John Engler, as well as current Governor Jennifer Granholm.

Milliken spoke fondly of OU, saying that he was amazed by the growth of the institution since he first became Michigan's governor in 1969. He was excited by the prospect of the university approaching 20,000

students in the near future, four times the amount that were enrolled at the start of his first term.

What has most impressed Connellan about the project is the willingness of people to participate and the rich detail of their memories.

Former Oakland Provost Fred Obeir shared that in the early years he was given the newly created position of "Dean of Freshmen" by then-chancellor Woody Varner. When Obeir asked Varner what his job would entail, Varner simply said, "Make them sophomores."

This willingness of the staff to be flexible and take chances characterized Oakland in its infancy. According to former Provost Keith Kleckner, curriculum and programs were often developed on the fly. Oakland was "a clean sheet of paper."

Looking at the University from a historical perspective, things that once seemed monumental now seem to be part of a natural evolution, according to Connellan. The addition of doctorate programs and athletics are examples of how, through gradual progress, the culture of Oakland has changed.

Connellan invites anyone who has a good story to tell or has relevant information about OU's history to contact him via e-mail at connella@oakland.edu. Independent study opportunities will be available in future semesters for students interested in working with Connellan.



New to the professional artist community, Alonzo Edwards poses beside his painting, "2 Samuel 13." CHARLES GRASKI/The Oakland Post

ABS event paints heritage

By CHARLES GRASKI
Contributing Reporter

The Association of Black Students brought art, entertainment and a message to Oakland University Friday night with "Heart of a People," an art exhibit featuring the work of Jamar Lochart, Alonzo Edwards and Personal Preference Art Network in the Oakland Center Gold Rooms.

"We chose Jamar Lochart because he's an OU alumni, Alonzo Edwards because he's only beginning to take the first steps as a professional artist and Personal Preference Art Network because they are comprised of established professional artists," said Angelica Prophet, the event's co-coordinator. "The choice to feature these artists gave us the opportunity to demonstrate that art has value in terms of cultural contri-

butation at any stage in an artist's career."

Lochart featured pieces from his clothing line, Jamar Artistic Designs, demonstrative of the musical influence of his father in his art. He launched his clothing line in 2003, and plans to launch an online store this year.

Edward said his spiritual acrylic paintings merge the tension of everyday life with the rapture of the word of God.

"My goal is to be a professional artist, painting spiritual scenes," he said.

Arranged in chronological order, his paintings represented his progression from portraying raw emotion, such as "Essence of Anger," to interpreting obscure scriptural references, as in "2 Samuel 13."

PPAN offered a variety of paintings indicative of the rich cultural heritage celebrated at the event.

The group's motto is, "Beautifying the world one home at a time," which is exactly what they promise to do. "We offer to personalize homes with art by doing an in-home art show, featuring 25 paintings that correspond with a client's tastes," said Margaret Dennis of PPAN.

"Art visually depicts the warmth, emotion and beauty of all cultures," said Dennis.

"It lets us know that within all nationalities, there is talent, strength and pride. It allows everyone to see the difference in each culture, while respecting it by bringing this world into our homes through art."

While eclectic beats and fine food stimulated mellow conversation and dance, the impetus for the event culminated from a rich and turbulent history. "Through the strength of my ancestry, still I rise"—the theme of African-American Celebration Month—tied in well with the event, as the ABS and artists agreed that art is central to bridging the cultural divide that persists unnecessarily in our society.

"Art plays an important role in human life, period. It's exciting to know that every culture has its own art," said Lochart. "This is representative of an inherent cross-cultural link. Even though they might seem incompatible and opposite, they're really not at all."

"Art touches everyone," said ABS president Mia Evans. "It shows the African-American heart, exposed, but immune to discrimination because of the absence of the physical presence."

The Association of Black Students can be reached at 121J West Vandenberg Hall.

Profession by personality

Workshop helps students decide on the perfect career

By RENA PETRASHKO
Contributing Reporter

Whether you have declared a major or not, the process of researching and exploring career paths is ongoing. The Career Expedition Workshop, scheduled to begin Thursday, Feb. 1, will help Oakland University students through the process of discovering how to choose a career based on their interests and personality.

Shaunda Jimmerson and Allison Post are the facilitators of the four-session workshop and are excited about the prospect of assisting students with making informed career decisions.

Jimmerson and Post work out of the Advising Resource Center office, which is sponsoring the workshop free of charge for all OU students. The office also offers free individual counseling sessions

throughout the year.

"It's not such a bad thing to be undecided because that's a great caveat for exploration in career choices," Post said. "Our main hope is that students will look at career exploration as a multi-faceted approach."

During the workshop, students will complete both a personality and an interest assessment. The workshop will be "a journey of learning about interests, personality, skills, and values, and putting them all together in an action plan at the end," Jimmerson said.

An action plan is a joint effort between a student who wants to research a career path, and an ARC counselor. It can include job shadowing, informational interviewing or joining an organization affiliated with a specific field, providing a student with constructive information in their chosen field.

By blending some principles of academic advising along with career exploration, the ARC counseling sessions find a unique fit for each individual.

Once the Career Expedition Workshop is complete, follow-up will be offered in the form of one-on-one sessions.

Post, an OU graduate, and Jimmerson said, "We love our jobs and are enthusiastic to help others find rewarding careers too."

The workshop and the services at the ARC office are open to all OU students. Space is limited but some openings are still available for the workshop, which runs every Thursday in February from noon to 1 p.m. in 121 North Foundation Hall.

To register, call the ARC at (248) 370-3227 or register online at www.oakland.edu/transitionworkshops.

Clean comic draws laughs

By PETER MILLER
Contributing Reporter

"One Mississippi..." he said, after a joke he told got a poor crowd reaction.

Stand-up comedian Ryan Hamilton performed at Vandenberg Hall for Oakland University's "Friday Night Live," sharing his observations about subjects ranging from fashion and LASIK surgery to meteorology.

"I don't know if you're aware of this, but jokes and laughter actually share a very similar relationship to lightning and thunder," Hamilton said in a comical, self-pitying tone.

"So when I start counting off seconds after the punch line, what I'm doing is determining how far away my sense of humor is."

In unison, the crowd erupted in laughter. For the close-to-100 students in attendance, Hamilton provided an hour of clean, but very funny comedy. Despite being crammed into the corner of Vandenberg Hall's dining room, everyone left with a smile.

Hamilton's interaction with the crowd really added to the show.

Fellow 5th-year education majors Aubrey Culberson and Rob Leitzel had nothing but good things to say about the show. "It was really good," Leitzel said. "I don't even like stand-up comedy, but he had a really good act."

"He is one of the best clean comedians I've heard," Culberson said.

Hamilton said that the cre-

ative process is one of the things he enjoys most about stand-up.

A 30-year-old Idaho native, Hamilton claims Steve Martin, Bill Cosby and Brian Regan as his comedic idols. "Steve Martin is smart and goofy at the same time," he said.

In 2005, Hamilton won Sierra Mist's "America's Next Great Comic Search" and has since appeared on shows such as the Boston Comedy Festival and HBO's Las Vegas Comedy Festival. Hamilton will be a part of the "Clean Guys of Comedy" tour this spring.

Hamilton said the crowd was a lot of fun and that everyone had been really nice to him.

"They were really focused," he said, "laughing when they were supposed to laugh."

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EDITORIAL

Think big and keep an open mind for 2008

It's amazing how early the presidential race begins now. Not too long ago campaigns started just one year before election day. Today the chatter starts and moves are made as much as two years in advance of the election.

With that in mind and as everyone is beginning to hear and see all about the 2008 hopefuls, it'll be important to look at the next presidential election as an opportunity for the American public to speak up loudly like it did this past November and vote in numbers large enough

to really be heard once again.

Two democrats considered to be strong candidates for that party's nomination are Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton of New York and Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois.

In many different circles people have voiced doubt at the chances Rodham Clinton and Obama have at the presidency because of their given sex and race, respectively.

That might indeed be the reality, and how unfortunate if it is.

This is not intended to

endorse either senator but rather to endorse the idea of not discounting any candidate on a basis as ridiculous as sex or race.

White guys have been guilty of displaying all sorts of monumental stupidity from the beginning of time — but not because of their racial or sexual makeup.

If race and sex were qualifying factors for success, then we've been getting it wrong throughout our entire history.

—The Oakland Post



Aren't there more important things to consider?

GUEST COLUMN

"Rights" sound a lot more like "restrictions"

By **CHUCK KANOUSE**
Guest Columnist

Digital Rights Management, or DRM, is a technology that protects music files.

At least that is what corporations and online music stores want their customers to believe. DRM allows them to limit what people can do with the music they legally purchase.

This can include but is not limited to a restriction on the amount of times the song can be played, restrictions on being able to burn the song, and a limit on what devices the song can be loaded to.

This technology makes legally backing up music practically impossible. DRM in music is the equivalent of General Motors telling someone how and when to drive their car.

This technology is made more powerful by the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, or DMCA. The DMCA makes it a federal crime to circumvent the protection of DRM. This has not reduced the amount of piracy on the internet and makes it harder for legitimate music purchasers to exercise their rights.

Microsoft and Sony are two of the leading forces behind the push for Digital Rights Management. Sony used root kit technology to hide their DRM software from users.

A root kit is a virus-like software tool that hides files and programs so they cannot be found on a computer system. Sony's DRM root kit was only brought to light when it was discovered by windows internal researcher Mark Russinovich.

If it was not for Russinovich, Sony

might still be using that technology today. As for Microsoft, they have built DRM technology right into the popular Windows Media Player. Worst of all it is in the core of their new operating system Windows Vista. Vista takes DRM to a video as well by limiting what can be displayed on a monitor that is not DRM compatible.

Digital Rights Management is an abridgement of the freedoms of every person who buys music and movies online. Some online stores are contemplating abandoning DRM technology to make it easier for their customers to use the music they purchase. This is a step in the right direction but it will not be enough to overcome this technological burden. Bringing this technology to light will make it harder for corporations to hide their true intentions and allow consumers to be free.

GUEST COLUMN

Chance of a lifetime deferred

By **KATIE KOPPIN**
Guest Columnist

Somehow I always end up in the spotlight. People are always asking, "What is Katie up to now?" After all, I have been interviewed on the news several times, met President Bush and Vice President Cheney and their families, driven in the Presidential motorcade and appeared on the Rush Limbaugh Show several times. Most recently, the White House Office of Presidential Scheduling chose me as an intern this semester. My dream of working at the White House had finally come true!

The excitement of this opportunity overwhelmed me as I thought about moving to DC and working with some of the most powerful people in the world. Every e-mail and phone call from the White House left me even more eager to begin my internship. Even after filling out page after page of background information for the FBI, I was ready! Once again, the spotlight was on me, and I became the center of attention wherever I went.

It began to occur to me — is that where

the spotlight should always be? My friends and family know that my relationship with Jesus Christ is very important to me. I try to bring honor to Him in all that I do because without Christ my life would be meaningless and hopeless. Because my faith is at the center of who I am, I had been praying all along that the details of this internship would all fall in place if God wanted me in Washington, D.C.

Everything seemed to be falling into place and in early December my mom and I took a trip to Washington to check things out. I prayed the visit would be a clear indicator of whether I should take the job. I met with my supervisor who told me my responsibilities would basically consist of answering the phones in an office several blocks away from the White House. This was a total disappointment because when I was interviewed I was told I would have many more responsibilities, and, obviously, I thought a White House internship meant I would be working in the Executive Office Building.

After spending some time with the young woman who showed us around, I began to sense the climate that we have all been told exists in D.C. — more than

just the "dog-eat-dog" mentality in other fast-paced industries. It's an arena in which you must totally immerse yourself and be prepared to claw your way just to get in, let alone succeed, and, at times, step on a lot of toes (and maybe even cut off a few of your own) to get ahead. I'm not comfortable with being defined by my career if it involves this level of commitment. I have many interests I hope to pursue in my life, and I would be forced to set many of them aside for politics.

I'm grateful for the opportunity that was put before me; it was truly an honor to be selected for the White House Internship. I look forward to the next opportunity that comes my way and the new challenges it will bring. I don't think anyone should shy away from dreams and goals that seem out of reach — you never know what you will learn, even from the disappointments.

For now, I will take the spotlight off myself and focus my efforts to sharing the love of Christ to others as that love has been shared to me. When I rely on myself, material possessions and career goals, happiness and contentment will never be achieved and living "the American dream" will result in a nightmare.

No respect, no respect at all

By **TOM PURCELL**
Syndicated Columnist

Facing a lame-duck presidency and a belligerent Democratic Congress, a desperate President Bush hired a medium to summon the only spirit who could understand him: Rodney Dangerfield.

"Here's the problem," said Dangerfield, as he loosened his tie and twisted his neck from side to side. "You got no respect, Mr. President, no respect at all."

"But Pelosi and Reid gave me gifts after my State of the Union Address."

"Pelosi and Reid are trying to soak you, Mr. President. They gave you toys to play with while you're soaking — a toaster and a radio."

"But I presented ideas that we could address in a bipartisan manner, Rodney."

"Like your health care ideas? Sure, common-sense market incentives would broaden coverage and drive down costs. But your ideas are already dead on arrival. Democrats are out to get you, Mr. President. If you went to a prize fight, a session of Congress would break out."

"What about my energy plan, Rodney? I called for a 20 percent reduction in gasoline usage by 2017. We could achieve that by shifting to ethanol and other alternative fuels."

"But ethanol is made from corn, Mr. President. The amount you're talking about would require 30 million acres of farmland. You really think the Democratic left will allow that much soil erosion and pesticide use? Mr. President,

if the Surgeon General were a Democrat, he'd tell you to smoke!"

"But the Democrats need to show legislative accomplishments if they hope to retain control of Congress in 2008. Surely they'll compromise somewhere."

"Like the war in Iraq, Mr. President? Most Democrats voted to authorize it in 2002 when it was popular, then they beat the war horse back to power when it became unpopular. You think they're going to stop riding that horse now? Mr. President, if you swallowed a bottle of aspirin, Democrats would offer you cocktails and encourage you to get some rest."

"What can I do to win back the people's respect so that Congress will listen to me?"

"How should I know, Mr. President? I'm a comedian. And there's nothing funny about your presidency. Gallup says your approval rating is at 36 percent. Your Republican colleagues, worried about 2008, are jumping ship. A CBS poll says that 60 percent of the world doesn't respect you. The fact is, Mr. President, that —"

"I'm getting no respect, no respect at all!"

"Yes, Mr. President, not even from your dog, Barney. The way things are going for you, Barney's favorite bone is your arm."

— Tom Purcell is a humor columnist nationally syndicated exclusively by Cagle Cartoons. For comments to Tom, email him at Purcell@caglecartoons.com



THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER



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Send your comments to **The Oakland Post.**

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

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

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

— The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States

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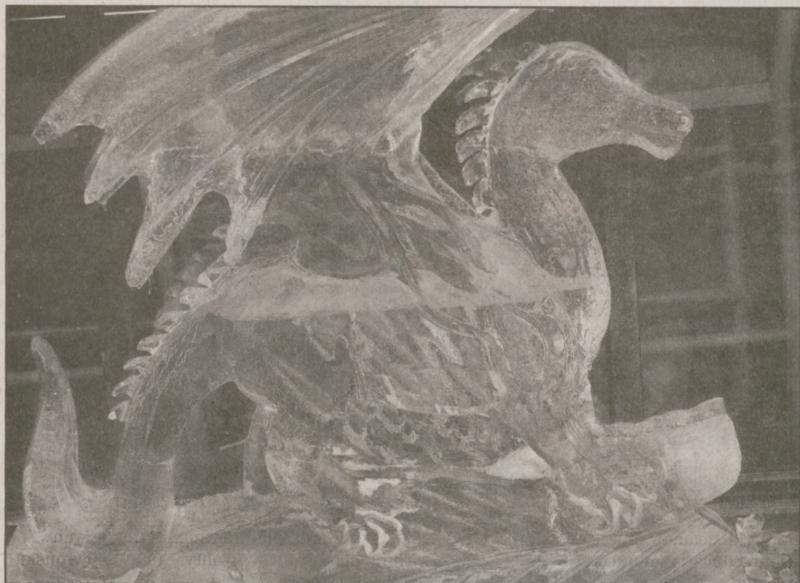
January 31, 2007



Above and below by CHARLES GRASKI/The Oakland Post



LIRIA IVEZAJ/The Oakland Post



Ice sculptures featured in downtown Rochester

By AGATHA WOLKOWICZ
Contributing Reporter

Its cramped, a bit chilly and not as large as its famous predecessor — yet still quite appealing. Standing at a little more than two feet tall, Meadow Brook Hall's 75 pound ice sculpture, an "American Castle", made quite a debut this past weekend in Rochester's first-ever ice event.

Main Street was lined the last weekend in January with 34 unique sculptures, ranging from depictions of the Frog Prince, Tinkerbell and Harry Potter.

Among the many fictional characters, Meadow Brook Hall's own sculpture stood out in the crowd. Interested spectators marveled out loud on the students' ability to carve such a great piece of work out of a simple block of ice.

"My favorite sculpture was the Three Blind Mice," said Michelle Freers, 9, sipping on her hot chocolate.

The event enticed individuals of all ages: from kids to young adults, from entire families to elderly couples. Nancy Voges, Rochester's head of public relations, was extremely proud of the turnout.

"Our goals were reached — we wanted to create a family-oriented atmosphere and give our community a chance to wine and dine in the heart of Rochester — and that's exactly what we got."

She estimated a total of 5,000 people attended to enjoy the weekend's events.

The ice show came equipped with a Warming Station that included Starbucks coffee, roasted marshmallows (so popular they sold out by

Saturday afternoon) and hot cocoa.

All proceeds benefited the Lions Club, which has supported Leader Dog programs with their community contributions.

"Our main focus has always been to concentrate on the visually and hearing impaired," said Mike Meagher, who helped sell goods that weekend to attendees. Local shops contributed to the overall satisfaction of the event, passing out chocolate truffles, hot drinks and samples of their foods. Horse carriages clicked down the streets, inviting free rides to anyone interested in an old-fashioned way of travel. One of the focuses of the event was a live ice sculptor, who spent almost two hours Saturday afternoon working behind a make-shift fence with his chainsaw and carver.

He diligently chipped away at two matching four foot blocks of ice. As ice bits flew into the crowd, the final product came slowly: a pirate ship, which was soon accompanied by a fierce-looking pirate. Many spectators said it was worth the wait.

A partnership with the City of Rochester made it possible for Oakland University's students and faculty to participate in this winter event. The partnership was officially formalized in 2003 to generate student internship opportunities and community awareness, and has now evolved to include bigger and loftier events.

So are OU and the City of Rochester planning anything together again in the near future?

"Certainly," said Voges. "The school has already helped us share so much promotional information that we look forward to collaborating our efforts again soon."



LIRIA IVEZAJ/The Oakland Post

Internet Tools:

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Thursday, February 1, 2007

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Gold Room # 306



Connie Jaracz of Sonitrol will discuss using the Internet more effectively to make your job search more successful.

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People with disabilities who need assistance to participate in these programs should contact the Office of Disability Support Services at 248-370-3266.

'I've got you under my skin'

Traveling anatomy exhibit explores human body

By WENDY LYONS
Contributing Reporter

Most of us would never think of sticking our faces a few inches away from a skinless dead guy, but at the Detroit Science Center's new exhibit, it just seems like the natural thing to do.

The traveling anatomical exhibition "Our Body: The Universe Within" made its Midwest debut at the Detroit Science Center Jan. 13, and people of all ages have been lining up to get up close and personal with the dead ever since.

The good news is that these aren't your typical biology class body parts and cadavers steeped in stinky formaldehyde. These guys went high-tech — literally.

They received the Rolls-Royce of preservation treatments called Plastination — invented and patented by German physician Gunther von Hagens in 1975, which is a vacuum-forced polymer impregnation that prevents decomposition by replacing body fat and water with reactive plastics.

The complicated process takes 1,200 – 1,500 hours per specimen and provides a dry and odorless preservation that penetrates all the way down to the microscopic level.

Oddly enough, the end result is a very lifelike appearance.

"Our Body: The Universe Within" is intended to be a scientific and educational study of the human anatomy that enables the general public to view the human body in a way that was once only available to medical students, doctors and scientists.

The exhibit features approximately 20 bodies and 135 other anatomical displays organized according to the body's major systems: musculoskeletal, nervous, respiratory, urinary, reproductive and cardiovascular.

The exhibition rooms are eerily darkened.

Adults and children alike are captivated by what they see. Most people are quiet or talk in hushed tones, but an occasional laugh cuts the somber atmosphere now and again.

And this is to be expected; many of these bodies are extraordinarily bizarre.

One body is poised like a runner who just took off from the starting line. Everything has been removed except the bones, tendons and muscles. The muscles, disconnected on one end, are splayed out as if they are flapping in the wind because he's running so fast.

Another has been reduced to nothing but blood vessels. The human body has 80,000 miles of them, the voice on audio tour says. Its red ethereal form looks more like a fiber artist's concoction than something human.

Sometimes the exhibit is more matter-of-fact, as when it occasionally compares a healthy organ with a diseased one, such as the lung of a smoker compared to that of a non-smoker. "Pretty sweet," said Max Ritter, 11, of Bloomfield. "I liked how it shows you if you smoke, your lungs are all black and disgusting."

In the second part of the exhibit, one reclining body has been sliced in cross sections which are a half-inch to 1 ½ inch thick. The 183 circular pieces are still in the proper position, but they are spread inches apart for viewing; he looks like a 20-foot tall Michelin man.

A little further down, someone's skin has been removed and made into leather.

Numerous tabletop microscopes are set up to show various types of tissue. On the wall, magnified projections compare healthy cells with diseased cells.

Oddly, the cells that look the most beautiful are the cancerous ones.

And that paradox is befitting of the entire show.

This exhibition is one of three nonaffiliated Plastination body shows touring the coun-



Tickets for "Our Body: The Universe Within" are \$24.95 for adults, \$22.95 for seniors and \$19.95 for children. Science Center general admission is included. An optional audio tour and/or the IMAX® film "The Human Body" may be purchased at an additional cost. Children younger than 13 must be accompanied by an adult. Advance tickets are available at www.detroitsciencecenter.org or may be purchased at the door. It closes May 28.

Photo courtesy of The Detroit Science Center

"Our Body: The Universe Within" exhibit at the Detroit Science Center displays human bodies, dry and odorless, preserved through a high-tech process called Plastination. The exhibit is running now through May 28, 2007.

try. The other two are "Body Worlds" — von Hagens' own creation — and "BODIES...The Exhibition."

Although unaffiliated, they do have something in common: controversy.

Some people question whether it is ethical to objectify the dead, even if it does provide some useful educational purpose.

The jury is still out on that one.

For some it is black and white. "I feel like it was a great experience for your mind to find out what goes on to your body," said Marlon Williams, 13, of Detroit. "Great preparation for

higher learning. I think every kid should come see this."

Medical student Pavel Nockel, 26, said, "It was amazing for the lay public. It is really informative."

For others, it is a dilemma.

"It was pretty fascinating. It makes you think about your mortality," Todd Skowronski, 25, of Farmington Hills said. "But they are bodies, persons on display. It has valid scientific purpose. But at the same time, it was more like a circus than a funeral. It should be more respectful. But overall, it is cool."

Photo exhibit uses abstract to evoke emotion

By CHARLES GRASKI
Contributing Reporter

The eye sees much. The photograph and the painting can show us something new, an iconic depiction of a subject, or it can recreate the subject altogether. Neither medium can ever reveal everything about its subject.

The subject is never known, and what we know of it is what we are intended to see. For photographer Rachel Holland, what is meant and what is shown are already abstractions.

Holland's exhibit entitled "Simulacra," is currently on display at Madonna University's Livonia campus. The concept behind the series

of photographs dates back to the 1800s and has been expanded by the work of Jean Baudrillard, Fredric Jameson and Gilles Deleuze. A definition accompanies the exhibit of the singular simulacrum: a slight, unreal or superficial likeness or semblance; an effigy, image or representation. Essentially, "Simulacra" depicts subjects as empty forms, copies of an original lost to history. Holland said, "People are complex and multidimensional. Photographs, at best, can only reveal fragments of that personality."

As her work is done primarily for advertising companies, Holland's goal is to assist the advertiser in evoking a need in the viewer of the ad to acquire the featured product. "The subject of the ad is not the model, while they may occupy

more space, the focus is on the product or service," she said. The consumer then becomes a copy of the copy of the image the advertising company wished to create through the desire and acquisition of the product or service advertised. What is essential to the success of such work is personal reaction.

The title "Simulacra" is fitting because in this sense, what the images lack in depth, they make up for in form. Very few of the photographs in the exhibit show the whole face, and even the exceptions are distorted by a variety of lighting strategies such as overexposure and composition. "I find people usually have a stronger reaction to these types of images, possibly because they require more personal inter-

pretation from the viewer," Holland said. And this was found to be true.

Photographing her photographs may allow one to indulge in this exploration of the effigies of the "real". The photos then become subjective interpretations of Holland's interpretations of her unknowable subjects by depicting them in a more accessible state: simply as shapes. Abstracts of her abstractions create a very personal interpretation, proving the validity of Holland's "Simulacra".

The exhibit runs through Feb. 6, 2007 and cameras are allowed in the exhibit. Go ahead and see what you can abstract for yourself. For more information, call (248) 875-7332. Admission is free.

<h3>CENTER FOR STUDENT ACTIVITIES</h3> <p>49 Oakland Center, Rochester, MI 48309-4401 (248) 370-2400 • csa@oakland.edu • www.oakland.edu/csa</p> <p>CSA Once-a-Month Volunteer Opportunity</p> <p>Celebrate Random Acts of Kindness Day 2007:</p> <p>PB & J Day!</p> <p>Wednesday, February 14 Noon – 1PM Oakland Center Gold Rooms</p> <p>Help make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for local shelters! Volunteers are also needed to deliver the sandwiches and create Valentine's Day cards.</p> <p><i>Sponsored by Golden Key International Honour Society.</i></p>	<p>CSA SERVICE WINDOW EVENTS Discount tickets for the following shows and events are available to the Oakland University community. You can purchase tickets or pick up a detailed schedule of dates, times and prices at the CSA Service Window, 49 OC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent • Color-ography • Riverdance • Cirque Dreams Jungle Fantasy • The Rat Pack Is Back • I Can't Stop Loving You • Turnanot • Sweet Charity • Swan Lake • Camelot • Abduction From Seraglio • Romeo and Juliet <p>Student & Greek Organization</p> <p>RECOGNITION NIGHT</p> <p>Wednesday, April 11th Stay tuned for more information!</p> <p>Awards Nomination Packets are available in the CSA Office, 49 OC.</p>	<p>Good MORNING Commuters!</p> <p>Friday, February 2nd 8:45AM South Foundation Hall Fishbowl</p> <p>Wake up with FREE coffee and hot chocolate on the first Friday of every month during the Winter 2007 semester!</p> <p>Have a question? Email us at csa@oakland.edu</p>
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Report alleges widespread political interference in climate science

By H. JOSEF HEBERT
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Democratic chairman of a House panel examining the government's response to climate change said Tuesday there is evidence that senior Bush administration officials sought repeatedly "to mislead the public by injecting doubt into the science of global warming."

Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., said he and the top Republican on his oversight

committee, Rep. Tom Davis of Virginia, have sought documents from the administration on climate policy, but have been repeatedly rebuffed.

"The committee isn't trying to obtain state secrets or documents that could affect our immediate national security," said Waxman, opening the hearing. "We are simply seeking answers to whether the White House's political staff is inappropriately censoring impartial government scientists."

"We know that the White House pos-

sesses documents that contain evidence of an attempt by senior administration officials to mislead the public by injecting doubt into the science of global warming and minimize the potential danger," Waxman said.

Administration officials were not scheduled to testify before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. In the past the White House has said it has only sought to inject balance into reports on climate change. Present Bush has acknowledged

concerns about global warming, but strongly opposes mandatory caps of greenhouse gas emissions, arguing that approach would be too costly.

Waxman said his committee had not received documents it requested from the White House and other agencies, and that a handful of papers received on the eve of the hearing "add nothing to our inquiry."

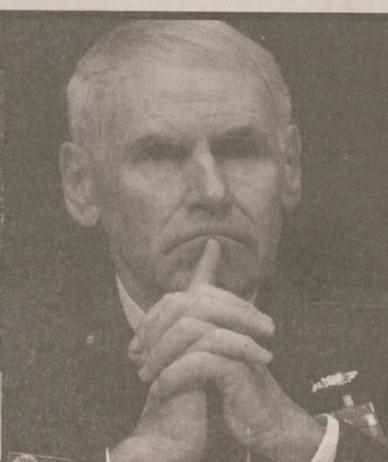
Two private advocacy groups, meanwhile, presented to the panel a survey of government climate scientists showing that many

of them say they have been subjected to political pressure aimed at downplaying the threat of global warming.

The groups presented a survey that shows two in five of the 279 climate scientists who responded to a questionnaire complained that some of their scientific papers had been edited in a way that changed their meaning. Nearly half of the 279 said in response to another question that at some point they had been told to delete reference to "global warming" or "climate change" from a report.



KRIS HAZELTON/AP Photo/The Estes Park News
An elk wanders through Estes Park, Colo., with a plastic lawn chair stuck around its neck, Monday. The chair eventually broke apart and fell off the animal's neck.



DENNIS COOK/AP Photo
Adm. William Fallon testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday before his Senate Armed Services Committee confirmation hearing to become commander of the U.S. Central Command.



DZIENNIK ONLINE, HO/AP Photo
In this undated image made from television footage of Polish Web site Dziennik Online, a shooting target showing the image of Alexander Litvinenko, the former agent who was fatally poisoned in London last year, is seen at a private training center, in Moscow. Sergei Lysyuk, head of the Vityaz Center, a private center that trains security personnel and held a competition for Russian special forces, confirmed Tuesday that the center has used shooting targets showing the photo of Litvinenko.

Nation in Brief

Lawyer recalls Libby saying 'I didn't do it'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Amid the furor over the 2003 leak of a CIA operative's identity, Vice President Dick Cheney's chief of staff, I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby, bluntly told a White House lawyer, "I didn't do it," the lawyer testified Tuesday. David Addington, who served as Cheney's legal counsel during the CIA leak scandal, described a September 2003 meeting with Libby around the time that a criminal investigation began. "I just want to tell you, I didn't do it," Addington recalled Libby saying. "I didn't ask what the 'it' was," Addington added. Special Prosecutor Patrick Fitzgerald says Libby discussed CIA operative Valerie Plame with reporters, then lied about those conversations. He is accused of perjury and obstruction but neither he nor anyone else is charged with the leak itself. Recalling their 2003 conversation in Libby's office, Addington testified Tuesday that Libby was curious about how someone could determine whether a CIA employee was working undercover. Addington, a former CIA counsel, said there's no way to know.

Astronaut journals studied to space affects mood
CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Dear Diary, the astronauts write. Well, maybe not in those exact

words. But three times a week, the two U.S. astronauts aboard the international space station write down their secret thoughts in their personal journals. They write about their moods, their whines, how they feel, what they miss, whether they're sick of the food or aren't getting along with their roommates up in space. It may sound like high school, but it's really for science. These diaries will be reviewed by a researcher in California who wants to measure how spending six months cooped up with just two other people at a time, 220 miles above Earth, can affect outlook and morale. "It comes out looking like a gossip column, I'm sure," said astronaut Sunita Williams shortly before she arrived at the space station in December. "But the point is to identify characteristics that will make expeditions successful." Williams and Michael Lopez-Alegria, the station's other current U.S. crew member, are told to be brutally honest.

'New and different action needed in Iraq' said Central Command nominee

WASHINGTON (AP) — Stabilizing Iraq will require "new and different actions" to improve security and promote political reconciliation, the Navy admiral poised to lead American forces in the Middle East said Tuesday. Adm. William Fallon, at his confirmation hear-

ing, also told the Senate Armed Services Committee that it may be time to "redefine the goals" in Iraq. And he said he believes Iran would like to limit America's influence in the region. "I believe the situation in Iraq can be turned around, but time is short," he said. Fallon, 62, who currently is commander of U.S. forces in the Pacific, said he saw a need for a comprehensive approach to Iraq, including economic and political actions to resolve a problem that requires more than military force. "What we have been doing has not been working," he said. "We have got to be doing, it seems to me, something different." Fallon said that "we probably erred in our assessment" of the Iraqi government's ability to rebuild its society and establish a peaceful order after the overthrow of President Saddam Hussein nearly four years ago.

Specter: Bush not sole 'decision maker'

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Senate Republican on Tuesday directly challenged President Bush's declaration that "I am the decision-maker" on issues of war. "I would suggest respectfully to the president that he is not the sole decider," Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., said during a hearing on Congress' war powers amid an increasingly harsh debate over Iraq war policy. "The decider is a shared and joint responsibility," Specter said.

World in Brief

Palestinian cease-fire starts taking hold; Israel bombs tunnels

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — A tenuous cease-fire began to take hold in the Gaza Strip early Tuesday after five days of intense fighting between the rival Hamas and Fatah factions left 34 people dead. The lull came just as Israel carried out its first response to a Palestinian suicide bombing, carrying out an airstrike early Tuesday on a tunnel dug by Palestinians near the Gaza-Israel border. Previous truce deals between Hamas and Fatah struck in recent weeks of factional clashes have quickly collapsed, and it appeared unlikely the two sides would comply with all the terms of the current agreement, such as handing over all those involved in killings and abductions. In the past, Hamas and Fatah gunmen used such lull periods to prepare for the next round of fighting. The shaky truce deal, struck by Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh of Hamas and a Rawhi Fattouh, an envoy of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, came as a two-month cease-fire between Israel and the Palestinians was being jeopardized by a Palestinian suicide bombing, the first since April. The bomber, a 20-year-old from Gaza, struck the Israeli resort city of Eilat on the Red Sea on Sunday, killing three people and himself. Hamas, which controls the Palestinian parliament and Cabinet, praised the attack as legitimate resistance, and Israeli leaders hinted that a military response was being considered. In Gaza City, gunfire and explosions were heard throughout the night, but the shooting stopped at about 5 a.m. local time, several hours after the cease-fire deal was struck.

Venezuela on the brink of change as Hugo Chaves seeks powers to remake society by decree
CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Hugo Chavez

has just about everything a president could want: popular support, a marginalized opposition, congress firmly on his side and a booming economy as he starts his new six-year term. Now, he's about to become even more powerful — the all-Chavista National Assembly is poised to approve a "mother law" as early as Wednesday enabling him to remake society by presidential decree. In its latest draft, the law would allow Chavez to dictate measures for 18 months in 11 broad areas, from the "economic and social sphere" to the "transformation of state institutions." Chavez calls it a new era of "maximum revolution," setting the tone for months of upheaval as he plans to nationalize companies, impose new taxes on the rich and reorient schools to teach socialist values. With near-religious fervor and plenty of oil wealth, Chavez is mobilizing millions of Venezuelans, intent on creating a more egalitarian society. Already, profound changes can be seen throughout Venezuela. Those who felt left out of the old system are thrilled at the prospect of having a voice in politics. Others are horrified, predicting that doors will close on their personal freedoms under one-man rule, although exactly what Chavez will do with his power remains unclear.

3 helicopters lost in Iraq since Jan. 20

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Three helicopters have been lost in Iraq in the past 10 days, including one over the weekend. While insurgents and militias have plenty of weapons capable of shooting down helicopters, the U.S. has developed tactics to minimize the risk, and many experts doubt the threat to the military's workhorse has significantly increased. Since May 2003, the U.S. military has lost 54 helicopters in Iraq, about half of them to hostile fire, according to figures compiled by the Brookings Institution.

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2007 Winter X Games



Daniel Bodin, of Sweden, performs a trick with his snowmobile at the 11th Winter X Games at Buttermilk Ski Area near Aspen, Colo. on Sunday.
NATHAN BILOW/AP Photo

X-GAMES WINNERS

1st-Place Finishers

Women's

Snowboard SuperPipe Finals: Torah Bright
Snowboarder X: Joanie Anderson
Snowboard Slopestyle: Jamie Anderson
Ski SuperPipe: Sarah Burke
Skier X: Ophelie David

Men's

Snowboarder X: Nate Holland
Snowboard Slopestyle: Andreas Wiig
Snowboard SuperPipe: Steve Fisher
Best Trick: Andreas Wiig
Ski SuperPipe: Tanner Hall
Skier X: Casey Puckett
Ski Slopestyle: Candide Thovex
Mono Skier X (Men and Women combined): Tyler Walker
Snowmobile Freestyle: Chris Burandt
Snocross: Tucker Hibbert

Barbaro's fight brought out the soft spot in many of us

(AP) — Why all the fuss about Barbaro? He was only a horse. Or was he?

Barbaro became a beloved pet for millions of us, and we loved him as if he were part of the family. We cheered when he passed another milestone in his recovery and agonized over his setbacks. Now that he's gone, we're left with a sadness we didn't expect and can't really explain.

Horse racing doesn't have

nearly the allure it once did, especially for youngsters. Oh sure, the Kentucky Derby is still big, but it's almost as much about fashion as foals. We'll tune in to the big races if there's a horse with a shot at the Triple Crown, but generally our attention span lasts about as long as the race itself.

Barbaro, though, captured our hearts in a way few others have. Racing against one of the

toughest Kentucky Derby fields in years, Barbaro stumbled slightly out of the gate but caught the leaders at the top of the stretch and thundered on by them, winning by a stunning 6 1/2 lengths.

Watching the 1,200-pound thoroughbred's rout was like watching history in the making, the emergence of a champion whose name alone proclaims greatness. Ali, Jordan, the Babe, Secretariat,

Tiger, Unitas — it was easy to imagine Barbaro's name being included in that list someday.

When he broke down at the Preakness — his right hind leg flaring out and then hanging limply — we gasped in shock and horror. Seeing a champion's career end prematurely is always tragic. Worse was the knowledge that most horses who suffer devastating injuries like this never even leave the track.

to say the LEAST

"I'm like a lot of Americans that say, 'Well, if it wasn't right in Iraq, how do you know it's going to be right in Iran?'"

— PRESIDENT BUSH
acknowledging skepticism over U.S. intelligence on Iran's nuclear program

Nominations Now Being Accepted For The Following Student Awards:

Wilson Awards.

Nominees for the 2007 Matilda R. Wilson and Alfred G. Wilson Awards must be graduating seniors in April 2007 or have graduated in June, August, or December 2006. The awards recognize one female and one male who have contributed as scholars, leaders, and responsible citizens to the Oakland University community. Nominees must have a strong record of a 3.5 or higher G.P.A.

Human Relations Award.

Nominees must be graduating in April 2007 or have graduated in June, August, or December 2006. The Human Relations Award recognizes a senior student who has made an outstanding contribution to inter-group understanding and conflict resolution in the Oakland University community. The major consideration of the award is the individual's service to the community. A minimum G.P.A. of 2.5 is required.

Nomination forms are available online at www.oakland.edu/deanofstudents under "Awards and Scholarships" or at 144 Oakland Center.

Call 370.3352 for more information.

Deadline for both awards is Friday, February 2, 2007.

Breakfast Lunch Dinner



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- 10% in Bonus Meal Dollars for the 250 or 500 Meal Dollar Plan

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Motown, meet MOCAD

Modern art museum wants to become cultural hub

By ROBERT M. PYLAR
Contributing Reporter

Facing enormous social concerns — a declining population and tax base, high poverty rates, heavy unemployment and shrinking city services among them — Detroit is unquestionably in need of candid and honest discussion about where it's been, where it wants to go and how it intends to get there.

The arts have long been woven into the cultural fabric of the city, but can they also become an agent of positive change? Many in the art community believe they can, and they also believe the Motor City has a new vehicle to assist in that role — the MOCAD, or Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit.

Although contemporary — or “modern” — art may not enjoy the recognition of its classical counterparts and is seen by many as endlessly complicated or overly simplistic, it remains relevant from a cultural standpoint. That relevance is magnified when the works are viewed from a modern-day sociological perspective.

“Contemporary artists employ the same skills, use many of the same mediums and touch upon the same themes as the classical artists of their time,” said Mitch Cope, a local artist and acting curator for the museum. “The difference is that they speak a slightly different language. Contemporary artists offer critical comments on today’s culture — not the culture of the past. Contemporary art isn’t just about art — it’s about life right now, and beginning a dialogue and having open discussions on the social issues of today.”

Indeed, while contemporary artists continue to use paint, canvas and sculpture, they also utilize architecture, music and video in offering their interpretations of everyday life. While citizens shy away from the debate of taboo topics, and politicians risk alienating voters when discussing the controversial social issues of the day, contemporary art — with its lack of boundaries and fears — challenges, engages and shocks the senses with its brutal honesty.

That raw nature of contemporary art is reflected in the location, architecture and design of the MOCAD, which opened in 2006.

The building — once home to an auto dealership — is a one-story, block structure covered on one side with a graffiti-painted mural. It assimilates effortlessly into the surrounding neighborhood — a



The Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, or MOCAD, is located inside a former auto dealership. The side of the building features a mural by artist Barry McGee. The MOCAD hopes to become a place for the public to come and discuss important cultural issues.

mix of viable businesses and vacant properties just south of Wayne State University at the intersection of Woodward Avenue and Garfield. Proudly, a recently-completed loft condo development sits nearby.

Sadly, a view in another direction shows the blown-out remnants of a much different city.

Given its proximity to the Detroit Institute of Arts, the College for Creative Studies, the Detroit Artist’s Market and many local galleries, the MOCAD adds to what could become an artist’s enclave. When asked about this prospect, Cope — himself a College for Creative Studies graduate — replied, “As far as bringing artists to the area, we definitely want to attract them; but we also want to retain the existing artists as well. We need to work at that, too.”

“We want this to become a place where people live, or at the very least, frequent,” he said.

The MOCAD — with its glass windows and garage doors, high ceilings and wide-open floor plan — will never be mistaken for a “traditional” museum, such as the D.I.A. The duct-work and

lighting is exposed, the flooring is steel-gray cement and the walls are a mix of brick and concrete block.

“It doesn’t look like many people’s idea of a museum,” said Britton Tolliver, exhibition coordinator. “They’re like, ‘Where are the guards? Where are the velvet ropes?’ It’s not that kind of museum.”

If the interior’s open and raw design illustrate exactly what contemporary art represents to many — honesty and openness in a society that doesn’t always recognize or appreciate such traits — it also provides an



“White Flight Tea Bar” by Nari Ward is part of the current MOCAD exhibit, “Meditations In An Emergency,” which will be on display until April 29. A new exhibit, titled “Shrinking Cities,” will open on Feb. 2.

excellent setting for what the MOCAD would like to become: a sort of “Public House,” where both artists and the general public can converge to debate the important issues of the day. A bookstore and café are currently under construction.

“The thing about contemporary art is that the artists don’t only exist in the gallery — they take their work out of the gallery and into the world,” said Cope. “One of the missions of the MOCAD is to educate the general public on contemporary art and its social commentaries. Another broader mission is that we want to be known as a type of center-point, or cultural hub; a meeting place for all things

Detroit.”

The upcoming exhibit, “Shrinking Cities,” backs up that philosophy. The exhibit was inspired from a project initiated by Germany’s Federal Cultural Foundation and examines urban development in cities with declining populations and business operations. In short, it’s a profile of urban shrinking as documented by artists, architects, filmmakers, journalists, culture experts and sociologists.

“Shrinking Cities is a perfect fit for what we’re trying to do here; locally, it hits a nerve — it’s relevant,” proclaimed Cope.

In addition to the art,

“Shrinking Cities” will include explanations of the works and open forums led by the exhibiting artists. Live music with a local flavor, film viewing and film appreciation/discussion are also scheduled. The events are interactive, and the public is encouraged to attend.

The featured artists for the exhibit and future exhibits will be recruited not only nationally, but globally as well. “We want to expose the public to artists and works they won’t see on the local scene, and expose national and international artists to what’s happening here in Detroit,” said Cope. “The city has unlimited potential in what it can offer.”

Visiting MOCAD?

- The “Shrinking Cities” exhibit will be on display Feb. 2- April 1.
- Free parking is available behind the building.
- The MOCAD is located at 4454 Woodward Ave., in Detroit.
- Museum hours are Wednesday and Sunday, 12-6 p.m. and Thursday-Saturday, 12-8 p.m.
- Admission is free.
- You may contact the museum at (313) 832-6622, or on the web at www.mocadetroit.org.



SEX



By CELESTE FILIATRAULT

I’d like to thank everyone for their questions and topic suggestions — keep them coming!

Q: “What STDs can you get when using a condom? Can you get genital warts?”

A: Condoms come in all sorts of sizes, shapes, colors and even flavors. Barrier contraceptives — including male and female condoms, cervical caps, Lea’s shields, diaphragms and contraceptive sponges — physically block sperm from entering the female reproductive tract. Keep in mind, no method of protection is 100 percent effective; you can still get STDs while using condoms.

Condoms are effective in the prevention of discharge diseases — i.e. HIV, gonorrhea, Chlamydia, and trichomoniasis — which are transmitted when infected fluids contact mucosal surfaces (e.g. male urethra, vagina or cervix), according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

However, genital ulcer diseases — including genital herpes, warts, syphilis, chancroid and human papillomavirus — are primarily transmitted through contact with infected skin or mucosal surfaces. These types of STDs are more difficult to protect yourself from because they can be spread by skin not covered by condoms.

The very best thing you can do to protect both yourself and your partner is to get tested. If possible, you and your partner should get tested before engaging in any sexual contact - this means no oral or anal!

Here are some condom safety tips from CNN Health and WebMD:

- * Choose latex condoms over lambskin and condoms. Lambskin is porous and does not protect users from HIV.
- * Use condoms when performing oral sex on a partner that is HIV-positive.
- * Avoid petroleum or mineral-based lubricants. These may weaken the condom and cause it to break.
- * Do not use female and male condoms at the same time. The friction may cause them to tear.
- Condoms are available at the Graham Health Center at a discounted price of \$2.00 per pack of 10.

HEALTH

Don't let winter weather get you down

By ALLEGRA ROWAN & ERIN MALLARD
Contributing Reporter & Features Editor

We all know them. They’re those perky, peppy people who always have way too much energy no matter what time of day it is. They make all of us look sluggish in comparison. But what about the approximately half a million people, according to www.sada.org, who just can’t seem to get over their “winter blues?” They don’t want to be tired and gloomy, but they just can’t find the strength to do anything.

Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) is a form of major depression that arises with the onset of winter and

diminishes around springtime. The lack of sunlight during this half of the year can cause a chemical imbalance in the brain. This may lead to: significant weight gain caused by overeating, irritability, decreased interest in social connections or enjoyable activities, feelings of extreme fatigue or a tendency to sleep longer, and other common symptoms associated with clinical depression, as maintained by the Seasonal Affective Disorder Association.

“It is very common, and a lot of people don’t really understand the terminology for it,” said Nikki Sulaica, a psychologist at the Henry Ford Behavioral Health Maplegrove Center. She explained that many

patients simply describe it as feeling “down or depressed.”

SAD is more common among women, however symptoms generally do not appear in people under the age of 20.

One option for treatment of SAD is light therapy, which exposes patients to several hours of artificial light to help stimulate the brain. According to www.mayoclinic.com, the patient sits in front of a light box or wears a light visor which emits light 10-20 times brighter than normal artificial light for about 30 minutes a day, generally in the morning.

Director of Graham Health Center Joanne Talarek advises students diagnosed with SAD who don’t have

other underlying depression or anxiety to start with light therapy.

Typical psychiatric counseling for major depression is also an option. The most common type is cognitive behavioral therapy, which describes as “working with your thoughts to impact your moods and behavior.”

If light treatment or counseling don’t help, doctors may also prescribe depression medications to treat SAD. The FDA approved one such medication, Wellbutrin XL, in June of 2006.

According to www.Wellbutrin-xl.com, Wellbutrin XL is a once-a-day antidepressant tablet that is proven to prevent episodes of SAD and is also used in treating major depressive disorders. With a doctor’s prescription,

a patient will begin taking the pill in mid-fall and will continue into late spring. Use is generally discontinued during the summer months.

Keep in mind that practical steps can be taken to avoid many of the symptoms of SAD. “If people are getting enough sleep and eating a balanced diet, they won’t be as susceptible,” to SAD or other kinds of depression, said Talarek.

Proper identification and treatment of SAD can help you get on your way to a more energetic you. And who knows, maybe the next time that perky, peppy person in your life comes around, you might just be motivated enough to keep up with them.

Mouthing Off

January 31, 2007

www.theoaklandpost.com

B2

The 'state of ourselves'

By ROBERT M. PYLAR
Guest Columnist

During last Tuesday's State of the Union Address, I was hit with the thought: perhaps our president's delusions are contagious — that it may be worthwhile for each of us to compose our own SOTUA, or rather, a "State of Ourselves Address" each year.

Sounds strange at first, doesn't it? Think, however, about the timing of the SOTUA. Mid-to-late January is conveniently close to the start of the New Year, and a good time to take stock of where we've been, where we're at and where we're going. Perhaps it would even allow us to delay our New Year's resolutions until after the speech — buying us a few more weeks of football betting, online poker, sleeping through class, smoking, trans-fat, internet porn and other deadly, yet very satisfying, sins. We invite the people in our lives

into our home (or to our YouTube post) and, wearing our best suit, speak on the "State of Ourselves" — our relationships, our education, our jobs, finances, spiritual well-being, etc.

A brief sample:
"Thank you all. This evening I stand on solid ground, however there is room for improvement. Tonight, I convey my vision for the future:

"On the educational front, grades are good and my knowledge base is expanding. Graduation is imminent.

"While I may not be in peak physical condition, my friends in local government are looking out for my well-being. I'm confident that Oakland County will succeed in banning trans-fat, effectively lowering my cholesterol with zero effort on my part. My experts predict that I will reach my 'ideal healthy weight' once the county takes the additional steps of outlawing beer, nachos and pizza

and makes mandatory the use of caffeine, nicotine and ephedrine.

"Despite being broke and in college, I'm constantly striving for ways to improve my financial standing. I have ended the expensive habit of drinking martinis and moved to cheap, domestic beer. My poker skills have dramatically improved, and I expect to begin turning profits in the next quarter. I'm also looking into an aggressive policy of "dating the wealthy," a revolutionary program for those not quite able to pick up the tab on their own.

"Admittedly, spirituality has suffered. Church attendance is down due to the hypocrisy and mixed messages of organized religion. I remain committed to the idea of a higher power, however I have decided on a brief sabbatical in order to study various options of worship. Do not be alarmed, I fully intend to be back on board sometime around the middle of December, probably closer to the

25th — please leave me on your gift giving lists.

"Together, we will press on. Goodnight and God bless."

Of course, a rebuttal will follow the address. Your loved ones will delegate a representative to critique, or "address" your address:

"We've heard the message, and we are dismayed. We see nothing that resembles personal accountability, responsibility or even sanity. An expanding knowledge base? Being in school that long, it ought to be expanding. Graduation is imminent? Refresh my memory: does imminent mean within 3 years?"

"Relying on the government to ban substances and make mandatory potentially dangerous substances in an effort to lose weight is unhealthy and irresponsible. Even the inventors of 'The Crystal Meth Diet' find this idea moronic.

"On the surface, cheap alcohol may

seem like a good way to save money, however this idea requires additional scrutiny. After all, is an individual saving a significant amount of money when they drink the entire case of beer? Is this really the direction we want to follow in regards to general health and well-being?

"And poker? Are we gambling our way to financial security? What's next — one spin on the roulette wheel in an effort to save Social Security?"

"Dating the wealthy? Honestly, we would be shocked to find you dating anybody.

"You've also taken a noble stand against hypocrisy in religion. Let us inform you that it is no less hypocritical to ignore spirituality throughout the year only to find it in late December. Believe us; we too, see the hypocrisy. And, don't worry; we have just the gift for you:

"A steady supply of medication — to help you out with those delusions."

Romantic comedies: enough is enough

By ALEX CHERUP
Guest Columnist

Romantic comedies — a breed of cinema I cannot stomach. These movies are the kryptonite to my X-chromosome, the truest tool of the Torquemada of testosterone tortures, the filth so vile it transforms my masculinity into a pile of slop envious of Jell-O.

On most occasions, you are more likely to find Richard Dawkins singing in a gospel choir than a man enjoying a romantic comedy. It is genetically impossible for anyone with an Adam's apple to be legitimately entertained by a romantic comedy. Modern science has proven

this is, in fact, the biological role of the Adam's apple, in addition to making old men look weird.

I enjoy romance and love — the Shakespearean sonnets, the walks in the moonlight, the "you are the words, I am the tune — play me" type of romance. True love is not "Love Actually," it is instead amorous and passionate, with an "I love you like a fat kid loves cake" vigor and intensity.

It is not a Hugh Grant film travesty or others of similar composition. Even for the sensitive guys, these flicks are the equivalent of chugging a shot of Drano. Romantic comedies are the varicose veins of romance.

But the "just-add-water" romances

are only part of the problem. Not only do the films lack a romantic element, but most are also unfunny. Why call it a "romantic comedy," if it is not funny or romantic? Why not instead call it a "developed characters and plots flick," because you will not find those elements in the movie either.

Also, romantic comedies can ruin relationships. I once dated a girl who convinced me to see the Reese Witherspoon movie, "Just Like Heaven." Obviously, I found the picture unbearable, and afterward remarked, "If that is just like heaven, I'd better start sinning as soon as possible."

The comment scarred the girl, who defensively barked back that it was

her "favorite movie ever."

Incidentally, on the ride home, I was introduced to her "no boys in the apartment" policy. Of course, on the next date, I informed her of my "no paying for girls on a date" policy, which inevitably forced me into instigating my "single and lonely" policy. Now Mark Ruffalo owes me a relationship in addition to 90 minutes of my life.

In response, I have created a plan to solve the problem. Generally speaking, I may not be an authoritative kind of person, but I believe this is a time the government should get involved (especially before there is a woman president). Prohibiting laws need to be put in place before Jude

Laws.

Women should be fined by the government every time a man is taken unwillingly to a romantic comedy.

I'm not suggesting we condone an Anti-Chick Flick Amendment, but rather a sign like this in every theatre: Bore/annoy a man in a romantic comedy and get a \$75 fine and/or "40 Days and 40 Nights" in jail.

How can you go wrong? Not only will I never have to see Matthew McConaughey again, but my ex-girlfriend alone could pay off the national deficit — and could even be locked up!

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Events

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Services

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

Childcare

Part-time nanny wanted, minimum 15 hours a week; additional hours available. Must be experienced, reliable with references. Non-smoker. Please call 248-444-4494.

Students needed to work with our autistic son. Great experience for social work, education, psychology and related majors. Flexible hours and training provided. Sterling Heights, 17 and Dequindre. 586-795-9344.

Roommate

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Follow the leader

Grizzlies fail to overtake ORU, still in second place

By SAMANTHA FRANZ
Sports Editor

The stage was set for a battle of undefeated teams in the Mid-Con conference. Both Oakland University and Oral Roberts were 5-0 entering Thursday night's showdown, and the Grizzlies returned to the arena of the very team that knocked them out of the Mid-Con tournament last year.

They wanted revenge-and they wanted it badly.

But a late second-half scoring run by the Golden Eagles pulled them away from the Grizzlies for good, and the 73-63 loss put a "1" in OU's loss column, their first of the Mid-Con season.

After trailing 34-29 at the half, hot-handed sophomore Erik Kangas threw up a three-pointer to start the second half, sparking a 7-0 Oakland run that gave them a 36-34 lead, their first of the night. The Golden Grizzlies, however, could not build on that lead and for the next 10 minutes the game seesawed between three ties and five lead changes, while never straying from a three-point difference.

Then, with about five minutes left in the contest, the Golden Eagles got hot. Over the next three minutes, they dragged the Golden Grizzlies through an 11-2 scoring run, capped off by ORU free throw with 2:32 remaining. The score was 67-54, and Oakland needed an answer. Quickly.

The Grizzlies resorted to fouling the home team to stop the clock, but the Golden Eagles made enough free throws to stay on top for the 73-63 victory.

Four OU starters made double figures, with sophomore Derick Nelson leading the charge with 19 points and six rebounds.

The Golden Grizzlies then took their road trip further south to take on the Centenary Gents Saturday in Shreveport, La.

The good news was that Oakland snatched the victory away from the Gents with an 82-74 victory. Even better was the fact that Nelson led his team in scoring for the second game in a row, with a double-double of 18 points and 14 rebounds. Senior Vova Severovas wasn't far behind with a 17 point effort, and Kangas rounded out the high-scorers with 15 points.

The bad news, you ask? Oral Roberts also won their Saturday Mid-Con match up, defeating UMKC with a 77-66 decision. This keeps those pesky Golden Eagles one step ahead of the Grizzlies with a flawless 7-0 record in the conference.

The chase for first-place honors will continue Saturday, when Oakland (now 6-1 in the Mid-Con and 13-10 overall) picks up the second half of their conference schedule with a rematch against IUPUI, whom the Grizzlies defeated 62-57 on Jan. 4.

Mid-Con Standings

1. Oral Roberts
2. Oakland
3. Southern Utah
4. Valparaiso
5. IUPUI
6. UMKC
7. Centenary
8. Western Illinois

Number Crunching

37

Derick Nelson's combined point total for both games.

46

Erik Kangas' three-point FG percentage.

2

OU points scored during ORU's late game run.

0

Bench points for the Centenary Gents last Saturday.

In Case You Missed It:

Mid-Con releases preseason polls

The Mid-Con has released its preseason coaches' polls in three sports: baseball, softball and tennis. OU's baseball team is predicted to finish third. After finishing third in the Mid-Con Tournament last season, the softball team has dropped to sixth in the polls after losing five starters and their top pitcher. The team closed out last season fourth in league standings. The women's tennis team is also expected to finish sixth in the Mid-Con.

Swim competes at Shamrock Invitational

The men's and women's swimming and diving teams competed in the two-day Shamrock Invitational hosted by Notre Dame last Friday and Saturday. Also competing were Connecticut, West Virginia and Penn State. The men could only come up with a win against Connecticut while the women were defeated by all four teams.

Women's track finishes fifth at meet

Last weekend, the women's track and field team traveled to Central Michigan to take part in the Michigan Intercollegiate Invitational. The Grizzlies faced some tough competition as they ran against Michigan, Eastern Michigan, Western Michigan and Detroit Mercy. The Grizzlies scored nine points and finished fifth.

—Compiled by Brittany Ochtinsky
Contributing Reporter

We're going streaking!

Grizzlies win sixth in a row

By ROB TATE
Senior Reporter

If you thought things were going great last season when the Oakland University women's basketball team made it all the way to the NCAA Tournament, then you must not have seen this season's version.

The Golden Grizzlies reeled off two more road victories and are now 4-0 on the road in conference play. The Golden Grizzlies have recorded six straight wins since starting conference play, with a loss to IUPUI Jan. 8.

Oakland is currently first place in the Mid-Con with Western Illinois trailing by one game.

The Golden Grizzlies put together another solid performance Saturday afternoon, defeating the Ladies of Centenary at the Gold Dome in Shreveport, La. with a 73-61 drubbing.

Centenary was an abysmal 4-17 overall on the season and 0-5 in the Mid-Con. The Golden Grizzlies help by adding to their already painful season.

It was one of those games that are a must win when it comes to getting that higher standing when the Mid-Con tournament comes around in March. You have to beat the teams you are supposed to beat and the Golden Grizzlies did exactly that.

Oakland completely dominated Centenary in the paint, 40-16 but tied 39-39 in the rebound category.

Freshman Hanna Reising led the way, scoring 16 points on seven of 12 shooting from the field. Sophomore Jessica Pike added 13 points on the afternoon.

The bench took over from there, as junior Charlese Greer contributed 13 points on her second game back from a knee injury she suffered at Valparaiso Jan. 15.

Freshman Melissa Jeltema sunk four shots for a total of eight points and also crashed the boards for a career-high nine rebounds.

Holli Wilkins netted 18 points for Centenary while adding two blocks and a steal.

Monday night, Oakland found its biggest threat in Oral Roberts but prevailed with a 68-64 victory in overtime.

Oakland struggled at the start of the game, only shooting 26 percent and losing by as many as 12 points near the end of the first

half. Oakland faced a 10-point deficit going into halftime, trailing 28-18.

But Jessica Pike came up strong in the second half, leading Oakland back into the game. Pike scored 23 points overall on the night, including three field goals from beyond the arc. Pike's 13.7 points per game is leading the team in scoring.

Senior Nicole Piggott also contributed in the victory with 13 points and six boards.

The trend of solid bench production out of Greer and Jeltema continued. Greer added seven points and five rebounds while Jeltema chipped in eight points.

Oakland out-rebounded Oral Roberts 53-43. Sophomore guard Rikka Terava grabbed seven boards leading the way. Terava has lead Oakland in rebounding two of the last four games.

Oakland will battle it out with Indianapolis against IUPUI on Saturday at 4:30 p.m. and than return home Tuesday for a non-conference game against Youngstown State at 7 p.m. at the O'Rena.

Golden Grizzlies Notebook

Jessica Pike's 13.7 scoring average is second in the Mid-Con. Pike also leads the conference in free-throw percentage, with 85 percent. Bonnie Baker is ranked fourth in the Mid-Con in assists, dishing out 3.5 per game. Baker is also ranked second in the Mid-Con in steals, taking away 2.4 per contest. IUPUI next Saturday, whom they lost to back on Jan. 8. Going into Tuesday's showdown with Youngstown State, the Golden Grizzlies have the advantage with a 4-3 record against the Penguins.

Save Time, Save

Electronic banking services now available at OU

Students can participate in the following electronic banking services offered by Oakland University:

***NEW* Student Account Refunds**

OU now offers direct deposit for:

- Financial aid refunds
- Payments made by cash or check for dropped classes
- Reimbursements for expenses related to student organizations

Student Paychecks

Student employees may opt to have their paychecks direct deposited into their bank account.

For more information or to sign up, visit www.oakland.edu/directdeposit.

Student Bills

Don't write another check! Students can pay their student bills directly from their checking or savings account using eBill. For more information visit www.oakland.edu/eBill.

Stay Tuned

OU is expanding services that will help students save time and money.

KENTUCKY DERBY WINNER EUTHANIZED ...
Barboro, the Kentucky Derby champion horse, was put to rest on Jan. 29, after struggling to survive since breaking his right hind leg at the May 20 Preakness Stakes. The three-year-old colt raised hopes that he would be the first Triple Crown champion since 1978. Read more in our Noted section.

Sunday night lights

OU students gear up for football's finest hour

By **ROB TATE & BRIAN BLEAU**
Senior Reporter and Contributing Reporter

Break out the cheesy poofs, order that six-foot sub and crack open a cold one (of whatever kind of beverage you can legally consume that is).

It's the time of year once again to sit in front of the television with family and friends and watch the Bears and Colts clash in Super Bowl XLI.

Oh, and try not to get too depressed when you see how nice the weather is down there and then look out the window to see the snowy mess outside.

The game itself has many great story lines. Who's going to be the first black head coach to win the Super Bowl? Is the Bears defense good enough to stop Marvin Harrison and Reggie Wayne? Can the Colts defense stop the run like they didn't do the entire season until the playoffs? Will Devin Hester of the Bears return the first punt for a touchdown in Super Bowl history? Can Peyton Manning finally get the Dan Marino "monkey off his back" and win the Super Bowl?

That last question isn't going to happen said Mike Parsons, a communications major and a junior at OU.

"The Bears will win because lately the underdog had been winning all the big games and Peyton Manning is doomed to be Dan Marino, the sequel," Parsons said.

Unfortunately for Mike, he won't be able to see if his predication will come true.

"(I'll) be working. Nobody at a pizza place will get Super Bowl Sunday off," Parsons, a pizza delivery employee, added.

The Bears got another vote of confidence from freshman Kyle McMahon an accounting and finance major.

"The Bears will win because Mike Ditka is a great man," McMahon said. Unfortunately for McMahon, Ditka stopped coaching the

Bears back in 1993. McMahon will be missing the game as well because of a pesky shift in the paint department at The Home Depot.

Colin Messing, a junior general studies major shares the same sentiments as Parsons and McMahon.

"Manning beat Brady (in the AFC Championship), I don't think he'll get lucky again," Messing said. He also has some party plans for the big game.

Not all people are psyched up about the Super Bowl.

"I'll probably be compulsively checking my MySpace for new friends," said junior Jesse Dunsmore.

In a recent poll of 100 students at Oakland University, 51 percent for the Colts and 49 percent picked "Da Bears." And one confused student picked the Saints. Oh well.

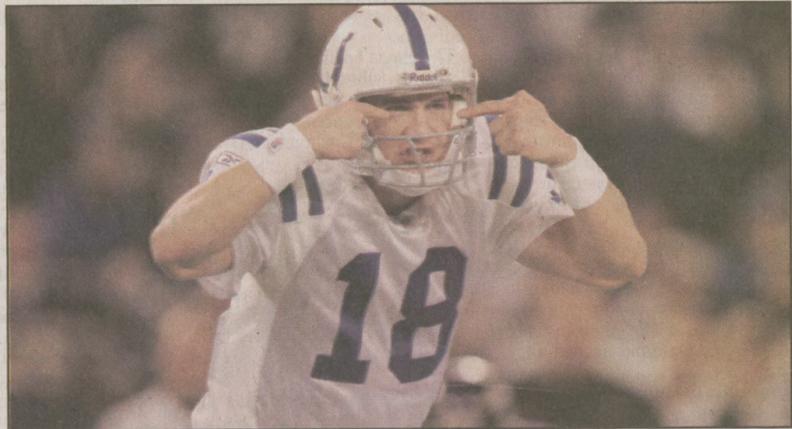
When all is said and done, there can only be one winner. It's either Peyton Manning winning his first title or Rex Grossman statistically being one of the worst quarterbacks in the league this year and bringing home the title to the "City of Big Shoulders."

It got so bad late in the season for Grossman, Head Coach Lovie Smith contemplated benching him in favor of former Michigan Wolverine alum, Brian Griese.

Grossman has still been shaky, but hasn't done anything to warrant a benching, connecting on two touchdown passes and one interception this postseason.

Grossman will have to wait with the rest of us until Sunday to see which Mid-West city will hoist the Lombardi Trophy.

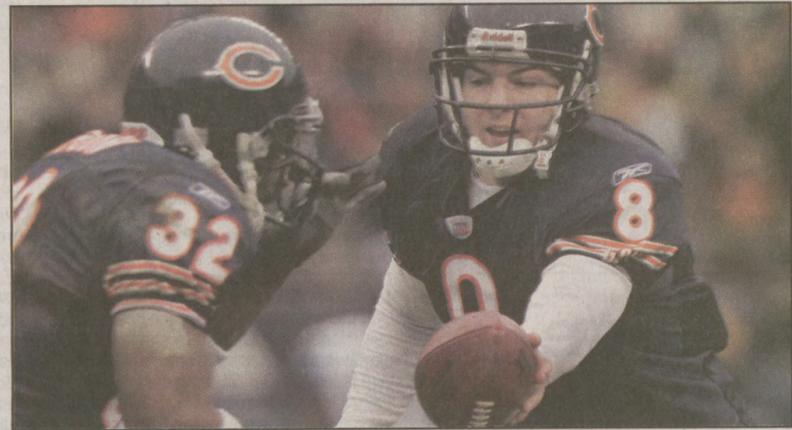
Kick-off will be Feb. 4 at 6:25 p.m. on CBS. Billy Joel will be singing the National Anthem and Prince will be performing at the halftime show.



CHRIS GARDNER/The Associated Press

Quarterback Peyton Manning has finally made a Super Bowl after his ninth season in the NFL. Manning has spent his entire career with the Colts.

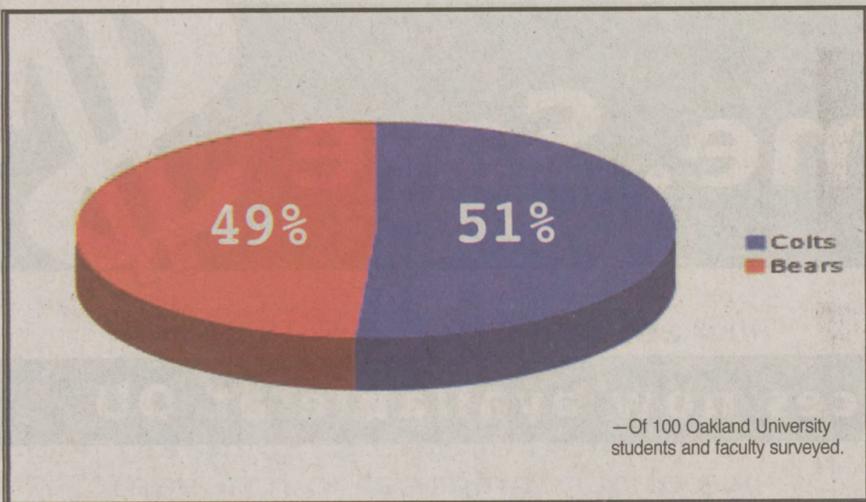
vs.



MORRY GASH/The Associated Press

Quarterback Rex Grossman, while leading the Bears to a Super Bowl this year, he's had a reputation of being unreliable throughout the 2006 season.

Who will win?



George Boulos
Sophomore
Finance

"I don't like either team, but I want the Bears because they are in the same division the Lions are."

CHARLES GRASKI/
The Oakland Post



Matt Tack
Junior
Finance

"Peyton Manning's been scrutinized so much for not being able to perform in the big games and I think he's gonna do it."

CHARLES GRASKI/
The Oakland Post

Post Panel Picks

Super Bowl XLI Edition



AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post

Not pictured:
Brad Doescher.

Samantha Franz	Rob Tate	Kyle Magin	Paul Gully	Brad Doescher
Senior Reporter Sports Editor	Senior Reporter	Special Projects	Asst. News Editor	WXOU Sports
Picks Record: 5-1	Picks Record: 3-3	Picks Record: 5-1	Picks Record: 4-2	Picks Record: 3-3
COLTS	COLTS	BEARS	COLTS	BEARS
"After nine seasons of listening to nay-sayers, Peyton Manning has finally led his Colts squad to a Super Bowl. While the Bears' defense is commendable, Rex Grossman is too unreliable to overtake Indy." MVP: Peyton Manning Score: 32-24	"Peyton Manning will prevail. If the Bears have any chance at this game, they will need to run the ball with Thomas Jones because Rex Grossman is not good enough to win this game himself." MVP: Marvin Harrison Score: 24-7	"Bears' defense hits South Beach harder than Tony Montana. Brian Urlacher tells Peyton Manning to say hello to his little friend." MVP: Devin Hester Score: 28-21	"The Bears' ability to run the ball, coupled with the Colts' suspect run defense should make the game closer than everyone expects. But I am sticking with the Horseshoes." MVP: Peyton Manning Score: 24-17	"Da Bears' will win the Super Bowl. I have a feeling the Colts are riding on a very high emotion after the victory over the Pats. The Bears come in as an underdog, so no one will expect them to win." MVP: Thomas Jones Score: 21-17

HOCKEY

Grizzlies still struggling for rhythm at crunch time

By **BRITTANY OCHTINSKY**
Contributing Reporter

Consistency is the key to any winning team. But the only consistency the Golden Grizzlies seem to have found is the ability to win big the first night and lose the next night.

Maybe it's déjà vu. Maybe it's overconfidence. Whatever it is, if things don't change soon, the Grizzlies' run at the National Championship tournament could be over before it begins.

For the second weekend in a row, the Grizzlies came out flying Friday night, beating Eastern Michigan University 5-2. And for the second weekend in a row, they couldn't come up with a win on Saturday, falling 3-2 to the Eagles in overtime.

Mike Bertolo, Steve Piccoli and Brent Cooper

each found the back of the net for the Grizzlies to give them a 3-1 lead in the first period Friday.

"It's always important to get an early lead because it helps build confidence," said Assistant Coach JR Dunn. "(But) I think we have a tendency to let up once we get a lead."

Though the intensity level fizzled off quickly in the second period, Cooper struck again. And when EMU cut the Grizzlies' lead in half late in the game, Bertolo sealed the deal with an empty-netter.

Collin Chase started a third straight game in net for Oakland.

After a turn of events Saturday night, the fate of the game rested once again in Chase's hands.

The teams traded goals in the first period,

with Piccoli getting the Grizzlies on the board first. He added another in the second period to give his team a 2-1 advantage. But despite the lead, the Grizzlies hung their heads going into the locker room at the end of the second period.

"They were just down. There was no emotion, they were all lazy and tired," said Head Coach Sean Hogan. "We talked to them and said, 'It's a close game, let's get fired up' and all those clichés and nothing happened."

EMU came back to tie up the score early in the third period, which eventually forced the game into overtime.

Chase entered the game with 56.5 seconds to go in regulation, after starting goalie Andrew Hansen separated his shoulder. Hogan had no choice but to put in his "freezing" backup. EMU capitalized on Chase with 1:21 left in

overtime to hand the Grizzlies the loss.

"It's just disappointing because we played so bad," said Hogan. "It's way too late in the season to be playing the way we have. We've been playing great the one night and terrible the next."

But perhaps the strangest occurrence over the weekend was the absence of Will McMahon's name from the score sheet. EMU was able to hold McMahon without a point in both contests, which left his coach baffled.

"That's probably the first time ever that I've seen him go two games without a point," said Hogan. "I don't think it was a lack of effort by him, I think he tried hard and played hard."

"Sometimes the puck bounces your way and sometimes it doesn't," added McMahon. "This just wasn't my weekend."