

# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

March 19, 2008

Volume 33, Number 54



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CAMPUS

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LOCAL

Hillary Clinton treks to Detroit to lobby for a revote

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A thoughtful apology from a dedicated columnist — find out what he did and why it's funny

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Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick rejects Detroit City Council's request for his resignation. Plus, Hillary Clinton plans a trip to Detroit to lobby for a revote.



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OU student and Oakland Post guest columnist comes clean and admits to involvement with call-girls. Plus, pull up your pants, it could become law.



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As violent protests by Tibetan exiles persist, the Dalai Lama pleads for peace. Plus, New York's new governor confesses to having affair of his own.

**THE OAKLAND POST**  
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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Special Insert **page 13**

# Perspectives

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www.oaklandpostonline.com

March 19, 2008

STAFF EDITORIAL

## Bleeding economy needs tourniquet, not bandage

Dear Taxpayer,

We at the government have decided to use you as part of the project to help stimulate the economy. As you know, the nation is in trouble, and we would like to provide you with some extra money to fix our mistakes.

This will be part of our Economic Stimulus Act of 2008. If you make less than \$75,000 a year and are single, you will get \$600. Of course, you must make over \$3,000.

If you're a legally married couple and together make less than \$150,000, you will get \$1,200. And if you have any dependents listed who are under 17 in your 2007 tax returns, you receive \$300 for each dependent.

And if you are a dependent over 18, you will have to ask your parents for money because our plan to stimulate the economy doesn't include you.

Thank you for your time,  
The United States Government.

The government sent a similar letter to citizens, which, interestingly enough, cost \$42 million to mail.

The letter, which you may have received attempted to explain the 2008 Economic Stimulus Plan.

Perhaps you are excited about the possibility of a little personal bonus aimed to "boost consumer spending." In addition to other incentives to improve business investments and limits on mortgages, the part of the stimulus plan that we will likely notice most is the tax rebate portion.

Of course, many of us are marveling and excited at the prospect of a check. Economic stimulation sounds like quite a lot of fun.

However, there is more to the situation than meets the eye. The money is coming from an institution that is already enormously in debt. The American dollar is floundering, and adding more debt into the mess does not address the root of the problem. It creates a temporary illusion that progress is being made.

The truth is, it's more of an economic Band-Aid than an economic stimulus. For a while it may feel better, but it does not incorporate a larger solution.

Our economy needs a disinfectant, not a weak cover-up.

A Band-Aid will not solve increasing gas prices, lost jobs and rising national debt. We have hefty expenses, such as the Iraq War, estimated by economist Joseph Stiglitz to cost \$12 billion a month. Stiglitz, a Nobel-prize winning economist, says the final cost may even reach \$3 trillion.

The government is in no position to be giving away money.

We should do more than just bandage.

Six hundred dollars extra for a single individual will not reclaim a position for someone recently laid off or another desperately in need of health insurance. It won't ensure our generation will have Social Security.

It won't solve our major problems. It's like jump-starting a car that is out of gas (which is understandable, considering the price of fuel).

Not to mention, with this all said, most of us dependent and over 18 will not even take part in this stimulation, despite the seemingly obvious fact that we are the most likely to spend it.

Also, several will use the money to pay off their debt or take care of their personal financial concerns, which does not stimulate the economy.

If we truly want to stimulate the economy, we should work on improving the health care system, securing jobs, and eliminating the outrageously expensive foreign policy.

Our funds are being drained, and we see nothing but a supposed "improved security." The rebates will not solve this massive assault on the economy, nor will they offer a paradigm shift.

Checks are expected to roll the citizens' way in mid-May, depending on how low your Social Security number is. Those paying by direct deposit could even get the money by May 2. Either way, you will get cash in your account.

The blues of the American economy cannot be sung away by the new plan.

We, as citizens, must understand the gravity and the problems of the proposed economic stimulus, yet still remain practical, and work with what is handed to us.

In other words, if you get some cash, go out and have fun spending it. You'll need the happy memories when the Band-Aid falls off.



MIKE LANE/Cagle Cartoons

By e-mail:  
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By mail:  
Letter to the Editor  
The Oakland Post  
61 Oakland Center  
Rochester, MI 48309

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

### CORRECTIONS CORNER

Corrections from the last edition (March 5, 2008) of The Oakland Post:

- Regina Carter was a 2006 recipient of the McArthur Foundation Fellowship.

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

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- The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States

# Iraq war closing in on 5 years

Guest Columnist

**Bryan Thomas**

We are coming up on the fifth anniversary of the Iraq War, which began in May 2003.

What have these five years meant for you?

For some in America, it has been five years of watching mothers and fathers leave home, not knowing whether they will ever come back.

It's been five years of soldiers fighting an enemy that bares no distinction from the innocent, and because of this, a guarantee that there will be continual damage and death on both sides.

It has been five years of an administration that continues to remain hopeful and optimistic regardless of the current circumstances.

It also has been time filled with global turmoil, which ceases to pause for our ideological playtime in the sandbox.

It's been time that has cost the blood, limbs and lives of our brothers,

sisters, mothers and fathers.

For Iraqis and Afghans, the cost is much the same. It has been five years of their country's infrastructure in shambles and a current economy that makes ours in Michigan seem like heaven.

It has been five years of trying to figure out whether Americans are friends or foes, occupiers or heroes, and they have spent five years not knowing which is better.

Regardless of how you feel about the war, there exists something that all of us share — accountability.

Living in America not only means being able to enjoy freedoms and liberties, but also carries with it a profound responsibility in regards to them.

Just as the freedoms we enjoy today are because those in the past have given their lives for them, so too must our lives be committed to the preservation and sustainment of them.

The moral compass of the nation is not pulled by known forces, but rather by the actions and beliefs of its citizens.

We can change the direction of the moral compass. Because of this, the result of this war not only rests on our

shoulders, the fate of our democracy does as well.

We, as students, did not vote to enter the war, but, we did place in power those who have chosen it for us — therefore, we are accountable.

Those people who feel they are free from responsibility because they chose not to vote must understand that no vote is a vote of acquiescence.

Responsibility rests on us to enact the change we want. The best way for individuals within a democracy to do so is to be heard, collectively.

On Thursday, March 20 and Friday, March 21, be a part of something profound and rise against a culture of inaction and unaccountability.

Increase volume of the voice of your generation by meeting together and marching to make it known that the safety of our troops and the state of our nation is something we hold dear and take seriously.

For those who do not oppose the current war the U.S. is waging in the Middle East, join us in the OC to further discussion and bring important issues to the forefront.

It is our responsibility and obligation to actively participate in the freedoms afforded to us by our democracy.

Staff Intern

**Tracey Wawrzyniak**

## Stand by your man?

Do you think women are taking Tammy Wynette's song "Stand by Your Man" to a whole new level? On March 12, in a publicly-televised address, former New York Governor Eliot Spitzer resigned.

Spitzer apologized to the state of New York for what he called "private failings."

In his address, Spitzer asked for time "to heal [himself] and [his] family."

**"Do things that you don't understand ..."**

Silda Wall Spitzer, Eliot's wife, a Harvard Law School graduate and corporate lawyer, stood stoically next to her husband as he took a mere two minutes to end his political career.

**"And tell the world you love him ..."**

Dina Matos McGreevey, an executive director of Columbus Hospital Foundation, stood next to her husband, Jim, in 2004 at a press conference, where he announced his resignation as New Jersey's governor after his homosexual affair was exposed. Today she is battling her husband in divorce court.

**"And if you love him, be proud of him ..."**

In July 2007, Louisiana Senator David Vitter was implicated in another prostitution ring during his tenure in the House of Representatives. Wendy Vitter not only proudly stood next to her husband at a press conference, but defended him with "every intention of recommitting to their marriage," she said in a Good Morning America article.

**"But if you love him you'll forgive him ..."**

Can we forget former President Bill Clinton and Monica Lewinsky?

Hillary Clinton, a Yale Law School graduate and presidential hopeful, appeared on 60 Minutes to defend her marriage, in 1992.

**"And show the world you love him ..."**

Suzanne Craig stood in silence next to her husband, former Idaho Senator Larry Craig, after his arrest and guilty plea of disorderly conduct for the now infamous "airport bathroom" incident.

**"Sometimes it's hard to be a woman ..."**

In our own backyard, amidst text messages and million-dollar payoffs, Carlita Kilpatrick sat in a church and stood by her husband, Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick.

What makes these women stand up for their husbands, listening to excuses and pleas for forgiveness?

When will these educated women stand up for themselves and stop rescuing their unfaithful husbands?

Tammy Wynette may have had a point, but the only tragedy may be today's scholarly women not standing for themselves.

As a testament to future women graduates of Oakland University: dream for your own future first.

## OU elections deserve more coverage

Guest Columnist

**Katelyn Stanis**

As the political race runs rampant in our nation, today's youth are more involved than ever.

Whether you are into politics or not, you can't deny the fact that it is intriguing that a black man, a woman and 71 year old white man — who "is just fine" with the idea of being in Iraq for 100 more years — are all running for the president of the United States.

The campaign strategies, slandering comments, and 24-hour coverage consume our nation.

So why, when a political race enters the doors of Oakland University, it is a second-best topic for discussion.

For those of you who are unaware, there are three presidential candidates running for student congress president for the 2008-09 academic

school year: Andrew Bashi, Steven Clark and Jordan Twardy.

It is apparent that most students are apathetic to politics and about Oakland University in general.

This is no excuse. There is no reason that the candidates need to be campaigning for their name, and also have to campaign for the election as well.

There are abundant amounts of media outlets accessible on Oakland's campus and none have been utilized to their full potential.

Why has OUTV not aired a special featuring all of the candidates?

Why has the WXOU radio station not sponsored on-air debates?

And why was the Fireside Lounge debate article in The Oakland Post only a quarter page, without pictures and not the cover story?

While a majority of students may be apathetic, students are also not informed about the presidential race. Nor do they utilize The Post, WXOU, and OUTV to help promote and publicize this supposed major on campus event.

"Students need to have a sense of

ownership," said Bashi at the debate. "There is no participation because there is no tie to anything."

Thank God for Facebook groups that support Bashi, Clark, and Twardy, or else how would students be informed about the race and its candidates?

It is not about having one so-called "debate" (a real debate would consist of candidates actually allowed time for rebuttals rather than single statements) in the Fireside Lounge.

It is about full coverage from various venues. I could be considered apathetic towards the fact that Britney Spears had a bald head or a new baby. But when the media maximizes coverage, I am given the opportunity and information necessary to come to my personal conclusion that she is crazy.

Oakland needs to grant students the opportunity to personally engage the platforms, scandals, and achievements of our candidates, or else it is just a bunch of flyers plastered around campus guaranteeing "hope" and "change." How can one not be apathetic towards that?

## Webmail headache addressed

### *Switching to Google Gmail could solve the problem of slow service*

By STEVE STAEGER

Senior Reporter

The waiting will be over soon.

University Technology Services (UTS) announced this week that Oakland University Webmail will be outsourced to Google Gmail in an effort to improve the current failing system.

The change is set to take effect in early April, according to UTS Chief Information Officer Theresa Rowe.

Rowe said her department is excited to make the change and replace the system, which hasn't been working correctly all semester.

"Our existing e-mail environment wasn't performing to meet the needs of the university community," Rowe said.

Graduate student Jan Dye can attest to this.

This semester, Dye is taking an online class in which the professor requires that all class work be submitted by e-mail using only an Oakland Webmail account.

"I wasn't getting assignments in because my e-mail just stopped working for two weeks," Dye said.

Luckily for Dye, her professor understood the problem and gave the class the

benefit of the doubt.

The current Webmail system is causing students to wait for hours or even days to receive mail and just as long for sent e-mail to reach its destination.

Dye said she is still getting e-mails from February.

UTS said the reason the system is slow is because it has reached its storage capacity. The department blames the growing campus and escalating demand for e-mail in general.

The new Gmail system will give the university access to a lot more storage space. Rowe said the new service will offer students all sorts of features, including expanding the size of student's inboxes from 100 megabytes with the current system to 6.5 gigabytes.

The amount of spam e-mail was another reason for the sluggishness. The new system also will offer more extensive spam filtering.

"We are doing all we can behind the scenes to make the transition easier for students," said Rowe.

Students will keep the e-mail addresses they have now and will have the choice of whether to transfer their saved messages over to the new system.

Rowe said that UTS will have a step-by-step process to guide

students on how to transfer their messages over if they want.

But the most important feature of the new system for students is speed.

Freshman Britnae Corley-Washington uses Webmail several times a day and

says she's frustrated with how slow it's been.

"All I want is everything we have now, just faster," she said.

Aniela Henry, a junior communication major, wants easier access.

"People will use it more if you don't have to click five things, and if it doesn't take five minutes to load," she said.

Transfer student Kristin Maksuta suggested that the university provide each student with an online address book to make it easier to find professors' e-mail addresses.

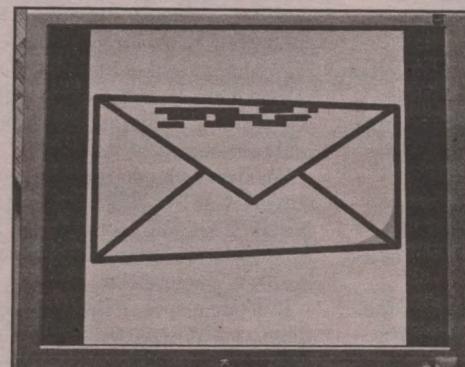
Dye wants the administration to consider a few things before making the change.

"They need to think in terms of growth," Dye said. "With a growing university, they need to make sure this system will still work in five years and we don't have a problem like this again."

She uses a mail client to receive her mail and manage all of her e-mail addresses and also hopes the new system will be compatible with mail clients.

Sophomore Lawrence Maksuta has a simple hope.

"It will be good as long as it's fast," he said.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post  
Faculty and students will appreciate faster Webmail.

## Women's studies changes name, not program

By ADAM ROBERTS

Senior Reporter

Women's Studies is not as limiting as the name may imply.

Following a nationwide trend, the women's studies major at OU was renamed women and gender studies.

The curriculum will largely stay the same, but that doesn't mean more gender classes won't be offered in the future.

"We looked at the courses we are offering, and we were offering more and more courses that deal with gender," said professor Jo Reger, director of the women and gender studies program. "We're hoping to continue to get more classes offered in gender in the future."

The move was not made to get more men into the women's studies classroom. Reger dismisses that notion outright. "It's not like there are no men in our classes," she said.

Typically each class offered will have a few men in attendance. There are currently one male major and 28 female majors. Some classes with general education credits have males making up 40 percent of the class.

One class offered this semester that highlights the shift to gender classes is titled, "Gender in the Media."

It's just one example of classes that will be offered in the future that are sure to get more men to consider joining.

"As more and more men get into the program we should see more gender classes," said Reger.

The true motivation for the name change, though, was keeping up with national trends, according to Reger.

"A lot of different women's studies programs around the country were making the change, and we felt it would be a good thing to do," said Reger.

The name change will be more cosmetic than substantive.

Reger still feels good about the momentum the program has going forward.

"I only foresee the program growing and getting stronger as time goes on," she said.

The three-decade-old discipline of women's studies is something that won't be easily changed at Oakland, not that anyone wants it to change.

Students learn about social change and gender in a wide range of diverse subjects, including an emphasis on women's issues.

Gloria Steinem once said: "There can be no free men until there are free women." It's a phrase highlighted on the program's Web site and embodied in the program.

The goal of gender studies programs like Oakland's is to promote that kind of equality, and create a greater understanding for both men and women.

For more information, go to [www2.oakland.edu/ouws/](http://www2.oakland.edu/ouws/).

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March 31, 2008**

For questions, please call: 248-370-4200

# Medical school dean interviews finished, decision to come

By ADAM ROBERTS  
Senior Reporter

Oakland University's future medical school may soon have its first dean.

The initial interviews with three candidates picked by the selection committee are now over.

The third and final candidate, Dr. Barbara Ducatman visited campus March 13.

"I was absolutely blown out of the water at the interest in the process. It's very exciting," Ducatman said.

When asked what her vision for the school would be, she said that it was not up to her.

"Vision has to come from the people in place, whoever is selected needs to listen and not just talk," she said.

OU Provost Virinder Moudgil said, "The preferred candidate out of the three will be invited back for another interview. We are still relatively early on in the process," he said.

The three candidates presented three unique styles and presentations for the future of the med school, a point that stuck with CSA Director Jean Ann Miller, and OU President Gary Russi.

"We have a diversity of choices. They have three very different approaches," Russi said.

Moudgil said if none of the three candidates are chosen for a follow-up interview, the next candidates on the selection committee's list will be called in for interviews.

"All three are excellent candidates though," he said.

Russi added, "The three candidates are experts in their fields, and we are pleased to have them."

One fear among some Oakland faculty is that the existing health science programs will get phased out or diminished due to the partnership with Beaumont.

Ducatman doesn't agree with that logic.

"When you grow the pie bigger, everyone wins," she said.

Ducatman is currently the chair of the pathology department at West Virginia University.

Her presentation was full of examples of changes made in the pathology department that resulted in higher test scores and more students graduating.

Accountability for students and faculty as well as a focus on process were central themes of her presentation.



JEFFREY SIMMS/The Oakland Post  
Dr. Barbara Ducatman was the last of three candidates interviewed for the position of dean of the new OU medical school.

The second candidate for dean, Dr. Robert Folberg, head of the department of pathology at the University of Illinois-Chicago, visited campus March 5, to make his case to assembled faculty and students.

Dr. Charles Shanley of Royal Oak Beaumont Hospital was the first candidate interviewed.

OU is partnering with Beaumont Hospital to form the first medical school in Oakland County, and hopes to have the funding, staff and accreditation to open in 2010.

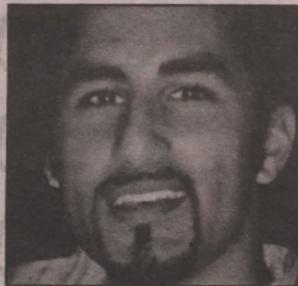
Beaumont Hospital's representatives are not commenting on the dean search because they have not individually interviewed the candidates yet.

There have been positive responses to all three candidates, and according to many, a preliminary decision should come relatively soon.

"We have to ask ourselves: What is the best approach for a new medical school going to be?" Russi said. "It's going to be a tough choice."

# Student president candidates stand up

Student congress elections are to be held March 24 through 26, with this year's voting scheduled to be done online at [www.oakland.edu/voteou](http://www.oakland.edu/voteou). But before you cast that vote, you need to get to know your candidates:



**Andrew Bashi**  
Junior, International Relations major  
On-campus activities: Founder of Students for a Global Perspective, Honors College student  
Running mate: Eddie Karner  
Goal of candidacy: "We want to change Student Congress and make it work with students more. Our motto is 'Pride through Ownership.' We want to build the right community and keep people here."



**Steve Clark**  
Fourth-year History major, political science minor  
On-campus activities: Captain of the men's soccer team, President of Young Life at Oakland University, Representative for Student Athletic Advisory Council  
Running mate: Dan Evola  
Goal of candidacy: "The reason I am running is because I believe I will bring a different facet of the student body to the president's office. I am a typical Oakland student and I believe I can make this place better by focusing on on-campus life, including athletic events, dances and parties."



**Jordan Twardy**  
Senior, Political Science and History major  
On-campus activities: OUSC Director of Student Services  
Running mate: Avery Neale  
Goal of candidacy: "I want to make Student Congress something for all students to use. I want to make it more than just a Scantron shop. Student Congress should be the hub of campus life."

## Leukemia claims life of Oakland senior

By JESSE DUNSMORE  
Senior Reporter

Rebecca Lynn Mansfield died March 12 at age 26 after a battle with leukemia. She is the daughter of Mike and Lynn.

She had been attending Oakland University and was in her final semester of student teaching before receiving her B.A. in education.

She was engaged to marry Stephen Root in May 2008. Following her diagnosis in December, her loved ones set up a journal that can be viewed at [www.caringbridge.org/visit/rebeccamansfield](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/rebeccamansfield). Visitors may leave their thoughts for the family.

Funeral services were held Monday, March 17.

In memory of Rebecca, her family requests that donations be made to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Michigan Chapter, 1421 E. 12 Mile Road, Bldg. A, Madison Heights, MI 48071; Caring Bridge (via [www.caringbridge.org/visit/rebeccamansfield](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/rebeccamansfield)); or the Auburn Hills Christian Center.



Photo courtesy of Caringbridge.org/visit/rebeccamansfield  
Rebecca, 26, was diagnosed with leukemia in December.

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# CSA director selected for 'outstanding' service

*Jean Ann Miller to receive award for advancement of women at OU*

By JESSE DUNSMORE  
Senior Reporter

Jean Ann Miller, the director of the Center for Student Activities, said she felt "very humbled" after being selected for the 2007-2008 Phyllis Law Googasian Award for Outstanding Oakland University Women.

Named for OU's first female trustee, the award is presented annually to female administrators, faculty and staff "who have contributed to the advancement of women at Oakland University and beyond," according to information on OU's Web site.

But some people might not think she needs to feel too humble.

Miller was nominated for the award with a joint letter written by Vice President of Student Affairs Mary Beth Snyder and Provost Virinder Moudgil. In the letter, they wrote that Miller "epitomizes the philosophy of the award."

In a phone interview, Snyder called Miller "an architect of student life."

Miller oversees the CSA, the office responsible for facilitating activities and student organizations on campus.

"She takes time with every single student she meets to help them," said Snyder. "If it's a treasurer, she takes time to go over the books with them. If it's a student who wants to set up a community service project, she'll put them in touch with an agency."

Students who spend their evenings in the OC may find Miller's office light a familiar sight. While university offices officially close at 5 p.m. each day, Miller regularly stays several hours later.

"One of the reasons [I stay late]," said Miller, "is that a lot of student orgs spend a lot of time and energy to put programs on for the whole community. I feel very strongly that I want to make sure they know I recognize that."

Jo Reger, director of women's and gender studies, sits on the Googasian Award selection committee. Reger listed some of Miller's contributions to women at OU.

Miller, a graduate of OU, is on the

Women's History Month committee. She helped to establish the Gender and Sexuality Center, and ensured it was staffed. She's also involved in the Women's Employee Resource Group, a group to assist female employees at OU.

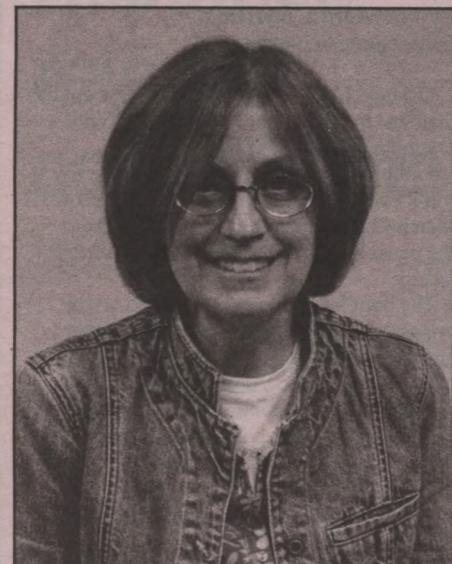
"She's just someone that's really been involved with all students, but particularly female students," said Reger. "She's a person who'd be sorely missed if she ever were to leave Oakland."

Miller answers quickly when asked why she stays so involved: It's the students who make her want to do her job.

"It's just a constant flow of students," said Miller, "and you're watching them mature from their first-year experience all the way through their senior year and beyond."

Prior to beginning work at Oakland in 1983, Miller majored in psychology at OU.

Miller will be presented with the award April 31.



AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post  
Jean Ann Miller, director of the Center for Student Activities and OU alum, will receive the Phyllis Law Googasian Award on April 31.

## Notice of Time Change

Naomi Wolf's appearance at Oakland University has been rescheduled for 7 p.m. on April 2. The event will remain in the Oakland Center Banquet Room.

## POLICEFILES

Two textbooks were stolen out of a private study room in the basement of Kresge Library on Monday, March 10. When the owner went to the bookstore in the Oakland Center to inform them of her missing books, she encountered a student selling back her textbook. She then contacted OUPD, who were able to identify the thief.

On the afternoon of March 10, police were called to the hills near the baseball field for a sledding accident. Two women and two children had ignored the "no sledding" warnings posted near the hill. One woman hit her head while sledding and required medical assistance. The Auburn Hills Fire Department was called and transferred the woman to Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital for further medical attention.

Police responded to a fire alarm in Hamlin Hall on the evening of Wednesday, March 12. The fire alarm had been set off when a student accidentally burned popcorn in a microwave. The Auburn Hills Fire Department was contacted, but were called off when the officers discovered there was no danger to the building.

Police were called to the 3000 building of the student apartments on Saturday, March 15 for a possible occurrence of domestic violence. A student reported that she had been injured by her boyfriend after a dispute. Another student had witnessed the event but declined to write a statement for police.

**CSA**

Center for Student Activities

49 Oakland Center, Rochester, MI 48309-4401  
(248) 370-2400 • [casa@oakland.edu](mailto:casa@oakland.edu) • [www.oakland.edu/csa](http://www.oakland.edu/csa)

**Looking for \$CHOLAR\$HIP\$?**

Applications available online at [www.oakland.edu/csa](http://www.oakland.edu/csa)

Completed Applications due Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup>!

**Student Activities & Leadership Award Nominations**

**DEADLINE:** Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup>

Nomination forms are available online at [www.oakland.edu/csa](http://www.oakland.edu/csa)

**CSA & Residence Life present:**

**SPRING into SOPHOMORE YEAR**

Monday, March 24  
12PM – 1:30PM  
Vanderberg Cafeteria

Interactive & engaging community building event for first year students!  
Featuring speaker Dave Coleman (often known as the "dating doctor")

Contact Jean Szura at [mick@oakland.edu](mailto:mick@oakland.edu) for more information.

**OUSC:**

**STUDENT BODY ELECTIONS**

Monday March 24

Wednesday, March 26

**VOTE ONLINE**  
[www.oakland.edu/voteou](http://www.oakland.edu/voteou)

Let your voice be heard!  
It's simple and only takes a few minutes.  
Make your vote count.

**INTERNATIONAL NIGHT 2008**

Friday, March 28  
6PM – 9PM  
Pioneer Food Court, OC

Experience displays,  
international food and entertainment  
representing cultures from around the world!

# Discussing women in government

*Lecture takes a look at female roles in party politics, federal appointments*

By WENDELL SMILEY  
Contributing Reporter

Oakland University hosted an informative dialogue to celebrate women's month with "Woman Policymaker/Woman Voter."

In the Gender and Sexuality Center sponsored event, held at the Fireside Lounge on March 12, Joann Bautti-Roche introduced the panel comprised of Oakland University faculty.

The hour long discussion touched on the impact and relevance of women in politics and included questions from the audience.

Michelle Piskulich, dean of the College of Arts and Science, spoke about the historical context for women in politics. Piskulich focused on the lack of significance women played in policymaking.

"Women were not encouraged to vote," Piskulich said.

Julie Waters, a political science professor, spoke intensely concerning women and political parties. Waters briefly summarized the three faces of the political party and the

importance of women in parties.

As political parties began to lose influence in the 19th century, women were given new opportunities, according to Waters.

"As the parties declined, men lost interest," Waters said. "That left a vacuum and women filled the void, like osmosis."

Waters also said that much of the involvement of women in political parties increased in the 1980s, as women began to use organizations to provide money.

Political parties were also used by women to break the 'glass ceiling.' This means of support existed as a springboard to get women into leadership roles.

"A large number of women are foot soldiers," said Waters. "Men disproportionately make up and hold the leadership positions."

Diane Hartmus, masters of public administration director, offered insight into the judicial system. In particular, Hartmus spoke about the influence President George W. Bush has had on the judicial system.

"Thirty-five percent of federal judges have been appointed by Bush," Hartmus said.

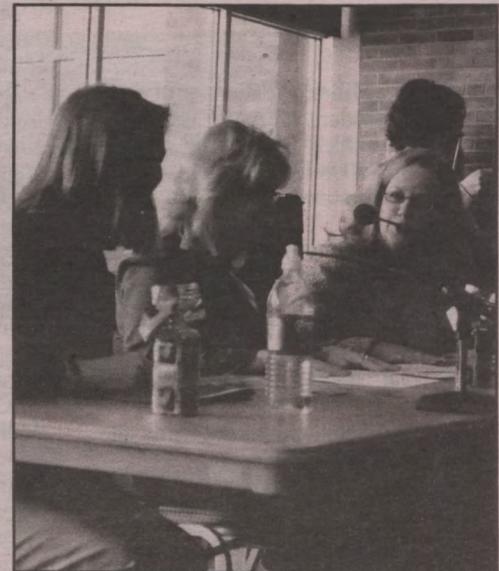
The discussion later turned to the issue of how federal judges are appointed in the U.S.

According to Hartmus, there are 900 federal judge positions. These positions are appointed by the president with the advice of the Senate.

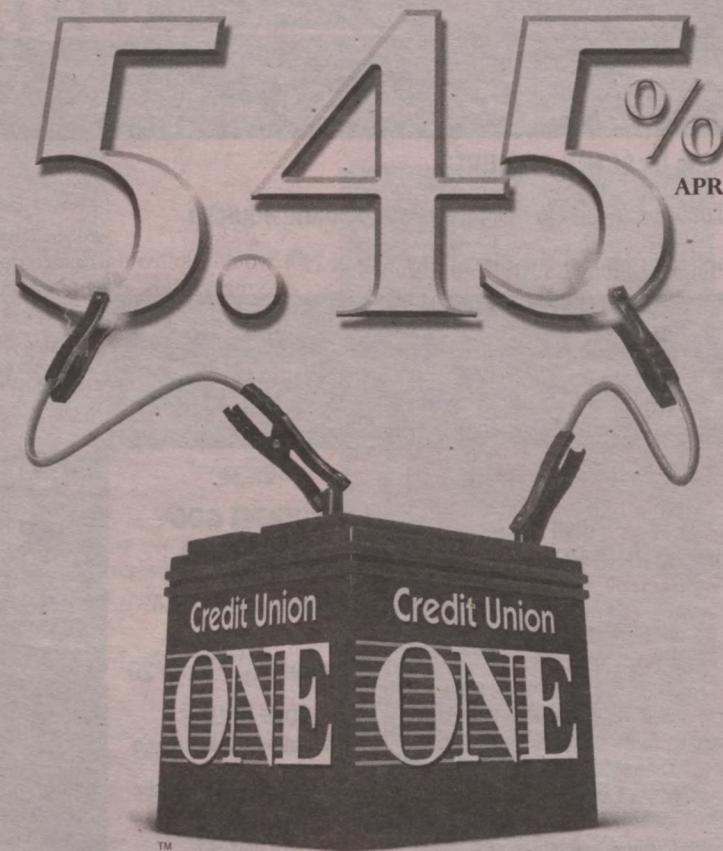
The president also nominates the Supreme Court judges that see up to 90 cases a year. Those are prominent cases, but seem minute compared to the 60,000 cases the federal court of appeals will see, according to Hartmus.

Hartmus added that federal judges decide on cases that refer to Family Leave and Medical Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights, protection of access to abortions, right to participate in sports teams and equitable pay.

"The Senate chairman has the power to set hearing dates for judges to appear before the Senate," said Hartmus. "A Republican, the Senate chairman did not schedule hearings the last year President Clinton was in office."



AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post  
The "Woman Policymaker/Woman Voter" lecture was presented by the Gender and Sexuality Center.



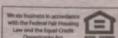
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# Local

March 19, 2008

www.oaklandpostonline.com

11



ANDREW BLACKBURN/Associated Press

Hillary Rodham Clinton is advocating for a revote in Florida and Michigan and plans to make an appearance in Detroit Wednesday.

## Michigan revote unlikely

BY KATHY BARKS HOFFMAN

Associated Press Writer

LANSING, Mich. — Hillary Rodham Clinton's campaign accused Barack Obama on Tuesday of standing in the way of a second presidential primary in Michigan, as several state lawmakers expressed concerns over suggested rules governing any revote.

Aides said the former first lady would make a hastily arranged appearance in Detroit on Wednesday to make the argument for going ahead despite the obstacles.

Mo Elleithee, a spokesman, said Clinton would "make the case for counting the people of Michigan, that every vote must count and that Senator Obama is standing in the way of a revote, and that snubbing Michigan would hurt the Democratic party in November."

Even before Clinton announced her travel plans, Obama's spokesman accused her of merely looking out for her own political interests.

"As others in Michigan have pointed out, there are valid concerns about the proposal currently being discussed, including severe restrictions on voter eligibility and the reliance on private funding," said Obama spokesman Tommy Vietor. "We have raised these concerns, as legislators in Michigan did today, and we're waiting to see if these issues can be resolved by the Legislature."

Michigan is one of two states that violated Democratic Party rules by holding primaries too early in the year. As punishment, the party stripped both states of their delegates to the national

nominating convention.

Plans for a revote in the other state, Florida, collapsed over the weekend, leaving the future of its delegation unclear.

Originally, Michigan was to have 128 delegates; Florida's total was 185.

Clinton trails Obama in convention delegates after primaries and caucuses in more than 40 states, and her chances of catching up are remote.

Lopsided victories in second primaries in Florida and Michigan would help, and also would strengthen her argument that party leaders who attend the convention as superdelegates should consider a candidate's ability to win in the fall, rather than merely support the contender with the most delegates.

She won the earlier primaries in both states, although all the candidates had pledged not to campaign in either, and Obama removed his name from the Michigan ballot.

One of the sticking points holding up a possible do-over election in Michigan is a rule that would ban anyone who voted in the Republican presidential primary from voting again in the Democratic one.

That ban would apply even to Democrats or independents who asked for a GOP ballot because Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton was the only major candidate left on the Jan. 15 Democratic ballot.

To cast a ballot in a do-over election, voters would have to sign a statement saying they hadn't voted in the GOP primary.

That could hurt Obama more, since his supporters were more likely than Clinton's to have crossed over to vote in

the GOP primary. Clinton was on the ballot, but Obama and other Democratic candidates removed their names to avoid angering early voting states such as Iowa and New Hampshire.

A group of Democratic leaders from Michigan is trying to set up a June 3 do-over primary so the state can get its delegates seated at the Democratic National Convention — an event that looked less likely on Tuesday.

Seventeen Democratic state House members said Tuesday they have concerns about holding another election, including disenfranchising Democrats who voted in the Republican primary.

"These people that chose to vote in that Republican primary in January did so after being told by the DNC that the Democratic primary did not count. They weren't told that if they participated in a Republican primary they wouldn't be eligible to participate in a redo that was going to happen in June," said state Rep. Matt Gillard, an Obama supporter.

Michigan's Republican primary drew 867,271 voters, including 18,106 who voted "uncommitted." The Democratic primary drew 593,837 voters.

Clinton garnered 328,151 votes, or 55 percent, and 237,762 votes, or 40 percent, went to "uncommitted." Other candidates were in single digits.

Michigan doesn't require voters to register by party to vote, so the parties have to use other tools to stop crossover voting. Both parties are due to get a list of who voted in the Jan. 15 primary and which ballot — Democratic or Republican — they chose. It's unclear whether those lists would be used to challenge anyone who had voted in the GOP primary.

## Kilpatrick rejects council vote

BY COREY WILLIAMS

Associated Press Writer

DETROIT — A defiant Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick quickly rejected the City Council's call Tuesday for him to resign because of accusations that he lied under oath about not having an affair.

"You take a whole day to discuss an issue like this," he said. "My reaction is: This is over. It has no effect. It's not binding. Let's get back to work."

The resolution, passed 7-1, amounted to a "no-confidence" vote because the council lacks the power to force Kilpatrick to step down.

Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy is investigating whether the mayor and former Chief of Staff Christine Beatty lied under oath when they testified in a whistle-blowers' lawsuit that they had not had a physical relationship.

Kilpatrick has been dogged by media reports about steamy text messages the two exchanged that suggest a romantic relationship.

The mayor said he could not comment on the text messages on Beatty's pager. Beatty resigned from her post in February.

City Council President Ken Cockrel Jr. would like Kilpatrick to do the same. "The message is, it's time to call it quits," he said.

The lone vote against the resolution was cast by President Pro-Tempore Monica Conyers, the wife of U.S. Rep. John Conyers. One councilwoman was absent because of illness.

"I believe that we have to do what's fair," Monica Conyers said following the vote. "Based upon the evidence that was presented to me, there's nothing there yet for us to say 'resign.'"

The council considered the issue two weeks ago but postponed a vote because some members said they needed more information before they could decide what to do.

"A whole lot has changed between then and now. ... My vote is not an indictment of the mayor so much as it is a request of the citizens to get back to work," said Councilwoman Barbara-Rose Collins, who supported the measure.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Coffee shop sings its way into record book

FERNDALE, Mich. (AP) — After 50 hours and almost 1,000 performances, the "Danny Boy" marathon at a Ferndale coffee shop is in the books. AJ's Music Cafe hosted the effort to get into the Guinness Book of World Record for continuous singing of the song. The 50-hour marathon began at 3 p.m. Saturday and ran until 5 p.m. Monday. There were classical, folk, blues, rap, spoken word and foreign language versions of "Danny Boy" played on instruments including the piano, trombone, violin and kazoo.

### More donuts in Detroit

DETROIT (AP) — Dunkin' Donuts plans to open more than 100 new restaurants in the Detroit, Flint and Lansing areas over the next several years. The Canton, Mass.-based bakery restaurant chain is in the midst of a national expansion. The company says it sells 2.7 million cups of coffee a day. The announcement comes as some other food and beverage chains — including Starbucks and The Cheesecake Factory — say they will scale back expansion plans.

### Stolen stout returned

EASTPOINTE, Mich. (AP) — A stolen, 6-foot-tall Guinness beer costume has been returned, but the identity of the thief remains a mystery. The green, pint glass-shaped costume turned up missing after a sales representative for a Detroit beer distribution company loaned it to a friend for Halloween.

### MI employment looking up

DETROIT (AP) — Michigan is offering \$47.7 million in tax incentives for 10 companies that have decided to expand in the state, potentially creating more than 3,000 jobs. Nearly half of the new jobs will come from North American Bancard Inc., a credit card processing company in Troy. The announcement will be made Tuesday by the Michigan Economic Development Corp. Michigan's jobless rate has hovered around 7 percent since 2003.

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GOURMET SANDWICHES

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*Jimmy John*

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Real applewood smoked ham and provolone cheese garnished with lettuce, tomato, and mayo.

#### #2 BIG JOHN®

Medium rare choice roast beef, topped with yummy mayo, lettuce, and tomato.

#### #3 TOTALLY TUNA®

Fresh housemade tuna, mixed with celery, onions, and our tasty sauce, then topped with alfalfa sprouts, cucumber, lettuce, and tomato. (My tuna rocks!)

#### #4 TURKEY TOM®

Fresh sliced turkey breast, topped with lettuce, tomato, alfalfa sprouts, and mayo. (The original)

#### #5 VITO®

The original Italian sub with genoa salami, provolone, capicola, onion, lettuce, tomato, & a real tasty Italian vinaigrette. (Hot peppers by request)

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Layers of provolone cheese separated by real avocado spread, alfalfa sprouts, sliced cucumber, lettuce, tomato, and mayo. (Truly a gourmet sub not for vegetarians only ..... peace dude!)

#### J.J.B.L.T.™

Bacon, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.  
(The only better BLT is mama's BLT)

### ★ SIDE ITEMS ★

- ★ Soda Pop
- ★ Giant chocolate chip or oatmeal raisin cookie
- ★ Real potato chips or jumbo kosher dill pickle
- ★ Extra load of meat
- ★ Extra cheese or extra avocado spread
- ★ Hot Peppers

#### FREEBIES (SUBS & CLUBS ONLY)

Onion, lettuce, alfalfa sprouts, tomato, mayo, sliced cucumber, Dijon mustard, oil & vinegar, and oregano.

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Any Sub minus the veggies and sauce

SLIM 1 Ham & cheese

SLIM 2 Roast Beef

SLIM 3 Tuna salad

SLIM 4 Turkey breast

SLIM 5 Salami, capicola, cheese

SLIM 6 Double provolone

### Low Carb Lettuce Wrap

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Same ingredients and price of the sub or club without the bread.

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DELIVERY ORDERS will include a delivery charge per item.

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This sandwich was invented by Jimmy John's brother Huey. It's huge enough to feed the hungriest of all humans! Tons of genoa salami, sliced smoked ham, capicola, roast beef, turkey & provolone, jammed into one of our homemade French buns then smothered with onions, mayo, lettuce, tomato, & our homemade Italian dressing.

OK, SO MY SUBS REALLY AREN'T GOURMET AND WE'RE NOT FRENCH EITHER. MY SUBS JUST TASTE A LITTLE BETTER. THAT'S ALL! I WANTED TO CALL IT JIMMY JOHN'S TASTY SANDWICHES, BUT MY MOM TOLD ME TO STICK WITH GOURMET. SHE THINKS WHATEVER I DO IS GOURMET, BUT I DON'T THINK EITHER OF US KNOWS WHAT IT MEANS. SO LET'S STICK WITH TASTY!

*Jimmy John*

### GIANT CLUB SANDWICHES

My club sandwiches have twice the meat and cheese, try it on my fresh baked thick sliced 7-grain bread or my famous homemade french bread!

#### #7 GOURMET SMOKED HAM CLUB

A full 1/4 pound of real applewood smoked ham, provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, & real mayo!

#### #8 BILLY CLUB®

Choice roast beef, smoked ham, provolone cheese, Dijon mustard, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.

#### #9 ITALIAN NIGHT CLUB®

Real genoa salami, Italian capicola, smoked ham, and provolone cheese all topped with lettuce, tomato, onion, mayo, and our homemade Italian vinaigrette. (You hav'ta order hot peppers, just ask!)

#### #10 HUNTER'S CLUB®

A full 1/4 pound of fresh sliced medium rare roast beef, provolone, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.

#### #11 COUNTRY CLUB®

Fresh sliced turkey breast, applewood smoked ham, provolone, and tons of lettuce, tomato, and mayo! (A very traditional, yet always exceptional classic!)

#### #12 BEACH CLUB®

Fresh baked turkey breast, provolone cheese, avocado spread, sliced cucumber, sprouts, lettuce, tomato, and mayo! (It's the real deal, and it ain't even California.)

#### #13 GOURMET VEGGIE CLUB®

Double provolone, real avocado spread, sliced cucumber, alfalfa sprouts, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. (Try it on my 7-grain whole wheat bread. This veggie sandwich is world class!)

#### #14 BOOTLEGGER CLUB®

Roast beef, turkey breast, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. An American classic, certainly not invented by J.J. but definitely tweaked and fine-tuned to perfection!

#### #15 CLUB TUNA®

The same as our #3 Totally Tuna except this one has a lot more. Fresh housemade tuna salad, provolone, sprouts, cucumber, lettuce, & tomato.

#### #16 CLUB LULU™

Fresh sliced turkey breast, bacon, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. (JJ's original turkey & bacon club)

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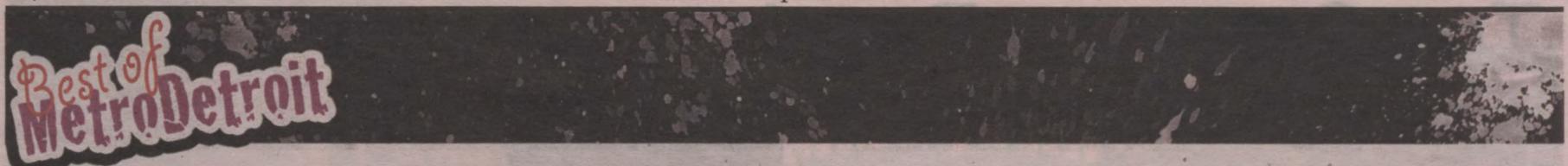
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MetroDetroit



**Food:** Subway, OC Food Court



**Place to Take a Nap:**  
Recliner Lounge, OC Basement



Men's Basketball Games



**Place to Live:** Student Apartments

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**Women's Bathroom:**  
OC, by Cafe O'Bears

**Vending Machine:**  
Robotic Dispenser by OUSC,  
OC Basement

**Distraction:**  
Facebook

**Men's Bathroom:**  
OC Basement



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**DELI (SANDWICH SHOP):**  
**JIMMY JOHN'S**  
Locations vary.  
[www.jimmyjohns.com](http://www.jimmyjohns.com)

**VEGETARIAN:**  
**INN SEASON CAFE**  
500 E. 4th St., Royal Oak  
(248) 547-7916

**BURGERS:**  
**RED ROBIN**  
Locations vary.  
[www.redrobin.com](http://www.redrobin.com)

**COFFEE SHOP:**  
**STARBUCKS**  
Locations vary.  
[www.starbucks.com](http://www.starbucks.com)

**THAI:**  
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**PIZZA:**  
**JETS**  
Locations vary.  
[www.jetspizza.com](http://www.jetspizza.com)

**CHINESE:**  
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**APPETIZERS:**  
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**STEAKHOUSE:**  
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[www.outback.com](http://www.outback.com)

**CONEY:**  
**NATIONAL CONEY ISLAND**  
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[www.nationalconeyisland.com](http://www.nationalconeyisland.com)

**ITALIAN:**  
**OLIVE GARDEN**  
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[www.olivegarden.com](http://www.olivegarden.com)

**MEXICAN:**  
**TACO BELL**  
Locations vary.  
[www.tacobell.com](http://www.tacobell.com)

## Bars

**SPORTS BAR:**  
**BUFFALO WILD WINGS**  
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**MICROBREWERY:**  
**ROCHESTER MILLS**  
410 Water St., Rochester  
(248) 650-5080

**DIVE BAR:**  
**RJ'S PUB**  
288 W. Tienken, Rochester  
(248) 652-9550

**MARTINI BAR:**  
**BLUE MARTINI**  
201 Hamilton Ave., Birmingham  
(248) 258-3005

**HAPPY HOUR:**  
**CHILI'S**  
Locations vary.  
[www.chilis.com](http://www.chilis.com)

## Best Bar With Live Music: JD's Key Club

JD's Key Club in downtown Pontiac offers everything you need for a great night out. The performers on their two "dueling" pianos play everything from Buckcherry to Queen and the crowd is always encouraged to join in. Wednesdays have been unofficially dubbed "college night," as they lure a younger crowd with \$1 beers and other drink specials. JD's provides a shuttle bus on the first Wednesday of each month that picks up at Beacon Hill, Westbury Village, and Greek Row off of Adams Road. The round-trip cost is only \$3 and includes priority entrance to the club since cover (\$10 for 18 through 20-year-olds, \$5 for those 21+) is paid on the bus. The Coyote Club on the lower level features pool tables and dartboards for those who wish to escape to a quieter atmosphere. JD's is open from 8 p.m. – 2 a.m. on Wednesdays and 7 p.m. – 2 a.m. Thursdays through Saturdays.



# Best of Metro Detroit

## Athletics

### BEST MASCOT: THE GRIZZ

### BEST STADIUM: COMERICA PARK

2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit

### BEST METRO-DETROIT SPORTS TEAM: THE DETROIT PISTONS

Perhaps it's the seven straight 50-win seasons, or maybe it's the Palace of Auburn Hills' consistent streak of sell-out, rollicking crowds.

Whatever the case, Oakland University students selected the Detroit Pistons as the Best Metro Detroit Sports Team.

OU students have become increasingly familiar with perennial all-stars Chauncey Billups, Richard Hamilton, and Rasheed Wallace, in part due to the Pistons' commitment to team chemistry, as well as the Palace's proximity to campus.

The Palace of Auburn Hills is a mere 10-minute drive from OU, making it more convenient for on-campus students to attend games than those of other sports teams.

The Pistons' commitment to OU has also played a role in their selection as the students' favorite team.

The Pistons open practice at the O'Rena in Oct. 2007 drew more than 4,000 fans and students.

As the Pistons begin their quest to return to the NBA Finals this spring, you can bet that OU Grizzlies will be right by their sides.

## Music & Culture

### BEST DOWNTOWN AREA: ROYAL OAK

Oakland students love Royal Oak! The city won by a landslide, no doubt because of the city's variety of boutiques, artsy vibe and nightlife. With a vibrant and lively downtown no matter what the season, OU students speak about their favorite things to see and do:

"I really like hanging out at the Barnes and Noble bookstore downtown. That's usually where I hang out. It's convenient because everything is right there." —Brandon Glatfelter, junior women's studies/political science major

"I like the comedy club the most, but all the

bars are pretty fun. It's great that everything is in walking distance from everything else. Don't miss the sushi bars, they're amazing."

—Kourtney Taylor, junior psychology major

"The biker nights on Wednesday or Thursday during the summer are just awesome. It's just packed with people, so people-watching is really fun. The bars are really cool too, all the time, but especially in the summer."

—Steve Clark, senior history major

### BEST PLACE TO MEET NEW PEOPLE: CAMPUS

### BEST ART GALLERY: DIA

5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit

Revamped and revived, the newly renovated Detroit Institute of the Arts brings art, architecture and culture together, boasting one of the nation's top art collections. From Renoir to Warhol, you're sure to spot at least one classic from your general education courses. Be on the lookout for additional activities like the Friday Night Live! music events and the Detroit Film Theater. For more information visit the DIA's Web site at [www.dia.org](http://www.dia.org).

### BEST SALON: 6 SALON

306 W. 6th St., Royal Oak

### BEST TANNING SALON: SUN OASIS

2735 University Drive, Auburn Hills

### BEST CONCERT VENUE: DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATER

### BEST FITNESS CENTER: LIFETIME

Locations vary.

[www.lifetimefitness.com](http://www.lifetimefitness.com)

### YOGA STUDIO: UP DOG

210 West University, Suite 7, Rochester

### BEST MANI/PEDI & BEST SPA: MARGO'S

### BEST LOCAL BAND: FLASHPOINT

"Music is created to move you, and Flashpoint strives to enable that movement." That's how the alternative-rock Christian band describes itself on its MySpace page ([www.myspace.com/flashpointrock](http://www.myspace.com/flashpointrock)). Flashpoint declares that it has many musical influences, but "only one spiritual influence," saying that "God's grace, love and beauty are the only things in life truly worth singing about."

This four-man band originally formed three years ago, and the current lineup has been together for one year. Joe McVety (lead vocals, guitar, piano) and Josh McVety (bass, vocals) are brothers attending OU. Drummer Joe Wallace attends Oakland Community College, and lead guitarist James Sutton works full-time.

Flashpoint played at OU last year and the previous year. They often play in District Venue in Mount Zion church. They are not signed with a record label currently. They have one CD out currently, their self-titled album "Flashpoint," which has 10 songs. They hope to release their second album by the end of this semester. You can hear two Flashpoint songs from their previous album: "One Hundred Miles Away" and "Change My Name," as well as two songs from the upcoming album: "Wake Up" and "Save Hannah" on their MySpace page.

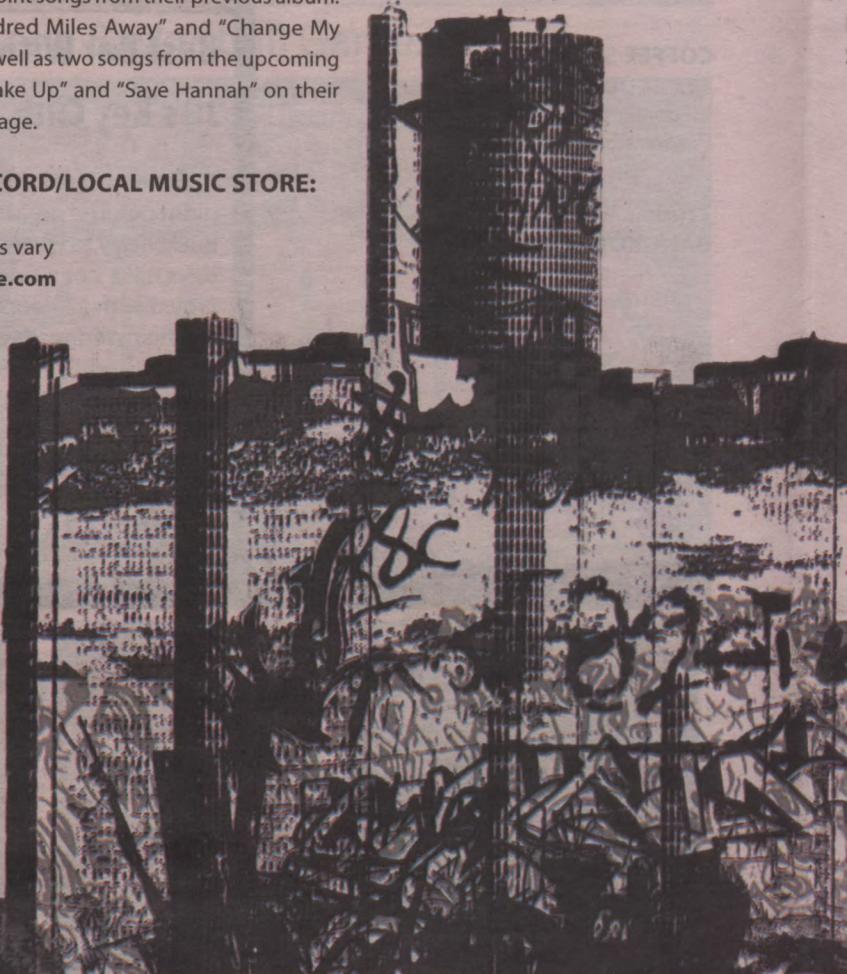
### BEST RECORD/LOCAL MUSIC STORE: FYE

Locations vary  
[www.fye.com](http://www.fye.com)

### BEST HOOKEAH LOUNGE: BEIRUT PALACE

Hookah isn't the only thing on the menu in Beirut Palace, whose Royal Oak location opened in 1997. It is also a full-fledged restaurant with a wide selection of Middle Eastern cuisine, including vegetarian dishes. Any customer who wishes for a hookah can get one for just \$15.95, which lasts for one hour. However, all hookah consumers have to show ID to prove that they're over 18.

The restaurant is busiest on Fridays and Saturdays, when they stay open until 1 a.m. instead of their normal 12 a.m. Aside from lunch and dinner, they also provide delivery and catering services. Beirut Palace promises a clean environment, a variety of hookah flavors, and an all-around good time to everyone who visits. Their Royal Oak location is on 105 South Main Street, and their Sterling Heights location is on 2095 15 Mile Road. Their Web site can be found at [www.beirutpalace.com](http://www.beirutpalace.com).



## Shopping

**BEST MALL:**  
**SOMERSET COLLECTION**

[www.thesomersetcollection.com](http://www.thesomersetcollection.com)

**BEST RETAIL/BANG FOR YOUR BUCK:**  
**TARGET**

Locations vary.  
[www.target.com](http://www.target.com)

**BEST PLACE TO BUY JEANS:**  
**BUCKLE**

Locations vary.  
[www.buckle.com](http://www.buckle.com)

**BEST PLACE TO BUY SHOES:**  
**PAYLESS**

Locations vary.  
[www.payless.com](http://www.payless.com)

**BEST PLACE TO BUY ACCESSORIES:**  
**CLAIRES**

Locations vary.  
[www.claires.com](http://www.claires.com)

**BEST VINTAGE SHOP:**  
**SALVATION ARMY**

Locations vary.  
[www.salvationarmyusa.org](http://www.salvationarmyusa.org)

**BEST USED BOOKSTORE:**  
**TEXTBOOK OUTLET**

2592 N. Squirrel, Auburn Hills  
[www.e-textbookoutlet.com](http://www.e-textbookoutlet.com)

## Media & Entertainment

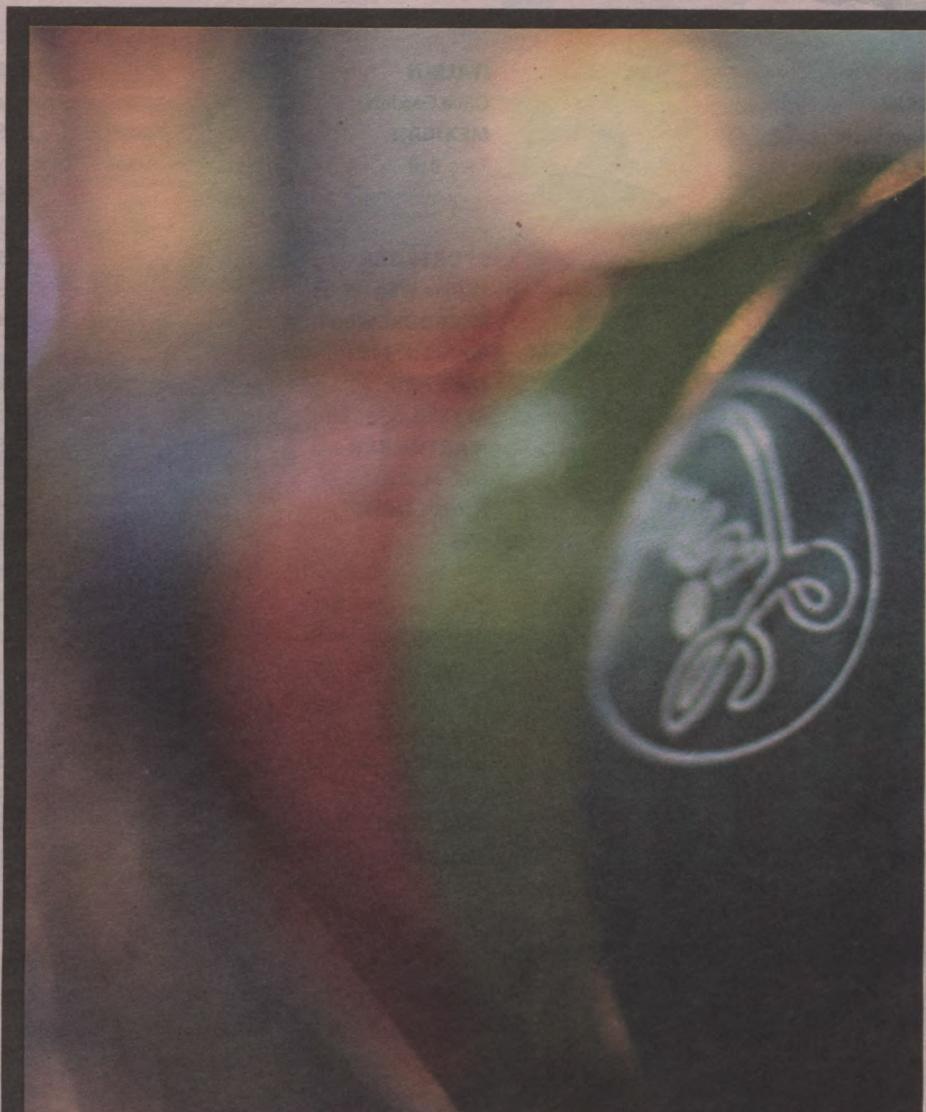
**BEST SOURCE FOR ENTERTAINMENT:**  
**TELEVISION**

**BEST LOCAL NEWS SOURCE:**  
**DETROIT FREE PRESS**

[www.freep.com](http://www.freep.com)

**BEST MORNING SHOW:**  
**GOOD MORNING AMERICA/**  
**TODAY SHOW**

**BEST RADIO STATION:**  
**95.5**



## Best Bowling Alley: Thunderbird Lanes

With plenty of cheap deals and high-end perks, Thunderbird Lanes was voted as the area's best bowling alley according to OU's "Best of" survey. Located on Maple Road between Crooks and Livernois in Troy, Thunderbird has been a popular spot for children and adults alike.

On Friday nights after 10 p.m., bowlers can enjoy "Rock and Bowl," which has been popular with the college-aged crowd. Along with recently revamped lighting effects and a live DJ, bowlers can watch music videos and effects on ten-foot-long projector screens. All of that can be experienced for only \$3.75 per game. Sundays include \$1 bowling from 9 a.m.-noon and 9 p.m.-midnight, while Mondays offer \$1.75 games from 9 p.m. until close. Not as great of a bowler as your friends? Thunderbird's new automatic retractable bumpers allow for beginners to competitively play on the same lane as the top-end talent.

For more information and details on upcoming specials, call 248-362-1660 or visit Thunderbird's Web site at [www.bowlthunderbird.com](http://www.bowlthunderbird.com).

# Best of MetroDetroit

**DINING****SUSHI**

Tokyo Sushi

**ICE CREAM**

Coldstone

**DELI (SANDWICH SHOP)**

Jimmy John's

**VEGETARIAN**

Inn Season Cafe

**BURGERS**

Red Robin

**COFFEE SHOP**

Starbucks

**THAI**

Bangkok Cuisine

**PIZZA**

Jet's

**CHINESE**

PF Chang's

**APPETIZERS**

Applebee's

**GREEK**

Pegasus Taverna

**STEAKHOUSE**

Outback Steakhouse

**CONEY**

National Coney Island

**ITALIAN**

Olive Garden

**MEXICAN**

Taco Bell

**BARS****SPORTS BAR**

Buffalo Wild Wings

**MICROBREWERY**

Rochester Mills

**DIVE BAR**

RJ's Pub

**MARTINI BAR**

Blue Martini

**HAPPY HOUR**

Chili's

**MUSIC & CULTURE****BEST DOWNTOWN AREA**

Royal Oak

**BEST PLACE TO MEET NEW PEOPLE**

Campus

**BEST ART GALLERY**

DIA

**BEST BOWLING ALLEY**

Thunderbird Lanes

**BEST SALON**

6 Salon

**BEST TANNING SALON**

Sun Oasis

**BEST CONCERT VENUE**

DTE Energy Music Theater

**BEST FITNESS CENTER**

Lifetime

**YOGA STUDIO**

Up Dog

**BEST MANI/PEDI & BEST SPA**

Margo's

**BEST LOCAL BAND**

Flashpoint

**BEST RECORD/LOCAL MUSIC STORE**

FYE

**BEST HOOKAH LOUNGE**

Beirut Palace

**SHOPPING****BEST MALL**

Somerset Collection

**BEST RETAIL/BANG FOR YOUR BUCK**

Target

**BEST PLACE TO BUY JEANS**

Buckle

**BEST PLACE TO BUY SHOES**

Payless

**BEST PLACE TO BUY ACCESSORIES**

Claire's

**BEST VINTAGE SHOP**

Salvation Army

**BEST USED BOOKSTORE**

Textbook Outlet

**MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT****BEST SOURCE FOR ENTERTAINMENT**

TV

**BEST LOCAL NEWS SOURCE**

Detroit Free Press

**BEST MORNING SHOW**

Good Morning America/Today Show

**BEST RADIO STATION**

95.5 FM

**ATHLETICS****BEST MASCOT**

The Grizz

**BEST METRO-DETROIT SPORTS TEAM**

The Detroit Pistons

**BEST STADIUM**

Comerica Park

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 Vanessa Nikolic

**\$10 GIFT CARDS TO CARIBOU COFFEE**

Ben Collins  
 Caitlin Callaghan  
 Tara Humphreys

*Our first annual "Best" issue has been a social experiment for those of us involved at The Oakland Post. We set out with a goal to find places our fellow students deem as the best of the best in our area. From there, we worked hard to tally up the winners. Over 135 students took on our challenge in hopes of scoring free prizes. We would like to thank those that took the time to tell us about their favorites.*

**\$25 GIFT CARDS TO BARNES AND NOBLE**

Courtney Brooks  
 Eric Anderson

**iPOD NANO**

Candice Yono



# The Scene

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[www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)

March 19, 2008

By ANDREA MATTHEWS  
Contributing Reporter

Ever find yourself longing to relive some of your favorite childhood activities? The venues where you spent hours with friends when you were a kid are still around; many are located within a few miles of Oakland University.

GameWorks is a two-story arcade, complete with a restaurant and bar. There is a wide variety of arcade games, ranging from racing to simulation and interactive video games of all kinds. It even has some of the classic games, like Pac Man and Galaga.

The main floor of GameWorks is where the restaurant and majority of the games are located. Located upstairs is a more quiet area with a bar and some pool tables.

"When I was younger I loved winning tickets to get prizes, but now I like to play racing games against my friends," said junior Lindsay Kruszewski.

GameWorks even has a college night special on Tuesdays where it offers discounted game play. GameWorks is located in District 7 of Great Lakes Crossing in Auburn Hills.

Main Street Billiards is another prime location to relax with friends and play some pool. There are 14 pool tables, and a variety of racing and arcade games. Food is available from 11 a.m. until 1 a.m., and the venue also features a full bar and dance floor.

Main Street Billiards is located on the corner of 2nd and Main in downtown Rochester.

AMBER DIETZ/  
The Oakland Post  
Left: Look for the thrill of go kart racing again on the tracks of Race Rochester. The indoor racing track is located on East Tieken in Rochester. Background: Enjoy shooting pool with a drink at Main Street Billiards in Rochester. The bar has 14 pool tables.

Laser tag is another timeless game that's fun for all ages.

"I like playing laser tag so I can compete against my friends," said freshman Lance Gackstetter.

With seven locations in Metro Detroit, Zap Zone is a great place to play laser tag with a group of people. Each location has enough equipment for up to 48 players. The arena uses black lights and has glow in the dark paint all over the walls, as well as all different kinds of levels and mazes to get lost in. And while you're waiting for the game to begin, there's an arcade available in the lobby.

"Zap Zone is great because the arena is big with plenty of great hiding places," said Gackstetter.

Go-kart racing is usually thought of as a warm weather activity, but now you can race your friends year round. Race Rochester is an indoor go-kart race track located on East Tieken past Main.

"I loved racing go-karts when I was a kid because it gave me an opportunity to drive," said freshman Kwaku Owusu.

For the experienced driver, Race Rochester offers leagues that meet once a week and give you the opportunity to meet new people and record your lap times. There also are classes available that teach new riders about the karts, how to drive and how to improve track times.

Even if you're all grown up, you can still enjoy all the activities you did when you were a kid in a more age-appropriate atmosphere.



## COLLEGIATE RECESS

*Grown-ups can still enjoy childhood favorites*

# No law degree required for 'Apollo Justice'

## REVIEW

By RORY MCCARTY  
Contributing Reporter

With the mainstream media's obsession with violent video games and their effects corrupting America's youth, it's easy to forget that there are a great deal of games that don't cast you in the role of a bounty hunter, thief or soldier, but in the role of something positive.

One such game is "Ace Attorney: Apollo Justice" for the Nintendo DS, a title that lets players step into the shoes of a rookie defense attorney out to clear the names of wrongfully-accused murder suspects.

"Apollo Justice" is the newest installment in the Ace Attorney series of games that have achieved cult popularity among handheld gamers.

The Ace Attorney games revolve around two distinct types of gameplay: the investigation sections, where you inspect crime scenes and search for evidence to help your case, and the court segments, where you punch holes in the prosecution's argument by cross examining witnesses and finding contradictions

in their statements.

Winning in Ace Attorney is based solely on your comprehension of details you uncover and drawing links between crucial pieces of evidence. Players are required not to simply react, but to think.

It's a stark contrast to the twitchy shoot-em-ups shown on the evening news.

"Apollo Justice" brings in a couple of new features to the series to keep fans from becoming jaded. The first is the Perceive system, where the player has the opportunity to closely examine a witness in the middle of a testimony to search for telltale signs that they're trying to cover something up.

For example, you can tell when a witness is trying to cover for the defendant when they have difficulty swallowing while talking about the crime. By pointing this out, you can press the witness into coming clean.

Another addition that makes good use of the DS's touch screen capability is the forensics investigation mode, where you can do things like take plaster molds of footprints or spray the crime scene with luminol to search for traces of blood.

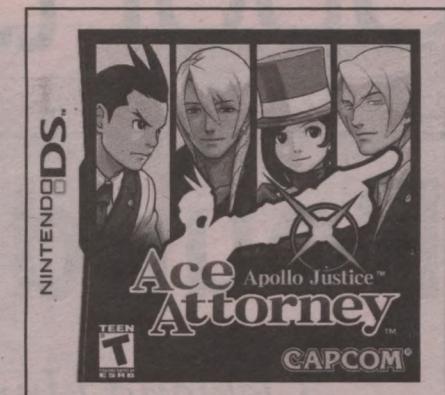
Dusting for fingerprints, for example, is done by tapping the touch screen to spread powder on a surface, and then blowing into the microphone to remove the excess dust. These bits engage the player more directly and provide a nice break from the mind-bending trial sections.

A feature returning from previous games is the option to use the DS's microphone to shout "Objection!" out loud instead of simply pressing a button when you want to prove a contradiction or "Hold it!" when you want to press a witness on part of their testimony.

It's easy to get so involved in the game that you defiantly declare your objections with Matlockian fervor, sometimes causing people in the public places you happen to be in to give you terrified glances.

But the game never takes itself too seriously, as exemplified by characters such as the district attorney who moonlights as a rockstar, or the harmonica-playing chef with ramen noodles for hair.

It's a good thing, because the atmosphere makes it easier to let other details slide, such as the fact that witnesses are never charged with perjury for their lies,



Amazon.com

or that the judge will declare your defendant guilty even when the prosecution's story is about as airtight as a sieve.

If you'd rather blow off steam by mowing down a few dozen generic bad guys with an infinite-ammo machine gun, then this game is not for you.

But if you're interested in playing a funny, colorful courtroom drama that requires thought processes beyond "shoot whatever moves," then give "Apollo Justice" a try.

# 'Float' with festive folks Flogging Molly

## REVIEW

By OLIVIA OLSON  
Contributing Reporter

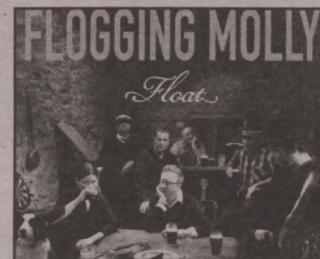
Just in time to ring in the festive Irish debauchery of the season, celtic punk band Flogging Molly released their latest album, "Float."

While the band delivers the usual ruckus and rowdiness that will most certainly be expected of them, "Float" is not all fun and drinking games.

One of the most impressive things about the band, aside from their remarkable instrumental capabilities, is their ability to couple seemingly incompatible musical elements seamlessly and successfully.

They adeptly combine electric and traditional Irish folk instruments, sometimes within the instrument itself. This is most evident in the case of lead singer Dave King's vocals, which embody pure punk power in a marked Irish accent.

At first listen, a song like "Us of Lesser Gods" can seem grand and tri-



Amazon.com

umphant, but the lyrics do not necessarily comply with this aesthetic, often favoring cynicism over optimism.

This odd pairing is strangely satisfying, proving that thoughtful lyrics don't always have to be set to dark music with a slow tempo, and an upbeat piece can be more poetic than trite.

The title track is one of the slower tunes on the album, which works well as a bed for the list of aphoristic advice that constitutes the lyrics.

The relatively reserved accompaniment and earnest vocals create an element of sincerity that benefits the song well. "Float" will silence any critics who list one of the band's weaknesses as being incapable of anything other than unchecked boisterousness.

With its lively sound and enthusiastic delivery, "Float" will inevitably fill you with spirited delight and render you defenseless against the desire to sing along, garnering strange looks while listening to it in the coffee shop or frightening other motorists while playing it in your car.

# Adapting 'God' to 'Men'

## REVIEW

By KYLE PHANEUF  
Contributing Reporter

As far as film adaptations go, Paulo Morelli's 2008 film, "City of Men," took the long road to arriving on the silver screen.

The film is based on the television serial of the same name. The television series was based on the spectacular 2002 film "City of God," which, of course, was based on the identically titled 1997 novel by Brazilian writer Paulo Lins.

After going through many mediums, it was inevitable that the tone of the current adaptation's tone would differ significantly from the original, but the two divergent titles themselves — City of God and City of Men — do a good job of explaining the differences between the films.

Though they both examine the lives of young people growing up in the wake of the gang-violence consuming Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, "God" is a fast paced crime drama where the combat is never far from the focus. Murder, drug abuse and rape are constantly threatening to burst into the lives of the protagonists and the gang leaders are, to an extent, pseudo-deified living legends (at least as long as they're still alive).

"Men," on the other hand, is more absorbed in the patriarchal melodrama surrounding two newly 18-year-olds, Ace

and Laranjinha.

Ace is dealing with raising a child despite not feeling like much of an adult himself, while Laranjinha is searching for his real father.

The overbearing influence the warring gangs have on their lives is still present, as with "God," but it's mostly kept in the background, looming over the film like a specter only to be shrugged off and accepted by the two leads before it explodes into the forefront, changing everything.

Even the look and atmosphere of these two companion pieces differ. Where "God" was hyper-saturated and swiftly edited, "Men" feels more relaxed in its execution, taking the time to meditate on the slums of the city. Though it swaps its predecessor's rich color palette for a more muted tone, the film still gets plenty of mileage out of the irony that such terrible things happen in one of the world's most naturally beautiful regions.

While "God" succeeded on sheer grandeur, arguably producing the more entertaining and consistent film, the changes in "Men" result in feeling more natural and mature, less provocative or even exploitative of a very real and terrible situation.

Some pacing issues and a non-existent ending keeps "Men" from completely living up to its precursor's impressive reputation, but the film is a fascinating and terrifying look at the lives of those affected by an ongoing war that rarely comes to light in the rest of the world.

# Sports

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[www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)

March 19, 2008

## Rounding up the Grizzlies

*Oakland University basketball teams say goodbye to four seniors*

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

By SAMANTHA FRANZ  
Sports Editor

After notching a Division I school record of 19 wins last season and making an appearance in the Summit League Championship game, Oakland University's men's basketball began to gain a following.

Mario Impemba, best known for being the voice of the Detroit Tigers on FSN Detroit, also became the voice of the Golden Grizzlies.

Multiple OU games also were broadcast on both the local and national scales, including ESPN U, FSN and the Big Ten Network. These media outlets would all be present to capture an Oakland University season full of twists and turns.

It all began with Summit League pre-season first team member junior Erik Kangas going down with a broken collarbone in the opening game of the season against Wisconsin-Green Bay, sitting out for five games this season and playing limited minutes in other contests as a result.

From there came a grueling non-conference schedule against a series of top-25 teams, all of whom are currently competing in the NCAA tournament.

The Golden Grizzlies nearly pulled off the upset at the Breslin Center with a 75-71 loss to the then 10-ranked Spartans Nov. 24, fell 93-68 to the then 23rd ranked Xavier Musketeers four

days later and made program history Dec. 22 by defeating Oregon University, 68-62 in OU's first-ever defeat over a top 25 team.

The Golden Grizzlies couldn't get an extended win streak off the ground during the conference season, never winning more than three games in a row. They finished with an 11-7 conference record, good enough for the third seed in the Summit League Championship Tournament.

As dreams of Tulsa, Okla. loomed, then came the speculation surrounding senior Brandon Cassise.

After not traveling with the team the last month of the season, fans began to wonder if the clutch-shooter would be on the Summit League tournament roster at all.

Fears were confirmed when university athletics confirmed that the guard would not be allowed to travel to Tulsa, Okla. due to a violation of probation.

With senior leadership resting on the shoulders of lone senior Patrick McCloskey, the only Golden Grizzly from the 2005 conference championship season, OU had to roll with the punches and work with what they had.

The Golden Grizzlies coasted to a quarterfinal round victory over the sixth-seeded Western Illinois, 80-66 March 9, but couldn't overcome second-seeded IUPUI in the semifinals the next day and were sent home on the next flight to Rochester with an 80-65 defeat.

See MEN'S HOOPS on Page 24

### Departing OU seniors by the numbers

# 125

Games played by Patrick McCloskey in his four seasons at OU, a new school record.

# 11

The number of times that forward Charlese Greer reached double-digits in scoring this season, though she only started one game.

# 8

Career-high in points back on Dec. 2, 2006 against Rochester College for Liz Sowers

# 5

Career-high in rebounds for Rachel Bryer against Marygrove College on Nov. 13, 2006



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post  
Senior Patrick McCloskey became the only member of Oakland's 2008 roster with a championship ring from the 2005 season. While he didn't always start, he provided key stats off the bench.

# Aiki-jujutsu club is 'poetry in motion'

By TIM RATH  
Contributing Reporter

If you're resolving to discipline yourself into studying better after midterms, a night with the aiki-jujutsu club at Oakland University may be of help.

"There's a lot of technicality, discipline and precision involved in aiki-jujutsu," said Jamie Shorek, acting president of the club. "I guess it's an odd coincidence that a lot of our members are engineering students," she added, laughing.

Aiki-jujutsu, a Japanese martial art that first gained notoriety in the early 20th century, is the basis of the well-known practice of aikido.

While both techniques focus on neutralizing attackers before they strike, aikido redirects an attack away from the body, whereas aiki-jujutsu channels an attack straight down.

This places a great emphasis on natural physiology and bodily positioning, Shorek said, which explains how effortless it may appear to a first-time onlooker.

"There's no pushing, no forcing at all. A lot of it is based on gravity," she said. "It's a very unique and gentle art, as long as you're doing it right."

That diversion from violence explains how Shorek first became interested in joining the club last year.

"I was part of the fencing club here and I would always watch them practice and became interested in self-defense," she said.

"(Aiki-jujutsu) is very useful for people of a smaller build, especially women. Now, I have the capability and knowledge to defend myself against larger people."

Shorek, a junior in the medicine pro-

gram, rose to the level of white belt last September, and in the process became the acting president of the club.

She said that while aiki-jujutsu has been at OU for "around 10 years," the level of fidelity involved often limits who sticks with the program.

"We have about eight to 12 members in the club, depending on who's coming and going," she said. "It's the kind of thing that requires a lot of time and dedication, and students don't always have that freedom."

For their time, experienced members are handsomely rewarded with a kind of grace that one usually only finds in nature.

Simply watching an aiki-jujutsu class at Oakland University is an exercise in elegance. Black belts honing their skills with flips and blocks give new meaning to the phrase, "poetry in motion."

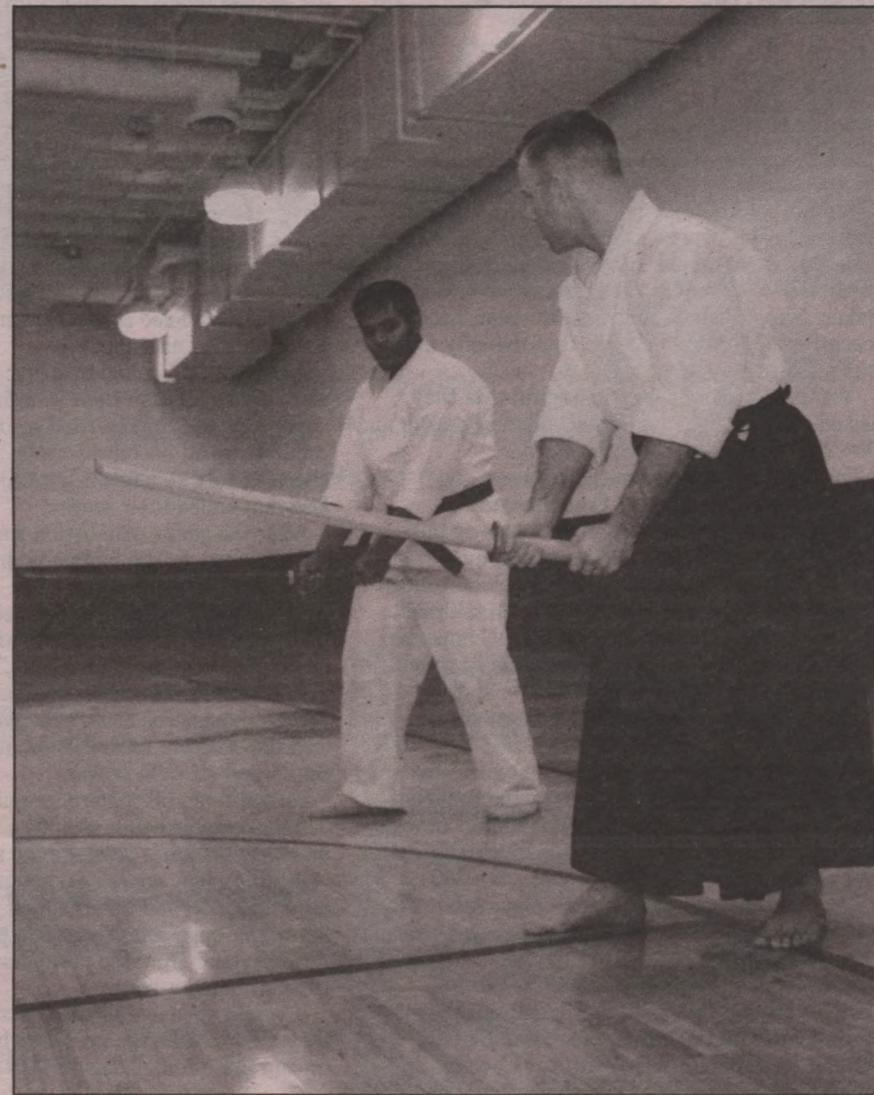
"It's very precise, but once you have that precision down, it's beautiful," Shorek said. "It's very straight-forward, but flashy in its own right. We have a sensei in Japan, and when you watch him on video, he makes it look easy. His movements just flow together like water."

However, a better looking summersault isn't the only benefit that can come from an investment in aiki-jujutsu.

"It's good for understanding how your body's balancing works, being aware of your surroundings, and building self-confidence," Shorek said.

The club typically meets Monday and Wednesday nights from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon in the lower level of the Rec Center, Shorek said.

First-timers are more than welcome and are advised to wear workout-appropriate attire.



BOB KOSKA/The Oakland Post  
Instructor Deric Wilkins and Justin John of Troy partake in a lesson in aikido at the Rec Center.

Aikido uses the mind as well as the body to both deflect and attack.

## GRIZZ OF THE WEEK



### Caitlin Lynch

Year: Junior  
Major: Business

Lynch received Summit League Player of the Week accolades after leading the Golden Grizzly squad to a sweep over UMKC last week. The third baseman notched two homeruns, hit .500 and tallied three RBIs.

Photo courtesy of Oakland University Athletics

### In Case You Missed It:

#### Oakland baseball shut down by Tulane in three-game series

Tulane shut down Oakland University's baseball team in last weekend's three-game series, outscoring the Grizzlies by a combined score of 38-0.

In Friday's 3-0 loss, Mike Takashima (0-1) pitched six innings, allowing three runs, two earned, on four hits and six walks before being relieved by Shane McCatty who pitched two scoreless innings.

Matt Trausch (1-3) suffered the loss in Saturday's contest, after allowing 10 hits and nine earned runs in 4.2 innings, as Tulane knocked off the Grizzlies 19-0.

Tulane closed out the series with a 16-0 win over the Grizzlies Sunday, with Andrew Estes (1-2) allowing six earned runs on eight hits in 4.2 innings.

#### Grizzlies make quick work of Kangaroos in sweep

Oakland University's softball team opened up Summit League play, sweeping UMKC 3-2 and 12-2 in six innings Friday.

Oakland third baseman Caitlin Lynch led the Golden Grizzlies with two home runs and Roberta Ches added another in Oakland's first win of the afternoon.

The Grizzlies jumped out to a 12-0 lead over the Kangaroos in the second game, before UMKC got on the board with two runs in the bottom of the sixth. Pitcher Jessica Granger (5-5) picked up both wins for Oakland.

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## ANALYSIS

By TIM RATH  
Contributing Reporter

It seems fitting that in the first year of the newly-christened Summit League, the 2007-08 Oakland University women's basketball season was full of peaks and valleys.

Expectations were high for the Grizzlies, as they began the season picked to finish second in the Summit League's preseason poll.

Despite the total absence of seniors from the starting five, as well as the graduations of Bonnie Baker, Nicole Piggott, and Joya Puryear, head coach Beckie Francis believed that the lofty mark was justified.

"We thought it was very respectful that they picked us No. 2," she told The Oakland Press in an Oct. 2007 interview.

The team came out of the gate strong.

The Grizzlies dominated Columbia and Marygrove to open the season, then nearly pulled out the heart of its non-conference schedule in losing close against nationally-ranked no. 24 Auburn and no. 7 Georgia, the latter contest on the road.

Through the disappointing losses, OU appeared to have gained the idea that they could hang with any team in the country, regardless of stature.

This was never more apparent than when no. 21 Florida State came to Rochester on Dec. 2.

OU rarely trailed against the Seminoles, and took a large lead into halftime knowing that they had done the same to Georgia. This time, however, the Grizzlies took care of FSU and notched their first win against a top-25 opponent since 2001.

The Grizzlies began conference play with a 9-3 record (the team's best mark since joining Division 1) and momentum enough to carry them to a 5-1 conference record by mid-January.

It was around that time that inevitable injuries began to disrupt the Grizzlies' season. Playing without freshman forward Brittany Carnago and senior forward Charlene Greer helped contribute to

a 2-7 winter swoon that dropped OU's record to 7-6 in Summit League play.

Francis rallied the team to an emotional victory over IPFW on Feb. 16 that she called as "indefinable."

Although the injury bug claimed sophomore forward Hanna Reising before the game, the team was able to rip off a five-game winning streak to close out the season and head to the Summit League Championship Tournament ranked first.

However, it was in Tulsa that the emotional and physical wear of the season was evident on the young Grizzlies.

After dominating Centenary in two regular season matchups, it came as a surprise when the Grizzlies struggled against them in the first half of their quarterfinal matchup.

Although OU rallied to defeat the Ladies, they were not so lucky in their semifinal matchup.

The Grizzlies looked tired against Oral Roberts, committing an uncharacteristic 20 turnovers and shooting only 36 percent from the field in a 71-61 loss that ended their season.

After the game, exhaustion was apparent on Francis' face, as she had no problem explaining the upset loss.

"I do think the home crowd helps," she said. "[Reising] tried to go out there and play, but she hadn't practiced in three weeks."

Going into next season, several Grizzlies have proven themselves as an effective supporting cast for Pike, selected as first-team all-conference for the second-straight season.

Second-team all-conference guard Melissa Jeltema established herself as a double-double machine, notching seven on the season.

Reising's play got her an honorable mention all-conference, and posed match-up problems all season for opposing frontcourts that couldn't defend her soft touch from the perimeter, nor stop her from grabbing rebounds.

It would appear that the Grizzlies have all that they need to take the next step in ascending to the top of the Summit League.



SAMANTHA FRANZ/The Oakland Post file photo

Senior Charlene Greer goes up for the layup against the Centenary Ladies during the first round of the Summit League tournament. Greer is a transfer from Schoolcraft College and joined the Golden Grizzlies her junior year.

continued from Page 22

## MEN'S HOOPS

"They're a better basketball team than we were tonight, and they played very well," head coach Greg Kampe said after the loss. "This is the game that scared me more than any other game here because of the defense they play and we were going to struggle against it."

Overall, Oakland finished the season with a 17-14 record and are only losing one player in McCloskey.

The Golden Grizzlies have already signed three recruits that look to make an impact on the their

roster.

Lake Orion's Drew Maynard, Romeo High School's Blake Cushingberry and Port Huron's Jay Thamess are all ranked in the Top-10 of Bankhoops.com's 2008 Michigan basketball recruit rankings.

So while the men may not have punched their ticket to the Big Dance this season, they have a cast of key returning players, as well as some fresh faces, that will surely be making noise in the 2008-09 season.

**STAY CONNECTED.**

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## GOLDEN GRIZZLIES IN THE SUMMIT LEAGUE

## MEN'S

**FREE THROW PERCENTAGE (TEAM)**  
70 PERCENT (RANKING: 7)

**OFFENSIVE REBOUNDS (TEAM)**  
1,139 (RANKING: 1)

**DEFENSIVE REBOUNDS (TEAM)**  
1,014 (RANKING: 5)

**BLOCKED SHOTS (TEAM)**  
120 (RANKING: 2)

**SCORING (INDIVIDUAL)**  
DERICK NELSON - 17.3 PPG  
(RANKING: 5)

**ASSISTS (INDIVIDUAL)**  
JOHNATHON JONES - 6.0 ASG  
(RANKING: 1)

## WOMEN'S

**ASSISTS (TEAM)**  
557 (RANKING: 1)

**STEALS (TEAM)**  
316 (RANKING: 2)

**OFFENSIVE REBOUNDS (TEAM)**  
373 (RANKING: 5)

**DEFENSIVE REBOUNDS (TEAM)**  
828 (RANK: 1)

**SCORING (INDIVIDUAL)**  
JESSICA PIKE - 16.3 PPG  
(RANKING: 4)

**REBOUNDING (INDIVIDUAL)**  
MELISSA JELTEMA - 8.1 RPG  
(RANKING: 4)

All stats as of March 19, 2008

# OU Residence Halls 2008-09 EARLY SIGN UP

The Residence Halls Fall early sign-up is the process through which current University Housing students can elect to remain in on-campus housing for the upcoming academic year (Fall-Winter 2008-09). The information below highlights more your options and the complete timeline of the process. Detailed information was sent via email.

**Wednesday | Thursday**  
**March 12 | March 13**

**PHASE 1:**  
**Resign for your current room / same style**

**Location:**  
**Housing Office,**  
**448 Hamlin Hall**

**Time:**  
**8:00am-6:00pm**

**Monday**  
**March 17**

**PHASE 2:**  
**Roommate Choice / Group Sign-up / 6 West Vandenberg / Small Halls Doubles**

**Location:**  
**Housing Office**  
**448 Hamlin Hall**

**Time:**  
**8:00am-6pm**

**Wednesday**  
**March 19**

**PHASE 3:**  
**Carnival**

**Location:**  
**Vandenberg 1st Floor Lounge**

**Time:**  
**7:30am-5:30pm**

## LINE UP DRAWING:

In order to avoid safety issues resulting from students standing in line during the early morning hours to sign up for single rooms or specific buildings, we will conduct a random number drawing for the first 300 students in line for Phase 3. Beginning at the Midnight Breakfast at the Vandenberg Dining Center 10:30pm-1:00am Tuesday, March 11, students will be able to draw a number for a reserved space in line at the Phase 3 Carnival. Students with a reserved place in line will be serviced in number order starting at 7:30am on Wednesday, March 19.

Students submitting contracts during the early sign-up period will NOT be required to pay the \$100.00 down payment.

**Are you living on campus next year?**

# Cleaning up the mess of stress

## *Finding ways to combat the stress that many college students face*

By AMANDA SAUD  
Staff Intern

College students are notoriously busy and trying to balance school, jobs and relationships can lead to a great deal of stress.

Samantha Boyke, a freshman international studies major, is one of those students.

"My biggest stress [comes from] trying to juggle between work, friends and homework," said Boyke.

Many people just regard stress as an uncontrollable side effect of being in college, not realizing that being stressed out for extended periods of time can cause health problems.

"I don't try and deal with stress," said Kristen Koehn, a senior business major. "Deep breathing and things like that aren't going to fix my problems, so I don't bother."

### Stress' health affects

Even if stress reduction techniques can't solve the problems causing the stress in your life, they can still be good for you.

According to Mayo Clinic's Web site, chronic stress causes an array of symptoms that can be harmful to your body and mind. Stress has been linked to problems ranging from chronic headaches, stomach problems, weight gain and high blood pressure to sleep disorders, depression and trouble with personal relationships. Taking the proper steps to deal with stress can help reduce and eliminate these problems.

Some students see the benefit in stress reduction, but simply can't find the time to fit it into their already overbooked schedules.

"I know how important it is not to be stressed, but I can't really avoid it," said Laurel Kriebel, a freshman finance major. "I need to cut things out of my life because I'm so stressed that it's started to affect my health."

Many students don't know that

there are a number of free resources available to them right here on campus that can help them deal with the stresses in their lives.

The Graham Health Center offers six free counseling appointments to students, and can help them deal with any issues that are affecting their mental health, from stress relief strategies and coping skills to more serious issues like depression. After the free sessions expire, people can still attend for a fee of \$12 per session.

### 'Working out' a solution

In addition to being a part of an overall healthy lifestyle, exercise provides a number of benefits to

**"...I'm so stressed that it's started to affect my health."**

— Laurel Kriebel, freshman finance major.

stress reduction and relief. According to [helpguide.org](#), an organization that promotes healthy lifestyles, exercise allows the body to release tension and pent-up frustration, raises the output of endorphins, (the "feel-good" brain chemicals that ward off depression), decreases the output of stress hormones, and helps you get better sleep.

The Oakland University Recreation and Athletic Center is a state-of-the-art fitness facility whose fee is included in every student's tuition each semester and offers all the benefits of other local fitness centers, including cardio and weight machines, free group fitness classes

and an aquatics center equipped with a pool and spa.

"I love going to the Rec and working out when I'm stressed," said Michael Heunickx, a junior integrative studies major. "It's a great place to work out because it's convenient and the people there are really nice."

The Rec Center also offers what are known as specialty fitness classes for a small fee. For \$25 a semester, you can attend as many of these specialty classes as you want. These classes are some of the best for stress reduction and include Pilates, tai chi, and numerous types of yoga. These are all excellent for stress reduction because they focus on relaxation and breathing techniques.

Another quick technique to reduce stress is deep breathing. This exercise (see sidebar), from [helpguide.org](#), can be done practically anywhere and only takes a few minutes.

### Finding your own way

Some students, however, have been able to find ways to deal with the stress in their life, even if the relief is only temporary.

Kaitlin Jones is a junior psychology student and says one of the ways that she relieves tension is by giving herself a clean space to work with.

"One of the best ways I've found to deal with stress is to try and create a good environment for myself," said Jones. "I clean my house and make it smell good, I also open up the curtains and try to let light in."

Students who learn to deal with the stresses in their lives through counseling, time management and study skills, exercise and relaxation techniques seem to enjoy their college experiences more.

"When I'm stressed, I'm angry and unhappy," said Kriebel. "But when I deal with it, I feel better about everything in my life."

### JUST BREATHE

[Helpguide.org](#) provides these steps to the "deep breathing" technique to help achieve relaxation:

**1) Sit comfortably with your back straight. Put one hand on your chest and the other on your stomach.**

**2) Breathe in through your nose. The hand on your stomach should rise. The hand on your chest should move little.**

**3) Exhale through your mouth, pushing out as much air as you can while contracting your abdominal muscles. The hand on your stomach should move in as you exhale, but your other hand should move very little.**

**4) Continue to breathe in through your nose and out through your mouth. Try to inhale enough so that your lower abdomen rises and falls. Count slowly as you exhale.**

# The 'night' life: A glimpse into Nightwatch job

BY JESSE DUNSMORE

Senior Reporter

While other students are drifting off to sleep or passing out, Jennifer Van Vliet's night is just getting started.

As a Nightwatch desk worker, Van Vliet is stationed by one of the exterior doors of Vandenberg Hall a few nights a week. She swipes the IDs of students entering during her shift. It is her job to make sure that each person entering has an ID. Nightwatch employees also have to notify authorities if someone has a weapon, is a minor in possession of alcohol or violates other regulations.

Nightwatch workers aren't security guards — they aren't going to tackle someone who appears to be a threat.

"We have to stay behind the desk," said Van Vliet. "And if they have a gun, we're supposed to... quickly call the police."

But the job isn't just threat aversion to Van Vliet.

Since applying for the position last year under advice from friends who had done the job, she's learned that sometimes, things are just more interesting after the sun goes down.

Van Vliet's shift, which lasts from 1 a.m. to 5 a.m., might be intimidating to some but not to an insomniac like her.

"I don't sleep anyway," she said. "I spent more time up with Nightwatch last year than any single Nightwatch worker."

Although the entrance isn't very busy that late, there are a few stragglers. Often, she finds people more than willing to talk about their personal lives with a stranger in the wee hours of the morning.

Van Vliet recalls that during the week prior to Valentine's Day, four people confided in her that they had just broken up with significant others.

"It was a bad week, apparently," said Van Vliet. She even offered to be their Valentines. "They were all like, 'It doesn't count if it's you, Jenny.' Oh."

In addition to some incidents Jenny said she "couldn't talk about," she once bore partial witness to what looked like a bitter off-camera love triangle.

A male student came in with a female student, who signed him in and took him upstairs. What he didn't know, said Van Vliet, was that she had a boyfriend.

"Then another guy comes in, who I happen to know is her boyfriend," she said.

The boyfriend walked upstairs. A few minutes later, the other male

student stomped down the stairs and exited the building, hand held to his face, while the female student yelled down the stairwell after him, Van Vliet said.

"I have a good imagination," she said. Some perks of Nightwatch, at least in Vandenberg, is viewed as being more

"friendly" than RAs, Van Vliet said. According to Van Vliet, the Nightwatch workers in Hamlin hall tend to have a sterner attitude, possibly because of their constant interaction with freshmen.

"Either [freshmen] do more wrong or they aren't as practiced at not getting caught," said Van Vliet.

It looks good on a resume for other housing positions, such as RA.

The benefits include a stipend of \$250 over the course of a semester, paid out biweekly. Nightwatch desk workers also get a double room free of charge, but must purchase a meal plan. Students can apply at the housing office in Hamlin Hall for the job.

Being stuck behind one desk for several hours can be frustrating.

"Around four in the morning, I find myself swearing a lot," Van Vliet said.

Also, a significant portion of the job description involves rule enforcement. She said reporting violations also helps make campus safer.

"I don't like telling on people," she said. "If I don't report you, then it's risking my job for something stupid you do. I have to remind myself that I didn't do something wrong."



JESSE DUNSMORE/The Oakland Post  
Jennifer Van Vliet battles the long hours of the night at her Nightwatch post.

## School of the undecided arts

### *Students can find help when looking for a major*

By CHRIS WARBINGTON  
Staff Intern

The one thing that haunts many students entering the college life is deciding on a major. It can sometimes take longer than expected for some, who wind up undecided. Whether they have no clue or can't decide between different areas of interest, the undecided student is not alone when it comes to planning their future.

Heidi Emery is sophomore at Oakland University and is undecided in her major. Emery has tried several different majors ranging from education to science and can't seem to find a major that fits.

"I am undecided, and it's not like I don't know what to do; it's just I have too many interests," said Emery. "You name it, I've tried it."

Of the 14,090 undergraduate students that attend Oakland University, about 1,010 — or seven percent — of them are undecided.

The numbers of undecided students in comparison to the top three program choices are 2,238 undergraduates in the School of Business, 1,826 under-

graduates in the School of Nursing, and 1,529 undergraduates in the School of Education & Human Services.

The national average of incoming undecided freshmen is between 20 and 50 percent, compared to three percent of undecided freshmen at OU.

"Both the student that doesn't know what to do and the student that has too many interests are the two typical undecided students we encounter," said Carmen Etienne, M.A., the advisor for the School of Engineering and Computer Science.

The university's decentralized advising plan is intended to help students choose a career path that is best for them.

A student can have a declared major but still be undecided in what career they want to study. In this case the student would be sent to their declared major's advising department.

Advising plans differ from major to major with each program having its own advisors. When a student knows what type of major they want, they are directed to that major's set of advisors. After meeting with the advisors, students decide what career to pursue

in that major. If a student decides that the program is not for them, they can go to the Advising Resource Center to find another major.

Kim Schultz is the director of the Advising Resources Center and offers a method to help undecided students.

"[We do] do some focused exploration," Schultz said. "We want to really expose [students] to all options that are offered."

Schultz explains that focused exploration is a method which helps the student to focus more on their interests and what they are good at and apply what they find to the decision of their major. Focused exploration is a one on one, or group advising self-searching tool.

According to Schultz, the goal at Oakland is to keep the student moving and learning about new programs they can choose. The purpose for keeping students on the move is to help them learn about new ideas so the chances of them dropping out are not as great.

These services are available for all students enrolled at Oakland.

## Women and Gender Studies Program

### 25th Annual Film Festival: **REVOLUTIONARY WOMEN IN THE WORKPLACE**

Featuring: *Salt of the Earth*, the real story of labor strife in a New Mexico mine told from the women's point of view and without whose heroic efforts the strike would have failed, and *North Country*, the moving story of a single mother who rallies her coworkers to rise above the unfair treatment they face at a local mining company. There will be a facilitated discussion by Prof.

Graham Cassano, Department of Sociology/Anthropology.

Saturday, March 29, 2008 from 12:30 to 6 p.m.  
156 North Foundation Hall  
Students are free but registration is requested at 248-370-3221

Refreshments will be served

# the Mix

[www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)

## If you could have any car what would it be?



**"I think it would be the new Malibu that just came out because my sister had one and I really liked it."**

Jeanette Kheir  
Junior, Chemistry



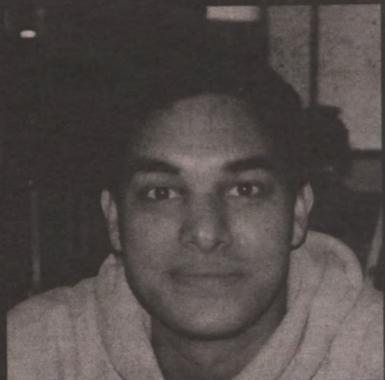
**"The Audi RS4. It's classy, fast and understated."**

Brandon Turkus  
Senior, General Studies



**"A Mercedes Benz SLR. It's a beautiful car."**

Mireille Kamel  
Junior, Finance



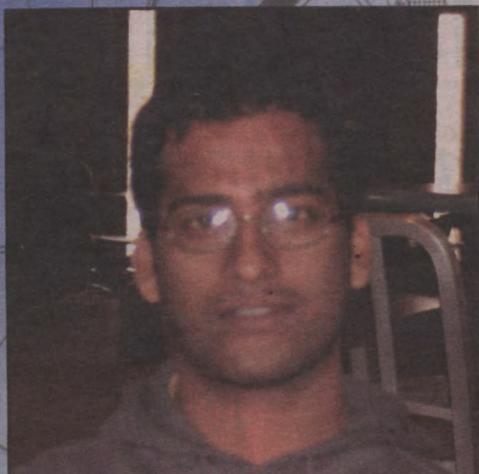
**"A Honda Civic. The mileage is good. It's a Japanese car and it's affordable."**

Akshat Jain  
Graduate Student, Exercise Science



## Futuristic cruising

What do you think is the car of the future?



**"Cars that use solar energy."**

Kannan Selvanaj  
Graduate Student, Exercise Science



**"Hydrogen powered cars."**

Jennifer Guy  
Senior, Psychology

## Legendary Detroit

Who is your favorite Motown legend?

**"Marvin Gaye immediately comes to mind. I really like him and he makes good music."**

Daniel Hiebert  
Junior, Music



**"Stevie Wonder. I think his music is very diverse."**

Shkir Suggs  
Sophomore, Nursing



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# MOUTHING OFF

30

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The views expressed in Mouthing Off do not necessarily reflect those of The Oakland Post

March 19, 2008

## Columnist caught with call girls

*Adjunct writer plays a 'Spitzer' on the university*

By TODD M. BUTKOVICH  
Guest Columnist

I have a special announcement, and it pains me to make it.

I, Todd M. Butkovich, have been caught engaging with prostitutes.

Over the past 15 years I have proudly served as a columnist for The Oakland Post, and in that time, I have written many important, earth-shattering articles.

Among them have been dozens of pieces detailing the immorality and the dangers of prostitution, such as "Prostitution — it's very, very bad," "A moral outrage," and my award-winning 11 part series "I am better than people who go to prostitutes."

And of course, who could forget my column demanding an end to all irony on campus.

Then, the news broke early last week that I had been caught in a prostitution scandal on a federal wiretap. I find this to be unfair.

It's obvious the Feds were targeting me based solely on the fact that I was breaking the law, which, to me, is the definition of discriminatory behavior.

I was profiled and that is wrong.

Had I not been doing something illegal, I doubt federal prosecutors would even be looking into my actions.

Innocent people would never receive this harsh treatment, and for that, the system needs to change.

Anyway, the facts are simple. While working for The Oakland Post, I spent more than \$80,000 on high-price prostitutes.

Okay, more like "medium-range price prostitutes." All right, I'll be perfectly honest: they were "low-cost prostitutes," and that's being very generous.

Most of all, I regret being caught. Actually, that's really all I regret. And maybe the cheap when it came to prostitute selection.

But mostly just the 'being caught' thing.

In these trying times, I'd like to thank some of the most important people in my life for their guidance and support.

My family, who will continue to stand by me at my numerous future press conferences as I go into every embarrassing detail over and over again, allowing themselves to be mocked and ridiculed in the press.



Photo illustration by DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

Todd M. Butkovich, guest columnist for The Oakland Post, with Silda Spitzer — wife of former New York Governor Eliot Spitzer — by his side, offers his sincerest apologies to the university public after being caught spending over \$80,000 on "low-cost prostitutes." Trixie, Cinnamon, Agnes, Gertrude and the other Trixie were not present. This is all a joke, of course.

I'd like to thank my editor, Alex Cherup, and the staff of The Oakland Post for their support, and for providing me with an \$80,000 expense account that enabled me to make this apology.

Last, but not least, I need to thank the women who made this all possible: Trixie, Cinnamon, Agnes, Gertrude, and of course, the other Trixie.

But in trying times like these, I think it's important to look to the future. That is why I'm here to announce that I will be stepping down from my unofficial post as adjunct columnist, effective on graduation day.

In the meantime, however, I will continue to write and publish articles without even the slightest acknowledgment of my hypocrisy.

So continue to look forward to columns condemning prostitution, as well as other vices I may or may not be caught engaging in on federal wiretaps in the coming months, such as gambling, fraud, turning right at red lights, and, of course, plagiarism.

But as for now, I need to get away from the horrible scandal that is ruining my life and career. Good thing I know the perfect way to relieve stress...

\* Editor's Note: The Oakland Post did not actually provide Todd M. Butkovich with an \$80,000 expense account nor is he an Oakland Post staff member.

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!\*&@!~%!!



# Droopy drawers: Worse than starting wars?

By ALEX CHERUP  
Mouthing Off Editor

A rock prophet once said, "To live outside the law you must be honest."

Now, illegality is not so glamorous. To live outside the law, we must see your boxers.

Yes, the saggy pants law.

Lawmakers in Florida are hoping to catch the population with their pants down, so to speak.

The Florida Senate is working to outlaw jeans that fall below the waist. A penalty of 60 days in prison is the game plan for repeat underpants exhibitionists.

I'll be frank — I am a long supporter of plumbers' rights.

This is a true atrocity.

Either way, the extremes of laws in the country are becoming absolutely ridiculous.

Here is Florida, a state recently robbed of its right to participate in democracy, obsessing over some kids' boxers.

Just a few days earlier, the president of the United States vetoed a bill that suggested waterboarding was torture.

For those unaware waterboarding, is the worst of the boarding brothers, which include bodyboarding, surfing, and

skateboarding.

Waterboarding creates the simulation of drowning by placing a cloth over the face of an individual, while water is poured on the cloth (Americans use cellophane — so now when one tortures, you don't get MAD, you get GLAD).

It is similar to the old-fashioned Chinese water torture.

It falls under every civilized definition of torture.

Yet, the President refuses to ban such a technique, claiming that it "would take away one of the most valuable tools in the war on terror."

So here is the legal recap — torture: yes; a few inches of boxers: no.

Is this our government at work? Can we please take a look at ourselves?

Our tax money is being put to use professionally drowning people and ordering them to buy belts.

And why, when the President breaks the law, is it always an act against humanity?

Bush is busy promoting torture, waging war and keeping kids away from health care.

Why can't he just break a minor law? Then we could actually arrest him. Jaywalk, smoke some pot, show his knickers — anything.

If only Bush broke the saggy pants law instead of the "U.S. Reservations of the UN Convention Against Torture," we'd have him locked up.

Not only would we see the most powerful jock-strap in the world, but I'm sure it would also outrage more Americans than his decision to keep waterboarding legal.

If Bush went on television and gave a speech with his pants like all the Soulja Boy wanna-be freshman kids in algebra class, there would be a massive outcry that he has crossed the line and disrespected the presidency for the last time. But, of course, if you want to bring back some nostalgia from the Inquisition, it is still within the guidelines of government policy.

Crimes against humanity have become so commonplace they are no longer egomatically shocking, but are instead policy.

I say, lay off the kids.

Personally, I am a "waister." My pants are usually around my waist. That's just my style.

Some, however, find it necessary to wear pants that are too large. Maybe they just lost some weight, who knows.

Pushing these dress codes to law is a sign that government officials have gone too far.

There is no constitutional amendment

stating "No person shall wear a skirt shorter than fingertip length."

Naturally, that would take the fun out of interns.

I personally don't like this "saggy pants" business and find it absurd.

It makes the wearer appear to not have the ability to operate a pair of pants.

Perhaps we just need instruction manuals in trousers.

Gary Siplin, who authored this no-butt bill, argues that the "style" originates from prison, where the saggy pants meant the individual was interested in sex.

I say all of those who want to wear pants below the waist, if confronted by the law, should pull down their pants even more.

Mooning is a fine form of civil disobedience.

Just remember: it's a 60 day sentence, and don't sag your pants — and not for just legal reasons.

What we can hope for is to get the frivolous lawmakers out of our jeans and concentrate on stopping actual crimes against humanity.

Because who knows what's next ... They may want us to wear our underwear on the outside.



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## Dalai Lama calls for peaceful end

By GAVIN RABINOWITZ  
Associated Press Writer

DHARMSALA, India — Tibetan exiles saw a chance to put China on the spot ahead of the Beijing Olympics, but never expected their protests to spread to Tibet and turn violent. Now the Dalai Lama is threatening to quit if his people don't return to peaceful resistance.

It's a warning he has used before — telling Tibetans to return to peaceful protests during 1989 unrest — but this time it comes amid deep divisions within the Tibetan community between those who back his pacifist approach and an angry young generation that demands action.

While the situation inside Tibet remains unclear, much of the violence last week appears to have been committed by Tibetans against Han Chinese — a fact that troubles the 72-year-old Dalai Lama, who has long called for Tibetans to have significant autonomy within China.

"Whether we like it or not, we have to live together side by side," the Dalai Lama told reporters Tuesday in the northern Indian hill town of Dharamsala, seat of the Tibetan government-in-exile. "We must oppose Chinese policy but not the Chinese. Not on a racist basis."

Though fearful of a Chinese crackdown — he compared the plight of Tibetans to that of "a young deer in a tiger's hands" — the Dalai Lama insisted he could not

abide violence by his own people. Peaceful protest is the only way, he said.

He said that if the situation gets out of control, his "only option is to completely resign."

An aide later clarified that the Dalai Lama meant he would step down as the political leader of the exile government — not as the supreme religious leader of Tibetan Buddhists.

Regardless, his call for Tibetans to work with the Chinese stands in stark contrast to the "Free Tibet" chants of thousands of Tibetan youths, Buddhist monks and nuns who have marched the steep paths of Dharamsala in recent days, angry faces painted with Tibetan flags and chests smeared with blood-red paint.

They want action not diplomacy, independence not autonomy.

"There is growing frustration among the younger generations. They have been talking for 20 years and nothing came out of it," said Tsewang Rigzin, head of the Tibetan Youth Congress.



ASHWINI BHATIA/Associated Press

Tibetan protesters burn Chinese flags at a rally in Dharamsala, March 18, 2008. The Dalai Lama threatened Tuesday to step down as leader of Tibet's government in exile if violence committed by Tibetans spirals out of control.

He urged "the protesters in Tibet to continue in their protests until China gets out of Tibet."

While hesitant to directly criticize the Dalai Lama — who is deeply revered by Tibetans — and careful not to endorse violence, the younger activists warn that patience with his approach is running thin.

"I certainly hope the middle way approach will be reviewed. The Tibetan nation and Tibetan culture are on the verge of extinction," Rigzin said.

Another activist, Tenzin Choedon, a 28-year-old student, said: "It is time for a change in Tibet and the Tibetan movement."

## NY Governor David Paterson admits to affairs

By MICHAEL GORMLEY  
Associated Press Writer

ALBANY, N.Y. — Hours after another man's sex scandal officially landed him in the governor's office, David Paterson started coming clean about his own past — a little at a time.

He revealed to the New York Daily News on Monday that he had had an extramarital affair. It was "a number of women" by the time he held a news conference Tuesday afternoon, and one of them was a state employee.

No laws were broken, he said, and the last affair ended several years ago.

"I didn't want to be blackmailed," the Democrat said in explaining why he was admitting the affairs.

"I hope to be a governor that is able to govern with a free hand, without fear of any kind of remorse or that anyone would find out anything about me to try to exploit it."

Many things separate Paterson's admitted infidelity from the scandal that compelled Gov. Eliot Spitzer to resign in disgrace Monday. To name a few: Paterson, by all accounts, came forward on his own; no prostitutes were involved; and the acts don't seem violently opposed to everything he has stood for as a public servant.

Even so, the disclosures left the Capitol deeper in shock and weary, just when it sought a healer and relief. Paterson's inauguration of laughter, hope and thunderous bipartisan support was supposed to be a fresh start.

## Bush will intervene to 'stabilize economy,' if needed

By BEN FELLER  
Associated Press Writer

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — President Bush, eager to reassure a rattled country, said Tuesday that his administration is ready to intervene again to stabilize the economy.

"If there needs to be further action, we'll take it, in a way that does not damage the long-term financial health of our economy," Bush said along the docks of this port city.

It was the second signal in two days from Bush about the possibility of more government action to help hurting consumers and a shaken financial market. Much of his agenda these days is meant to show he is engaged in fixing the economy but still confident in it.

For now, he has championed the

upcoming tax rebates for millions of people and tax breaks for businesses. And he has embraced action by the Federal Reserve, which keeps slashing interest rates and has helped finance the buyout of a collapsing financial giant.

The president has rejected other ideas from the Democratic Congress. Those include extending unemployment and food stamp benefits, and sparing homeowners from foreclosure by allowing bankruptcy judges to adjust loan rates.

Juxtaposed against the economic concern, Bush had a good day for the Republican Party.

In wealthy neighborhoods in Jacksonville and Palm Beach, Bush raised more than \$1.4 million for the Republican National Committee.

Both fundraisers were closed to the media.

In between, during a speech largely focused on trade, Bush said the American people should have confidence in the economy. He chose his examples carefully — low unemployment, rising productivity, a strong agricultural sector, fresh advances in technology.

"I understand there's short-term difficulty," Bush said. "But I want people to understand that in the long term, we're going to be just fine."

In the meantime, the economy has taken a punch in the gut.

A collapse of the subprime housing market led to a credit crisis that has shaken the financial system to its core. Consumer confidence has tanked, gas prices are high, foreclosures are up, home values are down, and the same economy that produced jobs for most of Bush's presidency is now shedding them.

## NW BRIEFS

3-12 | Chinese police use tear gas to disperse protesters during demonstrations by Buddhist monks in Tibet.

| New York Governor Eliot Spitzer resigns, effective March 17.

3-13 | The U.S. dollar reaches its lowest value since 1995.

3-18 | Two people are killed in an attack on the U.S. embassy in Yemen which closed after three mortar shells detonate near the embassy compound.

3-17 | Science fiction writer Arthur C. Clarke, who co-wrote the epic film "2001: A Space Odyssey" has died at the age of 90.